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## Cabinet picks help, hurt Hispanics political gains

By Kathy Kiely

For Hispanics, Sen. Ken Salazar's selection as Interior secretary represents both a milestone and a setback. President-elect

And it underscores a paradox that underlies Obama's historic election: Minorities remain underrepresented in Congress. Hispanics, now the nation's largest

Asian Americans, at 4.5% of the population, hold 1% of the seats.

Since 2006, the Senate has had three Hispanic members — a first in the nation's history. But now Salazar, a Colorado Democrat, is departing for the executive branch, and Sen. Mel Martinez, R-Fla., has announced he will not run for re-election in 2010. That raises the prospect that Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., could become the Senate's lone Hispanic representative.

"It's bittersweet," Arturo Vargas, executive director of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, said of Salazar's selection.

Some Hispanic leaders are hoping Colorado's Democratic governor, Bill Ritter, will appoint another Hispanic to replace Salazar. John Trasviña, president of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, suggested Salazar's brother, Rep. John Salazar, D-Colo., or Federico Peña, a former Denver mayor who served in then-presi-

dent Bill Clinton's Cabinet.

Vargas says both Democrats and Republicans need to work harder to recruit and support minority candidates. This year, Democrats "really missed a bet," he said, by not funding the challenge that state Rep. Rick Noriega mounted against Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas. Noriega got 43% of the vote, despite being outspent by more than 4 to 1.

Noriega said the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC) gave him only \$39,900.

The Democratic committee did spend heavily to support two Hispanics in recent years: Menendez got more than \$8 million in 2006 and Salazar got about \$3 million in 2004, records show.

In a letter last week to Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., who headed the DSCC the past two years, Texas state Sens. Mario Gallegos and Leticia Van de Putte, accused the committee of writing off the Texas race because Noriega is "not wealthy or

white."

Schumer declined to comment on the letter. Menendez, who is taking over as chairman of the Democrats' Senate campaign committee for the next election cycle, defended the decision. He said that campaign dollars should go to states where Democrats have a chance of winning, and that President Bush's home state was not one of those. "Rick Noriega is a great public servant," he said, "but he wasn't able to lay the foundation financially."

Menendez said he'd like to recruit a diverse crop of Senate candidates for the 2010 elections. He added, however, "My first and foremost priority is to make sure I have candidates who can win the seats statewide." That means candidates who have a high profile and "the ability to raise the resources," Menendez said.

Noriega and Van de Putte say that favors wealthy or well-connected candidates — such as Bill White, an independently

wealthy Democratic mayor of Houston, who just announced his intention to seek a Senate seat in Texas. Hispanics make up 35.5% of the state's population.

Two Hispanic members of Congress, Reps. Nydia Velázquez, D-N.Y., and Luis Guterrez, D-Ill., took themselves out of the running for two Senate vacancies created by the incoming Obama administration. Velázquez told New York Gov. David Paterson not to consider her for the seat Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton will leave to become secretary of State, and Guterrez declined consideration for Obama's seat.

Van de Putte said she's thinking about running for a U.S. Senate seat in Texas, and that party leaders who argue she doesn't have enough financial backing won't faze her. Hers is a confidence inspired by the 2008 election.

Said Van de Putte, "The days of women and minorities asking permission are gone."



Barack Obama's choice of Salazar to join his Cabinet — the second Hispanic, along with Commerce Secretary-designate Bill Richardson — acknowledges the political clout of the nation's fastest-growing voting bloc.

It also leaves the Senate with a shrinking Hispanic caucus.

### New Texas Ranger Chief

Antonio "Tony" Leal has been named chief of the Texas Ranger Division, becoming the first Hispanic to lead the elite crime-fighting force.

Leal is a 24-year veteran of DPS and is the first Hispanic and the youngest person ever named chief of the Texas Ranger Division.

The 44-year old Leal was born in Sugarland and raised in the Fort Bend County area. He began his career with DPS in June 1984. He



started as a Highway Patrol trooper in Stafford and Rosenberg and then moved to San Antonio as a Highway Patrol sergeant, before promoting to the Texas Rangers in 1994.

His Ranger duty stations included assignments in Liberty, Seguin and San Antonio, where he was part of the Unsolved Crimes Investigation Team. Leal promoted to lieutenant in 2002 and was stationed in Austin. In 2005, he promoted to captain of Company A in Houston, overseeing 20 Texas Rangers responsible for 30 counties. His appointment to Ranger chief took effect December 10.

The Rangers specialize in inves-



The American GI Forum presented their annual Panocho Clos program to thousands of children this Christmas season in Lubbock.

### LA Congresswoman Chosen for Obama Labor Secretary

Nearing completion of his Cabinet, Barack Obama plans to choose California Rep. Hilda Solis as his labor secretary, a labor official said Thursday.

Meet the newest members of President-elect Barack Obama's Cabinet

Obama planned to announce Solis' selection on Friday, along with that of Republican Rep. Ray LaHood of Illinois for transportation secretary. The incoming chief executive is trying to get most of his major appointments out of the way before heading to Hawaii for a holiday vacation, and has held a news conference each day this week to unveil top positions.

He has yet to announce senior intelligence positions or his choice to head the Office of U.S. Trade Representative. And, numerous sub-Cabinet posts remain unfilled.

Solis, a Democratic congresswoman who is the daughter of Mexican and Nicaraguan immigrants, has focused on immigration and environment issues while in the House. The official who disclosed Obama's decision spoke on condition of anonymity because an announcement has not been made yet.

First elected in 2000, Solis is serving her fourth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. She represents California's 32nd Congressional District, which includes portions of East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley. Prior to her election to Congress, Solis served eight years in the California state Legislature.

In 2003, she became the first Latina appointed to the powerful Committee on Energy and Commerce, where she is the Vice Chair of the Environment and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee and a member of the Health and Telecommunications Subcommittees. She is also a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources. In March 2007, Solis was named a member of the newly created House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming.

Solis, 51, is Vice Chair of the Democratic Steering & Policy Committee and serves as a Senior Whip, as well as a Regional Whip for Southern California. She is also serving her third term as the Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus' Task Force on Health and the Environment.

In 2007, Solis was appointed to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as the Mexico - United States Interparliamentary Group.



### George Bush & Hispanics: an 8 year assessment

By Cris Arcos  
Hispanic Link News Service

(Cris Arcos is a retired Senior Foreign Service Officer. During his career, he served as Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for International Affairs, U.S. Ambassador to Honduras, member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board under both Presidents Clinton and Bush, and as AT&T Corporate Vice President for Public Affairs for Latin America and Canada.)

George W. Bush came into office in January 2001 as the first U.S. president in well over a hundred years to have received fewer popular votes than the candidates who lost. Nationwide, Democrat Al Gore received half a million more votes than Bush.

...The Electoral College phenomenon and the closeness of the Florida vote made it happen. The contentious count in that state, primarily in three counties (Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach), dragged on for a month after the

election. The recount and the process were challenged by Gore until the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the official Florida numbers, which favored Bush by about 500 votes, would stand.

Cuban Americans in South Florida immediately and cleverly took much credit for George Bush's victory. Hence, he came into office reminded by his brother Jeb, then governor of that state, that Hispanics (read Cubans) had made him president.

President Bush granted Cuban Americans two things:

1) The U.S. policy toward Cuba would stand; in fact, it would become more draconian. At the insistence of Jeb Bush, it gave the Cuban American community veto power not only over Cuba policy but over U.S. policy in Latin America, and

2) It ensured that the "right" thinking Cuban Americans would be appointed to the Administration positions.

