Lating Youth More Likely to Receive Harsher Punishment

by MACARENA HERNANDEZ ©2000 Latinolink

Latino and African American teenagers are more likely to receive harsher punishment than white youth who commit the same crime, according to a recent study.

The report found that youth of color are more likely to be arrested, referred to juvenile court, convicted and given longer prison terms, face trial as adults and be jailed with adults, according to the report, "And Justice for Some," sponsored by the Justice Department and six of the nation's leading philanthropic foundations.

"It's pretty much the same child, the only distinction is race and the results show they are being treated differently," said Attorney Mike Finley, attorney and a Soros Justice Fellow at the Washington D.C.-based Youth Law Center. "I don't think anyone should be surprised (at the results of the study) because those of us of color intuitively know that that occurs and that justice can often be justice based on race."

In Arizona, New Mexico, California and Texas, incarcerated Hispanic teenagers are overrepresented. The study found that in 43 out of 44 states, minority youth were being detained in numbers higher than their percentage of the population. And although minority youth comprise only one third of the teenage population in the country, they account for the majority of youth held in both public and private facilities.

The study also showed that when white and minority youth were charged with the same offenses, blacks with no prior admissions were six times more likely to be incarcerated than white teenagers. Latinos were three times more likely to be jailed than whites.

In 1993, Latino youth were confined to 112

El Respeto al

Respect for

Lic. Benito

Juarez

Vol XXIII No. 31

Derecho Ajeno

Others Is Peace"

es La Paz."

the Rights of

more days than their white counterparts. In 1997, 7,400 new admissions to the adult prisons involved teenagers under 18 years old. Three out of four of them were members of a



minority group.

"In order for the judicial system to have credibility within the community, there has to be the feeling that it is fair and that Hispanics and blacks are not treated differently than any other groups," said Brent Wilkes, executive director of the League of United Latin American Citizens. "This study reveals what many in the community already feel: that the judicial system has not been treating Hispanics and blacks on an equal footing compared to other races, especially with whites."

Although minority youth account for only 34 percent of the U.S. population, they represent 62 percent of the youth in detention, 67 percent of the youth committed to public facilities and 55 percent of the youth committed to private facilities.

The report cautioned, however, that the data for Latino youth in the juvenile system

Week of April 27, 2000 thru May 3, 2000

might not be as accurate because they are often times lumped under the white category for ethnicity.

"The facilities don't report our Hispanic figures," said Wilkes. "When they compare blacks with whites many of those whites are Hispanic."

The report, perhaps the most thorough of its kind, is based on data from state and federal arrest records, juvenile court actions, waivers to adult court and incarceration. Most of the data used in the study was first compiled by the Census Bureau, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the National Center for Juvenile Justice. The report was written by researchers at the National Council on Crime and Delinquency in San Francisco, Calif.

In recent years, studies have also pointed to the disproportionate number of adult Latino and black prison inmates.

Some believe the numbers prove that members of minority groups are simply committing more crimes. But others, like Finely, countered that such an explanation is an oversimplification of a much more complicated problem that includes racial discrimination as well as the fact that largely minoritypopulated areas tend to have higher police activity.

The Youth Law Center, which coordinated the report, want Congress to give the Justice Department at least \$100 million to assess and address racial disparities as well as require that states spend a portion of their federal juvenile justice grants on the issue.

"On the community level, we have to demand that our elected officials be held accountable the same way they want our kids to be held accountable," said Finely.

these dolls and the caracter they portray into the mainstream. Latinos, after all, will become the largest non-white ethnic or racial group by the end of this decade.

News Briefs

Homies Dolls Are Mking Money --

And Brewing Controversy

Philadelphia, - They are often called Smiley or Mr. Raza. They

Created by David Gonzales, who patterned these caricatures

"Not all Latinos look like Ricky Martin or Jennifer Lopez,"

But some are concerned about the stereotype these bandana-

Some say that although not everyone that dresses like these

Homies dolls are gangsters, too many people perceive that to be

the case. So these dolls, say some, are perpetuating a negative

stereotype of Mexican-American and other Latino youth. Some

stores at one point stopped selling these dolls in fear of customers'

class resident of San Jose. "Dressing in baggy pants and a

"Being Mexican is hard enough," said Liz Hernandez, middle

Gonzales said that these dolls may have a positive -- putting

Gonzales told the San Jose Mercury News. "There's hundreds of

after college friends, Homies have been very popular. Since their

first debut in 1999, more than 4 million Homies have been sold.

thousands of people who look like my toys."

wearing buddies are portraying to non-Hispanics.

wear oversized shirts and baggy pants. They cost .50 cents. And

they are very popular. But some Latinos in California don't find

them that cute.

negative reaction to them.

bandanna will only hurt you."

A Strike Against Government Actions

Philadelphia, - From small business employees to three players and an assistant general manager from Major League Baseball's Florida Marlins, thousands of Miami residents are estimated to strike today against Saturday's actions commanded by Attorney General Janet Reno to retrieve Elian Gonzalez for his father.

Little Havana, usually busy with activity, will be pretty quiet today. Many of the Cuban-American owned businesses will remain closed for the day. Other larger businesses have closed shop today as well. Sedano Supermarkets chain has closed all 25 stores; Publix Supermarkets has shut down seven of its stores in the Miami-Dade County area.

Three players from the Florida Marlins, including two players born in Cuba, will miss today's game in Miami against the San Francisco Giants.

Mike Lowell, one of the striking players, is the starting third baseman for the club. Although he was born in Puerto Rico, his wife is Cuban and he is the son of Cuban exiles.

"A lot of Americans and Latins feel this way. You don't have to be Cuban to support this," Lowell told the Associated Press. "I've got problems with them (the U.S. government) saying they're concerned with the kid's welfare, and they go in there like it's

World War III." Pitchers Alex Fernandez, who pitched Monday night, Vladimir Nunez and Miguel Tejera, who is currently injured, plan to miss today's game. Three Marlins coaches plan to be absent, as well as Assistant to the General Manager Tony Perez, who will inducted into Major League Baseball's Hall of Fame this year.

Cuban American lawmakers also plan to skip today's state legislature session. In addition, Dade County Commissioners Javier Souto, Pedro Reboredo, Miriam Alonso, Bruno Barreiro, Jimmy Morales and Miguel Diaz de la Portilla also said they will observe the general strike.

LATINO NEWS ROUND-UP

Philadelphia, April 20, 2000 (LATNN.com).- Two stories in two big cities surround distrust with government and city officials.

In Washington, D.C., Hispanic and Vietnamese residents in the Northwest are suing the city through U.S. District Court for discriminatory practices during the evictions and slumlord crackdowns in an anti-slum initiative.

According to the lawsuit, Hispanics make up only 7 percent of the D.C. population but make up close to 60 percent of the evictions and crackdowns taking place.

Mayor Anthony Williams met with about 100 tenets last night. Also, in Houston, the Mexican immigrant community is being warned by the local Mexican Consulate to talk to lawyers before you talk to the cops.

Fliers are being circulated around Mexican communities to warn residents to know their rights, particularly in the wake of a recent shooting of a Mexican man.

The death of Jaime Santiago Cruz on March 5 came after a noise complaint. Cops shot Santiago Cruz because they thought he had a gun. It turned out to be a toy gun. Three Hispanics have died by police shootings since 1997.

Vietnam: Coleccionistas en Busca de Restos

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Por Huw Watkin, dpa CIUDAD HO CHI MINH (dpa) - Macizos bunkers de concreto y miles de cráteres dejados por las bombas diseminados por todas partes forman aun parte del paisaje vietnamita, al acercarse el 25 aniversario del fin de la guerra

de Vietnam, el 30 de abril. Hoy, sin embargo, es difícil imaginarse que este país fue escenario de uno de los conflictos más salvaje de la historia de la guerra.

Un recuerdo de la dimensión personal de la guerra siendo en Ciudad Ho Chi Minh el mercado de Dan Sinh, llamado "mercado militar", que aún atrae a cazadores de souvenirs de todo el mundo.

Aquí, los puestos están llenos de los restos de casi treinta años de conflicto: botas de combate usadas, cascos, pistoleras, mochilas y cinturones, cartucheras de munición, máscaras de gas y medallas vietnamitas empeñadas, amargos testigos de la miseria que siguió tras la victoria de Vietnam del Norte en 1975.

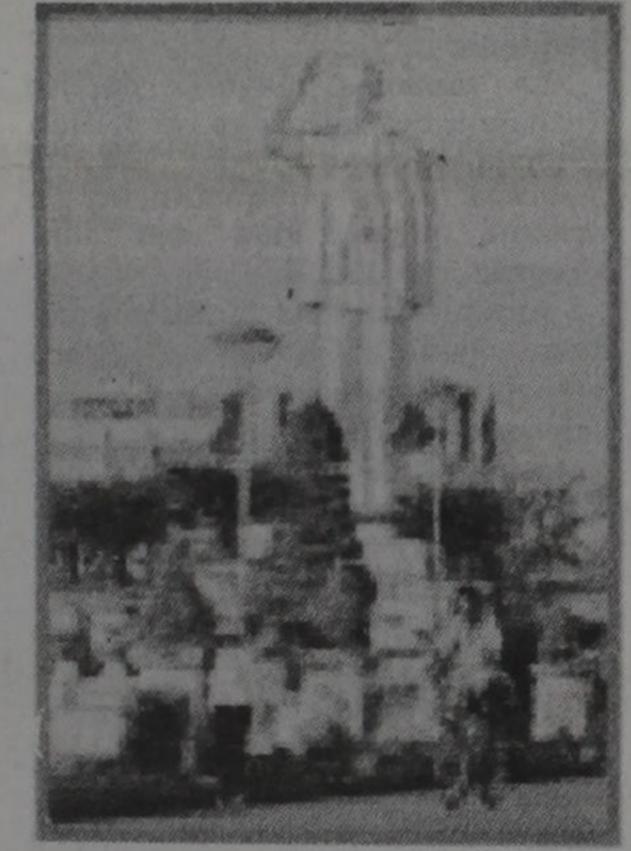
Discos de identidad y placas de identificación de soldados olvidados se amontonan junto a carcomidas fotografías en blanco y negro de personas sin nombre, algunas de uniforme y con las armas en los brazos, otras vestidas en la moda inconfundible de los años 60 y comienzos del 70.

Montones de encendedores Zippo con la insignia de la unidad a que perteneció su dueño evocan las imágenes de aldeas en llamas, mientras linternas del ejército traen al recuerdo el terror de la búsqueda en la oscuridad de los refugios subterráneos y los sistemas de túneles.

Para quienes vivieron esos tiempos, el mercado de Dan Sinh sigue siendo un sobrecogedor testigo de las innumerables tragedias individuales que fue la guerra de Vietnam, y cuyos recuerdos siguen presentes en la vida de personas como Bob Coleman.

irradia el delgado tejado de latas del mercado, Coleman gordo, con el cuerpo lleno de tatuajes- y otro viejo compañero de combate no menos corpulento, sentados en banquetas de plástico, hurgan

Sudando bajo el calor que



en cestas de cartuchos de balas usadas, cinturones e insignias militares en busca de algo que exportar a los mercados de nostalgias bélicas en Estados Unidos.

"Mira, aquí estuve yo", exclama Coleman. "Cinco turnos consecutivos como soldado de infantería desde 1968 hasta fines del 72. Me enamoré de la cerveza vietnamita y las mujeres vietnamitas. Este lugar se me metió debajo de la piel. No aguanto vivir en Estados Unidos", dice.

"Oh, Jesus, Bob, ¿hablas con un periodista? Si no te cuidas, vas a atraer a todos los coleccionistas del mundo a este lugar", dice su compañero, sin alzar la vista de la cesta que tiene entre las rodillas. Pero Bob parece disfrutar de la conversación.

"Regresé aquí en el 93 - y aquí vivo desde entonces. Tengo una esposa vietnamita y hay una enorme demanda de esta mercadería entre los veteranos de la guerra en Estados Unidos", dice.

Bob se vuelve para hablar con el dueño del puesto del mercado y le habla en vietnamita, al parecer

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regateando el precio de una oxidada insignia que sostiene en una mano.

