

# el Esalador

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Lubbock, TX USA

Ysidro Gutierrez, wants prosperous Precinct 3, Lubbock County.

## Flores Claims Gutiérrez is Dreamer, Republican

Pointing fingers and calling Ysidro Gutierrez is a Republican, incumbent County Commissioner Gilbert Flores defended his twelve years of service to Lubbock County by saying that he was instrumental in all the major developments that have taken place in County Precinct 3.

"I am responsible for getting United, the Dollar Store and Sonic to set up stores in East Lubbock. I was responsible for the opening of clinic on Parkway, at Freedom Station and Idalou. I was responsible for the beautification of East Broadway. I have done many things and want to continue doing them," said Flores in his opening statement to some 50 persons attending a debate organized by the Lubbock County Democratic Party.

In his opening statement Gutierrez stated in Spanish and English that he had decided to run for the County Commissioner's post because of the dilapidated state of the precinct. "I looked out over Precinct 3 and saw vacant lots. I looked out over Precinct 3 and saw empty buildings and run down roads and streets. I saw people moving out of the Precinct, I saw the incidents of teen pregnancy and sexual disease rise to the highest levels in the nation. I saw school dropout rates soar. And I decided I was not satisfied with the ways things are. I wanted change. Change that hasn't happened in 12 years, and will not happen unless we take a new visionary direction in Lubbock."

Flores has described his opponent as a dreamer for proposing what Gutierrez says is vision for a better and more prosperous Precinct 3 which encompasses North and East Lubbock and the majority of Lubbock's minority and democrat area.

**"Yes I am a dreamer. I thank Gilbert for calling me that," says Gutierrez.**

"I have dreams of a new precinct 3 and a new Lubbock County that will be the center of economic development for all of West Texas. Gutierrez has proposed a nine-point plan that includes a Mercado project on North University. "When funding is acquired for this project, it will lead to more homes being built, more business being opened and more jobs being devel-

oped. We cannot accomplish this by just sticking our head in the ground and saying that these are dreams and that it is impossible."

**During the debate and in radio interviews, Flores has openly accused Gutierrez of being a Republican. 'I think this is a desperate action by a desperate politician. Since he has no definite platform, he has resorted to name-calling.**

I don't think I have to pay any attention to it," says Gutierrez. "The people are going to vote for the candidate who has the best ideas and I know I am that person. If I were a republican would I be in a run-off in the democratic primary?"

Throughout the debate, Mr. Flores continued attacks against Gutierrez despite repeated calls from the audience for him to stick to the issues. Mr. Flores spoke of a time when Ysidro and David Langston tried to convert LULAC members into Republicans at a LULAC meeting about a year ago.

"Mr. Flores version of the LULAC meeting is insulting to all LULAC

members". stated Ysidro Gutierrez, "What actually happened is that after David Langston presented his speech, we shook hands with LULAC members, expressed our appreciation for LULAC's invitation and departed LULAC in a gracious manner. Mr. Flores stated that he and LULAC members kicked David Langston and me out is an insult to LULAC members who have always been gracious to their invited guests and visitors. I am well aware that LULAC is a non-profit organization. How can I ask them to become Republicans? Mr. Flores owes LULAC an apology."



"Yo mire sobre el Precincto 3 de Lubbock y vide la falta de buenos negocios y cantidades de problemas que se han ignorado por los ultimos doce años. Yo quiero cambiar esto. Lo puede hacer si soy elegido este proximo 13 de Abril." dijo el candidato para Comisionado, Ysidro Gutierrez

## Comentarios

by Bidal Agüero

Craving a hot breakfast of huevos con chorizo this past Sunday, I decided to drive down to St. Joseph Church and contribute to the Church by buying one of their delicious breakfast plates. As I walked back to my car I noticed that a young man had reached over to the middle of my windshield and place a paper under my wiper. I briefly glanced at it when I got in my car noticed that it was written in fancy script writing and dismissed the paper as a the Quinceañera invitation my compadre had promised to bet to me during the past week and had never delivered.

When I got home and after reading the Sunday paper, I once again looked at the paper and noticed that across the top - in script letters, read, "Vote Gilbert Flores."

I remember thinking to myself that one might say this was a "clever" way - disguising it as an invitation - of getting people to at least look at it twice. As I read on the first sentence asked why people should vote for Gilbert Flores. The second statement asked why we have outreach clinics on Parkway Drive, Freedom Station Chapman Hill and Idalou.

If I were taking a quiz, I would answer that they were set up because UMC has the obligation to service our community and to specifically set up clinics to serve the indigent in order for them to qualify for federal funds.

A third question asked if I knew why Chapman Hill Clinic is a historical landmark. I couldn't answer this question since the only Clinic that is a historical landmark is Chatman Hill. This Clinic was established by the hard work of Harold Chatman. I certainly hope that the historical commission didn't misspell the name.

The fourth and fifth questions were kind of related in that they asked why United, Sonic and the Dollar Store were in East Lubbock. Again if I were answering a quiz I would say that they are there to make money. This is especially true since 90% of their business comes from East Lubbock and they build where it is convenient to their customers. The following question said that the "holding facility that will be built in North East Lubbock, Precinct 3 will save the County a lot of money and that money can be put to other good uses." It goes on to say that the "holding facility will also attract other businesses to the area, which means more jobs for more people."

Funny but the only "holding facility" I know that will be built is the County Jail. I never really thought that the Jail was meant to save money. Last time I looked the Lubbock County Jail was full of Chicanos and Blacks. I always thought that elected officials should work to try and keep people out of jail. And who ever heard of a Jail attracting new business? I wouldn't want my business close to it! Well, I'm glad this test was not for a grade because I would have flunked it! According to the answer given, Gilbert Flores was responsible for all these things.

It's a wonder he didn't say he invented the internet!

Contact Bidal at [eleditor@llano.net](mailto:eleditor@llano.net)

## Nueva propuesta de inmigración

Una propuesta de reforma a la Ley de Inmigración fue presentada al Senado de Estados Unidos por Tom Daschle, líder de la minoría demócrata y Chuck Hagel, senador republicano por Nebraska. La iniciativa permitiría a los trabajadores indocumentados que han estado por lo menos cinco años en Estados Unidos obtener la residencia.

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"No es una amnistía", declaró Daschle al presentar la iniciativa, "pero permite llegar a obtener la residencia y eventualmente la ciudadanía".

La propuesta incluye el pago de una multa no especificada, la demostración de residencia por lo menos de cinco años antes de que se apruebe la ley, y demostrar también que se han trabajado por lo menos cuatro de esos años. Además, se tendría que aprobar un chequeo de antecedentes penales, se debe demostrar que se han pagado los impuestos y habría que demostrar conocimiento del idioma.

Daschle y Hagel dijeron que "queremos que los inmigrantes se conviertan en "accionistas" del país, lo cual no sucede sin esfuerzo. Estos derechos deben ganarse, las visas y la residencia deben ganarse y ojalá para muchos, también la ciudadanía".

MALDEF (Fondo Mexicano de Defensa Legal), reaccionó inmediatamente, diciendo que "la iniciativa es del tipo que el país necesita". "Entendemos que mantendría unidas a las familias y les daría a los inmigrantes el derecho a convertirse en miembros plenos de la sociedad. De hecho", continúa MALDEF, "creemos que se ajusta a los principios mencionados por el presidente Bush el 6 de enero". © La Raza

## Book calls Hispanic migration a 'threat'

In a new book, a Harvard professor says immigrants from Mexico and other Latin countries threaten to divide the United States. Hispanics in Miami dispute the book's assertions.

BY OSCAR CORRAL

An upcoming book from a renowned Harvard professor that calls Hispanic immigration a threat to the United States is drawing criticism from Miami's Hispanic intelligentsia -- even though the book seems to be torn between its suspicion and admiration of Miami.

Saying that mass migration from Mexico and other Latin countries is a "threat" to the United States, Harvard professor Samuel Huntington theorizes that "the persistent inflow of Hispanic immigrants threatens to divide the United States into two peoples, two cultures and two languages."

"If this trend continues, the cultural division between Hispanics and Anglos could replace the racial division between blacks and whites as the most serious cleavage in U.S. society."

Huntington, author of the book *The Clash of Civilizations*, declined through his aide, Todd Fine, to be interviewed for this story.

An excerpt of Huntington's forthcoming book, *Who We Are* (Simon & Schuster) appears in the current issue of *Foreign Policy* and on the magazine's website, [ForeignPolicy.com](http://ForeignPolicy.com).

### FOCUS ON MIAMI

Huntington devotes a large portion of his writings to Miami, the city he calls "the most Hispanic large city in the 50 U.S. states."

Not a place full of people who keep quiet when they disagree, Miami's Hispanics are among those firing back. Former Miami Mayor Maurice Ferre, who is on a fellowship at Princeton University, is writing a book in response.

"I'm taking him on," said Ferre, who is Puerto Rican. "He is saying that Hispanics coming to the U.S. are going to ruin this country, and I don't believe that. I think we're just going to add to the American creed."

Florida International University professor Damian Fernandez, who is quoted in the new book, called Huntington's premise "problematic." Huntington quotes Fernandez in his book as saying Cubans "built modern Miami."

Fernandez said Huntington never contacted him, although he did make that remark as part of an academic discussion.

"I cannot buy this conclusion," Fernandez said, adding that he supports Huntington's right to express his views because it can trigger debate. "You can't have it both ways. You can't say these people are a challenge to us and at the same time say they are doing something as good as the city of Miami has become in terms of its global stature."

Critics have called Huntington a "xenophobe" and claim that his theories can provide fodder to white supremacist and racist groups.

University of Miami professor Jaime Suchlicki, director of the Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies, said he was surprised by Huntington's article.

"I don't agree with the premise," he said.

FIU sociology professor Lisandro Perez, who studies migration patterns, said Huntington's hypothesis is contrary to previous research done on the subject.

For example, Huntington claims that Hispanics, particularly Mexican Americans, fail to assimilate into American society because they preserve their Spanish longer than other immigrant groups preserve their native languages.

### A 'RED HERRING'

Perez said his own research on children of Hispanic immigrants in Miami and the Southwestern United States shows that Huntington's theory is a "red herring." He said children of Hispanic immigrants learn English and prefer it.

(Continued Page 5)

## "Coyotes" a 300 MD a year business

New York City, U.S.A., March 24, 2004 (Notimex) - Human smuggling is second only to drug trafficking as the most highly profitable illegal activity between Mexico and the United States, grossing an estimated 300 million dollars a year, according to academic statistics.