Notably, Mel Martínez was se-

lected as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, followed later by another Cuban American, Carlos Gutiérrez, to head the Department of Commerce. One controversial appointment was Otto Reich, the hawk and hardliner Cuban American, as Assistant Secretary of State for Latin America. He became the gatekeeper of U.S.-Cuba policy at State. His appointment did not please Colin Powell. Reportedly responding to Powell's entreaties, the Senate two years later refused to approve Reich's appointment.

Martínez began periodic luncheon meetings of Cuban-American senior appointees to promote other Cubans and review and update the Cuban-American agenda. The Díaz Balart brothers in Congress, Lincoln and Mario, made certain the Administration was held to its commitment to the Cuban-American agenda.

As for Mexican Americans, George Bush came into office as governor of Texas, a border state, possessing more familiarity with

Mexico than most past presidents. His personal friendship with Mexico's newly elected president, Vicente Fox, who had been governor of the Mexico state of Guanajuato, created high expectations. Specifically, the first out-of-the-country trip W took was to Mexico, not Canada, as had been customary. It was widely hailed.

In the 2001 election, Bush had received a sizable amount — over 30% — of the Texas Mexican vote as well as the usual Republican majority of the Cuban vote. Bush's campaign use of his "kitchen Spanish" greatly conveyed that he was earnest about the growing Hispanic vote. He readily appointed Alberto Gonzáles, a fellow Texan, as his White House Counselor. Later Bush appointed Gonzáles as U.S. Attorney General, the highest Cabinet position in history ever held by a Latino. But Gonzáles left the AG's office virtually disgraced because of the politicization of the Justice Department.

(continued page 2)

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## GEORGE W. BUSH Y LOS HISPANOS – UNA EVALUACIÓN DE OCHO AÑOS

Cris Arcos  
(Cris Arcos es Diplomático Principal Jubilado de Relaciones Exteriores estadounidenses. Durante su carrera, sirvió de sub Secretario de Seguridad Nacional para Asuntos Internacionales, de embajador estadounidense en Honduras, como miembro de la Junta de Consejo sobre Inteligencia Extranjera del Presidente bajo ambos presidentes Clinton y presidente Bush, y como vicepresidente de empresa de AT&T para asuntos públicos en América Latina y Canadá).

George W. Bush asumió la presidencia en enero del 2001 como primer presidente de los EE.UU. en mucho más de un siglo que recibiera menos votos populares que los candidatos que hubieran perdido. A nivel nacional, el demócrata Al Gore recibió medio millón de votos más que Bush.

El fenómeno del Colegio Electoral y el margen tan estrecho de votos en la Florida fueron la causa. El conteo contencioso en aquel estado, principalmente en tres condados (Miami-Dade, Broward y Palm Beach) siguieron un mes después de los comicios. Tanto el recuento como el proceso lo retornaron Gore hasta que el Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos falló que las cifras oficiales de Florida, que favorecían a Bush por unos 500 votos, serían las determinantes.

Los cubano-americanos del sur de Florida de inmediato y muy listos tomaron mucho crédito por la victoria de George Bush. Por ende, cuando asumió el cargo su hermano Jeb, entonces gobernador del estado, le recordó que los hispanos (o sea, los cubanos) le habían logrado la presidencia.

El presidente Bush les otorgó dos cosas a los cubano-americanos:

1) Que la política de los EE.UU. para con Cuba quedaría vigente; en realidad, se volvería más draconiana. Por insistencia de Jeb Bush, le dio a la comunidad cubano-americana el poder de veto no sólo sobre la política para con Cuba, sino también sobre la política estadounidense para con América Latina, y 2) Aseguró que los cubano-americanos con las ideas "correctas" serían nombrados a puestos dentro de la administración.

Notablemente, a Mel Martínez lo seleccionó como secretario de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano, seguido de otro cubano-americano, Carlos Gutiérrez, a encabezar el Departamento de Comercio. Un nombramiento controvertido fue Otto Reich, el halcón y mano dura cubano-americano, como sub secretario de estado para América Latina. Se convirtió en el portero de la política estadounidense con Cuba en el Departamento de Estado. A Colin Powell no le agradó el nombramiento de Reich. Se reporta que respondiendo a las exploraciones de Powell, dos años más

tarde el Senado no volvió a aprobar el nombramiento de Reich.

Martínez comenzó estableciendo reuniones de almuerzo periódicas de nombrados principales cubano-americanos para promover a otros cubanos y para revisar y poner al día la agenda cubano-americana. Los hermanos Díaz Balart en el Congreso, Lincoln y Mario, se aseguraron que la administración no variara de su compromiso a la agenda cubano-americana.

En cuanto a los mexicano-americanos, George Bush llegó al cargo de gobernador de Texas, un estado fronterizo, con más familiaridad con México que la mayor parte de los presidentes anteriores. Su amistad personal con el recientemente electo presidente de México, Vicente Fox, quien había sido gobernador del estado de Guanajuato, creó altas expectativas. En lo específico, el primer viaje al extranjero que hizo W fue a México, no a Canadá, como había sido la costumbre. Se elogió ampliamente.

En los comicios del 2001, Bush había recibido buena parte – más del 30% -- del voto mexicano-americano en Texas, además de la acostumbrada mayoría republicana del voto cubano-americano. La implementación de su "español de cocina" durante la campaña dio a entender fuertemente que era sincero al querer aumentar el voto hispano. En seguida nombró a Alberto Gonzales, también de Texas, como su consejero legal en la Casa Blanca y luego como fiscal general de la nación, el cargo de gabinete más alto que alcanzara un latino en toda la historia del país. Pero Gonzales dejó el cargo de fiscal general prácticamente en desgracia por la politización del Departamento de Justicia.

Bush nombró a otro hispano de Texas, Tony Garza, como embajador en México. A continuación seleccionó a Richard Cardona, un médico puertorriqueño, como cirujano general.

De modo general, el tema que ligó a los hispanos a Bush durante los primeros nueve meses de su administración fue la reforma migratoria comprensiva, la cual se derivaba de sus reuniones y conversaciones con Fox. Incluso en la víspera del 11 de septiembre, parecía que la administración estaba dispuesta a dar paso con la reforma migratoria, lo cual no había de ocurrir.

Hay que señalar que la comunidad mexicano-americana, la cual comprende aproximadamente un tercio de los 50 millones de hispanos a nivel nacional, fue el único grupo latino que le prestara mucha atención al tema de la reforma migratoria. Los puertorriqueños nacen ciudadanos estadounidenses y los cubanos tienen un mecanismo bajo la Ley de Ajuste Cubano que los vuelve legales apenas pisen tierra estadounidense.

Ni los cubanos ni los puertorriqueños tenían en su agenda la reforma migratoria. Y los centroamericanos, otro grupo grande, cuentan con poca fuerza política ya que la gran mayoría no puede votar.

A mediados del segundo término de W, la administración finalmente reunió el coraje de respaldar una solución legislativa a la reforma migratoria, la cual fue derrotada rápidamente y Bush se retiró de ningún otro intento. Muchos dijeron que se unió al tema muy tarde y que no hizo lo suficiente por promoverlo. Para ese entonces, los demócratas en el Congreso comenzaban a ser recelosos con todo el tema de inmigración, mientras que los republicanos se volvieron más abiertamente estridentes contra cualquier legislación que pudiera "regularizar" a los inmigrantes indocumentados.

Brilló por su ausencia la discusión o el debate sobre la inmigración por parte de las campañas por presidente que comenzaron en el 2007. Ambos partidos evadieron el tema y concluyeron fácilmente que era un tema que tenía todas las de perder.

