

Francisco Ibarra's Journey To The White House

News Briefs

Governors Support Child Health Care Plan

The nation's governors bestowed broad bipartisan support Tuesday on a \$24 billion provision to buy health care for poor children, reports Associated Press.

"In charting a new course toward expanding coverage to more uninsured children, Congress and the president are giving states the ability to build on their successes," said Nevada Gov. Bob Miller and Ohio Gov. George V. Voinovich in a rare joint statement.

The new health proposal, designed to help finance insurance for some of the 10 million children not now covered, was the easiest part of the five-year balanced budget plan for the governors to embrace.

Other welfare provisions, particularly one requiring welfare workers to receive the minimum wage and other employee protections, drew strong criticism, particularly from Republicans.

Even so, some governors took issue with some details of the children's health care program while supporting the general thrust.

Gov. Howard Dean, D-VT, complained that the plan unfairly penalizes states such as his that already provide a high level of support for financing health insurance for poor children.

States with the worst programs would get the most in new funds, he said, while states like his would be limited to what additional money they could spend.

Nebraska Demo. Gov. E. Benjamin Nelson was concerned that the plan appeared to require the Health and Human Services Department to approve state plans that utilize Medicaid as a means of financing the kids' health care program. The program would be paid for by a 15-cent-a-pack increase in the 24-cent federal cigarette tax.

Officials at the governors' meeting said 40 states have expanded Medicaid coverage beyond federally mandated levels. Governors said they look forward to working with members of Congress in expanding health care access to even more children, Miller and Voinovich said in their statement.

Gov't: Wages, Benefits Are U

The government reports that pay and benefits for the average American worker grew at a steady pace in the second quarter, reports Reuters.

The gain helped to buoy consumer confidence and pointed to vigorous economic growth in the third quarter. The Labor Department's Employment Cost Index rose by 0.8 percent last quarter after increasing 0.6 percent in the first quarter. Wages and salaries rose 0.8 percent, just below their 0.9 percent increase in the first three months of 1997.

A lowering in benefits costs helped offset the slower wage growth and to lift the overall index.

Gov't Buildings to Get Smoking Ban

President Clinton is preparing to sign a long-awaited executive order banning smoking in federal executive branch buildings, reports Associated Press.

About 80 percent of U.S. employers have some workplace smoking policy, ranging from bans to designated smoking areas, and smoking already is banned in many federal office buildings. The Defense Department in 1994 began phasing out smoking in its buildings, but many others, most notably on Capitol Hill, do allow smoking.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is considering rules banning smoking in most public workplaces, an estimated 6 million.

But in the meantime, anti-smoking activists have pressured Clinton to sign an executive order - originally written in 1991 but collecting dust ever since - that would start the ban now in government buildings.

GOP Vows Fight Over Welfare Worker's Rights

Although the budget agreement detailed Tuesday requires minimum wage and other labor laws be applied to people on welfare, Republicans maintain welfare reform will suffer if states are forced to treat welfare recipients like regular workers, reports Associated Press.

"We're going to come back to it," promised House Speaker Newt Gingrich. On another contentious welfare issue, the budget deal restores benefits for an estimated 350,000 immigrants cut off under last year's law.

The Labor Department has ruled that welfare recipients on work assignments are workers and therefore covered by federal labor laws. That means they must be paid the minimum wage and are protected by civil rights and other protections.

But, Republicans warn, it also means states - and welfare recipients - will have to pay Social Security and Medicare taxes. A Treasury Department spokeswoman said the department is studying the issue now, but Rep. Clay Shaw, the Republican chairman of the House welfare subcommittee, said Treasury officials have concluded the tax law would apply.

In addition, Shaw warned that states might be forced to pay the "prevailing wages" that government pays other workers. That would guarantee welfare workers "wages" that rival those paid to unionized workers, he said.

Governors meeting in Las Vegas, who spent Tuesday plotting strategy with Shaw and other GOP leaders, complained that would raise the cost of putting a welfare recipient into a community service job and thus endanger welfare reform's success.

The House, in its version of the budget bill, would have exempted welfare recipients on community service assignments from federal labor laws. But that was dropped in final negotiations.

Negotiators did agree to exempt welfare recipients from the earned income tax credit, designed to ease the tax burden on the working poor. But the White House would not consider an exemption from payroll taxes, Shaw said.

President Clinton had vowed last summer to reverse welfare cuts to documented immigrants. After retaining control of Congress, Republicans promised not to "reopen" the welfare debate, and few thought Clinton would get them to change their minds.

But the budget bill restores disability and Medicaid ben-

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By Marcos Breton

In the summer of 1966, a scrawny Mexican-American kid weighing "130 pounds wringing wet" trotted gamely onto the practice field at Luther Burbank High School in Sacramento, Calif. The other players were amused.

"The guys were laughing," remembers Wade Demes, who was a sophomore then and also trying out for the football team. "We looked at him and thought, 'This guy isn't going to be able to do anything.'"

But when practice started and the sound of colliding bodies filled the air, the big boys stopped laughing and started picking themselves up off the ground. Demes, now a Sacramento high-school teacher, recalls the moment vividly: "This little kid was tackling guys who were 230 and 240 pounds. He was beating the hell out of guys nobody could stop."

From his office in the White House, where he's a senior advisor to President Clinton, Mickey Ibarra -- now 46, but still trim -- can look back on that day as a metaphor for his life.

Ibarra's father, Francisco, exchanged the poverty of his Zapotec village in southern Mexico at age 15 for the back-breaking life of farm worker

in the United States. He met his wife, Bonnie, while a *campesino* in Utah. The teenagers married and had two sons, Mickey and David, but the marriage was short-lived. They divorced, and Francisco was drafted into the Army and sent overseas.

Unable to care for the boys, Bonnie placed her sons in the same foster home where she had grown up in Lehi, Utah. They were the only dark-skinned kids around, recalls David, now a successful Ford dealer in Salt Lake City. "There were times my brother and I would be scared, and we'd cry. Mick's cry would be for a matter of seconds -- he put his fears on the back burner and put his arm around me. He was always taking the brunt of things for me."

In 1966, the boys rejoined their father, who had settled in Sacramento, in part because David couldn't stand being called "the N word" at his Utah grade school.

"There are some people who might have characterized my upbringing as disadvantaged, but I never would," Mickey says now. "No matter what, I think I've always had a winning attitude. The greatest motivator I ever had was a fear of failure."

He graduated from high school in Sacramento in 1969,

after being elected senior class president. He was voted most likely to succeed. After a two-year stint in the Army, he returned to Utah to attend college on the G.I. Bill; he earned a bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University and a master's from the University of Utah before beginning his career as a schoolteacher there. He became a teachers' union activist and, eventually, a manager with the National Education Association in Washington, D.C., and a Democratic Party insider.

Active in the 1996 presidential race, Ibarra served as a senior campaign adviser and director of special projects for Clinton's re-election bid. He also helped organize the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. Today, as Clinton's director of intergovernmental affairs, he advises the president on policy relating to cities and states.

Before and since that day on the high school football field, Ibarra has arrived at each new challenge as if from nowhere. He has quietly become one of the more intriguing figures in national politics.

Every time he walks into the White House, Ibarra, who lives in Bethesda, Md., with his wife, Frances, takes his life experiences with him.

"Whatever accomplishments my brother and I have achieved pale in comparison to what our father did. He came to this country not knowing English. He taught us the value of working hard," Ibarra stresses. "Because of my background, I feel strongly connected to improving public education, to give everyone the opportunities I had."

From his South Sacramento home, Francisco Ibarra smiles when he hears his son's comments. A retired hair stylist who owned a salon for 30 years, Francisco Ibarra likes to pull a photo of himself as a child off the wall -- it hangs next to the seven others of his son with President Clinton. In the picture, Francisco is standing barefoot beside his mother and brother. "Imagine that," he says. "From barefoot to the White House. Through Mickey, I saw my dreams come true, the ones I brought to the country. He made them a reality."

(Breton is a staff writer with The Sacramento Bee.)

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Read It First In El Editor

**"El Respeto Al
Derecho Ajeno
Es La Paz"**

Lic Benito Juarez
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EL EDITOR

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Preguntas Que No Deben Hacerse A Los Hispanos Sobre Su Herencia

Se aproxima el Mes de la Herencia Hispana. Es esa época del año -- desde el 15 de septiembre hasta el 15 de octubre -- en la que 32 millones de nosotros nos aventuramos fuera de nuestro barrio enorme amurallado, con la misión de compartir nuestra bella cultura con el resto de la nación.

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Aguero

The Lubbock Arts Alliance has again made recommendations to the Lubbock City Council concerning the promotion of the arts and culture in Lubbock.

Every year organizations submit request to said "Alliance" which are review by a committee and then funded through the City and its hotel-motel tax.

This year two Hispanic organizations submitted applications. Total amount of funding for both organizations was \$7,500 out of a total of about \$65,000.

Let's put the pencil to it. When we divide 7,500 by 65,000 we get about 11.5%. Last time I looked Chicanos make up about 27% of the population. That would be 17,550.

The excuse would probably be that the Alliance can't look at color of the organization or who it is to serve because that would be discrimination.

Regardless, it looks as if our part of funding of the hotel motel tax will once again go toward funding such things as "The Nutcracker", Lectures at Tech, Piano recitals, art shows, Shakespear plays etc.

Pico de Gallo

Precinct 3, which is made up mainly of minorities, still don't have a representative on the Buffalo Lakes Board. It took a court suit to get the representation. Perhaps it's time to go back to court.