Studies by the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and data from the UN show that on the average, an undocumented immigrant pays one thousand 500 dollars for crossing into the United States, although the fee has increased in the past two years due to operational "difficulties" that the activity entails.

Security measures that Mexico as well as the United States have recently put into effect greatly due to a heightened battle against terrorism have made traditional ways of operating more complex for "coyotes", human smugglers, according to the UN.

An analysis from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that deals with the problem at a global level, points out that on the United States-Mexico border, those who do manage to cross report an increase in fees in order to maintain their earning levels.

"The season begins in March and runs through the beginning of winter, but it is increasingly more problematic for these groups to operate and they try to make the most from the persons who still seek their services," it indicated.

The UN does not quote updated amounts in this business, but it refers to a study by Mexican researcher Ricardo Reza, who, based on official estimates by both countries, placed the number for yearly net earnings at up to 300 million dollars only two years ago.

Another aspect of this phenomenon is more serious, the problem of immigrants who die along the border in their attempt to cross into the United States.

Almost all of them die when they are abandoned by the smugglers once they are in the United States or when they get lost "by themselves" according to the study by UNHCR, as they embark on the risky adventure without being aware of all the specific dangers in the area.

United States immigration officials say that around 1.5 million undocumented immigrants are taken into custody every year. NOTIMEX



The Bridge Between Mexico & Arizona



¿Que Es Un Hispano?

Expliqueselo al New York Times

Por Frank Gómez

¿Cuál es el problema con la cita a continuación?

"Llevaba identificación que los investigadores concluyeron era falsa, por lo que mostraba un hombre hispano de 5 pies 10 pulgadas, y el hombre del incidente armado media más de 6 pies y parecía ser blanco, dijo un funcionario de la policía". (The New York Times, sección Metro, del 16 de febrero, 2004).

En realidad, existen CINCO problemas con esta cita: 1) se presenta "hispano" como un indicador racial; 2) una imagen por sí sola no es capaz de identificar a una persona como hispana; 3) un hispano puede medir más de seis pies y ser blanco; 4) la policía delata su ignorancia y falta de sensibilidad; y 5) el New York Times, el periódico de los años de los EEUU, publicó la nota sin reflexionar.

Se podría decir, es más, que perjudica al casi 30 por ciento de los residentes de la ciudad de Nueva York que son hispanos, primero por los mencionados "problemas" y segundo, porque nutre un es-

tereotipo del hispano como criminal.

La nota nos recuerda a un sinnúmero de artículos sobre informes policíacos que describen al que no se interrogó, ni se prendió, ni mucho menos se llegó a identificar como "hispano". "Parecía hispano" rezan las voces. Un cadáver, un ahogado, una víctima de un delito, o alguien muerto en un accidente - que carece de identificación personal -- es descrito como hispano en base al aspecto físico y nada más.

Si es rutinario tan imprudente reportaje en la ciudad de Nueva York, que cuenta con una población hispana numerosa y activa en la política y con un cuerpo de policía con su propia asociación de agentes latinos, ¿cómo será en las ciudades más pequeñas, cuyas comunidades latinas son menores, y menos prominentes?

El periódico The New York Times hace poco nombró a un mediador cuya función es de considerar de cerca la publicación en representación de sus lectores. La creación de este puesto viene a raíz del reciente problema de plagio con Jayson

Blair.

El mediador se ha mostrado cándido y abierto, pero no se ve mucho en sus comentarios respecto a la cobertura del periódico de las llamadas comunidades de "minorías". Cito la palabra minorías entre comillas por lo que la población de la ciudad de Nueva York, como la de muchas otras grandes ciudades, es "mayoritariamente minoría".

Para aprender sobre lo que ocurre en la comunidad latina aquí, es necesario valerse de los muchos y muy buenos periódicos, canales televisivos y estaciones de radio en español. No encontrará nada en los anales del New York Times. Lo que encontrará son informes sobre el crimen y las penurias de los pobres inmigrantes, nada de notas sobre el sector empresarial hispano en pleno crecimiento explosivo, ni de los profesionales latinos que encuentran el éxito en miles de diferentes ámbitos.

El Times, los muchos departamentos de policía y los medios de comunicación podrían llevarse una página del Negociado del Censo y los grupos de

encuestas de opiniones que declaran de manera rutinaria en los estudios relacionados a los hispanos que "pueden ser de cualquier raza". Los hispanos, después de todo, son Celia Cruz, Bill Richardson, Ricky Martin, Alex Rodríguez, Anthony Quinn.

Pero cuando se trata de un delito, "parecía hispano".

¿Cuántas son las veces que vemos a criminales o víctimas - con o sin identificación - identificados como germano-americanos, escandinavos, franceses o cualquier otro indicador puramente racial?

No lo vemos nunca. Que así se tilde a los hispanos contribuye a cada estereotipo, en su mayoría negativo, imaginable.

¿No quisiéramos que hubiera agentes de policía y editores de periódicos más sensibles? ¿No quisiéramos que más latinos tuvieran puestos de influencia dentro del New York Times? ¿No quisiéramos que acertaran los policías? Un día, quizá, un día.

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It's Getting Hot...And Summer's Not Even Here Yet

By Abel Cruz

We've all heard the saying that "if you don't like the weather in Lubbock, just wait a few minutes and it'll change". Well, the same could be said about the political climate! The changes around here lately have been even more dramatic than the sand storms we had a few weeks back.

In a nutshell, and not in chronological order, the following has happened in the past few weeks:

\* Janie Landin Ramirez files for the District 2 seat presently held by T. J. Patterson

\* Porfirio DeLeon files for the District 1 Council seat and then withdraws his name

\* Linda DeLeon resigns from her school board seat and decides to run for the City Council seat held by Victor Hernandez

\* Kathy Flores, wife of County Commissioner Gilbert Flores, files to run for the school board seat held by Linda DeLeon; realizing that she doesn't live in District 1, she withdraws her name

\* Frank Morrison withdraws from the District 4 council race citing his desire to go to work full time for a local business (I'm sure that the number of candidates running against him, which looks like the line for the entrance to Six Flags, and the recent revelation concerning his DUI, had nothing to do with his decision to quit the race!)

\* A total of 1,990 voters turn out to vote in the County Commissioner's race for Precinct 3 and more people vote for 2 of the candidates combined, Gutierrez and Luna, than vote for the incumbent Flores, thereby necessitating a run off election.

\* Luis Trejo files to run for the School Board seat being vacated by Linda DeLeon

\* Rounding out the slate of candidates, Gilbert J. Montes II files to run for Mayor and Sam G. Rodriguez files to run for the District 2 seat being sought by Janie L. Ramirez

\* Victor Hernandez files a letter of protest with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality concerning Herlinda DeLeon Enterprises, Inc intention to locate a concrete batch plant off of Erskine Street close to "Barrio Guadalupe" and the Avenue U neighborhood.

Of course the whole "domino effect" started shortly after Tommy Gonzalez was passed up for the city manager's position. Victor Hernandez promptly took off his muzzle, and resigned his mayor pro tem seat and then resigned his council seat to run for Municipal Judge against the incumbent Robert Doty. Shortly after that, all political hell broke loose, so to speak!

In a lot of ways all this activity is, as our dear friend Martha would say, "A good thing". It is refreshing to see that out of 21 candidates that have filed so far for city council vacancies, 5 candidates are Hispanic. There could be more since the filing period for the District 1 seat is still open until April 14, since it is a special election. In the school board elections, only 1 Hispanic candidate entered the race.

Almost lost in all the political activity is Councilman Victor Hernandez' opposition to the aforementioned concrete batch plant being located off of Erskine and Avenue Q. It is always a good sign when a councilman, who has resigned his seat but is serving out the term until the special election, files a letter of protest to protect his constituencies quality of life. Of course the jury is still out on whether Herlinda DeLeon Enterprises, Inc will be allowed to go forward with the location of the concrete batch plant. Not that I am against free enterprise or Hispanic Entrepreneurship, but it seems that as long as heavy industrial development is allowed to continue in and around our neighborhoods, same neighborhoods will never resemble the ones in other parts of this city. It's true that in most cases, retail commercial development tends to increase property values and good sound businesses tend to attract other good job producing enterprises.

But let's face it, a Kohl's department store like the one being built at 98th and Indiana is very different from a concrete batch plant. I can bet you any amount of money that if this plant was being located in South or Southwest Lubbock, you would hear the loud cries against it all the way from South Lubbock to the Canyon Lakes! The whole concept is best described with the following acronym, NIMBY! (Not In My Back Yard)!

It promises to be an interesting time between now, the Precinct 3 run off election, and May elections. The runoff election between Ysidro Gutierrez and Gilbert Flores is getting more and more contentious, or as we say in Spanish, "se esta poniendo caliente"! Based on reports from a couple of people who were at the debate between the two candidates held at Cavazos on Wednesday, March 24, 2004, the tactics being used by both Flores and Gutierrez are as different as night and day.

According to my sources, Flores relied on personal attacks against his opponent, while Gutierrez spoke mainly about the future and his vision for a better Lubbock. And that really is what this race is all about. In a sense, the way the candidates have been campaigning, it is a contest between the past and the future. In this day and age, people are asking, "what have you done for me lately"? Not what did you do 3 years ago. If the county and the mostly Hispanic precinct are destined to move forward, it will be with leadership that understands that the playing field has changed, that the political landscape is in dire need of vocal leadership, not only on matters concerning county issues, but on issues concerning the Hispanic community. Most importantly, the best candidate in this race will do well to remember that they not only represent Precinct 3, but by virtue of their public image, they also represent some of the best that the Hispanic community has to offer.

(c)acruz2004 Email: acruzts@aol.com

What Is a Hispanic?

Tell It to the New York Times

By Frank Gómez

What's wrong with the following quote?

"He was carrying identification that investigators concluded was false because it pictured a 5-foot-10 Hispanic man, and the man in the shooting was over 6 feet tall and appeared to be white, a police official said." (New York Times, Metro Section, Feb 16, 2004).

Actually, there are FIVE problems with this quote: 1) Hispanic is presented as a race; 2) a picture alone cannot identify someone as Hispanic; 3) a Hispanic can be over 6 feet tall and white; 4) the police display ignorance and insensitivity; and 5) the New York Times, America's "newspaper of record," ran with it.

