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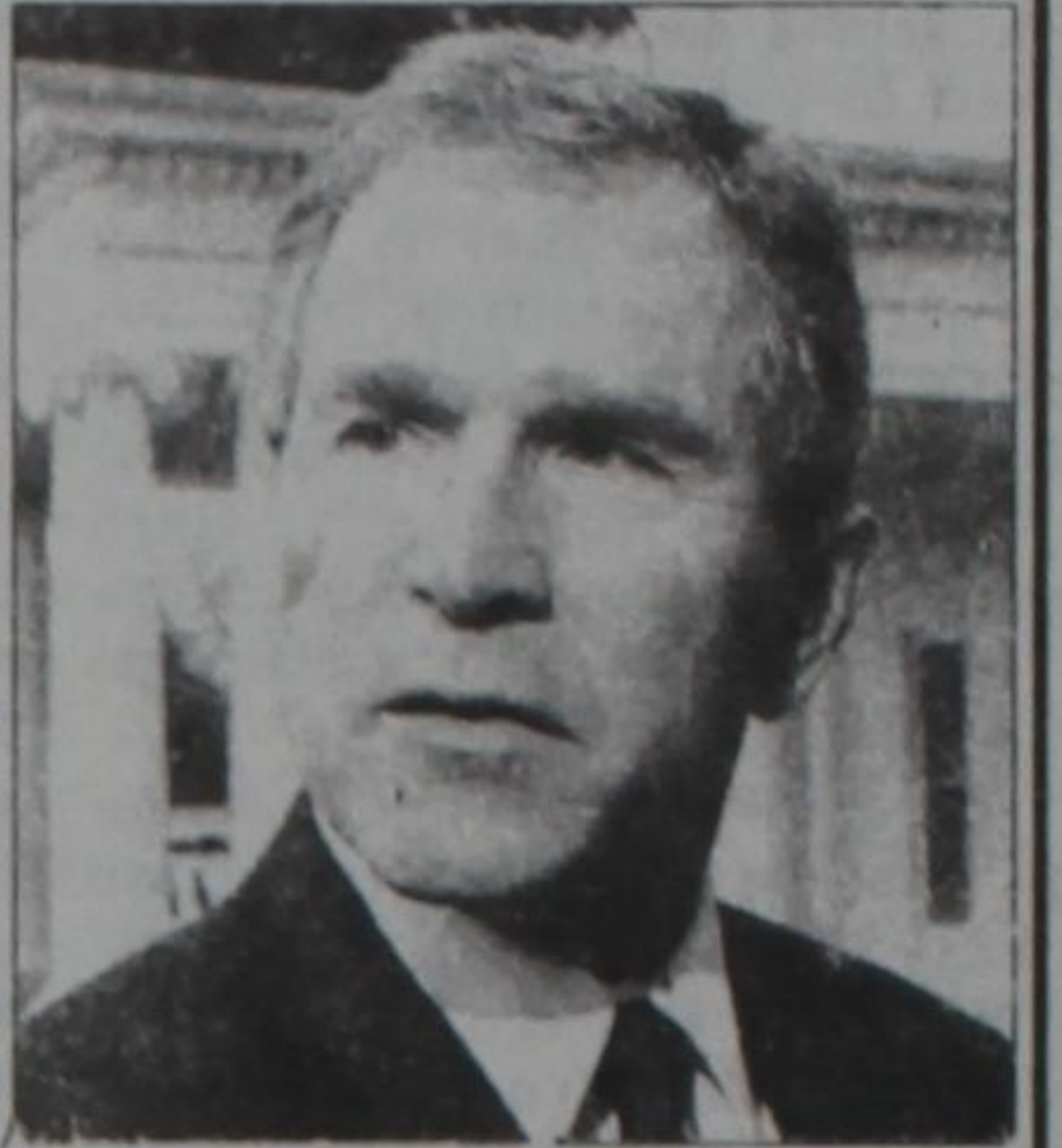
News Briefs

Gallup Pool: Prospects Not Bright for Gore

Washington, - Most Americans already have formed an opinion of Vice President Al Gore and his potential as president, and if elections were held today, the two probable Republican candidates, Gov. George W. Bush and Elizabeth Dole, would be favored to win.

A Gallup poll conducted for CNN and the USA Today newspaper found that if Gore faced off against Texas Gov. Bush, the Republican would garner 56 percent of the vote and the vice president 41 percent.

If the Republican candidate were to be former Red Cross



President Elizabeth Dole, the margin narrows a little; she would receive 52 percent of the vote compared to Gore's 44 percent. Gallup pollsters found that public opinion is generally favorable toward Gore, but the vice president has been hurt by scandals surrounding the Clinton presidency.

The poll showed that 61 percent of men would choose Bush as president, but only 49

percent would vote for Dole, although in both cases Gore lags behind.

Poll results sounded a note of alarm for the Democratic Party, which has traditionally enjoyed the support of women.

If the election were between Gore and Bush, the governor would receive 51 percent of women's votes, and Gore would receive only 45 percent.

If the choice were between Gore and Dole, 54 percent of women would vote for Dole and 42 percent for the vice president.



Program Attracts Minorities into Medical Field

By Cristina Loboguerrero

Princeton, New Jersey, - In order to increase the number of minority students going into the medical field in the United States, the Bristol-Myers Pharmaceutical Research Institute in Princeton is conducting its annual exchange meeting between high school and university students.