Nos mezclamos. Lo hacemos con ceremonias, oradores, alimentos y música en ayuntamientos y salas de conciertos, en centros comunitarios y centros para estudiantes universitarios, aún con charla menuda en los enfriadores de agua del centro de trabajo. Y nuestros hijos lo hacen con acontecimientos de "mostrar y relatar" en las escuelas públicas.

De modo que, si usted no es hispano, esté sobre aviso. Uno de nosotros puede aproximarse y obligarle a empeñarse en un diálogo.

Este intercambio anual está destinado a que todos estemos más próximos, desde luego. Pero la cercanía cultural puede también hacer que el no iniciado se separe más.

Esa es la razón de que yo esté suministrando una lista breve para preparar a los hispanos para tales encuentros. Acopiada durante años de parte de conocidos, la misma enumera los comentarios y las preguntas que no deben usarse para dar comienzo a una conversación.

¿Están listos?

1) No pregunten de dónde sacamos nuestro gran bronceado. Para la mayoría de nosotros, ése es el color con que venimos. El otro lado de eso es: Si somos muy blancos o muy negros, no nos digan: "Usted no parece hispano." Somos un grupo étnico, no una raza, aún cuando nos llamemos a nosotros mismos "la raza."

2) No nos pregunten cuándo "llegamos a los Estados Unidos." La mayoría de nosotros hemos nacido aquí. Nuestra "tarjeta verde" es la de American Express.

3) "¿Habla usted mexicano?" ¿O cubano? ¿O uruguayo? ¿No a todas esas preguntas. El idioma que nos enlaza es el español.

4) "¿Cuál es su restaurante mexicano favorito?" Esa es indudablemente la pregunta más común que se nos hace. Tiene que haber algo mejor que eso para empezar una

conversación. La respuesta verdadera es: "La cocina de mi mamá."

Eso me recuerda una pregunta que una amiga periodista de Kansas City dice que le han hecho personas completamente desconocidas en los pasillos de un supermercado:

5) "¿Dónde están las tortillas?"

Es como si usted se dirigiera a una señora china y le preguntara: "¿Dónde está el arroz?" o a una persona afroamericana y le preguntara: "¿Dónde están los collard greens?"

6) Mis amigos masculinos se quejan periódicamente de ésta, de modo que si usted está asistiendo a un banquete y un hombre de piel morena vestido de etiqueta camina junto a su mesa, no le zumbe esta pregunta: "¿Podría usted darme un menú, por favor?" Ese hombre bien podría ser el orador principal.

7) Cuando le presenten a la Sra. González, que está sentada al otro lado de la mesa, no pregunte en alta voz y muy despacio: "¿Habla (pausa) usted (pausa) in- (pausa) glés?"

Eso me recuerda una pregunta que debe evitarse a toda costa en las festividades universitarias:

8) "¿Dónde aprendió usted a hablar el inglés tan bien?" Para la mayoría de nosotros, señor, el inglés es nuestro idioma natal.

Hay otras dos preguntas que hacen que nuestros co-educandos aprieten las mandíbulas:

9) Nunca, pero nunca, pregunte: "¿Bajo qué programa de acción afirmativa está usted aquí?" Usted podría estar hablando con un alumno encargado de pronunciar el discurso de despedida de la escuela preparatoria, cuyo padre

EL EDITOR
Celebrating 20
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Vecinos Antiguos, Pero Todavía No Bastante Amigos

Por Víctor Landa

"Tanto mundo, tanto espacio, tanto tiempo y coincidimos."

En la convención del Consejo Nacional de La Raza en Chicago el mes pasado, el presidente de México, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, dijo a un auditorio de 2,500 latinos de los Estados Unidos, en inglés, acerca de la importancia de acercarse más a dos vecinos. Pocas horas antes de esa comparecencia, habló a cerca de 50 dirigentes hispanos estadounidenses, en español, sobre el papel que ellos pueden jugar para lograr exactamente eso.

Sólo algunas semanas antes, el Presidente Clinton estuvo de pie junto a Zedillo en la Ciudad de México, contemplando el colosal Calendario Azteca en el Museo de Arqueología de México.

Estos acontecimientos me hacen reflexionar.

Nuestras naciones son antiguos vecinos pero no los mejores amigos. Compartimos tanto como nos diferenciamos. Nos tratamos mutuamente con cantidades iguales de ansiedad nerviosa. Somos al mismo tiempo extremadamente críticos y sinceramente elogiosos uno hacia el otro.

Nuestra proximidad, para bien o para mal, puede ser al mismo tiempo agradable e incómoda, como el silencio.

Hay tensiones subyacentes tan antiguas como nuestra frontera común. Actos de in-

vasión, indignación, escarrazas comerciales, discriminación a ambos lados del Río Grande, o del Río Bravo, dependiendo de que uno esté mirando hacia el norte o hacia el sur.

Todos los estudiantes Mexicanos aprenden el relato trágico de los Niños Héroes. Los héroes juveniles, cadetes adolescentes de la academia militar, que murieron defendiendo al Castillo de Chapultepec contra la arremetida de los norteamericanos invasores.

Cada año, el 13 de septiembre, los estudiantes de mi escuela, así como todos los demás de todo México, se congregaban para recordar a los héroes caídos. A medida que anunciaban sus nombres, respondíamos gritando: "Presente!"

Hasta el día de hoy, recuerdo el ritual del fervor nacional. Juan de la Barrera: Presente! Juan Escutia: Presente! Se anunciaba cada nombre hasta que se hubiera rendido homenaje a todos los seis.

Durante su visita de estado a México, el Presidente Clinton fué llevado al monumento de los Niños Héroes. El colocó una ofrenda floral, se detuvo un rato en silencio y después se retiró.

Este sólo gesto de respeto hizo más para restablecer la seguridad y la confianza del pueblo mexicano que cualquier acuerdo entre jefes de estado.

El novelista mexicano Car-

los Fuentes hizo notar correctamente que las relaciones entre México y los Estados Unidos rara vez han sido peores. Entre los gobiernos hay sonrisas y estrechones de manos, concesiones y acuerdos. Pero entre los pueblos de nuestras naciones hay una grave desconfianza.

Los medios informativos mexicanos pintan a los Estados Unidos como una tierra de abusos contra los extranjeros, en la que los mexicanos son golpeados y maltratados constantemente. Los villanos de las recientes telenovelas son los agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza de los Estados Unidos que saquean y violan.

Los medios informativos de los Estados Unidos, en su mayoría, presentan imágenes en sus relatos sobre los mexicanos tratando de escurrirse de la migra, recibiendo sobornos, provocando a las autoridades e infringiendo las leyes.

Y sin embargo, los mexicanos continúan llegando en busca de trabajo. Y los empresarios continúan dándoles empleo como mano de obra barata.

Los mexicanos ricos siguen comprando en nuestros centros comerciales, y nuestras tiendas continúan recibiendo su dinero.

Los presidentes se reúnen para firmar acuerdos y poner ofrendas florales en memoria de un pasado trágico.

En la Ciudad de México, las taquerías tradicionales han

sido desplazadas por los McDonald's y los Kentucky Fried Chicken, mientras que la *tacón y la salsa picante han llegado a ser renglones principales de la industria estadounidense de alimentos rápidos.*

Coincidimos en el espacio y el tiempo, y llegamos lentamente a convertirnos mutuamente el uno en el otro.

Hace siglos, los aztecas labraron un círculo enorme en piedra, con símbolos de la vida y la mitología. Ellos le llamaron el calendario del sol, y acostumbraban señalar la inmensidad del tiempo. Hace dos años, el gobierno mexicano adoptó el concepto estadounidense para ahorrar la luz del día, en el cual se manipula la maquinaria de un reloj para alterar el curso percibido de los segundos, los minutos y las horas.

Todavía incapaces de comprender la necesidad del ritual moderno que dice "fall back, spring forward," muchos mexicanos explican el concepto con una lógica más realista del tiempo y del espacio. Ellos dicen: "Quieren robarle tiempo al sol."

No importa de qué modo traten de hacerlo, puede que hasta los vecinos más antiguos nunca lleguen a comprender mutuamente.

(Victor Landa es director de información de la estación KVDA-TV, afiliada con Telemundo, en San Antonio, Texas.)

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El Viaje De Francisco Ibarra A La Casa Blanca

Por Marcos Bretón

En el verano de 1966, un chico méxicoamericano flacucho, que pesaba "130 libras completamente empapado," trotaba resueltamente por el campo de prácticas para balompí de la Escuela Secundaria Luther Burbank, en Sacramento, California, para divertirse de los demás jugadores.

Wade Demes, que cursaba entonces el segundo año y también estaba aspirando a ser miembro del equipo, recuerda: "Todos estaban riéndose. Lo mirábamos y pensábamos: 'Este tipo no va a ser capaz de hacer nada.'"

Pero cuando empezó la práctica y el sonido de los cuerpos que chocaban llenó el aire, los chicos grandes dejaron de reírse y empezaron a levantarse del suelo. Demes, que es ahora maestro de una escuela secundaria en Sacramento, recuerda vívidamente el momento: "Este pequeñito estaba tumbando a tipos que pesaban 230 y 240 libras. Estaba haciéndoles pasar malos ratos a tipos que nadie podía detener."