En resumidas cuentas, la administración de Bush podría haber querido, inicialmente, a entrar en el tema de la reforma migratoria, a abrir comunicaciones con América Latina de manera positiva, y darle la bienvenida abiertamente a la población latina al partido republicano. Pero ocurrió lo contrario. Las facciones nativistas, casi prejuiciosas, del partido comenzaron por atacar a la comunidad inmigrante. La comunidad latina en general percibió que el sentimiento anti-inmigrante rápidamente se volvía anti-latino y racista.

La asamblea hispana del Congreso (los 21 miembros son demócratas) y el grupo republicano latino en el Congreso (los cuatro de la Florida) no se unieron para darle la contra con fuerza a la amenaza creciente a la población latina.

En total, los nombramientos y las promociones de latinos en la administración de Bush continuaron a la zaga de los de Clinton. Hubo sólo tres nombramientos en ocho años al gabinete. Un intento por nombrar a un juez hispano, Miguel Estrada, al Tribunal Federal de Apelaciones, lo bloquearon grupos activistas liberales hispanos y miembros del Congreso. Y apenas tres hispanos recibieron nombramientos políticos como embajadores.

Tal vez hasta peor fue que durante el primer término de Bush sólo un diplomático de carrera latino fue nombrado embajador. Durante el segundo término fue algo mejor: tres latinos, incluyendo a dos mujeres,

fueron nombrados jefe de misión.

Peor para los latinos eran los números de oficinales de rango general o de bandera del servicio activo en el Departamento de Defensa. De los aproximados 1,2 millones de personal activo de las Fuerzas Armadas de los EE.UU., del 15 al 16 por ciento es latino. La mayoría está en armas de combate. El total de oficiales de rango general equivalente entre los africano-americanos es de 26, y el número decreciente de latinos es un triste tres.

El servicio de ejecutivo principal (SES por sus siglas en inglés) del Servicio Federal Civil tiene una definitiva escasez de latinos, a lo cual prestó poca atención la administración. Algunos observadores opinan que los hispanos de forma tradicional, no se valen de acciones legales o de tribuna, así permitiendo que la situación continúe. Tanto los africano-americanos como las mujeres han dado enormes pasos hacia mejorar su representación en estos rangos.

Uno podía concluir que la administración de Bush no recibió ningún castigo por no mejorar la situación de los latinos dentro del gobierno. No se ofreció nunca ningún liderazgo verdadero. En términos de la agenda doméstica, la administración Bush trató a los latinos como tipos de empresas pequeñas o medianas, mayormente, y ofreció a todos alivio con los impuestos, y dio por sentado que los latinos también participarían.

El programa educativo Que Ningún Niño Quede Atrás lo eligieron muchos como programa que ayudaría directamente a la comunidad latina, sin embargo muchos critican al programa por sus terribles deficiencias en cuanto a financiación y expansión. Uno podría concluir también que la administración de Bush supuso que los latinos son conservadores socialmente y que por ende estarían dispuestos a sumarse al partido republicano.

La realidad es que la mayor parte de los latinos podrá ser algo conservador en cuanto a los valores, pero que les asusta "la base del partido republicano". Los tipos de determinismo evangélico, anti-inmigrante y anti-latinos persisten con sus ataques a la gente pobre y minorías étnicas. Los latinos anticipaban un partido acogedor, inclusivo y compasivo, el que Bush prometió cuando era gobernador de Texas y en su retórica de campaña para presidente. Sin rodeos, para los latinos, la administración de Bush no cumplió con lo anticipado.

(Comuníquese con el autor a: arcosc@yaho.com).

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## George Bush & Hispanics: an 8 year assessment

(Bush appointed another Hispanic Texan, Tony Garza, as Ambassador to Mexico. Then he selected Richard Cardona, a Puerto Rican medical doctor, as Surgeon General.

Overall, the theme that linked Hispanics to Bush during the first nine months of his administration was comprehensive immigration reform. This derived from his meetings and discussions with Fox. As late as the eve of 9/11 the Administration appeared willing to move on immigration reform, but that was not to be.

It should be pointed out that the Mexican-American community, which comprises about two-thirds of the nation's 50 million Hispanics, was the only Latino group attentive to this in a significant way. Puerto Ricans are born U.S. citizens and Cubans have a mechanism under the Cuban Adjustment Act to become legal as soon as they set foot on U.S. soil. Neither Cubans nor Puerto Ricans had immigration reform on their agenda. And Central Americans, another sizable group, have had scant political strength since the vast majority of them are not eligible to vote.

Midway through W's second term, the Administration finally screwed up the courage to back a legislative solution to immigration reform. It was quickly defeated and Bush retreated from any further attempts. Many said he joined the issue too late and did not expend enough effort. At that point, Democrats in Congress were beginning to shy away from the whole immigration issue, while the GOP became even more openly strident against any legislation that would "regularize" undocumented immigrants.

Immigration discussion or debate was glaringly absent from the presidential campaign starting in 2007. Both parties ducked the issue and readily concluded it was a "lose-lose issue."

In sum, the Bush Administration may have initially intended to

wrangle with immigration reform, to reach out to Latin America in a positive way, and openly welcome the Latino population into the Grand Ole Party. But the reverse happened. The nativist, almost bigoted factions of the party began attacking the immigrant community. The overall Latino community sensed that the anti-immigrant sentiment was rapidly becoming anti-Latino and racist.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus (all 21 are Democrats) and the Latino Republican group in Congress (all four from Florida) did not unite and counter forcefully this increasing threat to the Latino population.

Overall, appointments and promotion of Latinos in the Bush Administration continued to lag behind the Clinton record. There were just three appointments in eight years to the Cabinet. An attempt to name a Hispanic judge, Miguel Estrada, to the Federal Appeals Court was blocked by Hispanic liberal activist groups and members of Congress. And merely three Hispanics were given political appointments as ambassadors.

Perhaps even worse was that in Bush's first term only one Latino career foreign service officer was appointed ambassador. In the second term it was marginally better: Three Latinos, including two women, were named to be Chiefs of Mission.

Worst for Latinos were the numbers of General or Flag rank officers in the active duty service in the Defense Department. Of the approximately 1.2 million active duty personnel in the U.S. Armed Forces, 15% to 16% are Latino. Most are in combat arms. The total General or equivalent rank officers of African American background is 26 and the diminishing number of Latinos is a dismal three.

The senior executive service (SES) of the Federal Civil Service has a definite paucity of Latinos, and the Administration paid little heed. Some observers opine that

## "Freedom of Expression"

### An Open Forum Where Readers Express their Views and Opinions

WHAT'S NEW IN HATE?

By José de la Isla

Hispanic Link News Service

WASHINGTON D.C.—In Houston, Marvin D. Nathan and Martin B. Cominsky, both of the Anti-Defamation Committee, wrote in response to a Houston Chronicle series about how law enforcement can fail to deport criminal undocumented immigrants who commit illegal acts. It's conventionally understood that anyone committing a crime should be properly arraigned, prosecuted, tried, if guilty punished and if unauthorized be deported.

But what struck Nathan and Cominsky was that "anti-immigrant bigots seized on parts of her (the reporter's) series to insult, stereotype and even advocate violence against immigrants and others they perceived as immigrants, especially Hispanics."

The blog entries they drew attention to called for denying due process, insisted immigrants pose a public-safety threat, accuse our country of leaning toward the "third world," and someone simply advocating "just shoot them on the spot."

So what have undocumented immigrants done to outrage and anger those people so much that they can't see straight? And why equate "Hispanic" to "illegal immigrant"? What incites them that they want to deny due process, as if suspicious people are just like those fellows at Guantanamo?