Tras una breve discusión parece de acuerdo con el precio y coloca la insgnia a un lado. Este es un estupendo negocio. Nos llevamos este material tres veces al año a Estados Unidos. Ayer pagué 244 dólares por unos Zippos que me van a reportar un par de billetes grandes.

"¿Ve usted esos cascos de sol modelo Ho Chi Minh? Aquí cuestan un par de dólares, pero en Estados Unidos puedo venderlos por 40 dólares", dice.

Hace apenas un par de años habría sido posible formar un pequeño ejército mercenario y incluso armar un par de helicópteros con todo el material que había aquí.

Pero el flujo incesante de cazadores de souvenirs y el tiempo han devastado las existencias, y las botellas de plástico verde olivo con polvo para los pies, repelente antimosquitos y aceite para

las armas, de 30 años de antigüedad, mal podrían servir hoy para nada útil.

"La mayoría de los turistas asocian Vietnam con la guerra, y hay muchos buscadores de souvenirs que quieren llevarse algún recuerdo", dice el dueño de un quiosco. "La mayoría de estos

Lubbock, Tx

objetos procede de viejos almacenes y de veteranos sudvietnamitas. Los norteamericanos dejaron aquí enormes cantidades de material, pero la guerra acabó hace ya mucho tiempo. Ahora es cada vez más difícil hallar algo, y mucho de lo que se encuentra está ya muy deteriorado", dice.

"¿Ve usted esos pantalones de camuflaje? Están hechos en Tailandia. Mucha de la ropa de estilo militar en realidad ha sido hecha recientemente en Tailandia, Camboya o aquí en Vietnam"

Pero a Bob parece no preocuparle la disminución de material original en el mercado, y continúa hurgando.

### **Border Sections Between** Mexico, U.S. to be Marked

EL PASO, Texas, United States. - A binational Mexicancommission announced Wednesday the demarcation of the border along between the two countries, so incidents such as the one in which the Mexican military unknowingly entered the United States, are not repeated.

soldiers, Mexican arrested in the middle of March by U.S. federal agents when they entered Sunland, New Mexico, said they were in pursuit of drug traffickers and were unfamiliar with the area.

The border delineation will be accomplished by placing a series of metallic signs designed with a special paint that can be easily seen at night.

International of Borders and Commission offices both in Waters, with in the United responsible States, assuring the demarcation of the frontier, according to treaties between the two countries.

that the marking of the border will start as a test program in the area of El Paso-Ciudad Juarez, where it is hard to distinguish the exact division between the two countries'

territories.

If the program is successful, it be extended to other sections of the border area.

To do so, the commission will first identify critical areas that require additional demarcation beyond what currently exists, said Spener who also mentioned that the stretch of the frontier along most of the Texas-Mexico border is demarcated by the Rio Grande.

She added that the project to place border signs has been planned since last year, and its completion was speeded after the incursion of the Mexican military, who fired their weapons while on U.S. territory.

The metallic signs will be placed starting Wednesday. The signs are 10 feet long by two feet high, and their cost has not yet been established.

The signs will read on one side "Border of the United States of America" and on the other side "Border of the United States of Mexico."

The frontier line starting in commission's spokeswoman, said El Paso and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, all the way west to the Pacific Ocean measures 675 miles with 275 pillars between six and 11 feet high that mark the beginning of the territory of both countries.

#### Activistas Pediran Energia Limpia en Dia de la Tierra

por Danielle Knight

Washington, Los ambientalistas del mundo denunciarán este sábado las consecuencias del recalentamiento global y defenderán las fuentes de energía renovables como solución del problema, en la celebración del Día de la Tierra.

Se espera que millones de personas en más de 150 países participen en actividades durante la jornada, que se realiza cada año desde 1971 En Washington se realizará una reunión pública dedicada a la

cuestión del recalentamiento global, conducida por el actor Leonardo di Caprio, en la cual habrá espectáculos de música y teatro, así como exhibición de nuevas tecnologías respetuosas del ambiente, a cargo de grupos ambientalistas y firmas comerciales.

El público podrá ver cómo funcionan diversos artefactos que aumentan la eficiencia en el uso de energía, o emplean fuentes renovables como la solar y la eólica.

Esas fuentes de energía renovables, a diferencia de los combustibles fósiles como el carbón, el petróleo y el gas natural, no emiten gases causantes del efecto invernadero, que muchos científicos consideran responsables del recalentamiento global y las alteraciones del clima.

Denis Hayes, uno de los responsables de que comenzara a conmemorarse el Día de la Tierra, comentó que el desarrollo de artefactos para aprovechar fuentes de energía "limpias" ofrece "oportunidades sorprendentes" que no existían hace 30 años.

Entre esos nuevos recursos destacó la energía solar, la proveniente del hidrógeno y la generada por baterías electroquímicas no contaminantes.

Hayes es responsable en la actualidad de la Fundación Bullitt, con sede en la ciudad noroccidental estadounidense de Seattle, dedicada a financiar de proyectos de preservación del ambiente en la región de

la costa del Pacífico de Estados Unidos. Comunidades indígenas de varios continentes apoyan la campaña del Día de la Tierra para el uso de fuentes "limpias" de energía, y alegan que la explotación de combustibles fósiles ha conducido a la contaminación de sus tierras y la violación de sus derechos humanos.

"Exhortamos a los gobiernos y organizaciones financieras internacionales a cesar su respaldo económico a la explotación de combustibles fósiles y a invertir de inmediato en el desarrollo de fuentes de energía limpias, renovables y descentralizadas" se afirmó en una declaración firmada por comunidades indígenas.

Los ijaw y otras etnias minoritarias del Delta del Níger denuncian que la contaminación causada por las explotaciones petroleras y la combustión de gas ha arruinado la región.

Los integrantes de la etnia karen de Myanmar (ex Birmania) afirman que han sido obligados a trabajar en condiciones equivalentes a la esclavitud en el gasoducto de Yudana, construido en el sur del país por el gobierno militar y la firma estadounidense Unocal.

La comunidad u'wa, de 5.000 integrantes, resiste en el norte de Colombia los proyectos del gigante estadounidense Occidental Petroleum, que pretende desarrollar explotaciones petroleras en tierras reclamadas por los indígenas.

# Subscribase Hoy

### What Gave Cuban Americans a Corner On U.S. Latino Power?

By Carlos D. Conde There remains one element to

the Elián González saga that has yet to be fully explored. How is it that a community of

less than a million Cuban Americans, mostly residing in South Florida, can contest the most powerful government in the world to its limits?

In a nation of 275 million people, how are Cuban Americans able to generate such power that even the nation's highest political leaders think twice before crossing them?

Before federal agents finally seized the boy, Juan Miguel González, Elián's father, echoed such popular sentiments when U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno traveled to Miami to broker an agreement with the boy's great uncle Lázaro GonzDlez, only to be cavalierly dismissed like a pizza delivery person who's come to the wrong door.

Actually, the oldest and largest Latino community in the United States -- the 20 million Mexican Americans, and a Puerto Rican community of 7.7 million -- have been asking that same question for years: How can a midget Cuban-American community out-hustle and outmuscle them when it comes to taking on the feds or anyone else who gets in their way?

First, a bit of geography and background. At least 85 percent of U.S. Cubans reside in the metropolitan area stretching from Fort Lauderdale to Miami. Most of the originals came in the '60s after Fidel Castro toppled dictator Fulgencio Batista, an old-style caudillo ousted in 1959 by the Castro-led popular movement.

The first refugees were the over 75 percent. oligarchs, the large land and

business owners whom Castro accused of propping up the Batista regime and exploiting the people. Stripped of their property, some salvaged part of their wealth, but many arrived penniless. Yet it wasn't long before their entrepreneurial skills and spirit revived some of the lost fortunes.

According to a Hispanic Business Magazine survey in 1997, 32 of the 80 U.S. Latino multimillionaires are of Cuban origin. Roberto Goizueta, the late head of Coca-Cola, was worth \$836 million; the Más Canosa family, leaders of a powerful anti-Castro organization, had \$586 million. Entertainers Emilio and Gloria Estéfan were listed at \$100 million. Not bad progress in 40

Many Mexican Americans settled their communities well over a century ago. They trail the Cuban millionaires with 26. Moneywise, they are not in the Cubans' class.

Therein lies part of the answer. As Mexican comedian El Piporro loved to say, "With money, the dog dances."

A recent analysis by the Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel revealed that although Florida's Hispanic population ranks in country numerically, behind California, I'exas and New York, they lead in local and national political contributions. Most of the money -- \$1.5 million -- came from South Florida's Hispanics, particularly Miami-Dade County.

Cuban Americans make their small numbers count by voting. Their voter turnout in national and state elections is usually

environs through control of city and the county government. Some have dubbed the city a "banana republic."

Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans pursue a variety of political issues -- affirmative action, immigration, bilingual education, language rights and health reform. The Cubans are largely one-dimensional politically: Get rid of Castro.

It's not smart to oppose anti-Castroites, particularly in South Florida. Their rhetoric is vociferous and belligerent. Local Spanish talk radio exhorts the political passions, as do some of the mainstream media. A Cuban-American columnist for one of local papers compared Elián's plight to a youth in Hitler's Germany. That didn't sit well with the local Jewish community.

Their best ploy is tying up traffic in Miami's thoroughfares chains and human harassing whomever displays pro-Castro sentiments. A city prohibits ordinance affiliated entertainers.

A cigar magazine was banned for promoting Cuban cigars. A TV station was picketed for alleged Castro bias. A visiting talk-show host had to be rescued by police from a Cuban crowd who didn't agree with his slant. Few Cuban Americans, however, are ever arrested for public disturbances.

With the U.S. Congress, they lead a charmed life, largely through the efforts of the National American Foundation. According to a report by the Center for Public Integrity, CANF has funneled about \$3.2 million into the U.S. political system. It is reportedly Times Syndicate.

Elián's paying expenses. Its efforts helped create Radio-TV Martí, a taxpayer-financed \$28million-ayear broadcast system that beams regularly into Cuba.

Not even another powerful lobby, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, can convince the legislators to ease the 39-year embargo on Cuba, toughened by the 1996 Helms-Burton Act. Paradoxically, U.S. Cubans are allowed to remit millions of dollars annually to relatives in Cuba.

U.S. Reps. Lincoln Díaz-Balart and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Cuban-Americans representing South Florida districts, dropped out of the mostly Mexican-American, 18member Congressional Hispanic Caucus because it refused to accede to the Miami representatives' demands for a harder stance on Castro. (Incidentally, Díaz Balart is Castro's nephew by marriage.)

Cuban refugees also enjoy a special "dry feet" immigration policy that allows any Cuban who touches U.S. shore to stay.

Others are not so fortunate. On the week that Elián was rescued at sea, the U.S. Coast Guard caught a boatload of Haitians and other refugees sneaking up Miami's Key Biscayne shore. They were on a plane back to Haiti before their clothes dried.

"We have no money and we have no vote," a Haitian expatriate said.

(Carlos D. Conde is a free-lance columnist who writes about Hispanic affairs. His e-mail is cdconde(AT SIGN)aol.com)

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### National Latina Health Organization Heals through Empowerment

by ROBIN DAVIES

Luz Alvarez-Martínez, of the National Latina Health four women founded NLHO. Organization (NLHO), that women need to give each other the attention they need to tell their stories and that, through themselves.

For the last 13 years, the Oakland, Calif.-based women's about individual health care health organization has raised awareness of what quality health should be in the Latina community. Its national program offers a self-help methodology promotes physical, emotional, mental and spiritual wellness for Latinas.

conference on health issues for life, including women of color. NLHO's four founding Latinas noticed there was no national organization at aimed to provide informational the conference to provide services and information on Latina health, or resources on the best clinics, schools and hospitals for Latinas.

knew the health industry did not place much importance on country. bilingual services or materials, so it was time to create an

organization that would service Early on, it became clear to the needs of the Latina co- community." On International founder and executive director Women's Health Day, 1986, the

The NLHO is based the National Black Women's Health Organization (NBWHO) and the Cuban health care system. The telling, they heal founders took the self-help model from the Black Women's program. In Cuba, they learned

> management. "When I saw (Cuban) women had the education, information and knowledge about their health, I realized then that was what we needed to do," says Alvarez-Martínez.