Desde su oficina en la Casa Blanca, donde él es un asesor de alto rango para el Presidente Clinton, Mickey Ibarra, que ahora tiene 46 años de edad pero todavía está delgado, puede mirar retrospectivamente a aquel día como una metáfora para su vida.

El padre de Ibarra, Francisco, cambió la pobreza de su aldea zapoteca en el sur de México a los 15 años de edad por la vida destructora del trabajador agrícola en los Estados Unidos. El conoció a Bonnie mientras era un campesino en Utah. Se casaron y tuvieron dos hijos, Mickey y David, pero el matrimonio fué breve. Se divorciaron y Francisco fué reclutado por el Ejército de los Estados Unidos y enviado a ultramar.

Incapaz de cuidar a los niños, Bonnie puso a sus hijos en el mismo hogar adoptivo donde ella había crecido, en Lehi. Ellos eran los únicos chicos de piel oscura que había allí, recuerda David, que ahora es un distribuidor de Ford con éxito en Salt Lake City. "Había veces en que mi

hermano y yo estábamos tan asustados que llorábamos. Mickey sólo lloraba unos pocos segundos, pero se olvidaba de sus temores y me ponía el brazo alrededor mío. El siempre se echaba encima el peso de las cosas por cuenta mía."

En 1966, los chicos se reunieron con su padre, que se había asentado en Sacramento, California, en parte porque David no podía soportar que le llamaran "negro" en su escuela elemental.

"Había algunas personas que podrían haber calificado mi crianza como desventajada, pero yo nunca haría eso," dice Mickey ahora. "Sin importar lo que sucediera, siempre he tenido una actitud de ganar. El mayor motivador que tuve siempre fué el temor a fracasar."

El se graduó en la escuela secundaria de Sacramento en 1969, después de ser electo presidente de la clase que se graduaba. Fué declarado por votación "el que más probablemente tendría éxito." Después de prestar servicios en el Ejército durante dos años, re-

gresó a Utah para ir a la universidad acogiéndose a la G.I. Bill, ganando un grado de licenciatura en la Universidad Brigham Young y un grado de maestría en la Universidad de Utah, antes de empezar su carrera como maestro de escuela allí.

Llegó a ser activista de un sindicato de maestros y, con el tiempo, gerente con la Asociación Nacional de la Educación (NEA) en Washington, D.C., así como miembro prominente del Partido Demócrata.

Al participar en la contienda presidencial de 1996, Ibarra prestó servicios como asesor superior de campaña y director de proyectos especiales para la gestión de re-elección de Clinton. También ayudó a organizar la Convención Demócrata Nacional en Chicago.

Hoy, en su calidad de director de asuntos inter-gubernamentales de Clinton, él aconseja al presidente sobre los cursos de acción relacionados con las ciudades y los estados.

Old Neighbors, Still Not Quite Friends

By Victor Landa

Tanto mundo, tanto espacio, tanto tiempo y coincidimos.

So much world, so much space, so much time, and we coincide.

At the National Council of La Raza convention in Chicago last month, Mexico's president, Ernesto Zedillo, spoke in English to an audience of 2,500 U.S. Latinos about importance of bringing two neighbors closer together. A few hours prior to that appearance, he spoke to some 50 U.S. Hispanic leaders, in Spanish, about their role in doing just that.

Only weeks earlier, President Clinton stood alongside Zedillo in Mexico City, gazing at the colossal Calendario Azteca in Mexico's Archeological Museum.

Those events put our moment in time into perspective.

Our nations are old neighbors, but not the best of friends. We share as much as we differ. We treat each other with trepidation. We are at

the same time, extremely critical and sincerely complimentary of each other.

Our proximity, for better or for worse, is at once cozy and uncomfortable, like silence.

There are underlying tensions as ancient as our common border. Acts of invasion, indignation, trade skirmishes, discrimination on either side of the Rio Grande -- or Rio Bravo, depending on whether you're facing north or south.

Every schoolchild in Mexico learns the tragic story of *los Niños Héroes*, the young cadets of the military academy who died defending Chapultepec Castle against attack by the invading *norteamericanos*.

Every year, on Sept. 13, the students in my school, as well as every student across Mexico, would congregate to remember the fallen heroes. As the heroes' names were called out, we would respond by shouting *Presente!* To this

day, the memory of the ritual of national fervor remains vivid. Juan de la Barrera. *Presente!* Juan Escutia. *Presente!* Each name rang out until homage was paid to all six.

During his state visit to Mexico, Clinton was taken to the monument of the *Niños Héroes*. He laid a wreath, stood in silence and withdrew.

This single gesture of respect did more to restore the confidence and trust of the Mexican people than did any agreement between heads of state.

Mexican novelist Carlos Fuentes correctly noted that relations between Mexico and the United States have seldom been worse. Between governments, there are smiles and handshakes, concessions and agreements. But between the people of our nations, there is a grave distrust. The Mexican media portray the United States as a land of xenophobes, where Mexicans are regular-

ly beaten and abused. The villains in their recent melodramatic soap operas are U.S. Border Patrol agents who pilage and rape.

The U.S. media, for the most part, will run images in their news stories of Mexicans scurrying from *la migra*, taking bribes, provoking authorities, breaking laws.

And yet Mexicans keep coming, looking for work. And employers keep hiring them as *low-cost labor*.

Wealthy Mexican nationals continue to shop in our malls, and our malls continue to take their money. Presidents gather to sign accords and lay wreaths in memory of a tragic past.

In Mexico City, traditional taco restaurants have been displaced by McDonald's and KFC, while tacos and picante sauce have become staples of the U.S. fast-food industry.

We coincide in space and time, and slowly become one another.

Centuries ago, the Aztecs



Sittin' Here Thinkin' AGES

by Ira Cutler

At times the pattern of life is so clear and pronounced that you can reach out and almost touch it. I am going through one of those times right now, a time when it seems crystal clear to me that, everywhere I turn, someone near to me is moving on to a next stage in life. I can see all of us moving, pretty much in unison, in a sort of choreographed dance that is driven by the passage of time. I am getting older, we all are, and it is okay.

It started, or started getting clear, when my 24 year old daughter became pregnant, with twins no less. (They are both girls, the ultrasound tells us, but not identical.) My daughter's pregnancy went well beyond just making her an expectant mother. She also, in the process, conveyed a new status on everyone else. Her 28 year old brother will become a first-time uncle, her 51 year old parents will become grandparents and my mother, who will be 86 today, will for the first time become a great-grandmother. It is as though the twins sat down on the end of a bench and everyone else had to move over a bit.

Other stuff is going on as well. My son just turned down a really sweet job opportunity because it was too short term and he decided instead to stay with the steadier, longer term job he already has. Meanwhile, my 64 year old father-in-law retired after 45 years on the same job and every time I see him he looks a couple of years younger and a whole lot happier. The pregnancy has caused my daughter to delay going to graduate school, but my 38 year old wife has gone back to college and her 14 year old daughter, who is always on the phone now, will start high school in September.

Most of what is going on, knock wood, is good news. We are all worried, though, about my wife's 98 year old grandmother, who fell and broke her hip but seems to be recovering. My 64 year old mother-in-law flew to Italy to be with her and by the time you read this, we will be visiting Italy, too. My mother talks now and then about moving to some sort of senior citizen residence, but my 55 year old sister and I do not believe she really wants to, at least not yet. Meanwhile, my sister and I periodically tell each other, as we have for the past ten years, that in just a few more years we will be ready to retire.

The women in my life cover an enormous spread of years - from my daughter's pre-natal twins, due in November, to my wife's grandmother, 99 in October - nearly a hundred years separate the youngest from the oldest. I have noticed lately that women's lives, in many ways, are much more complicated than men's. They go through more changes, more stages, than we do, perhaps because they are the keepers of the life cycle and the reproductive process is a very time-dependent thing.

Men's lives seem to have pretty much three stages: boy, man and dead. Many women, at least those for whom family is central, go through many more stages: girl, adolescent, mother, career, empty nest, menopause, grandmother, old woman, widow. Maybe it is sexist to think of it this way, but it seems to me that women's lives have more stages because women are more tied up in the lives of the people around them and the people around them are always growing and changing. Or maybe all of that is wrong, another failed male attempt to understand females.

We barbecued on the Fourth of July, the first time we have managed to have all of my wife's family and mine at our house at the same time, and we watched them getting to know each other better. The high point for me was when we all crowded around my daughter and looked at the first, fuzzy set of ultrasound pictures and marveled at the two heads and the two tiny bodies. We were caught up in the story of our family's continuation and we are impatient for the arrival of these twin gifts.

And so, while I have not been writing very much this summer, while I have missed my column deadline again and again, I have instead been busy, busy, busy with my family. And, too, I have been sittin' and really thinkin'.

Ira Cutler, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irrelevant, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. He promises us a Monday column most weeks. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.

El Editor

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Tomás Is Depending On You

Tomás Díaz asked me to tell you that he's counting on you. As MDA's National Goodwill Ambassador, he's helping me spread the word about MDA.

Spinal muscular atrophy is affecting Tomás' muscle strength and his ability to walk. It'll also shorten his life unless we can stop it.

Thanks to you, our scientists recently found a genetic cause of SMA, which will soon lead to potential treatments. But it takes time and money.

Tomás is just one of "my kids." They all deserve a future.

GIVE TO MDA. Jerry Lewis MDA's National Chairman Muscular Dystrophy Association 1-800-572-1717

(Victor Landa is news director of the Telemundo station KVDA-TV in San Antonio, Texas.) (c) 1997, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Panel recomienda desintegrar a la migra

Washington- Un panel federal ha recomendado la abolición del Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización y asignar sus funciones a otras agencias.