One thing is clear. They hate peaceable people. Nathan and Cominsky cite reports and studies proving immigrants of every type commit less crime. They bring up a Harvard professor who quantifies it to be 45% less.

So the nuts don't like people who commit less crime. What else?

Well, the evidence is they are losers. Look at the results of the 2006 mid-term elections. Among the most vehement anti-immigrant ranters in Congress who wanted to turn all 12 million unauthorized immigrants into felonious criminals, at least nine lost their House seats. These were members of the hateful 104-member House Immigration Reform Caucus. In 2008, 14 out of 16 hard-line, anti-immigration Republicans went down.

But as the mainstream of that movement goes away, the more fanatic believers they incite are showing up.

The Nov. 8 murder of Marcelo Lucero, 37, an Ecuadorean immigrant, in Suffolk County, N.Y., reached a new low in hate crimes and hate speech. Seven teenagers are charged with the gang assault. The one with the swastika tattoo on his leg stands accused of sticking a knife in Lucero's chest as the gang hollered racial epithets.

Prosecutors say the group attacked another Hispanic man a half-hour before that murderous assault. The seven admitted to beating Hispanics for fun as a regular pastime.

In Brooklyn, N.Y., another Ecuadorean, 31-year-old José Sucuzhany, who was walking home arm-in-arm with his brother Romel because they had been drinking, were attacked with a baseball bat and bottles by four assailants in an SUV. The attackers are reported to have used bottles and an aluminum baseball bat and shouted anti-gay and anti-Latino slurs during the attack.

Sucuzhany was declared brain-dead Dec. 9. He stopped breathing five days later. A waiter for seven years, he earned his real estate license three years ago and launched his own agency, Open Realty International. So much for the American dream.

These are among the most recent and most grizzly atrocities.

While we may not know all the reasons why, we know enough. The attackers are message-carriers for others, not unlike the suicide bombers who carry messages for terrorists elsewhere in the world, except these "American patriots" are just homicidal, not suicidal. They didn't anticipate getting caught. Their deranged notions tie "illegal immigrants" and "Hispanics" with vigilante ideas about a problem that doesn't exist.

Treat the rants you listen to with caution. They are not about a broken government but about excuses to break it.

[José de la Isla, author of "The Rise of Hispanic Political Power" (Archer Books 2003), writes weekly commentaries for Hispanic Link News Service. Email: joseisla3@yahoo.com.]

## 2008 – Year of Agony

By: Ysidro Gutierrez

In about a week the world will welcome the New Year with dancing, merry-making, and beer, liquor and wine. As always, the celebration will feature that great American ritual we affectionately call the TOP-10 stories of the year. It is always fun to reflect and lament about the events which impact the lives of ordinary people.

First a few general observations: The best movie of the year is "Batman-The Dark Knight." The biggest flop is the "Lubbock Centennial Celebration" along with the lingering death of the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Here are my picks for 2008 – "The Year of Agony"

1. This year was a year of anguish for many reasons but the saddest was the passing of four giants of the Hispanic community. We will miss them. Cowboy Fred Ortiz left us on Jan 27 and Richard (Riche) Lopez on June 7. I saw Riche at Jimenez Bakery that week. I mentioned that he looked good. His reply was, "I don't feel as good as I look." Carlos Quirino died June 30. Bidal and I went to visit him at his home. He was resting and his voice was weak but I recall that he wanted to get out of bed to go to the Jamaica at St Joseph's. He was never one to miss the goings on. We lost Chevo Morales on Oct 22 after a long illness. The memories of these friends will endure in the hearts of the community they served.

2. Number two on my list is Mayor Tom Martin's victory over David Miller in the May City Elections. His win ended 2 years of scandal, failure, and ineffective governance. Mayor Martin, a get things done kind of guy, was welcomed change in city politics. The big loser in the May City election was Texas Monthly Magazine – they agonize over the loss of their favorite "Bum Steer".

3. South Beach was demolished in 2008. It was a great injustice. South Beach was a thriving family business that employed people, brought commerce into the Depot District, paid thousands in taxes, and used proceeds to help local charities. The destruction of South Beach is the perfect example of Big Bully Government gone mad. The "Gang of 4" used public money to destroy a family business. In its place now stands a useless parking lot.

4. Scandal at city hall continued full throttle in 2008. Following the election, several top level managers quit. The drama is yet unfolding and will bleed into 2009 with Ted Parker suing for liable, the FBI's ongoing investigation and the denial of Kevin Overstreet request for a grievance hearing because "It may touch on criminal matters" says the city manager.

5. I'm sure there have been great years in college football but 2008 was one of the best. It was pure agony to lose 65 to 21 to the Sooners. The TTU Red Raiders could have been #1 in the nation had we won in Norman Oklahoma. If you are one to agonize, this is the perfect reason to do so.

6. The Alcoholic Petition drive succeeded. "Let Lubbock Vote" will become a reality on May 9, 2009. Citizens will vote "Yea or Nay" to allow mixed beverages sales in restaurants, and Off-premise packaged alcohol in local retail stores.

7. In my opinion the most agonizing story of 2008 is the Recession (which I warned was coming in an article published in El Editor in 2006). The recession is compounded by the trepidation of the "D" word. I hate to be the one to say so, but our current economic condition fits the "Classic Definition of a Depression." It's just that everyone is afraid to say so.

8. My friend OA was dancing in the street over this next one. I beg to defer with those who would say the most agonizing story of 2008 was the election of Barack Obama. Presidents come and go but the Recession of 2008 will impact the lives of common people more directly. The recession hurts people more than \$4 a gallon gasoline.

9. This year marks the end of the Ronald Reagan Era of Conservatism. The day Barack Obama was elected is the day Conservatism died. There is a new majority in America and they voted Democrat. White-haired white-guys are the new minority. Some one needs to tell them: The queen of daytime TV is Oprah, Will Smith is #1 at the Box Office. Young people, Hispanics and women vote; that's why Barack Obama is not the most powerful man in the world.

10. Finally there was Mother Nature. Lubbock had a 7 inch rain. I went to visit my friend Bidal at Covenant the next day – the lakeside was inches from his hospital room window. And Hurricane IKE and GUSTAV wreak havoc in Texas.

2008 was a really bad year.

Hispanics do not traditionally resort to legal or court action, thus allowing the situation to continue. Both African Americans and women have made enormous strides in improving their representation in these ranks.

One can conclude that the Bush Administration saw no penalty for not improving the Latino lot in government. No real leadership was ever offered. In terms of domestic agenda, the Bush Administration treated Latinos as mostly small or medium-size business types and held out tax breaks to all, and assumed Latinos would partake.

No Child Left Behind was hailed by many as directly helping the Latino community, but many critics fault the program for its dire deficiencies in funding and timely expansion. One can also conclude that the Bush Administration assumed Latinos are socially conservative; hence they would join the ranks of the GOP willingly.

The fact is that most Latinos may be somewhat conservative in values, but they are spooked by the "base of the GOP." Evangelical determinist, anti-immigrant and

anti-Latino types persist in their attacks on poor people and ethnic minorities. Latinos expected to have a welcoming, inclusive and caring party that was promised by Bush when he was governor of Texas and in his presidential campaign rhetoric. Plainly, the Bush Administration did not live up to expectations for Latinos.