They also decided they would It all began at a 1986 serve women from all walks of professional businesswomen, farm workers, and lawyers. They classes in reproductive choice, clinical mental/emotional needs, wellbeing, spiritual wellness. They would also train Alvarez-Martínez says: "We facilitators to educate Latinas on health throughout the

#### Para Cesar Chavez, La Acción es la Recompensa Correcta

Por Dick Meister

Hace siete años en este mes César Chávez murió (4/23/93), más de 35 años que él se empeñó en su búsqueda, que ahora es aclamada internacionalmente, a fin de ganar los derechos fundamentales para los trabajadores agrícolas de este país dolorosamente oprimidos.

Sin embargo, a pesar de todos los honores rendidos a Chávez, incluyendo a las tentativas actuales en California y otras partes con objeto de que su cumpleaños sea un día feriado oficial, poca atención preciosa se ha dado a la causa por la cual él dedicó su extraordinaria vida.

sindicato de los Trabajadores Agrícolas Unidos (UFW en inglés), que Chávez encabezó, ha obtenido mejores circunstancias de trabajo para millares trabajadores agrícolas, éstos son únicamente una minoría pequeña.

La inmensa mayoría de los trabajadores agrícolas se hallan todavía empantanados en la pobreza, y sus circunstancias de trabajo y de vida son una desgracia nacional.

Aunque los días feriados para homenajear a Chávez de seguro estarían merecidos y serían adecuados, debería darse una prioridad más alta a llevar por fin justicia económica y social a todos los trabajadores agrícolas mediante acciones legales y otras medidas más allá de congestionados e inferiores. habladurías.

conocido a Chávez desde los mismos comienzos del UFW y les aseguro que eso es lo que él desearía. No podría haber un homenaje mejor a su memoria. La necesidad de acción

enérgica es evidente. Las federales encuestas recientes muestran que, a pesar de la economía presuntamente en auge, la paga de los trabajadores agrícolas promedia sólo \$6 por hora o menos de \$10,000 al año.

Esas cifras están, desde luego, muy por debajo del nivel oficial de la pobreza. Si se toma segunda clase. en cuenta la inflación, eso es realmente menos que lo que los elogio para el hombre que dirigió trabajadores promediaban hace un decenio heróica a fin de mejorar sus completo.

trabajadores beneficios general pocos marginales, si es que tienen Sufren desempleo crónico. La seguridad en el empleo virtualmente desconocida. La contratación y el despido son hechos estrictamente a capricho de los patrones, muchos de ellos

cultivadores empresariales ricos, que fijan unilateralmente la paga y las circunstancias de trabajo y que de otro modo actúan arbitrariamente.

Por lo menos una tercera parte de los trabajadores se hallan también a merced de los contratistas de trabajo, que les cobran honorarios transporte, alimentos, viviendas, herramientas, ropas protectoras y, en algunos casos, hasta por el agua potable.

Su ocupación es una de las más peligrosas, pero los trabajadores agrícolas tienen poca protección contra los riesgos de salud y seguridad. Tienen suerte si disponen siquiera de agua potable y servicios sanitarios limpios en el trabajo.

Un alto porcentaje de los trabajadores son inmigrantes desesperadamente pobres, legales e ilegales, de México y Centroamerica, que deben echar mano de cualquier cosa que se les ofrezca o ser sustituídos por otros trabajadores desesperados procedentes de la corriente interminable de inmigrantes.

Las circunstancias fuera del empleo son igualmente malas para ellos y sus hijos, quienes a menudo trabajan también en los campos a pesar de las leyes que prohiben el trabajo infantil. Casi invariablemente se ven obligados a vivir en lugares Lo que necesitan los

Fuí afortunado al haber trabajadores por encima de todo es el derecho legal a negociar colectivamente empleadores, que fue concedido virtualmente a todos los trabajadores no agrícolas en 1935 y que Chávez y el UFW ganaron para los trabajadores agrícolas de California en 1975.

Es supremamente irónico que los trabajadores agrícolas, que hacen el trabajo duro, sucio y peligroso que es indispensable para todos nosotros -- el cultivo y la cosecha de las frutas y los vegetales -- continúen siendo tratados como trabajadores de

Necesitamos algo más que agrícolas la batalla verdaderamente vidas. Necesitamos las palabras y Lo que es más, los los hechos para llevar a cabo lo tienen por lo que Chávez comenzó.

(Dick Meister, columnista por cuenta propia de San Francisco, es coautor de "Mucho Tiempo para Llegar. La Lucha para Sindicalizar a los Trabajadores Agrícolas de Estados Unidos" -- Macmillan.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en el año 2000. Distribuído por Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

the fields despite the laws against child labor. They almost invariably are forced to live in substandard overcrowded, housing.

What farm workers need above all is the legal right to bargain collectively with their employers that was granted virtually all non-agricultural workers in 1935 and that Chávez and the UFW won for the farm workers of California in

It's supremely ironic that farm workers, who do the hard, dirty and dangerous work that is essential to us all -- the growing and harvesting of fruits and vegetables -- continue to be treated as second-class workers. We need more than praise for

the man who led the truly

heroic battle to better their

lives. We need the words and deeds to carry on what César Chávez started. (Dick Meister, a freelance columnist in San Francisco, is co-

author of "A Long Time Coming: The Struggle to Unionize America's Farm Workers," Macmillan.) (c)2000, Hispanic Link News

Service. Distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate

El Editor Newspapers

is a weekly bilingual published every Thursday by Amigo Publications in Lubbock, Texas, 1502 Ave. M, 79401. Tel. 806-763-3841. Subscribing \$40 per year payable in advance. Opinions and

commentaries expressed by guest columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher or of advertisers. Editor/Publisher: Bidal Aguero Business Manager - Olga Riojas Aguero

Subscriptions - Bob Craig -- Circulation - Joe Shelby

¿Que Dio a Los Cubanoamericanos Una Esquina Del Poder Latino en Estados Unidos? Hay un elemento de la los cubanos que hay en español exhortan a

Por Carlos D. Conde

odisea de Elián González que Estados Unidos reside en la todavía tiene que ser zona metropolitana que se explorado por completo.

¿Cómo es que una millón de cubanoamericanos, que vive principalmente en el contra el gobierno más límites?

En una nación de 275 millones de personas, ¿cómo pueden los cubanoamericanos producir un poder tal que hasta los más altos dirigentes políticos de la nación lo piensan dos veces antes de contrariarlos?

federales se Elián, se hizo eco de esos sentimientos populares cuando la procuradora general Janet Reno viajó a Miami para elaborar un acuerdo con el tío abuelo del niño, Lázaro González, sólo para ser descartada altivamente como una repartidora de pizza

extraviada. Realmente, la comunidad latina más antigua y mayor de Estados Unidos -- los 20 millones de mexicoamericanos, comunidad puertorriqueña de 7,700,000 han estado personas -haciendo la misma pregunta durante años.

¿Cómo es que una comunidad cubanoamericana minúscula puede tener más empuje y más fuerza que ellos cuando se trata de enfrentarse al gobierno federal o a cualquier otro que se le atraviese en su camino?

Primero, un poco de geografía y antecedentes. Por lo menos el 85 por ciento de

extiende entre Lauderdale y Miami. La comunidad de menos de un mayoría de los originales vinieron en la década de 1960, después que Fidel Castro sur de la Florida, puede luchar derrocó al dictador Fulgencio Batista, un caudillo del poderoso del mundo hasta sus antiguo estilo, expulsado en 1959 por el movimiento dirigido por Castro.

Los primeros refugiados oligarcas, los fueron los propietarios grandes extensiones de tierra y negocios, a quienes Castro acusó de apoyar al régimen de Batista y de explotar al Antes de que los agentes pueblo. Despojados de sus apoderaran propiedades, algunos salvaron finalmente del niño, Juan una parte de su riqueza, pero Miguel González, el padre de muchos llegaron sin dinero. No obstante, no pasó mucho tiempo antes de que sus habilidades empresariales y su espíritu revivieran algunas de las fortunas perdidas.

Según dijo una encuesta de la revista Hispanic Business en 1997, 32 de los 80 multimillonarios latinos de los Estados Unidos son de origen cubano. Roberto Goizueta, el finado director de la Coca-Cola, tenía un valor líquido de \$836 millones; la familia Más Canosa, dirigentes de una poderosa organización anticastrista, tenía \$586 millones. Los magnates de las diversiones, Emilio y Gloria Estefan, fueron mencionados

con \$100 millones. No está mal como adelanto Muchos méxicoamericanos asentaron comunidades bastante más de un siglo. Pero siguen a los cubanos con 26 millonarios solamente. En lo tocante al dinero, no están en la clase de los cubanos.

Ahí está una parte de la respuesta. Como le gustaba decir al comediante mexicano El Piporro: "Con dinero baila

Un análisis reciente, hecho por el periódico Sun-Sentinel de Fort Lauderdale, reveló que aunque la población hispana de la Florida se halla numéricamente en el cuarto lugar del país, después de California, Texas y Nueva York, aquella va delante en los aportes políticos nacionales y locales. La mayor parte del dinero -- \$1.5 millones -procedía de los hispanos del Florida, Miami-Dade.

cubanoamericanos hacen que sus cifras pequeñas cuenten mediante sus votos. Su asistencia de electores a las urnas en las elecciones nacionales estatales acostumbra ser más del 75 por ciento.

Son los dueños de Miami y sus alrededores mediante el control del ayuntamiento municipal y del gobierno del condado. Algunos calificado a la ciudad de "república platanera."

Los mexicoamericanos y puertorriqueños atienden a una diversidad de asuntos políticos -- acción afirmativa, inmigración, enseñanza bilinge, derechos idiomáticos y reforma de la atención a la salud. Los cubanos son primordialmente monodimensionales

materia política: Deshacerse de Castro. No es inteligente el oponerse a los anticastristas, especialmente en el sur de la Florida.

Su retórica es vociferante y beligerante. Los programas locales de charlas por radio en

Alemania sojuzgada por Hitler. Eso no le cayóbien a la comunidad judía local. Su mejor maniobra es detener el tránsito en las Miami de

pasiones políticas, como lo

hacen algunos de los medios

informativos principales. Un

columnista cubanoamericano

de uno de los periódicos locales

comparó a las dificultades de

Elián con las de un joven en la

avenidas cadenas humanas y hostigar a todo el exhiba sentimientos favorables a Castro. ordenanza municipal prohibe a especialmente del condado de artistas afiliados con el gobierno de Cuba. A una revista tabacalera se

le prohibió anunciar los tabacos cubanos. protesta se llevó a cabo contra una estación de televisión por sus presuntas inclinaciones hacia Castro. Un anfitrión visitante de un programa de charlas tuvo que ser rescatado por la policía de una multitud de cubanos que no estaban de acuerdo con sus inclinaciones. Pocos cubanoamericanos, sin embargo, son arrestados alguna vez por participar en disturbios públicos.

En lo tocante al Congreso de Estados Unidos, ellos llevan vida encantadora, primordialmente mediante las gestiones de la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana (CANF en inglés). Según dijo un informe del Centro para la Integridad Pública, la CANF ha canalizado \$3.2 millones hacia el interior del sistema político de Estados Unidos. Se informa que estápagando los gastos legales de Elián. Sus gestiones ayudaron a crear la Rad RING CONNECT

## For Cesar Chavez, Action Is the Right Reward

By Dick Meister

It was seven years ago this month (4/23/93) that César Chávez died, more than 35 years ago that he set out on his now internationally acclaimed quest to win basic rights for this nation's sorely oppressed farm workers.

Yet for all the honor given Chávez, including the current attempts in California and elsewhere to make his birthday an official holiday, precious little attention has been paid to the cause to which he devoted his extraordinary life.

The United Farm Workers union, which Chávez headed, has won better conditions for workers are still mired in farm worker pay averages only

poverty, their working and living conditions a national disgrace.

Although holidays honoring Chávez surely would be deserved and fitting, a higher priority should go to bringing, finally, economic and social justice to all farm workers through legal actions and other steps that go beyond mere lip

was fortunate to have known Chávez from the very beginnings of the UFW, and I assure you that it is what he would want. There could be no greater homage to his memory.