Declarando que el Servicio de Inmigración sufre de "un sobrepeso en su misión", el panel, la Comisión de Estados Unidos sobre la Reforma de Inmigración, propone que el Departamento de Justicia, retenga la responsabilidad de controlar la frontera y expulsar a inmigrantes ilegales.

El Departamento de Estado, que ahora trata con visas estadounidenses, manejaría los servicios de inmigración y los beneficios, como pedidos de ciudadanía. El Departamento de Trabajo controlaría las reglas sobre la contratación de trabajadores extranjeros, según el reporte, "Estructurando, Organizando y Dirigiendo un Efectivo Sistema de Inmigración".

"Es muy difícil que una agencia con tantas misiones conflictivas tenga tantas prioridades y pueda cumplir con su trabajo", dijo Bruce Morrison, miembro de la comisión que explica el razonamiento para desmantelar al servicio de inmigración.

Demócratas y republicanos del Congreso que han sido informados por la comisión generalmente aprueban la propuesta. Pero el Servicio de Inmigración y el Departamento de Justicia se están preparando para luchar contra la propuesta.

"Estamos contra la división del INS", dijo Carole Florman, vocera del Departamento de Justicia. "Creemos que el control y los beneficios van de la mano".

La propuesta llega cuando hay cada vez más quejas por la incapacidad de Inmigración para manejar pedidos de ciudadanía, atacar a inmigrantes ilegales y enfocarse mayoritariamente hacia grupos latinos.

"Aquí se trata de salvar a un barco que se hunde", dijo un vocero del congresista Lamar Smith, que dirige el Comité sobre Inmigración en el Congreso.

El Comité de Apropiaciones pidió a la Fiscal Federal Janet Reno que estudie el informe y desarrollara "un plan de reestructuración" para octubre de 1998.

La oleada de recomendaciones ha sorprendido a varios oficiales de



Inmigrantes protestan operaciones de la INS en Chicago que, de acuerdo a ellos, discrimina contra latinos. La INS también es acusada de ser ineficaz en los procesos de ciudadanía.

la administración, quienes en forma privada dijeron que este reporte iniciaría un debate sobre cómo conducir el sistema de Inmigración del país. Varios gobernadores encuentran intrigantes las propuestas de la Comisión.

"El INS ha hecho un trabajo abominable... estamos abiertos a otras opciones", dijo Sean Walsh, de la administración del gobernador Pete Wilson, de California.

Autoridades del INS, cuyo presupuesto este año se duplicó hasta 3.1 mil millones en relación con cuatro años antes, dijeron que la propuesta revertiría la inversión financiera e ignoraría las mejoras.

"Estaríamos volviendo a hacer todo el trabajo que hicimos", dijo Chris Sale, vice comisionado del servicio de Inmigración. Oficiales de Chicago se rehusaron a comentar.

"Hay amplias razones para dudar que el INS puede ser un proveedor de servicios y un control para el mismo grupo de gente", dijo Cecilia Muñoz, vicepresidenta del Consejo Nacional de La Raza, un grupo civil de Washington.

El congresista Luis Gutierrez dijo que la agencia necesita probar que puede proveer servicios. "Yo le daría una mirada a cualquier cosa que ayude a los inmigrantes", dijo.

Otros dijeron que estaban a favor de combinar todas las tareas de

Inmigración de la nación en una sola agencia.

La Comisión consideró crear una agencia de inmigración independiente, dijo Morrison, pero finalmente rechazó esa idea por inefectiva.

El Congreso creó la comisión

bipartidaria en 1990 para ayudar a tratar asuntos de inmigración. Ocho comisionados -igualmente divididos entre republicanos y demócratas-, son designados por el Congreso, y el presidente de la nación designa al presidente de la Comisión.

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News Briefs From page 1

fits to noncitizens who are already on the rolls. In addition, immigrants who were in the United States when the welfare law was signed will remain eligible for benefits if they become disabled. The budget agreement still leaves immigrants ineligible for food stamps.

GAO Report Details Medicare Failings

Investigators told Congress rampant home health care fraud found by Medicare in four states likely is prevalent throughout the country, reports Associated Press.

"We have every reason to believe that similar conditions exist in other states," George F. Grob, deputy inspector general in the Health and Human Services Department, told the Senate Aging Committee Monday.

Forty percent of all home health visits to senior citizens in California, Illinois, New York and Texas should not have been paid for by Medicare, according to a report by the General Accounting Office assessing the results of recent HHS investigations. And a fourth of the companies that provide such care in the four states, plus Florida, have abused or defrauded Medicare or misused taxpayer money, the report found.

Overall, home health care - used increasingly by elderly Americans as the average hospital stay's duration has dropped - is losing billions a year because of fraud and waste. HHS, which oversees the program, does an inadequate job of policing the companies that provide care, the study found.

The Clinton administration and many in Congress also are trying to craft a long-term solution, including a system that would set standardized payments in advance for each type of home care.

In 1990, there were 5,656 home health agencies participating in Medicare; by 1996, more than 9,800. Meanwhile, the government screens very few claims before paying bills and does virtually no on-site visits to check work, the GAO study found.

CA Water Wells Poisoned

A hazardous chemical used to make solid rocket boosters was detected at high enough levels to prompt health officials to shut down 18 municipal wells, Associated Press reports.

Perchlorate had never been detected in the nation's drinking water before it was found in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Sacramento counties, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials said yesterday.

In high doses, the chemical affects the thyroid gland and the production of hormones needed for normal development. In extreme cases, it can cause brain damage in fetuses and a fatal form of anemia in adults.

The 18 wells were shut down after the California Department of Health Services advised water systems to take action if perchlorate levels exceeded 18 parts per billion, which is considered the safe level.

Of the 232 wells tested statewide, 69 were found to have perchlorate, said David Spath, chief environmental management of the state health department's drinking water division. The state has 6,000 sources of drinking water.

Two dozen of the 69 wells were found to have levels above

Continued on Page 4

Carlos Flores se puso a brincar de gusto cuando se enteró de que él y sus compañeros de trabajo de la fundición Alamo Iron Works habían ganado LOTTO Texas.

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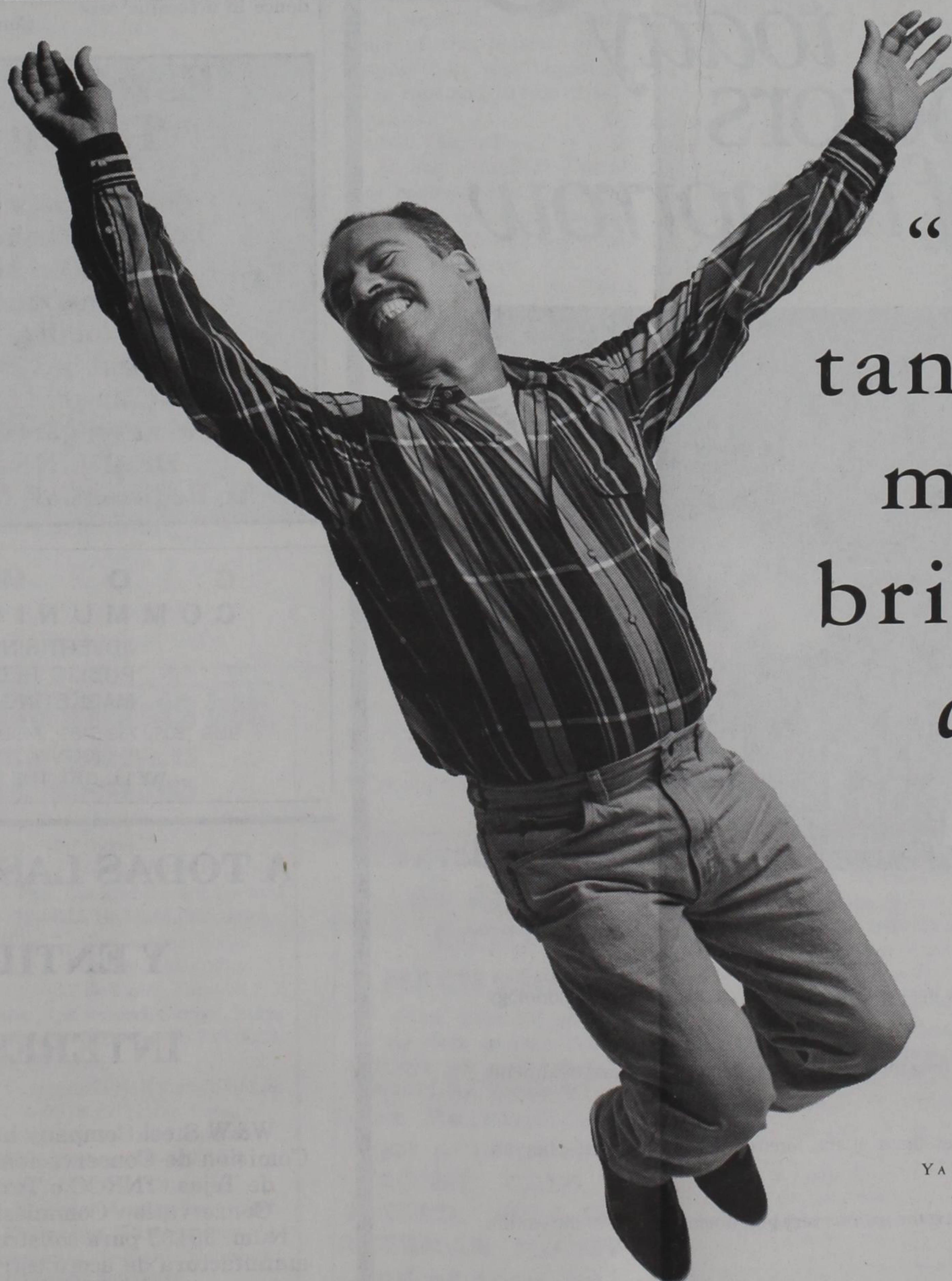
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CARLOS FLORES



YA HAY MÁS DE 200 MILLONARIOS.
TÚ PODRÍAS SER EL PRÓXIMO.