One could argue, furthermore, that it does a disservice to the nearly 30 percent of New York City residents who are Hispanic, first because of the "problems" above, and second, because it fuels a stereotype of

Hispanics as lawbreakers.

The article reminds us of countless stories of police reports that describe as "Hispanic" someone who was not apprehended, questioned or even remotely identified. "He looked Hispanic," go the stories. And a body, a drowning victim, or a crime victim, or a person killed in an accident -- without any personal identification -- is described as Hispanic on the basis of physical appearance alone.

If such reckless reporting is routine in New York City, with its large, politically active Hispanic population and a police force with its own Latino officers association, what must it be like in cities with smaller, less prominent Latino communities?

The New York Times has a newly appointed "ombudsman" whose job is to scrutinize the paper on behalf of readers. The creation of his position is a response to the recent "affaire

Jayson Blair."

The ombudsman has been candid and forthright, but one sees little in his commentaries about the paper's coverage of so-called "minority" communities. Minority is in quotation marks because New York City's population, as in many other big cities, is "majority minority."

To learn what is happening in the Latino community here, one must turn to the many fine Spanish language newspapers, television stations and radio stations. You will not find it in the paper of record. What you will find are reports on crime and the travails of poor immigrants, not reports on the booming Hispanic business sector or professionals who are finding success in countless arenas.

The Times, the many police departments and the media could take a page from the Census Bureau and opinion pollsters who routinely state in

studies relating to Hispanics that they "can be of any race." Hispanics, after all, are Celia Cruz, Bill Richardson, Ricky Martin, Alex Rodríguez, Anthony Quinn.

But when it comes to crime, "he looked Hispanic."

How many times do we see criminals or victims -- with or without identification -- identified as German-American, Scandinavian, French or any other purely ethnic descriptor?

We don't.

That Hispanics are so labeled contributes to every stereotype, most often negative in connotation, imaginable.

Don't we wish there were more sensitive police and editors? Don't we wish there were more Latinos in influential positions at The Times? Don't we wish the police would get it right? Someday, perhaps, someday.

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On flattering minorities

By Jeff Jacoby

The ad in USA Today wasn't headlined "For Blacks and Hispanics, These Kids Are Pretty Smart" -- but it might as well have been. The full-page layout trumpeted the 32 college students selected as finalists in the American Advertising Federation's annual "Most Promising Minority Students Program." That program, the AAF says, "connects the advertising industry with the nation's top minority college seniors."

In the world that affirmative action has made, there are rich rewards to be reaped from being designated a "top minority." The students featured in the ad were flown to New York for a long weekend, flattered at a Waldorf-Astoria

awards luncheon, and introduced to recruiters and executives from leading media companies and ad agencies. They repeatedly heard themselves described as accomplished, talented, the best and the brightest. And presumably none of their hosts or sponsors was tactless enough to mention the gulf that separates the nation's "most promising minority students" from the nation's most promising students.

William F. Buckley once remarked, upon being told that Lillian Hellman was America's finest female playwright, that this was on the order of celebrating the tallest building in Wichita. Perhaps the 32 students hailed in the ad really are gifted whiz kids with a genius for advertising -- but when the

competition excludes more than 70 percent of the field, how would one know? (According to the American Council on Education, "students of color" account for 28 percent of all undergraduates, and just 21.8 percent of all bachelor's degrees awarded.)

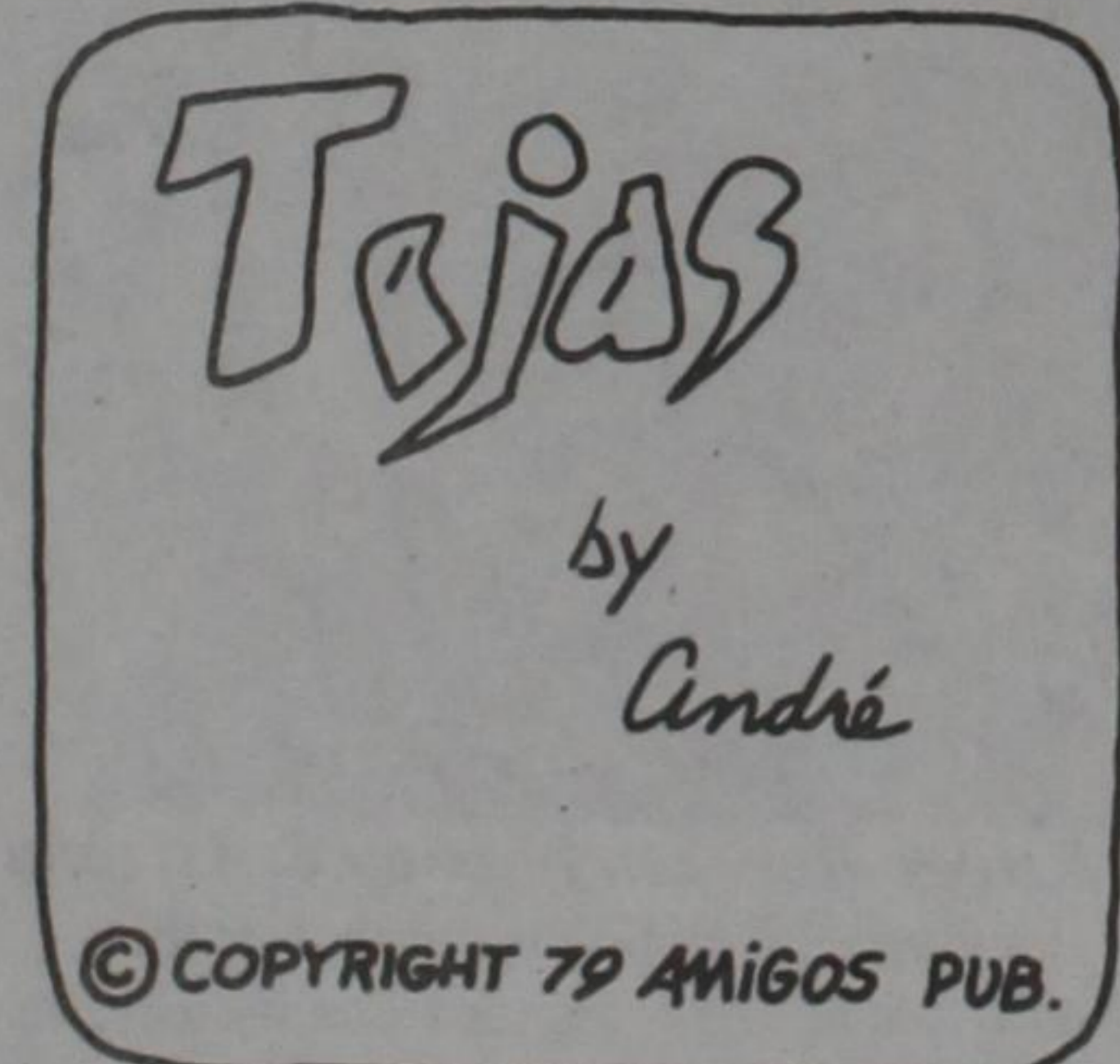
It doesn't seem to have occurred to the American Advertising Federation or its corporate sponsors that it is insulting to tell a group of students that, for minorities, they are hot stuff. It doesn't seem to have occurred to the students, either. No wonder: They are winning at the game of racial double standards that for years has reinforced the stereotype of black and Hispanic inferiority -- the degrading myth that members of certain racial and

ethnic groups can succeed only if the bar is lowered for them.

The ad industry's "most promising minority students" campaign is an example of what Yale law professor Stephen Carter, in "Reflections of an Affirmative Action Baby," called the "best black" syndrome.

"We are measured," he wrote, "by a different yardstick: first black, only black, best black. The best black syndrome is cut from the same cloth as the implicit and de-meaning tokenism that often accompanies racial preferences: 'Oh, we'll tolerate so-and-so at our hospital or in our firm or on our faculty, because she's the best black.' Not because she's the best-qualified candi-

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## Protestan contra Fox en Guatamala

El presidente de México, Vicente Fox Quesada, se reunió ayer en Guatemala con su anfitrión Oscar Berger, con quien acordó tareas para eliminar tra-

hasta la mañana de este miércoles, cuando viajará hacia Honduras como parte de un periplo que también lo llevará por Nicaragua, donde se reunirá



bas comerciales y combatir a los traficantes de indocumentados, en medio de protestas contra los tratados comerciales y los planes de integración en la región.

Fox arribó al país, invitado por Berger, para una visita que se extenderá por unas 23 horas.

### Flattering Minorities From Page 3

date, but because she's the best-qualified black candidate. She can fill the black slot. And then the rest of the slots can be filled in the usual way: with the best-qualified candidates."

Once upon time it was racists who insisted that "nonwhite" was a synonym for "intellectually deficient." Today that attitude is promoted most emphatically by the defenders of affirmative action, a system rooted in the belief that blacks and certain other minorities can't hope to win if they have to compete on a level playing field. And so racial preferences are used to tilt the field in their favor: lower admissions standards at colleges and graduate schools, minority set-asides for government contracts, unofficial racial quotas to benefit those applying for jobs. Racial preferences are clearly a boon for some minorities -- particularly those from upper-middle-class families who know how to leverage them to get into a good school or land a good job or get in on a good investment. But they do no favors for minority groups as a whole. Preferences stigmatize them as less able than other Americans to stand on their own two feet. Many end up resenting those who believe they need such a crutch -- as well as resenting those who would take the crutch away.

The notion that certain minorities are of a lower caliber than "real" Americans is as old as America itself. In 1753, Benjamin Franklin scorned the German immigrants then flooding into the colony of Pennsylvania. "Those who come hither," he fumed, "are generally of the most ignorant, stupid sort of their own nation."

A century and a half later, Francis Walker, the head of the Census Bureau (and later president of MIT), lamented that the immigrants of his day weren't nearly as impressive as the German immigrants of old. He disparaged the Poles, Italians, and Jews then surging in through Ellis Island as "beaten men from beaten races," totally lacking in "the ideas and aptitudes such as belong to those who were descended from the tribes that met under the oak trees of old Germany to make laws and choose chiefs."

Fortunately, there was no affirmative action at the turn of the 20th century to give members of "beaten races" a leg up in the competition for education and jobs. They had to rise on their own merits if they were to overcome the stigma of inferiority -- and rise and overcome they did. Black and Hispanic Americans would rise and overcome as well if only they could be liberated from the condescending mind-set that thinks it's a compliment to tell a group of college seniors that they show great promise -- for minorities.

