

El Salidor

New Effort Launched to Legalize Beer and Wine Sales in Lubbock Precinct. 3

Roger Settler, organizer of the People's Liquor Coalition, announced today that a new application will be filed on Thursday, 12 August to legalize the sale of beer and wine in Justice Precincts 3 and 4 of Lubbock County.

Settler had originally filed an application in June but failed to gather the required amount of signatures by an August deadline.

"The timing for that application were just not right. All the students and many of the residents in the district were on vacation," said Settler.

The boundaries of Precinct 3 are the same as the Commissioner's Precinct which recently nominated Ysidro Gutierrez, and includes much of North and East Lubbock County. Precinct 4 adjoins Precinct 3 at University and Avenue and Fourth Street, and includes Northwest Lubbock County.

Settler, a community activist, stated that "There is nothing so powerful in all the world as an idea whose time has come." The time has come for social justice and economic equity for North and East Lubbock. The sale of beer and wine is an economic engine which could jump-start the economic renaissance of our communities."

All of the signers of the Application in Precinct 3 are leaders of various neighborhoods in the area. Settler is a longtime resident of Broadway in the Overton.



Comentarios

by Bidal Agüero

Residents of the Arnett Benson neighborhood will host its annual "Concert in the Park" rally this coming Sunday at Rodger's Park. "The concert is held each year to help neighbors meet neighbors," said event organizer and Arnett Neighborhood Association President Natalia Salazar. A highlight of the event will be a special recognition of the American GI Forum.

"For many years the Forum has held its 'Pancho Clos' Program at which many of the Arnett Benson kids get a special Christmas gift. We want to thank the Forum for that and recognize all their efforts throughout years," said Blas Mojica, another organizer of the event.

The event will offer free food and drinks and is open to everyone. Information booths will also be offered to the neighborhood.

The Stenholm - Neugebauer Congressional race seems to be the item of interest in West Texas these days with Neugebauer bringing in everyone from the Vice President of the United States to the House Speaker in to raise money and speak for him. The Democrat/Republican race is getting national attention as a race that will strengthen or weaken the Bush stronghold in Texas.

Many think that how Hispanics vote will be very important and might well be the determining factor. Whether Charlie or Randy know this is uncertain. Certainly we have not seen any ads aired or printed directly to attract the Hispanic vote. I would think that we would begin seeing them soon. If we don't I would start to ask questions whether either one of them care how or who the Hispanic community votes for or if they take our vote seriously.

Write to Bidal at eleditor@llano.net

South neighborhood.

The Applications are being reviewed by the Office of Elections, and when approved, petitions will be issued to the Coalition. Petitioners shall have 60 days to gather the necessary signatures. The sale of beer and wine requires 35 percent of the total of voters in the last gubernatorial, or governor's election in 2002, which comes to 2,747 in Precinct 3, and a higher amount in Precinct 4.

Laura Gentry, one of the organizers, said "We need many volunteers to help collect signatures. 60 days seems like a

"long time, but it really isn't."

Jimmie Settler, another organizer, added "To be successful, we need money and contributions."

"For twenty or thirty years," Roger Settler continued, "plans to develop North and East Lubbock have been put forth by City and County governmental entities. Like Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce, one of my ancestors, once said, 'We are tired of words that come to nothing.' It is time to DO something to bring jobs and prosperity to our part of town," said Settler.

acceptan acogerse al programa.

Desde el 12 de julio hasta este domingo habrían sido repatriados al interior de México bajo el programa voluntario un total de dos mil 559 migrantes, 183 en promedio cada día.

Detractores del programa, incluyendo grupos no



gubernamentales, lo han rechazado bajo el argumento que no resuelve el problema económico de fondo que obliga a los inmigrantes a viajar hacia Estados Unidos en busca de empleos mejor remunerados.

Estiman poco probable que ayude a reducir muertes de inmigrantes que cruzan la frontera de Arizona en la temporada de calor extremo y temen que autoridades estadounidenses utilicen métodos de intimidación para convencer a los indocumentados a participar en el programa.

Lack of Services in Spanish Reduces Hispanic access to housing

Lack of financial orientation services in Spanish limits Hispanics from buying their own homes in the United States, indicates a study carried out by two institutions.

The report, titled "Sueño de su casa. The Homeownership potential of Mexican-Heritage families", was carried out by Tomás Rivera Institute of Public Policy and the University of Southern California.

Although houses in California currently cost an average of half a million dollars, Hispanics are very interested in buying housing, however they lack adequate information according to the director of the investigation, Jongho Lee.

The study determined that only 38 per cent of Hispanic families in the United States have enough income to acquire a house, only one out of every three potential buyers in this sector does not lack information.

64 per cent of Hispanic families interviewed for the survey in the state of California and cities like Houston and Atlanta, said they had no knowledge of the process or the terms of bank loans for housing.

Over half of those surveyed stated they do not know whether their regular income would be enough to buy a home, since they do not have trustworthy advisors or anyone who understands real estate terminology.

The study, assigned by financing firm Freddie Mac, one of the largest in the United States, reached a population of at least one thousand 400 Hispanic families around the country.

According to the Tomás Rivera Institute, California's main Hispanic analysis institution, and USC by 2010 one million Hispanic families in the United States will be homeowners.

However, the number could exceed two million 200 thousand if action is taken now to amend the lack of adequate information in Spanish for Hispanics.

The study's author thinks a solution to the problem is for financial institutions to broaden their services for Hispanic clients; nevertheless, potential Hispanic buyers must also increase their interest in finding understandable information on property buying.

The Tomás Rivera Institute and USC recommended in their report that financial institutions and real estate agencies translate their information, also suggesting they launch programs targeted exclusively for the Hispanic market in terms they can understand.

Likewise they suggested joint or separate novel approaches to capture the interest of the Hispanic community, and wherever necessary, to invest more in multifamily units rather than individual housing so as to increase Hispanic access to property ownership.

Kerry Courts Hispanics, American Indians

By JACQUES BILLEAUD, Associated Press Writer

Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry (news - web sites), on the western leg of a coast-to-coast campaign tour, courted Hispanic and Native American voters in states he hopes can give him a winning edge.

Kerry talked about health care, education and tribal rights through whistle-stops in New Mexico and Arizona. His wife, Teresa Heinz Kerry, sometimes added a few words in Spanish to the delight of the crowds.

Kicking off a late-night rally Sunday, Kerry pledged to invest in Native American health care.

"If there's anything that sort of represents the fallen agenda and the confrontation with the truth in America, which is what elections are supposed to be about, it is what is happening to Native Americans in this country still," Kerry said.

The western trek marks the second half of the Democrat's visits to battleground states from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The trip to Arizona is Kerry's third since the Democratic primary, evidence of a close battle with President Bush (news - web sites) for its 10 electoral votes. Bush and Sen. John McCain (news, bio, voting record), R-Ariz., campaign in New Mexico and Arizona on Wednesday.

Recent polls show Arizona tilts slightly in Bush's favor, but Kerry's campaign said growth in the state's Hispanic population could help shift the balance toward the Democrats.

"We're going to turn Arizona blue," said Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano, referring to the color used on electoral maps for states that voted Democratic. Bush won Arizona in 2000.

Kerry's tour through Arizona includes a visit by helicopter Monday to the Grand Canyon.

The Democrats want to spend \$600 million over five years on park maintenance, staffing and programs. The spending would be paid for with increased fees on companies that buy mineral-rich government property or extract minerals from publicly owned lands.

Kerry's program for parks includes more stringent enforcement of clean air and water regulations, and a promise not to contract national park jobs to outside vendors.

Kerry addressed Native American health and tribal issues during a visit to an intertribal Native American ceremony, set under towering red cliffs in Gallup, N.M., near the largest American Indian population in the Southwest.

More than half of New Mexico's population is either Hispanic or Native American. Some of the tribal leaders boarded Kerry's train for a discussion about Native American issues.

Kerry also won the endorsement of Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley Jr. "He has promised all Native America they will be sitting at the table," Shirley said.

Kerry is looking for Native Americans to vote in large numbers and give him an edge over Bush for New Mexico's five electoral votes. Democrat Al Gore won the state four years ago by 366 votes, the closest margin in any state.

Kerry llama a reformar la cobertura de salud

-El candidato presidencial demócrata John Kerry denunció este miércoles fallas en el sistema de cobertura de salud estadounidense, y prometió reducir el costo de los medicamentos recetados.

Durante un encuentro con jubilados en Henderson (Nevada, oeste), criticó particularmente el costo de los medicamentos y al sistema que impide su importación, que provocó un aumento de precios.

El país "debería ser capaz de importar medicamentos más baratos", afirmó.

Pero no es esa la política del presidente George W. Bush, agregó.

"El gobierno afirma 'es necesario que las grandes empresas ganen'. No es la prioridad para Estados Unidos. ¿Por qué los canadienses pueden comprar esos medicamentos y ustedes tienen que pagar precios elevados? Pensé que ellos (el gobierno) eran los que creían en el mercado, en la libre competencia. Esto no es libre competencia, ¡esto es un monopolio!", afirmó.

"Desde hace cerca de cuatro años el presidente Bush no tomó ninguna medida real para reducir el costo de la atención médica", estima el equipo de campaña de Kerry. "Cuando distribuía millones (de dólares) a las aseguradoras y a las compañías farmacéuticas, las familias fueron ahogadas por los precios cada vez más elevados, las personas mayores tuvieron dificultades para obtener sus medicamentos y las pequeñas empresas tuvieron que luchar para sobrevivir y crear puestos de trabajo".

Los sondeos muestran que el tema de la cobertura médica se encuentra entre los de mayor interés para los electores.

Demos Admit Failing Hispanics

WASHINGTON — Democrats said Wednesday that they failed to do their job in 2000 and 2002 and pledged to put millions of dollars into an outreach program aimed at igniting a pro-Democratic vote among Hispanic Americans in November.

"I think what we have to recognize is that the mainstream Washington Democratic Party has been slow to recognize the changes that are going on" regarding the surge of Hispanic immigrants in the Southwestern states, said Simon Rosenberg, founder and president of the New Democrat Network (search), a private group founded during the Clinton administration to support centrist Democratic candidates.