The need for forceful action is thousands of farm workers, but obvious. The latest federal they are only a small minority. surveys show that despite the The vast majority of farm supposedly booming economy,

about \$6 an hour, or less than \$10,000 a year. These figures are, of course,

far below the official poverty level. Taking inflation into account, that's actually less than farm workers averaged a full decade ago.

What's more, the workers generally have few, if any, fringe benefits. They suffer chronic unemployment. Job security is virtually unknown. Hiring and firing is done strictly at the whim of employers, many of them wealthy corporate growers who unilaterally set pay and working conditions, and otherwise act arbitrarily.

At least one-third of the of immigrants. workers also are at the mercy of labor contractors who collect fees for transportation, food.

protective tools, housing, clothing and, in some cases, drinking water.

Theirs is one of the most dangerous of occupations, but farm workers have little protection against health and safety hazards. They're lucky if they even have fresh drinking water and clean field toilets on the job.

A high percentage of the workers are desperately poor immigrants, legal and illegal, Central from Mexico and who must America is offered or be whatever replaced by other desperate workers from the endless stream

Conditions off the job are just as bad for them and their children, who also often work in

#### Elian Case:

## Latinos Are No Different

Philadelphia, - Latinos across the country have witnessed the passion play of the past five months and the emotional events of 5 a.m. Holy Saturday morning. And at least according to the reaction LATNN.com has received, Latinos who do not consider themselves a Cuban exile or one of their supporters fall in line with the opinion of America's general public --Elian's return to his father is long overdue, although some thought that maybe the timing wasn't so appropriate.

After Saturday morning's ordeal, the crowd surrounding Lazaro Gonzalez's home swelled again to about 500. Angry supporters took to the streets in protest. Although there was at least 80 arrests reported, most of the crowds were peaceful and the crimes committed petty.

Cuban exiles' reaction was one of frustration and shame for their government's actions.

"Today is a sad and dark day for America," said Jorge Mas, Chairman of the Cuban American National Foundation, through a written statement. "The images of young Elian Gonzalez, staring down the barrel of a gun in the pre-dawn hours, is a haunting portrait of utter despotism that offends the very memory of the Founders of this nation who fought tyranny, and of all those who have paid sacrifice ultimate the throughout its history to uphold it as a symbol of refuge and hope the world over."

Mas also said that this act would be part of President Clinton's and Attorney General Janet Reno's legacy, one of which they should be ashamed.

However, just as all polls conducted on this issue have reported, many Latinos seem to approve of Elian's return of custody to his father -- although the way in which the boy was seized is debated.

"IT'S ABOUT TIME" Many Latinos LATNN.com spoke with thought the reunion of Elian with his father was long overdue.

"It's about time," said Miguel Rose, a paralegal living in Harrison, NJ, a town not too far from the Union City area, the second largest Cuban American enclave in the United States.

Rosa can relate with the circumstances of this six-year-old boy's life. In 1986, Rosa boarded

a flight to the United States along with his two other siblings and his mother to escape the economic a civil El Salvador, a

"It's a bad time to pick up the kid in the middle of the night like that," said Webber, who was born in Havana, Cuba. He is still not sure what side he takes any compromise. He also said he

government had no other choice Saturday morning because of the family's repeated rejection of



Apenas conocida la decisión de entregar al niño a su padre integrantes del exilio cubano en Miami iniciaron una serie de protestas frente a las instalaciones federales. Las autoridades están tomando medidas para prevenir posibles desórdenes.

Central American nation that was in the thick of a civl war at the time. He acknowledges that both sides have compelling arguments, but argues that the union between a child and his father should not take a back seat to what he characterized as Cuban exiles' desire to "stick it to [Fidel] Castro."

"Not matter what, as long as he is for it, they are against it," Rosa said. "I find it ironic that Cubans are always talking about democracy, but when democracy speaks against what they believe, their reactions are very much what a dictator would do."

Rosa, a devout Christian, did wonder whether it appropriate for the INS to seize the home the day after Good Friday and the day before Easter Sunday.

Willie Webber, a radio personality at WPEN radio in Philadelphia, also questioned the move's timing.

in the Elian case.

"Unforntunately, if we send him back, we won't know whether or not it was the right thing to do until he is 15 or 16 years old" argued Webber. and Elian have suffered "Nobody wins [in this case]. And that is the saddest fact of them

Webber is not the only Cuban-American who was not Elian's against clearly repatriation to his father.

Albor Ruiz is a columinist at the New York Daily news and a native of Cardenas, Cuba, the town where Juan Miguel Gonzalez resides. Ruiz, who has written extensively about this case in his column, says Elian's return to his father is "a nobrainer," but his repatriation, he said, has been complicated because of the United States' absurd embargo with Cuba and Cuban exiles' "ancient hatred for Fidel Castro, which clouds what the reality is in this case."

spoke with Cardenas residents, neighbors and relatives of Juan Miguel, and he said they are in a state of "reserved celebration."

"[They say] this Juan Miguel enough," Ruiz said. "This is a private moment for everyone." "I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S

OVER" Possibly the community with the strongest opinions about this issue -- regardless of which side they stand with -- resides in Miami-Dade County.

"I can't until it's over," said Gil Tersey, 36, who lives in the Cutler Ridge section of Miami, a community about 20 minutes from Little Havana. He said that the raid was in general "justified," but done at a bad time. But he had particular opinions about the media coverage both in Miami and across the country surrounding

this case. Continued on page 6

### Janet Reno Big Favor to Elian's Miami Relatives

By Rick Martinez The Miami relatives of Elián González should thank Janet Reno. The day before Easter, she gave them precisely what they had been seeking: a showdown.

The defining moment was captured

photographer -- the 6-year-old the hands of confronted sympathizer, Justice Department officer.

It was a regrettable chapter in this passion play. But Reno was left with no other option, unless she wanted to keep playing patsy in negotiations that had been going nowhere for far too long.

essentially had been dared by the latter, they risked being the Miami relatives for weeks to

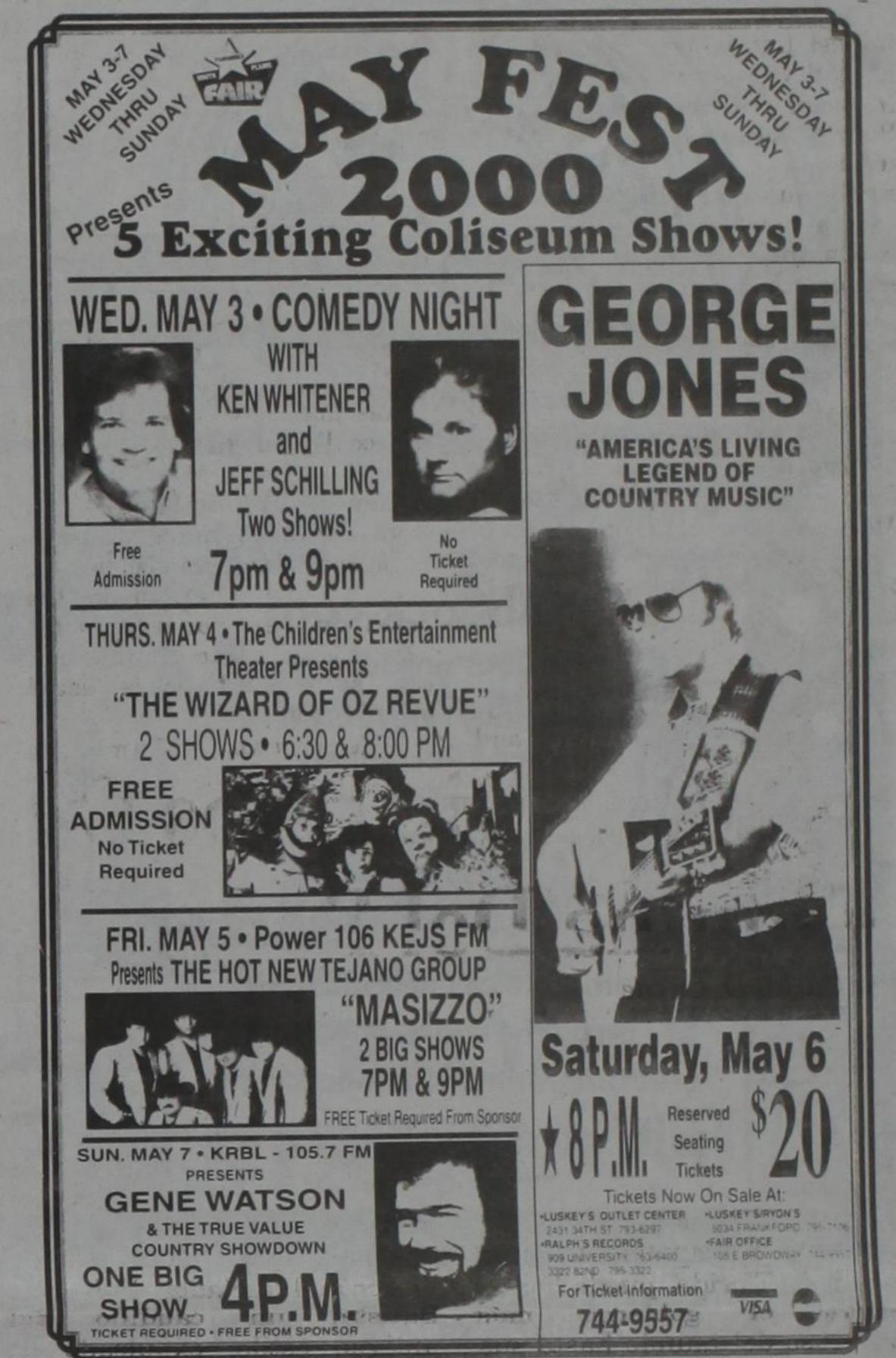
send the federal marshals to Little Havana to take the child. They dared her to take Elián on national TV in front of a crowd that could easily be whipped into a frenzy.

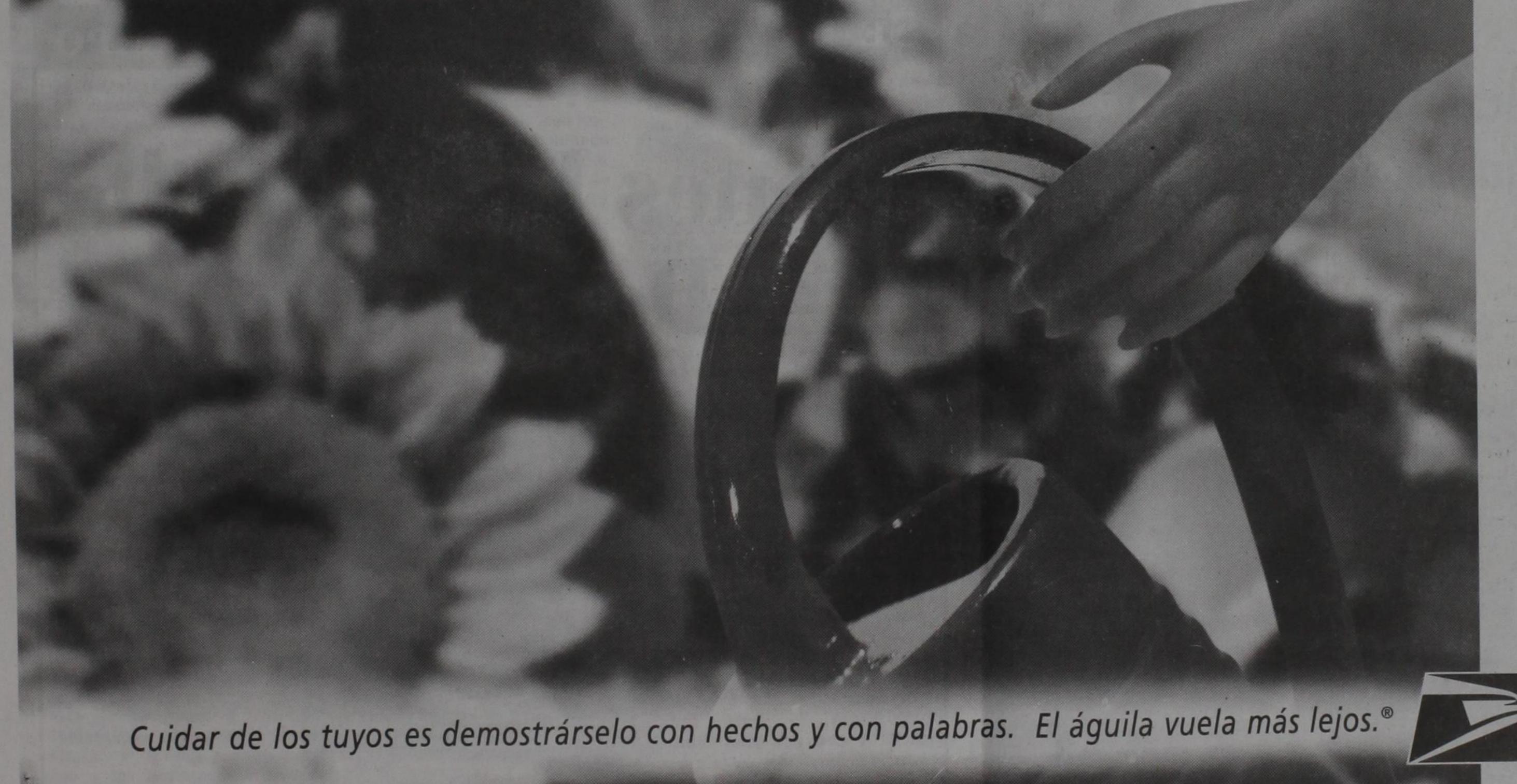
In making the call with the blessing of President Clinton, Reno did the Miami relatives a great favor. She allowed them to save face. The show of force allowed the relatives to be viewed as patriots to their cause -- freedom for Elián and