Questions Not To Ask Hispanics About Their Heritage

By Michelle Garcia

Hispanic Heritage Month is approaching. It's that time of year -- from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15 -- when all 32 million of us venture out of our huge, walled barrio on a mission of sharing our beautiful culture with the rest of the nation.

We mingle. We do it with ceremonies, speakers, food and music in city halls and concert halls, at community centers and university student centers, even with small talk at water coolers in the workplace. And our children do it with show-and-tell events at public schools.

So if you aren't Hispanic, be forewarned. One of us may approach you and force you to engage in dialogue. This annual exchange is intended to bring us all closer together, of course. But cultural proximity can also push the uninitiated further apart.

That's why I'm providing a brief list to prepare non-Hispanics for such encounters. Collected over the years from acquaintances, it enumerates comments and questions not to use as conversation openers.

Ready?

- 1) Do not ask us where we got our great tan. For most of us, bronze is the color we come in.
- The flip side of this: If we're very white or very black, don't say, "You don't look Hispanic." We're an ethnic group, not a race, even if we do call ourselves "raza."
- 2) Do not ask us when we immigrated to America. Most of us were born here. Our "green card" is American Express.
- 3) "Do you speak Mexican?" Or Cuban? Or Uruguayan?

All no-nos. The language that binds us in Spanish.

4) "What's your favorite Mexican restaurant?" That's undoubtedly the most common question we get. There's got to be a better opening line than that. The truthful answer: Our mama's kitchen.

That reminds me of a question a Kansas City journalist friend says she's been asked by strangers in supermarket aisles: "Where are the tortillas?"

Seriously, would you walk up to a Chinese woman and ask, "Where's the rice?" or an Africa American and ask, "Where are the collard greens?"

6) My male friends complain regularly about this one, so if it's a banquet you're attending and a brown-skinned man in a tuxedo walks past your table, don't blurt out, "Could I see a menu, please?" That man just might be the featured speaker.

7) When introduced to Mrs. Gonzalez across the table, don't ask loudly and ever so slowly, "Do (pause) you (pause) speak (pause) Eng (pause) lish?"

That reminds me of a question to avoid at all costs at college celebrations:

8) "Where did you learn to speak English so well?" For most of us, sir, it's our native tongue.

There are two others that make our coeds clench their jaws:

- 9) Never, never, never ask, "What affirmative action program are you here on?" You might be talking to a prep-school valedictorian whose father owns five McDonald's

franchises. And don't you dare ask such a question if you're on an athletic scholarship or were given preference as the child of an alumnus.

10) Don't inquire of your Puerto Rican classmates, "Are you on a student visa?" Do I need to tell you why that's not cool?

11) Hispanics from New Mexico occasionally have a similar problem. Even from federal agencies, they have received correspondence challenging their U.S. citizenship. So don't ask if you need a passport to visit or if they take U.S. currency.

12) Some Hispanics are all too willing to tell you that they're 100 percent fluent in two languages. If that makes you curious enough to ask, "What language do you think in?" or "Do you dream in English or Spanish?" do so at your own risk.

13) Finally, if you walk up to a group of us who are speaking in Spanish, don't bother to ask, "Are you talking about me?" We probably are.

There are more questions I could warn you about, but I'll stop at a panadero's dozen. From here on, you're on your own. Buena suerte.

(Garcia is a reporter with Pacifica Radio in Washington, D.C.)
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Antes y desde aquel día en el campo de balompié de su escuela secundaria, Ibarra ha llegado a cada nuevo desafío como si hubiera salido del aire. El se ha convertido caladamente en una de las figuras más fascinantes de la política nacional.

Cada vez que él entra en la Casa Blanca, Ibarra, quien reside en Bethesda, Maryland, con su esposa Frances, lleva la experiencia de su vida consigo. "Cualesquiera realizaciones que mi hermano y yo hayamos logrado, palidecen en comparación con lo que hizo mi padre. El vino a este país sin saber inglés. El nos enseñó el valor de trabajar árdamente", enfatiza Ibarra. "Debido a mis antecedentes, me siento fuertemente conectado al mejoramiento de la enseñanza pública, a dar a todos las oportunidades que yo tuve."

Desde su casa del sur de Sacramento, Francisco Ibarra sonríe cuando se le dicen los comentarios de su hijo. El primero es un estilista de cabello jubilado que fué propietario de un salón durante 30 años. Le gusta quitar de la pared una fotografía suya de cuando era niño -- la cual está junto a las otras siete de su hijo con el Presidente Clinton.

En la fotografía, Francisco esta de pie descalzo junto a su madre y su hermano. "Imaginense eso, DD observa él. "Desde estar descalzo hasta la Casa Blanca. A través de Mickey, ví hacerse realidad mis sueños, los que traje a este país. El los hizo realidad."

(Marcos Bretón es redactor de The Sacramento Bee.)

News Briefs From page 3

18 parts per billion, he said. Water from the wells not shut down is blended with uncontaminated water to reduce the chemical's levels.

Water sources near industrial operations are now being scrutinized, including makers of munitions and fireworks, which often use perchlorate.

Aerospace Corp Scurries to Resolve Bias Claims
McDonnell Douglas Corp. is trying to resolve allegations of discrimination against women and minority workers just days before the aerospace giant is expected to merge with rival Boeing Co. in a \$16 billion deal, reports The Los Angeles Times.

McDonnell Douglas spokesman George Sillia said problem was not as widespread as reported. He said the company was currently trying to determine whether a few dozen employees were eligible for backpay following a three-year Federal contract compliance review regarding McDonnell's Military Transport Aircraft operation in Long Beach, California.

Sillia further noted that the allegations of workplace discrimination were not expected to affect the merger. Federal labor officials found numerous incidents of bias at McDonnell's Long Beach, California plant during a lengthy three-year investigation and, for the past month, have been trying to negotiate a settlement.

In addition to the federal probe, McDonnell Douglas has for the past 5 1/2 years, faced more than 330 discrimination complaints filed with the state's Department of Fair Employment and Housing by female and minority employees throughout its California operations.

Shareholders of both companies Friday overwhelmingly approved the \$16 billion deal, which will create the world's largest aerospace company with projected revenues this year of more than \$48 billion.

The shareholder approval came two days after Boeing agreed to scrap long-term exclusive sales deals and made other concessions to win European Commission backing for the merger, overcoming the biggest obstacle to the plan.

Final EC approval is expected July 30, and the deal is scheduled to close Aug. 1. Earlier this month the U.S. Federal Trade Commission gave its unconditional approval to the deal, which was announced Dec. 15.

ABA: Judicial Independence Threatened

An American Bar Association panel says political attacks on federal judges over their rulings can harm public confidence in the judiciary and threaten judges' independence as outlined in the Constitution, reports Associated Press.

"A public that does not trust its judges to exercise sound, evenhanded judgment will look upon judicial independence as a problem to be eradicated, rather than a virtue to be preserved," the panel said in a report released Thursday.

"While the current state of federal judicial independence remains essentially sound, a number of potentially serious problems exist that, if left unremedied, could degenerate into real threats to judicial independence," it said.

The ABA formed the Commission on Separation of Powers and Judicial Independence last year after President Clinton and Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole criticized a federal judge in New York who threw out evidence in a cocaine case.

