

El Soldador

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"El respeto al derecho
ajeno es la paz"
Lic. Benito Juárez

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LA BATALLA DEL 5 DE MAYO

El Cinco de Mayo de 1862, México comprobó a Francia y al mundo entero, ser digno de ser libre y contar con los recursos suficientes para defender la nacionalidad e independencia.

Esa fecha quedó como un símbolo de las luchas por la libertad, cuando Ignacio Zaragoza dijo a sus valientes: "Nuestros enemigos son los primeros soldados del mundo, pero vosotros sois los primeros hijos de México y os quieren arrebatar vuestra patria. Soldados: leo en vuestra frente la victoria".

Hoy vais a pelear por un objeto sagrado, vais a pelear por la Patria, y yo me prometo que en la presente jornada la conquistaréis un día de gloria".

Los antecedentes de este momento crucial de la guerra de intervención francesa se remontan a inicio de la expansión imperialista de Napoleón III, quien buscaba establecer en México un dominio territorial para obtener materias primas y controlar los mercados.

El Bonaparte pequeño justificaba su empresa mexicana, alegando que se proponía establecer en la frontera sur de los Estados Unidos una monarquía fuerte, como barrera a la expansión futura de dicho país, barrera de latinos, contra los sajones.

En realidad lo que mas interesaba eran las minas mexicanas, la posible apertura de un canal en el istmo de Tehuantepec, la colocación de empréstitos que dejaran jugosos intereses y entre otras, la idea de convertir a México en un gran productor de algodón para los telares franceses.

Francia, con España e Inglaterra firmó la triple alianza, para cobrar adeudos que México tenía con esas naciones y ante el decreto de suspensión de pagos de Benito Juárez en 1861 tal situación hizo crisis, decidiendo cobrar al gobierno mexicano por medio de las armas.

En una excelente batalla diplomática, Juárez y sus ministros lograron que Inglaterra y España negociaran y retiraran sus tropas de invasión, pero Francia, violó los tratados de La Soledad e inició las hostilidades el 9 de Abril de 1862.

Benito Juárez dispuesto a responder con la fuerza a la agresión de Francia, decretó la Ley Marcial y el estado de sitio en todos los lugares ocupados por el invasor, organizó la defensa por medio de

guerrillas y para evitar que los extranjeros obtuvieran viveres ordenó una política de tierra calcinada.

Como jefe supremo de las fuerzas mexicanas fue nombrado un joven general: Ignacio Zaragoza, quien ordenó que todos los varones de 20 a 60 años tomaran obligatoriamente las armas contra los franceses.

El Presidente Juárez dijo a su pueblo: "Tengamos fe en la justicia de nuestra causa, tengamos fe en nuestros propios esfuerzos y unidos salvaremos la independencia de México, haciendo triunfar, no sólo a nuestra patria, sino a los principios de respeto y de inviolabilidad a la soberanía de las naciones.

Lo que buscaba para México el patriótico, era además de una victoria militar, un triunfo político, para demostrar al mundo que en el país existía un gobierno constituido fuertemente apoyado por el pueblo y capaz de enfrentarse a la primera potencia de la época.

Zaragoza fortificó febrilmente la ciudad de Puebla, en donde acordó resistir después de la batalla a las cumbres de Acultzingo, donde sufrieron un revés las fuerzas mexicanas, cinco mil hombres esperaban el ataque de siete mil franceses al mando de Lorencez.

El Cinco de Mayo de 1862, a las 12 del día, se rompió el fuego de cañones por ambas partes. Los franceses arrojaron miles de granadas sobre los cerros de Loreto y Guadalupe, fortificados por Zaragoza. Atacaron con mas de cuatro mil hombres durante tres horas.

Los soldados del primer ejército del mundo llegaron hasta los fosos de Guadalupe y estuvieron a punto de tomar la posición, pero fueron rechazados tres veces por los aguerridos mexicanos, quienes los hicieron huir a las cuatro de la tarde en completa retirada.

Los franceses tuvieron en su ataque unos 700 muertos y heridos, según parte del cuartel general mexicano: llevaron una lección muy severa; pero en obsequio de la verdad se batieron como bravos muriendo gran parte de ellos en los fosos de las trincheras de Guadalupe.

A las cinco de la tarde de ese Cinco de Mayo, Ignacio Zaragoza envió un telegrama al ministro de



VIVA EL 5 DE MAYO

guerra. "Las armas nacionales se han cubierto de gloria, puedo afirmar con orgullo que ni un sólo momento volvió la espalda al enemigo el ejército mexicano, durante la larga lucha que sostuvo".

El General Felipe Berriozabal,

uno de los héroes de la jornada hizo notar que el gran triunfo de la Armada Mexicana, fue en el aniversario de la muerte de Napoleón Primero y que esa batalla honrará siempre a México, sean cuales fueren los sucesos posteriores.

CINCO DE MAYO

se ha convertido en un grito de guerra. Conmemora el valor de un puñado de gente que pagó un precio alto por su victoria en el pueblecito de Puebla, Méjico en 1862. Es el sacrificio sostenido por todos los méjico-americanos que han peleado en cada batalla desde la Primera Guerra Mundial hasta la Tormenta del Desierto. La libertad nunca se consigue de forma gratuita. Requiere la valentía y el sacrificio de gente dispuesta a pagar el precio máximo para mantener nuestro mundo libre y seguro.

THE FIFTH OF MAY

A great deal of blood drenched Mexico's soil to uphold a political principle of the United States of America on the 5th of May, Cinco de Mayo, 1862, and none of it was American. It was mostly French, and it was the first defeat of the French Army in 50 years.

The victors? Mexicans armed with half-century old rifles; and, Mexicans armed with machetes. Mexicans who had thrown out their Spanish masters forty years before in a decade-long War of Independence.

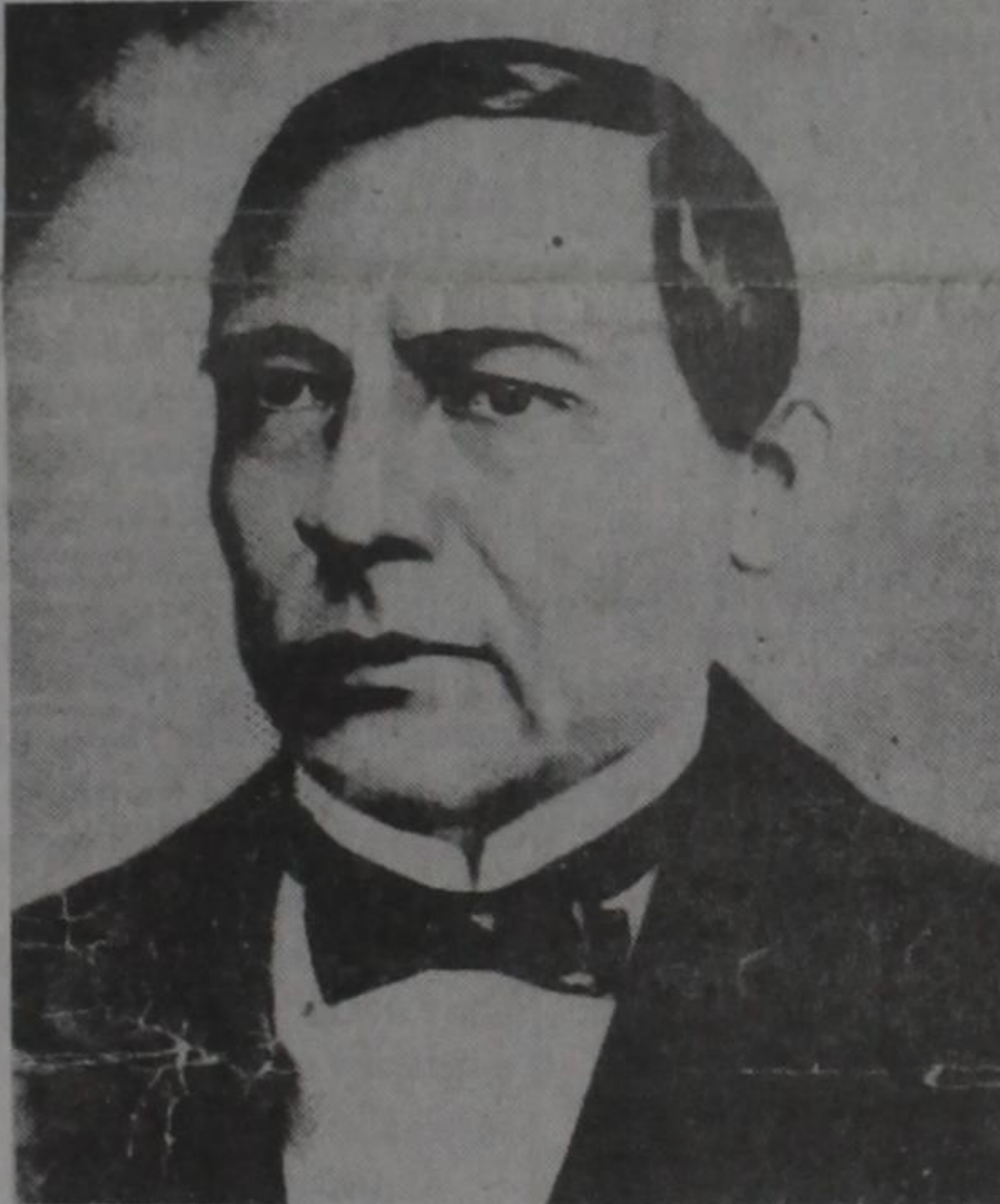
The beneficiaries? Mexican self-determination; Latin American self-determination; and American pride, dignity and position in world affairs. When American Secretary of State Jems Monroe bravely proclaimed that European powers could not reimpose their monarchical or other systems on any country in the Americas, neither he nor the thirty-year-old United States could do anything to back up his "MONROE DOCTRINE".

Nevertheless, the Doctrine was respected by European powers until Communists took over Cuba in 1959, with one glaring exception, the 1862 French invasion of Mexico.

More beneficiaries? Abraham Lincoln and his struggle to keep the Union whole as the great Mexican victory prevented European royalty from flooding the American Civil War with munitions for the Confederacy. And, American soldiers who swiftly made their way to Mexico when the Confederacy had been defeated to join the Mexican Army; as well as every American who savors freedom today.

Freedom won, in part, by Mexican teenaged soldiers in the mountains 100 miles east of Mexico City 138 years ago on the 5th of May, Cinco de Mayo.

Cinco de Mayo does not celebrate Mexican Independence Day; it commemorates the Battle of



Puebla between 6,000 French soldiers and 2,000 Mexican allies and 4,850 Mexican soldiers under the command of Texas-born General Ignacio Zaragoza.

Following the same route Spaniard Hernando Cortes took in 1519 from the Gulf of Mexico towards Mexico City and American General Winfield Scott took in the Mexican American War in 1848, French General Charles Ferdinand Latrille, Count of Lorencez, marched his soldiers into the Mexican mountains hoping to engage the Mexican soldiers of President Benito Juárez in one decisive battle. He did and he lost.

On the 4th of May, General Zaragoza ordered Colonel Porfirio Diaz, later Mexico's President and dictator for thirty years, to take his cavalry several miles away from the city of Puebla to be used as a battle reserve.

The Count divided his forces and sent one column to chase Diaz's cavalry and his main column to attack two forts guarding the city of Puebla. The evening of May 4th was used by both sides to prepare for battle.

Confessions were heard, letters written, rifles cleaned and prayers uttered by Mexican citizen-soldiers who knew the army they faced hadn't lost a battle since Waterloo, fifty years before. The French prepared for battle as only professionals can, for they knew they hadn't lost a battle since Waterloo and, brimming with professional confidence, they prepared to win.