"The Gore campaign missed this in 2000. In the Southwest, we didn't even target Arizona and Nevada in 2000," he said.

"We have to work very, very hard as a party," said Sergio Bendixen, a pollster working with NDN's Hispanic Project, which has taken the lead this time around through a massive advertising campaign in key Hispanic battleground states: Arizona, Florida, Colorado, New Mexico and Nevada.

So far it appears that some of the work is paying off. According to polling earlier this month by Bendixen's group, John Kerry (search) is leading President Bush by 18 percentage points overall in the key Hispanic battleground states.

Como No Hacer Tan Desafinante el Logro Academico

Por Marisa Treviño

Al iniciarse otro año escolar, los educadores por todo el país se esmeran una vez más por hacer más difícil el logro académico de su estado.

En Texas, la junta estatal para la educación aprobó tentativamente, 8 a 7, un nuevo requisito para la secundaria - cuatro años obligados de cursos de ciencias. Hasta ahora, son sólo tres estados más los que tienen tal requisito.

Ahora, antes que nadie me acuse, simplemente quiero decir que no tengo expectativas reducidas para ningún estudiante. Siempre he creído que todo niño es capaz de aprender. Donde me parece que la capacidad se cuestiona es en cuanto a lo que el estudiante le interese.

Como vamos hoy por hoy, cualquier estudiante que sabe que va a la universidad o que sigue una carrera con fuerte tendencia en las ciencias ya se está registrando para los cuatro años de la materia. Por ende, ¿cuál es la razón por la que se tenga que gastar \$200 millones (los costos iniciales estimados para Texas) para obligar a los estudiantes sin ningún deseo de seguir una carrera en las ciencias o de concursar en el programa de televisión Jeopardy, a llevar el año extra?

Mediante su ferviente esfuerzo por mostrar lo inteligentes que son sus chicos, los educadores a nivel nacional parecen haber

olvidado que no todos los estudiantes tienen los mismos intereses, metas o habilidades.

Hace esto de un estudiante que no quiere pasarse un año más disecando ecuaciones y memorizando fórmulas menos que inteligente?

Al dictaminar tales requisitos para alzar el logro académico, los educadores están obligando a los estudiantes a optar entre dos vertientes: la de la preparatoria para la universidad o la de graduarse con las justas. Las dos ponen etiquetas a los chicos. A veces los estudiantes prefieren dejar la escuela que dejarse poner una etiqueta.

Según Christopher Swanson, investigador asociado del Centro para Políticas Educativas del Instituto Urbano, a nivel nacional, ya los estudiantes de color tienen poco más de 50% de probabilidad de sacarse un diploma de secundaria.

Aquellos estudiantes que no quieran llevar el año extra de ciencias optarán lo más seguro por la vertiente mínima que no les retará pero que tampoco enfocará quiénes son como personas individuales con talentos particulares.

Una vez que observaba una escuela en Texas de educación alternativa, el director se dio cuenta de mi consternación al ver salón tras salón lleno de chicos marrones y negros. Meneando la cabeza, me dijo que

sentía que el verdadero delito era cómo las escuelas tan campantes mandaban a estos jóvenes latinos y afro-americanos a escuelas alternativas por lo que se comportaban mal por estar aburridos con el programa de clases vidente. Con el pincel de un artista o una herramienta en la mano de algunos, y lo que producen es fenomenal, dijo. El único problema es que las escuelas no reconocen ese tipo de inteligencia.

Hay otros países aparte de los Estados Unidos que tildan de poco inteligentes a los niños que carecen del perfil académico. En Singapur, país conocido por su sistema educativo riguroso, la segunda película más popular en la historia del país fue una que salió en el 2002 con el título "I Not Stupid" (Yo no estoy).

Se trataba de tres chicos puestos en las clases para atrasados. Cada personaje tiene un talento particular, pero por lo que no salen bien en el programa escolar de matemáticas y ciencias, sus familias, padres y maestros los ven como fracasados. A diario luchan con sentimientos de inferioridad.

El problema es que hay demasiados estudiantes que se sienten fracasados antes de cumplir los 18 años. En nuestro sistema escolar, hemos tachado a los estudiantes que no caben dentro de nuestra definición de lo que es ser "inteligente".

Afortunadamente existen esta-

dos que se dan cuenta que el sistema educativo no es una colonia de automatas en la que todos deben tener la misma apariencia, el mismo comportamiento y las mismas metas.

En Nuevo Jersey, los estudiantes de secundaria pueden recibir "al combinar los cursos tradicionales con otros en base a temas, estudios independientes, actividades co- o extra-curriculares, programas de intercambio, de aprendizaje a distancia, internados, servicio a la comunidad o con otros programas de los que pueda aprobar su distrito".

En Chicago y en Rochester, Nueva York, los distritos han adoptado planes de tres y cinco años para completar la secundaria.

La legislatura de Iowa aprobó una ley que autoriza a los distritos escolares a acredecir para la graduación el entrenamiento militar básico que hayan completado exitosamente los estudiantes.

Existirá siempre la necesidad de alzar el reto académico para que los estudiantes no se aburran, pero es imperativo que todos los estudiantes se sientan estimulados, y no dejar que ninguno pierda la esperanza en sí mismo.

La gran prueba ahora será ver cómo los educadores inteligentes se enfrentan con su propio desafío.

who don't want to spend another year behind a desk dissecting equations and memorizing formulas less than smart?

By dictating such "raise the bar" requirements, educators are forcing students to choose between two tracks: a college prep track or a minimum graduation plan. Either route labels the kids. Sometimes children give up on school rather than let themselves be labeled.

According to Christopher Swanson, a research associate at the Urban Institute's Education Policy Center, non-white students nationwide have little more than a 50-50 chance of earning a high school diploma already.

Those students who don't want to take the extra year of science will most probably opt for the minimum track that won't challenge them but won't be addressing who they are as individuals with unique talents either.

Once when I was touring a Texas alternative education school, the principal noticed my concern seeing room after room filled with brown and black kids. Shaking his head, he told me that he felt the real crime was the way schools so easily shipped these young Latinos and African Americans into alternative settings because they misbehaved.

The problem is there are too many students who feel like failures before they're even 18 years old. Within our school system, we have stigmatized those kids who don't fit our definition of "smart."

Thankfully, some states are realizing that the educational system is not a Stepford (Wives)

due to boredom with the standard curriculum. Put an artist's brush or a tool in some of their hands and what they produce is phenomenal, he said. The only problem is schools don't recognize that kind of intelligence.

The United States is not alone in bestowing a "not too bright" label on those children who buck the academic profile. In Singapore, a country known for its rigorous educational system, the second highest grossing film in the country's box office history was a 2002 movie titled "I Not Stupid."

It was about three boys who were assigned to "em3" classes - roughly equivalent to our remedial courses. Each character is depicted as being talented in a different way, but because they don't do well with their school's math and science curriculum they are looked upon as failures by their families, peers and teachers. Daily they battle feelings of worthlessness.

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colony where everyone must look, act and aspire to the same thing.

In New Jersey, high school students can receive diplomas "by combining traditional coursework with theme-based courses, independent study, co-curricular or extracurricular activities, exchange programs, distance learning, internships, community service or other programs their districts might approve."

In Chicago and Rochester, New York, school districts have adopted three and five-year plans for completing high school.

And the Iowa legislature passed a law authorizing school districts to apply credit toward graduation for those students who have successfully completed military basic training.

There will always be a need to raise the academic bar to keep students challenged, but there is a far greater need to challenge all children and not let any one of them give up on him or herself.

The bigger test now is seeing how smart educators are in raising the bar for themselves.

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How Not To Raise the Academic Bar

By Marisa Treviño

As another school year is about to begin, educators around the country are carving out a notch for yet another stab at raising their states' academic bar.

In Texas, the State Board of Education tentatively passed, by an 8 to 7 vote, a new high school requirement -- four mandatory years of science. So far, only three other states have such a requirement.

Now before anyone accuses me, I just want to say that I do not have low expectations of any student. I've always believed that every child has learning potential. Where I believe learning potential comes into question is regarding students' interests.

As it stands now, any students who know they are going on to college or are pursuing a career heavy in the sciences are already signing themselves up for four years of the subject. So why must \$200 million (the estimated start-up costs in Texas) be spent to force those students who have no desire to pursue a scientific career or become a Jeopardy contestant to take that extra year?

In their zealous efforts to show how smart their kids are, educators nationwide seem to forget that not all students have the same interests, goals or abilities. Does that make the students

who don't want to spend another year behind a desk dissecting equations and memorizing formulas less than smart?

By dictating such "raise the bar" requirements, educators are forcing students to choose between two tracks: a college prep track or a minimum graduation plan. Either route labels the kids. Sometimes children give up on school rather than let themselves be labeled.

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The United States is not alone in bestowing a "not too bright" label on those children who buck the academic profile. In Singapore, a country known for its rigorous educational system, the second highest grossing film in the country's box office history was a 2002 movie titled "I Not Stupid."

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The Rin-Kun Nor-Tee-No

By Abel Cruz

Except for radio I have never been involved in broadcast media. But, I'm sure that being a news anchor or on air personality is not an easy job. From what I can tell it is a job that requires a lot of personality, excellent timing skills and anticipation.

I've noticed though that on several occasions, the person reading the teleprompter becomes somewhat frazzled when they come across a word that they don't quite know how to pronounce. We hear a blip in their delivery; some apologize for their mispronunciation of the word, and continue. Others don't seem to have a clue, and they continue as if nothing happened.

Take for instance the on air reporters at the 4 local network stations here in Lubbock. If they have spent any considerable amount of time doing on air reporting, they should know that sooner or later they will run across a Spanish name or word. So it would seem to me that if they don't speak Spanish, these folks would make some effort to take even the most elementary form of Spanish lessons so that these embarrassing and annoying instances would not occur. Now if you happen to be Hispanic and an on air reporter, then chances are that you will not mangle Spanish words, unless you don't know the language. And if you don't, then shame on you!

