

El Editor

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Publishing

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Ajeno es la Paz"
Lic Benito Juarez

Casualties of
War in Iraq
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The First Thanksgiving was in West Texas

The events leading up to the First Thanksgiving in the New World began in 1573 when the Spanish King Felipe II signed a document called the Colonization Laws of Spain. This document provided the incentive for adventurers to launch expeditions into Mexico, called at that time by the Spanish "New Spain", to find wealth and to elevate their prestige with the Spanish crown. It also listed the many responsibilities of the explorers. Besides the Spaniards, expeditions by Italians, Frenchmen, Englishmen, Portuguese and Norsemen had been led in the New World for many years.

Our story began in 1595 in the city of Zacatecas, Mexico, where a young man named Don Juan Pérez de Oñate y Salazar lived. Oñate was one of the richest men in Zacatecas because of his family's silver mines, their ranches and his involvement in the lucrative Indian slave trade.

In 1595, acting on behalf of King Felipe II, Viceroy Velasco gave permission to Oñate to lead a colonizing expedition into the unexplored region of New Spain called El Nuevo Mexico. Now a part of the United States, the name for that territory, El Nuevo Mexico (or New Mexico) was in common use at the time, reportedly having first been used in dispatches submitted in 1581 by the Franciscan Fray Agustin Rodriguez who led a small expedition into the area to spread the True Word of Christianity among the natives.

On October 21, 1595, the deal was struck after it was approved by the King. Viceroy Velasco formally appointed his friend Oñate "...governor, captain general, caudillo, discoverer, and pacifier." of El Nuevo Mexico. Little did Oñate suspect that, although the actual distance to be traveled to reach New Mexico was only a bit



less than 800 miles, it would be more than two and a half years from this date until he entered the new territory.

orders had ventured into the area after receiving Royal permission. Some recruits were enticed by the opportunity to explore new lands and to prove their mettle against man and nature.

As word circulated about the expedition, Oñate began to assemble a diverse group of men, women and children. They ranged from young children to a warrior sixty years old. They came from mainland Spain, the Canary Islands, the Balearic Islands, Italy, Guatemala, Portugal, Greece,

many problems created by Frías, Oñate led an impressively large force. Reports indicate that there were about 400 men, 129 of them soldiers, 150 of them with families and servants, and 10 Franciscans, bringing the total to 539 people; eighty-three ox-carts, twenty-four wagons and two of Oñate's personal carriages; and approximately seven thousand head of livestock.

On April 21, 1598, the exhausted expedition reached the banks of the Río Bravo where they set up camp near the present day San Elizario, Texas. They soon found their scouts who had arrived several days earlier, and because they'd had time to rest, Oñate sent them out to find a place where the expedition could ford the Río Bravo and cross into Nuevo Mexico. They traveled upriver to present day El Paso where they found a village of Indians they named "Mansos" and who they befriended with gifts of clothing. The Mansos showed the scouts where to ford the river and four of them accompanied the scouts back to the main expedition. The Mansos repaid the scouts' gifts of clothing by presenting them with fish netted from the river.

Safe and grateful for the expedition's deliverance from the extreme hardships of the journey, Oñate ordered that the travelers construct a church with a nave large enough to hold the entire camp. Inside the church, on April 30, 1598, the first Thanksgiving celebration of European colonists in the New World was held.

Fray Alfonso Martínez, the Commissary Apostolic, led the members of the expedition in singing a "very solemn Mass" and then delivered a "famous sermon, well thought out" to give thanks to God for their deliverance from the hardships of the trail. After eighty-six days over almost eight hundred miles of Northern Mexico, most of it unexplored, the expedition was on the verge of realizing the main purpose of their mission: to cross into El Nuevo Mexico.

Some of the highest profile cases include measures passed in Hazleton, Pa., and in Escondido, Calif.

The Hazleton ordinance, passed in September, is currently on hold as it undergoes court review.

In Escondido, a federal judge issued a temporary restraining order Nov. 16, following a request by MALDEF and the ACLU. The ordinance was scheduled to go into effect the following day.

Escondido city officials have amended their action. The modified ordinance would apply only to undocumented immigrants moving in after Nov. 17.

Even many of those civic leaders around the country who are fully aware of the legal ramifications persist because, they say, the federal government has failed to address the immigration issue adequately.

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Happy Thanksgiving
Feliz Día de Dar Gracias

Comentarios

de Bidal Aguero



On Thanksgiving persons throughout the nation will sit down at the dinner table to enjoy the luscious turkey with all the trimmings and all the desserts that come with it. The special diner and the desserts make a person wish that the special day would come more than once a year.

As and added bonus football fans will sit down in front of the TV to enjoy a Dallas Cowboys football game that will undoubtedly feature the skillful playing of Tony Romo as he easily beats the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on the road to the playoffs and then to the Super Bowl. Okay so I'm getting a little ahead of myself. But we all have our sueños.

Of course many would say that we can be thankful to live in a nation in which freedom and justice is available for everyone. This statement would probably be disputed by the many that are incarcerated and who feel that there remain many questions whether there truly is justice for all. We can definitely point to the unequal numbers of minorities that are now in jail to disprove the statement "justice for all."

Of course some would also say that they are thankful for being able to live in a nation that has no war on the homeland. But many others would point to the injustice of having to fight an immoral war that has no reason other than to fulfill the fantasies and ill wishes of one man.

There are many things for which to be thankful for and we hope that this Thanksgiving our readers will find themselves with their family hopefully thinking about how many more things we could be thankful for.

Lubbock Centro Aztlan, El Editor and this writer is proud to announce that it will once again produce the play "The Wondrous Santa Suit. The play will this year be directed by Director Alicia Tafoya who has many years of experience in other productions throughout West Texas. The play will be performed on December 9 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday Dec. 10 at 2 in the afternoon at the Lubbock Underwood Center of the Arts IceBox locale. More detail on this in the next couple of weeks.

Have a Happy & Safe Thanksgiving

Surge of Local Ordinances Target Undocumented Immigrants

By Verónica Macías
An ordinance passed this month in Farmers Branch, Texas, is the latest in a series of nearly a hundred measures proposed by local governments across the country to rid themselves of their undocumented populations.

The city's six-member council unanimously declared that landlords and businesses that rent to or hire undocumented immigrants will be penalized, city authorities will be allowed to screen individuals detained by police for legal status and English will be the official language of their jurisdictions.

The Dallas suburb of Farmers Branch has a 37.2 percent Latino population, according to the 2000 U.S. Census.

The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund has tracked more than 90 local ordinances which have sprouted in the nation throughout the latter half of this year.

Close to 50 of these measures contain elements similar to the Farmers Branch law. Of these, 21 have passed, 13 have been rejected or tabled, and the rest are still under consideration.

John Trasviña, newly named president and general counsel of MALDEF, told Hispanic Link News Service, "There is no pattern to the cities that are trying to develop these measures. All it takes is one member of its council to introduce the legislation."

Another common proposal would deputize local police to enforce federal immigration regulations.

Taneytown, Md., is the most recent case of a municipality approving an English-only law. It passed Nov. 13.

National Hispanic and civil rights groups



such as MALDEF, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union have filed lawsuits to block implementation of such actions in several municipalities.

Trasviña stressed that even if these laws do not include measures restricting access

Serie de Ordenanzas Locales Con Enfoque en Inmigrantes Indocumentados

Verónica Macías
Una ordenanza aprobada este mes en Farmers Branch, Texas, es la última de una serie de unas cien medidas propuestas por gobiernos locales por todo el país cuyo fin es deshacerse de sus poblaciones de personas indocumentadas.

El concejo municipal de seis miembros emitió una declaración unánime que establece penalidades sobre caseros y comerciantes que alquilen a o contraten a inmigrantes indocumentados; que permite que las autoridades municipales revisen los antecedentes migratorios de personas detenidas por la policía y establece que el inglés será la lengua oficial de sus jurisdicciones.

Farmers Branch, un suburbio de Dallas, tiene una población en 37,2 por ciento latina, según el Censo del 2000.