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# Obama Stimulus Plan Could Hit \$850 Billion

U.S. President-elect Barack Obama's economic stimulus plan could reach \$850 billion, which some analysts say is needed to jolt the economy. Members of Obama's transition economic team and congressional leaders are discussing the package that could mushroom to \$850 billion in new spending and tax cuts over the next two years, eclips-

ing the \$700 billion bailout of the U.S. financial system, The Washington Post reported Friday. Obama economic adviser Jason Furman and congressional liaison Phil Schiliro met Thursday with congressional staff in Washington to review the plan Obama expects to present to lawmakers. Obama's package is thought to be between \$670 billion and \$770 billion, sources told the Post, but he expects additions by Congress would raise the total to about \$850 billion. That amount is within recommendations from economists, the Post said. Some, such as Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph

Stiglitz, said the government should spend up to \$1 trillion to spur the economy and fight unemployment. Other economists, however, said they would prefer a smaller package that would provide more immediate relief and allow lawmakers and the White House to fashion a broader, longer term economic antidote. "My personal opinion is you can spend \$450 billion quite sensibly," Simon Johnson, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "But if you start raising it up, you have to ask whether you're getting good value for the money."

# Corporate Recruiters Urge Business Schools to Diversify

During a sunny day last spring on the leafy Bloomington campus of Indiana University's Kelley School of Business, Dean Daniel C. Smith struck up a conversation with a visiting recruiter from General Mills, one of Kelley's top MBA employers. The talk quickly turned to Kelley's low African American and Hispanic enrollment numbers: At a combined 5%, they were among the very worst in BusinessWeek's Top 30 U.S. MBA Programs. Enough was enough, the recruiter said: "Diversify within three years, or we'll start recruiting elsewhere."

our customer base is getting more diverse." In the past year, recruiters from P&G, General Mills, Kraft, and Kimberly-Clark have pushed for more minority MBAs and for good reason. On average, African American and Hispanic students make up just 9.5% of U.S. residents enrolled at BusinessWeek's Top 30 B-schools. At some programs, the numbers trend sharply down. Their enrollment fell from 15% to 7% at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. The business schools at Duke University and Cornell University also saw big declines.

American and Hispanic business role models are scarce. Law and medicine attract most top students of color so minority MBA applications have been dwindling. In the business world, minorities with the most MBA potential are in such high demand that there's



little incentive for them to attend B-school; the dream jobs may already lie within their reach. Diversity-starved companies further complicate matters by steering African American and Hispanic employees away from B-school, where it's feared they'll succumb to offers from rival recruiters with "sweet siren songs," says Stacey Kole, Chicago's deputy dean for the full-time MBA program. Companies unquestionably benefit from expanding their minority work force, even if they haven't yet figured out how to do it.

Reaching Out It's not that B-schools aren't trying. Indiana, Northwestern University, and others have made special efforts. The Yale School of Management's Pre-MBA Leadership Program offers a two-week crash course for minority juniors, seniors, and recent college graduates. Some companies are contributing guidance, internships, and scholarship money. Last year, for example, Kimberly Clark pledged nearly \$25,000 toward a minority student's tuition at the Wisconsin School of Business. "We're not facing this alone," says Indiana's Smith.

Why are minority MBAs on the endangered list? The problem is complex. Prominent African

"You get a whole new perspective," says Carmen Williams, 28, an African American MBA employed at Barclays Capital. "There needs to be more of that."

# Obama to name pro-union Rep. Hilda Solis to Labor post

Rep. Hilda L. Solis (D-El Monte), a Congressional Hispanic Caucus leader considered to be one of the most reliably pro-union voices in the House, is President-elect Barack Obama's choice to head the Labor Department, a Democratic official said Thursday.

Obama is expected to announce the selection at a news conference today in Chicago.

Solis, 51, would be the third Latino member of Obama's Cabinet, a measure of diversity that has garnered praise from this fast-growing slice of the electorate.

After Obama nominated New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson to be his Commerce secretary, some Latino officials complained that they were being shut out of the most prestigious Cabinet posts. Richardson at one time had been rumored to be in line for secretary of State, before Obama offered him the Commerce slot.

Rep. Joe Baca (D-Rialto) had cautioned that Obama's legislative agenda might face roadblocks unless more Latinos were installed in top positions.

Since then, Obama has said he will nominate Sen. Ken Salazar (D-Colo.) as secretary of the Interior, and now Solis as Labor secretary. Prominent Latino officials are now praising the new Cabinet's makeup.

In an interview Thursday, Baca said: "We're glad he listened to our voices and listened to the Hispanic community that came out and delivered for him on election day. It's a great day for the Hispanic community."

Solis did not return calls for comment.

Elected to Congress in 2000 from a district that includes swaths of East L.A. and the San Gabriel Valley, Solis has consistently voted in support of labor's interests. A congressional voting analysis conducted by the AFL-CIO showed that she voted with

organized labor 100% of the time last year.

She supported measures increasing the minimum wage, making it easier for workers to organize and preserving a ban on privatizing jobs at the Labor Department. Other labor groups that study congressional voting patterns gave her a 100% rating in 2005 and 2006.

J.P. Fielder, spokesman for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, suggested that Solis' voting record is overly weighted in labor's favor. "The business community recognizes that economic growth has happened in a number of non-unionized states. She has sided with the AFL-CIO in 97% of the votes that she has cast on the Hill," he said.

Solis also serves on the board of directors of American Rights at Work, which advocates for the right to form unions and bargain collectively. The chairman is former Rep. David Bonior of Michigan, who was also in the running for the Labor secretary post.

"I'm very excited," said Maria Elena Durazo, executive secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor.

"This is an extraordinary moment for all women, but especially for the Latino community."

Durazo said Solis would be effective in the job because she is a "coalition-builder" who "doesn't walk in thinking everything has to be a battle with business."

Before winning her congressional seat, Solis spent 18 years in the Legislature in Sacramento. In Solis' hometown of El Monte, officials are hoping that her move to Labor secretary will give the local economy a much-needed boost.

El Monte officials cut more than \$2 million from the city's budget Wednesday and laid off more than 80 part- and full-time workers during a special meeting. The city had long ago banked on the auto sales industry, and now

that is flagging. Councilwoman Emily Ishigaki,



63, said she had high hopes for Solis, whom she has long worked with as a fellow member of the El Monte Business and Professional Women.

"I hope she can devise a way to bring jobs back to America," Ishigaki said. "I sure hope it means notice for the San Gabriel Valley."

Past colleagues of Solis describe her as a formidable politician. Former Assembly Speaker Bob Hertzberg, one of the Los Angeles political heavyweights who backed Solis in her first foray into politics -- a race for the Rio Hondo College board -- said the congresswoman was a proven coalition-builder but could be "tenacious."

"I think that her support for labor is just rooted in a deep conviction," Hertzberg said. "In my judgment, it's important to have a Labor secretary who has a strong sentiment for working folks."

Once Solis vacates her congressional seat, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger will have 14 days to call a special election. One candidate is likely to be state Sen. Gloria Romero (D-Los Angeles).

Romero replaced Solis in the state Senate, and Romero's district encompasses the congressional district. Romero, herself a strong labor advocate, made her name in the Legislature by holding tough oversight hearings into California's troubled prison system.

"I have deep roots, and I would certainly give it every consideration," Romero said of a potential race for Congress. "Definitely, I am interested."

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# Rosario Dawson, up close and personal

# Fort Worth's Michelle Aguilar Wins 'The Biggest Loser'



It's been six years since Rosario Dawson starred with Will Smith in Men in Black II, and they still don't get along.

"I can't stand that man -- it is acting!" said Dawson, who visited The Miami Herald recently to promote the flick.

Just a joke, folks.

The actors currently share the screen in Seven Pounds, which couldn't be further from sci-fi, aliens and CGI if it tried. Smith plays a despondent IRS agent; Dawson is a heart patient he tries to help (any more info would be considered a spoiler, say promoters).

"It was interesting. We'd worked

together when we were in such different places," said Dawson, wearing in a purple dress and spiky shoes. "To come back and revisit a relationship with such precious material was very special."