But, when you are reporting the news in a city that enjoys a 28% Hispanic population, you will forever run across names like DeLeon, Ybarra, Gutierrez, and even Cruz (no, not Cruise). In addition, you have businesses and institutions all across this city with Spanish names. Long time businesses like Guajardo Funeral Home, Jimenez Bakery, Jalisco's Restaurant, La Feria Record Store, and countless others.

My guess is that if these businesses were located in El Paso or San Antonio, they might be called Funeraria Guajardo, Panaderia Jimenez, Restaurante Jalisco's, and Tienda de Música, La Feria. Why not here?

Because the culture surrounding this city does not allow for ethnic dialects and common Spanish words to take hold in our everyday vocabulary or our everyday life. In other words, if you want to do business here, then chances are that you will have to have a combination Spanish - English name so that the business can be identifiable. Or create an English version of your name. And why, partly because there are those in this Lubbock and West Texas culture that have a hard time dealing with things that are and sound different; in other words, a diverse world.

Sure, it's not as bad as it used to be, but we have a long way to go. The least we, as an ethnic group should expect and deserve, is for our ethnic names to be pronounced correctly and in their Spanish dialect.

Sadly, that's not the case here in our multilingual city. Is this important?

Just mispronounce an English language word or name in front of an English only person and you'll see just how important. Just accidentally use the "ch" sound instead of the "sh" sound and see what kind of reaction you get. No, this issue may not be in the top 5 or even 10, but it goes to the core of who we are as an ethnic group and to our own personal identity.

For example, our name is that by which we go by, introduce ourselves as, and are remembered by. If you happen to be named Jorge and meet someone who doesn't speak the language, you still introduce yourself as Jorge. But, upon finding that they have a hard time pronouncing Jorge, you say something like, "just call me George".

Unknowingly, you have just let the other person off the hook, and made changes to your name for their benefit. Wouldn't it be better if that person took the time to learn the proper pronunciation of your name? Wouldn't it be nice if they did? You surely pronounce their name correctly and they wouldn't dream of changing their name for your benefit.

More importantly, in that instance we began to lose sight of who we are. We begin to lose sight of our culture, our heritage, the very thing that identifies who we are. We somehow allow ourselves to compensate, to make excuses for having a Spanish name and being different. And when we begin to lose that, then losing our individuality and search for equality is not far behind.

Back in elementary school, the first thing that the teacher would do is change your name if it was hard to pronounce. Juan became John, Jose became Joe, and on and on. (Good luck if your name was Panfilo!)

If you felt any sense of pride when you went in, you now felt that there was something so wrong with your name that it had to be changed; you were left with a sense of embarrassment.

Ask anyone who has a name that doesn't translate to English and they'll tell you what I mean.

And that was just the beginning. Next thing you know we're changing other things in our mostly Mexican culture. Tacos de papas y blanquillos" (or huevos, take your pick) became "breakfast burritos", and burritos then evolved into "wraps".

¡Por favor! Give me a break!

One last thing, if you haven't figured out the title to this week's column, I heard it on one of the local stations recently. The reporter will remain nameless. It was the reporter's feeble attempt to pronounce the name of a popular dance club on the North side.

El Rincon Norteño!

How sad!

Cacruz2004

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Mexican Women as domestic workers in the USA helps careers, but not theirs

By Erika Robles

It's a fact that First World imperialism and development policy in the Third World have resulted in resource depletion, debt, and poverty for many of these nations. The extraction of resources by the United States and other First World nations forces many people in the Third World to migrate to follow their countries' wealth.

Mexicans migrate to the United States out of necessity not by choice. Four out of five people in Mexico who have jobs earn minimum wage -which is around \$3 a day- and the unemployment rate is around 30 percent. In recent years, Mexicans have migrated to the USA mainly to find jobs. At times the USA has welcomed them especially when they needed cheap labor. The USA has even sponsored

programs to recruit Mexican laborers, such as the Bracero program.

The issue of Mexican women working as domestic workers in the USA is one of the many examples of "behind the curtains" exploitation happening in the US nowadays. By hiring undocumented immigrants to do child care and domestic work, it allows the family -especially the mother- to have a job while paying the domestic worker a very low wage.

According to a survey of 18 New York agencies- stated on the book "Disposable Domestics" by Grace Chang- "illegal workers earned as little as \$175 a week and legal workers as much as \$600."

The U.S. continues to thrive on cheap labor to keep the nation

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Una Lección Que No Aprendí en Misa

Por Bessy Reyna

"Eres católica?" me preguntó curioso mi sobrino Juan Diego, de trece años hace un tiempo ya. Sentado detrás de mí durante las exequias de mi padre en la Ciudad de Panamá, aparentemente se había dado cuenta que no sabía cuándo sentarme o pararme durante la misa.

Tanto Juan Diego como su hermano mayor asistían a la escuela jesuita de la que se graduó mi hermano. Mi padre, católico devoto, suponía no sólo que sus hijos asistieran a colegios religiosos sino que también compartieran con él el fervor religioso.

A menudo mi hermano y yo comparábamos lo que habíamos aprendido. Sus maestros jesuitas eran mucho más liberales y lo retaban intelectualmente, a diferencia de las monjas franciscanas a cargo de mi escuela. La jerarquía social que separaba a las hermanas de las monjas en mi escuela era muy rígida. Las jóvenes de países pobres latinoamericanos eran las hermanas. Eran las mucamas. Las monjas, o "Sor Marias", mayormente provenientes de familias de ascendencia europea y con dinero, eran las maestras.

La misma conciencia de clase determinaba el salón de clase de las estudiantes. Cada año tenía

un Salón A para las estudiantes más pudientes y un Salón B para las de clase media y las becadas.

Recuerdo haber entablado discusiones feroces con el padre Suárez, confesor de mi escuela y profesor de religión. Perdía la paciencia conmigo mucho cuando me atrevía a cuestionar la doctrina católica sobre el pecado durante su clase. Frecuentemente mis dudas religiosas me metían en problemas con las autoridades de la escuela, quienes más de una vez llamaron a mi padre para quejarse que yo "confundía" a las demás estudiantes. Me sorprendía que mi padre, en cuyos ojos la iglesia no tenía tacha alguna, me defendía.

Como millones de personas hoy, mi padre iba a misa todos los domingos, creyente de que seguía el camino al cielo y a una vida placentera en el más allá. Como muchos católicos, hacía caso de lo que dictaminaban los sacerdotes sobre lo que debía creer, cómo debía vivir y a cuál candidato político debía votar. No obstante, hasta mi padre estaría horrorizado con las cartas pastorales emitidas por algunos obispos estadounidenses con la amenaza de prohibirles la comunión a los feligreses que apoyan a ciertos candidatos.

El día más difícil de mi vida

fue el domingo en el que le dije a mi padre que no iba a misa con él, y que no volvería a ir jamás. Mi decisión afectó profundamente nuestra relación el resto de su vida.

Sin embargo, desde una edad muy temprana, supe que no es suficiente aceptar la fe y el dogma. Yo necesitaba cuestionar por qué la iglesia había creado la Inquisición, reprimido el esfuerzo científico, opuesta a quitar la obra de Galileo de la lista de lecturas prohibidas hasta el año 1835. Me preguntaba por qué le tomó 359 años a la iglesia disculparse por lo que se le hizo a Galileo.

Ahora la misma iglesia intenta limitar a la comunidad científica. El padre Suárez nunca me habría podido explicar bien por qué los científicos deben dejar de investigar las aplicaciones para las células estaminales, que se cree son claves para mejorar la vida de miles de personas que sufren de enfermedades neurológicas degenerativas.

¿Cómo me explicaría el que el Vaticano se negara a comentar sobre la inmensa colección de pornografía infantil y fotografías de relaciones sexuales gráficas entre sacerdotes y seminaristas encontradas en un seminario en Austria? Mucho menos la reac-

ción del obispo Kurt Krenn, de la archidiócesis de Viena, quien descartó las 40,000 imágenes, llamándolas una travesura pueril.

Tampoco habría podido explicarme cómo una iglesia que durante décadas albergó a sacerdotes pedófilos pudiera tener la autoridad moral para dictaminar a los homosexuales que su lucha por la igualdad conyugal es una inmoraldad.

No obstante, durante las misas dominicales, los sacerdotes han instado a los feligreses a que presionen a los senadores para que voten por la enmienda matrimonial del presidente Bush, en un esfuerzo por subvertir la constitución y codificar la creencia religiosa al excluir a un grupo particular de ciudadanos de la protección por igual. Afortunadamente el Senado desaprobó sin más la enmienda.

Los fundadores de la nación crearon una democracia secular que históricamente ha ampliado, no reducido, los derechos ciudadanos bajo la constitución. ¿Hemos de seguir a ciegas a los que reducirían aquellos derechos en nombre de la religión?

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A Lesson Not Learned at Sunday Mass

By Bessy Reyna

"Are you a Catholic?" Juan Diego, my inquisitive 13-year-old nephew, asked me a few years ago. Sitting behind me at my father's funeral in Panama City, he apparently noticed that I did not know when to sit or stand during Mass.

Juan Diego and his older brother were attending the same Jesuit school my brother had graduated from. My father, a devout Catholic, had expected his children not only to attend parochial schools but to share his religious beliefs as well.

My brother and I often compared notes about what we learned. His Jesuit teachers were much more liberal and intellectually challenging than the Franciscan nuns in charge of my school. The social hierarchy that separated sisters from nuns at my school was very rigid. The young women from poor Latin American countries were "hermanas," or sisters. They were the maids. The nuns, or "Sor Marias," mostly from wealthy European families, were the teachers.

This class consciousness also determined into which classroom students were placed. Each grade had a Salón A for the wealthier students and B for middle-class and scholarship students.

I remember having heated discussions with Father Suárez, the school's confessor and religion teacher. He often lost his patience when I questioned church doctrine about sin during class. My religious doubts got me in trouble frequently with the school authorities, who more than once called my father to complain that I was "confusing" the other students. Surprisingly, my father, for whom the church could do no wrong, stood up for me.

Like millions of people today, my father attended Mass every Sunday, believing he had a road map to heaven and to a peaceful afterlife. Like many Catholics, he followed the priests' dictates on what he should believe, how he should live and which political candidate he should support. But even my father would be appalled by the pastoral letters issued by some U.S. bishops threatening to withhold communion from parishioners who support certain candidates.