Last Friday in New Jersey, more than 100 Hispanic and African American junior and senior high school students listened as 32 medical students of different ethnic and racial groups shared their experiences.

It is estimated that a scarce 11.5 percent of the total student body in medical colleges around the United States was Hispanic and/or African American in 1998.

Maritza Myers, vice president of the Bristol-Myers national scholarship program, told EFE that lack of information is to blame for the low number of minority medical students.

Another factor, according to Myers, is the high cost of tuition, also aggravated by the fact that, "unfortunately, students are not aware of financial programs available to assist with their college expenses."

The scholarship program for minority students was created in 1983 by the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation to help promote opportunities in the different medical fields.

Since its creation, it is estimated that more than 400 medical students have taken advantage of the scholarships.

One of them is Alfredo Quiñones Hinojosa, a fourth year student at Harvard Medical School, who arrived in California 12 years ago from Mexico.

Not knowing English he first started working on farms, but through determination and sacrifices he has become an outstanding medical student.

Quiñones Hinojosa is one of the five best students to receive a scholarship in the country. Next June, he will begin his internship as a neurosurgeon at the University of California in San Francisco.

México Wins USA Cup for Third Time in a Row

San Diego, - The Mexican national soccer team beat the United States 2-1 on Saturday, the final day of the 6th USA '99 Cup, taking the tournament championship for the third time in a row.

Mexico, which had beat Bolivia 2-1 in the first game of the tournament, showed off its skill in the classic duel with its neighbor to the north.

Saturday's match put Mexico's record against the U.S. national team over the years at 26 victories, five defeats and nine ties.

Since Mexico lost 4-0 in Washington on June 18, 1995, the Mexican national team has notched three victories and four ties against the United States.

Clinton Announces Plan to Combat Police Brutality

Texarkana, Texas, - U.S. President Bill Clinton announced on Saturday a plan to combat police brutality and the allocation of 42 million dollars to promote integrity in police ranks.

In his Saturday radio message, transmitted from Texas, where the president is on a visit, Clinton said he was "deeply disturbed" by reports on police violence. Although he restated his support for the police, he vowed to fight abuse of authority.

He presented a five-point plan, funded with 40 million dollars, to improve police training, not only in education, but also in integrity and ethics.

In addition to providing scholarships to enable policemen to attend university, the president said police forces would be encouraged to recruit more people from minority groups and that he had assigned 2 million dollars for the purpose.

available sooner, maybe as early as kindergarten," said Marilyn Winkleby, an epidemiologist at the Stanford Center for Research in Disease Prevention and lead author of the study. She pointed out that information about heart disease is not marketed in minority communities as well as cancer, AIDS and child vaccinations.

The study is based on dietary surveys and medical exams given to 7,686 African-Americans, Mexican-Americans and whites between 1988 and 1994 as part of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Hispanic groups other than Mexican-American were not included in the survey.

The researchers examined six

cardiovascular disease risk factors: body weight, blood pressure, cigarette smoking, an early sign of diabetes and blood cholesterol.

The study found that African-American girls ages 6 to 9 were about 4 percent heavier than white girls, had higher blood pressure and consumed more fat. Among women ages 18 to 24, African-American and Mexican-American women were an average of 12 pounds heavier.

African-American men tended to be heavier for their height and consumed more fat than white and Mexican-American

men, the study found, though the differences among the groups were less marked and appeared later in life.

EL EDITOR

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Vol XXII No. 25

Week of March 18 thru March 23, 1999

Lubbock, Texas

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Lady Raiders In Fourth Sweet 16 in Six Years

Women's Basketball Riding 11-Game Winning Streak

LUBBOCK, Texas - The Lady Raiders are making their sixth all-time NCAA sweet sixteen appearance - the fourth in the last six years. Ranked sixth in the country, Texas Tech is riding an 11-game winning streak coming into Saturday's game against the ninth-ranked Rutgers Scarlet Knights. Rutgers, the #3 seed in the Midwest Regional, has won 11 of its last 12 games - its lone loss during that time was a 68-61 loss to Notre Dame on March 1.

Saturday's game will be the first meeting between the two teams. The game will be televised on ESPN2 with a starting time of approximately 9:30 p.m. Tech's game follows the Purdue-North Carolina clash which begins at 7:00 p.m. Dave Ryan and Heather Cox will be providing the play-by-play and color commentary for ESPN2.

Lady Raider Head Coach Marsha Sharp

One of the most respected and well-known coaches in Texas Tech history, head coach Marsha Sharp is 406-128 (.760) in her 17th year at the helm of the Lady Raiders. The 1998 and 1999 Big 12 Coach of the Year, she has led the Lady Raiders to 12 NCAA Tournament appearances, 10 consecutive and six NCAA Sweet 16 appearances in six years, including the NCAA National Championship in 1993.

This season, Sharp also guided Tech to its second consecutive Big 12 regular-season and tournament titles. While in the SWC, Coach Sharp and the Lady Raiders never finished below third, they won or shared the last five championships, and they captured three Post Season Clas-



sic titles.

Sharp captured her 350th career victory during the 1997 NCAA Tournament when on March 16 Tech defeated Montana, 47-45, in Palo Alto, Calif.