The rains came. Heavy torrential rains. Then, before dawn, came the Indians, the Indians for whom there were no rifles, only machetes. They also brought their cattle with them, cattle they stampeded through the French troops causing the professional soldiers to scatter, giving Zaragoza time to reposition his cannon and troops.

The Mexicans waited. Dawn came. Onward came the French through the mud, to be slaughtered. Porfirio Diaz and his cavalry, probably some of the best cavalry in the world, attacked the French sent to hunt him down.

When the sun went down, that 5th of May, 1862, almost a thousand French were killed or wounded. Diaz was chasing French late into the night. The Indians scoured the Killing Fields and retrieved French rifles, then melted back into the hills. The hills from which they would wage a guerilla war for the next five years.

With tails between their legs, the French

Ejecutivos Dicen Que No Se Manipularon Precios de Gasolina

Ejecutivos estadounidenses de la industria petrolera desmintieron ayer las acusaciones de algunos legisladores demócratas de que habían manipulado el suministro de gasolina para subir su precio en los últimos años.

Los representantes del sector petrolero indicaron en una audiencia del subcomité de Investigaciones del Senado que las fluctuaciones en los precios de la gasolina fueron causadas por la volatilidad de los mercados del crudo y no por manipulaciones, como sugiere un análisis divulgado este lunes.

El informe de casi 400 páginas es fruto de una investigación de 10 meses que encargó ese subcomité tras la escasez de gasolina y su aumento de precio en todo el país en el verano del año pasado.

Desde enero, el precio promedio nacional de la gasolina ha aumentado en más del 25%, mientras que el del crudo ha sufrido un incremento de más del 37.5%.

El análisis subraya que el aumento de los precios del combustible es el reflejo de la serie de fusiones de compañías petroleras, que

han concentrado su poder en el mercado, y la retención de suministros de gasolina a comienzos de 2000 por parte de Marathon Ashland Petroleum.

Pero unos especialistas en mercadeo de las compañías BP, Exxon Mobil, RoyalDutch-Shell Group y Chevron-Texaco insistieron en que el informe presenta conclusiones erróneas.

Ross Pillari, vicepresidente de mercadeo para BP --antes conocida como BP Amoco-- dijo que la empresa nunca puso en marcha algunas de las recomendaciones contenidas en un memorándum de 1999 para mantener los precios al alza, y que fue fuertemente criticado por los senadores.

"No ha habido ninguna conspiración", insistió, por su parte, David Reeves, presidente de la división de Productos Estadounidenses de Chevron-Texaco.

Añadió que la fusión de las empresas, lejos de agravar el problema, ha aumentado la competencia y la competitividad en la industria petrolera.

Ad Agencies Must Evolve

McLean, Va, APRIL 23, 2002 - Leaders from America's top Hispanic advertising agencies met in Washington, DC at the Association of Hispanic Advertising Agencies' (AHAA) 12th semi-annual conference on April 18-20. During the three-day event at The Mayflower Hotel, agency leaders explored the many ways an agency can ensure its growth and techniques for securing new business.

At a press conference on Friday, AHAA issued the first-ever report on the advertising spending patterns of major corporations targeting the U.S. Hispanic market. Key highlights of the report include: rankings of corporate spending; spending trends by industry; and corporate spending trends over time. This report also marked the start of AHAA's Branding Campaign -- an unprecedented strategic effort to promote the overall strength of the Hispanic advertising industry to help corporations seize a share of the Hispanic market's collective buying power of more than \$630 billion.

During Friday's Luncheon, the Honorable Al Gonzales, counsel to the President and the highest ranking Hispanic in the Bush administration, spoke to over 300 attendees about how the country is changing.

The conference, New Business - Livelihood of an Agency, included several interactive and informative sessions. Seth Godin, best-selling author, spoke to the audience about change and how the laws of Darwinism apply to the fast paced business of advertising. Godin explained to the audience that agencies either need to evolve or become extinct.

On Saturday, Horocio Gomes' tenure as president of AHAA ended and Ingrid Otero-Smart became AHAA's new president for 2002-2003. In her inaugural speech as president of AHAA, Otero-Smart said, "We need to help corporate America understand the vast rewards that come when reaching the Hispanic market. Our members must help corporations understand the market so they can build their profits and grow their future to epidemic proportions."

Also on Saturday, AHAA and HispanicAd.com honored the best media plans and media directors in the Hispanic market. Tapestry almost made a clean sweep at the event, winning six of the nine awards. Inventiva took home two awards and Casanova Pendrill Publicidad left with one.

The Association of Hispanic Advertising Agencies (www.ahaa.org) is the national organization of firms that specialize in marketing to the nation's 36 million Hispanic consumers, the most rapidly growing segment of the American population. AHAA promotes the strength of the Hispanic marketing and advertising industry to the private and public sectors.

AHAA agencies offer a unique blend of cultural understanding, market intelligence, proven experience and professionalism that deliver Hispanic market success for clients. AHAA helps organizations gain market share, increase revenue and grow profits by building the bridges and delivering the messages to reach America's Hispanic consumers, who together have an estimated buying power more than \$630 billion.

Mexican May Day

INSIDE PANCHO VILLA'S, in the heart of Huntington Village, colorful promotional posters have been tacked up near the restaurant's somber black-and-white framed photographs of Mexican revolutionaries.

On the posters, flamboyant pink and green parrots wearing sombreros draw attention to the real message -- aluminum tubs filled with Corona beer. "Celebrate Cinco de Mania!" the posters urge, a play on this weekend's Mexican holiday "Cinco de Mayo," Spanish for the fifth of May.

"Mania" the holiday has become. Not vigorously celebrated in Mexico and only in recent decades embraced here in the United States, Cinco de Mayo has found crossover appeal and has become akin to St. Patrick's Day in its popularity among ethnic groups beyond just Mexicans and other Latinos.

Marketers have capitalized on the opportunity, helping to propel the fiesta to where it is today with holiday-related products and promotions. The California Avocado Commission, for instance, which encourages holiday-related sales promotions at supermarkets, estimates 54 million avocados will be eaten on Cinco de Mayo, mostly mashed into guacamole. That's more than twice the number eaten on the next biggest guacamole holiday, Super Bowl Sunday, said Liz Wilkins, a commission spokes-

woman.

Cinco de Mayo is also the biggest holiday of the year in terms of sales for Jose Cuervo International, said Anamaria Ceseña, national brand development manager for the tequila company. "People started to adapt this holiday and make it a Mexican fiesta celebration," Ceseña said. "It is the biggest holiday for us. This is the beginning of margarita season. It kind of kicks off with Cinco de Mayo. People think summer, margaritas."

Hallmark, which introduced free Cinco de Mayo e-cards in 2000, saw a 12 percent jump in the number of cards sent in 2001, and increased the number of card designs to seven this year, with three available in both Spanish and English. The company has been assessing whether the demand is there to introduce paper cards, said spokeswoman Deirdre Parkes. "It hasn't been a long enough time to determine whether this is a card-sending holiday," Parkes said. She put it in a category with Groundhog Day or Earth Day. "I think it's certainly an indication of the melding of the different ethnic cultures in our country."

Some of us North Americans may assume Cinco de Mayo marks the victory of Pancho Villa and other nationalists who sought Mexico's independence from Mother Spain in the early 1800s. Not so. Mexican Independence Day is actually Sept.

16. May 5 marks something far less earth-shattering: the victory of Mexican soldiers against the invading French army at Puebla, a city 100 miles east of Mexico City, on May 5, 1862. While people in the Puebla region pull out all the stops to celebrate, it's a relatively minor holiday throughout the rest of Mexico.

"In Mexico, it's not like here. We celebrate it, but it's not that important," said Elvia Cardenas, who is originally from Mexico City and who owns the Coyoacan Mexican Grocery in Huntington Station. The government sponsors a parade in the capital's zócalo, or city square, after which families might have a traditional Mexican dinner, she said. "I've been asking myself, 'How come it's more popular here?' I'm not sure."

In the United States, Cinco de Mayo's incarnation began, as many things American do, on the West Coast, said Ceseña, who was raised in Guadalajara, Mexico, but has lived in the United States for six years. It gained steam in California as Chicanos -- people born in the United States of parents born in Mexico -- embraced the holiday. Now, there is hardly a Mexican restaurant on the West Coast that doesn't sponsor some sort of party, Ceseña said. And far more people celebrate with parties in their homes.

Cities such as Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles have official festivities such as parades. In San Marcos, Texas, there's a three-day "Viva! Cinco de Mayo" festival that includes a Little Miss Cinco de Mayo competition. And over the years, the celebrating -- and the holiday's commercialization -- has moved steadily eastward.

The timing of the holiday is ideal here -- sandwiched between Easter and Memorial Day, just when the weather is starting to turn warm. "It's just a fun excuse for a party," said the Avocado Commission's Wilkins.

And so, many local establishments are gearing up for this weekend's festivities. Zarela Martinez, owner of Zarela in Manhattan and a respected cookbook author, said her restaurant began celebrating Cinco de Mayo in 1987 in response to customer demand, and the partying has grown there since. "Mexicans have a lot of buying power now," she said. And everybody wants to get in on that.

"We're going to set up a couple of tents out here in the parking lot with special drinks," said Pancho Villa's waiter and bartender Henry Abarca. The restaurant also brings Mexican mariachis, has Bacardi Rum shot girls and is having giveaways. "That day is crazy," Abarca said, especially when it falls on a weekend, as it does this year. "Usually it's double the business."

Church Crisis Isn't About Pedophilia, It's About Trust

By Cecilio Morales

Imagine what Plutarco Elias Calles, president of Mexico from 1924 to 1928, would have given to be alive on the day it dawned upon a pope that Catholic priests are nothing but trouble.

Calles, you'll recall, led the campaign to enforce the secularizing provisions of the Mexican Constitution, designed to rein in the power of the Catholic Church and its institutional alliance with wealthy special interests.

For his effort, Calles was rewarded with violence from a group of terrorists dubbed *cristeros* for their penchant for crying out *Viva Cristo Rey!* ("Long live Christ the King!") when hurling the odd bomb or three.

Roughly 20 years ago, when newspapers -- at last! -- reported about U.S. priests who molested boys, and African priests who coerced nuns into having sex, a new papal policy would have been a no-brainer. Maybe a fix. But back then, the pope was too busy helping make the world safe for conservatism by hunting for those dangerous liberation theologians -- every last one a Latino to boot!

So while the pope was busy publicly humiliating poet and priest Ernesto Cardenal during the papal visit to Nicaragua, and while the pope's minions drummed out of the priesthood people such as Franciscan friar Leonardo Boff and attempted to terrorize into silence a number of other leading Latin American and U.S. Hispanic fig-

ures whom I won't name for their own good, the cancer on the Catholic clergy grew.

Now the problem is trust.

The number of incidents, the depth of depravity and even the rank of those implicated -- one Polish archbishop resigned in response to claims he sodomized seminarians -- has risen beyond expectations of even the most cynical Church critics.

It doesn't end there.

The current scandal is no longer about the tawdry behavior of some Catholic priests, but a crisis of authority based on widespread cover-up by bishops. Not one of the U.S. cardinal bishops who flew to Rome at the pope's call is in the clear on this charge -- with one possible exception, all of them protected at least one pedophile. Indeed, some speculate that if certain allegations in Poland prove true, the same could soon be said of the sitting pope himself back when he was archbishop of Krakow.

Far from resolving anything, the belated papal focus on the sex-related crimes of some clergymen amounts to no more than damage control.

So why the focus on the United States?