El Fondo Mexicano Americano de Defensa Legal y Educación (MALDEF por sus siglas en inglés) ha seguido a más de 90 ordenanzas que han brotado a nivel nacional durante los

últimos seis meses. Casi 50 de las medidas contienen elementos similares a los de la ley promulgada en Farmers Branch. De las 50, 21 han sido aprobadas, 13 denegadas o pospuestas, y las demás están bajo consideración.

John Trasviña, recientemente nombrado presidente y fiscal general del MALDEF, le indicó a Hispanic Link News Service que "No existe un patrón de comportamiento entre las ciudades que intentan desarrollar estas medidas. Lo único que requiere es que un miembro de su concejo presente la legislación".

Otra propuesta comúnmente vista daría autorización a la policía local para hacer cumplir reglamentaciones federales sobre la inmigración.

Taneytown, Maryland, es el caso más reciente de una municipalidad que aprobará una ley que establece el inglés como idioma único. Esta ley fue aprobada el 13 de noviembre.

Grupos nacionales de hispanos y de derechos civiles, como MALDEF, la Liga de

Ciudadanos Latino Americanos Unidos (LULAC), el Fondo Puertorriqueño de Defensa Legal y Educación y la American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) han presentado casos legales para detener la implementación de tales acciones en varias municipalidades.

Trasviña enfatizó que si bien las leyes no incluyen medidas que limiten el acceso de los hijos de personas indocumentadas a la educación pública, de igual manera se les priva de las oportunidades educativas ya que las ordenanzas prohíben que sus padres alquilen casa o trabajen.

Los opositores argumentan que muchas de las medidas promulgadas infringen lo expuesto en la Constitución y discriminan contra los hispanos.

"Las comunidades locales por todo el país han querido zambullirse con torpeza en temas de las leyes de inmigración cuando en realidad es un asunto federal", explica director ejecutivo de LULAC, Brent Wilkes.

Algunos de los casos de mayor prominencia incluyen medidas promulgadas en Hazleton, Pennsylvania y en Escondido, California.

La ordenanza de Hazleton, aprobada en septiembre, no llegó a promulgarse por lo que está bajo revista judicial.

En Escondido, un juez federal emitió una orden inhibitoria temporal el 16 de noviembre, tras una petición de parte de MALDEF y la ACLU. Se programaba efectuarse la ordenanza al día siguiente.

Los funcionarios municipales de Escondido han enmendado su acción. La ordenanza modificada se aplicará sólo a inmigrantes indocumentados que llegaran después del 17 de noviembre.

Muchos de los dirigentes cívicos por el país persisten con entera conciencia de las ramificaciones legales por lo que el gobierno federal ha fallado en resolver adecuadamente el tema de la inmigración, indican.

Read El Editor on the Internet

HOW GLAMOROUS IS CHILD LABOR?

by Jim Hightower

Darlings! You'll be ever so pleased to learn that a new, high-fashion super store has opened in America. It's called Wal-Mart. Yes, the stodgy old downscale store has gone upscale, offering hip new clothing lines like Metro 7!

If you think anything has really changed, however, you might check the labels on these new glam goods to see if any are made in Bangladesh. If so, they might have come from a factory there by the name of Harvest Rich, which produces clothing for Wal-Mart and others.

There's nothing at all hip about Harvest Rich - it's a sweatshop that uses child labor. In a new investigative report, the National Labor Committee, a diligent watchdog group, has documented conditions in Harvest Rich that are grotesque, even by sweatshop standards. Approximately 200 children between 11 and 14 years old work in this factory, sewing garments under contract to the Wal-Marts.

The children are forced to work 12-14 hours a day, with some shifts going 20-hours. In all of September, these child laborers got just one day off. For the grueling long shifts, they are allowed only about four hours of sleep on the factory floor before being awakened and put back on the machines, sometimes collapsing from exhaustion. Their wages are as low as six cents an hour. They are routinely slapped or beaten if they don't meet their production goals, make mistakes, or even take too long in the bathroom.

Wal-Mart washes its hands of this by asserting that it has a "code of conduct" for its contractors, supposedly enforced by apparel industry monitors. Yet, Harvest Rich, which is certified

Informe Climatológico de Texas: Nubloso y Asesino

José de la Isla
Columnista Macarena Hernández de The Dallas Morning News y yo tuvimos una chachara antes de salir al aire con nuestras perspectivas en un programa radial.

La misma semana en Farmers Branch, un suburbio de Dallas, el concejo municipal aprobó por moción unánime imponer multas a los caseros que alquilaran a inmigrantes indocumentados e impusieron el inglés como lengua oficial de la municipalidad.

Macarena dijo que entendía que Houston, a 240 millas al sureste de Dallas, era una ciudad acogedora. Le expliqué que la fama de Houston deriva principalmente de los esfuerzos cívicos por acomodar a los evacuados por el huracán Katrina, para lo cual se unieron todos los segmentos de la ciudad.

De manera similar, los dirigentes comunitarios de Houston se unieron cuando una campaña republicana local que reclamaba con falsedad que Houston era una ciudad "santuaría" y que permitía la libre circulación de criminales inmigrantes, buscaba suficientes firmas para presentar como iniciativa.

La iniciativa la cortó de raíz una coalición comunitaria de amplia base. La alianza, encabezada por concejala municipal Carol Alvarado, ha enviado un correo electrónico que advierte que

ordenanzas al estilo de Farmers Branch "atizan el odio y promueven la discriminación. Son, ciertamente, políticas que no debemos considerar".

Salió un llamado a los miembros del Proyecto Houston, para que reportaran si surgieran propuestas similares entre municipalidades circundantes y distritos escolares, para que no los tomaran de sorpresa.

Las diferencias entre Dallas y Houston, si se quedan como diferencias, son notables por lo que ambas ciudades estaban entre las últimas metrópolis importantes a nivel nacional que suspendieron actividades de "caza de brujas" que empezaron en la década de los años cincuenta. Entre los grupos más prominentes se encontraban el White Citizens Council, la John Birch Society y las Minute Women. Alegaban que la nación era víctima de un enemigo interior y promocionaban medidas extraordinarias, la mayoría con el fin de limitar los derechos civiles, para dar contra a la amenaza.

En aquel entonces, el enemigo externo era el comunismo. Internamente el enemigo se consideraba los esfuerzos por acabar con la segregación y la transformación social. En noviembre de 1963, la superstición virulenta corría como fiebre.

Ese mismo mes el presidente John F. Kennedy visitó una reunión de la Liga de Ciudadanos Latino Americanos de Houston en su honor antes de asistir a una función del partido demócrata. Al día siguiente fue asesinado en Dallas.

Hace dos años le pregunté a un docente del museo en el anterior Texas Book Depository Building, en Dealey Plaza, si conocía de algún reporte que hubiera videntes al anunciarse por el noticiero que habían disparado al presidente. El docente me dijo que algo así había reportado el reportero de CBS News, Dan Rather.

Lo mismo fue lo que yo vi ese terrible día como repartidor de periódicos en la plataforma de The Houston Press, cerca del centro de la ciudad.

Hoy la mayoría ha olvidado el debate tan duro que siguió al asesinato. Se trataba del otro complot sobre quién había asesinado a John Kennedy, no el que se refería al que había tirado del gatillo, sino el de las circunstancias y las actitudes del momento. Lo acordado generalmente fue que lo que mató a Kennedy fue una cultura imbuida de odio.

Desde entonces el velo de lo políticamente correcto ha convertido, pareciera, a todo el mundo en afanoso de Kennedy. Sin embargo, la verdad es que no fueron suficientes las buenas y decentes personas que alzaron la voz cuando aquella manía salvaje promovía el temor de una conquista promovida por grupos ajenos. En aquel entonces los ajenos eran los católicos, los negros, los norteaños liberales y algunos judíos.

Ahora lo que adquiere favor es la intimidación social.

Unas 50 municipalidades a nivel nacional han considerado o aprobado medidas similares. Unas 90 ordenanzas limitantes han surgido por el país este año. Hasta el caso de Farmer's Branch, ninguna había sido aprobada en Texas.