The most difficult day of my life was the Sunday when I told

my father that I was not going to Mass with him and never would again. My decision profoundly affected our relationship for the rest of his life.

But, from an early age, I found that accepting faith and dogma are not enough. I needed to question why the church created the Inquisition, repressed scientific endeavor and was unwilling to delete Galileo's work from its list of banned books until 1835. I wondered why it took the Catholic Church 359 years after Galileo's trial to apologize for what had been done to him.

Now that same church is again trying to restrict the scientific community. Father Suárez could never have explained to my satisfaction why scientists should stop stem-cell research, which is believed to be key to improving the lives of thousands of people suffering from degenerative neurological diseases.

How could he explain the Vatican's official "no comment" when questioned about the huge collection of child pornography and graphic sex photos of priests and seminarians found at a seminary in Austria? Let alone the reaction of Bishop Kurt Krenn, of the Archdiocese of Vienna, who dismissively referred to the 40,000 images as a "childish prank"?

Nor could he have explained how a church that for decades was an accomplice in providing safe haven for pedophile priests could have the moral authority to tell homosexuals that their struggle for marriage equality is immoral.

Nevertheless, at Sunday Masses priests have rallied parishioners to urge senators to vote for President Bush's federal marriage amendment, in an effort to subvert the Constitution and codify religious belief by excluding a specific group of citizens from equal protection. Fortunately, the Senate scuttled the amendment.

This nation's founders created a secular democracy that has historically enlarged, not diminished, the rights of citizens under the nation's Constitution. Must we blindly follow those who would diminish these rights in the name of religion?

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Mexican officials satisfied with voluntary repatriation program

The voluntary repatriation program applied by Mexico and the United States has made it possible to reduce the number of deaths of undocumented immigrants crossing into the United States, said the coordinator of delegations of the National Immigration Institute (INM), Agustín Caso.

The program, which has been in effect since last July 12, "is working" therefore, "we think it is worth it to keep it in effect and keep an eye on it," explained the Mexican official, who traveled with a group of immigrants repatriated to this capital city.

Caso's words were given on the arrival of Mexicana de Aviación flight 2971 Sunday night from Tucson, Arizona, which transported 77 undocumented immigrants who were arrested by the Border Patrol in that state.

Caso emphasized that voluntary repatriation "is working well", but he admitted that the measure could have inherent er-

rors that "will be perfected" without going further into the topic.

Also on this flight for the first time since the voluntary repatriation began, a group of Mexican and American reporters were allowed to travel on board along with the immigrants.

The Mexican official informed that through last Sunday, "there have been a total of four thousand 727 undocumented immigrants repatriated", all proceeding from Arizona and of which "598 had been minors accompanied by adults."

In this sense, the program "has met its commitment of saving the lives of those who are more vulnerable in the Arizona desert, a high-risk corridor into the U.S., where summer temperatures reach far beyond 40 degrees Centigrade.

According to numbers gathered by Notimex, in the first seven months of 2004 there have been at least 154 bodies

found in the Arizona desert area, and according to reports they could all have been originally from Mexico.

"It is relevant that people are being removed" from areas where they are in danger and now they have "options" for returning to their own country, said the INM official.

Caso estimated that a high percentage of those who have recourse to the program (between 50 and 60 per cent) are repatriated say they have no intention of ever trying to cross the border illegally again.

Almost a month after the program's operation, American and Mexican officials are considering changing the itinerary of the two daily repatriation flights from Tucson either canceling Guadalajara routing the flight to the city of Veracruz instead or just sending both flights to Mexico City.

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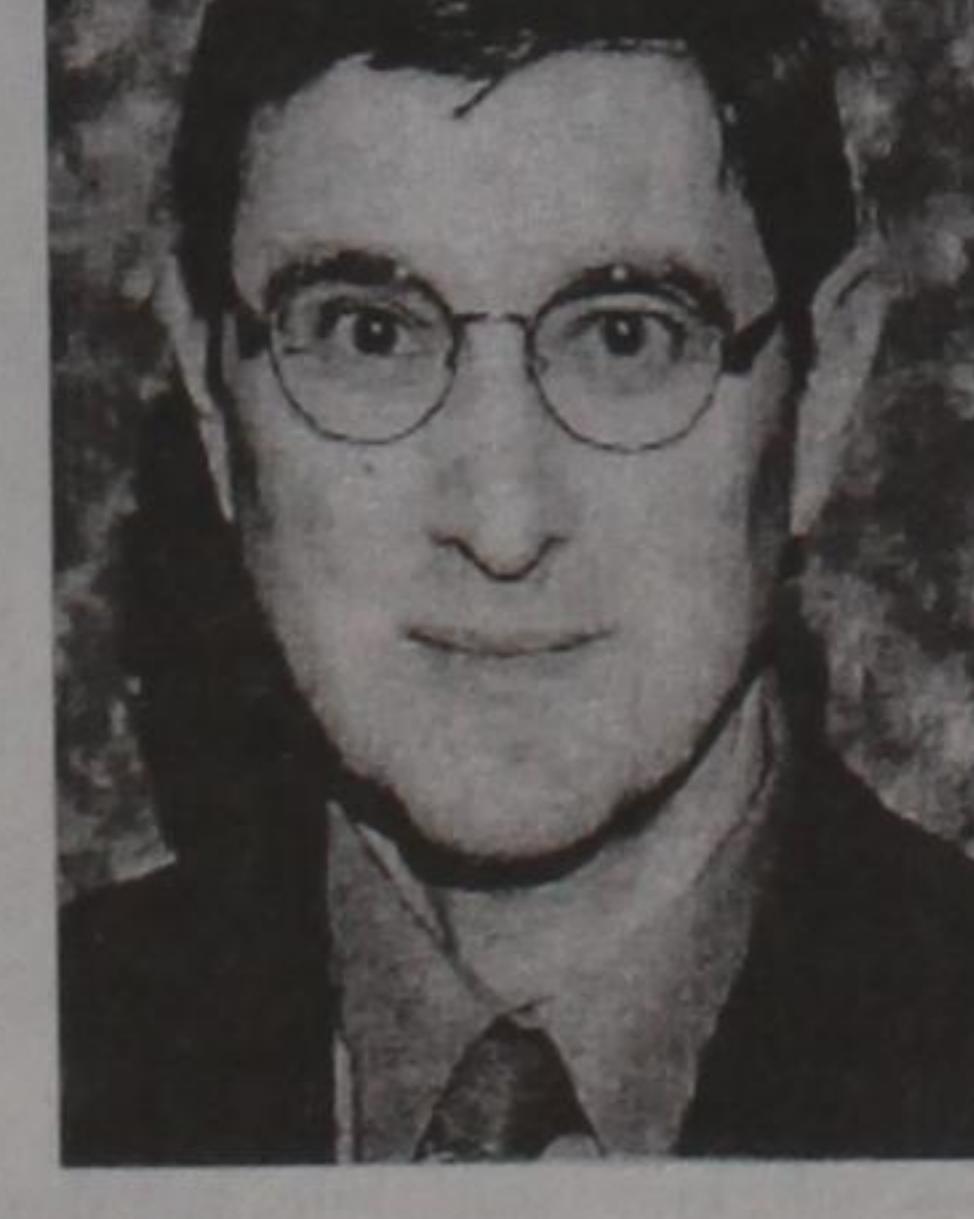
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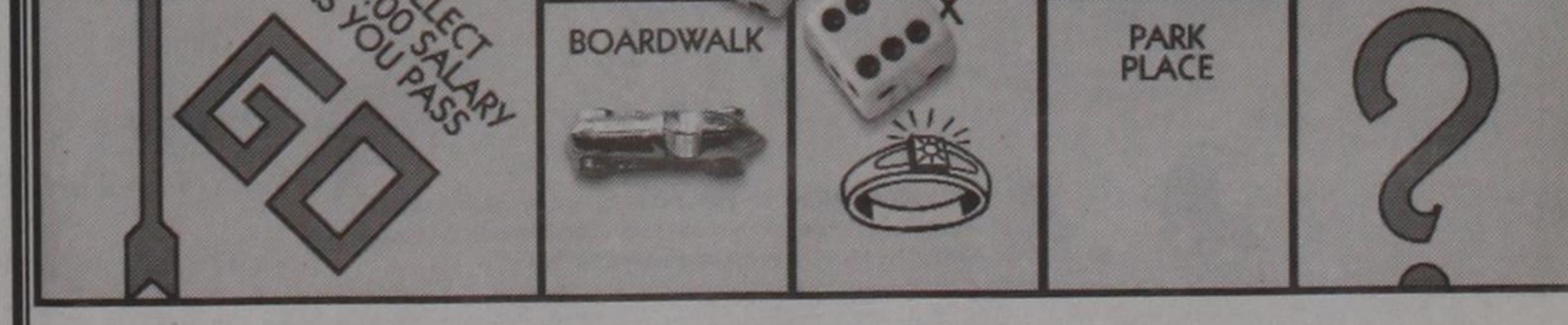


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Santana: con pasión y compasión

El músico mexicano ha sido nombrado 'Personalidad del Año 2004' por la academia latina tanto por sus dotes artísticos como por sus contribuciones caritativas.

El próximo 30 de agosto, la Academia Latina de Artes y Ciencias de la Grabación (LARAS), organización que entrega los premios Grammy Latino, honrará al legendario guitarrista Carlos Santana como la Personalidad del Año 2004.