After all, seen from Rome, the U.S. Church is insignificant in most matters that concern religion. Of the approximately 1 billion Catholics worldwide, there are about 63 million in the United States, about a third Hispanic. In all, that's less than 7 percent of the

pope's constituency.

Not a single major school of theological thought has arisen from U.S. Catholicism -- liberation theology is solidly a Latino and Latin American school. In biblical studies, the major breakthroughs in English have been made by Protestants, not Catholics.

The pope's interest could be based on what some sociologists call the "pizza effect": You know, pizza was essentially uncelebrated in Italy until U.S. troops in World War I discovered it. But that's the spin some of the monsignori in Rome are putting on it, so it pays to be skeptical.

Instead, I'd suggest that the institutional interest in U.S. Catholics is fairly easy to discern following the Woodward and Bernstein principle of investigative journalism: Follow the money. U.S. Catholics may make up less than 7 percent of the people, but they pay up to Rome 10 percent of the Vatican's budget. That's in one collection alone: Roughly \$25 million comes out of the annual Peter's pence that goes directly to Rome, whose annual budget is in the vicinity to \$200 million a year. The largesse does not count all the U.S. Catholic millionaires who buy salvaged consciences, thorny annulments and promotions for their clerical pets. Before the pope's rosary praying CD went gold, that amount of money was equal to the Vatican's annual deficit. We'll see how the CD fares if news breaks out of Krakow.

To Hispanics, of course, all this is scarcely news. Hispanics, like Catholic-influenced cultures in France, Italy, Poland and Ireland, have long hated their clergy. The French Revolution hunted priests, and Garibaldi ended the Papal States, and the leading figures of Latin American nation building were deeply anti-clerical, including the Masons Simón Bolívar and José de San Martín. Indeed, the notable fact that I found when working as staff to a committee of bishops drafting a national pastoral letter on the Hispanic presence 20 or so years ago is that U.S. Latinos' most persistent pattern with respect to clergy is their utter refusal, statistically, to enter seminaries.

The number of Hispanic married deacons grew dramatically in the 1970s, along with the Hispanic population. The number of priests stayed flat at proportionally next to nothing. This is not to mention, of course, the well-known migration of traditionally Catholic Hispanics to Protestant denominations or simply to the ranks of the unchurched.

All of which reminds me of what a long-lost relative in the Canary Islands told me about his faith. "I'm Catholic," he said, "but I can't stand those priests."

In the end, most Hispanics agree with Calles. Those priests are nothing but trouble.

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When Texas Was Liberal LIBERALS IN THE LONE STAR STATE

Free thought in wet-blanket Texas? Yes. Really. For the uninitiated, newly arrived, or Gen-Xer Texan, the notion of Texas liberalism sweeping across the state like a brushfire seems an absurd one or perhaps just the improbable patter of a burnt-out Lone Star longhair.

From the stifling political rigidity today, it's hard to imagine how this state's social order (institutional conservatism, latent racism, apathetic masses) could improve down the road, let alone ever have been radically challenged and changed during the '50s and '60s -- a time in Texas history that makes 21st-century conservatism look like a kegger at Oscar Wilde's house.

"Texas was the heart of the populist movement ... and race was the dominant issue." The words are those of David Richards, Lone Star hero of the left, tireless labor and civil rights lawyer, and former husband of Texas governor Ann Richards, as he spoke of the local political climate into which he was initiated nearly half a century ago. On a book tour promoting his memoir of the Texas liberal movement, "Once Upon a Time in Texas: A Liberal in the Lone Star State," Richards discussed his stalwart political and social achievements, motivations, and feelings on the current state of Texas liberalism.

"I wanted to show the people coming up today that this [current political and social climate] isn't the way it always was," he emphasized. "People today often forget how intense the battles were." Court cases challenging legal segregation, institutionalized racism, blatant first amendment infringements, voting rights violations, and dozens of other struggles are often taken for granted today.

With a cast of characters that reads like a "who's who" of modern Texas folk heroes, including Molly Ivins, Frankie Randolph, Ronnie Dugger, Ralph Yarborough, and Henry B. Gonzales, the book begins where Richards started his own activist career: in 1950s Texas, where racial issues were the order of the day, and the governor's race was heating up between Yarborough, ("candidate for the radical minorities") and Allan Shivers (who publicly advocated the death penalty for American communists).

When the young, liberal, and radical Richards practiced law in Texas in the late '50s, he joined a movement with a daunting mission. "Racial campaigning was a key element in destroying the populist movement in the South," Richards writes. "By the mid-20th century, racism remained a central political technique used by the ruling conservative power brokers to retain control."

As times changed, and as legal and legislative fights were won, focus shifted to other causes, both on the streets and, inevitably, in the courtroom. In the '60s, "anti-war and free speech issues were the order of the day," and hippies, punks, Black and Brown power revolutionaries, among many others, were taking to the streets, pushing the envelope of legal protest and dissent.

"The leftist activists in Texas in the '60s started facing serious jail time," Richards explains, "because the entire state establishment was against them, and they were too poor to afford lawyers to defend them." So naturally, "we wanted to start an organization to legally defend the activists."

And defend them Richards did. Working with what were to become some of the state's greatest legal minds, Richards joined the Mullinax & Wells law firm, whose membership included Ted Robertson (later of the Texas Supreme Court), Sam Houston Clinton (later of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals), and Oscar Mauzy (also of the Texas Supreme Court), among others.

"First Amendment issues were fun during that time," Richards admits with a grin, "because they were just so obviously unconstitutional and therefore easy to argue. Black Panthers, La Raza members, and lots and lots of hippies were being jailed."

Richards and friends sprung into action to defend the cause, but for various reasons, the activists wanted little help in playing The Man's game. "Their ideas of the courts was to use them as a guerrilla theater to further the movement, which didn't help them personally."

"There was a lot of friction between the protesters' and the lawyers' views of the system," Richards adds. "The lawyers were working within the system to further and legitimize the movement, but protesters wanted none of it. It was really kinda frustrating."

One such battle hit home in San Antonio, as Richards humorously relates the incredible situation at "Little Ned's Renaissance" (a hippie hangout named after Ronnie Dugger's baby brother) during that time. "The favorite pastime of the cops was to go to Little Ned's and bust the hippies under the vagrancy code, which made it illegal for anyone to 'stroll about the streets in idleness.'"

As the smoke from the '60s cleared, the reality of blatant voting rights violations involving the 1970s census figures in Texas came into clear view. "Race segregation prevented Blacks from voting, which just kept the same racists in power," Richards says. Working out of a converted Victorian home he bought and shared with the Texas Observer and the Texas Civil Liberties Union, Richards and his comrades exposed illegal legislative districting practices, and managed to get most of the Texas election code declared unconstitutional.

As the '80s rushed in, so did a new era of Reaganomics, elitism, and corporate rule. However, as the country prepared to slide collectively into materialism and enormous debt, Texas started experiencing a strange surge of populist politics. In 1982 Ann Richards, Jim Hightower, Jim Mattox, and Garry Mauro all filed for various high offices in Texas, signaling a triumphant, long-anticipated political victory for those who had fought for the little men and women of Texas for the past several decades.

Yet, as the battles for equality and expanded access to the better things in life were still being fought, the times they were a-changin'. Today, Richards admits he doesn't see much of the old fighting liberal spirit left in young Texans. The struggles have multiplied, the lines shifted, and the enemies are much harder to pinpoint and are mammoth in their global reach.

"The new galvanizing issues are economics and labor," he explains. He adds that the old assumptions about power and control don't apply in this new era: "The working folks must organize against corporate domination. They must realize that government control over their lives is inconsequential when compared with the ways corporations control their lives." He adds, "the question is how do we get people nowadays energized enough to fight for what's theirs, and what's being kept from them."

Richards' book reawakens the possibility that, despite the seeming enormity of the modern economic and social battles, victories might be possible for liberals in the Lone Star state.

Once Upon a Time in Texas: A Liberal in the Lone Star State
By David Richards. University of Texas Press, Austin
\$39.95, 267 pages ISBN: 0292771185

En La Iglesia, La Crisis No Se Trata de Pedofilia, Sino De Confianza

Por Cecilio Morales

Qué no hubiera dado Plutarco Elias Calles, presidente de México entre 1924 y 1928, por estar vivo el día en que el Papa descubrió que los curas católicos no son más que problemas.

Cabe recordar que Calles fue el que dirigió la campaña para implantar las provisiones secularizadoras de la constitución mexicana, diseñada para limitar el poder de la Iglesia Católica y su alianza institucional con los intereses particulares de los ricos. Por sus esfuerzos, Calles tuvo que lidiar con la violencia de un grupo de terroristas llamados 'los cristeros' por su costumbre de gritar "¡Viva Cristo Rey!" al tirar bombas.

Hace unos veinte años, cuando los periódicos informaron (¡finalmente!) sobre los curas estadounidenses que abusaban sexualmente de niños y sobre los curas africanos que obligaban a monjas a tener sexo con ellos, una política papal nueva hubiera sido la respuesta obvia. O, por lo menos, una solución temporal. Pero en ese entonces el Papa estaba demasiado ocupado protegiendo al mundo para el conservadurismo y llevaba a cabo una cacería de los peligrosos teólogos de la liberación, todos y cada uno de los cuales era latino, para colmo.

Así que mientras el Papa estaba ocupado humillando públicamente al poeta y cura Ernesto Cardenal durante la visita papal a Nicaragua, y sus secuaces expulsaban del sacerdocio a gente como el fraile franciscano Leonardo Boff e intentaban atemorizar hasta el silencio a un número de otras figuras importantes latinoamericanas e hispanas estadounidenses que no voy a mencionar por su bien, el cáncer dentro del clero católico creció.

Ahora el problema es uno de confianza.

El número de incidentes, la magnitud de la corrupción, y hasta el rango de los implicados -- un arzobispo polaco renunció tras quejas de que había sodomizado a seminaristas -- ha crecido más allá de las

expectativas de hasta los más cínicos críticos de la iglesia católica.

Y el asunto no termina ahí.

El escándalo actual ya no tiene que ver con la conducta lasciva de algunos curas católicos, sino con una crisis de autoridad que el encubrimiento generalizado por parte de los obispos fundamenta. Ni uno solo de los obispos cardenales estadounidenses que viajaron a Roma tras la citación del Papa está exento de culpa en este sentido; con una sola posible excepción, todos protegieron a, por lo menos, un pedófilo. De hecho, algunos conjeturan que si ciertos alegatos en Polonia resultan ser ciertos, pronto podría decirse que hasta el Papa hizo lo mismo cuando era arzobispo de Cracovia.

Lejos de resolver el problema, el tardío enfoque papal sobre los crímenes sexuales de algunos miembros del clero no es nada más que controlar el daño producido por las acusaciones. ¿Así que por qué enfocar a los Estados Unidos?

Después de todo, desde el punto de vista de Roma, la Iglesia estadounidense es insignificante en lo que respecta a la mayoría de los asuntos religiosos. De los cerca de mil millones de católicos en el mundo, alrededor de 63 millones están en Estados Unidos, un tercio de los cuales, más o menos, es hispano. En total, se trata de menos de un siete por ciento del rebaño papal. Ni una sola escuela de pensamiento teológico importante se ha originado en el catolicismo estadounidense; la teología de la liberación es una escuela enteramente latina y latinoamericana. Dentro de los estudios bíblicos, los descubrimientos principales en inglés los han hecho protestantes, no católicos.

El interés del Papa podría basarse en lo que algunos sociólogos llaman el "efecto de la pizza": usted sabe, la pizza era esencialmente desconocida en Italia hasta que las tropas estadounidenses la descubrieron durante la Primera Guerra Mundial. Así lo enfocan algunos de los monseñores en Roma, por lo

cual valdría la pena mantenerse escéptico sobre esa explicación.