John Henry Faulk, él mismo escritor vedado, autor de Fear on Trial (1963), enumeró cinco lecciones aprendidas del "temor rojo" de Houston.

1) No se descubrió ningún complot subversivo, 2) participaron ciudadanos respetados para fortalecer su ventaja política, 3) la prensa padeció de timidez, como menos, 4) los vigilantes asumieron tendencias totalitarias, y 5) las principales víctimas fueron los derechos, los ideales y los principios protegidos por la Constitución.

La pregunta que hizo Macarena sobre una ciudad que enfrenta los desafíos de verdaderos flujos de inmigrantes y transformaciones demográficas va en buena dirección. ¿Puede una ciudad ser acogedora al mismo tiempo que protege los derechos de la ciudadanía y prospera? O será que tenemos que responder con pánico y estrangular nuestra Constitución por unos cuantos jornaleros inmigrantes y personas de clase trabajadora, así hayan cometido el delito menor de cruzar la frontera y hablar lenguas que no nos son familiares.

La realidad es que los que se visten de patriota con el fin de comprometer los derechos constitucionales ya han probado ser los del lado asesino.

The Climate in Texas: Cloudy and Murderous

By José de la Isla

Columnist Macarena Hernández of The Dallas Morning News and I chatted breezily prior to a radio show on which we recently shared our views.

That same week in Farmers Branch, a Dallas suburb, the city council unanimously approved levying fines on landlords who rented to undocumented immigrants and imposed English as the town's official language.

Macarena said she understood Houston, 240 miles southeast of Dallas, was a welcoming city. I explained Houston's reputation mainly came from civic efforts to accommodate Hurricane Katrina evacuees. All segments of the city came together for that.

Similarly, Houston community leaders closed ranks when a local Republican-led petition drive, falsely claiming Houston was a "sanctuary" city and was letting immigrant criminals run loose, was expected to have a huge disruptive effect.

The initiative was stopped in its tracks by a broad-based community coalition. The alliance, spearheaded by City Councilmember Carol Alvarado, has now sent out an e-mail, warning that Farmers Branch-like ordinances "fuel hate and promote discrimination. These are certainly not policies we should embrace."

A call went out for Project Houston members to report if similar proposals arise among area municipalities and school districts, not to get caught by surprise.

The Dallas-Houston differences, if indeed they remain that way, are noteworthy because both were among the last major cities in the nation to suspend "witch hunt" activities that began in the 1950s. Groups such as the White Citizens Council, John Birch Society and the Minute Women were the most prominent. Alleging the nation was falling victim to an enemy within, they encouraged extraordinary measures, mostly around curbing civil rights, to counter the threat.

Back then, the external enemy was Communism. Internally, it was portrayed as desegregation and social change. In November 1963, the virulent superstition was like a fever.

That month, President John F. Kennedy visited a Houston League of United Latin American Citizens gathering in his honor before attending a Democratic Party function. The next day he was murdered in Dallas.

Two years ago, I asked a docent at the museum at the former Texas Book Depository Building in Dealey Plaza, whether he knew of any reports of cheering over news that the President was shot. The docent told me CBS News reporter Dan Rather had reported something like that.

That too was what I witnessed that fateful day as a newspaper delivery boy at the dock of The Houston Press near downtown.

Today, most people have forgotten the hard debate following the assassination. It was about the other conspiracy concerning who killed John Kennedy, not the one about who pulled the trigger but the circumstances and the attitudes of the time. The consensus was that a culture of hate killed John Kennedy.

Since then, a shroud of political correctness has made virtually everyone seem like a cheering Kennedy supporter. However, the truth is not enough good, decent people spoke up when that wild mania was propounding fear about an alien take-over. Back then it was the Catholics, the Negroes, the liberal northerners and some Jews.

Now, social intimidation is gaining favor again. About 50 cities nationwide have considered or passed similar measures. Some 90 restrictive ordinances have cropped up around the nation this year. None were approved in Texas until Farmers Branch.

John Henry Faulk, himself a blacklisted writer and author of Fear on Trial (1963), enumerated five lessons learned from the Houston "red scare."

1) No subversive plots were uncovered, 2) respected citizens participated to strengthen their political advantage, 3) the press was sheepish at best, 4) the vigilantes took on totalitarian tendencies, and 5) constitutionally protected rights, ideals and principles became the main victims.

Macarena's inquiry about a city challenged by real immigration flows and demographic change is in the right direction. Can a city be welcoming, protect citizen rights and prosper? Or do we need to respond in panic by strangling our Constitution to get even with a few immigrant day laborers and working-class people, even if they did commit a misdemeanor by crossing the border and speak languages unfamiliar to us.

The fact is those who wear patriotic disguises in order to compromise Constitutional rights already have proven themselves to be on the murderous side.

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Feliz Día de Dar Gracias

A WALL FOR ALL

By Herman Sillas

W hew, the elections are over. President Bill Clinton, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, movie stars and celebrities have quit phoning me. I miss the action, though.

When Clinton called and said, "Hi, this is Bill Clinton,," I interrupted him and asked, "Is this really you, Bill?"

He kept on talking. I thought he didn't hear me.

"Bill?" I asked again. He was so intent on talking that he wasn't listening to me. Isn't that just like a politician? So I hung up on him.

Then my old boss, Jerry Brown, called. "Hi, Jerry," I said as soon as I recognized his voice.

He just kept talking.

"Hey, Jerry, it's me, Herman, your old DMV director. How you doing?"

He ignored my question and said, "And I ask you to vote for me."

"Of course," I promised. (This time my vote helped elect him as California's new Attorney General.) But before I could say another word, he hung up.

Oh well, he obviously has my number if he wants to call again.

So now that my phone has stopped ringing, we have a bunch of new players in Washington, D.C., and President Bush has returned from the Pacific Rim, which included, ironically, a stop-over in Vietnam. Now that he's home again, I hope that the White House and Congress start talking to each other and begin fixing things.

One of the first items I suggest they look at is our southern border. In the height of the political rhetoric to make our country safe, politicians got into the construction business. They authorized the building of a 700-mile wall between the United States and Mexico. They say the cost will range from \$2 billion to \$9 billion!

Would you give a contract to a builder who provided you with that loose of an estimate? I wouldn't. That's a lot of money to spend on a fence between friends.

We got into this mess because Mexico didn't have enough jobs

and we needed laborers who were willing to do work that most of us view as below our image. So we closed one eye as Mexicans crossed the border to work here, and then we hired them.

In exchange, Mexico welcomed those of us who crossed to buy goods at cheaper prices, obtain medicines unavailable here, or in search of a good time.

As in past campaigns, some politicians blamed "illegal aliens" for all the ills of the USA and demanded a fix. In election years, politicians don't fix anything. They just pretend to. This time they came up with the idea of building our version of the Great Wall of China.

So unless President Bush and Congress change their minds, we have to build the wall. Cynics have already suggested that the project would be impossible or self-defeating, that the only workers willing to endure the 120-degree desert heat to construct it would be undocumented workers from Mexico.

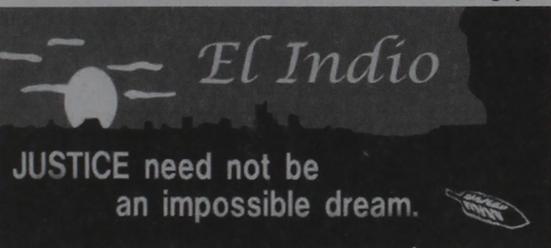
To do it the right way politically, the U.S. laborers should participate, probably earning quadruple what the Mexican workers get, but both must feel proud of their contribution to the binational project. Of course, each jobholder will have to stay on his or her side of the border. Only dual citizens would be allowed to roam back and forth.

Now, here comes the best part. We don't need to spend a dime to maintain it and can probably recoup much of the initial construction costs. Upon completing our 700-mile monument to love-thy-neighbor, each government could sell advertising space on its side, with special discounts to businesses like Wal-Mart and Taco Bell that want to attract customers on both sides of the border. Or the Mexicans could paint murals, something they're very good at.