A 1974 graduate of Wayland Baptist University, Sharp was named National Coach of the Year in 1993 and 1994. She also reaped SWC Coach of the Year honors seven times, five consecutively. Sharp is the 29th coach to eclipse the 400-career win mark - she attained her 400th career win on Feb. 24, 1999, in Boulder with a 83-70 win over Colorado. Sharp was recently inducted into the Texas Hall of Fame.

Did you know ...

It's been 14 games since a Lady Raider has fouled out in a game. The last time that took place was on Jan. 27 in Norman, Okla., as junior forward Keitha Dickerson collected five personal fouls. Texas Tech's opponents have fouled out 25 times this season compared to nine for the Lady Raiders.

Texas Tech recorded its 30th victory of the season Monday night against North Carolina State. It is the fourth time in the program's history that 30 or more wins were collected. The most recent 30+ win season was the 1994-95 season when Tech posted a 33-4 mark, reaching the Elite Eight.

The Lady Raiders are facing only their fourth top-25 (AP) team this season when they face

#9 Rutgers. Tech holds a 3-1 record against nationally-ranked teams this season with its lone loss to #15 Old Dominion on Nov. 21.

At neutral sites, the Lady Raiders average 76.8 points per game and allow only 56.7 opponent points.

Watching the Lady Raiders ... For the sixth consecutive year, the Lady Raiders have drawn more than 7,000 fans to their home games. In their 14 home contests this season, Tech recorded an average of 8,051

Study Shows Minority Children Show Higher Risk In Developing Heart Disease

LOS ANGELES - Mexican-American and African-American children show higher risks in developing heart disease later in life than their white counterparts, researchers say.

A study, published today in the Journal of the American Medical Association, is based on data collected from more than 7,000 minority children and adults ages 6 to 24. Stanford University researchers found that Mexican-American and African-American youths were heavier, had higher blood pressure and had fatter diets than white youths.

Dr. Teri Manolio, director of epidemiology and biometry at the

spectators. This mark tops the previous home season averages. Tech's largest home crowd this season was 8,439 Monday against North Carolina State.

Tech vs. 1999 Tournament Participants...

Of the 64 teams chosen to compete in the 1999 NCAA Tournament, Tech has battled seven during this current season. The Lady Raiders faced two during conference play and during the 1999 Big 12 Conference Tournament. Tech posted a 7-3 record against those teams.

National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute said the findings were cause for concern.

"If 6-to-9-year-olds are already overweight, they're going to be in some trouble as adults because that will translate into a higher risk of cardiovascular disease," she said.

The study, believed to be the most comprehensive in examining heart disease among children of different ethnicities, also found that white girls smoke four times as much as Mexican-American girls and eight times as much as African-American girls.

The findings, "highlight the need for information about heart disease prevention to be made

Creature Of Habit Costumbres

By Elisa Martínez

It's time to garden again. The weather in El Paso has been very kind. The days have been warm and sunny and my backyard beckoned me. I could wait no longer.

Gathering my tools, I came across the old clay flowerpot that I have kept for so many years. I've had it since I got married 43 years ago. I picked it up and moved it to one side so I could rake away the leaves that had accumulated around it. The pot has a slight crack from the base to the top. A piece of electrical wire is still wrapped tightly around the lip, holding it snugly in place.

It was on a day very much like this one when my grandmother and I sat on the metal chairs on the front porch, waiting for my father to come home from work. The pot had cracked but she wouldn't part with it. She needed it for her geraniums, and flower pots cost money. What's more, she didn't have time to go to Juárez, across the border, to buy another one.

We went to the driveway to meet my father as he drove up.

He unlocked the back door of his white Chevrolet truck. He removed a piece of wire, cut it, and wrapped it around the flowerpot's lip, twisting it tightly with his pliers.

"Gracias," Grandma said with a smile. Again the pot was filled with dirt and returned to its place on the front porch.

Spring was also the time to clean the house. The living room was first on my mother's list. She would open the kitchen cupboards and hand me the cans one by one. Peas, green beans and tomatoes. It didn't matter, as long as they were all the same size. I would take them to the living room and pile them on the middle of the floor. She would then lift each corner of every piece of furniture and I would slip a can under each leg.

Soon all the furniture was floating over the carpet, sitting precariously on canned goods. She would swoop the heavy wooden carpet sweeper over the red carpet. Then she took a brush and scrubbed it clean with soapy water. After it was dry, she would bring in a handful of red crayons and color in all of

the threadbare places. The carpet would look beautiful, clean and a bright red again. Then we would reverse the process, taking out all the tin cans and returning them to their place in the kitchen cupboard.

The curtains would be taken down and given a good shaking outside, windows were scrubbed gleaming clean, and finally I would run a rag soaked with thick red furniture polish on all the wood in the living and dining rooms.

The smells mingled and everything was new and shiny. Wobbly chairs were reglued, frayed linens mended and venetian blinds restrung.

This would go on for weeks. My mother cleaned, moved and rearranged everything in the house, my father fixed all the broken things, and my grandmother cooked. She was in full control of the kitchen.

These are the memories that have made me a creature of habit.

I move furniture, wax floors, wash windows and make my house shine because my mother did. I fix all the broken things

because my father did, and I keep the house full of good smells from the kitchen because my grandmother did.