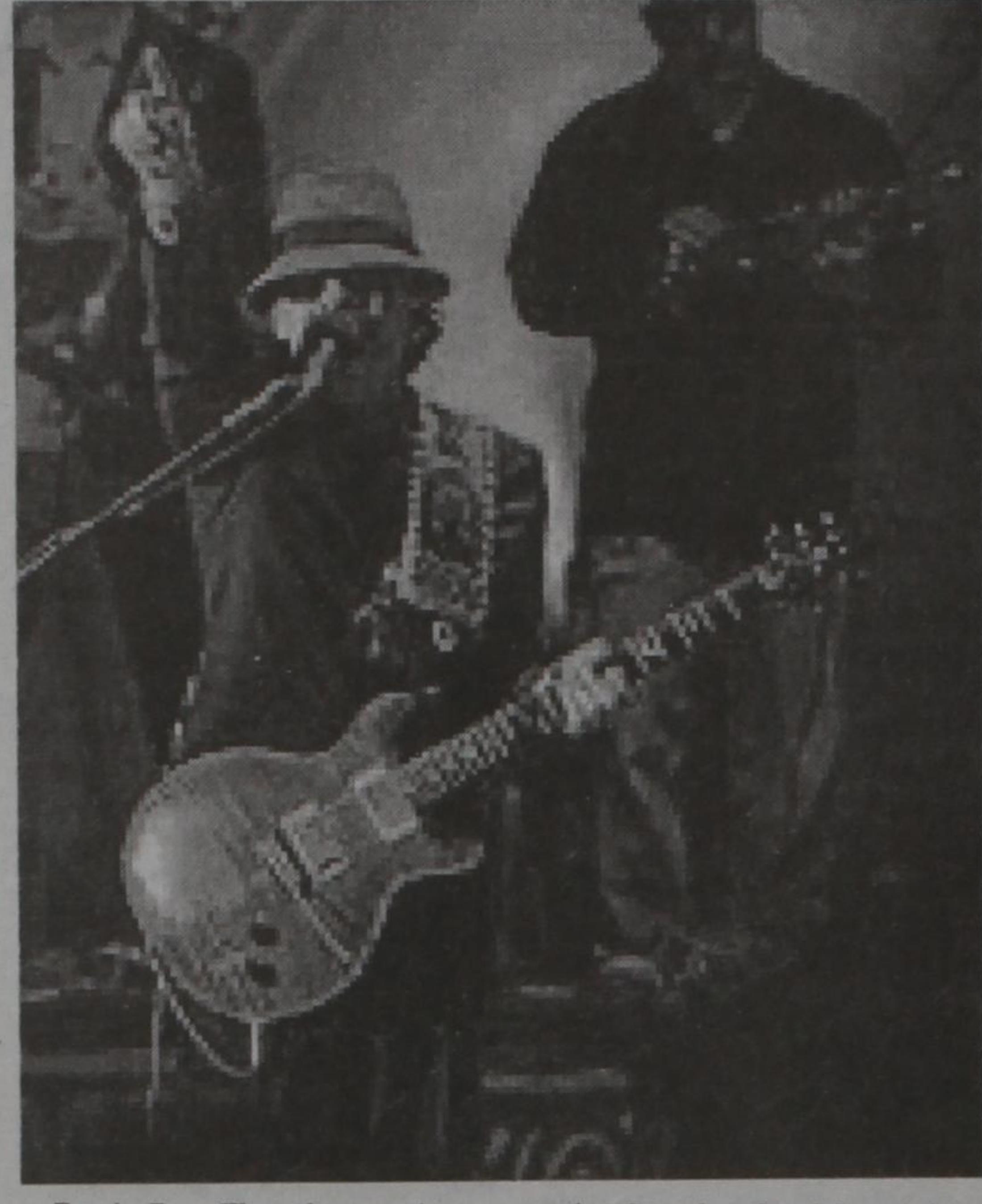
"Me siento muy agradecido. Es un honor muy grande y agradezco que el comité me haya escogido a mí", expresó el músico a La Opinión la semana pasada, días antes de salir a vacacionar con su familia a las playas de Hawái.

El homenaje que se llevará a cabo en el hotel Century Plaza de esta ciudad, festejará al guitarrista nacido en Autlán, Jalisco, y criado en Tijuana no sólo por sus logros dentro de la industria de la música, sino también por sus innumerables contribuciones a organizaciones no lucrativas dedicadas a servir a la humanidad.

Este tributo llega al mismo tiempo que Santana emprende otra de sus contribuciones.

El músico recientemente llegó a un acuerdo con la cadena de restaurantes Baja Fresh para poner a la venta en sus locales su disco Food For Thought, una nueva recopilación de alrededor de 20 de sus temas, y donar todas las ganancias a la fundación caritativa de Santana.

"Ellos [Baja Fresh] tienen pasión y compasión para ayudar a la gente. Todo el dinero que se recaude es para ayudar a los niños, para que tengan mejor educación, mejores alimentos, mejores oportunidades. Es para servir a la gente", dijo el varias veces ganador del Grammy.



Food For Thought contiene canciones que el músico grabó antes de firmar con la discográfica Arista Records. El álbum incluye una canción que el guitarrista grabó con su hijo Salvador, de 21 años, así como canciones de Cesaria Evora y otras personalidades dentro del mundo de la música.

"Cuando te mueras te van a preguntar qué has hecho con las tres cosas que Dios te ha dado: luz, amor y alegría. Con ellas yo he tratado de curar, aliviar, hacer que la gente haga a un lado el miedo y el coraje. Que bailen, que lloren, que canten, que hagan el amor [con mi música] y que seamos un poquito más considerados [con los demás], que bajaran la guardia. He invitado al hombre a que sea más atento a los sentimientos de la mujer", comentó.

En opinión de Santana, si esto sucediera "el mundo sería diferente".

"Es muy importante que la mujer sea igual en todo: la cama, la oficina, la cocina y la presidencia, que exista una mujer Papisa, esa es la única manera en que vamos a cambiar este planeta, sólo así se va a componer el mundo", manifestó.

Esto, según el músico, porque la mujer "sabe más de compasión, de amor, de alimentar y de paciencia".

"Necesitamos tener todos esos sentidos en alerta. Con eso en todos éste sería un mundo diferente".

Siendo una figura pública, Santana se siente responsable de ayudar y crear conciencia en la humanidad. Entre sus contribuciones están los más de 2.5 millones de dólares recaudados durante su gira del año pasado, los cuales compraron alimentos y medicina —entre otras cosas— para ayudar a la gente con sida de Sudáfrica.

"Mi corazón me dice qué tengo que hacer y lo hago. Yo no puedo decirle a otra gente cómo tiene que vivir o qué tiene que hacer, yo no soy dictador. Yo nada más digo mi propia luz e invito a la gente a que siga su luz y el que tenga ganas que lo haga y el que no, pues no", manifestó.

Su invitación llegó hasta sus "hermanos" y colegas musicales Maná, Lonely Boys y Juanes, con quienes está contemplando hacer una serie de conciertos benéficos probablemente para este año.

"Todo eso aún está en el aire, pero ojalá que se dé. Primero hay que hacer cada quien sus respectivos discos".

El suyo lo empieza el próximo mes e incluirá canciones para "abuelos, padres, adolescentes y niños chiquitos que puedan bailar juntos".

El disco será entre la línea de lo que fue María, María y Smooth, según adelantó.

Mientras lo empieza, se prepara para recibir felicitaciones y halagos durante el homenaje que le ofrecerá LARAS.

El sentido del humor no le permite que se le suban los humos a la cabeza. "Esto [homenaje] significa que la gente aprecia que nunca me he presentado borracho".

U.S. Hispanic TV network to air miniseries about Zapata

Telemundo TV network will premiere next August 23 the original miniseries "Zapata: amor en rebeldía" about the Mexican rebel Emiliano Zapata. The series stars Mexicans Demian Bichir, Lorena Rojas and Rogelio Guerra.

The southern Florida-based company considered that airing the miniseries will be "an unprecedented event in the history of Hispanic TV in the U.S."

With six episodes of one hour each, the miniseries will be broadcast Mondays at 22:00 local time (02:00 GMT Tuesday), stated the second major Hispanic TV network in the U.S.

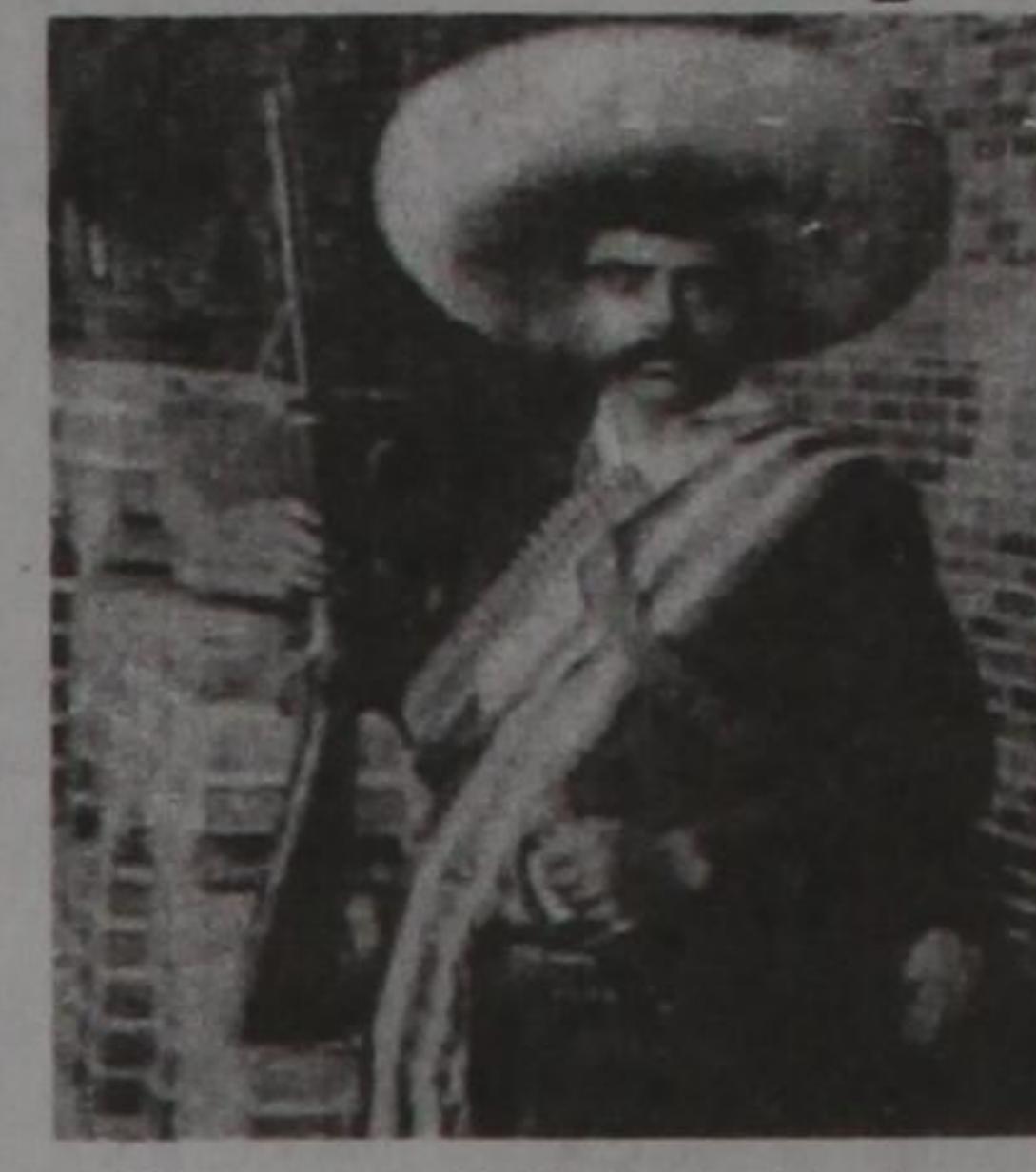
The company assured this production "combines historical facts and creative freedom extraordinarily".