En su lugar, yo sugeriría que el interés institucional por los católicos estadounidenses se puede entender con facilidad si seguimos el principio de investigación periodística de Woodward y Bernstein: examine el trayecto del dinero. Los católicos estadounidenses constituyen menos del siete por ciento de los feligreses, pero le pagan a Roma hasta el diez por ciento del presupuesto del Vaticano.

Eso en sólo una recolección: alrededor de \$25 millones salen de la colecta anual de Pedro que va a Roma directamente, cuyo presupuesto anual es de alrededor de \$200 millones al año. La generosidad no incluye a todos los millonarios católicos estadounidenses que compran conciencias salvas, anulaciones difíciles y promociones para sus miembros favoritos del clero.

Antes de que el disco compacto del Papa rezando el rosario tuviera éxito comercial, esa cantidad de dinero era equivalente al déficit anual del Vaticano. Ya veremos cómo seguirá viéndose el disco si surgen más noticias desde Cracovia. Para los hispanos, por supuesto, todo esto es noticia vieja. Los hispanos, al igual que otras culturas influenciadas por el catolicismo, como Francia, Italia, Polonia e Irlanda, han odiado al clero por mucho tiempo. La revolución francesa cazaba a los curas; Garibaldi puso fin a los estados del

Vaticano; y las figuras principales de la formación de naciones latinoamericanas eran profundamente anticlericales, entre ellas los masones Simón Bolívar y José de San Martín.

De hecho, el dato importante que descubri hace veinte años, cuando fui parte del personal de un comité de obispos que escribía una carta pastoral nacional sobre la presencia hispana, es que el patrón más persistente de los latinos en Estados Unidos con respecto al clero es su negativa definitiva, estadísticamente hablando, a entrar en seminarios.

El número de diáconos casados hispanos aumentó dramáticamente en la década del 1970, paralelo al crecimiento de la población hispana. El número de curas se mantuvo igual, prácticamente sin crecimiento con respecto a la población. Así está la situación, sin mencionar si quiera, la conocida migración de hispanos católicos hacia denominaciones protestantes ni las filas de los que simplemente no tienen afiliación eclesial alguna. Todo esto me hace recordar lo que me decía sobre su fe un familiar de las Islas Canarias: "Soy católico", decía, "pero no puedo soportar a los curas".

Al fin y al cabo, la mayoría de los hispanos concuerda con Calles. Esos curas no son más que problemas.

History of Cinco de Mayo From Page One

retreated to the coast to await 30,000 more men, to wait for a year. They would return, and they would win the second battle of Puebla. They would bring Prince Maximilian from Austria and crown him Emperor of Mexico. They would occupy most of Mexico.

They came, they told the world, to collect legal debts. The reality was, however, they came because the United States of America was busy disembodying itself and couldn't enforce its Monroe Doctrine. But when America defeated its domestic enemies it turned a jaundiced eye towards the French interlopers on its southern border.

Thousands of combat-veterans Americans, answering Juarez' 1864 call for volunteers, rushed across the border to help the very army and country they had fought less than twenty years before in America's bloodiest war ever. Armed with weapons covertly supplied by the U.S. and protected by U.S. soldiers in Texas, Mexicans and their American volunteers took the offensive. It was now only a matter of time.

When the war ended in 1867, Juarez led his Army into Mexico City, an Army which included an American Legion of Honor. Though long and bloody, the war's end began on the 5th of May 1862 at the Battle of Puebla and continued through victory because, as one French General put it, "Bah! Every Mexican is a guerrillero, either he has been or he will be".

True, General. Every Mexican ... every American "guerrillero" for freedom.

BY ANDRÉ
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En Defensa de La Iglesia Católica

Apologista: Ysidro V. Gutierrez

La semana pasada, El Editor promulgó un artículo sobre la crisis penosa de abuso sexual cometido por algunos sacerdotes católicos contra menores. Me siento obligado comentar sobre este asunto en esta carta abierta a mis hermanos e hermanas católicos en defensa de la Iglesia.

Desde enero 2002, los Católicos estadounidenses han permanecido atónitos por los hechos imponderables de abuso sexual de menores por sacerdotes abusivos. Más de 177 individuos han sido probados culpables del crimen que Su Santidad Juan Pablo II declaró "Delito severo y pecado grave."

Para los creyentes, cada traición por sacerdotes de sus promesas sacerdotales son como 177 clavos que rompen las manos y los pies del Señor Jesús, y como la lanza que 177 veces más traspasa su costado. La corona de espinas ha sido colocada sobre la cabeza Divina 177 veces más por los actos repugnantes de aquellos hombres vil que jamás deberían ocupado la estación admirable y noble de sacerdote.

La Iglesia, en esta hora negra, se siente abandonada, sus líderes desorientados, sus hijos dispersados. Estamos viviendo nuestro propio Monte Calvario, aguantando el Viernes Santo de la Iglesia.

Naturalmente, los hijos e hijas de la Madre Iglesia se sienten desilusionados. Como el Apostol Amado, al pie de la cruz que mirando fijamente hacia al Maestro colgado en la cruz, los fieles se sienten desprovistos de todo.

Como la sangre que corrió de las Llagas Sagradas, de nuestros cuerpos parece corre el aliento. Como Cristo, aquel Viernes Santo, nuestra Iglesia sufre insultos, desprecio, e acusación, por los actos depreavados de malhechores que traicionaron sus promesas abusando de inocentes que confiaban en ellos y por líderes que fracasaron en llevar a cabo las responsabilidades inherente a sus puestos.

En verdad, nuestra Santa Iglesia Católica ha experimentado su propio Calvario. En su Golgotha, la Iglesia, y ala ves, El Señor Jesús han sentido los martillazos forzar los dolorosos clavos por sus manos y sus pies. Una vez mas, la corona de espinas ha sido colocada violentamente sobre la cabeza divina. La lanza ha penetrado el costado divino. Los hijos fieles de la Madre Iglesia se llenan de llanto al ver al Señor Jesús crucificado nuevamente por el pecado grave y vil de abuso sexual.

Nuestra Iglesia ha sufrido ataques atraves de su historia. Ha sufrido numerosas veces por causa de sus hijos pecadores. Numerosas veces la Iglesia ha tenido razon para darce por vencida, desesperar, pensar que el momento actual es el peor de su historia. Pero cada vez más, llega la Pascua. El Domingo de Gloria nace de nuevo y su luz dispersa la obscuridad.

En este momento obscuro, los hijos de la Iglesia sienten que Domingo de Gloria se demora en llegar. Creen que el momento obscuro no pasará. Vemos nomas la sangre, sentimos nomas el dolor, la verguenza, y lloramos lagrimas copiosas que nos oscurecen la vista. Sentimos que se ha perdido lo que mas valoramos en nuestras vidas - la confianza en aquellos en quien mas podriamos confiar.

Pero la gran esperanza de la Iglesia es la verdad eterna. La certidud de que Dios esta con nosotros y con Su Iglesia. En tiempos de lucha y de prueba, la Iglesia sigue caminando. No olvidar que el Calvario de hoy, este momento sangriento, no sobrevivira en la Iglesia salvífica que Cristo fundo, y de cual declaro en Mateo 16:18, "... las fuerzas del infierno no la podrán vencer."

La verdad eterna es que la Iglesia y sus hijos tienen que sufrir. Pero jamás nos demos por vencidos. Que nadie olvide que somos hijos de Dios. Con esto por enfrente, que esta crisis sea nuestra etapa decisiva. Seamos siempre fieles a nuestro llamado de amar al Señor Jesús sobre todas las cosas y buscar primero el Reino de Dios. El Señor Jesús nos dio una gran comision, "Ir y hacer discipulos." Seamos fieles al llamado. Que las palabras del Señor sean nuestro gran motivo para seguir sirviendo y amando. Nuestro llamado es amar a Dios, amar al projimo, perdonar, rezar sin cesar dando gracias a todos tiempos, evangelizar al mundo, y celebrar los sacramentos de nuestra Santa Iglesia Católica. Reconociendo que somos llamados a altos y nobles estándares; seguimos adelante en nuestra labor pastoral en manera que agrada a nuestro Dios. San Pedro nos aclara en 1 Pedro 2:9 "Ustedes...son una raza elegida, un pueblo de sacerdotes, una nación consagrada, un pueblo que Dios eligió para que fuera suyo y proclamara sus maravillas."

Entonces pues, testimoniamos sobre la luz de la verdad que nos ennoblece:

•Por cada sacerdote que quiebra su promesa existen miles más que han sido fieles a sus vocaciones y a sus promesas bautismales y sacerdotales.

•Por cada sacerdote que abusa de su autoridad o que renuncia su responsabilidad, miles más cumplen sus ministerios con fidelidad, amor a Dios, y con entregro total. Numerosos de estos hasta se sacrifican por amor a Dios.

•Por cada uno de los hijos de la Madre Iglesia que se sienten desilusionados y consideran abandonarla por los fracasos de los pocos malhechores; hay millones más que saben que la Madre Iglesia es una comunidad autentica de fe, no se desaniman, no dejan el campo en manos del enemigo - Guardan la Fe.

En Domingo de Gloria, hace mas de 2000 años, el Amo murió por nuestros pecados y resucito al tercer dia para la Gloria de Dios. Somos nosotros, los hijos de la Iglesia quien nos regocijaremos de nuevo cuando al fin del crisis actual llege nuestro Domingo de Gloria. Que nadie se confunda, llegara nuestro día, y ese día será día de fiesta, y impulsados por el Espíritu Santo, proclamaremos, "Cristo Vive!" e "Abba, Padre!"

Por lo tanto, Su Santidad Juan Pablo II tiene razon en decir, "No hay lugar en las filas del sacerdocio católico para hombres que abusan de los juvenes."

California Groups Band To Fight "Racial Privacy"

By Arlene Martinez

With new urgency, Latino organizations in California are teaming with medical, educational, environmental, legal and civil rights groups to defeat an initiative streaking toward the November ballot that would erase race, ethnicity and national origin as state population measurements.

Nearly a million signatures -- 980,283 -- for anti-affirmative-action crusader Ward Connerly's Racial Privacy initiative were turned in to the state by the Sacramento-based American Civil Rights Coalition on April 19. The coalition spent \$2 million gathering the signatures. Opponents estimate they will need to raise \$10 million to defeat the measure.

To qualify for the ballot, the proposition, which would rid California of much of its racial and ethnic data and records, would need 670,000 valid signatures.

At a Los Angeles press conference April 22, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Greenlining Institute, Sierra Club, California Teachers Association, American Civil Liberties Union, NAACP and Breast Cancer Fund were among groups formally announcing their opposition.

The state will lose a crucial method of holding major banking and other institutions accountable, says Manuel García, advocacy coordinator for San Francisco-based Greenlining Institute. "If university faculty and staff aren't reflecting diversity, we won't know about it."

María Blanco, national senior counsel with MALDEF, explains, "It will affect information available to policymakers, scientists and civil rights groups to identify problems in the Latino community."

She warns, "Health issues affect communities differently."

For example, she says, the AIDS rate in California, while declining for every other major group, continues to rise among Latino. And Latinos have a much higher rate of diabetes than do other groups.

Health authorities cannot address these concerns properly if data by race and ethnicity is not kept, says Carmen Nevárez, executive director of the Public Health Institute.

Some Republicans in the state, still reeling from the political impact of the anti-immigrant Prop 187 and anti-affirmative-action Proposition 209, see these divisive issues better left off the ballot.