The advertisers will need to hire security guards, of course, to protect their ads against graffiti. So long as they're there, for a little bonus, they can keep the Mexicans from migrating over, through or under their messages.

Free enterprise takes over. The \$5.15-an-hour minimum-wage security guards will eliminate the need for our federal Border Patrol, where pay ranges from \$40,000 to \$130,000 annually, plus overtime, health insurance, retirement and other benefits. Think of the savings to us taxpayers. And the Minuteman vigilantes can fold their parasols, return to their suburban homes knowing their families are safe from alien hordes, and play hangman with their grandchildren.

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Taking Back Our Elections: "Super Precincts", Hand-Counted Paper Ballots, and Vote Rescue!

by Roger Quannah Settler El Indio

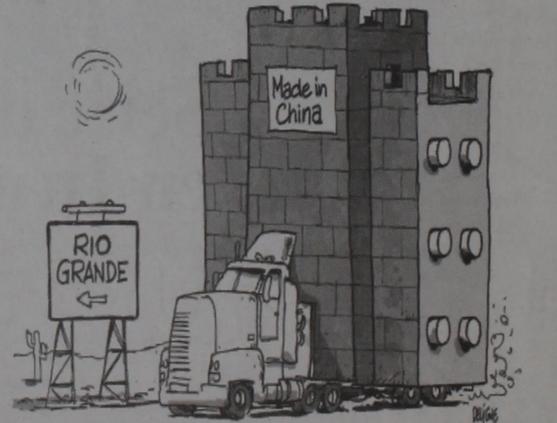
Last week, I wrote about the failure of "Super Precincts" in Lubbock...the much-touted electoral "experiment" FAILED miserably in its stated goal of increasing voter turnout...and long lines and voter confusion mitigated against the argument of "convenience" and easy access.

I am pleased to report that Ysidro Gutierrez, the only voice of the people on the County Commission, and one of the few in electoral office in Lubbock, echoed my sentiments in an interview in The Daily Toreador, Texas Tech's student newspaper. Although we have not communicated since the election, Ysidro reached the same conclusions that this writer did last week in El Indio...our numbers were slightly different...he used "total votes" and I used the sum of all of the gubernatorial [Governor's] candidates.

While numerous jurisdictions had problems with electronic voting machines, the State of New Mexico, under the able leadership of Governor Bill Richardson, the nation's only Hispanic Governor, had few difficulties with the new PAPER BALLOT system!

While this writer was in Austin last month, we met a group of folks called "Vote Rescue", who are dedicated to the implementation of hand-counted paper ballots nationwide. Next week, I shall write further about the successes of this vitally important organization.

More on this next week...in the meantime...this writer is looking forward to the Annual Christmas play to be presented by El Editor...and to my favourite holiday, Thanksgiving! All of us cordially wish all of you a most Happy Thanksgiving!



EL EDITOR

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Mole Poblano de Guajolote

(Turkey in Chocolate Chile Sauce)

In an 1870s cookbook from Puebla there were recipes for 44 different moles but only one, Mole Poblano de Guajolote, or turkey in mole sauce, is called the National Dish of Mexico. This mole has descended from an Aztec chilemulli dish and although it's called poblano, it doesn't contain any poblano chiles. In this case poblano refers to the people of Puebla, birthplace of this dish. For an authentic taste, lard is used, but if that's offensive to you, substitute vegetable oil.

Also, Mexican chocolate can be used, but if you do, be sure to eliminate the cinnamon from the recipe.

4 to 6 serving-size slices of raw turkey or chicken

4 dried pasilla chiles (or substitute ancho), stem and seeds removed

4 dried red New Mexico

chiles (Sandia, Chimayo or other hot varieties preferred), stems and seeds removed

1 to 2 canned chipotle chiles en adobo

1 medium onion, chopped

2 cloves garlic, minced

2 medium tomatoes, peeled and chopped

2 tablespoons sesame seeds, cup toasted almonds, chopped

corn tortilla, torn into pieces

1/4 cup raisins

1/4 teaspoon each: ground cloves, cinnamon, coriander

3 tablespoons lard, or substitute vegetable oil

2 to 3 cups turkey or chicken broth

1 ounce bitter chocolate, or more to taste

Freshly ground black pepper and salt to taste

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F.

Brown the turkey or chicken pieces in a heavy skillet for 10 minutes on each side, adding a little vegetable oil if necessary. Remove the pieces and place in a baking dish and roast in the oven for 50 minutes if using turkey and 30 minutes for chicken. Remove from the oven and keep the meat warm.

Preheat another heavy skillet over medium heat and toast the pasilla and New Mexico chiles until they slightly puff, turning them frequently to prevent them from burning. Cover the chiles with hot water and allow them to steep for 10 minutes to soften. Drain the chiles and discard the water.

Put the chiles, onion, garlic, tomatoes, 1 tablespoon of the sesame seeds, almonds, tortilla, raisins,

cloves, cinnamon, and coriander in a blender or food processor. Puree this mixture, adding small amounts of the broth, until the mixture is smooth.

Melt the lard or heat the oil in a large saucepan, and saute the chile puree for 10 minutes over medium hot heat, stirring frequently. Add more broth to the sauce to keep it smooth, and to thin if it gets too thick. Reduce the heat, stir in the chocolate and cook over a very low heat for 30 to 45 minutes, or until the sauce thickens.

Add the turkey to the mole sauce and heat through. Arrange the turkey in the sauce on a serving platter, garnish with the remaining sesame seeds and serve.

Yield: 4 to 6 servings
Heat Scale: Mild to Medium



Cranberry-Pumpkin Cheese-Cake

2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened

1/2 cup sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla

2 eggs

1 can (15 ounces) solid-pack pumpkin

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon ground cloves

Pinch of salt

1 (9-inch) graham cracker crust

1 (10-ounce) tub frozen cranberry-orange sauce, thawed and puréed in food processor

Preparation

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Beat cream cheese, sugar and vanilla in large bowl with electric mixer at medium speed until smooth and well blended. Add eggs, one at a

time, beating well after each addition. Add pumpkin, spices and salt; beat until well blended.

Spread 3/4 cup pumpkin mixture evenly in crust. Pour about 1/3 cup cranberry sauce over pumpkin mixture. Top with remaining pumpkin mixture and remaining cranberry sauce. Swirl cranberry sauce into pumpkin mixture with knife, being careful not to scrape crust.

Bake 50 to 60 minutes. (Cheesecake will not be completely set in the center.) Cool completely on wire rack. Refrigerate at least 2 hours or overnight.

Variation: Add 1/4 teaspoon salt and additional 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon to pumpkin mixture. Fold cranberry sauce into pumpkin mixture instead of swirling. Pour into crust; bake as directed above.

spoon pumpkin mixture onto lower half of each circle. Moisten edge. Fold top half over filling. Seal well with foil.

Pour corn oil into heavy saucepan (3 quart) filling no more than 1/3 full. Heat over medium heat to 375 degrees F. Carefully add empanadas, a few at a time. Fry, turning once, 5 to 7 minutes, or until

golden. Drain on paper towels.

Mix sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle over empanadas. Makes about 3 dozen.

Happy Thanksgiving

Cutting Thanksgiving Feast Calories

If you're still shopping for your Thanksgiving feast, there are ways to cut out some calories.

Before you serve up the turkey and all the fixings, you might want to consider the amount of calories you'll consume in just one meal.

Registered dietician Dana Nahai says, "A moderate serving of turkey, gravy and mashed potatoes can oftentimes equal more than 500 calories and 15 grams of fat."

That's only part of where the calories come from.

"Those pats of butter are what really get you, slobbered over the mashed potatoes or the rolls, because those are a whopping 45 calories and seven grams of fat for each one," Nahai explains.

Substituting leaner ingredi-



dents, limiting portion size and getting some

Exercise before and after the big meal can offset some calories, but not all of them.

"To balance the calorie load that one takes in from consuming a 3,000 calorie

meal, a 170 pound adult would have to run a 10 minute mile for two and a half hours," she says.

It might be easier to cut back on the homemade dessert and alcohol in order to keep the calorie count from climbing.