Castro. It seems to me they always preferred the option of facing automatic weapons rather than turning the boy over quietly at The U.S. attorney general some neutral site. If they did

unwavering opposition to Fidel

Continued on page 6





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### Lewis-Grant At Least Promises to be One of the Heaviest Title Fights Ever

NEW YORK -- Michael Grant hopes to put some hard lessons learned in his last fight to good when he challenges heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis.

"I learned not to take people for granted," the unbeaten challenger said. "I was thinking about what I was going to do next."

At the end of the first round against Andrew Golota Nov. 20, it didn't appear that Grant would next be fighting Lewis on Saturday night in Madison Square Garden.







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Grant was knocked down twice and was badly hurt after the first round, but he hung tough, scored a knockdown in the 10th round and won when Golota quit.

Another lesson learned was to keep his hands up. They weren't when Grant got nailed by a tremendous right that put him down the first time.

"We've been working on it (keeping his hands high) basically the entire camp," said Grant, who sparred two rounds with Corey Sanders Tuesday at The Theater in the Garden over or he would add a round.

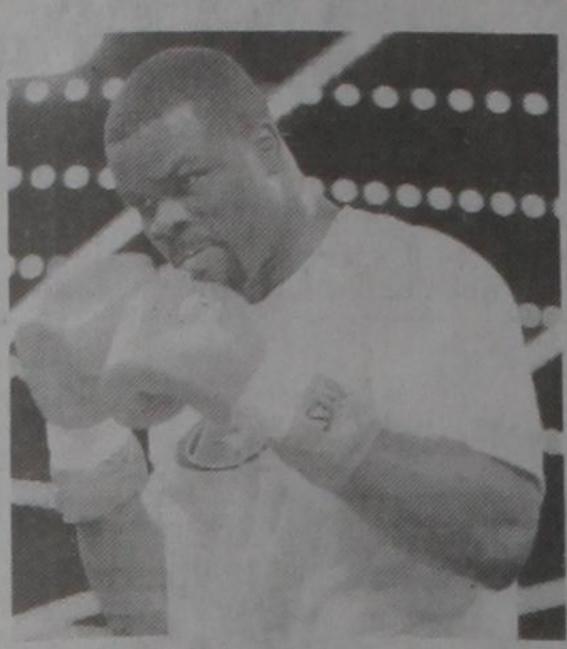
knockouts and underscored his will to win.

stopped in the second round Oliver McCall Sept. 24, 1994, he "They're not fighting." also has proven himself tough in 28, 1998.

Lewis' trainer. "It's the first by signing to fight Grant. time I've seen two guys of this size who have talent, and have and Holyfield 1-2, respectively, dealt with adversity and shown while Grant is ranked No. 5. they can weather the storm."

almost beat Grant but was the IBF behind David Tua. stopped by Lewis in the first "He's No. 1 in my book," round Oct. 4, 1997, Lewis said, Lewis said of Grant. "He's been "I don't draw any conclusions active. He hasn't been sitting from that."

To add that comparing fights



complex. "If I didn't keep my can be futile, Grant noted that hands up, Don Turner (his he stopped Sanders in the trainer) would start a round second round in 1996, but Golota had to go the full 10 The comeback victory gave rounds to beat Sanders in 1998.

the 6-foot-7 Grant a 31-0 record, Lewis (35-1, 27 knockouts) has a definite edge in big-fight experience and is favored to Although the 6-5 Lewis was retain the WBC and IBF titles.

"Whether people are giving after being knocked down by a me a chance to win this fight or thunderous right to the jaw by not is irrelevant," Grant said.

A federal judge has ruled tough situations. He was in Lewis cannot keep the WBA deep trouble in the first two title because when he signed for rounds against Shannon Briggs, a rematch against Evander but he fought back to stop Holyfield, he agreed that if he Briggs in the fifth round March won he would make a mandatory defense against the highest "I'm expecting a very tough available WBA contender and fight," said Emanuel Steward, that he breached the contract

The WBA ranks John Ruiz Grant is ranked second behind As for the fact that Golota Ruiz by the WBC and No. 2 by

about waiting."

For Turner, it will be the

fourth time he has worked in the corner of a man fighting Lewis. He was there when 6-7 Henry Akinwande disqualified in the fifth round for constantly holding and he was there the two Holyfield-Lewis bouts -- a controversial draw and a Lewis victory.

Turner was asked what made him think he was backing a winner this time.

"I've got a different guy this time," he said.

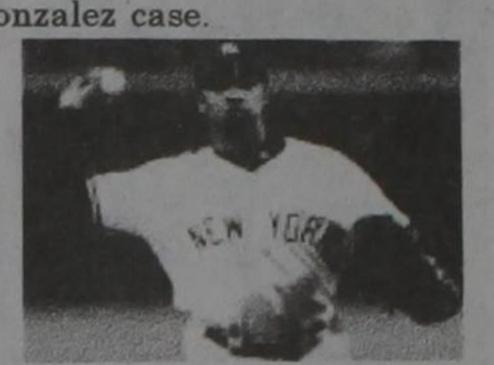
"He thinks he has the perfect solution here," Steward said. "He has a guy who's not afraid of Lennox and a guy who is

physically bigger." Grant is expected to weigh about 250 pounds when he weighs in officially Thursday, while Lewis is expected to weigh in the 240s. The highest combined weight championship fight is 488), when (2591/2)Carnera Primo outpointed Paolino Uzcudun

(229) Oct. 22, 1933. The fight will be the fourth match on a pay-per-view (TVKO) show that begins at 9 p.m. EDT. The main event is expected to start between 11:15 and 11:30

### In Protest, Cuban-American Players Sit Out Tuesday Games

The growing presence of Cubans in the major leagues took a political turn on Tuesday when more than a dozen players and coaches missed games in support for the one-day work stoppage by Cuban-Americans in the Miami area over the Elian Gonzalez case.



Cubano Orlando Hernandez In Miami, where the Florida Marlins played San Francisco on Tuesday night, 10 members of the Marlins, including six players, as well as two Giants players and a coach, did not dress for the game at Pro Player Stadium.

"We chose the spiritual wellbeing of our employees ahead of tonight's Marlins game," Manager John Boles said.

One of the more prominent Cuban-born players, Jose Canseco, elected not to play in Tampa Bay's game against the Royals on Tuesday night in Kansas City, Mo. Canseco was originally scheduled to start as the designated hitter for the Devil Rays, batting fourth. But about 30 minutes before the game, it was announced that he had been replaced by Bubba Trammell.

The impact of the boycott seeped into New York as well. At Shea Stadium, where the Mets played the Cincinnati shortstop Rey Reds, Mets Ordonez and the third-base coach Cookie Rojas were given the day off.

"You tend not to want baseball to be a political forum," General Manager Steve Phillips said,"but I understand both Rey's and Cookie's position on

Orlando Hernandez, who was not scheduled to pitch on Tuesday night and who defected continued on page 5

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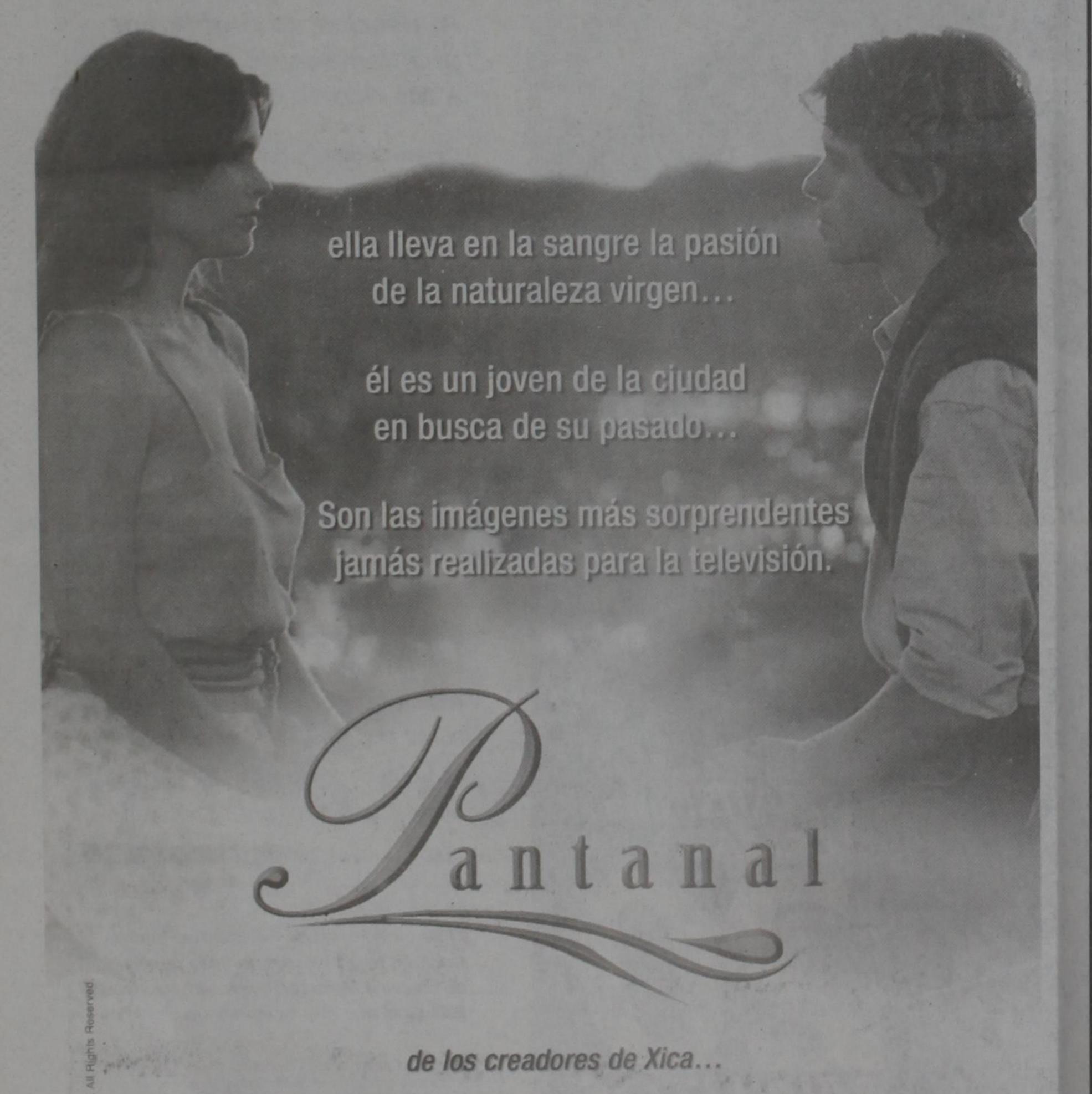
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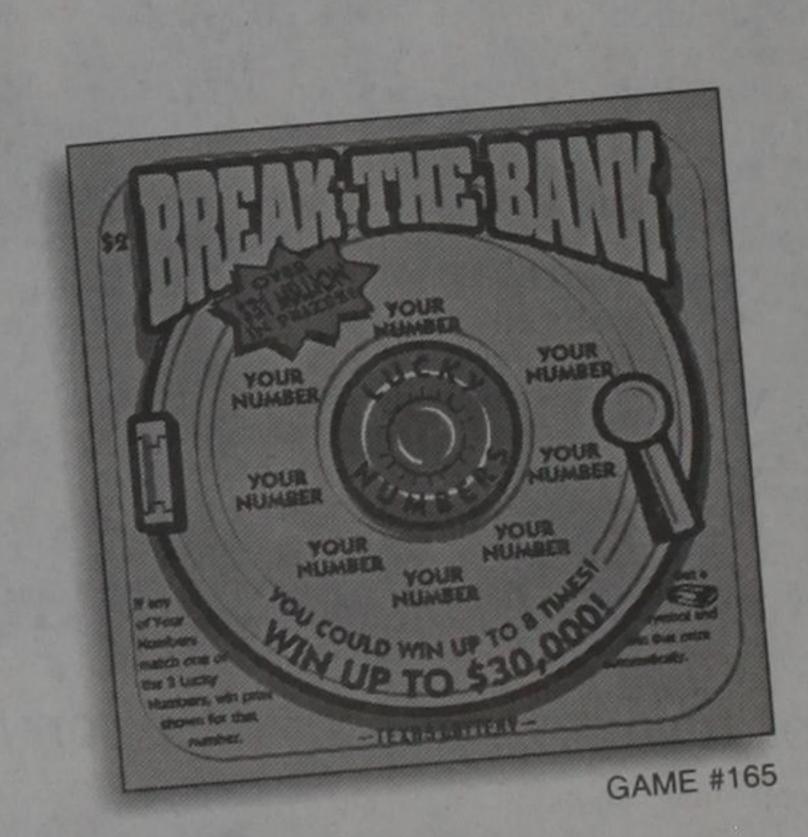