Though Seven Pounds is a tearjerker, she and Will managed to maintain some levity.

"Literally, I kid you not -- we punched each other and were ridiculous," said the 29-year-old New York native. "He's plugged into an electrical socket 24 hours a day."

Even during the saddest scenes, the crew couldn't help but crack up from Smith's little

asides, scrunchy faces and general ebullience.

"There were moments I'm in a hospital gown, with somber makeup, blue in the face, and everyone had a smile on their face," she recalls. "It's the trickle-down effect. Will is a great man. His energy is beautiful, effusive and great -- an awesome human being."

Smith, 40, lost his onscreen virginity to Dawson and reportedly kept delaying the inevitable (nervous, much?). Unbelievably, the only other love scene Mr. Blockbuster had ever done was with wife Jada Pinkett Smith in Ali. No worries, his Fresh Prince love was there on filming day, cheering all the way.

But for all the fun everyone apparently had on the set of Seven Pounds, the subject matter is grave, especially for holiday moviegoers.

"You'll definitely want to bring some tissue," advised Dawson. "It's not like the music swells in and traps you into being emotional. It's not sappy or lame. It's much more subtle and honest."

Unfortunately, Dawson has had a lot of firsthand experience with death, having grown up with family members who were HIV-positive.

"You react to your own mortality," she said. "When some people found out they were ill, they were partying with lesions. Others tried to hide their sexuality at home and die quietly."

Playing Emily got her thinking about her own fate.

"It really challenged me. I feel very affected by this film," she said. "We really tried to show how to deal with loss. It's going to happen to all of us. It's not like some mythical idea. Money or no money. That's what we are all going to face."

Even though other A-listers were up for the part, Dawson thinks she was born to play Emily.

"When I got this role I said, 'I'm not going to question it. I'm gonna learn what I learned from Spike Lee.' He told me [for '98's He Got Game], 'You're here because you're the right person for this job. Spike don't make mistakes.' I couldn't be insecure."

Capping a journey during which she lost 110 pounds and reconciled with her mother, Michelle Aguilar of Fort Worth won this season of The Biggest Loser, NBC's weight-loss competition/reality show.

Aguilar, identified as a 26-year-old assistant director, beat fellow finalists Ed Brantley, a chef from North Carolina, and Vicky Vilcan, an anesthetist from Houma, La., to take home \$250,000. But the sweeter prize for Aguilar may be the reconciliation with her mother, Renee Wilson,

north Fort Worth, near a 24 Hour Fitness where Aguilar works out. Cindy Singletary, who goes to the gym, said she had spotted Aguilar there during the gap between this season's taped



episodes and Tuesday night's live finale. Singletary said that the show inspired her to work out more, and that she told Aguilar that she had considered going on The Biggest Loser.

"I told her that I had completed my application, but I was too embarrassed to film myself" for an audition tape, Singletary said.

"She said, 'Don't be embarrassed, I'll help you.' And she did."

Mark Mendoza, an assistant sales manager at 24 Hour Fitness, went to high school with Aguilar, before her estrangement from



Wilson. Mendoza said that the show's exercise and weight-loss methods, which involve a stay at a ranch and intensive workouts supervised by rival trainers Jillian Michaels and Bob Harper, might seem extreme, but that they're not outside the realm of possibility.

"The amount of attention that these people get from this show, I mean they have huge expectations on the line, so they have to push that much more," Mendoza said. "Obviously, it's probably not always going to be a reality, because people have lives and work and everything else. ... But it's definitely attainable, because I've seen regular everyday people at the gym who are accomplishing these same things."

Mendoza said the show has "absolutely" had an influence on some people who go to the gym.

That Dallas-Fort Worth residents tend to get on reality shows isn't unusual, but their success this year -- in which So You Think You Can Dance, Nashville Star, Last Comic Standing and The Amazing Race were all won by people who were North Texas residents at the time -- has been noteworthy.

"That's the Texans," said Bridget Braxton, another Aguilar supporter at Boston's. "It's their competitive spirit."

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# Triunfan Bernal y Luna

Los actores mexicanos Gael García y Diego Luna arrasaron en taquilla con el estreno de la película que protagonizan, "Rudo y Cursi", que se ubicó como la película más taquillera en su día de estreno, informaron sus portavoces.

Los representantes de la empresa indicaron que esta cinta, donde García da vida a un cantante, y Luna a un futbolista, se estrenó con un resultado que la coloca por arriba de las películas más taquilleras de 2008.

Además se posiciona en

el cuarto lugar de acuerdo a los ingresos recaudados en su día de estreno en la historia del cine mexicano.

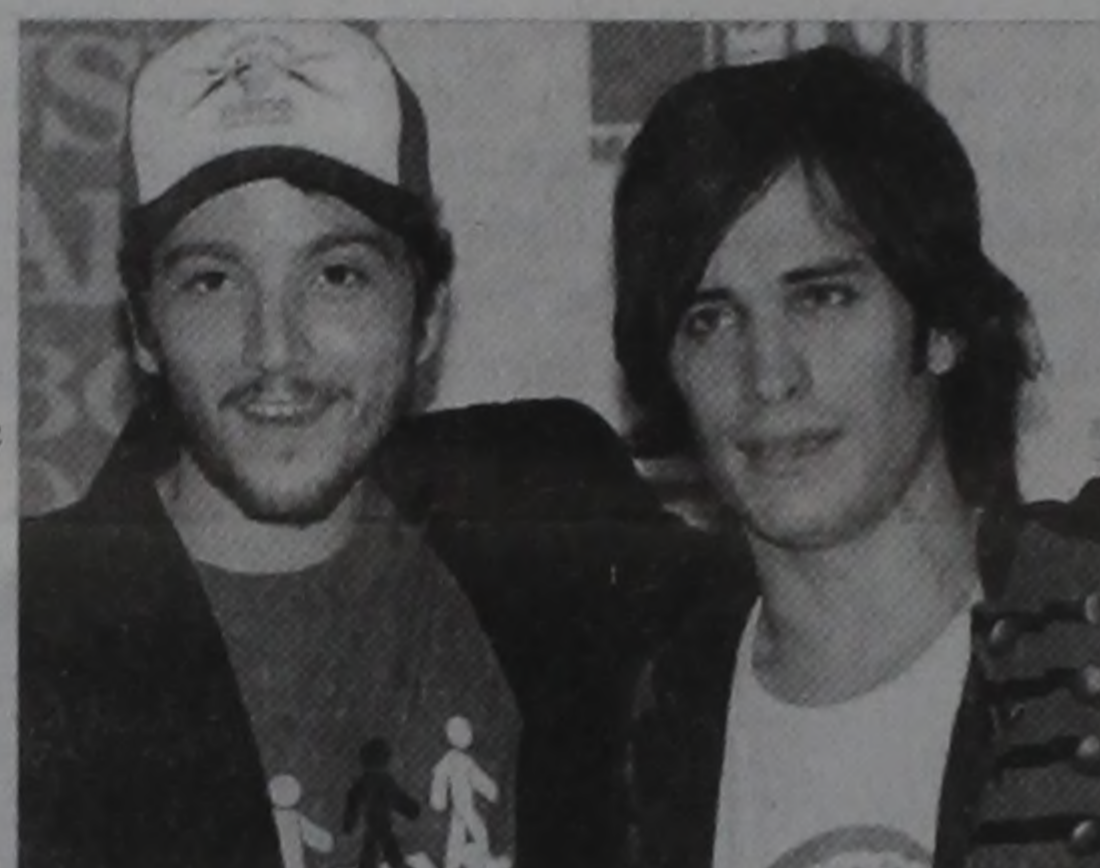
"Rudo y Cursi" alcanzó una taquilla de 4.9 millones de pesos (unos 374.000 dólares) con un total de 109.000 espectadores en el primer día de exhibición, que la ubica por arriba de lanzamientos mexicanos como "Y tu Mamá También" (2001) que alcanzó 91,770 espectadores; y "Amores Perros" (2000) que registró una asistencia de 75,987

espectadores.