Connerly has requested that the signatures be verified individually rather than using the more common random sampling method. If verification is not completed by a June 24 deadline, the measure will not appear on the ballot until March 2004, when voter turnout is lower. That would help his cause.

Sierra Club attorney Denise Hoffner-Brodsky makes another point: Latinos and blacks have a far higher incidence of living near toxic-waste sites. A ZIP code in South Central Los Angeles that is 59 percent black and 38 percent Latino has five times the level of hazardous materials as the next worse zip code.

"Lawsuits are really reliant on that data," Hoffner-Brodsky says.

"The initiative has nothing to do with privacy. It perpetuates injustice and environmental inequality, and appeals to the fantasy of a 'colorblind' society."

Louis Caldera, California State University system vice-chancellor, calls the proposition

"institutionalized neglect." He sees the large amounts of money and energy directed to defeat the measure as 'a distraction to what we should be doing -- increasing Hispanic students' success.'"

Political strategists say even if the initiative fails to make the No-

ember ballot, pressure will be on candidates -- with a special eye on Republicans -- to take a side.

Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamente is among the state politicians who have already publicly opposed the measure.

Grupos de California Sealidan Para Luchar Contra Iniciativa

Por Arlene Martinez

Con una nueva urgencia, las organizaciones latinas de California se están uniendo a los grupos médicos, educacionales, ambientales, legales y de derechos civiles para derrotar una iniciativa que va a toda velocidad hacia la papeleta de votación de noviembre, que eliminaría los renglones de raza, etnicidad y origen nacional de todas las medidas de población del estado.

La American Civil Rights Coalition (coalición americana de derechos civiles), con sede en Sacramento, entregó al estado el 19 de abril casi un millón de firmas -- 980,230 -- de apoyo a la iniciativa de privacidad racial del opositor de la acción afirmativa, Ward Connerly. La coalición gastó \$2 millones recolectando firmas. Los opositores calculan que van a tener que recaudar \$10 millones para derrotar la medida.

Para que una iniciativa pueda aparecer en la papeleta, la propuesta, que forzaria a California a deshacerse de gran parte de sus datos e historiales raciales y étnicos, necesitaría 670,000 firmas válidas.

En una conferencia de prensa en Los Angeles el 22 de abril, el Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (fondo

educación legal), el Greenlining Institute, el Sierra Club, la California Teachers Association, la American Civil Liberties Union, la NAACP, y el Breast Cancer Fund, entre otros, anunciaron formalmente su oposición.

El estado perderá un método crucial para responsabilizar a instituciones importantes de banca y otros tipos por sus acciones, dice Manuel García, coordinador de defensa del Greenlining Institute, con sede en San Francisco. "Si el profesorado y el personal de una universidad no reflejan la diversidad de la población, jamás nos enteraremos". María Blanco, principal asesora legal nacional con MALDEF, explica, "Afectará la información disponible para que administradores públicos, científicos y grupos de derechos civiles identifiquen problemas en la comunidad latina".

Advierte, "Los problemas de salud afectan a las comunidades de maneras diferentes". Blanco cita como ejemplos que el índice de SIDA en California va en aumento sólo entre los latinos y que la diabetes afecta a los latinos desproporcionadamente.

Las autoridades de salud no pueden atender estas preocupaciones si la información con respecto a raza y etnicidad no se recoje y mantiene,

señala Carmen Nevárez, directora ejecutiva del Public Health Institute (instituto de salud pública).

Algunos republicanos del estado, que todavía están sufriendo el impacto político de la propuesta anti-inmigrante No. 187 y la propuesta anti-acción afirmativa No. 209, consideran que estos asuntos divinos deben dejarse fuera de la papeleta.

Connerly ha pedido que se verifique la validez de las firmas individualmente en lugar de a través del método más común de muestreo al azar. Si la verificación no se completara para el 24 de junio, la medida no aparecería en la papeleta hasta marzo del 2004, cuando la participación del electorado es menor. Este resultado ayudaría su causa.

La abogada del Sierra Club Denise Hoffner-Brodsky trae a colación otro asunto: Los latinos y los negros tienen una incidencia mucho más alta de residir cerca de terrenos de desperdicios tóxicos. Un sólo código postal de Los Angeles del sur central que es 59 por ciento negro y 38 por ciento latino tiene cinco veces el nivel de materiales peligrosos del lugar tóxico que le sigue en la lista.



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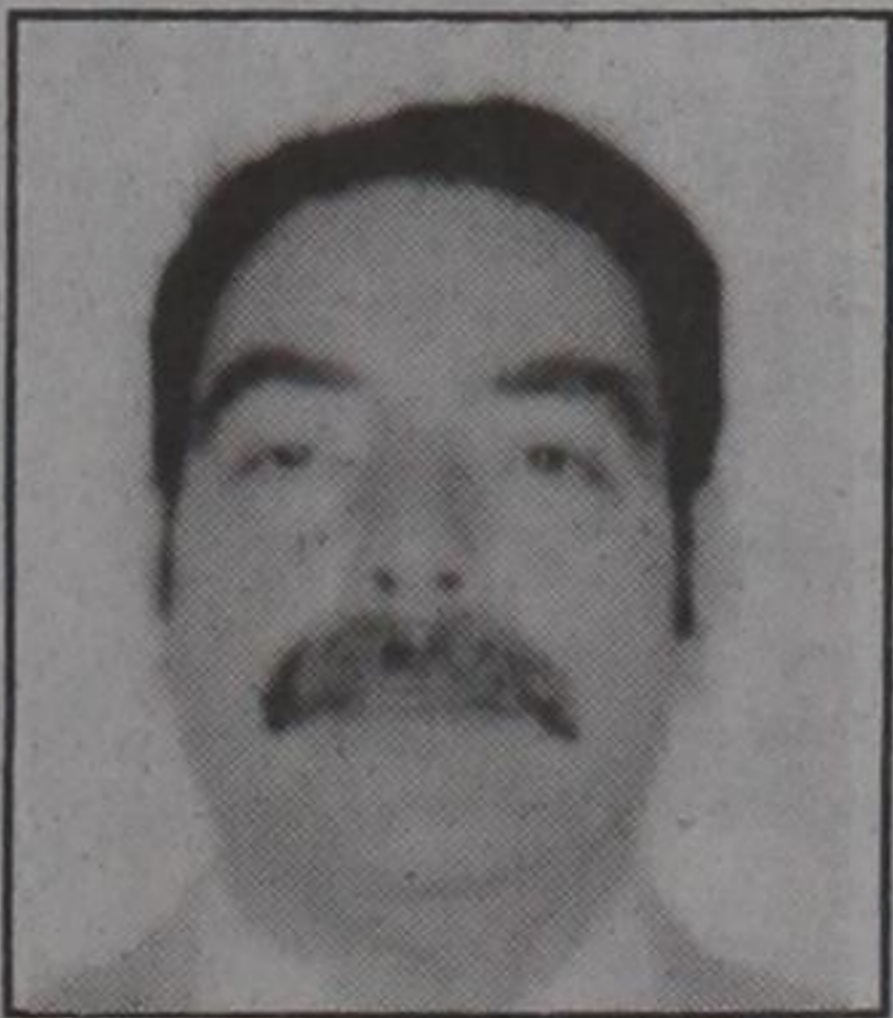
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8:00-9:30pm	Tigrillos

Schedule is subject to change.




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A-Rod, Palmeiro Reach Milestones in Victory

After hitting his 250th career home run, Alex Rodriguez was talking about No. 755.

Rodriguez became the second-youngest player to reach 250 homers, and Kenny Rogers had another strong start as the Texas Rangers beat the Toronto Blue Jays 10-3 Tuesday night before the smallest crowd in SkyDome history.

Alex Rodriguez is only eight days older than Jimmie Foxx was when he hit his 250th home run.

At 26 years, 277 days old, only Jimmie Foxx (26 years, 269 days) was younger than Rodriguez when he hit No. 250.

Afterward, talk turned to Rodriguez's chances of breaking Hank Aaron's career record of 755.

"There's no doubt in my mind that I think he has a shot at it," Texas manager Jerry Narron said.

"It's all going to come down to health, and as good as he is I think he's going to get even better. Say

he needs to get about 40 homers over the next 12-to-13 years, that's asking a lot, but I know the passion he has for the game and I don't ever see that leaving."

Rodriguez's two-run shot came on a 3-2 pitch from Luke Prokopec (1-3) in the third inning. It was hit so hard that Blue Jays right fielder Raul Mondesi didn't even bother trying to run after it.

"It's something you don't think about, but it's nice to obtain (250) at such a young age," said Rodriguez, who got the ball back afterward.

"It's flattering when anyone says (he has a chance at Aaron's record), but that bridge is so long and I just feel I'm just two or three steps across that bridge and there's a thousand steps. I've been fortunate to have had people hit behind me like Ken Griffey, Jr., Edgar Martinez and now (Rafael) Palmeiro."

Palmeiro had a special night of

his own.

The Texas first baseman passed Carl Yastrzemski for 25th on the career list with his 453rd home run, and sixth of the season.

Palmeiro is 4-for-7 with four homers in his career against Prokopec.

"It's not that big a deal for me right now," Palmeiro said. "But I guess when you have the other two guys do it in the same day, then it's a bit more meaningful."

The other guy would be rookie Hank Blalock, who hit his first career homer in the ninth.

"We haven't been scoring as many runs as we thought we would," said Narron, who had Rodriguez batting cleanup and Palmeiro fifth. "We felt this was the best lineup to get the most of our RBI guys."

Overshadowed by the home run milestones was another strong outing by Rogers (3-0), who gave up two runs on four hits in seven innings to raised his ERA to 2.02.

He has not given up more than two runs in any of his six starts this season.

"I didn't feel I was as good as I was my past few times out," Rogers said. "The guys gave me a 4-0 lead early and that made it easier to pitch."

The Blue Jays, who opened a six-game homestand after a 2-7 road trip that dropped them into last place in the AL East, lost their sixth game in a row.

Palmeiro's home run opened the scoring in the second inning as the Rangers hit homers in three straight innings.

Prokopec continued to get hit hard as Bill Haselmann made it 4-0 in the fourth with his second homer of the season.

Rogers was cruising in the early going, giving up just one hit after four innings.

"Kenny really showed what he's all about when he doesn't have his good stuff but can still hold off a good offensive club," Narron said.

The biggest cheers from the 12,571 fans came when the Jumbotron gave updates of Game 7 of the NHL playoffs between the Maple Leafs and visiting New York Islanders. The previous low for attendance in SkyDome's 13-year history was 13,514.