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LAS SIETE PALABRAS (Sexta Palabra) "Consumado es" Juan 19:30

ESTA ES LA SEXTA PALABRA. DE LAS SIETE PALABRAS, QUE CRISTO HABLO EN LA CRUZ

Con esta palabras el Salvador del mundo anuncia el final de el drama que había estado desarrollando en la cruz del Calvario. Y en cuanto a su propia persona, como también de la obra que había venido a cumplir en misión de su Padre Celestial. Y por lo regular así sucede con todos los hombres al llegar al momento de la muesrte terminas los sufrimientos que les han venido agobiendo y termina también la obra del plano en que vivieron. Pero en el caso de Jesús, ambas cosas habían tenido lugar en una forma muy intensa, por lo mismo aquellas palabras que Cristo pronunció han sido un cánto de victoria, un himno de triunfo, al terminarce el holocausto más santo de que jamás se haya tenido noticia en el universo. Pues núnca ántes se había escuchado ni en la tierra ni en el cielo, una nueva más grata como la que se escuchó de los labiós de la Víctima eterna. Oh, ¿Cuánto no tiene que discurrir la mente humana para poder pensar el significado de esta palabras.? Y ¿cuánto no tendrán qué decir los ángeles y aún las eternidades para poder desifrar este sagrado misterio.? Pues recojámos con santa devoción estas palabras y llevémoslas a nuestro corazón para llenar de bien nuestra vida. Pues estas palabras habladas por el intercesor de la humanidad el hijo sumiso y obediente, el que fue abandonado en las tinieblas y el dolor, para decir: "Consumado es." ¿Qué quedaba consumado en aquel momento? cuando menos tres cosas. Los tipos y figuras del Antiguo Testamento, la pasión vicaria y de igual manera la obra redentora del Cordero de Dios. Cumplimientos: El sacrificio de Abel el justo, Gén.4:4 El verdadero Noé, ya salva las almas en el arca de salud, librando a su pueblo de las tempestades del pecado. Ya la paloma ha traído sobre la tierra olivo de paz. La reconciliación sobre los brazos del que expira en la cruz. Y como Israel, ya puede pasar su pueblo por las aguas del jordán para poseer la herencia de la promesa dada a Abraham el padre de los fieles, haciendo posible una escala preciosa para ir al Padre que puede unir al pueblo de Dios con su Creador. Y por ello exclamó "Consumado es." Sí...los tipos y figuras del Antiguo Testamento ahora desfilarán para no volver jamás. Pues ya el maná que vino del cielos está aquí para llenar la boca de los que se sientan a la mesa. Y ya ha brotado el agua de la Roca eterna y ya aparece el sol de justicia por toda la tierra para hacer uir al dolor y el gemido. Ya el Sumo sacerdote ha entrado al lugar Santísimo, para hacer intercesión eterna por los pecadores. Ya "la misericordia y el amor se encontraron la justicia y la paz se besaron," Sal.85:10 Ya llegó a su cumplimiento lo que estaba escrito de él en la ley de Moisés, los profeta y los salmos Luc.24:44 Es sí mismo digno de notar que el hijo de Dios veía la terminación de los sufrimientos de su pasión. Su vida fué la más bella vida que pudo verse sobre la tierra. Pues su vida había sido la restauración del tipo original de Adán. Porque en él se concentraron todas las virtudes de que el hombre se había despojado, pero al mismo tiempo su cuerpo fué como ninguno otro, experimentado en quebranto. Ya había predicado el reino de los cielos entre los hombres. Dijo: "He acabado la obra que me diste que hiciese" Juan 17:4 y en efecto, ya había acabado de dar la última palabra en cuanto al plan de Dios conocida entre la humanidad, y aún llegaba el el cumplimiento de la palabra que había dado en la cena, el memorial que la iglesia a conservado a travéz de los siglos, "mi cuerpo que por vosotros es partido" Mateo 26:26 Ya para esta hora sus venas quedaban vacías, su cabeza enclinada, su mirada opacada. Y también su alma prónto hiba a ser librada de las angustias en que se había visto sometida por tanto tiempo. El apóstol Pablo podía resumir todo esto en las palabras que escribía a los filipenses: "El que siendo en forma de Dios no tuvo por osurpación ser igual a Dios; antes se anonadó así mismo, haciéndose obediente hasta la muerte y muerte de cruz." Fil.2:6-8 Otra significación de la sexta palabra de Cristo en la cruz, la podemos ver cuando estudiamos el oficio de Cristo en la víctima de los siglos que se ofrecía por la humanidad. un sacrificio que al verificarse en la plenitud de los tiempos, el cual se cumplia en su Hijo mismo Jesucristo, que como un cordero de Dios había sido apartado desde antes de la constitución del mundo para que hiciese la obra de redención. Y Jesucrito era la verdadera víctima porque era santo y porque era divino. Condiciones indispensables para que la redención se alcanzase, y para que la justicia divina que estaba ofendida por la humanidad, fuese satisfecha. Como nos dice Pablo cuando él examinaba todo esto de acuerdo con la Escritura en 1Tim.2:6 "El cual se dió así mismo en precio del rescate por todos, para testimonio en sus tiempos." Y en Heb.2:10 "Porque convenia que aquel que por cuya causa son todas las cosas, y por el cual todas las cosas subsisten, habiendo de llevar a la gloria a muchos hijos, hiciese por consumado por cacrificio al autor de salud de ellos. Aunque era Hijo, por lo que padeció aprendió la obediencia; y consumado, vino a ser causa de salud a todos los que le obedecen." "Porque tal pontifece nos convenia; Santo, inocente, limpio. Y apartado de los pecadores, y hecho más sublime que los cielos." Así que la suma de todo lo dicho es: Tenemos tal pontifece que se sentó a la diestra de la Majestad en los cielos." Con cuánta solemnidad vemos que llegó la hora suprema esperada por los patriarcas y profetas con respecto en quién se ha de hacer la consumació de sacrificios. i Oh, cuántas veces el israelita había venido con su ovejita para presentarla al sacerdote por su culpa! Pues ya eso no es necesario. "Consumado es" iTodo está consumado! Exclamó el Salvador del mundo. Y así es, efectivamente todo está consumado. Vengámos pues al Calvario y tomemos de su bendita mano lo que ha ofrecido en abundancia. Pues según los sermones anteriores y según el presente, toda esa abundancia se hace posible porque Cristo vivió su vida de acuerdo a las Escrituras. Y esta abundancia de bendiciones son para aquellos que pueden vivir de acuerdo a la Eascritura. Y porque Cristo tuvo el quidado de obedecer todo lo que de él estaba escrito en la Escritura. Y en conformidad con las Escrituras y en el tiempo de Dios, todo se cumplió. Las buenas y las malas que la Escritura hablaba de Cristo, Cristo lo cumplió. Así sus bendiciones como sus sufrimientos, Cristo aceptó. "Y hallado en la condición como hombre, se humilló así mismo hecho obediente hasta la muerte y muerte de cruz" Fil.2:8 Miremos lo que dice Juan respecto de los que viven de acuerdo a la Escritura. "Mas si andamos en luz como él está en luz, tenemos comunión entre nosotros 1Juan 1:7 Pero es lamentable ver tanto cristiano que no vive de acuerdo a la Escritura. Y ¿cómo podrán vivir estos pobres cristianos de acuerdo a las Escrituras si nunca leen la Escritura? Y si la leen, no la obedecen; la ignoran, ya sea voluntaria o involuntariamente. Para éstos, Cristo tiene algo qué decirles: "Erráis, ignorando las Escrituras, y el poder de Dios" Mt.22:29 Emaginémnonos qué abundacia de bendición habrá en los que viven de acuerdo a la Escritura en todos los aspectos de la vida cristiana. Que aún que sea iglesia pequeña, hay abundancia de bendición, y no le faltará el Señor. Porque hay promesa, que los que viven de acuerdo a la Escritura, tendrán resultados de acuerdo a la Escritura. Cuando el cristiano vive de acuerdo a la Escitura, tendrá resoltados de acuerdo a la Escitura. El que vive bien, ve bien.

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### Galindo Feels Liberated With His Candor About HIV

By JERE LONGMAN

PHILADELPHIA, -- As usual, Rudy Galindo received a sustained ovation Sunday as he performed to "Send in the Clowns" on the Champions on Ice figure skating tour. He may be unrivaled as a show skater who else could bring solemn grace to the use of a hula hoop? - and his elegant routine brought repeat applause and the strobe-like flash of cameras.



There is a special poignancy to this year's tour. Last week Galindo announced in an interview with USA Today that he was suffering from HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The disease has devastated the skating world in the last decade,

#### From Page 4

from Cuba three years ago, met with Manager Joe Torre at Yankee Stadium about three hours before Tuesday night's game with Minnesota and asked for permission to remain out of uniform and not sit in the dugout. Torre consulted with Manager General Cashman, Cashman spoke to Hernandez and the Yankees obliged.

"We're honoring following his conscience," said who said Cashman, Hernandez would be paid because he was not refusing to

Among the Marlins players given the day off with pay was third baseman Mike Lowell, who has a team-leading 19 runs batted and is batting .300. Lowell has a Cuban-born mother and a father of German descent.

Other Marlins players absent were pitchers Alex Fernandez (who dedicated his 3-1 victory over Philadelphia on Monday to Elian), Vladimir Nunez, Jesus Sanchez and Antonio Alfonseca, and outfielder Danny Bautista.

Nonplayers sitting out were the infield coach Tony Taylor, Fredi the first-base coach Gonzalez, the bullpen coach Luis Perez, and Tony Perez, the special assistant to Marlins President Dave Dombrowski.

All are of Cuban descent except for Sanchez, Alfonseca Bautista, who are Dominican. None of the pitchers was scheduled to participate on Tuesday night, including the closer Alfonseca, who had worked three games in a row.

For the Giants, pitcher Livan Hernandez, catcher Bobby Estalella and Carlos Alfonzo, a coach, sat out the game. San Francisco Manager Dusty Baker said once he heard of the passionate feelings of Miami's Cuban-American community on the issue, he recommended to the two players and the coach not to go to the stadium.