Asimismo, la cinta superó a las películas más taquilleras del año como "La Misma Luna" que alcanzó 103.846 espectadores, y "Arráncame la Vida" con 96.486 asistentes, informó la productora "Cha cha chá", fundada por Alfonso Cuarón, Alejandro González Iñárritu y Guillermo del Toro.

"Diego Luna y Gael García

también superaron en



México los ingresos en el estreno de "Bolt, un Perro Fuera de Serie", la nueva película de Disney que alcanzó los 4,6 millones de pesos (unos 351.000 dólares).

Además de "The day the earth stood still" protagonizada por Keanu Reeves que obtuvo 4.1 millones de pesos (unos 312.000 dólares).

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# Oklahoma's Sam Bradford: AP Player of the Year

# Former featherweight champ signs with Golden Boy



Sam Bradford of Oklahoma was voted The Associated Press college football player of the year Monday. He beat out the same two quarterbacks he did in capturing the Heisman Trophy - Colt McCoy of Texas and Tim Tebow of Florida.

Bradford received 27 votes from the AP media panel that votes in the weekly poll. The sophomore quarterback was followed by McCoy with 17 votes. Tebow won the award last year and had 16 votes this time. Texas Tech receiver Michael Crabtree had two votes.

Bradford is the third Oklahoma player to win the AP award, which began in 1998. The others were Josh Heupel in 2000 and Jason White in 2003.

Bradford, McCoy and Tebow finished in the same order in the Heisman balloting. Bradford will lead No. 2 Oklahoma against Tebow and No. 1 Florida in the BCS title game Jan. 8 in Miami.

Oklahoma's offense this season has been among the most prolific, scoring 702 points

and breaking the major-college record of 656 set by Hawaii in 2006. The Sooners are the first major-college team in 89 years to score at least 60 points in five straight games, a streak they'll take into the showdown with Florida.

Bradford, 6-foot-4 and 218 pounds, has passed for 4,464 yards and 48 touchdowns this season, breaking the school record White set in 2003. He also leads the nation in passing efficiency and has thrown only six interceptions.

Bradford tore ligaments in the thumb on his left (nonthrowing) hand during a win over Oklahoma State on Nov. 29. He played despite the injury as the Sooners routed Missouri in the Big 12 title game Dec. 6 and underwent surgery the next day. Coaches said at the time Bradford most likely will return to practice within 10 days.

Bradford came to Oklahoma in 2006 regarded by many as merely an insurance policy should something happen to

Rhett Bomar.

Something did happen. Bomar broke NCAA rules by receiving extra pay for work he did not do at a Norman car dealership, and Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops kicked him off the team that August.

Bradford redshirted in 2006, waiting behind Paul Thompson - who stepped in and guided the Sooners to a Big 12 title - then emerged from a three-way competition for the starting job last season.

He passed for 7,585 yards and a school-record 84 touchdowns in his two seasons as the starter. Bradford needs 338 passing yards against Florida to overtake White for the school record.

Bradford plays in the state that produced the great Jim Thorpe, an American Indian. Bradford is a member of the Cherokee Nation and has become a symbol of sorts in the native American community. He has said he has embraced that heritage more since he became the Sooners' quarterback than he did while growing up in Oklahoma City.

Robert Guerrero is in the Golden Boy's corner after the dynamic two-time featherweight champion signed with Oscar De La Hoya's promotions company on Thursday.

Guerrero (22-1-1, 15 KOs) hasn't fought in nearly 10 months while attempting to end his association with promoter Dan Goossen. After Guerrero received that freedom in an arbitration ruling on Tuesday, he signed with Golden Boy Productions, which hopes to turn the 25-year-old into a rising star.

"They've got everything," Guerrero told The Associated Press. "They're going to be able to make big fights for me. They take care of their fighters and have a lot of big cards."

Guerrero, known to his Northern California fans as "The Ghost," said he sought a breakup with Goossen in

part because he hadn't received the big-money fights he craved against the likes of Manny Pacquiao and Juan Manuel Marquez, who have both since moved up in weight. Guerrero relinquished his IBF featherweight title last June in a plan to move up to 130 pounds (59 kilograms), where he plans to fight for a title in 2009.

Golden Boy CEO Richard Schaefer plans to put Guerrero's comeback fight on the undercard of Antonio Margarito's welterweight title bout with Sugar Shane Mosley at Staples Center in Los Angeles on Jan. 24. Schaefer is negotiating with HBO, which plans to show only the main event on its telecast, to showcase highlights of Guerrero's fight.

"What is there not to like?" Schaefer said. "The guy is such an amazing fighter in the ring, so explosive, so fun

to watch. There are very few fighters who really bring that thrill and give it their all. I really think he is the total package. He has a tremendous opportunity right now with some of these bigger names in the sport closer to retirement."

Schaefer has been on a signing spree in the last year, eager to add up-and-coming fighters to a company that was built by aging superstars De La Hoya, Mosley and Bernard Hopkins. Golden Boy adds Guerrero to a list of young talent including Victor Ortiz, heavyweight David Haye and Danny Jacobs.

Schaefer hopes Guerrero's second fight for Golden Boy will be on March 7 in San Jose, just north of his Gilroy hometown. Guerrero spent much of his time off taking care of his wife, Casey, whose leukemia was in remission.