Back then people took care of what they had. They didn't discard belongings and buy new ones on whim. Everything they owned was special because things didn't come easy.

I still have the old flower pot that my father fixed that beautiful spring day some 45 years ago. I have the 1955 Chevrolet truck parked in front of my house. I have the old wooden carpet sweeper and the metal chairs that sat on the front porch. I have all those things and then some more. They are my memories and I am a creature of habit.

Spring is a time of renewal. A time to open windows wide and rekindle memories. A time to begin again. Every year we are blessed with that gift, and so it is again this year, a new beginning with all my familiar ghosts by my side.

(Elisa Martínez, of El Paso, Texas, is a teacher.)

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Por Elisa Martínez

Ha llegado la temporada de atender al jardín. El clima aquí en El Paso se ha prestado muy bien. Los días han sido cálidos y soleados y el patio me está llamando. Yo no podía ignorarlo.

Preparé mi herramienta y salí a trabajar. Afuera me encontré con la maceta que he guardado por tanto tiempo. La tengo desde que me casé hace 43 años. La hice cuidadosamente para un lado para rastrear las hojas que se habían acumulado alrededor. Está rajada de la base hasta arriba y todavía está el alambre que la ha mantenido unida bien apretado en la parte superior.

Fue un día muy parecido a éste cuando mi abuelita y yo nos sentamos en las sillas de hierro que estaban en el portal de la casa. Allí esperamos a que llegara mi papá del trabajo. La maceta estaba por partirse en la mitad y mi abuela no quería deshacerse de ella. Costaba mucho dinero y tenía flojera de ir hasta Juárez a comprar otra. Además la necesitaba ya para plantar un geranio.

Cuando vimos llegar a mi papá, lo fuimos a encontrar. Se llevó la maceta y abrió la puerta de su camioneta. Sacó un pedazo de alambre de cobre y sus pinzas. Le amarró alrededor el alambre y lo apretó bien con las pinzas. "Gracias", le dijo mi abuela con una sonrisa. Llenó la maceta de tierra y la puso en su lugar con las demás al frente de la casa.

La primavera también era ocasión para limpiar casa. Mi mamá empezaba por la sala. Se iba a la cocina y bajaba muchas latas. Me las daba una por una. Chicharos, ejotes y tomates. No importaba, con tal que fueron todos del mismo tamaño. Me las llevaba a la sala y las amontonaba en el centro del cuarto. Ella levantaba las esquinas del sillón y yo le ponía una lata debajo de cada pata. Repetíamos esto con todos los muebles pesados hasta dejarlos suspendidos en el aire como espantos.

Lavaba la alfombra roja con un cepillo enjabonado, y cuando estaba seca se ponía de rodillas y con un color rojo pintaba bien

todas las partes desgastadas. Cuando acababa mi mamá, la alfombra parecía como nueva. Sacábamos las latas así como las habíamos puesto, una por una, y las regresábamos a su lugar en la cocina. Bajábamos las cortinas y las sacudíamos, hacíamos brillar los cristales de las ventanas y yo acababa con ponerle aceite a toda la madera de la sala y del comedor. Los olores se mezclaban y la casa lucía.

Desarmábamos y repagábamos las sillas. Remendábamos las sábanas y las fundas y le poníamos cuerda nueva a las persianas. Todo esto tomaba semanas. Mi mamá movía, limpiaba y reorganizaba todo. Mi papá arreglaba todo lo que estaba descompuesto o roto. Durante todo este tiempo mi abuela se apoderaba de la cocina. Nos estimulaba el apetito con los olores de sus guisados. Todas estas memorias se han convertido en costumbre.

Ahora yo muevo los muebles, doy cera a los pisos, lavo los cristales y hago brillar mi casa como lo hacía mi mamá. Busco todo lo que se necesita reparar como lo hacía mi papá, y mantengo mi casa llena de olores sabrosos de mi cocina como lo hacía mi abuela. La gente de antes cuidaba y apreciaba todo lo que tenía. Era raro cuando arrumbaban sus cosas para reemplazarlas con otras más nuevas. Todo parecía tener un valor especial.

Todavía guardo la maceta vieja amarrada con el alambre. Guardo la camioneta blanca de mi papá. Tengo la cepilladora y las sillas de hierro que estaban en la casa de mi mamá. Todo esto guardo, y otras cosas más. Costumbre.

La primavera es tiempo de renacimiento. Es el tiempo de abrir las ventanas y recibir el aire fresco y de recordar. Cada año tenemos el privilegio de empezar de nuevo y así será esta primavera. Empezaré de nuevo en compañía de todos mis queridos fantasma.

(Elisa Martínez, de El Paso, Texas, es maestra.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1999. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Should We Mourn Or Hail the End of Enriqueta's Calling?

By Víctor Landa

"Esto no es un negocio, es un apostolado."

-- Enriqueta Marín, owner, Librería Española, San Antonio

What a strange thing to say. What a wonderful thing to be able to say. To be able to look at one's life work and call it, not a job, not a business, but an apostolate, a calling.

Among the stacks of books and magazines pressed between the postcards and prayers of the Librería Española on San Antonio's West Houston Street, there is an unseen tangible -- something like the faith of an advocate.

Since 1911 the Librería Española has been a presence in downtown San Antonio. A place where people from all walks of life have gathered for conversation and news. It has seen two World Wars, depression and upheaval, scandal and social unrest. It has witnessed the struggles and the triumphs of those whose common link is the language of their parents, faithfully administering the gift of written español.