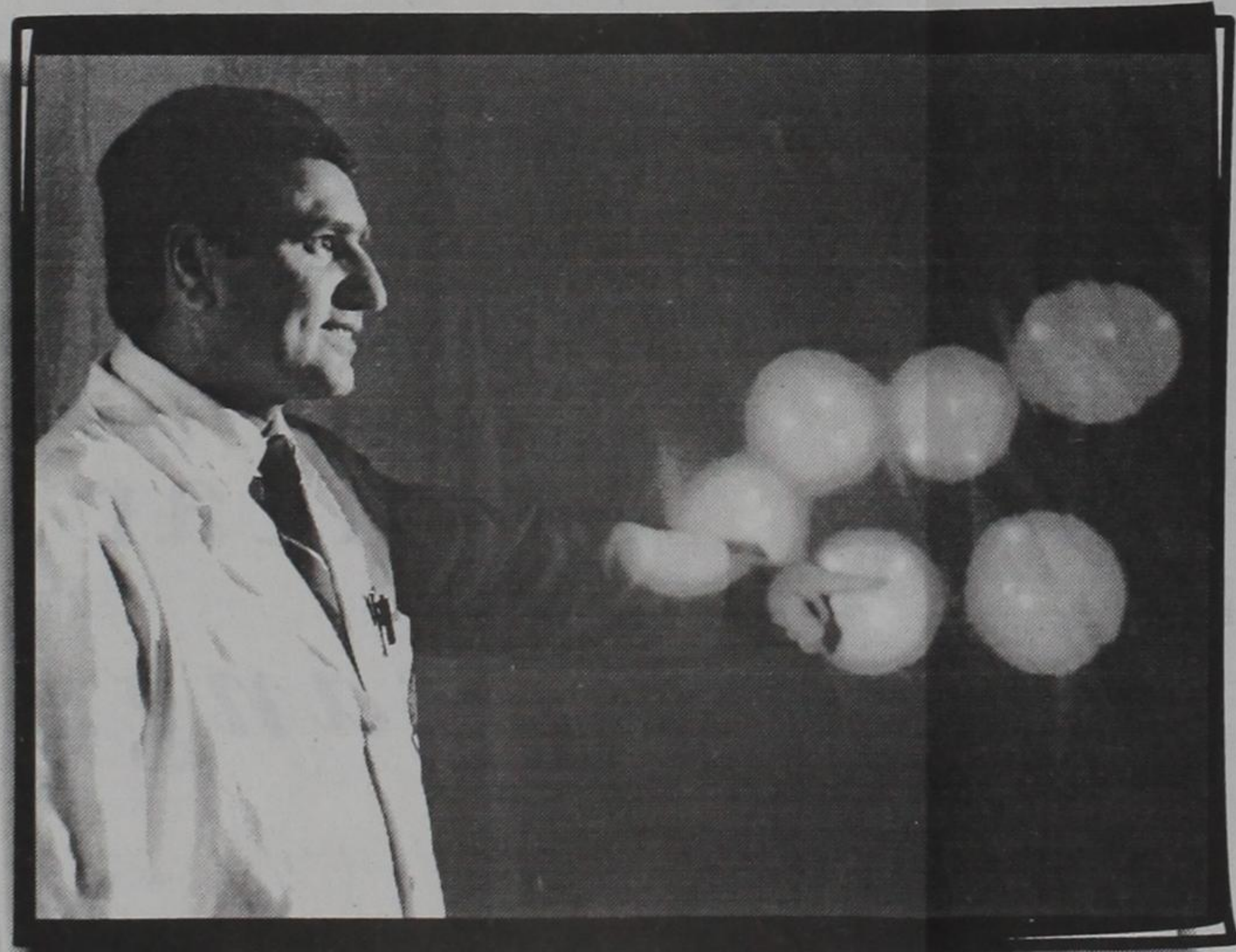
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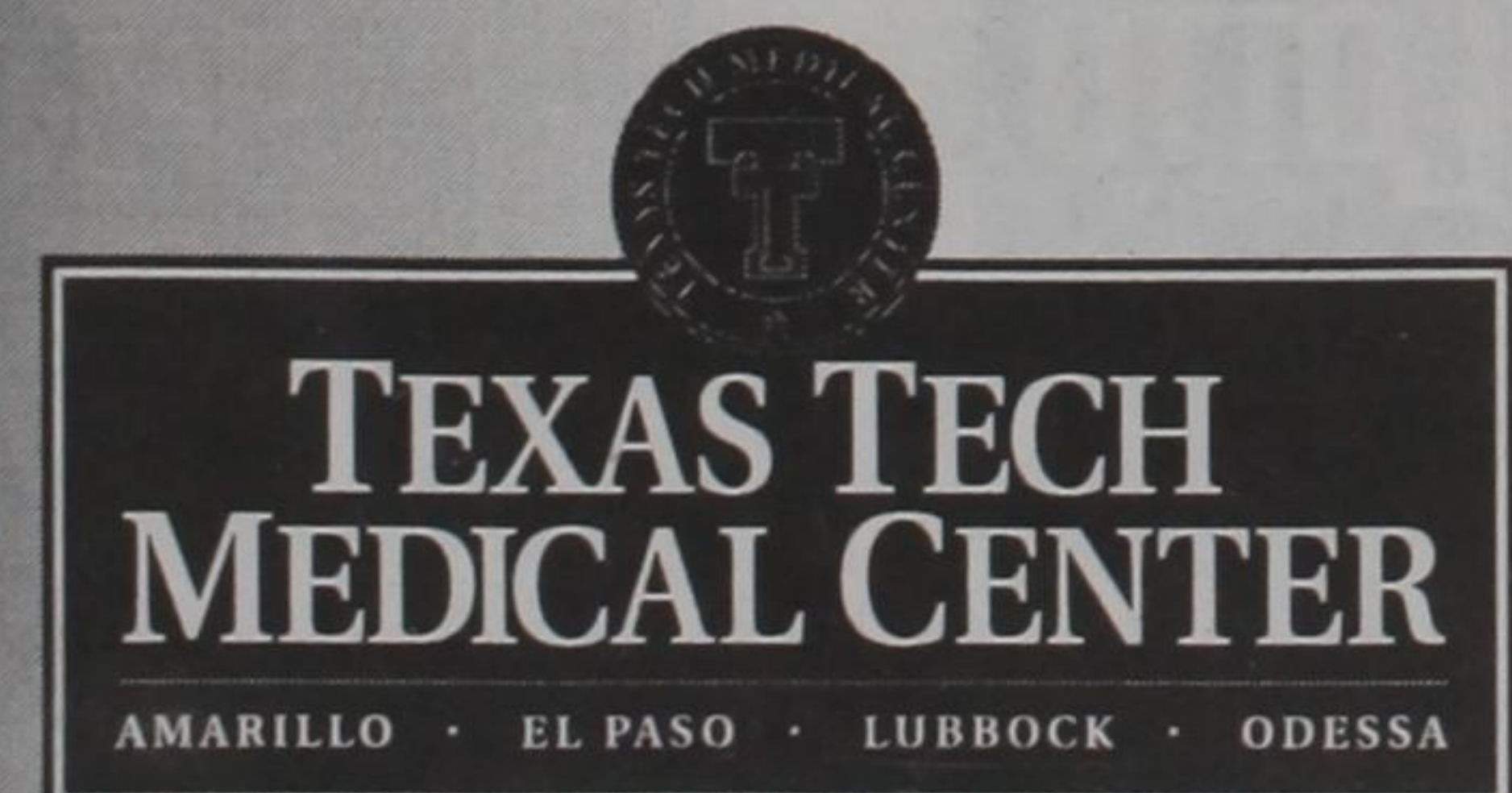
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Fernandez Continues Winning

By ADAM NAZIMOWITZ

Alex Fernandez was built to last. It's been almost a month since the right-hander last lost, and he showed the Houston Astros why.

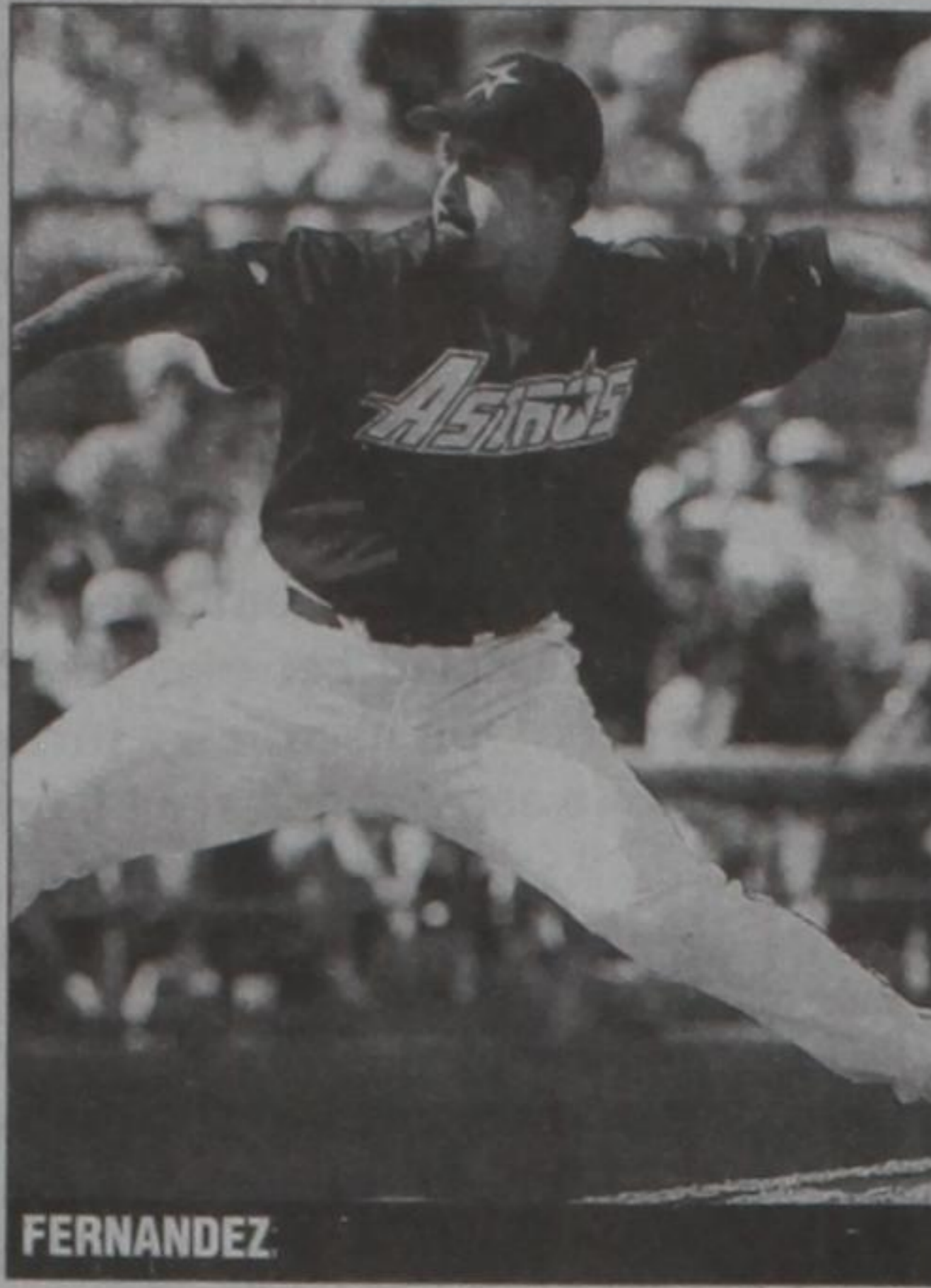
Fernandez survived a shaky first inning to win his fifth consecutive start, helping the Florida Marlins beat the Astros 8-6 Wednesday night.