## Medicare en peligro de quiebra

El fondo fiduciario que financia el sistema de asistencia de salud a los ancianos de EU (Medicare) tendrá pérdidas este año y quebrará en 2019 si no se aprueban cambios radicales, según anunció ayer su consejo de fideicomisarios.

El deterioro de las finanzas de Medicare se ha producido como resultado --en gran parte-- de la reforma aprobada a finales del año pasado, la cual tendrá un costo de 540,000 millones de dólares en 10 años.

Cuando la ley se aprobó, el gobierno aseguró que el coste sería de 400,000 millones, pero luego reconoció que la cantidad sería un tercio mayor y actualmente hay una investigación en marcha para averiguar si algún alto funcionario de la Administración ocultó datos para lograr la aprobación en el Congreso.

Los cambios que introdujo la nueva ley, que prevén un subsidio a la compra de medicinas, "generan serias dudas acerca de la sostenibilidad de

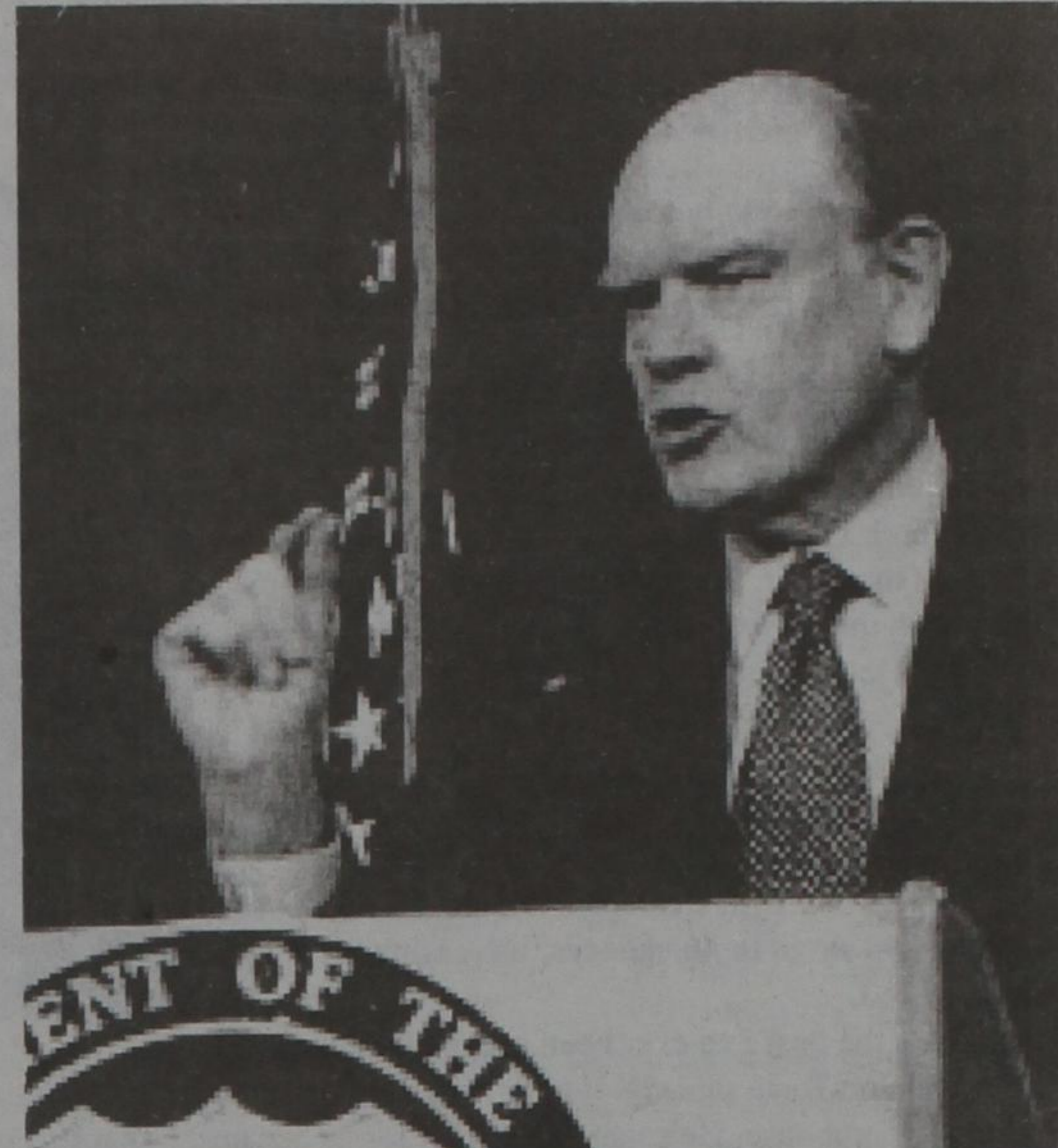
Medicare bajo el actual marco financiero", señala el informe anual de los fideicomisarios divulgado ayer.

La llegada a la situación de insolvencia en 2019 se produciría siete años antes de la última previsión.

Los números rojos comenzarán este mismo año "y crecerán rápidamente a partir de 2010, a medida que se jubilen los miembros de la llamada generación del baby boom", es decir, los nacidos después de la Segunda Guerra Mundial hasta 1964, añade el informe.

"El programa de jubilaciones tiene serios problemas y es financieramente insostenible a largo plazo", estimó el secretario estadounidense del Tesoro, John Snow, durante la presentación del informe, que analiza las perspectivas del Seguro Social para la tercera edad en los próximos 75 años.

"No se pueden eludir las cifras, cuando la importante generación del baby boom llega a la edad de jubilarse y el



número de [trabajadores] activos cae sensiblemente en relación con el número de jubilados", agregó.

La jubilación costará cara, pero es el programa de seguro de salud de la tercera edad (Medicare) el que suscita mayores preocupaciones, ya que sus perspectivas financieras "se deterioraron considerablemente en el último año", destaca el informe.

En efecto, esos fondos, que benefician a los estadounidenses de más de 65 años, verán cómo se multiplican sus costos en los próximos años, al punto de que para cubrir los gastos hospitalarios "la fecha en la que se agotarán los fondos fue anticipada a 2019, en lugar de 2026 como estaba previsto el año pasado".

El candidato presidencial demócrata, John Kerry, comentó que el informe demuestra que el presidente George W. Bush ha despilarrado en recortes impositivos para los más ricos el dinero que podía destinarse a rescatar el Medicare.

El programa Medicare representa actualmente el 2.7% del Producto Interno Bruto (PIB) nacional. Su costo pasará a representar cerca de 14% del PIB en el año 2078, según el informe.

En lo que concierne a las jubilaciones, su costo pasará de 4.3% del PIB en la actualidad a 6.6% en 2078.

Los autores del estudio llaman a actuar de forma urgente, ya que, "cuanto antes se ataquen estos problemas, tanto menos perturbadoras resultarán las soluciones".

Un portavoz de la Casa Blanca culpó al aumento continuo del coste de la asistencia sanitaria en general y no al costo añadido por las ayudas para el pago de las recetas.

Sin embargo, el Partido Demócrata aprovechó el contenido del informe para lanzar una andanada contra la política económica y de salud del presidente George W. Bush.

Los republicanos en el gobierno "han agotado los fondos fiduciarios de Medicare y del Seguro Social para generar los recursos para los recortes de impuestos propuestos en el proyecto de presupuesto del Presidente", lamentó Tom Daschle, líder de la minoría demócrata en el Senado.

En cambio, las perspectivas para el Seguro Social, que paga las pensiones públicas de jubilación, son prácticamente idénticas, ya que no se prevé que pueda entrar en quiebra hasta el año 2042, el mismo año previsto anteriormente.

hasta la mañana de este miércoles, cuando viajará hacia Honduras como parte de un periplo que también lo llevará por Nicaragua, donde se reunirá un día después con los gobernantes centroamericanos.

Fox se reunió con Berger en el Palacio Nacional de la Cul-

tura, antigua sede de gobierno en el corazón capitalino, donde aseguró que "Guatemala y México están llamados a jugar un papel fundamental de liderazgo en el futuro de Mesoamérica y en el de América Latina".

El optimismo oficial por la cita Fox-Berger se vio opacado porque miles de personas se lanzaron a las calles y se apostaron frente al Palacio Na-

cional de la Cultura para protestar contra el Plan Puebla-Panamá, los tratados comerciales y el alza en productos de la canasta básica.

Las fuerzas de seguridad reportaron que en el interior del país se registraron bloqueos en varios tramos carreteros, en rutas que comunican a Guatemala con México (oeste), así como al Caribe (noreste) y hacia Honduras y El Salvador (este).

"¡Fuera Fox!", "¡No al PPP, sí a la vida!", "No más pobreza", gritaban los manifestantes, mientras otros portaban pancartas con lemas de rechazo al proyecto de desarrollo y los tratados de libre comercio (TLC).

Acuerdos En materia comercial, los gobernantes instruyeron a sus responsables de Economía a convocar "a la brevedad" a una comisión "para destruir obstáculos", dijo Fox en una rueda de prensa conjunta con Berger.

"Tenemos algunos pequeños obstáculos, algunas barreras. Hacia tiempo no se reunía la comisión con el propósito de

continued on page 6

## ¿Que Pasa? Carne Guisada Fundraiser

Nicolás Garza of Lubbock will attending the National Hispanic Institute Youth Legislative Session at Depaul University, Chicago but needs your help. Nicolás asks for everyone to attend and support a Carne Guisada Dinner that will be held at the LULAC Hall on Sunday, March 28 starting at 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. at the LULAC Hall which is located at 1304 Avenue O. The cost for this fundraiser is \$5.00 per adult plate and \$3.00 per child plate. All proceeds will go toward his trip expenditures.

## Celebrating Cesar Chavez

The 5th Annual recognition of Cesar Chavez contributions will highlighted at a public celebration which will be held on Sunday, April 4, starting at 2:30 p.m. The event will begin with a Rally at Cavazos Jr. High in front of school which is located at 210 North University Avenue.

The people's march will lead participants to Buddy Holly Park at Canyon Lake Drive for the Cesar Chavez Festival.

This year's theme is "VOTE WITH HOPE". Cesar Chavez believed strongly in voting and having your voice heard. We will have inspirational speakers, mariachi, a musical band, food, drinks and fun. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs.

A well deserved community member will be receiving the "Cesar Chavez Spirit Award". All groups, organizations, individuals to come out and celebrate the memory of Cesar Chavez and his contributions. For more information contact Irma Guerrero at 791-3545 or Tavita Dorow at 741-1142.