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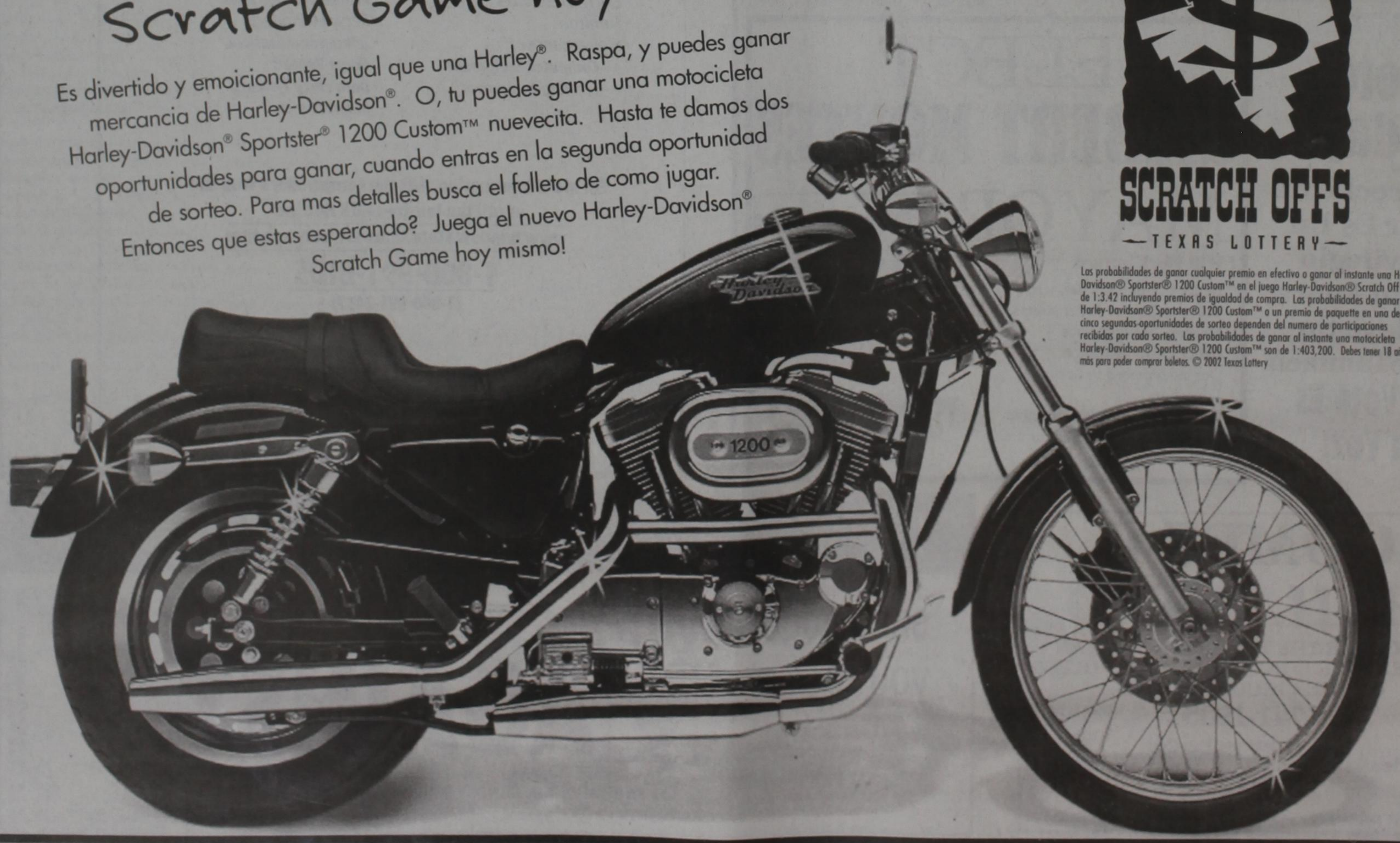
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Shakira's Brand Is Sweatshop Made



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Shakira, the Latina rock superstar scoring double-platinum sales with her new album "Laundry Service," may not know she has some dirty laundry in her closet.

A reputed Brooklyn sweatshop that is refusing to pay wages owed to dozens of Hispanic immigrants, made clothes last year for Delia's, a teen fashion label that uses Shakira to promote its sales.

The workers, mostly Mexican and Ecuadorian, were stunned when the New York Daily News informed them that Shakira, music idol to some of them, is the poster girl for a clothing label they toiled over last year while being forced to work overtime without pay.

"No, it can't be. She could not have known," exclaimed one sweatshop worker. "She's also Latina. She's one of us."

"I Love New York" goes "Yo Quiero a Nueva York"

Forget Woody, Billy, Kevin and Ben and please welcome Marc.

Starting Thursday, the 25-year-old "I Love New York" campaign takes a Latin twist as its first-ever Spanish language television commercial airs featuring salsaer Marc Anthony in a new effort to help the city's tourism rebound following the Sept. 11 attacks.

"The ad reflects the tremendous impact of the Hispanic community on New York's economy, as well as on our culture," said New York State Governor George Pataki in a release. More than 35 million Hispanics live in the United States.

Spanish Harlem-born Marc Anthony will appear in the 60-second TV spots, which also have English-language versions, that will run through mid-May in 29 counties in the New York metropolitan area and in Miami, another city with a large Hispanic population.

In the spot, Marc Anthony walks on 116th Street and Lexington Avenue, the heart of El Barrio, as he talks fondly about typical Latino dishes like rice and beans and invites viewers to visit New York.

As he travels throughout the city he's mistaken for Puerto Rican pop idol Ricky Martin, and a caddy singing to Marc Anthony's hit "I need to know" playing on the radio does not believe it is the actual singer riding in his cab when he

"Everyone would think the clothes she's selling are made by workers who are paid well, but that's not true," said another employee. "The workers are exploited."

Since October 2000, workers at Danmar Finishing Corp. in Brooklyn's Bushwick section have complained to the U.S. Department of Labor that they were threatened with firing or deportation unless they worked overtime for free.

The government has asked the factory to pay back wages. The factory has so far refused.

Among the hot goods produced by Danmar were knit tops for Delia's - a popular catalogue, retail and Internet seller of hip, trendy outfits for teen girls.

Shakira agreed in January to appear on window-size Delia's store

posters and on the cover of Delia's spring catalogue - mailed to 4 million homes.

The 25-year-old Colombian singer-songwriter chose a light blue tank top and boot leg jeans from racks of Delia's clothing for her photo shoot and feature story. Teens spending \$75 on Delia's garb get a computer-ready Shakira CD, and Delia's has offered to give away 500 autographed CDs.

A spokeswoman for Delia's said the company was "horrified to learn that our product was at one time subcontracted to a third party with alleged wage and labor violations."

"Delia's would never knowingly use a manufacturer who does not comply with wage and hour laws," she said.

But the company said Shakira shouldn't be linked to the reputed Brooklyn sweatshop because the sweaters made there last summer were not part of the Delia's-Shakira promotion.

Last year, for unrelated reasons, Delia's says it ended a relationship with a clothes manufacturer using the Danmar factory. Delia's would not identify that company.

With Shakira abroad promoting her album, her publicist, agent and manager dodged questions about sweatshops.

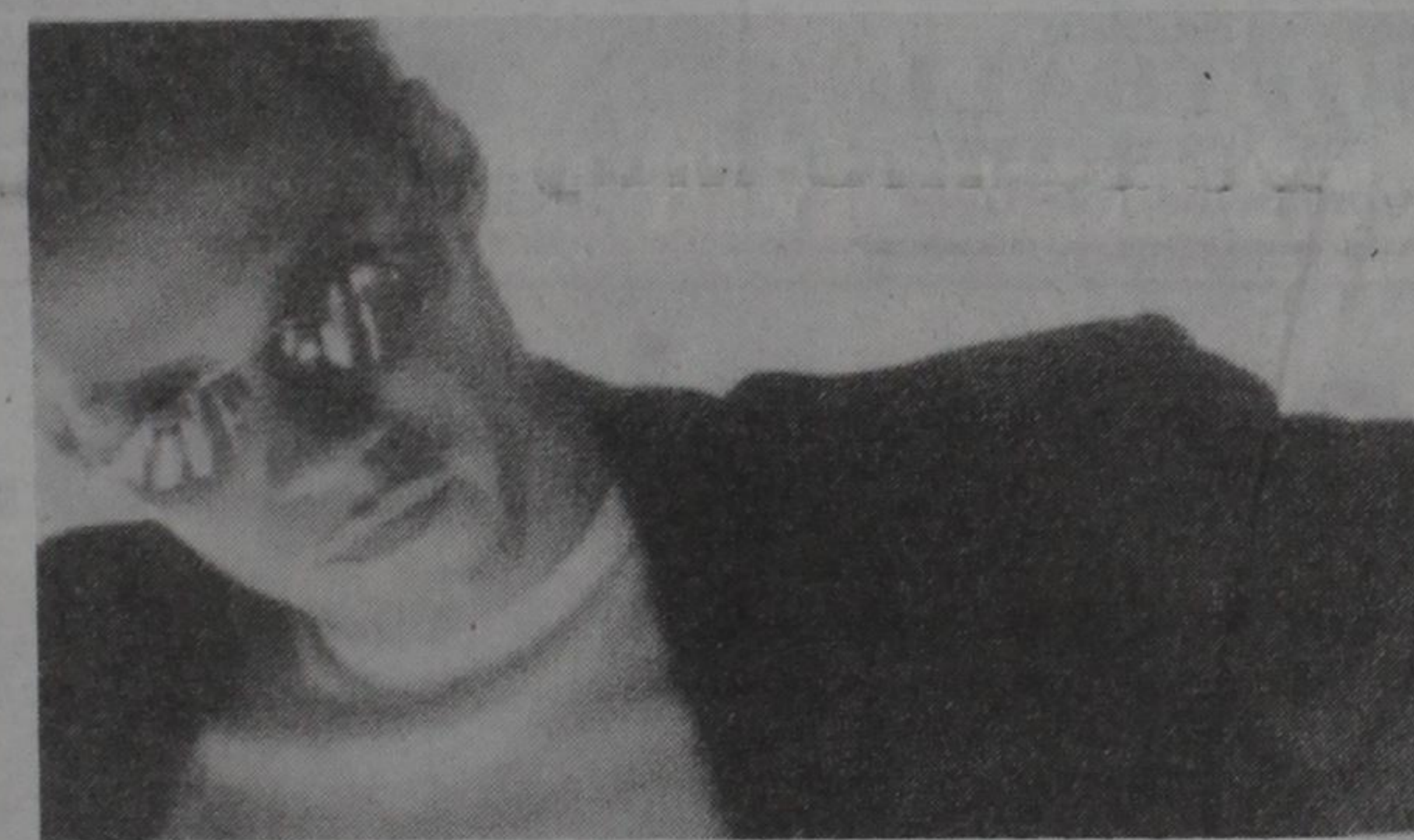
Her recording label, Epic Records, also bristled at hearing Shakira and sweatshop in the same sentence.

"Shakira is totally opposed to sweatshops," said Michele Schweitzer, senior vice president for Epic.

"It was a one-time arrangement," she explained, for which Shakira received no cash. "It's part of the promotion to get the word out on 'Laundry Service,' her album."

Schweitzer likened Shakira's catalogue shoot for Delia's to routine publicity shots the artist does for Rolling Stone or Seventeen magazine.

"She did a photo for the cover. She did the inside," Schweitzer said. "It happens all the time."



identifies himself. Previous commercials of the campaign included director Woody Allen, funny man Billy Crystal, and actors Kevin Bacon and Ben Stiller.

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Spanish Speaks For Itself

REPUBLICANS aren't the only ones courting Hispanics right now. NBC is seriously considering some new dramas that would feature Latino actors speaking un-subtitled Spanish during parts of the shows.

It's a tactic that worked earlier this year on hit shows "ER" and "Scrubs," NBC execs say.

"The Hispanic part of the audience is the fastest growing segment of this country," NBC entertainment president Jeff Zucker says. "I think to ignore them would be silly, so we're developing shows that will target the Hispanic audience."

NBC is expected to pick up only a few of the new shows out of about 20 pilots under consideration for its fall schedule. But at least two are dramas featuring Latinos as main characters.

The first is an Aaron Spelling produced show called "Kingspin" which is being compared to "The

Sopranos."

It follows the U.S. DEA's battle against a brutal, family-run drug

cartel led by a charismatic boss named Miguel Cadena (played by *continued on Page 6*)

Nick Leads Imagen Awards for Latino Shows

Kids cable network Nickelodeon leads the pack of nominees for the 2002 Imagen Awards, which honor Latino representation in the entertainment industry.

Nickelodeon nabbed four nods, followed by three apiece for ABC and NBC. The Awards will be handed out by the nonprofit Imagen Foundation during a June 6 dinner at the Beverly Hilton hosted by Hector Elizondo and featuring Sheila E. as the headlining act.