Fernandez (15-8), who has not lost since July 18, tied his season high with 10 strikeouts in seven innings. He allowed five runs - three earned - and nine hits, walking three.

Fernandez has pitched at least seven innings in each of his last five starts. He gave up three runs in the first two innings, then settled down, not allowing another runner past second until the seventh.

"Fernandez just battled his tail off," Florida manager Jim Leyland said. "He was a little wild early, but he hung in there and gave us some innings. It was a gutsy effort. It was a gutsy effort for all of us, actually. This has been a tough trip. They could have cashed it in early, but they didn't."

In other NL games, it was Philadelphia 12, Colorado 8; Chicago 6, San Francisco 5; Pittsburgh 2, Atlanta 1; N.Y. Mets 5, St. Louis 4 in 10 innings; Cincinnati 2, San Diego 0; and Los Angeles 3, Montreal 1.



FERNANDEZ

Fernandez signed a lucrative five-year contract with the Marlins last offseason and is showing why the money was well spent. In Chicago, he pitched at least 187 innings each year since 1991, his second with the White Sox, excluding the strike shortened season of 1994.

This year he's second to Kevin Brown on the Marlins with 165 2-3 innings, and has won 57 percent of his games in his eight-year major league career.

"I was pretty sharp today," Fernandez said. "Even after we fell behind, I wanted the team to know I'll keep them in the game. They did a great job coming back."

Jeff Conine hit a two-run

single in the eighth after consecutive homers by Derek Bell and Jeff Bagwell gave the Astros a 5-4 lead in the seventh.

"Even after the back-to-back homers, you could tell we were ready to go," Fernandez said.

Jose Lima (1-6) walked Florida's Bobby Bonilla to open the decisive four-run eighth, and Darren Daulton doubled. Conine greeted Russ Springer with a single, and pinch-hitters Gary Sheffield and Greg Abbott added RBI singles.

Robb Nen gave up Bill Spillers' RBI double in the ninth, but got the final three outs for his 30th save.

Phillies 12, Rockies 8=

At Denver, Mike Lieberthal had four hits, including a three-run homer, and Mark Leiter (8-12) contributed a two-run single as Philadelphia matched a season high with its fourth straight victory and 12th in 15 games.



MORANDINI

Mickey Morandini added four hits and an RBI for the Phillies, and Leiter won for the third time in four starts, allowing six runs and nine hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Jeff Reed drove in three runs with his 10th homer and a two-run single. Andres Galarraga hit his 31st homer and drove in three runs, increasing his major league-leading total to 112.

Larry Walker was 0-for-4 and his average fell to .377, his lowest since the fourth game of the season. Jamey Wright (6-8) was tagged for seven runs and 10 hits in 4 1-3 innings.

Cubs 6, Giants 5=

At San Francisco, Sammy Sosa homered and had a two-run double in a game that featured a bench-clearing brawl and two ejections.

The fight began in the fourth when Jeff Kent was hit in the chest by a pitch from Gonzalez. Kent, who ridiculed Gonzalez's pitching last week, was ejected along with Chicago's Tyler Houston.

Jeremi Gonzalez (9-5) allowed four runs and seven hits in 6 1-3 innings, and Terry Adams pitched the ninth for his 10th save.

Mark Gardner (12-6) allowed six runs and eight hits in 6 1-3 innings. Pirates 2, Braves 1=

Jon Lieber (7-12) won for the first time in more than a month, allowing one run and five hits in 6 1-3 innings at Pittsburgh at Atlanta.

John Smoltz (11-10) lost despite pitching his sixth complete game, a seven-hitter that featured nine strikeouts.

Atlanta has scored just seven runs in four games and is averaging only three runs over the last 14.

Mets 5, Cardinals 4=

Pinch-hitter Butch Huskey singled home the go-ahead run in the 10th as the Mets overcame two homers by Mark McGwire at St. Louis.

Edgardo Alfonzo walked against Tony Fossas (1-5) leading off the 10th, and John Olerud singled him to second. Todd Hundley's grounder advanced the runners, and Huskey grounded a single to left off Curtis King.

Cory Lidle (6-1) pitched a scoreless ninth, and John Franco got the final three outs for his 30th save.

McGwire raised his home-run total to 38 with his 40th career multihomer game. He hit a 455-foot upper-deck shot in the first off Brian Bohanon, the longest of the year at Busch Stadium. His eighth-inning drive off Mel Rojas tied the score at 4.

Reds 2, Padres 0=

Mike Morgan (4-10) was perfect for 6 1-3 innings before Mark Sweeney singled, San Diego's only hit of the game.

Stan Belinda pitched a hitless eighth, walking Greg Vaughn, and Jeff Shaw finished with a perfect ninth for his 23rd save in 27 chance for visiting Cincinnati.

Pete Smith (4-3) allowed two runs and five hits in six innings, giving up Eduardo Perez's sacrifice fly in the fourth and Chris Stynes' RBI single in the sixth.

Dodgers 3, Expos 1=

At Los Angeles, Tom Candiotti (9-4) allowed three hits in seven innings, and Adam Riggs singled home the go-ahead run for his first major league RBI.

Todd Worrell pitched a perfect the ninth for his 28th save as Candiotti won for the fourth time in five decisions.

Carlos Perez (11-8), coming off consecutive complete games, gave up two runs and six hits in seven innings, struck out a career-high 10 and walked two.

Baseball Today

STREAKS=

Montreal at Los Angeles (4:05 p.m. EDT). Pedro Martinez (14-5) starts for the Expos. He leads the NL with a 1.72 ERA.

STARS= Wednesday=

- Mike Morgan, Reds, allowed one hit in seven innings as Cincinnati blanked San Diego 2-0.

- Mike Lieberthal, Phillies, had four hits, including a three-run homer, as Philadelphia defeated Colorado 12-8.

- Juan Gonzalez, Rangers, went 3-for-4 with two homers and five RBIs, leading Texas to a 7-6 victory in Boston.

- Sammy Sosa, Cubs, homered and had a two-run double in Chicago's 6-5 win at San Francisco.

- Mark McGwire, Cardinals, had two homers and a single in St. Louis' 5-4, 10-inning loss to the Mets.

- Damion Easley, Tigers, doubled, tripled and homered in Detroit's 13-3 victory over Cleveland in the first game of a doubleheader.

STATS=

Texas won the season series with Boston 8-3, including a 6-0 mark at Fenway Park. ... Houston's Craig Biggio is hitting .396 (36-for-91) with runners in scoring position. ... Andrew Lorraine allowed six hits and one earned run in five innings of Oakland's 4-2 victory over Baltimore, only the 18th win by an A's starter this season, the first in 19 games since July 23.

Mark Gardner's five-game winning streak against the Cubs ended Wednesday as San Francisco lost to Chicago 6-5. ... Philadelphia matched its season high with its fourth straight victory, 12-8 over Colorado. ... Boston shortstop Nomar Garciaparra extended his hitting streak to 16 games.

SLUMPS=

Colorado's Larry Walker was 0-for-4 against Philadelphia on Wednesday as his average fell to .377, his lowest since the fourth game of the season. ... Atlanta has scored just seven runs in four games and is averaging only three runs in the last 14. ... Minnesota lost its fifth straight game, 3-2 to Toronto.

STARTERS=

Hideki Irabu, making his first start for the Yankees since his recall from the minors, allowed three runs and six hits in 5 1-3 innings Wednesday, struck out five and walked two in New York's 9-3 victory over Kansas City, the Japanese right-hander's third win in five decisions. ... Alex Fernandez won his fifth consecutive start, striking out 10 in six innings of Florida's 8-6 win in Houston.

STOPPERS=

Mets closer John Franco reached 30 saves for the seventh time after finishing New York's 5-4, 10-inning victory in St. Louis.

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Una compañía que está bajo contrato con la Lotería de Texas está buscando compañías de propiedad minoritaria (HUB Historically Underutilized Businesses) certificadas por el Estado de Texas y con experiencia en las siguientes áreas:

PRODUCCION DE PELICULA (FILM PRODUCTION)

Compañías con experiencia en filmar en 35 mm., para comerciales de televisión. Favor de enviar un video de 3/4" que contenga comerciales que ustedes han hecho (director's reel). Precios deberán ser competitivos.

AGENCIAS DE TALENTO Y AUDICIONES (TALENT AGENCIES/AUDITIONS)

Se buscan agencias que representen talento de múltiples grupos étnicos y diversas edades. Buscamos talento de voces para radio y televisión. La compañía deberá tener su propio estudio de grabación para audiciones. Estamos aceptando demos para nuestros archivos.