López Obrador 'assume' presidencia de México

Al rendir protesta como "presidente legítimo" de México, Andrés Manuel López Obrador anunció que su gobierno dará comienzo a una transformación democrática a fondo, cuyo propósito consistirá en proteger los derechos del pueblo, defender el patrimonio de los mexicanos y la soberanía nacional.

"Este gobierno, cuyas instituciones nacen de la voluntad general, ha de elaborar iniciativas de ley que promoverán los legisladores del Frente Amplio Progresista (PRD, PT y Convergencia), y diseñará estrategias que protejan el patrimonio nacional y los intereses de las mayorías", puntualizó.

Informó que también propondrá a los gobiernos estatales y municipales afines "políticas de desarrollo social en beneficio de los sectores más pobres y excluidos".

Miles de personas de todas las edades y condiciones sociales, congregadas en el Zócalo de esta ciudad unieron sus voces para exclamar: "¡El Peje! es nuestro presidente!", "¡Este es el presidente de los mexicanos pobres!"

El proclamado "presidente legítimo", con la banda tricolor en el pecho recién colocada, dijo que su gabinete formulará diagnósticos de "los principales problemas del país y propondrá soluciones y recomendaciones". Procedió de inmediato a enumerar las primeras 20 medidas del que llamó "gobierno del pueblo".

Planteó que la primera acción será el impulso de un proceso para la renovación de las instituciones públicas, por lo que se convocará a "un debate nacional y promoveremos un plebiscito para la elaboración de un nuevo marco constitucional".

Entre gritos de "¡No estás solo!", López Obrador notificó que se defenderá el derecho a la información, y añadió: "Demandaremos la apertura de los medios de comunicación a todas las expresiones de la sociedad".

Se comprometió a atender el "grave problema migrato-



rio, insistiendo en el cambio de la política económica para la generación de empleos en nuestro país". Y subrayó: "Nos opondremos a la construcción del muro fronterizo y protegeremos del maltrato, la discriminación y la violación de los derechos humanos a los mexicanos que se han visto obligados a ir a trabajar a los Estados Unidos".

Dijo López Obrador que su gobierno vigilará "a ministros públicos, jueces, magistrados y ministros que sólo se dedican a legalizar los despojos que comete el fuerte contra el débil y a garantizar impunidad para los delincuentes de cuello blanco". Enfatizó que "sin justicia no es posible que haya seguridad pública ni tranquilidad ni paz social".

Enviará a los legisladores una iniciativa de ley para elevar a rango constitucional "el combate a la corrupción y hacer valer la austeridad republicana, porque es indispensable considerar como

delito grave el influentismo, el conflicto de intereses, el nepotismo y hacer negocios al amparo del poder público".

Se comprometió a no permitir que "se cobren más impuestos a los pobres y a las clases medias y se mantengan los privilegios fiscales a los patentados e influyentes". Rechazará "el cobro del IVA a las medicinas y alimentos... los privilegiados, protegidos por el gobierno, no pagan impuestos o cuando lo hacen se los devuelven".

Dio a conocer que enviará a los diputados un proyecto de presupuesto de egresos que "reoriente el gasto público a la educación, la salud, la creación de empleos y el bienestar de la población".

Confirmó que el miércoles presentará a la fracción legislativa de su partido una propuesta de ley para los precios competitivos, a fin de terminar con "los exagerados cobros de bienes y servicios".

Del mismo modo prometió

continúa en la página 5

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El Dia de Accion de Gracias

Un Rayito de Luz

José Antonio Burciaga

Siempre pensé que el Día de Acción de Gracias era uno de los días festivos más bellos que tiene esta nación. Es el menos comercializado - el único día del año en que podemos dar gracias al Todopoderoso por las muchas bendiciones que nos brinda.

Este día feriado aun me revuelve los recuerdos que se remontan a mi niñez en El Paso, Texas. Durante ese tiempo, vivíamos en el sótano de una sinagoga judía, de la que mi padre era el portero.

Un día frío de noviembre cuando tenía nueve años, mi hermano y yo jugábamos afuera con nuestros amigos. Hacía fines de la tarde, los amigos se fueron a sus casas para comer pavo, pastel de calabaza y demás platos acompañantes.

Mi hermano y yo fuimos a casa esperando otro tanto. Nos sentamos a la mesa de la cocina esperando el festín. Mi madre me puso un plato de frijoles recién hechos. Pero, a medida que nos servía a mis cinco hermanos y hermanas y a mí, decía en español: "Den gracias a Dios por tener algo que comer".

Su voz titubeó y nosotros comprendimos. Mi padre no comía con nosotros ese Día de Acción de Gracias. Estaba trabajando arriba, en la sinagoga.

Muchos años después, cuando estuve en la fuerza aérea estadounidense en España, nuestro escuadrón invitó a los jóvenes residentes de un asilo local de huérfanos a la cena del Día de Acción de Gracias. Era una celebración anual. Un año les regalamos zapatos nuevos a todos los niños. En muchos casos, era el primer par de zapatos que tenían.

Recuerdo al adolescente que abrió su caja, vio los zapatos y brilló con una amplia sonrisa, mientras por la mejilla le deslizaba una gran lágrima.

Hay muchas versiones acerca de cómo se originó el Día de Acción de Gracias.

Durante toda su historia, muchas tribus indígenas de este continente realizaban alguna clase de celebración por la cosecha de maíz. Hay leyendas populares que pintan a los norteamericanos nativos invitando a los peregrinos a unirse con ellos en la celebración. Los indígenas habían enseñado a los pere-

grinos a sobrevivir y compartieron con ellos sus alimentos después del desastroso invierno de 1620 a 1621.

Una versión dice que el primer Día de Acción de Gracias fue realmente una fiesta de despedida que los indígenas brindaron a los peregrinos, quienes se alistaban para regresar a Europa después que un invierno crudo diezmará sus filas drásticamente. Pero después de una cosecha abundante y una fiesta magnífica, lo dejaron para luego y nunca se fueron.

Esa sería una versión agradable de creer.

William B. Newell, indígena de la tribu Penobscot y anterior presidente del Departamento de Antropología de la Universidad de Connecticut, brinda otra versión. Dice que el primer Día de Acción de Gracias oficial lo celebraron colonizadores blancos, a continuación de su ataque exitoso contra un pueblo indígena que se hallaba celebrando ceremonias religiosas.

"El Día de Acción de Gracias fue proclamado oficialmente por primera vez por el

governador de la colonia de la bahía de Massachusetts en 1637, para conmemorar la masacre de 700 hombres, mujeres y niños que celebraban su danza anual del maíz verde - su Día de Acción de Gracias - en su propia casa", escribe.

"Reunidos en su lugar de asamblea, fueron atacados por mercenarios, británicos y holandeses. Se ordenó a los indígenas a salir del edificio y, a medida que lo hacían, los mataban a tiros. Los demás fueron quemados vivos en el edificio. . . El próximo día, el gobernador declaró un Día de Acción de Gracias.

"Durante los cien años siguientes, cada Día de Acción de Gracias ordenado por algún gobernador fue para celebrar una victoria sangrienta, dando gracias a Dios por haber ganado la batalla".

Me gustan más mis recuerdos agradables, y desearía nunca haber conocido esta última versión. O quizás sea mejor que la conozcamos.

El gusto que esa historia nos deja en un día como el de Acción de Gracias es particularmente agrio. Pero por eso, también, podemos decir

por Sofia T. Martinez

La eucaristía es el sacramento en el cual por la admirable conversión de toda la sustancia del pan en el cuerpo de Jesucristo y de la sustancia del vino en su sangre, se contiene verdadera, real y sustancialmente el cuerpo, la sangre, el alma y la divinidad del mismo Jesucristo Señor nuestro, bajo las especies o apariencias de pan y vino, para nuestro mantenimiento espiritual.