"Being on the coast, we're not really abreast of the racial tension that's here as much as people who live here," Baker said. "We don't live here, but these guys have to come back here and live and their families are here and you don't know what kind of repercussions would have happened if they had played. We decided it was in the interest for them not to come.

When asked later whether this represented a capitulation on the Giants' part, Baker said he did not force anybody to sit out the game.

"We just thought it would be wise to follow suit with the Marlins," he said. "The Marlins are here. We're leaving in two days not to come back until next year or the playoffs. You've got a potential situation that will last who knows how long a period of time? Since we're fortunate or not fortunate enough to be here, we've got to do what's right."

Boles said the Marlins, who have been in Miami since 1993, talked about the issue at

length. "I think what people have to keep in mind is that we're not making a value judgment here," he said. "We're being sensitive to our employees. I don't know if it's setting a precedent. We're not setting world-wide policy here. We just did it for our employees. This is a humanity issue, not an athletic issue."

No signs of protest were evident among the modest turnout of 9,072.

most notably taking the life of John Curry, the 1976 Olympic champion. Two of Galindo's coaches have also died of AIDS, as has his brother, George.

Speaking publicly about his illness was in keeping with Galindo's directness. He kept skating insistently in Olympicstyle competitions, despite he discriminated against because he was gay and Mexican-American. He won the 1996 national championship with one of the most moving performances in the history of the sport.

He decided to speak about HIV because the truth has always been liberating for him, especially in a sport where rumor and gossip often take on the force of fact.

"Being openly gay, having the cards laid on the table, made everything easier for me in skating and making my choices in whatever road I took in life," Galindo said in an interview before Sunday's performance. "Now, being out with this, people don't have that look in their eyes. No one is saying, 'What do you really have?' Now that it's out in the open, I'm relieved, relaxed."

frightened sometimes, he said, knowing what his brother and his coaches endured, the wasting, the incontinence, the suffering. But his doctor, the Reno-based specialist, infectious-disease Steven Parker, has told him that HIV does not have to be a death sentence anymore. And he has the example of Magic Johnson, who remains vigorous 8 1/2 years after his public diagnosis. He also his own story of skating perseverance to rely on, winning the national title in San Jose, Calif., his hometown, riding a bike to the training rink because he could not afford a car.

"At first I was scared, of course," the 30-year-old Galindo said. "My coaches died of it, my brother died of it. But they were in a different era. The medication they're coming up with is great. I'm learning more about it from my doctors and family. They're saying you can live a healthy life if you just take care of yourself and take your medicine. I haven't spoken to Magic, but he's given me hope. He's still strong and healthy and I know I can do it,

He is not certain how he

contracted the illness, Galindo said, although he has previously acknowledged a defiant period of alcohol, drugs and reckless sex after the breakup with his former pairs partner, Kristi Yamaguchi. Together, they won national pairs championships in 1989 and 1990. As a singles skater, Yamaguchi went on to win a gold medal the 1992 Winter Olympics while Galindo's career faltered for a time into despondency.

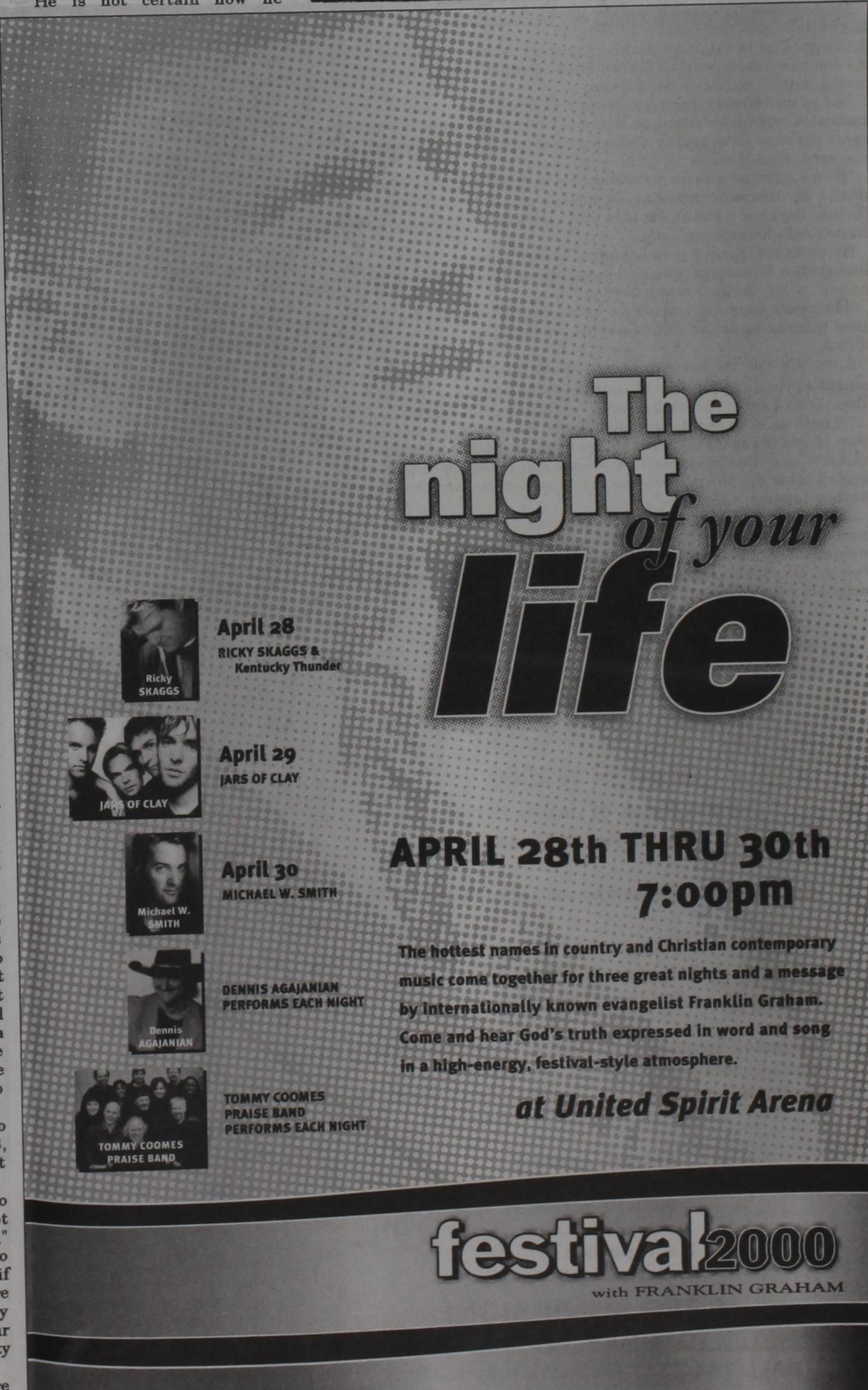
through my went rebellious time after Kristi and I split up," Galindo said. "I made some bad mistakes. I'm only human." The need to practice

safe sex was not something that was stressed by his family or by skating officials when he was younger, he said. Now, by speaking out, he said he hoped to encourage others that safe sex is not an empty slogan and that those at risk should be tested for HIV.

"When I won the '96 nationals, being openly gay and Mexican-American, I made a statement that you can do anything you want, no matter who you are," Galindo said. "Having this disease, I'm telling people, 'Just be careful. It can happen to anyone.' Any way I Continue on page 6

Mexican Ballet Folklorico RECITAL May 20 -- Lubbock --Look For More Details To Follow Soon!





### "MAKINA LOCA", El Futuro de la Salsa, de Gira por EEUU

por Cody Ellerd

Nueva York, Los sonidos de tres continentes convergen en "Sao Salvador", el nuevo álbum del influyente músico afrocubano Ricardo Lemvo y su banda Makina Loca, a quienes los críticos consideran el "futuro de la salsa".

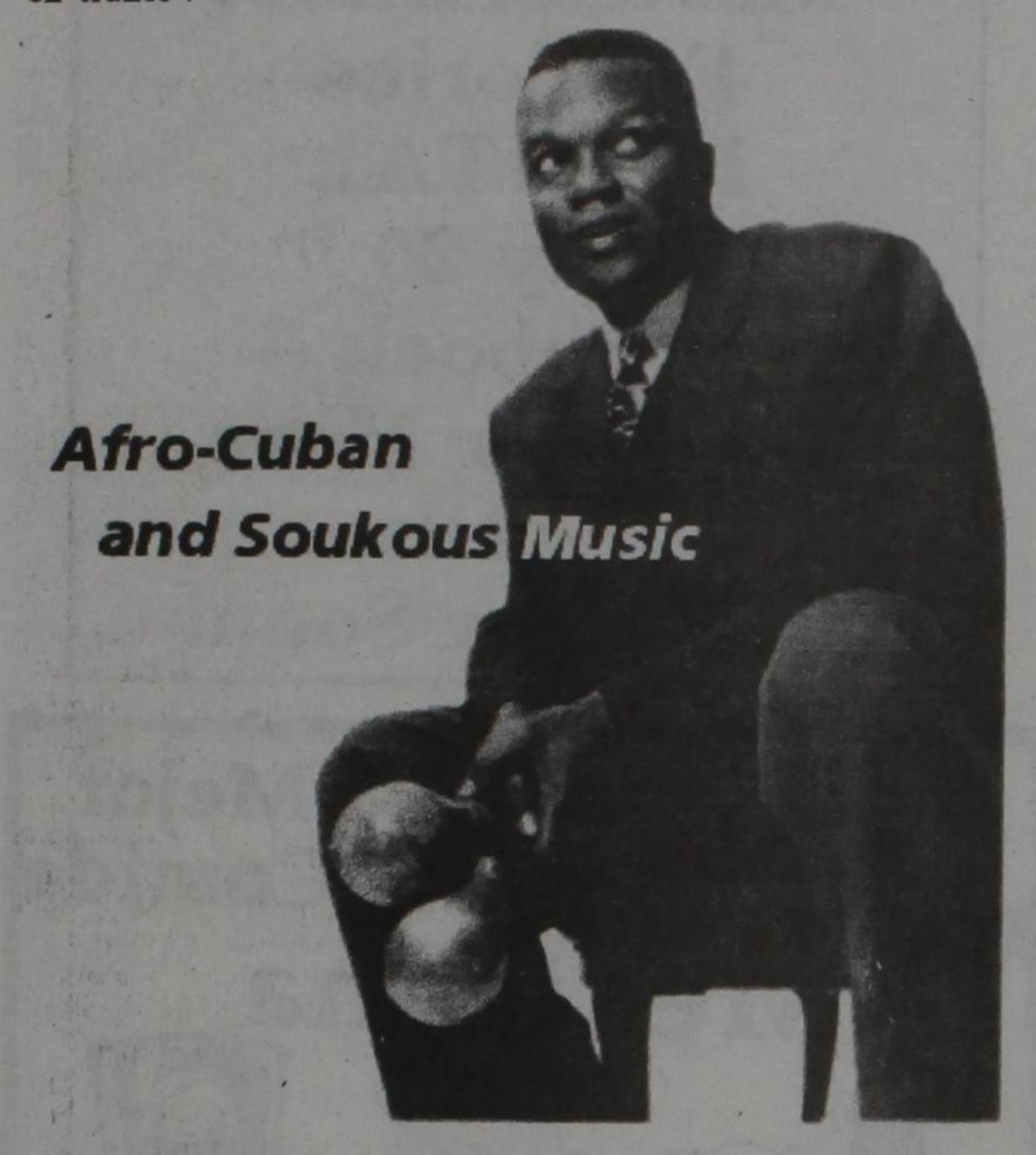
La banda actualmente recorre Estados Unidos, en el contexto de su gira mundial Bum Bum 2000, para celebrar el lanzamiento de Sao Salvador, su segundo álbum.

Sao Salvador mezcla la salsa, el son cubano y los ritmos congoleños del "soukouss" que han caracterizado la música de Lemvo en la última década.

Las canciones de Sao Salvador están interpretadas en una impresionante mezcla de idiomas, incluso castellano, inglés, francés, portugués, kikongo, lingala y lucumi, una lengua de los seguidores de la santería, la religión popular afrocubana.