In its 88-year history, it has moved four times. Now, this year, it has finally closed its familiar doors in the Alameda Theater Building.

What should we make of this? Plenty, I think. And not much just as well.

We have this penchant for filling things with meaning. Any receptacle, any container, building, shoe or lock of hair will overflow with meaning if we've lived long enough in or around it. And so La Librería has been

filling one drop at a time for several generations, spilling over in newsprint from Mexico, Central and South America. From its doors has escaped a steady stream of Cervantes, Mistral, Neruda and Borges. Like the river that changes, yet remains the same, always different news, always different words, always español.

So the end of La Librería Española is plenty. It is a great loss. Men and women my age have been passing through its doors since they were children. Their parents did the same. There is no other place like it in the city.

In the past few years, we have seen a proliferation of megabookstores with plush chairs and \$4 cups of coffee. But if you look among the stacks of books and magazines, between the postcards and the bookmarks of these shiny new bookstores, something tangible is not there.

It's a sense of continuity, of days strung together with words and the lit of Spanish prose. It's no wonder that for many of us the closing of La Librería feels too abrupt.

I'm reminded of ancient lighthouses in the age of satellite navigation. They seem to have passed their usefulness, and yet every mariner knows that as beacons of past travels they guide us still.

Maybe the good news is that La Librería closed its doors. Maybe the reason the lighthouse shut down is not because no one travels that way any longer, but because we travel differently. Because the lighthouse served

us so well, we have learned to travel better.

There was a time when Spanish was called "dirty," and La Librería stood its ground. There was a time when well-intentioned parents purposely steered their children away from Spanish in order to increase their chances for success.

Through it all La Librería was a constant, selling newspapers to the patrons who streamed out of the Alameda Theater after laughing with Cantinflas or crying with Pedro Infante. Thank goodness we're past that, and thank goodness places like La Librería were there to guide us.

Thank goodness we've grown to where we travel differently, yet remain on the same voyage, affirming who we are with rolling

"R's" and rhythmic sentences, familiar like a beacon that guides us home.

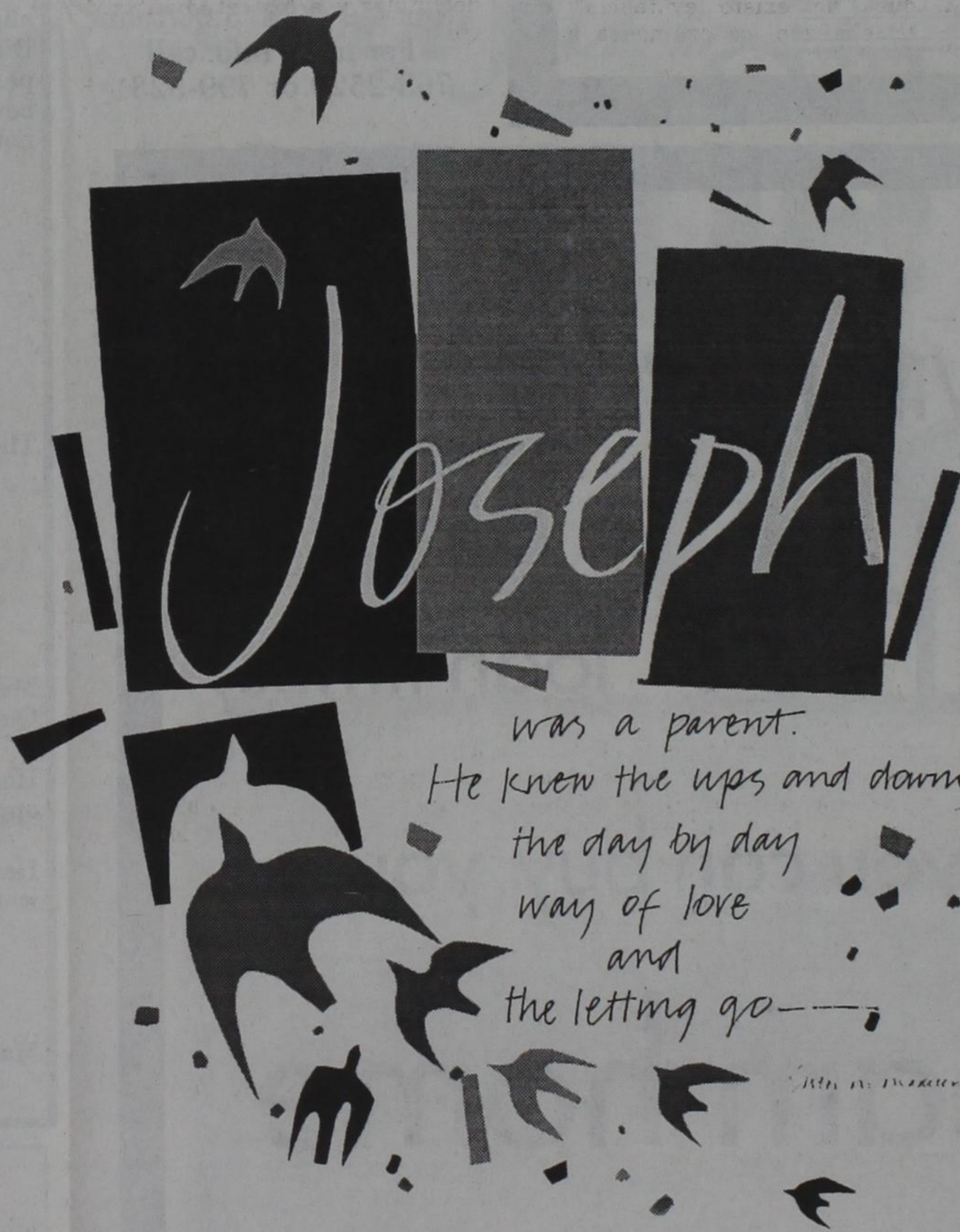
How wonderful to end a journey and be able to call it a calling.