"We are very proud to announce the launching of this series dedicated to one of the most fascinating men in Mexico's history" said Ramón Escobar, Executive Vice-President of programming and Production in Telemundo.

Bichir will play Zapata in this story about a peasant, charro rider who fought for justice and "fought a guerrilla during and after Mexico's revolution to defend the ideals that can be learned from his motto "Tierra y Libertad" (Land and Freedom).

He is also the first time in ten years the majestic National Palace is aired" the TV network, owned by giant NBC Universal, said.

This is the most recent attempt by Telemundo to elevate their Mexican-rooted public. Last year, a series about the Virgin of Guadalupe was also aired.



The cast will include Mexican actress Lorena Rojas, who will play María Rosa Rendón, the beautiful daughter of a Mexican hacendado who falls in love with Zapata; other stars are Rogelio Guerra, Giovanna Zárate, Carlos Torres Torrijos, Enoc Leaño, Emilio Guerrero, Jaime Estrada and Fernando Boccelli.

The miniseries starts in 1910, the beginning of Mexico's revolution, when young Zapata worked as a horseman at the Hacienda owned by the nephew of the era's dictator, Porfirio Díaz, months before he was forced to quit and fled to Europe.

"Zapata: Amor en Rebeldía" will take TV viewers through a ten-year period, a historical era dominated by political chaos, revolutionary passion, love and romance" the TV chain stated.

Telemundo also said that costumes and special effects were extremely detailed, including elements such as trains, horses and carriages used in this production.

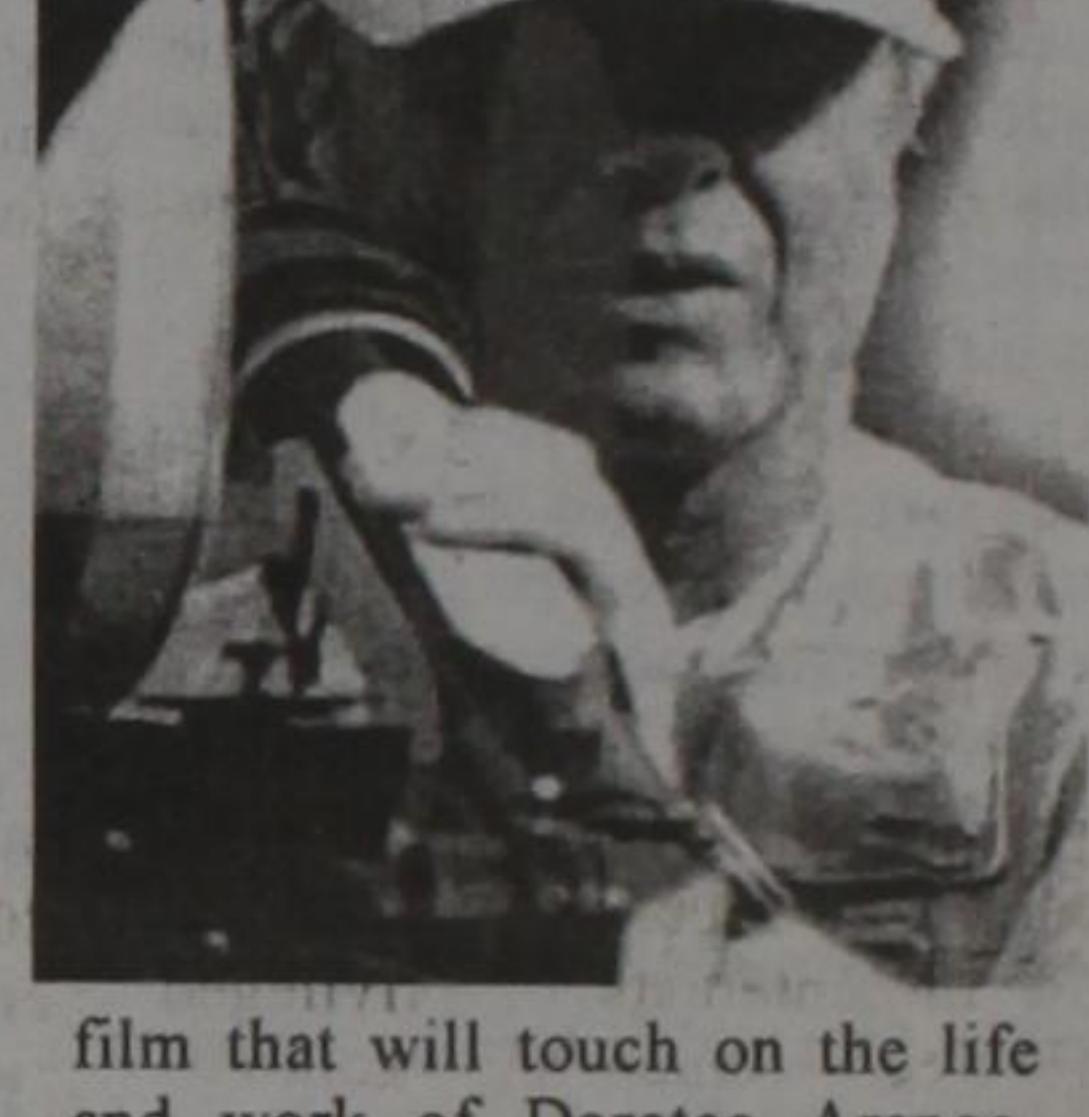
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Tony Scott to shoot movie about Pancho Villa's life

British filmmaker Tony Scott, the creator of "Man on fire", which is to make its national debut this Friday, stated here yesterday he is satisfied with the performances of Mexican stars in this film and that he is considering including them in his film projects called "Tom Mix and Pancho Villa".

The plan is for a feature length



film that will touch on the life and work of Doroteo Arango, better known as Pancho Villa (1887-1923), also called "Amigo de los pobres" (Friend of the poor).

Villa and his famous División del Norte (his soldiers) is considered an emblematic figure of the Mexican Revolution, and is the only known military man to have launched military action against United States territory.

An admirer of Villa, Scott also said during a press conference that the script would be shot on location in Monterrey, Real de Catorce, San Luis Potosí, and Chihuahua, among other states.

He said he considers Mexico to be a land of magic and culture, important elements to highlight in a film, in addition to finding brilliant acting talent.

Questioned seriously by the press respecting "Man on fire" only highlighting the negative side of Mexico City, almost an in-depth exposé of the high degree of existing insecurity that focuses on the wave of kidnappings, he explained that this had not been his intention.

He explained that the Distrito Federal is not the most dangerous city in the world, stating that Lima, New York, the Philippines, and Katmandú are far riskier places, "more so than this city".

He pointed out that in the film, starring Denzel Washington, the story calls for him to give citizens support against this scourge, something that was proved when the march against insecurity was held last June 27.

Likewise, he stated that he is trying to ennoble the work of the Federal Investigations Agency (AFI), working to fight kidnappings, theft, and murder, among other aspects.

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Serena latest to pull out of Athens Games

Serena Williams pulled out of the Summer Olympics just hours before she was to travel to Greece with the U.S. tennis squad, joining Jennifer Capriati on the sideline.

"I am sad and disappointed, not only because I am unable to travel to Greece and participate in the Olympics," Williams said Wednesday, "but also because I gave my word that I would play."

Serena Williams was slated to play with sister Venus to defend their doubles gold medal.

In New York to catch the team's flight, the six-time Grand Slam singles champion saw a doctor and was told not to com-

pete in Athens because of lingering pain in her left knee, U.S. Tennis Association spokesman Randy Walker said.

The doctor "advised her that if she were to play, she'd risk serious long-term repercussions on her knee," Walker said.

Williams' withdrawal came a day after 1992 singles gold medalist Capriati announced she wouldn't play because of a hamstring injury. Capriati's spot in the Athens singles event was taken by 40th-ranked Lisa Raymond, who's also playing doubles with Martina Navratilova.

Williams, who earlier this year expressed concern about safety



could be kept at a minimum, however the great women's contributions to American civilization.

It's true that this type of work has enabled many immigrant women to support — although barely — their own household at the same time they help fulfill their employers' American dream. If policy makers and employers of immigrant workers are going to insist that the issue of immigration needs to be solved, they first need to take responsibility for their own complicity in this system.

It's common knowledge that there are jobs in the U.S. for women to immigrate to. The demand for undocumented — and legal — immigrant women as domestic workers is very high because the "employable immigrant mother" enables Americans to live a comfortable life.

But why should they get paid less for doing a job that a U.S. citizen does for higher wages? Is it fair to ask for an Immigration Reform while not wanting to give up the hiring of immigrant women and men so they can pay them less? Have Americans forgotten that these immigrants are also human beings who are looking for a way to support their families, the same way they do? Is it alright to exploit undocumented women at the expense of their well-being? To exploit them so white Americans can continue having a comfortable life style?