## The Advanced Bariatric Surgery Center to Hold Weight Loss Surgery Seminar

The Advanced Bariatric surgery Center will hold a free seminar about weight loss surgery on Saturday, March 27 at 10 am at the Lubbock Civic Center, located at 1501 6th St in rooms 111 and 112.

The seminar is presented by David Syn, M.D., bariatric surgeon and president of the center. He will discuss how morbid obesity is a life-threatening condition and if weight loss surgery is the right step for a patient. Patients who have benefitted from this surgery will be in attendance to answer questions.

For more information, call toll-free 1-866-487-5670, or visit their Web site at [www.advancedbariatricsurgery.com](http://www.advancedbariatricsurgery.com).

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\*Las probabilidades listadas son las posibilidades de ganar cualquier premio en estos juegos, incluyendo los premios del mismo precio del boleto. AVISO: Un juego instantáneo puede seguir vendiéndose aún cuando todos los premios mayores hayan sido reclamados. Para la más reciente información sobre los premios restantes de los juegos instantáneos, favor de llamar al 1-800-37-LOTTO. Debe tener 18 años o más para poder comprar boletos. ©2004 Texas Lottery Commission. Todos los Derechos Reservados.



# Yankees, Rivera agree to two-year, \$21M extension

Mariano Rivera has no desire to leave the New York Yankees. That's why it took little time to negotiate a \$21 million, two-year contract extension through 2006.

Yankees owner George Steinbrenner looked on as the deal was announced Tuesday and gave the pitcher a hug.

"I think I was born to be a Yankee," Rivera said. "I want to thank Mr. George to get the opportunity to stay with the Yankees forever, have a chance to get into the Hall of Fame with the pinstripes. That's big for me."

Rivera, MVP of the 1999 World Series and last year's AL championship series, helped the Yankees win four Series titles and six AL pennants.

He was 5-2 with a career-low 1.66 ERA last year and had 40 saves in 46 chances, increasing his career total to 283.

"He's the best I've ever been around," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "Not only the ability to pitch and perform under pressure, but the calm he puts over the clubhouse. He's very important for us because he's a special person."

Rivera will make \$8.89 million in 2004, the final season of a four-year contract. He is baseball's second-highest paid closer behind Atlanta's John Smoltz, who will make \$11 million this year.

Rivera's extension calls for \$10.5 million salaries in 2005 and 2006. New York has a \$10.5 million option for 2007 that would become guaranteed if he has 60 games finished in 2006 or a combined 114 games finished in 2005 and 2006.

Mariano Rivera is baseball's second-highest paid closer behind John Smoltz.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman negotiated the deal over the past week with Rivera's agent, Fernando Cuza.

"Without question we're talking about the best reliever, in my opinion, in the history of baseball," Cashman said. "This guy has become branded with the Yankee logo. People are going to remember this man for so long for what he's done."

Rivera has been outstanding this spring, not allowing a run and striking out nine over eight innings.

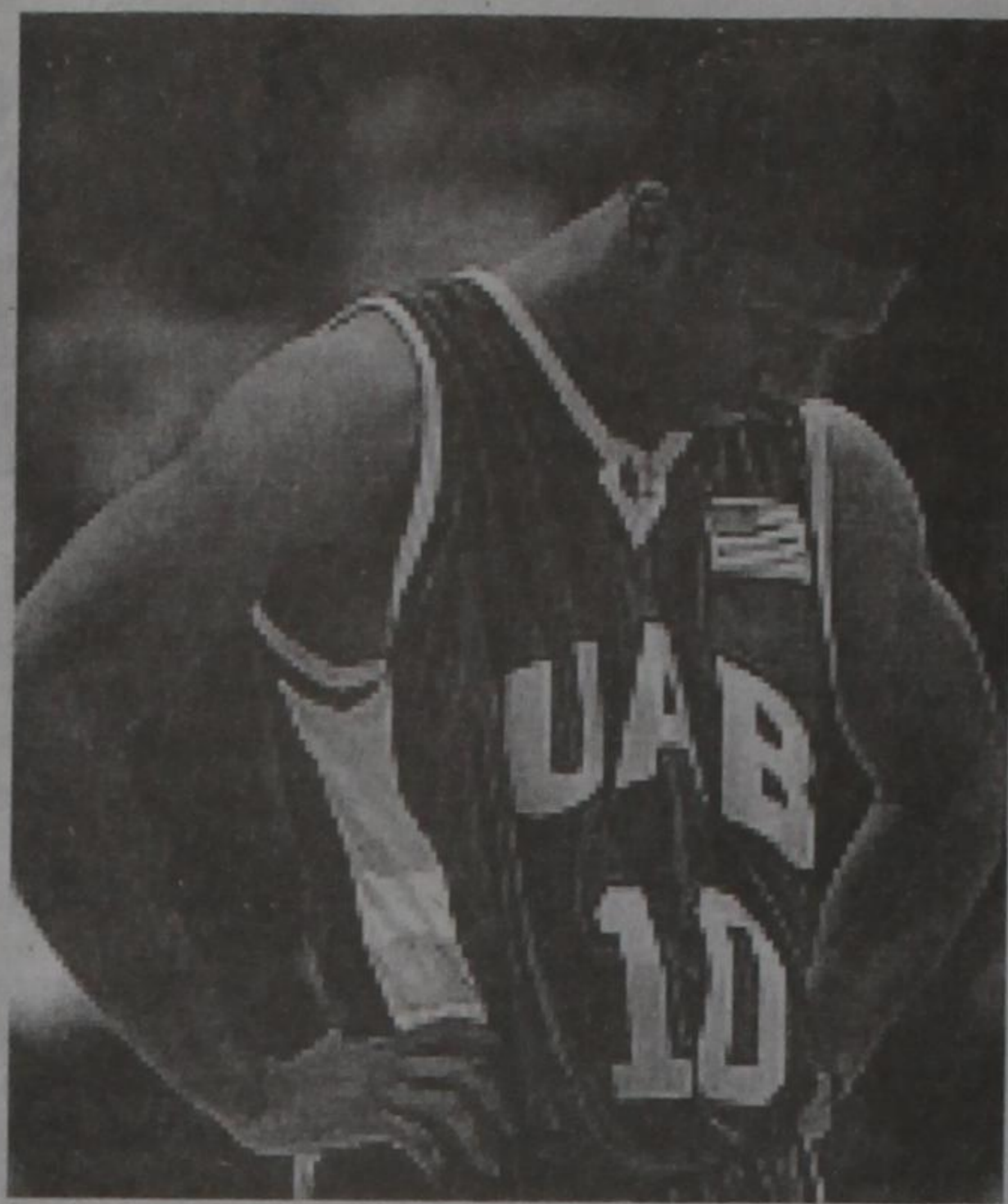
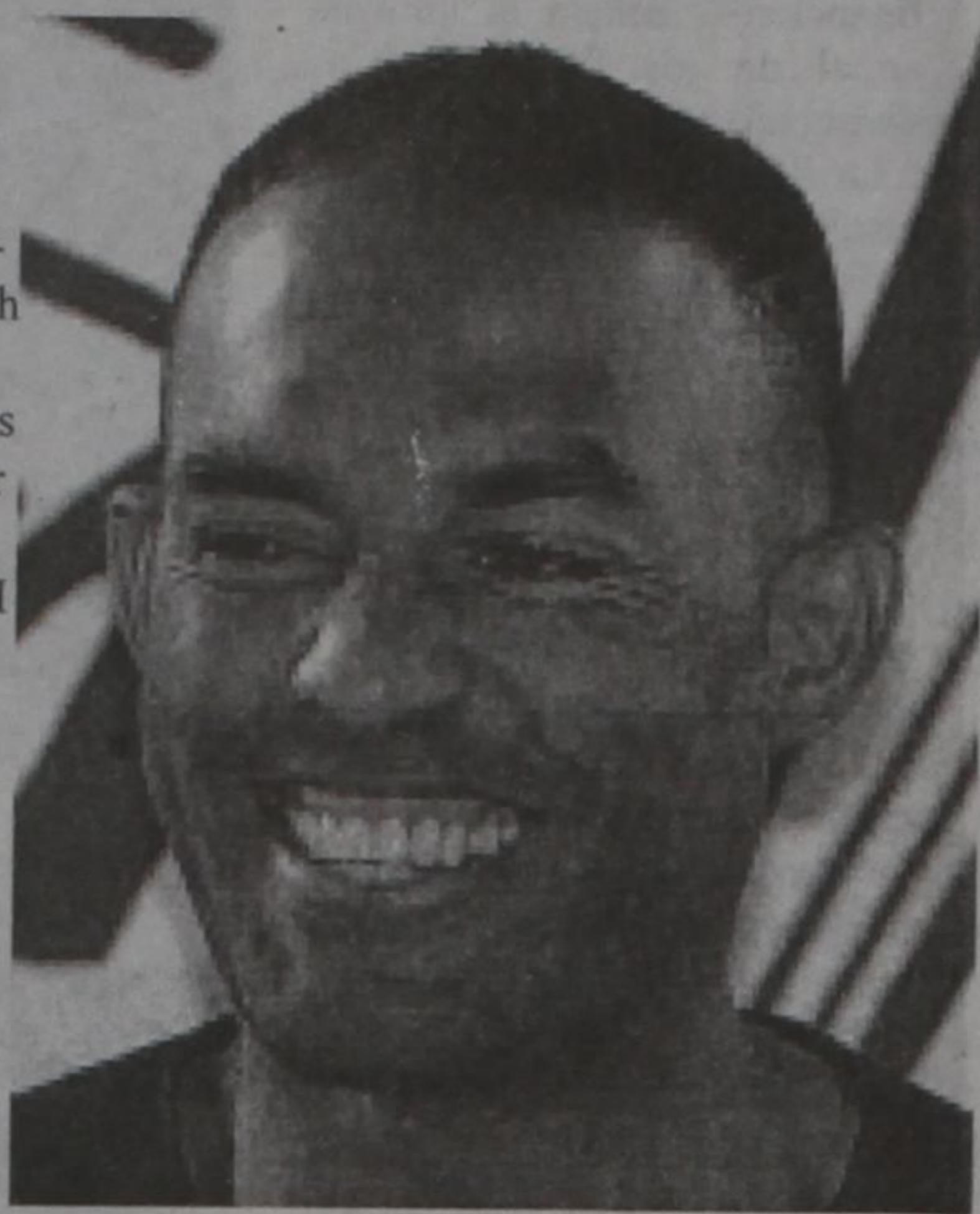
"I feel really strong," he said. "I think I'm ready."