What a strange thing to say in a time when all that seems to matter on our commercial streets is profit, in a time when the illusion of newness creates its own need, when faster is somehow better and we too easily discard what we think we don't want. How refreshing, when the quiet work of a calling seems to have no value, to be able to say, "It was not a business."

(Victor Landa is news director of Telemundo's WVDA-TV60 in San Antonio.)

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ST. JOSEPH'S DAY 1999



Supporters and friends of Covenant Health System are invited to the Eucharistic Celebration on Friday, March 19, 1999 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., Arnett Room, Covenant Medical Center-Lakeside.

Bishop Placido Rodriguez from the Diocese of Lubbock will preside refreshments will follow

A "Montage" of St. Joseph will be held on Friday, March 19, 1999 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Brewer Room, Covenant Medical Center. The montage will feature a series of booths that depict various scenes of the life of Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus Christ.

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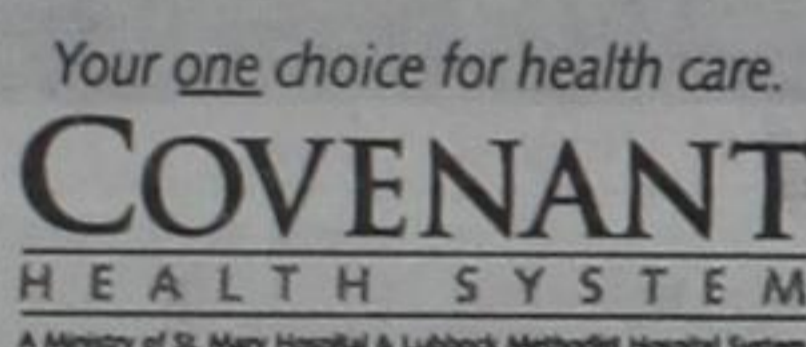
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Noticias Breves

"Luminarias" Muestra Faena de Profesionales Latinas

Austin, - Evalina Fernández ha mostrado en "Luminarias", una película sobre las profesionales latinas, sus talentos como actriz y guionista de Hollywood.

La película, que se basa en una obra teatral, hace su debut mañana sábado en el Centro de Convenciones de Austin. Por el éxito de la obra teatral, el Teatro de la Esperanza formó una compañía de producción que se dio a la tarea de plasmar esta historia en el celuloide.

Aunque la compañía no logró el financiamiento de Hollywood, sí despertó el interés de la comunidad de artistas latinos que aunaron sus recursos para la filmación de la película.

Entre quienes colaboraron en la película figuran Robert Beltrán, de la fama de "Star Trek Voyager"; Cheech Marin, de "Nash Bridges" y "Born in East L.A."; Scott Bakula, de "Quantum Leap"; y Seidy López, de "Mi Vida Loca".

"Luminarias" forma parte del festival de cine "South by Southwest" que comienza esta noche y culmina el próximo 21 de marzo.

El horario completo se puede encontrar en la página de internet.

Congresistas Piden Casa Blanca Informe Sobre Presos Politicos

Washington, - Los tres congresistas de origen puertorriqueño han pedido una reunión a la Casa Blanca para conocer en qué etapa se encuentra la solicitud de clemencia para quince independentistas puertorriqueños encarcelados por acciones vinculadas a sus ideas políticas.

Los congresistas demócratas Luis Gutiérrez (Chicago), Nydia Velázquez (Nueva York) y José Serrano (Nueva York) hicieron la petición al principal consejero legal del presidente, Bill Clinton, Charles Ruff, confirmaron hoy a EFE funcionarios legislativos.

En diciembre pasado, la Casa Blanca indicó que el Departamento de Justicia estaba a punto de decidir si recomendaba o no la clemencia para los quince independentistas puertorriqueños, que han estado encarcelados durante más de trece años.

No obstante, ni la Casa Blanca ni el Departamento de Justicia han indicado si el informe ya está en manos de Ruff, quien debe hacer la recomendación final al presidente de Estados Unidos, Bill Clinton.

Clinton ha recibido alrededor de 100.000 peticiones para que se libere a los independentistas boricuas, vinculados a las organizaciones clandestinas Fuerzas Armadas de Liberación Nacional y Los Macheteros.

La carta fue enviada a Ruff el pasado día 11 por la oficina del congresista Gutiérrez, con las firmas de Velázquez y Serrano, confirmaron funcionarios del Congreso.