Picture nominees are Lions Gate's "Bread and Roses," Universal's "Captain Corelli's Mandolin," Miramax's "Pinero" and Samuel Goldwyn's "Tortilla Soup."

NBC's "Scrubs." ABC's "Spin

City (news - Y! TV)" and Fox's "That '70s Show" represent the TV comedy category, while PBS' "American Family," ABC's "NYPD Blue (news - Y! TV)," Showtime's "Resurrection Blvd." and NBC's "The West Wing (news - web sites)" are the drama selections. Showtime received the lone TV movie nod for "In the Time of the Butterflies."

Special honorees this year are Dennis Leoni (Norman Lear Writers Award), Esai Morales and Penelope Cruz (Entertainers of The Year Award), Andy Garcia (Creative Achievement Award) and Cristina Saralegui (Lifetime Achievement Award).



Christina Trevino Porfirio Bas

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Spanish Speaks For Itself

from page 5



Actress Roselyn Sanchez is set to star in one of two new dramas for next fall.

Yancy Arias "The Time Machine" who is torn - a la Tony Soprano - about the right and wrong of how he makes his living.

The second drama, tentatively titled "Miss Miami," stars Roselyn Sanchez (from "Rush Hour 2") as a brassy FBI agent named Vanessa Jonze who juggles caring for her wayward younger sisters with a dangerous undercover job in Miami.

"Many networks have already experimented with this [bi-lingual] concept," says Mark Robinson, a managing partner of SR Communications Alliance, an agency partnered with BBDO New York that specializes in multicultural and urban marketing.

"It's certainly not new, but it is an evolving and growing phenomenon on mainstream television," Robinson says.

"As to whether it'll increase Latino viewership, I think it does probably trigger some curiosity, some sampling and is likely to get a number of Latinos to investigate the show."

"Whether the show can hold their interest is more a function of the quality... and not really a function of the novelty of speaking in Spanish," he says.

NBC has burning interest in generating buzz among the Latino community.

The network recently bought Telemundo, the second-ranked Spanish-language channel.

El Pentágono Quiere Congraciarse Con El Mundo

El Pentágono se prepara a granjearse la opinión pública internacional y al mismo tiempo "satanizar" a sus enemigos mediante la diseminación de noticias falsas, incluso en los países amigos.

El plan, que recuerda enormemente a los programas llamados de "propaganda negra" en las dos guerras mundiales del siglo XX y en la Guerra Fría, buscaría influir en medios de comunicación, poblaciones y gobiernos.

El programa ha sido propuesto por la Oficina de Influencia Estratégica, una sección del Pentágono creada de forma casi confidencial tras los atentados terroristas del 11 de septiembre pasado, y cuya existencia fue dada a conocer este martes por el diario The New York Times.

Entre las propuestas figura el envío a periodistas de mensajes electrónicos promocionando las posiciones de Washington o criticando a gobiernos "inamistosos", sin identificar al remitente del envío: el mensaje sería enviado desde una dirección electrónica aparentemente comercial, terminada con el sufijo ".com".

Un jerarca del Pentágono que solicitó conservar el anonimato, dijo que el proyecto responde a "un genuino deseo de llegar a un público lo más amplio posible, particularmente en el exterior; la cuestión es cómo hacerlo".

El secretario de Defensa, Donald Rumsfeld, no ha apoyado todavía la propuesta, y la ha enviado al abogado jefe del Pentágono, William Haynes, para que la revise, según fuentes militares citadas por el diario.

A fines de septiembre del año pasado, al comienzo de la guerra contra el terrorismo, Rumsfeld había afirmado que ni él ni su entorno mentirían a la prensa.

"Supongo que nunca se debe decir jamás, pero todavía no puedo imaginar una situación en la que tuviéramos que hacerlo para proteger vidas", admitió.

El plan ha suscitado recelo dentro del propio Departamento de Defensa, donde altos cargos consideran que no es adecuado mezclar la información auténtica con la desinformación, ya que podría acabar erosionando la credibilidad de Estados Unidos.

"Esto rompe los límites de forma

casi total", señaló al Times un alto funcionario del Pentágono.

Otra fuente del departamento consideró que el Pentágono "no debería meterse en estos asuntos", sino que deberían dejarse en manos de los espías de la Agencia Central de Inteligencia (CIA).

Algunos analistas creen que la filtración de la noticia en este momento se debe seguramente a que algunos funcionarios del Pentágono y cercanos al plan no están de acuerdo con la medida.

Varias organizaciones que vigilan la labor de los medios se mostraron indignadas al conocer la noticia.

"Mentir deliberadamente o extender la desinformación no puede tener más que un impacto terrible a largo plazo para cualquier país que se llame abierto y democrático", afirmó Paul McMasters, del Foro de la Libertad.

"No existe ninguna justificación para ello. El gobierno estadounidense no obtiene más que perjuicios cuando copia a los comunistas y a la ex Unión Soviética en la batalla de la desinformación", afirmó Reed Irvine, fundador del grupo Exactitud en los Medios.

Propaganda camuflada La campaña que se estudia incluiría el uso de todo tipo de herramientas, desde operaciones encubiertas para sabotear redes informáticas de regímenes hostiles, hasta el envío de mensajes electrónicos con propaganda camuflada a periodistas, dirigentes civiles y funcionarios de gobiernos.

Dentro del capítulo de desinformación, se engloba la difusión, a través de medios de comunicación, de noticias que se sabe que son falsas pero que tienen una presentación impecable, algo que en inglés también se denomina "propaganda negra". En los años 70, noticias falsas preparadas por la CIA para su divulgación en la prensa extranjera acabaron reproducidas en la prensa nacional.

La portavoz del Pentágono, Victoria Clarke, confirmó la existencia de la Oficina de Influencia Estratégica, pero no realizó comentarios sobre su funcionamiento, aunque precisó que no trabaja con el Departamento de Relaciones Públicas.

Clarke indicó que "está claro que Estados Unidos tiene que ser tan eficaz como sea posible con sus

La noticia de la existencia de esta oficina y de sus planes se produce cuando la nación está reorientando el objetivo de su guerra contra el terrorismo internacional, que parece cada vez más dirigido hacia Irak.

Los aliados de EU en su campaña en Afganistán, desde Europa Occidental hasta los países árabes moderados, pasando por Rusia, han manifestado en los últimos días su oposición a un hipotético ataque contra Irak.

Ese país ha sido señalado por el presidente George W. Bush como el más peligroso de los que según él componen el "eje del mal", en el que también engloba a Corea del Norte e Irán.

Asesores de imagen Tras los atentados del 11 de septiembre pasado, EU presta más atención a la imagen que proyecta en el exterior.

El presupuesto de la Oficina de Influencia Estratégica no ha sido divulgado, pero se cree que es muy importante, ya que los fondos se extraen de un paquete de 10,000 millones de dólares aprobado para el Pentágono de forma especial tras los atentados de septiembre.

Para ayudar a esa oficina, el Pentágono ha contratado por 100 mil dólares al mes a una empresa consultora, Rendon Group, conocida por sus diversas campañas de propaganda en países árabes, sobre todo acerca de las atrocidades cometidas por Irak durante su invasión de Kuwait.

La compañía ha trabajado para la CIA, la familia real de Kuwait y el Congreso Nacional Iraquí, uno de los grupos opositores a Sadam Husein, según The New York Times.

La Oficina de Influencia Estratégica está dirigida por el general de la Fuerza Aérea Simon Warden, un astrofísico que ha trabajado en programas espaciales, y está bajo la supervisión de Douglas Feith, secretario adjunto de Defensa para asuntos políticos.

Además, esa oficina también coordina su trabajo con la oficina antiterrorista de la Casa Blanca, que está dirigida por el general Wayne Downing, quien fue jefe del mando de Operaciones Especiales que supervisa las operaciones de inteligencia encubierta.

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Microsoft and Mexico Aim to Put Nation Online

Mexico and Microsoft plan to announce an agreement on Wednesday to develop digital community centers as part of a broader "eMexico" initiative meant to bring the entire nation online by 2006.

Microsoft will contribute software, consulting and training for the centers, which are to be built in remote Mexican towns and villages to give residents free access to the Internet. Microsoft will license its Windows, Office and Encarta software on the same terms that colleges and universities use and will train 4,000 computer operators to run the centers.

Eventually, the Mexican government hopes to have 10,000 free public Internet kiosks in rural areas to help bring government services to citizens and reduce what has been called the "digital divide" of the urban rich from the rural poor.

Microsoft's relationship with Mexico has deepened since last July, when the company's chairman, Bill Gates, met with President Vicente Fox at a conference in Sun Valley, Idaho. After that meeting, Steven Ballmer, the company's chief executive, traveled to Mexico and promised that the company would contribute \$58 million of software and training to help foster a native software industry in Mexico.

"This is one of the largest initiatives we've announced," Jonathan Murray, a Microsoft vice president, said of the agreement. "Mexico has

had a close relationship with us over the years."

Abraham Sotelo, coordinator of the e-government program in the office of the Mexican president, said, "This is part of a very ambitious plan to prepare our country for the information age."

The agreement is scheduled to be announced at a Microsoft-sponsored conference in Seattle, where officials from 70 countries have been invited.

Microsoft plans to showcase at the conference a study by the International Data Corporation that puts the global market for information technology at more than \$1 trillion this year and \$1.4 trillion by 2005.

Microsoft's push into the developing world has been contentious, and critics have expressed concern about deals that commit governments to using Microsoft's proprietary software instead of free "open source" alternatives like the Linux operating system, which has wide support in many countries.

"It's a shame," Miguel de Icaza, chief technology officer of Ximian, an open-source software developer, said of the Mexican agreement with Microsoft. "There is a strong Linux movement in Mexico."

Microsoft has been increasingly wooing foreign governments because the international market is now the main battleground for American software and technology companies.