Rivera put in a plug for Torre, who has been negotiating a two-year extension this spring with general partner Steve Swindal.

As they left the news conference, Steinbrenner told Rivera: "Now we have to get Joe, and we'll have everybody."

Torre and Swindal likely will talk again this week. Torre won't be concerned if the extension isn't agreed to before the season opener next week.

"You want to have it done today or tomorrow, no question," Torre said. "But it doesn't mean if it's not done then, it's going to change anything."



Nobody has claimed the 2004 NCAA Tournament as his own, though a number of players have begun filling out the proper paperwork.

Some players you would expect. Duke's J.J. Redick wiping out Seton Hall. Syracuse's Gerry McNamara lighting up BYU. Connecticut's Emeka Okafor and Saint Joseph's Jameer Nelson being Okafor and Nelson. Others, you wouldn't. Here's our surprising five:

Kirk Snyder, Nevada: It's whack that it took the NCAA Tournament for the country to appreciate one of the most athletic, versatile wing players -- not just in the WAC, but the entire country. Snyder averages 18.7 points, 5.8 rebounds and 3.7 assists and makes it look fun. If you're into must-see TV, check out Nevada's Sweet 16 game, when Snyder will run into the even more explosive -- but less skilled -- Isma'il Muhammad of Georgia Tech.

Matt Freije, Vanderbilt: The

6-foot-9 forward is not bad ... for a white guy. Eh, Bob Ryan? Actually, Freije belongs on any court and in any company he chooses. His 31 points got the Commodores past third-seeded N.C. State in the second round, and best of all, that was no fluke.

Lionel Chalmers, Xavier: A senior point guard is a beautiful thing in the NCAA Tournament, and Chalmers is showing why. He has gone 19-for-26 from the floor, scoring 25 points against Louisville and 31 against Mississippi State.

Deron Williams, Illinois: Close followers of Illinois basketball already have figured out Williams, not Dee Brown, is the team's best point guard. Brown remains a top player, but Williams is simply fabulous. Against Cincinnati: 31 points, seven assists, no turnovers.

Mo Finley, UAB: Finley had 20 points, five rebounds, five assists and three steals in the

## First two rounds reveal some Sweet surprises

ninth-seeded Blazers' first-round victory against Washington, then beat Kentucky in the second round with a jumper with 12.2 seconds left.

Of course, someone has to call plays for these guys, and three coaches have greatly enhanced their national stock thus far in the NCAA Tournament. We're guessing any of these three could win with the above five players:

Mike Anderson, UAB: Anderson is going to have to show some restraint this off-season when approached by schools like Auburn and Miami (assuming the Hurricanes find their stomach and fire Perry Clark). Anderson, Nolan Richardson's longtime assistant at Arkansas, has spent just two seasons at UAB and needs more time there, lest he become the next Melvin Watkins. Besides, Anderson's reputation will only grow as UAB and Memphis dominate the retooled Conference USA.

Thad Matta, Xavier: In four seasons, three at Xavier plus one at Butler, Matta has won 101 games. That's not a bad start. He's a Midwestern guy to the core, so none of the available jobs should get him away from one of the best programs in the region. Maybe next year, if something opens in the Big Ten. Until then, enjoy him, Xavier fans.

Trent Johnson, Nevada: The Wolf Pack's victory total has risen every year under Johnson: nine, 10, 17, 18 and now 25. Any coach-seeking school west of the Mississippi that doesn't consider Johnson isn't doing its due diligence.

## Observando a Texas

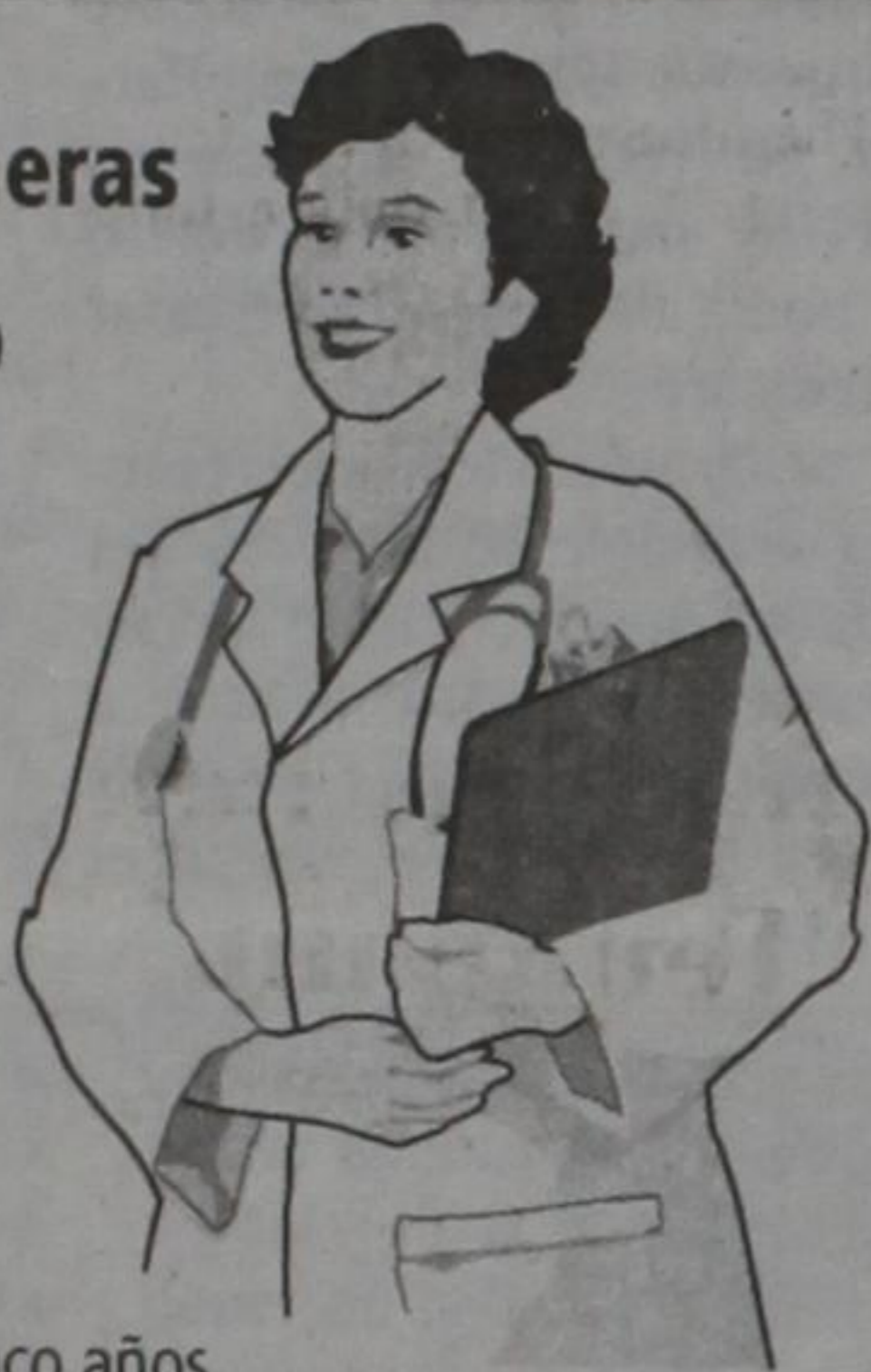
### Demanda de Enfermeras

Texas necesitará hasta 138,000 enfermeras con licencia, enfermeras registradas y enfermeras de apoyo en los próximos siete a diez años.

El Centro de Estadísticas Laborales de los Estados Unidos proyecta que la profesión de enfermera será la ocupación con más rápido crecimiento en los próximos cinco años.

Para más información acerca de carreras en enfermería, visite <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/careers/nursing.html>.

Fuentes: Carole Keeton Strayhorn, Contralora de Texas ([www.window.state.tx.us](http://www.window.state.tx.us)) y la Comisión de la Fuerza Laboral de Texas.



## Asi Como Aumenta la Poblacion Mexico-Americana, Aumentan sus Necesidades Medicas

Por Sonia Meléndez

Las inquietudes que surgen sobre la salud de los mexicano-americanos, quienes comprenden casi dos-tercios de los 40 millones y más latinos de esta nación, explotan al igual que los números crecientes de su población.

Un informe publicado este

mes deja muy claro que el gobierno y la comunidad se ven enfrentados con una tremenda tarea educativa que cumplir antes de instituir ninguna solución.

Los mexicano-americanos tienen mucho menos conciencia de problemas médicos como la tensión alta (hipertensión) y

elevados números del colesterol y tienen mayor tendencia a contraer la diabetes que los blancos, no hispanos, según indica un informe emitido por la compañía farmacéutica Pfizer y la National Hispanic Medical Association.

El estudio, con el título, "Pfizer Facts: Trends and Difference in Cardiovascular Health Among Mexican-American and non-Hispanic White Populations", y que cubre los datos sobre la salud disponibles entre los años 1988 a 2000, señala que es menos probable que los mexicano-americanos reciban tratamiento médico por la tensión alta, el colesterol alto y la diabetes.

"Este informe indica que es necesario hacer más para enfocarse en las necesidades de la comu-

nidad latina", comenta la doctora Elena Ríos, presidenta de la National Hispanic Medical Association. "Estamos exigiendo que haya más médicos que hablen español y más intérpretes que entiendan nuestras necesidades", explica.

El informe encontró que es mucho más común la incidencia de diabetes, en particular entre las mujeres mexicano-americanas (el 13 por ciento) que entre las mujeres blancas (el 7 por ciento).

"La diabetes es el problema médico número uno entre los latinos", afirma el doctor Juan Romagoza, director ejecutivo de La Clínica del Pueblo, en Washington, D.C. "Me choca ver el alto número de incidencia entre mis pacientes", agrega.

Hoy en día la población de los Estados Unidos en general es más obesa que nunca antes. Se considera que el 33 por ciento de mexicano-americanos y el 29 por ciento de blancos padecen de obesidad.

Según el estudio realizado por Pfizer, los mexicano-americanos entre los 40 y 59 años tienen un índice de obesidad del 38 por ciento.

La falta de atención médica entre los mexicano-americanos se hace más evidente que entre los blancos. Casi un cuarto (el 22 por ciento) de la población mexicana-americana no concierta citas médicas por rutina. Para los blancos la cifra es de un 11 por ciento.