Alejandrina Torres, Elizam Escobar, Juan Segarra Palmer, Oscar López Rivera, Alicia Rodríguez, Dylcia Pagán, Ida Luz Rodríguez, Carmen Valentín, Edwin Cortés, Luisa Rosa, Carlos Alberto Torres, Antonio Camacho, Adolfo Matos, Alberto Rodríguez y Ricardo Jiménez son los 15 independentistas boricuas que cumplen condenas por actos vinculados a sus ideas políticas.

"En relación a este tipo de casos no hay mucha comunicación de Justicia con la Casa Blanca, pues ellos deben actuar de forma

independiente, sin interferencias", dijo a EFE hace unos meses el responsable de los asuntos de Puerto Rico en la Casa Blanca, Jeffrey Farrow.

Recientemente, la congresista Velázquez indicó al diario puertorriqueño "El Nuevo Día" que "estamos ante el problema de que no recibimos información del Departamento de Justicia".

Inglés esta Desplazando Idioma Español Entre Hispanos en EEUU

Por Marcelo Wheelock.
Miami (EEUU), - El inglés está desplazando al idioma español entre los hispanos en Estados Unidos, advirtieron hoy expertos que participaron en un foro.

La "represión", el "desprestigio" y la falta de necesidad de hablarlo, son las principales causas que han provocado esta situación, afirmaron académicos que participan en el XVII Congreso sobre el Español en Estados Unidos, que se celebra en Miami.

Eduardo Hernández Chávez, de la Universidad de Nuevo México, aseguró que existen muchos padres hispanos en Estados Unidos que prohíben a su hijos hablar español y que esta situación ha provocado el desplazamiento de idioma castellano por el inglés.

"No existe el conocimiento entre muchos adultos que su lengua se pueda perder", aseguró Hernández Chávez.

Asimismo, recomendó que "el español tiene que usarse como lengua principal y dominante dentro de la familia y dentro de la comunidad para ser transmitida a futuras generaciones".

Según un estudio presentado por la académica de la Universidad de Nuevo México, Ysaura Bernal Enríquez, el porcentaje de hispanohablantes en Arizona, California, Colorado, Nuevo México, ha disminuido del 94 por ciento en 1970, a un 82 por ciento en 1990.

"Mientras más educación reciben los jóvenes, hay menos dominio del español, porque la educación es en inglés", advirtió Bernal Enríquez.

Para Lourdes Rovira, directora ejecutiva de los programas bilingües y de lenguas extranjeras del sistema de escuelas públicas del condado de Miami-Dade, "la pérdida del español es un serio problema en Estados Unidos".

"Los jóvenes en los colegios tienen la idea que como hablan español en la casa, ya no tienen que estudiar el idioma en la escuela", aseveró la educadora de origen cubano.

Añadió que debido a esta situación "todos los jóvenes hispanos llegan a una etapa en que pierden el español y terminan hablando 'spanglish'".

"Estamos haciendo un gran esfuerzo para intentar que los jóvenes del condado de Miami-Dade reciban cursos de español, y tratando de cambiar esa percepción de que todos somos bilingües, porque no lo somos", manifestó Lourdes Rovira.

La decana de la facultad de Educación de la Universidad de Long Island, de Nueva York, Ofelia García, consideró que "el desplazamiento de idioma español es natural, pero debido a la mayor inmigración que existe en estos momentos, no nos estamos dando cuenta del problema".

"Hoy en día hay menos conciencia de lo que está pasando", lamentó la académica.

Afirmó que ante la falta de "ayuda gubernamental", la única solución para enfrentar el problema, es "crear organizaciones comunitarias que apoyen la preservación del español".

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Texas Tech Tidbits

Tech's senior class record a 103-22 mark going into the NCAA Tournament, becoming the seventh straight Lady Raider senior class to earn 100 or more wins.

The Lady Raiders have won 115 of their last 122 games at the Lubbock Municipal Coliseum for a winning percentage of .942. The Lady Raiders have accumulated a 188-29 record under head coach Marsha Sharp and a 119-10 record in the last eight seasons in the Coliseum.

Texas Tech's signees for the 1999-2000 season include 6-1 forward Nikki Hendrix (Ardmore, Okla.), 6-7 post Jamie Nagle (Carthage, Texas), 5-4 guard Courtney Pastner (Kingwood, Texas), and 6-2 post Plenette Pierson (Kingwood, Texas).

The Lady Raiders have been slotted into the NCAA Midwest Regional seven times, including the last four straight years.

Tech's 80-54 win over Stephen F. Austin (+26 points) was the largest winning margin tallied by a Lady Raider team in NCAA postseason play.

The Lady Raiders gave up 78 points to North Carolina State. The last time Texas Tech allowed more than 75 opponent points was on Jan. 27 (13 games ago) when Tech defeated Oklahoma, 89-87, in Norman, Okla.

More than 44 years of head coaching experience between Texas Tech and Rutgers will take the floor Saturday night. Marsha Sharp (17 career years) and Vivian Stringer (27 years) combine for 1,000 wins and 310



losses for a winning percentage of .763.

Texas Tech holds a percent 6-0 record in games at a neutral site.

With 25 points against North Carolina State, senior post Angie Braziel moved into 14th place on Tech's all-time scoring list. She comes into Saturday's game with a career 1,125 points.

About Rutgers ...

The Scarlet Knights come into the Midwest Regional semifinals with an overall record of 28-5, posting a 17-1 Big East Conference mark.