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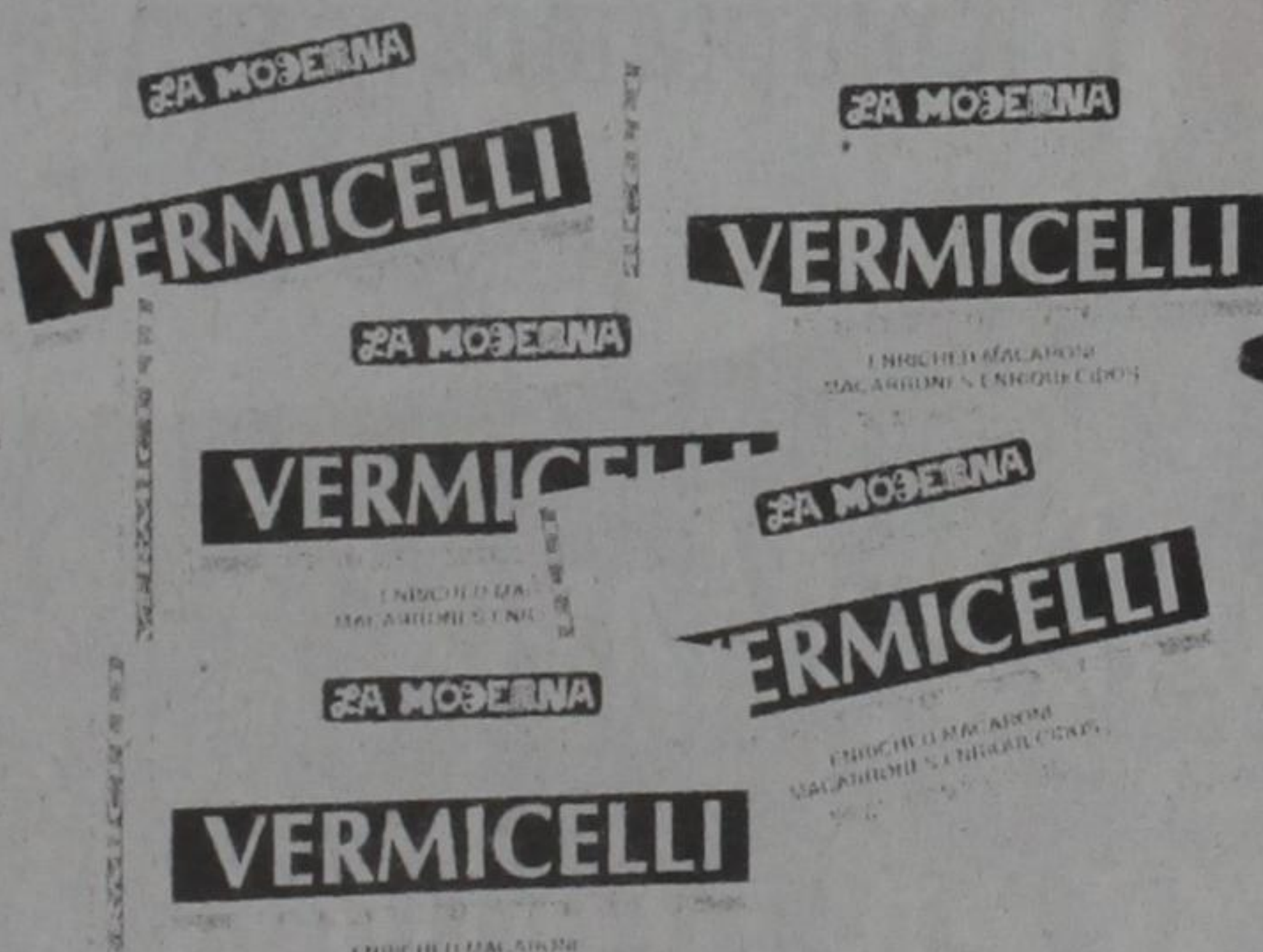


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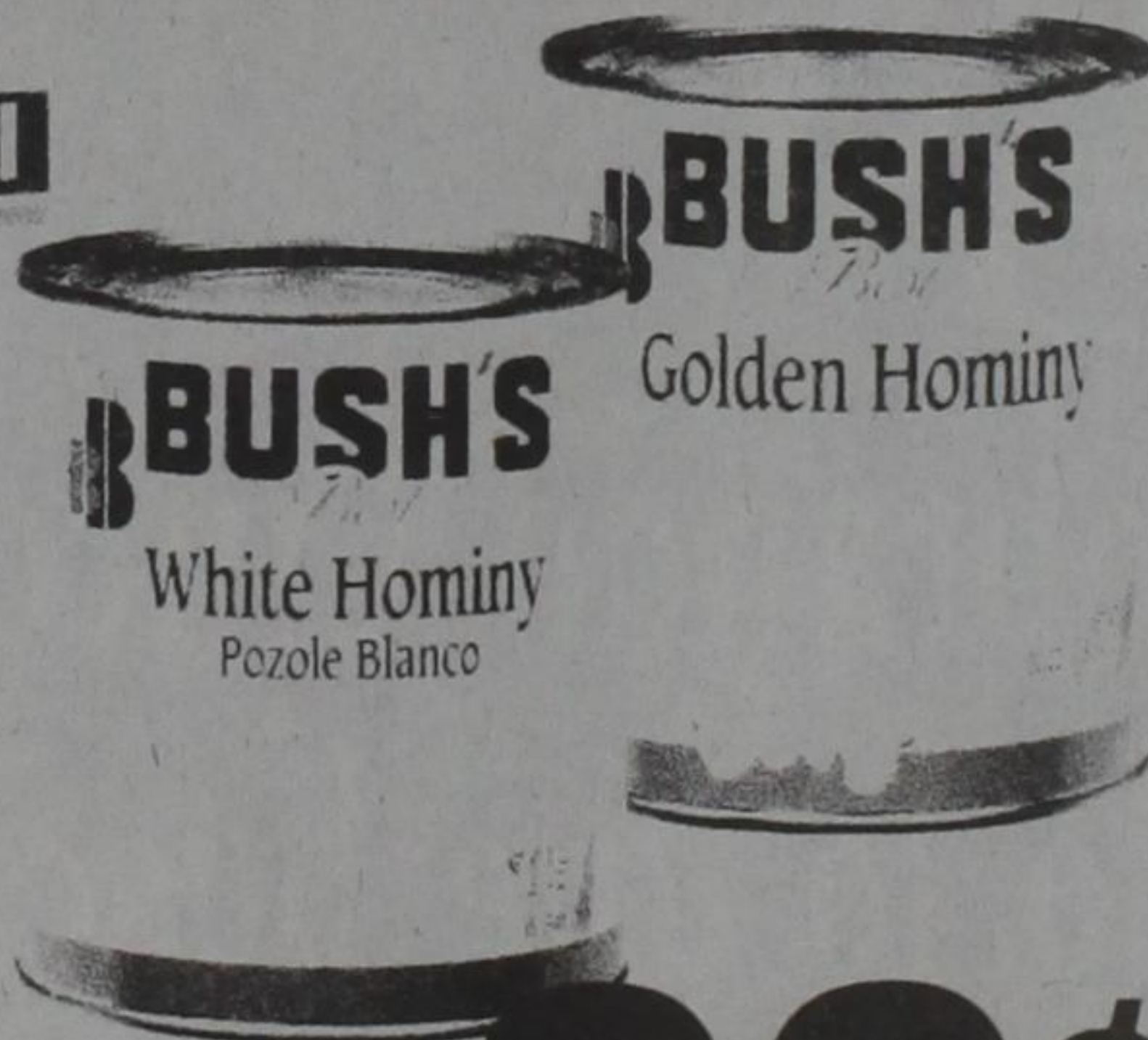
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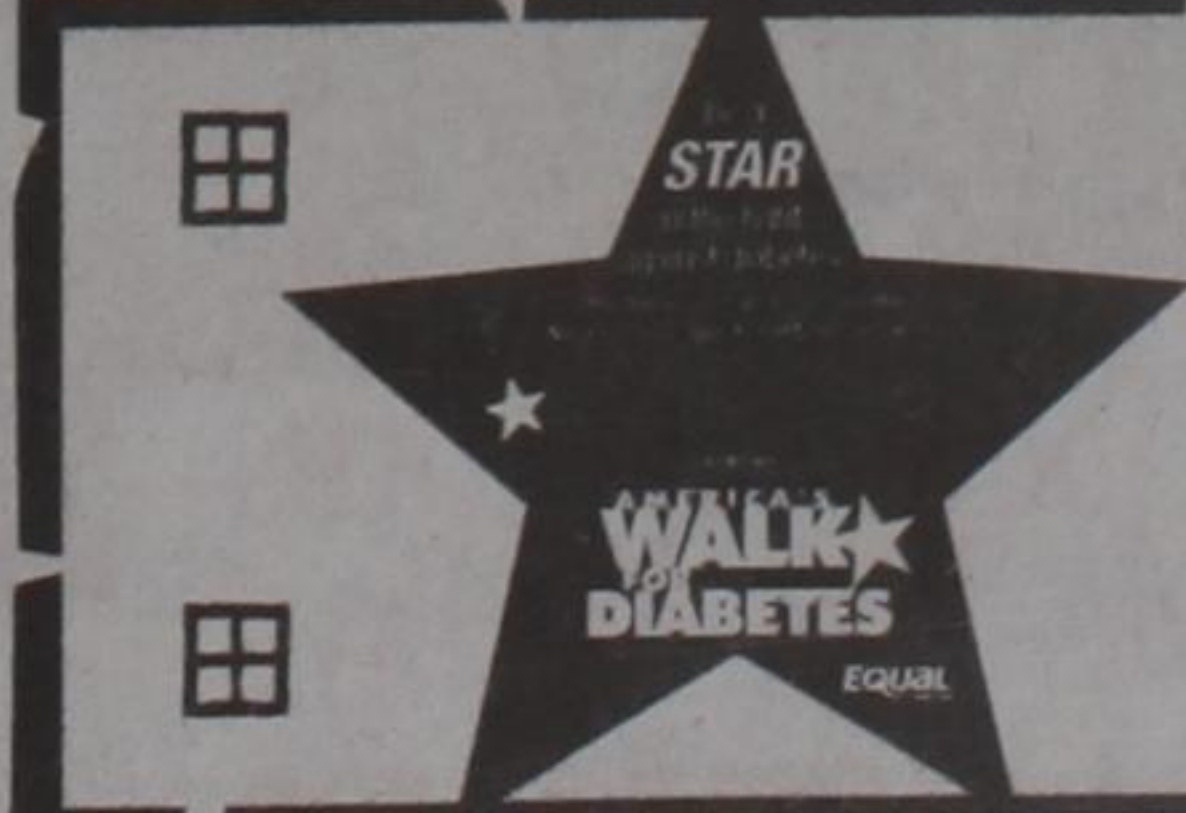
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INS Chief's Challenge Was More Than He Bargained For



When James Ziglar agreed to become commissioner of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, he was looking for a challenge.

The former investment banker, although lacking a background in immigration, planned to use his managerial skills to clear out the agency's storied backlogs and improve its efficiency.

Eight months later, those challenges seem almost quaint. In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the agency he heads is now seen as a national security problem because of its failure to secure the borders and enforce immigration laws.

Although no one is blaming the new commissioner for long-standing problems, the agency's blunders

dismantling the immigration service. Ziglar returned from an international meeting in Australia to find the House of Representatives passing a bill that would split the INS into two agencies and do away with the commissioner post.

What's more, he found that the Bush administration had abruptly joined forces with the House, undercutting his plan to streamline the INS from the inside.

Attorney General John Ashcroft, going to Capitol Hill to endorse the House reorganization plan Thursday, said he would be "delighted" if Ziglar would continue to "lead our effort" but offered no details.

Ziglar has made no public remarks since. Even so, he has often said that he would happily return to Wall Street, where he has served as managing partner for two invest-

ment firms.

"I'm not somebody who lusts after political jobs," he said earlier this month. "If it makes sense to have a different configuration of leadership, that's fine with me."

Even so, his rocky start at the INS has provided a window on changing attitudes toward both the INS and immigration policies.

A year ago, Ziglar's management background seemed a good fit for fulfilling President Bush's campaign promise to make the INS more responsive to immigrant applicants, many of whom wait years for the agency to process their citizenship or change their residency status.

As a pro-immigration and self-de-

scribed libertarian, Ziglar also supports Bush's plans, now stalled, to open the door to more workers from Mexico and legalize millions who are here illegally.

However, the Ziglar appointment also raised doubts in some quarters from the outset because of his lack of experience in immigration. Critics also complain that he has a less-than-zealous outlook on enforcing immigration laws.

Rep. Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio, recalled Ziglar's first visit with House members. "What was noticeable to me was that he spoke for an hour and never mentioned the word enforcement" until he was asked questions, Smith said. "That was a little worrisome."

have kept him on the hot seat.

He was summoned for a grilling by a House subcommittee after the INS mailed student visa certificates for two of the terrorists six months after they died in the Sept. 11 hijacking attacks. He faced more questions when an INS inspector in Norfolk, Va., allowed four Pakistani crewmen to come ashore. All but one have disappeared.

And this past week, the heat was turned up yet another notch for the genial Mississippi native, who until recently served as sergeant-at-arms in the Senate.

Congress, which has merely griped about the INS for years, took the first step toward actually

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