La conversión del pan en el cuerpo y del vino en la sangre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, se hace en el momento mismo en el que el sacerdote, en la santa misa pronuncia las palabras de la consagración. Ya sabemos que son las mismas que Jesucristo pronunció antes de ser entregado en manos de los que lo crucificarían. Jesucristo instituyó la eucaristía para tres fines principales: Primero, para ofrecerse continuamente al padre, el es el único sacrificio agradable de la nueva ley que se ofrece para la gloria de Dios y la salvación del género humano ... segundo, para alimento de nuestras almas; el tercero, para ser el compañero y amigo siempre presente, prenda preciosísima de su amor por nosotros y de la vida eterna prometida por el mismo.

Los efectos que produce la eucaristía en aquellos que lo reciben dignamente son estos: 1) Conserva y aumenta la vida de la gracia, o sea aumenta el amor hacia Dios, y lo mantiene cada vez más unido y dispuesto para servirle. Así como el alimento corporal conserva y aumenta la vida del cuerpo y lo preserva de enfermedades, así Jesús nos preserva del pecado que es la más terrible de las enfermedades del alma, digamos que es la única que nos causa la muerte eterna. (Romanos 6).

Jesús nos libra del pecado, nos perdona y causa en nuestras almas espiritual consolación.

En una ocasión, una periodista le preguntó a la hermana Teresa de Calcuta: ¿que necesita la juventud de hoy? La única respuesta fue: "A Jesús". Tenemos que orientar a los jóvenes hacia la oración, que nace de una fe profunda, y llevarlos después al amor al prójimo. Hoy más que nunca, la juventud tiene hambre de fe, desea ardientemente que alguien le enseñe a orar, a conocer a Dios, tiene deseos de poner todo en juego al servicio de los pobres, y saber que Jesús los ama, la verdad de sus palabras, aprender que nosotros los servimos si servimos a los pobres. ¿Para el futuro de la india que es lo más importante? No me ocupo más que del hoy, porque el mañana todavía no está presente, y el ayer ya pasó. Hoy necesitamos a Jesús eucaristía, la adoración, dos manos para servir a los pobres y un corazón para amarlos.

¿De donde sacan ustedes las fuerzas para el duro trabajo? Comenzamos el día con la santa misa, la comunión y la meditación, pues de otra manera no podríamos perseverar, por la noche terminamos la jornada con una hora de adoración al santísimo. Jesús se ha transformado en pan de vida para poder darnos fuerza y vida. Lo que hacemos nosotros es su trabajo; tratamos de comunicar su amor.

Esto que dijo la hermana Teresa de Calcuta es el trabajo que tenemos que hacer cada bautizado si queremos que reina la paz entre las familias y entre las naciones.

and Dutch. The Indians were ordered from the building and as they came forth they were shot down. The rest were burned alive in the building. The very next day the governor declared a Thanksgiving Day. For the next 100 years, every Thanksgiving Day ordained by a governor was to honor a bloody victory, thanking God that the battle had been won."

I like my fond memories better, and wish that I had never learned the last version. Or maybe it is better that we do know it.

The taste of such history leaves on a day like Thanksgiving is especially acrid. But for that, we can say, "Gracias." © 1980

El Editor!!

Hillary Clinton es favorita de los demócratas para el 2008



Hillary Clinton, recién reelegida senadora demócrata por Nueva York, es dos veces más popular que sus contendientes de partido en la carrera hacia las elecciones presidenciales del 2008, según una encuesta difundida hoy por la cadena de televisión estadounidense CNN. Ante la pregunta de a quién es más probable que apoyen para la designación del candidato demócrata para los comicios de dentro de dos años, el 33% de los encuestados contestó que la esposa del ex presidente Bill Clinton.

El sondeo, realizado entre el viernes 17 y el domingo 19 de noviembre por la empresa Opinion Research Corp., fue realizado entre 530 personas con derecho a voto que se declararon demócratas o independientes pero con simpatía hacia esta agrupación política.

A Hillary Clinton, le sigue el senador por Illinois Barack Obama, con el 15%; el ex senador por Carolina del Norte John Edwards, con el 14%, y el ex vicepresidente Al Gore, con el 14%.

John Kerry, el candidato demócrata en las elecciones del 2004, obtuvo el 7%.

Por debajo de Kerry, se encuentran otros como el general retirado Wesley Clark; Joe Biden de Delaware; Bill Richardson de Nuevo México; Evan Bayh de Indiana, y Tom Vilsack de Iowa.

Vilsack, gobernador de Iowa, fue el 9 de noviembre pasado el primer demócrata que anunció su candidatura para las elecciones presidenciales del 2008.

Vilsack, de 55 años, obtiene sólo el 1% de los apoyos en la encuesta.

Thanksgiving Day a Celebration of 'New World' Friendships or Going-Away Party for the Pilgrims

By José Antonio Burciaga

I used to think that Thanksgiving was one of the most beautiful holidays this country has. It is the least commercialized - the only day of the year when we can give thanks to the Almighty for our many blessings.

The holiday still churns up memories that go back to my childhood in El Paso, Texas. We lived in the basement of a Jewish synagogue, where my father was the janitor.

When I was nine years old, one of my brothers and I were playing outside with our friends in the brisk cold of a November day. Toward the end of the afternoon, our friends went home to eat turkey, pumpkin pie, and all of the trimmings.

The two of us went home expecting the same. We sat down at the kitchen table waiting for a feast. My mother put a plate of freshly made beans before me. But as she served me and my five brothers and sisters, she said in Spanish, "Give thanks to God for having something to eat."

Her voice quivered and we understood. My father didn't eat with us that Thanksgiving. He was working.

When I was with the U.S. Air Force in Spain many years later, our squadron treated the young residents of a local orphanage to Thanksgiving dinner. It was an annual event. One year we gave all of the children new shoes - in many cases, their first pair.

I remember a young boy opening his box, seeing the shoes, and breaking into a wide smile as a big tear ran down his cheek.

There are many versions as to how Thanksgiving Day originated.

Throughout their history, most Indian tribes on this continent observed some form of corn harvest celebration. There are popular tales that have the Native Americans inviting the Pilgrims to join in the celebration with them. The Indians had shown the Pilgrims many survival skills and shared their foods after the disastrous winter of 1620-21.

One version is that the first Thanksgiving was actually a going-away party the Indians had thrown for the

Pilgrims. The Pilgrims were ready to go back after a harsh winter had decimated their numbers drastically. But following a bountiful harvest and a terrific party, they procrastinated and never left.

That would be a nice version to believe.

William B. Newell, a Penobscot Indian and former chairman of the anthropology department of the University of Connecticut, offers another one. He says that the first official Thanksgiving Day was celebrated by white settlers following their successful attack on an Indian settlement when the latter group was conducting religious ceremonies.

"Thanksgiving Day was first officially proclaimed by the Governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1637 to commemorate the massacre of 700 men, women and children who were celebrating their annual green corn dance - Thanksgiving Day to them - in their own house," he writes.

"Gathered in this place of meeting, they were attacked by mercenaries and English

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Romo, Barber spoil Colts' shot at perfect season

Maybe the burden of an unbeaten season was becoming too much for the Indianapolis Colts. They sure played like it.

Peyton Manning and the Colts looked nothing like their perfect record Sunday, turning the ball over on four of their first six possessions and coming up empty on their final two drives to lose 21-14 to the Dallas Cowboys.

After close calls all season, Indianapolis (9-1) couldn't overcome this sloppy outing -- even against a club whose quarterback was making only his fourth career start and whose defense was missing its top performer.

"We've been playing with fire -- and the fire caught us," Colts coach Tony Dungy said.

Manning threw two interceptions after having thrown only three all year. He lost his first fumble of the season and Marvin Harrison lost his first since 2004. All told, Indianapolis had its most turnovers in its last 79 regular-season games, dating to Nov. 25, 2001.