Rutgers defeated Dartmouth (84-70) and Arizona (90-47) to reach the regional semifinal game against Texas Tech.

In her fourth season at Rutgers, C. Vivian Stringer brings a 74-47 mark into Saturday's game. She coached at Iowa for 12 years before heading off to Rutgers.

The Scarlet Knights have a well-balanced starting lineup which features one senior, two juniors and two sophomores.

As a team, Rutgers shoots 47 percent from the floor, 70 percent from the charity stripe and scores 70.8 points per game. The Scarlet Knights average 19 fouls per game and outscore their opponents (+18.3).

Rutgers has played only one other game on a neutral site this season. The Scarlet Knights defeated Indiana University, 60-53, on Nov. 19 at Colorado State.

Go

Texas Tech Lady Raiders

Los Orioles y Cuba Jugarán El Partido De Vuelta En Estados Unidos El 3 De Mayo

BALTIMORE (AP) -- Los Orioles de Baltimore llegaron a un acuerdo con las autoridades cubanas para disputar el juego de vuelta con la selección nacional cubana en Baltimore el 3 de mayo, según informa este domingo el diario Baltimore Sun.

Ya se había convenido el partido de ida para el 28 de marzo en Cuba. El jueves, un equipo logístico llegó a La Habana para preparar el terreno y negociar los detalles.

Se anticipaba que las Ligas Mayores de Béisbol y el Departamento de Estado harán un anuncio al respecto el lunes o el martes, agregó el diario, citando una fuente no identificada allegada a las negociaciones.

El 3 de abril había sido mencionado en principio para este juego, pero la fecha se descartó debido a que en ese entonces se jugarán los "playoffs" en el béisbol cubano. Asimismo, los Orioles

abrirán la temporada el 5 de abril.

"Creo que como jugadores hubiésemos preferido jugar antes del comienzo de la temporada", comentó el jugador de los Orioles B.J. Surhoff. "Una vez que empiece la temporada, los días libres son muy valiosos".

El juego del 28 de marzo será el primero en 40 años de un equipo de ligas mayores en Cuba.

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El Polémico Empate Entre Holyfield y Lewis Provoca Tres Investigaciones en Nuevo York



NUEVA YORK -- La controversia por el empate que le cedieron a Evander Holyfield frente a Lennox Lewis en la noche del sábado, provocó que los políticos del estado de Nueva York tomaran parte en el asunto.

El procurador general del estado, Eliot Spitzer, el gobernador, George Pataki, y un senador anunciaron este martes distintas investigaciones para intentar mantener la integridad del boxeo, vapuleada después de este combate.

Los jueces marcaron empate en la pelea del sábado en el Madison Square Garden de Nueva York, pero la mayoría de los especialistas creen que Lewis merecía ser declarado ganador.

El combate fue organizado para unificar las coronas de la categoría pesos pesados de la Federación Internacional y la Asociación Mundial (en poder de Holyfield) y el del Consejo de Boxeo (en manos de Lewis).

El presidente de la IBF, Bob Lee, manifestó este lunes que las investigaciones demuestran la importancia que tiene el boxeo en relación con otros deportes.

Las tres asociaciones ya han acordado un combate revancha en los próximos meses.

Sobre las especulaciones que lo acusaban de presionar a los jueces para que declararan un empate y ganar más dinero con la revancha, el promotor Don King se defendió rápidamente.

El popular organizador de combates dijo que no tenía ninguna relación con el jurado. "Mi trabajo es presentar un gran evento y vender entradas, no seleccionar a los jueces", se defendió.

Spitzer está tratando de programar para el próximo viernes una audiencia en la que espera escuchar a los tres jueces y otros involucrados en la pelea -entre ellos Don King- para luego tomar alguna determinación.

English is Replacing Spanish Among Hispanics

Miami, - As a language of everyday use, English is replacing Spanish among Hispanics in the United States, scholars meeting here said Friday.

Academics taking part in the 17th Congress on Spanish in the United States said the drop-off in use by Hispanics of the language of their forebears is due to "its perceived lack of prestige" and the fact it is no longer a necessity, among other factors.

"We necessarily have to confront the factors leading to the loss of Spanish and we must be aware that the maintenance of a language calls for trans-generational transmission," said Eduardo Hernandez Chavez of the University of New Mexico.

The scholar of Mexican descent said many Hispanic parents in the United States forbid their children to speak Spanish in an attempt to promote integration.

According to a study by Ysaura Bernal Enriquez of the University of New Mexico, in 1970 some 94 percent of Hispanics in Arizona, California, Colorado and New Mexico spoke Spanish. By 1990, that figure had dropped to 82 percent, she said. Hispanics in Arizona, California, Colorado and New Mexico spoke Spanish their mastery of Spanish, because they receive an English education," said Bernal Enriquez.

The director of bilingual programs and foreign languages of the public school system of Miami-Dade County, Lourdes Rovira, said "the loss of Spanish is a very serious problem in the United States."

"Young people in school believe that since they speak Spanish at home, they don't have to study the language at school any longer," said the Cuba-born teacher.

She added that the situation had caused "many young Hispanics to reach the stage in which they lose their Spanish and end up by speaking Spanglish."

"We are doing our best to get young people in Miami-Dade County to take courses in Spanish and we are trying to change the perception that we are all bilingual, because we are not," Rovira added.

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