Certain provisions should be made to ensure fair wages and conditions for household workers and some ways of holding employers accountable for their actions. Without these standards, immigrant housework women are in danger of becoming the next "braceras".

In other words, the employment of immigrant women in dead-end, low-wage, temporary service jobs makes it possible for middle — and upper-class women to pursue salaried jobs and not have to contend with the "second shift" when they come home. And although these immigrant women will still remain poor in the United States, living conditions and money-making opportunities in the U.S. are often better than they would be in Mexico.

"When the Malibu Democratic Club was presented with the proposals for a minimum-wage campaign in Los Angeles, the female membership, predominantly comprising wealthy 'West LA' feminists, immediately inquired, 'Does this mean that we will have to pay our baby-sitters and maids more?'" Grace Chang writes in her book. "This incident offers a perfect example of how the interests of privileged 'working' women and working-class women will always clash if the former insists on maintaining these privileges over the latter," she concludes.

The surplus of women available for domestic work has ensured that wages in this industry

viene de la primera pagina

heridas abiertas. El sabe que no todos lo quieren. Y él tampoco está embebido con un partido controlado por la derecha.

Pero le robaron.

"Dice mucho sobre la integridad del proceso", dijo Hellon. "Este no es el partido al que he servido durante 31 años".

La elección falsa revela otro aspecto dudoso más del partido.

Pullen, un empresario de Phoenix y fallido candidato a alcalde, es uno de los que más apoya a la iniciativa Protect Arizona Now (Protejamos a Arizona Ahora), al igual que Graf y el representante Russell Pearce (republicano de Mesa). Si califica para aparecer en la papeleta del 2 de noviembre, la iniciativa requeriría que todos los de Arizona prueben su ciudadanía antes de votar y de solicitar servicios de los gobiernos estatal y locales.

Los tres líderes republicanos creen que existe el fraude electoral entre los inmigrantes con poca educación y poco inglés, aunque no han denunciado en público la falsa electoral de su propio partido cometida por los colegas con educación, que hablan inglés. Otros de la cúpula republicana, incluyendo al representante por Arizona Jim Kolbe — en contienda con Graf — se oponen a la iniciativa.

Graf dijo que el proceso electoral del partido era confuso y que estaba lleno de errores de comunicación. Dijo que todo estaría arreglado para el año que viene.

¿Cómo? ¿Fue la primera vez que los republicanos activistas votaron? Si hubiera sido una elección de niños de primer grado para presidente de la clase, se podría aceptar la excusa de confusión.

Cuando algunos republicanos robustos cometan fraude electoral, es un error de comunicación. Pero si una persona sin ser ciudadana fuer a votar, sería deshonesto.

Lo siento, pero no pueden tener las dos opciones.

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Mexican Women as Domestic Workers in USA

from page two

wealthy. Hiring domestics lifts the burden of housework from middle class women. As white middle class women have more control over household income, and more responsibilities outside of the home, there has risen a need for many to bring outsiders in to perform the basic chores to keep the household running while keeping the cost of this help at its minimum.

The hierarchy of power that exists between these two different races and class backgrounds, enables many middle-class white women to climb up the workforce ladder while immigrant women stay in their homes running their house and looking after their children.

In other words, the employment of immigrant women in dead-end, low-wage, temporary service jobs makes it possible for middle — and upper-class women to pursue salaried jobs and not have to contend with the "second shift" when they come home. And although these immigrant women will still remain poor in the United States, living conditions and money-making opportunities in the U.S. are often better than they would be in Mexico.

"When the Malibu Democratic Club was presented with the proposals for a minimum-wage campaign in Los Angeles, the female membership, predominantly comprising wealthy 'West LA' feminists, immediately inquired, 'Does this mean that we will have to pay our baby-sitters and maids more?'" Grace Chang writes in her book. "This incident offers a perfect example of how the interests of privileged 'working' women and working-class women will always clash if the former insists on maintaining these privileges over the latter," she concludes.

The surplus of women available for domestic work has ensured that wages in this industry

viene de la primera pagina

heridas abiertas. El sabe que no todos lo quieren. Y él tampoco está embebido con un partido controlado por la derecha.

Pero le robaron.

"Dice mucho sobre la integridad del proceso", dijo Hellon. "Este no es el partido al que he servido durante 31 años".

La elección falsa revela otro aspecto dudoso más del partido.

Pullen, un empresario de Phoenix y fallido candidato a alcalde, es uno de los que más apoya a la iniciativa Protect Arizona Now (Protejamos a Arizona Ahora), al igual que Graf y el representante Russell Pearce (republicano de Mesa). Si califica para aparecer en la papeleta del 2 de noviembre, la iniciativa requeriría que todos los de Arizona prueben su ciudadanía antes de votar y de solicitar servicios de los gobiernos estatal y locales.

Los tres líderes republicanos creen que existe el fraude electoral entre los inmigrantes con poca educación y poco inglés, aunque no han denunciado en público la falsa electoral de su propio partido cometida por los colegas con educación, que hablan inglés. Otros de la cúpula republicana, incluyendo al representante por Arizona Jim Kolbe — en contienda con Graf — se oponen a la iniciativa.

Graf dijo que el proceso electoral del partido era confuso y que estaba lleno de errores de comunicación. Dijo que todo estaría arreglado para el año que viene.

¿Cómo? ¿Fue la primera vez que los republicanos activistas votaron? Si hubiera sido una elección de niños de primer grado para presidente de la clase, se podría aceptar la excusa de confusión.

Cuando algunos republicanos robustos cometan fraude electoral, es un error de comunicación. Pero si una persona sin ser ciudadana fuer a votar, sería deshonesto.

Lo siento, pero no pueden tener las dos opciones.

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Just last week, U.S. coach Zina Garrison said Serena Williams planned to compete in the Aug. 15-22 Athens tournament.

"Serena has been battling injuries all year and we, as a team, are disappointed that she will not be able to join us in Athens," Garrison said. "We understand that Serena has been undergoing extensive physical therapy since San Diego and that her withdrawal has been based on the advice of her doctors."

Williams notified the USTA of her withdrawal via e-mail about three hours before the team's flight was scheduled to depart for Greece. Other players, including Venus Williams and U.S. Open champion Andy Roddick, arrived Wednesday afternoon.

"I feel that I am letting down my sister Venus, Zina, and the other members of the U.S. team by not participating. I have been advised that by playing, I could cause long-term damage to my knee," Williams said. "I will be starting extensive rehabilitation immediately, and look forward to coming back stronger than ever very soon."

She will be replaced in the singles draw by Australia's Samantha Stosur. The No. 96 Stosur, already entered in doubles, was the highest-ranked player in Athens who wasn't in the singles draw.

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U.S. Women Overwhelm Greece in Soccer Match

Mia Hamm began her final Olympics with a stutter-step that left her embarrassed Greek defender sprawling on the grass.

Hamm then calmly passed the ball to Shannon Boxx, who scored the goal that sent the U.S. women's soccer team on its way to a comfortable 3-0 victory over Greece on Wednesday on the first day of competition in the 2004 Olympic Games.

Hamm later added a goal of her own, outmaneuvering two defenders for a 16-yard shot that banked off the left post. In between, Abby Wambach continued her remarkable scoring run with her 15th goal in 16 games as the Americans overwhelmed a team that qualified for the tournament only because it represents the host nation.

"A 3-0 victory in our first game, you kind of get the butterflies out," Hamm said. "And now we have to refocus on what we need to do in a couple of days."

Women's soccer is barely recognized in Greece, and eight of the team's 18 players are Greek-Americans who have played for U.S. colleges. The Americans out-shot their opponents 26-1, and Greece's lone shot was wide of the net. Briana Scurry got her 70th career shutout without having to make a save.

"What we have tried to do is make a decent appearance, and we do believe we have achieved that," Greek coach Xanthi Konstantinidou said. "The score could have been a lot worse."

The U.S. team, looking to re-establish its supremacy after disappointing finishes in the 2000 Olympics and 2003 World Cup, continues first-round play Saturday against Brazil in the 14th minute.

Lagoumtzi, suitably humbled, pulled her shirt up to cover her face when she saw the ball go into the net.

"You know Mia -- she does that to us in practice," Boxx said. "I know how she feels. I would be nervous seeing Mia running down at me one-on-one."

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La Salud de las Latinas

A Diana Oliva, estudiante de la Universidad de Berkeley, le interesa cuánto se relaciona con la salud de las latinas y especialmente con su vida reproductiva. Por esa razón se inscribió recientemente en un curso que trata de ese tema y de los problemas específicos a que se enfrentan las mujeres de su grupo étnico.

Ella y sus compañeras de clase han averiguado que entre las principales dificultades figuran la falta de información sobre sexualidad y planificación familiar, agravada por la falta de seguro médico que dificulta el acceso a los servicios.

Un estudio reciente del Instituto de Temas Latinos (LIF), organización no lucrativa que trabaja en la salud reproductiva de las latinas y sus derechos, confirmó lo que Diana Oliva y sus compañeras aprenden en las aulas.

Las encuestas del LIF elaboradas en inglés y en español que se llevaron a cabo en toda California mostraron las carencias que impiden a las latinas cuidar bien de su salud.

Dice su directora Raquel Donoso:

"Aunque saben que las asiste el derecho a decidir cuántos hijos quieren tener, precisan información sobre anticonceptivos. La mayoría ignora que existe una píldora anticonceptiva de emergencia. Muchas no se han hecho el examen del Papanicolaou, y eso las expone a desarrollar cáncer cervical, algo que puede ser tratado efectivamente si se detecta a tiempo".

El LIF define la salud reproductiva como información y educación sobre la sexualidad, métodos anticonceptivos seguros y accesibles, cuidado prenatal, el derecho al aborto, exámenes.

Consideran acertada se autorice clonación terapéutica en GB

Madrid, España, 12 de agosto, 2004 (Notimex) - La autorización de la clonación de embriones humanos con fines terapéuticos en Reino Unido fue bien recibida por la prensa española, que consideró "acertada" la decisión, aunque "abre un camino de consecuencias insospechadas".