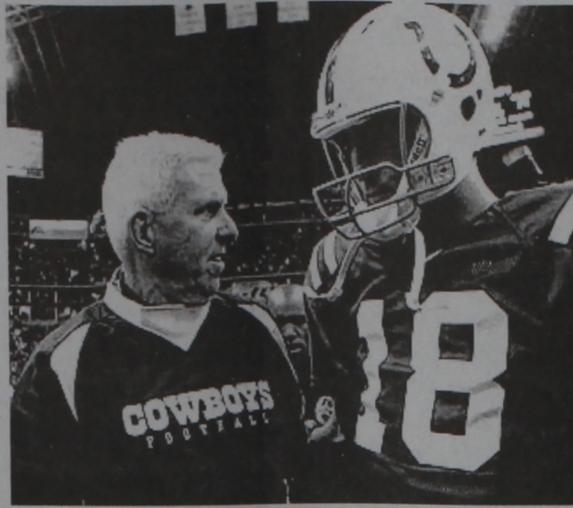
Still, the loss could be somewhat of a relief. There won't be any more questions

about chasing the hallowed mark of the 1972 Miami Dolphins or their own 13-0 start last season. The focus now returns to mundane topics like winning the division and becoming the AFC's top seed, all of which seems within reach considering the Colts' remaining foes are a combined 25-34.

"It's not a positive when you lose a game," said Manning, who also had a season-high 19 incompleitions and was sacked twice on one drive after going down only 10 times all season coming in. "We're going to dissect the film and find things we can build on. It's been awhile since while since lost a regular season game. But that doesn't make this less painful."

The victory is just as big for Dallas (6-4) as the loss is disappointing for Indianapolis.

Start with it being the most impressive win in coach Bill Parcells' four seasons. Then factor in that after being down 14-7, quarterback Tony Romo led two touchdown drives, then another to run out the clock, all in his first home start. And give the defense bonus



points for playing so well in their first game since Greg Ellis, their captain and MVP thus far, was lost to an injury.

To team owner Jerry Jones, it was like "a couple of wins in the '90s that showed our team that they could do it," referring to clubs that won three Super Bowls.

With three wins in Romo's four starts, the Cowboys are two games over .500 for the first time all season. Four of the remaining six games are

at home and the rest of the division is ailing, leaving Dallas in prime position for a big finish.

"I told the team (this win) ought to tell them something about what they're capable of doing," said Parcells, who in his 19 years in the NFL had never ended an opponent's perfect start this deep into a season. "If we keep playing like this, we have a chance to do something."

It sure didn't start out that

... Romo lost a fumble on a sack by Dwight Freeney on the opening drive, then threw an interception soon after. He didn't get the Dallas offense inside the Indianapolis 20 until the final 30 seconds of the third quarter.

However, once he did, the Cowboys grabbed control for good.

Marion Barber III scored from the 5 to tie it early in the fourth, capping a 68-yard drive. Then Romo followed with an 80-yard series, again capped by a Barber TD, that put Dallas ahead for the first time. His last possession might've been the best because he kept Manning and the Colts from getting back on the field, using up the final 2:59.

"This is big," said Romo, who went 19-of-23 for 226 yards. "We've been trying to get ourselves a little momentum for awhile. We needed this win badly. ... This isn't our goal. This week it was, today it was. But our goal is much higher. This is a step in that direction."

Earlier this week, Romo found out he was the NFL's second-rated passer, behind

only Manning. When Sunday's game ended, Romo walked off with the game ball in one hand and gave Manning a consoling pat on the head with his other hand.

Manning went 20-of-39 for 254 yards and was off from the start, failing to get any points out of Romo's early turnovers.

He put together a long drive just before halftime for a 7-0 lead, then had a chance to build on it at the start of the second half. Instead, his second pass was tipped and intercepted by linebacker Kevin Burnett, who returned it 39 yards for the tying score.

Manning put the Colts back ahead with another Manning-like drive, but his last two series had surprising finishes -- an incompletion on a deep ball on third-and-1, then passes into the end zone that weren't anywhere close to being caught after reaching the Dallas 8 with a little over three minutes left.

"We've been in similar situations and made plays in the past," Manning said. "Tonight we didn't make them."

Dallas Cowboys Report:

--The Cowboys are stoked about their victory against the Colts but they know it means nothing if they don't build on it with a victory against the Buccaneers. Coach Bill Parcells said the Cowboys need to start a streak and put some wins together to help their postseason push.

"This is the time of year you've got to put some wins together if you're going to get into contention," Parcells said. "Definitely, we're in contention temporarily, but if you lost three in a row, you could get out of that pretty quickly."

--Credit the Cowboys' defensive success against the Colts to defensive coordinator Mike Zimmer's decision to have the linebackers and defensive backs wear wristbands with all the play calls on them.

Because the Colts do not huddle and call a lot of plays at the line, it makes it difficult to substitute.

And instead of one guy making the calls, everybody was required to look to the sideline to get the call from Zimmer. With the wristbands, the play-calling process became significantly smoother.

Cowboys report: Inside slant

As Tony Romo-mania continues to grow in Dallas, the big question is why didn't Bill Parcells bench quarterback Drew Bledsoe sooner?

Clearly he knew Bledsoe was struggling. There was no reason to think any of that would change.

And considering he has groomed Romo for the last four years, even upping the

process this year in preseason in anticipation of possibly having to make the move, why not do it at the start of the season?

"I am sure there will be a lot of people now who would say, 'You should have done it sooner,'" Parcells said. "But that is the advantage of the retrospective point of view. I did it when I thought it was time."

It certainly couldn't have come at a better time for the Cowboys, who have won three of their last four games with Romo at quarterback.

Romo, who has been linked to Jessica Simpson off the field, has been just as hot on it.

He threw for 225 yards against the Colts. He has now thrown for 220 or more yards in each of his first four

starts. Gary Hogeboom is the only other quarterback in club history to throw for 220 or more yards in his first four starts. Hogeboom accomplished the feat in five straight.

For the season, Romo has a 100.0 passer rating, tops in the NFC, and third in the NFL.

Parcells says he has no regrets about when he made the move with Romo.

He also said he is not surprised by his play.

"I don't know if surprised would be the right word ... I really don't know," Parcells said. "I've been looking at the guy for four years now so I don't look at him like a rookie player. I look at him as an inexperienced game player I think, just to reiterate the history a little bit. It's been a pretty long process to get him ready."

Parcells said his job now is to keep Romo grounded and humble in the face of all the hype

GO FIGHT WIN!!!

crear una Comisión de la Verdad, que se encargará de "investigar el fraude al Fobaproa [Fondo Bancario de Protección al Ahorro], los rescates a carteristas, a la banca de desarrollo y a los ingenios azucareros".

Manifestó que se impulsará un plan para impedir que "en el 2008 se aplique la cláusula del Tratado de Libre Comercio que permite la libre importación de maíz y de frijol, que significaría un golpe definitivo a cuatro millones de familias campesinas".

López Obrador adelantó que su gobierno defenderá "el derecho constitucional a un salario justo", ya que "hoy en día de 42 millones de mexicanos en edad de trabajar 16 millones obtienen menos de 30 pesos diarios".

Apuntó que se luchará porque los trabajadores del sector informal de la economía, los jornaleros agrícolas, las trabajadoras domésticas y comerciantes ambulantes "gozen de protección legal y tengan derechos a la seguridad social".

Hizo énfasis en que se defenderá la autonomía sindical y se promoverá la democratización en los sindicatos. Declaró, entre los aplausos de la muchedumbre, que "no se aceptará la privatización de la industria eléctrica ni del petróleo en ninguna de sus modalidades, porque el petróleo no es del Estado ni del gobierno, es de la nación, ¡la patria no se vende, se defiende!".

López Obrador anticipó que se impulsará en el Congreso una ley para "dar protección y una vida digna a todos los mexicanos desde la cuna hasta la tumba", e insistió en que debe otorgarse "una pensión universal alimenticia a los adultos mayores, apoyos a todas las personas con discapacidad y becas a madres solteras para que sus hijos no abandonen la escuela".

Se presionará para que se cumplan los acuerdos de San Andrés Larráinzar --firmados en el pasado por el gobierno y la guerrilla zapatista--, que "garantizan los derechos económicos, sociales, políticos y culturales de los pueblos indígenas".

Exhortó a luchar para prevenir que los jóvenes sean rechazados de las universidades, y afirmó: "Nunca aceptaremos que la derecha [política] ponga la educación en el mercado, como si fuese una mercancía que sólo pueden adquirir quienes tienen recursos económicos. La educación no se puede convertir en un privilegio".