La tendencia continúa cuando se trata de cobertura con seguros de salud. El veinte y seis por ciento de los mexicano-americanos no cuenta con un seguro médico, en comparación con el 11 por ciento de los blancos.

"En nuestra cultura no acostumbramos ir al médico al menos que estemos enfermos", explica Ríos. "En vez de hacer citas por rutina, nos valemos de las salas de emergencia".

El estudio revela que existe una desigualdad significativa en términos de la obesidad para los mexicano-americanos entre los 20 y 39 años (el 31 por ciento). Esta cifra se compara con el 23 por ciento de los blancos entre las mismas edades.

La doctora Ríos atribuye la diferencia a un estilo de vida sedentario y una dieta pobre.

"Es importante comprender un punto clave en cuanto a una enfermedad crónica como la diabetes, el hecho que es necesario realizar mayores investigaciones para comprender por completo el problema", señala Adolfo Falcón, vice-presidente de políticas científicas para la

continued on page 6

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### WHAT ARE THE MEDICARE HOME CARE REQUIREMENTS?

In order to be eligible for home care:

- <> Patient must be homebound (See below)
- <> Care is medically necessary
- <> Care is part-time or intermittent (Usually less than 35 hours per week)
- <> The patient requires at least one skilled professional service (nurse, physical therapist, speech therapist, etc.)
- <> Care is provided by a Medicare certified home care agency
- <> Care is provided under a physician's plan of care
- <> Services are delivered in the patient's primary place of residence.

### MEDICARE HOMEBOUND STATUS CRITERIA

- <> Leaving the home would require "considerable and taxing effort".
- <> Patient can leave home only for infrequent, short absences. (For example, medical or hairdresser appointments, attendance at Medical model adult day care)
- <> A person may be temporarily homebound while recovering from surgery, serious illness or trauma.

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### WHAT EXACTLY IS HOME CARE?

Home care includes a broad range of health and social services which are provided in the home to individuals who are chronically ill, disabled or recovering from an illness or injury. The agency which coordinates and provides the various services is usually known as a "home health agency".

A home health agency provides "skilled services". These include nursing, social services, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech/swallowing therapy. Respiratory therapy may also be available.

Non skilled services are provided to help you enjoy life at home as much as possible. These services include help with bathing, dressing and eating, as well as light housekeeping.

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# Improving Education of Mexicans in the U.S.

The Mexican Consulate in Los Angeles signed an agreement with the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to promote educational programs that benefit Mexican children and their parents who live here.

The agreement reached this Wednesday "is historical, because it strengthens education for Mexicans and Mexican-Americans who are enrolled in this district's institutions, the second largest in the United States," stated Consul Rubén Beltrán.

The signing took place following a press conference at the Consular seat, by Beltrán himself in the name of the government of Mexico and by the president of the LAUSD School Board, also Mexican José Huizar.

It is indispensable, said Huizar, "that together we create an alliance to benefit our young people and their families so that they can all be successful and have access to the information mechanisms that increase their participation in the local educational system."

"This agreement will set the basis for the need to hire Mexican teachers who fit the requisites and can fill the demand for teachers who speak Spanish that will arise in the area within the next five years

and of which there is a noticeable deficit," he explained.

The representative of LAUSD said furthermore that based on a federal law that will enforce the breaking up of huge schools with five thousand students into three or four smaller schools, will force them to look for teachers in Mexico, he revealed.

"That is in the longer range, this agreement is immediately going to link educational programs offered in Mexico for the Mexican population, and, in general, for the population of Latino origin," explained Huizar.

Based on the agreement we will focus on the parents of our students providing them with all the information pertaining to their children's education; on the need of having more Latino teachers in this market, and in local distribution of more Mexican texts.

Within the LAUSD there are nearly 750 thousand students, of which 72 per cent are of Hispanic origin, the great majority are Mexicans or of Mexican origin, explained the public servant.

Within this framework, they will seek to create more Community Plazas, centers located within a school in the district where students can use the Internet to connect to services



and programs that the Mexican government provides.

Among these are the INEA's Open Education programs, open high school program, the Bi-national Educational Program for Migrants, documents for transferring of migrant students, and book donations of

Mexican texts.

"In a few months time we plan to open two more Community Plazas and, in the short term, the aid of our sponsors will make it possible to set up four to six more plazas. NO-TIMEX

# Aging whites no longer will be the majority as growth in Latino, Asian populations continues

The numbers of Latinos and Asians in the United States will triple over the next half-century as an aging white population slips from its traditional majority perch, according to U.S. Census Bureau projections released today. The estimates through 2050 show that during the current decade, the U.S. will, for the first time, reach the demographic milestone of more than 100 million minority residents. By 2010, minorities will number more than 110 million out of a total population of 309 million.

"You really see a snapshot here of the old America and the new America at the same time," said William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution, a centrist research and policy center in Washington. "One America will be white, middle-class and gray-ing, and then you'll have this new kind of globalized America coming to the fore."

He called it a "racial generation gap."

The broad direction of America's demographic evolution has been roughly mapped, but the new figures are based on the most recent data, factoring in the results of the 2000 Census. The head count showed both a sharp increase and a geographic dispersal of the Latino and Asian populations.

In terms of diversity, the country in about 50 years will look more like California does now. In California, Latinos could well become the majority, although an increasing number are leaving the state in search of better economic opportunities.

Projections by the California Department of Finance indicate that Latinos will account for 48% of the state's population in 2040. Non-Latino whites, who now account for slightly less than half of Californians, will represent about 31%. The Census Bureau is developing its own state-level projections.

According to the national figures released today, the total U.S. population will rise to about 420 million in 2050, a 49% increase from 2000. As the Baby Boom generation — those born between 1946 and 1964 — begins to die, the population will grow much more slowly. After 2030, the rate of increase might be the slowest since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The number of Latinos — who can be of any race — are projected to grow to 103 million by 2050. That represents a nearly threefold increase from 36 million in 2000. The number of Asians would rise to 33 million, from 11 million in 2000.

Non-Latino whites, who now account for about 70% of the U.S. population, are expected to drop to barely more than 50% in 2050. The share of blacks in the population is seen increasing slightly to 15%, compared with about 13% now. Whites will cease to be a majority around the mid-2050s.

As the Baby Boomers retire, the number of people 65 and older will increase from about 35 million now to 87 million in 2050. Reflecting longer life spans, the number of people 85 and older will increase nearly five-fold to 21 million.

The changes will bring potential benefits and pitfalls, according to experts who track such developments. On the positive side, continued immigration will help keep the United States growing during years when Europe and Japan are expected to lose population. More working-age taxpayers will shore up the sagging bottom line of programs for the elderly, such as Medicare and Social Security.

"It's going to be immigrant labor supporting the aging white population," said Edward Telles, a UCLA sociologist. "They need this growing Latino population to maintain the Social Security system."

Immigrants also provide links to Asian and Latin economies. "Immigration is keeping us younger and is increasing our diversity," said Elizabeth Grieco, a demographer with the Migration Policy Institute, a Washington think tank.

On the negative side, an ethnic edge to the generational equity debate may make it more difficult to balance the right of the elderly to a secure retirement and the obligations of younger workers.

"We are already seeing this in places in California, where the property-holding population that pays taxes for schools is different from the population that is sending kids to school," said Roberto Suro, director of the Pew Hispanic Center, a Washington research group.

"You have two basic interlocking dynamics: the aging of the non-Hispanic population and a very youthful Hispanic population."

Most U.S. Latinos are of Mexican origin. For decades, Mexican Americans settled in the Southwest, California and Chicago. But in the 1990s, immigrants from Mexico began showing up by the thousands in much of the South and parts of the Northeast and Midwest, a trend that is expected to continue.

"We are going to become a more diverse country, but we are going to be diverse in different ways, in different regions," Frey said. "The West will have a much stronger Mexican and Latin flavor."

"In the South, the black population is moving back, but it is not growing nearly as fast as the Asian and Hispanic population. The South will become more multi-ethnic. In the Northeast, Midwest and Plains states, you will see more of the aging white population."

But the Census Bureau estimates are not a clear crystal ball, said Jeffrey Passel, a demographer with the Urban Institute, a social policy and re-

search organization in Washington.

In some cases, they are not designed to predict the course of significant changes already in progress. For example, the projections assume fairly rigid racial and ethnic categories and do not account for the effect of a growing number of mixed marriages. The children of those marriages may not identify with the racial and ethnic labels of their parents.

"The history of 100 years of immigration in the United States shows high rates of intermarriage across ethnic groups," Passel said. "What were hard and fast lines between groups have disappeared, so it's kind of hard to say what will happen."

# Hispanics are 'Threat'

"The article is extremely weak and very irresponsible because it runs contrary to so much evidence," Perez said. "Maybe a debate will come from all of this, which could be positive in the long run."

While Huntington's position on Hispanic immigration is clear, his characterization of Miami borders on admiration. Huntington refers to Miami as the "prototype" of a region within the United States that is "culturally and linguistically distinct, and economically self-reliant."

He then rattles off a slew of statistics that he uses to show the firm grip Cubans and other Hispanics have on Miami: 75.2 percent of Miami's residents speak a language other than English at home; 60 percent of Miami's residents are foreign born; in 1998, a Spanish-language station became the No. 1 station watched by Miamians.

"The Cuban takeover had major consequences for Miami," Huntington writes.

The consequences: The elite and entrepreneurial class fleeing Castro in the 1960s started dramatic economic development in South Florida. They invested in Miami because they couldn't send money home. Personal income growth in Miami skyrocketed in the 1970s and 1980s. Payrolls tripled between the 1970s and 1995.

"The Cuban economic drive made Miami an international

economic dynamo, with expanding international trade and investment," he writes. "Such eminence transformed Miami into a Cuban-led, Hispanic city."

"The Cubans did not, in traditional pattern, create an enclave neighborhood. Instead, they created an enclave city with its own culture and economy, in which assimilation and Americanization were unnecessary and, in some measures, undesired."

Huntington then goes on to draw deep distinctions between Cuban and Mexican immigrants, who absorb the brunt of his criticism.

**DIVISION STRATEGY?** Fernandez said those distinctions may be part of a "divide and conquer" strategy to create conflict between Cubans and Mexicans.

Gregory Rodriguez, a senior fellow at the New America Foundation, responded to Huntington in a column published in the Los Angeles Times.