El diario El Mundo señaló este jueves en su editorial que es acertada la decisión de la Autoridad Británica de Fertilidad Humana y Embriología (HFEA) de autorizar a la Universidad de Newcastle la clonación para el tratamiento de enfermedades degenerativas.

Las investigaciones sobre células madre (capaces de multiplicarse y convertirse en cualquier tejido humano) sugieren que "en el futuro serán la solución para sanar graves enfermedades y solucionar los procesos degenerativos del organismo", apuntó.

Según El Mundo, el problema radica en que la fuente más fiable para obtener dichas células son los embriones humanos, lo que lleva a muchos ciudadanos de creencias religiosas y antiaabortos a rechazar un método que implica su destrucción.

Sin embargo, "son muchos más los que consideran que no se pueden poner obstáculos al desarrollo científico y que es imposible renunciar a una tecnología que podría alargar la vida humana y poner remedio a enfermedades crónicas incurables", señaló el rotativo.

La HFEA tomó en cuenta dicho debate al conceder la primera licencia a científicos de la Universidad de Newcastle para llevar a cabo una investigación con células madre, dos años después de la aprobación de la ley que dio luz verde a la clonación.

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nnes ginecologicos básicos, información sobre infecciones de transmisión sexual (ITS) incluyendo el sida así como el derecho que tiene la mujer a disponer de estos servicios independiente de su grupo étnico, idioma, orientación sexual o estatus migratorio.

Uno de los resultados más sorprendentes del estudio del LIF se refiere al desconocimiento de la mayoría de las encuestadas respecto a la existencia de la píldora de emergencia (la pastilla del día siguiente) y sus efectos.

"La píldora de emergencia no es un aborto, lo que hace es prevenir la fertilización de la espermatoza, éste es un método anticonceptivo que es en esencia una píldora con mayor dosis, pero no es una píldora abortiva", aclara la doctora Susan Steinberg, encargada de la sección de Planificación Familiar del Departamento de Salud de California.

"Para que tenga efecto, la mujer ha de tomarla lo más pronto posible después del coito. Si ya ha concebido la píldora no tendrá efecto", agrega.

"Existen muchos programas de bajo costo que ofrecen información sobre la planificación familiar y métodos anticonceptivos, pero las latinas no usan estos programas como debieran. No toman medidas de prevención para proteger su salud y atender especialmente su salud reproductiva. Nos preguntamos por qué", dice Donoso.

Una de las causas, en su opinión, puede deberse a que los programas no incorporan las necesidades específicas de las latinas:

"Han de ser cultural y lingüisticamente apropiados y tener un mayor alcance. Las latinas no saben de la existencia de la may-

oria de estos programas", dice Donoso.

Por otra parte, en California hay un 56% de mujeres latinas sin cobertura médica. La estadística, creen en LIF, podría tener mucho que ver con la falta de atención prenatal durante el primer trimestre de embarazo, que a nivel nacional es del 74%, según informó el Centro de Control de Enfermedades (CDC). Más de la mitad de los bebés que nacen en el estado son latinos.

Las infecciones de transmisión sexual (ITS) son también motivo de preocupación. La clamidía y la gonorrea, que son respectivamente la primera y segunda infección de transmisión sexual en California, tienen en las latinas una incidencia cuatro veces mayor que en las mujeres anglosajonas.

Si la mujer no detecta a tiempo estas enfermedades de transmisión sexual puede sufrir complicaciones como la inflamación pélvica, y en algunos casos si no recibe el tratamiento a tiempo algunas de estas infecciones pueden causarle infertilidad.

En 2001, los latinos representaban el 20% del total de los casos de sida reportados en California. Una tercera parte de las latinas diagnosticadas con esa enfermedad tenían menos de 30 años.

Las alumnas de la clase de la Universidad de Berkeley sobre la salud de las latinas estudian estos temas en profundidad, y el efecto va más allá del conocimiento académico, dice la profesora Christina J. Grijalva.

"La mayoría estaban interesadas en tomar la clase porque estudian medicina, pero creo que ha sido también un proceso de aprendizaje individual al tener que definir lo que significaba la salud para cada una de ellas".

Siempre Léa El Editor Primero

Campaña de Concienciación por la Vivienda Justa

"La discriminación en la vivienda es ilegal". Bajo las Leyes Federales y las de Tejas es ilegal la discriminación en la vivienda ya sea por renta, venta, financiación, aseguranza, o valoración. La Campaña por la concienciación y conocimiento de la vivienda justa informará a las comunidades sobre sus derechos para obtener vivienda libremente independientemente de la religión, raza, color, sexo, origen nacional, discapacidad o estado familiar. El esfuerzo estará dirigido a todas las clases protegidas con énfasis en los inmigrantes hispanos y personas con discapacidad.

La campaña "La discriminación en la vivienda es ilegal" constará de carteles anunciantes al oeste de Texas, para las comunidades de Del Rio, Amarillo, Lubbock y San Angelo durante los meses de agosto, septiembre y octubre. El mensaje del cartel anunciativo relativo a la vivienda justa es bilingüe en inglés y español. Los empleados del centro por la Vivienda Justa, estarán disponibles para la prensa.

La campaña por la concienciación y conocimiento de la vivienda justa, también informará a las comunidades sobre sus derechos bajo las Leyes de Tejas y las Leyes Federales sobre la igualdad en la vivienda. La campaña informará al público de como denunciar una queja de discriminación en la vivienda. Los carteles anunciativos aparecerán con un número de teléfono de línea gratis: (888) 452-4778 para que usted presente sus quejas. Las quejas serán recibidas por la Texas WorkForce Commission Civil Rights Division.

El esfuerzo es un proyecto de Texas WorkForce Commission Civil Rights Division. (anteriormente Comisión de Tejas para los Derechos Humanos) y del Centro por la vivienda Justa de Tejas, Greater Houston Fair Housing Center.



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The Fair Housing Awareness campaign will inform communities about their civil rights under the Texas and Federal Fair Housing Acts. The campaign will inform the public where to file a fair housing complaint. The billboards will provide a toll free telephone number, (888) 452-4778, for people to make fair housing complaints. The complaints will be received by the Texas Workforce Commission Civil Rights Division for potential enforcement actions.

The effort is a project of the Texas Workforce Commission Civil Rights Division (formerly the Texas Commission on Human Rights) in partnership with the Greater Houston Fair Housing Center.

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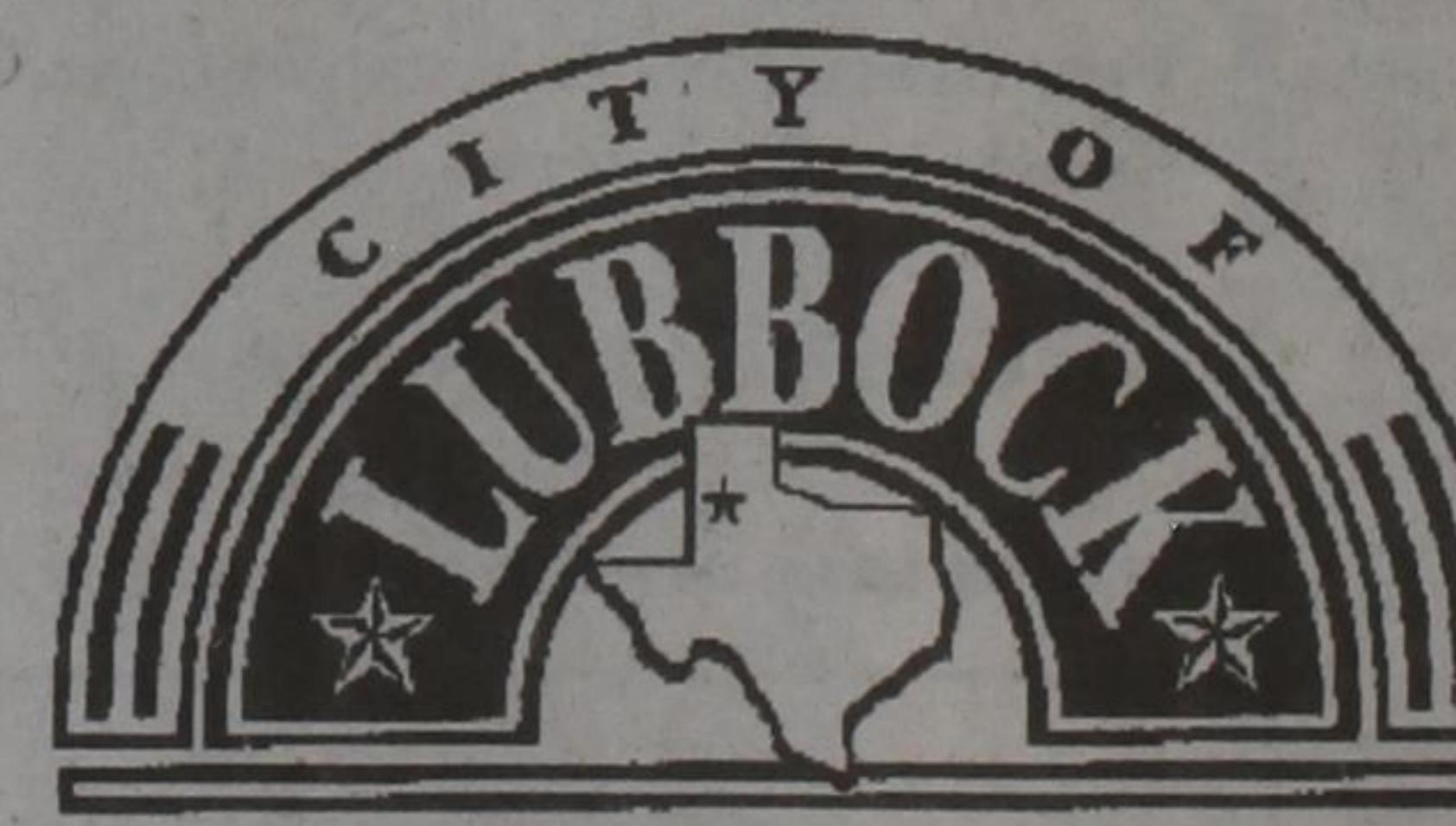
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