Lemvo, nacido en la actual República Democrática de Congo, llegó a Los Angeles en 1990, donde formó su conjunto multicultural Makina Loca. El nombre no solo aglutina la comunión de la banda con diferentes ritmos y culturas, sino que describe perfectamente las sensaciones que despierta su música.

En el idioma kikongo, la palabra "makina" quiere decir danza y "loka" significa "en trance", por lo cual su traducción sería "bailando en trance".



"Resultó un nombre perfecto para nuestro grupo. Captura la naturaleza cultural de lo que estamos tratando de hacer", apuntó Lemvo.

Hoy, el son cubano y el soukouss congoleño son mundos aparte, pero ambos estilos tienen fuertes raíces en Africa, y Makina Loca, según un musicólogo, los reúne "como viejos familiares que estaban perdidos".

El son, como muchos otros tipos de música cubana, fue desarrollado por los descendientes de esclavos africanos de la época colonial. Soukouss proviene de la palabra francesa "secousse" o movimiento. "De modo que cuando uno escucha el soukouss no tiene más remedio que moverse", observó Lemvo.

Las letras de Lemvo revelan las distintas facetas del artista, de romántico y frágil a ferviente patriota. "Ave María" es el lamento por una mujer escurridiza. "Dans la Foret" ridiculiza a los colonialistas que reclaman bienes que no les corresponden y está ligada a los anteriores estudios de Lemvo sobre derecho internacional.

Sao Salvador, la canción que da nombre al álbum y es la favorita de Lemvo, rinde homenaje a la heroína de un reino del siglo XV en el Congo. Con la etiqueta multicultural de Lemvo y Makina Loca, sus composiciones podrían ser un buen ejemplo sobre el género "world music", o música del mundo.

Ese es un término que representa una amplia gama de estilos musicales originados fuera de Estados Unidos. Pero muchos artistas cuyas obras se catalogan y venden en esa categoría se oponen al

concepto, como Lemvo. "Es un término amplio y no describe realmente qué es ese tipo de música de diferentes artistas. Equivale a poner Willie Nelson, Michael Jackson y Frank Sinatra en la misma categoría y llamarlo

música estadounidense", dijo. No obstante, Lemvo y su conjunto firmaron con el sello discográfico Putumayo, que se especializa en llevar "música del

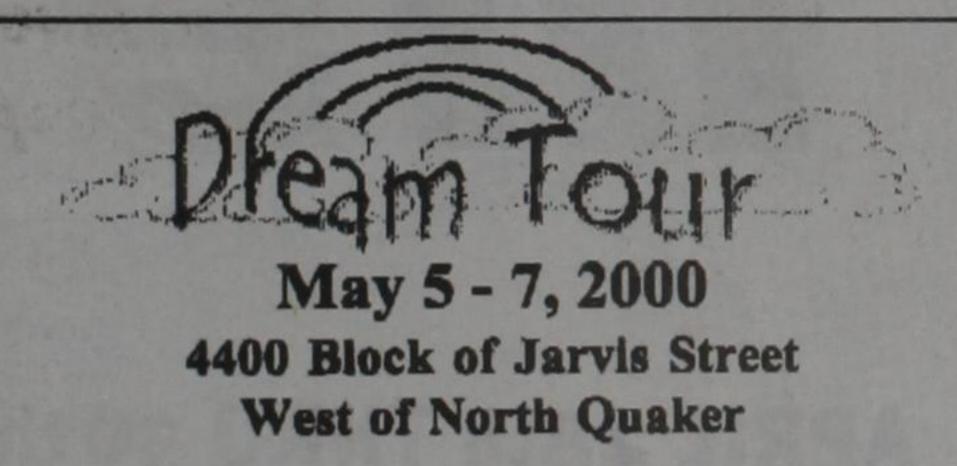
mundo" a los oyentes estadounidenses. "Me siento muy afortunado de haber firmado con un sello que

tiene conciencia social. Junto con mi producto, me tratan muy bien", afirmó. A medida que las fusiones borran las fronteras de los estilos

musicales desde el hip-hop al country estadounidense, los cócteles rítmicos de Lemvo fueron llamados "el futuro de la salsa".

Cuando se le pregunta qué piensa del futuro, Lemvo contesta "es como la semilla madre, y sus vástagos que van por Norteamérica, Africa y Asia. Cuando crecen, se adaptan al ambiente. Las raíces pueden estar en Africa, pero sus ramas tienen las características de muchos lugares diferentes".

Las interpretaciones en vivo de la banda han sido recibidas con enorme entusiasmo en todo el mundo y la gira Bum Bum transforma cualquier lugar en una animada pista de baile. En una actuación en Nueva York, Makina Loca llenó el salón con fanáticos de salsa que sacudieron furiosamente el piso.



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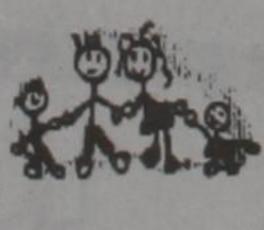


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### Heals through Empowerment continued from page 2

self-empowerment NLHO's class has now branched into curriculums. New university York's Hunter College and the California's of University Berkeley campus were the first to include NLHO's program in their Latin American studies curriculum.

"The class is political and spiritual," Alvarez says Martínez, "political because we acknowledge our colonization and spiritual because we honor our indigenous roots."

Perhaps the second most important service NLHO provides is its resource library health care service referrals, which offers information preventive health care, clinics, doctors. programs, holistic, traditional indigenous medicines, and western and eastern health care treatments.

But NLHO also helps mentor Círculo de young women.

#### From Page 5

can help makes me feel good and helps me with what I have."

He had begun to feel sick last January, as if his lungs were "going to close up completely," Respiratory Galindo said. problems are not uncommon for skaters, but this time he knew even before the doctor told him that this was something worse than asthma or bronchitis. He withdrew from the Goodwill Games in mid-February and told his coach, Laura Galindo Black, who is also his sister, "This is getting worse."

He returned to Reno, where he was diagnosed with HIV on March 1. Once assured that he could resume a normal life with medication, he began to wonder about his career. Would he be able to skate again? How would the other skaters react? The several days of tour rehearsal last week were nerve-wracking, Galindo said. He felt as if all eyes were on him, and when the tour opened last Thursday in Baltimore, he could hear whispers in the audience.

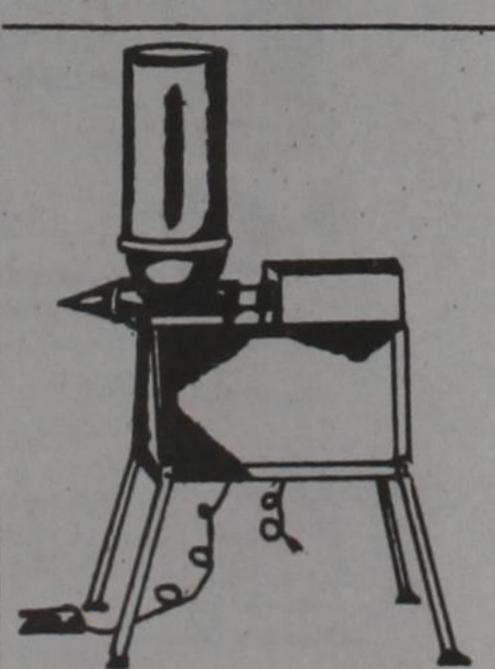
Since then, he has received standing ovations Washington, D.C., and Boston. other skaters have The welcomed him. Tom Collins, the producer, tour's executive gathered the troupe Washington on Friday and told Galindo, "You have a lot of people who love you and care for you on this tour.'

"The outpouring of support had to be extremely relieving," said Jerod Swallow, a five-time national ice-dancing champion his wife, Elizabeth Punsalan, who are close friends of Galindo's. "People have not been ignorant, as we hoped they wouldn't be. Figure skating has had its share of awareness and education on this issue."

Galindo has tried to leaven his illness with his familiar, astringent humor. The other day, he asked Michael Collins, the assistant tour manager, "Can you fly in some white blood cells for me?" He awakens early each morning to take the first of five daily pills, then goes back to sleep, trying to alleviate a slight sense of dizziness - "like trying to skate on a sleeping pill" - caused by the medication. His lungs feel clear and his stamina is improving with each performance, he said.

"It's sad a little bit, what I'm going through," Galindo said. "There will be sad times. I can have those in my room. I just want to be happy again. I think being on this tour is going to do it. I'd rather do this than sit at home in Reno, waiting for the next test or the next doctor's appointment. It's good to be on the road, around friends. It's almost like a second family. I'm lucky to be out there."

Last Change: April 10, 2000 Do you agree with the federal government using force to remove Cuban boy Elián González from his home?



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# National Latina Health Organization

Espejos (Mirror's circle) helps young Latinas make crucial life decisions. The program is partly based on the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

"Maybe their abuelitas, tías or primos were their mentors back home, but here, these young Latinas only have the immediate family," says Erica Jiménez coordinator of Círculo de Espejos. She adds: "Like these young girls, adult relatives are trying to adjust to new language, cultural difference and provide for their families. Our program helps and works directly with these girls on a one-on-one basis to giving the them attention and guidance they need at such a crucial time in their lives."

But NLHO has a hard time finding Latinas to make the twoyear commitment.

For more information on the National Latina Health Organization, call (510) 534-

#### From Page 3

He said the media portrays a city in total chaos, paralysized by the protests. According to Tersey, the protests has affected only a four or five area in Little Havana. He said Saturday morning, he took his son to karate practice and back with no problems.

"It's like nothing else is happening in Miami but Elian," said Tersey. "You just get so tired of it."

supports Elian's He also return to his father, just as, he said, the majority of Latinos both in Miami and across the country does.

Tersey, who now works at a morgage company, said the Elian case had been a heated debate at his former job, where he dealt frequently with medical claims Cuban immigrants. Discussion has been so heated that his boss at his current job has forbidden talk about the

The case has also been an opportunity to hear his father's "horror stories" about "how depressing it is in Cuba."

"He talked about being 10 years old and working in the fields for the government," Tersey said.

But he maintains that the bond between father and son should stand above everything

"I have kids. If I was in Cuba, Russia, China, wherever, would want my son with me," said Tersey.

From Page 3 branded by their neighbors as

soft on Castro. To label Elián a pawn in this power play between anti-Castro and the Justice Miami Department makes too simple an assumption.

Those of us who are not Cuban, who have not had relatives die at Castro's hand, and who do not have family still living under the oppressive Cuban system, cannot begin to understand what drives the anti-Castro Cubans and their U.S. kin.

The Miami relatives have good reason to harbor a strong point of view. But by their vehement actions with regard to Elián -- with continued defiance of the law -- the family turned this into a win-lose situation. Only by keeping the boy, could they win. If they gave the boy back to his father (and possibly to Cuba), Fidel Castro wins. The stakes were being raised day by

The game got too rich for Janet Reno. She had to call their hand. As for the raid, I'm a former police reporter. I've been on many. This one went like clockwork -- three minutes total.

Agents needed to carry firearms. They needed to go in at dawn to take advantage of the element of surprise and catch the crowd outside the house at its smallest numbers. Still, they had to break down two doors to gain custody of the boy. No one -- most important, Elián -- was hurt.

I ran into a friend of mine the other day, a Cuban who worked three years indentured servitude on island to earn his freedom 30 years ago. His take on Elián González: "The little boy belongs with his father. His father should stay in the United States. If he doesn't, that's his choice. But there's no future for anybody in Cuba." As a father myself, I have

been especially bothered by how

long it has taken to get the boy back with his father. I was appalled that his father had to come to the United States to claim his son. I was appalled that two weeks elapsed before father and son were finally Under reunited. circumstances, Juan Miguel Gonzalez stood his ground with dignity.

Page 6

by emerges, accounting, as the only winner thus far.

In my heart, I hope that Juan Miguel González chooses to keep his family in the United States. But let that be his choice -- for himself, for Elián and for his wife and infant son.

If Juan Miguel chooses to return to Cuba, so be it. He may feel he has to live up to his word to the Cuban government. Maybe he fears that to do otherwise would subject his kin in Cuba to reprisals for as long as Castro lives.

I will respect him as a man and as a father, either way. But that's easy for me to say. I am not of Cuban descent.

(Rick Martinez, a sixth-grade teacher in Victorville, Calif., is a longtime journalist and former board member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.)

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