EDICION (EDITING)

Edición creativa para comerciales de televisión en película de 35mm. Favor de enviar un video de 3/4 con ejemplos de comerciales editados (demo reel) y una descripción del equipo que usan para "off-line editing". Precios deberán ser competitivos.

PRODUCCION DE MUSICA (MUSIC PRODUCTION)

Compositores y arreglistas con experiencia en producción de música para televisión y radio. Favor de enviar un video y/o cassette con ejemplos (demo reel) que refleje sus habilidades y previa experiencia, y una descripción del equipo con el que cuenta en su estudio. Precios deberán ser competitivos.

Por favor responda por escrito a: Melissa Villaseñor-Dye
Minority Development Coordinator, Texas Lottery - GBP
P.O. Box 16630, Austin, TX 78761-6630.

TEXAS LOTTERY

News Brief

The White House briefly threatened to seek Judge Harold Baer's resignation. Dole said he should be impeached if he would not resign. The judge later reversed the ruling. This year, House Majority Whip Tom DeLay said Congress should impeach federal judges whose rulings are "particularly egregious."

The ABA commission said, "Recently, individual judges have been subjected to misleading criticism, demagogic attacks and threats of impeachment from representatives of both political branches in both political parties."

The Constitution's continuing vitality is due in large part to an independent federal judiciary's power to check the executive and legislative branches' excesses, the panel said. The Constitution sought to foster judicial independence by guaranteeing life tenure during good behavior and barring reductions in pay.

No judge has ever been impeached solely because of his or her rulings, the panel said. A better remedy when judges misinterpret the law is judicial appeal, it added.

Judges need to do a better job of explaining their role to the public, the panel said, adding that "aloofness begets an appearance of elitism."

They also "have not always responded constructively" to Congress' oversight of the courts, said the commission, led by lawyer Edward W. Madeira Jr. of Philadelphia.

The group recommended creation of a National Commission on the Federal Courts, including representatives of all three branches of government, to develop recommendations for Congress on court operations.

The commission held hearings, met with members of Congress and contacted judges and academics. The report was released as the ABA began its annual meeting in San Francisco.

The panel also:

- Recommended that the judiciary budget be exempted from the presidential line-item veto, on the ground that the executive branch is the most frequent litigant in federal courts and should not have the power to manipulate the judiciary's budget.

- Urged Congress to resist any proposal to strip federal courts of jurisdiction to decide particular subjects.

- Said judges' cost-of-living pay increases should no longer depend on Congress' decision to give itself pay raises, which generally is more politically controversial.

Clinton Wants Drugs Tested for Kids

The Clinton administration is preparing to force drug manufacturers to test whether the medicines they sell to adults are safe and effective for children to use, too.

About 80 percent of the nation's prescription drugs are not labeled for child use because they never were tested in children. Desperate pediatricians often must guess a safe dose when they have to use adult drugs such as asthma or AIDS medications on their smallest patients.

The drug industry has largely ignored Food and Drug Administration efforts dating back to 1994 designed to spur more children's prescription information.

Now, President Clinton is set to propose regulations Wednesday that would require manufacturers to provide that information for new drugs promptly - or face the FDA in court.

Donna Shalala, the secretary of Health and Human Services, would not confirm specifically what Clinton will propose but told reporters: "It will be one of those things ... that everyone who has a kid will understand and say, 'Gosh, that's a good thing to do.'"

Officials familiar with the rules, who spoke on condition of anonymity, say that when a company seeks FDA permission to test an experimental drug in adults, the agency would decide whether it has potential for children. If so, the company would be ordered to provide a plan for determining the safe child dose.

The FDA would not delay approving a drug for adults, stressed one administration official. Pediatric labeling could be added soon after sales to adults begin, as long as the move is timely, the official said.

The proposed rules do not require massive, expensive clinical trials in children. Instead, if a drug is considered safe in adults, companies could do simple dosage testing - studies that take three to six months to perform - to show the dose that gets a therapeutic level of the medicine into a child's bloodstream.

"People assume any drug that is prescribed for their children has been tested, and that's not the case," said Susan DeLaurentis of the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. "This will now be a requirement."

The proposed rules also would require existing adult drugs that are widely prescribed to children - such as bronchodilators for asthma patients or the antidepressant Prozac - to have the pediatric dose added to the label. But a deadline on that was not immediately set.

Of 183 drugs approved in the last five years, only 44 were quickly labeled to include child prescription information. The FDA targeted 64 more drugs that offered promise for children, but only two ultimately were labeled for children, the AIDS foundation said.

Justice Dept: Health Fraud "Crime of the '90s"

The Justice Department says it is having increased successes in fighting what it calls the "crime of the '90s" - health care fraud that is believed to cost tens of billions of dollars a year, reports Reuters.

Whether committed by laboratories, home care companies, doctors or hospitals, outright fraud as well as waste and abuse may account for as much as 10 percent of all U.S. health care spending, or \$100 billion a year, according to a General Accounting Office report.

A Justice Department report says FBI health-related investigations tripled between 1992 and 1996, to 2,200 cases. It says criminal prosecutions increased from 83 cases to 246 cases, while convictions rose from 90 to 307.

Oil May Reduce Breast Cancer Risk

The August 8 issue of the Community Nutrition Inst. newsletter reports that fatty acids in fish oil may help lower the risk of breast cancer in women.

In a new study led by the University of California at Los Angeles, 25 women were put on a diet that mimicked foods eaten by Asian women, including up to 4,000 milligrams of fish oil daily, soy products, and lots of vegetables which significantly altered their fat content.

Compared to American women, who consume more vegetable and animal fat, Asian women, who eat more fish, have a lower incidence of breast cancer.

Studies on mice and cultures show that the omega-three fatty acids in fish reduce tumor growth, while the omega-six fatty acids in vegetables and animals increase growth.

'97 CITY OF LUBBOCK AUCTION AUCTION AUCTION

Monday, Aug. 18, 6 p.m., Memorial Civic Center 1501 6th Street - Bikes, guns, stereos, hand tools, cell phones, pagers, tables, computers, printers, copiers, ammunition brass, lab equipment and office furniture

Wednesday, Aug. 20, 10 a.m., LIA East Airport District, Corner of N. Yucca & Independence - Tires, lawn mowers, motors, generators, trailers, electric fork-lift, pumps, air compressors, farm implements, fire hose, shredders and refrigeration equipment

Wednesday, Aug. 20, 6 p.m., Memorial Civic Center 1501 6th Street - Vans, buses, motorcycles, cars, bucket trucks, dump truck, and pickup trucks

ONE OF THE LARGEST CITY AUCTIONS EVER HELD

R-3919

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

W&W Steel Company ha solicitado de la Comision de Conservacion de Recursos Naturales de Tejas (TNRCC o Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission) el Permiso de Calidad de Aire Numero 35103 para autoizar la construccion de una planta para la manufactura de acero estructural y de materiales para edificios comerciales en 2221 Erskine, Lubbock, condado de Lubbock, Tejas. La facilidad propuesta va a emitir los siguientes contaminantes atmosfericos; cum-puesto organico volatil y particulas. Una persona que pueda ser afectada por las emisiones de contaminantes atmosfericos de la facilidad propuesta puede solicitar una audiencia. Si el solicitante demuestra que la facilidad propuesta va a cumplir con todos los requisitos de calidad de aire aplicables, el solicitante cualificara para recibir el permiso. El objeto de la audiencia sera limitado a los requisitos de calidad de aire aplicables, q ue no incluyen asuntos tales como calidad de agua, ruido, seguridad de trafico o zonas municipales. Si se celebra una audiencia, esta sera un proceso legal semejante a un juicio civil en una corte de distrito estatal.

Para solicitar una audiencia, usted debera proporcionar la siguiente; (1) su nombre (o, para un grupo o asociacion, un representante oficial), direccion postal, numero de telefono durante el dia, y numero de fax, si hay; (2) el nombre del solicitante y el

numero del permiso; (3) la oracion en ingles "I/we request a public hearing"; (4) una descripcion breve y especifica de, como y por que las emisiones de la facilidad propuesta le perjudicaron a usted de una manera que no es comun con los miembros del publico en general; (5) la localizacion de su propiedad en relacion a la facilidad propuesta. Peticiones de audiencia o comentarios sobre la solicitud deberan recibirse por escrito en la Oficina del Chief Clerk, MC-105, TNRCC, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, dentro de 30 dias despues de la segunda publicacion de este aviso. Este aviso se publicara en 8-15-97 and 8-22-97.

La solicitud y el analisis preliminar del TNRCC pueden ser revisados o copiados en el TNRCC, Oficina de Calidad de Aire, 12124 Park 35 Circle, Edificio C, austin, TEXAS 78753. Los documentos de la solicitud, los archivos del cumplimiento de las leyes de la facilidad, si existen, e informacion adicional pueden obtenerse de TNRCC Lubbock Regional Office at 4630 50th Street, Suite 600, Lubbock, Texas 79414-3509, telephone (806) 796-7092. Miembros individuales del publico que deseen inquirir sobre la informacion contenida en este aviso, o inquirir sobre otras solicitudes de permisos o procesos de permisos de la agencia, deberan relefonear a la Oficina de Asistencia Publica del TNRCC, libre de cargos, al 1-800-687-4040.

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FHA

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Departamento de Desarrollo Urbano y de la Vivienda



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