Declaró que su gobierno hará valer el derecho de los mexicanos a la salud, porque actualmente "más de la mitad de la población no cuenta con seguridad social". Calificó al Seguro Popular, implementado por el presidente Fox, como "pura demagogia, porque ni es seguro ni es popular".

Finalmente ofreció ayudar

"en todo lo que podamos, a millones de mexicanos que viven en colonias populares, barrios, pueblos y comunidades rurales, sin servicios públicos y en viviendas precarias".

Propuso que "el gobierno legítimo sea el pueblo organizado", e invitó a sus simpatizantes a actuar como "representantes del gobierno", puesto que el objetivo consiste en "crear una red de millones de representantes del gobierno en todo el territorio nacional".

El procedimiento para ello, añadió, consistirá en la suscripción de una carta compromiso de los interesados, expresando de manera "libre, consciente y voluntaria el propósito de defender los derechos del pueblo y el patrimonio de la nación", de tal manera que se comprometan a "estar atento ante cualquier llamado que haga el presidente legítimo cuando se pretenda cometer una injusticia o consumir un acto antipopular o entreguista".

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Notice is given that a public hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 1625 13th Street, City of Lubbock, on the 19th day of December, 2006 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. The City Council of the City of Lubbock will, at that time, consider amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article XVIII, entitled "Electric Utility Board" as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XVIII OF CHAPTER 20 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, OUTLINING THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ELECTRIC UTILITY BOARD; PROVIDING FOR THE DISBURSEMENT OF REVENUES OF THE CITY'S ELECTRIC UTILITY; FURTHER DEFINING CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS AND PENALTIES ASSOCIATED THEREWITH; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION.

WHEREAS, the Chapter 1, Article XII, Section 1 of the Lubbock City Charter establishes and outlines certain responsibilities and duties of the Electric Utility Board;

WHEREAS, Chapter 1, Article XII, Section 1 of the Lubbock City Charter required the City Council of the City of Lubbock to pass an ordinance further detailing and outlining the duties of the Electric Utility Board;

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2004, the City Council of the City of Lubbock passed Ordinance Number 2004-00140, amending Sections 2-479 through 2-485 of Chapter 2, Article XVIII of the Code of Ordinances, City of Lubbock, Texas detailing the duties and responsibilities of the Electric Utility Board and detailing the procedure for disbursing net revenues of the City's municipally owned electric utility;

WHEREAS, the Electric Utility Board has requested that the City Council amend certain portions as of the above described ordinance as outlined herein;

WHEREAS, Section 2-485 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Lubbock, Texas outlines the procedures for amending said ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the procedures outlined in Section 2-485 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Lubbock, Texas, the City Council of the City of Lubbock deems that it would be in the best interest of the City of Lubbock and its municipally owned electric utility, Lubbock Power & Light, to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of Lubbock Power & Light by amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lubbock in the following manner. NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUBBOCK

SECTION 1: THAT Section 2-480 (a) of the Code of Ordinances, City of Lubbock, Texas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-480. Members, Qualifications.

- a) The number of Board members and their terms are governed by Chapter 1, Article XII, Section 1 of the Lubbock City Charter and shall be considered officers of the City of Lubbock. No Board member shall serve more than three terms. However, for each Board member appointed whose original term was for one year or less, such original term shall not apply towards the three term term-limitation outlined herein. The City Council shall consider extensive business and/or financial experience as a qualification for serving on the Board as well as whether or not the individual is a customer of the City's electric utility provided that service with the City's electric utility is available. The Mayor or the Mayor's appointee shall serve as an *ex officio*, non-voting member of the Board.

SECTION 2: THAT Section 2-482 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Lubbock, Texas, is hereby amended by adding subsection (e) to read as follows:

- e) To the extent authorized by law and subject to the City's Charter and Code of Ordinances, the Board shall be responsible for nominating individuals to the City Council for their consideration in appointing individuals to the Board and for appointing individuals to the West Texas Municipal Power Agency.

SECTION 3: THAT Section 2-484 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Lubbock, Texas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-484. Disbursement of Net Revenues

- a) Subject to Section 2-484(g), prior to paying any fee equivalent to a franchise fee, making any payment in lieu of taxes, and prior to disbursing any net operating revenues of the City's electric utility, the Board shall first fully meet all current bond reserve and fund obligations contained in any bond issuance and/or covenant for the City's electric utility.
- b) Subject to Section 2-484(g), after providing for sufficient funds to meet the obligations contained in Section 2-484(a) above but prior to reimbursing any other fund of the City, paying any fee equivalent to a franchise fee, making any payment in lieu of taxes, and prior to disbursing any net operating revenues of the City's electric utility, the Board shall first fully fund the following items:
 - i) The Board shall maintain sufficient operating cash to satisfy all current accounts payable;
 - ii) A General Reserve equal to the greater of four months gross retail electric revenue as determined by taking the average monthly gross retail electric revenue from the previous fiscal year or fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000.00). This reserve fund shall be used for operational purposes, rate stabilization and for meeting the electric utility demand of any rapid or unforeseen increase in residential and/or commercial development.
- c) Following proper funding of the above described funds, the Board shall pay to the City a fee equivalent to a franchise fee and payment in lieu of taxes as required by the City. This fee shall be equal to the lesser of the following:
 - i) Five percent (5%) of the gross revenue generated from all retail electric sales; or
 - ii) Fifty percent (50%) of net income from the most recent audited, unqualified annual financial statements.
- d) Subject to the approval of the Board, any net operating revenues remaining shall be refunded to the ratepayers of the City's electric utility within six months following the fiscal year in which the net revenues are realized. Nothing contained in Section 2-484(g) shall be construed as a cap or limit on the refund outlined in this Section 2-484(d).
- e) This section shall be included in and become a part of each annual budget ordinance of the City of Lubbock.
- f) Reserve amounts, franchise fees, payments in lieu of taxes and refunds to the ratepayers of the City's electric utility shall be based on audited, unqualified financial statements from the most recent completed fiscal year.
- g) Beginning with fiscal year 2006 - 2007 and subject to the approval of the Board, the City's electric utility may refund up to one million dollars and no/100 dollars (\$1,000,000.00) to the ratepayers of the City's electric utility for marketing and competitive purposes as solely determined by the Board.

SECTION 4: THAT Section 2-485 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Lubbock, Texas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-485. Amendments.

- a) To the extent authorized by law and subject to the City's Charter and Code of Ordinances, the Board shall be responsible for recommending any amendments to Chapter 2, Article XVIII of the Code of Ordinances of Lubbock, Texas.
- b) The City Council shall not amend, alter, delete or change any provision contained in this ordinance without first conducting a public hearing following proper notice as described below.
- c) Prior to conducting a public hearing as described above, the City Council shall provide notice of such hearing. The notice must state clearly the time and place of the hearing and must clearly state the proposed amendment, alteration or change. The notice must be published at least thirty days before the date for public hearing and at least once a week for three consecutive weeks. The last day of publication must not be less than one week or more than two weeks before the date of the hearing. The notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation and that is published at least six days a week in the city of Lubbock.

SECTION 5: THAT the City Council finds and declares that sufficient written notice of the date, hour, place and subject of this meeting of the Council was posted at a designated place convenient to the public at the City Hall for the time required by law preceding this meeting, that such place of posting was readily accessible at all times to the general public, and that all of the foregoing was done as required by law at all times during which this Ordinance and the subject matter thereof has been discussed, considered and formally acted upon

The City Council further ratifies, approves and confirms such written notice and the contents of posting thereof.

SECTION 6: THAT should any paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 7: THAT the City Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to cause publication of the descriptive caption of this Ordinance as an alternative method of publication provided by law.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED

Passed by the City Council on the first reading on this ___ day of _____, 2006

Passed by the City Council on the second reading on this ___ day of _____, 2006

David A. Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca Garza, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT

W.R. Collier, Chairman
Electric Utility Board

Gary Zheng, Director of Electric Utilities

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Matthew L. Wade, Natural Resources Attorney

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