"Huntington's discovery of the new enemy will not promote the cohesion among Americans he sees as indispensable to the country's survival," Rodriguez wrote.

"On the contrary, it's the irrational fear of the 'undesirable other' that has always been -- and continues to be -- the greatest threat to American national unity."

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### Lubbock Senior Softball League

The Lubbock Senior Softball League will be having tryouts on March 29, at Bert Huffman Softball Complex at 6:30 pm. Any one that will be fifty years of age by the end of this year is eligible to try out and play in the league. Dues to play in the league are \$45 per year and will play approximately twenty games. There will be a softball tournament at the end of the season for all teams at no additional charge. The season will start on April 5. For more information call Steve Warring at 793-5470 or Robert Narvaiz at 793-5137 or 741-6377. Come try out and have lots of fun. Bring the guns if you're a shooter. Persons from out of town are welcome!



# Madonna: con gira de 're invención'



Madonna iniciara una gira en Los Angeles el 24 de mayo, con conciertos en Nueva York, Londres y París, anunció su

agente el lunes. "Me complace confirmar los rumores. Madonna saldrá de gira durante la primavera y el verano [del hemisferio norte]", dijo su agente Caresse Henry en un comunicado. La cantante ha iniciado los ensayos para la Re-Invention Tour, dijo Henry, "y no ve la hora de regresar al escenario para recrear sus canciones, desde los primeros tiempos de su carrera hasta el presente". La gira incluye los siguientes conciertos: Los Angeles, 24 de mayo; Las Vegas, 29 de mayo; San José, California, 8 de junio; Washington, 13 de junio; Nueva York 16-17 de junio; Boston, 27 de junio; Philadelphia, 4 de julio; Chicago, 11 de julio; Toronto, 18 de julio; Atlanta, 24 de julio; Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 28 de julio; Miami, 1 de agosto; Londres, 18 de agosto; París, 1 de septiembre. La primer gran gira de la cantante en tres años tendrá además un espectáculo en Israel y posiblemente Irlanda y varias otras ciudades europeas. Más adelante se anunciarán otros conciertos.

# Shakira would have liked 'Thalia' as her show biz name



Colombian singer Shakira opened up her heart to her admirers admitting that if she had not chosen her show business name she would have like to be called 'Thalia'. Likewise, the singer who leapt to fame thanks to "Pies descalzos" was sincere and she described herself as a woman who cries easily and feels nostalgia even for what she hasn't experienced. The choice of 'Thalia' as a show biz name is a spontaneous and playful answer in a documentary film to which Notimex had access that will be aired on March 25 by video channel MTV. These statements, which bring out her human side, are part of a DVD titled "Shakira live and off the record", which will soon be out for sale. The film highlights experiences behind stage as well as on it, one shows when at the end of one show she suffers from tendonitis in her lower back, plus the support her parents and assistants offer at that moment.

The story in English and Spanish unfolds as part of the "Mangosta" world tour, which the singer realized in what was her first incursion into music in English. At intervals, Shakira is seen in her room or on the bus, during family exchanges, with her musicians, and she answers questions, where she admits being nostalgic, "even for what I didn't experience." "Nostalgia is a very fruitful feeling, and the best songs in all of history have it," explained the singer of "Whenever-wherever", "Underneath your clothes", "Objection", and "The one". Repeatedly, Shakira speaks proudly about the place of her birth, "I didn't know lies existed until I left Barranquilla," going on to say during another question and answer segment,

"The only thing I expect from my friends is that they not lie." Shakira, who is visited by Nobel laureate Gabriel García Márquez whom she greets lovingly referring to him as "one of the people who will never die in my heart." As to her fears she admitted, "I'm a declared necro-phobic and I'm very perfectionist," adding that she's compulsive about perfection, chocolates, and kisses, "sometimes my head is my own henchman, I sometimes have to tell it 'enough, it's too much'." The video shows Katy, her childhood friend from Barranquilla, telling that when Shakira sang in the church choir her friends criticized her because she sang like a goat, "We used to always blame her for singing off key with that loud voice, like a goat, and just look at where the goat is now."

"People perceive me in different ways, there are those who think I have the head of a lion and the tail of a rat; others, as the girl who swivels her hips; still others, see sensibility; others, susceptibility," says Shakira. Some only see me as someone with impetus, but for my parents I'm still their five-year-old kid, and I always will be, added Isabel Mebarak Ripoll, her full name, "What I like best about my life is loving those whom I love, the voice, the inspiration, the ink and the paper," she answered when she was asked what she liked most in life. The 60-minute video, which includes a live concert, includes her romance with Antonio de la Rúa, who awakens her lovingly as she asks, "What city are we in?" and a mariachi serenade for Valentine's Day in Mexico City.

# Protestan Encontra Fox

administrar eficazmente la parte de comercio y la parte del acuerdo del TLC", firmado entre ambos países en junio de 2000, y el cual entró en vigencia en abril de 2001, explicó Fox. El gobierno y empresarios guatemaltecos se habían quejado por la imposición de barreras no arancelarias en algunos estados mexicanos, fuera del marco del TLC, lo que ha provocado que mientras sus exportaciones al vecino país están en constante merma, las de los mexicanos siguen en aumento. Según la Cámara de Industria, esa situación ha contribuido a aumentar negativamente la balanza comercial para Guatemala, que pasó de -379.8 millones de dólares en 1998 a -511.1 millones en 2002, con base en cifras del Banco de Guatemala (Central). En el tema de seguridad, los cancilleres Jorge Briz (Guatemala) y Luis Ernesto Derbez (México) firmaron una carta de entendimiento para la protección de menores y mujeres víctimas de la trata de ilegales en la frontera entre ambos países. El gobernante mexicano anunció que el próximo año van a inaugurar un centro para atención de los migrantes en el estado sureño de Chiapas, y añadió que el gobernador de Veracruz (este de México), Miguel Alemán, dispuso un

edificio de cinco niveles para atender a quienes ingresen desde Centroamérica a ese puerto del Pacífico mexicano. Los gobernantes también acordaron reordenar cuatro puestos fronterizos, uno de los cuales prevén usarlo de manera experimental para unificar los trámites en una sola aduana, mientras que en el resto serán reforzados los controles de seguridad. Asimismo, Fox aseguró que su proyecto del Plan Puebla-Panamá (PPP), que pretende desarrollar el sudeste mexicano y los países de Centroamérica, "ha sido mal interpretado", al referirse a las protestas de miles de guatemaltecos registradas durante su visita. "El PPP es un proceso de

desarrollo regional que atiende primero a las personas, a las familias y, particularmente, a las comunidades indígenas. En lo que respecta a México, y sé que igual en Centroamérica, no se va a tomar ninguna acción, ninguna decisión que atropelle una comunidad", aseguró. Fox también anunció que, durante la reunión del jueves en Nicaragua, los gobernantes del istmo buscarán un acuerdo para combatir a las maras o pandillas juveniles, porque "esas organizaciones criminales no deben existir". El mandatario mexicano hizo, además, un llamado a los países latinoamericanos para integrarse al Área de Libre Comercio de las Américas.

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# What are people saying about Ysidro Gutiérrez?

**Lala and Conrado Cavazos**  
Ysidro is the candidate with new ideas. He will bring needed change to Lubbock. Gilbert has been in office for 12 years. It is time for a change. Ysidro es el candidato que nos trae nuevas ideas. El nos traera el cambio necesario para Lubbock. Gilberto Flores tiene 12 años en el puesto. Ya es tiempo para un cambio.

**Little Joe Hernandez**  
"I first came to Lubbock in 1961. Politically Lubbock is the same. Nothing has changed. I'm asking La Raza to ELECT YSIDRO GUTIERREZ. His new ideas will bring the needed change to Lubbock." Yo vine a Lubbock por primera vez en 1961. Cuando se trata de la Política, la situación en Lubbock no ha cambiado. Estoy pidiendo a La Raza que Voten por Ysidro Gutierrez. Las nuevas ideas que el trae cambiarán a Lubbock.

**Chon Garcia**  
Hello my name is Chon Garcia. I recommend Ysidro Gutierrez for Lubbock County Commissioner, Pct 3. Our community needs improvements and Ysidro is the candidate whose new ideas will make improvements possible. Vote for Ysidro Gutierrez. Hola Soy Chon Garcia, recomendandoles a Ysidro Gutierrez. Nuestra comunidad necesita mejorar y Ysidro es el candidato que nos trae nuevas ideas para hacerlo. Voten por Ysidro

**Olga Aguero**  
I believe in candidates who believe in Education and Ysidro believes in education. He is an example and mentor for the whole community. Yo confio en candidatos que valoran el educación. Ysidro es un hombre que valora educación. El es un gran ejemplo y buen consejero para toda la comunidad.

**Bidal Aguero**  
Politics is about electing a representative that will truly work for the betterment of people. It is about people who will dedicate themselves totally for the betterment of the community. I believe Ysidro is that person. La politica se trata de elegir representantes que verdaderamente quieren trabajar por la gente. Personas quien quieren dedicarse para hacer lo maximo para el mejoramiento de la comunidad. Yo creo que Ysidro puede ser esa persona.

**From Page Four**  
National Alliance for Hispanic Health. Falcón enfatiza que la diabetes se puede controlar con ir consistentemente al médico, comer una dieta más saludable y establecer una rutina de ejercicios. No obstante, llevar este mensaje a la comunidad sigue siendo un reto. Ambos grupos tienen el mismo índice de tensión alta (29 por ciento), aunque los índices de conocimiento del tema y tratamiento médico para los México-americanos eran menores, según encontró el estudio. Los México-americanos tienen mucho menos conciencia de tener el colesterol alto (32 por ciento) que los blancos (58 por ciento). El cuarenta y cuatro por ciento de los México-americanos se han sometido a pruebas, mientras que el 74 por ciento de los blancos lo han hecho. Un hallazgo positivo del estudio fue que los México-americanos que sí reciben tratamiento por el colesterol alto tienen mucho mayor éxito con disminuir los niveles (79 por ciento comparado con el 55 por ciento de los blancos). Las diferencias en cuanto al conocimiento de tratamientos para la tensión alta y el colesterol alto entre los México-americanos y los blancos podrían indicar mayores problemas médicos en el futuro, advierte la doctora Ríos. Un primer paso importantísimo, dice, es que se difunda información no sólo de las enfermedades sino también de las consecuencias si no se recibe tratamiento por ellas. 2004, Hispanic Link News Service. Distribuido por Tribune Media Services International.