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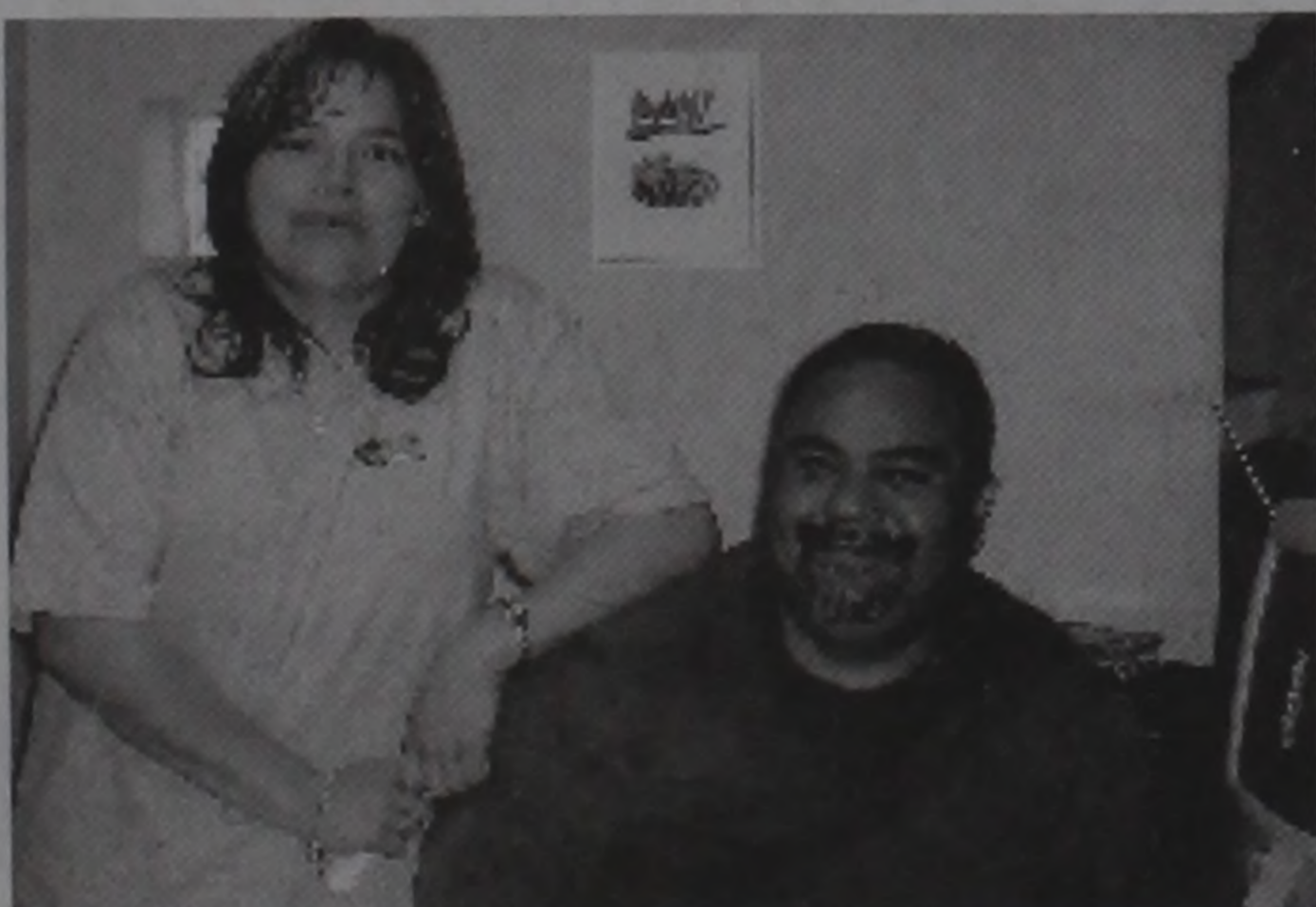
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Eliana & Azelia Reyes sat on Poncho Clos' lap when he visited all the students at Harwell Elementary.



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Isabella Colquette joined the Reyes girls for a ride on the Polar Express. All Aboard!!



Los 'Rlojas & Aguero' family got together over the this past weekend to celebrate Christmas. "Merry Christmas & God Blessings to All"

# Happy 1st Birthday Isaiah!



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Para cuentas empresariales y gubernamentales llama al 1-866-WLS-BIZZ o visita alltelbusiness.com

Aplican impuestos federales, estatales y locales. Además, Alltel puede cobrar cargos mensuales por conectividad, cargos regulatorios, administrativos y por proporcionar el servicio 911 de hasta \$2.19 y tarifas federales y estatales del Fondo de Servicio Universal (ambas tarifas varían según el uso del cliente). Estas tarifas adicionales pueden no ser impuestos o cargos requeridos por el gobierno y están sujetos a cambios. Para obtener más información adicional acerca de tus impuestos, cuotas y tarifas, consulta a un representante de servicio al cliente de Alltel o tu factura mensual. Requerimientos del Smart Choice Pack: Todos los clientes nuevos o existentes que activen o cambien a un aparato inteligente requerirán comprar y mantener un Smart Choice Pack durante el tiempo estipulado en su contrato para calificar para obtener el teléfono al precio que se ofrece al estar dentro del contrato. **Detalles del Teléfono:** Los teléfonos y los reembolsos que aplican están disponibles por tiempo limitado, hasta agotar existencias con la activación de un plan de tarifas que califique. El reembolso será en forma de una tarjeta de regalo VISA. Limitado a 1 reembolso por compra que califique. El teléfono puede ser devuelto dentro de los primeros 15 días de compra. Si el certificado del reembolso por correo ha sido presentado, Alltel devolverá el precio de la compra menos el monto del reembolso. El cliente tiene que pagar los impuestos que apliquen. Consulta el certificado del reembolso para obtener más detalles. **Aplicaciones:** Las características, incluyendo el correo electrónico Alltel, Alltel Navigation y nTútle, solamente están disponibles para ser utilizadas en los mercados del servicio móvil digital de Alltel y de "roaming" de compañías asociadas. Se requiere un plan de tarifas de Alltel que califique y un teléfono móvil aprobado. Pueden aplicarse cargos por tiempo aire, mensajería de texto y/o kilobytes cuando se realicen descargas o se use alguna característica. Las características están sujetas a cambios y pueden no estar disponibles en todos los mercados. El uso fuera de tu plan de llamadas está sujeto a cargos adicionales por "roaming" y larga distancia. Al usar ciertas aplicaciones descargables, el cliente estará aceptando el Acuerdo de Licencia para el Usuario Final de la Tienda Alltel. Si tienes preguntas o problemas con las descargas, llama al Servicio al Cliente de Alltel al 1-800-alltel-1. **Mi Círculo:** Servicio disponible para cuentas nuevas y existentes en selectos planes actuales. Se requiere un plan de tarifas mínimo de \$49.99 para obtener un Plan de Mi Círculo con 5 números; \$59.99 para 10 números; \$89.99 para 20 números. Para los clientes del servicio Smart Choice Pack, se requiere un plan de tarifas mínimo de \$69.99 para obtener un Plan de Mi Círculo con 5 números; \$89.99 para 10 números; \$139.99 para 20 números. Los números de Mi Círculo deben ser compartidos con todas las líneas de la cuenta primaria. Los clientes no pueden designar dentro de sus números telefónicos disponibles a su propio número móvil o correo de voz, números para obtener información de Directorio ni números que empiecen con 900. Las llamadas deben empezar y terminar en el área de llamadas de tu plan. Los números designados deben estar dentro de los 50 estados de los Estados Unidos. Esta característica puede ser descontinuada a discreción de Alltel. Deberás dejar pasar 24 horas para que los cambios a los números de Tu Círculo se hagan efectivos. Aplican restricciones a los clientes comerciales y del servicio prepago. Consulta a un representante para obtener más detalles. **Líneas adicionales por \$9.99:** 1 línea debe ser línea primaria de servicio en uno de los planes de tarifas selectos de \$59.99 o más, con un máximo de 4 líneas secundarias por \$9.99/mes. Se requiere un contrato de servicio por 2 años para cada línea junto con la promoción de un teléfono. Por un cargo adicional mensual se pueden contratar líneas secundarias dentro de los planes Smart Choice Pack. Consulta a un representante para obtener más detalles. **Alltel Navigation:** No ingresa o cambia información mientras estás conduciendo. Alltel no garantiza que cualquier información que obtengas esté correcta o completa, y esto incluye la información de las locaciones que es presentada a través de la aplicación. Aplican cargos por "roaming" cuando se tenga acceso a información mientras el cliente esté fuera del área de llamada de su plan. Todas las aplicaciones GPS están sujetas a las Normas y Condiciones para GPS de Alltel que están disponibles en alltel.com. Para su uso se requiere utilizar tiempo aire. **Información adicional:** Esta oferta puede estar limitada por tiempo, existencias, cobertura o localidades participantes. Hay un cargo no reembolsable de \$25 por activación por línea. Puede aplicarse una tarifa de \$200 por línea por cancelación prematura del contrato. El servicio está sujeto a las Normas y Condiciones para Servicios de Comunicaciones y otra información disponible en todas las tiendas Alltel o en alltel.com. Todas las marcas de productos y servicios indicados son los nombres, nombres comerciales, marcas comerciales y logotipos de sus correspondientes propietarios. Las imágenes de las pantallas son simuladas. ©2008 Alltel Communications, LLC. Todos los derechos reservados.

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