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In school, Latinos find fewer resources, ethnic isolation

50 years after Brown, Largest Minority in U.S. Struggles to Succeed.

By Tatsha Robertson,

Jacqui Heiland, a teacher at Garfield High School for 48 years, put a blunt question to her social studies class:

"How many of your parents were not born in this country?" All but one student raised a hand. "OK, how many have family members from Mexico?"

said Gary Orfield, co-director of the Civil Rights Project. "We are a society that basically says you can't treat people differently because of race by passing a law that says we won't allow Latinos in good schools, but you can do it by housing segregation and by separating school

boundary lines. Nobody objects to that at all."

Officials at Los Angeles Unified School District, where minorities make up 70 percent of the 746,000 students, say segregated schools for Latinos are largely caused by factors they cannot control, such as immigration and housing patterns. District officials say the problem is so stubborn that their focus is to try to make sure Latino and other minority students get an equal education, rather than to promote desegregation.

"I am saying just because a school happens to fall into a category of students of

color, it doesn't mean it can't be an excellent school," said Ted Alexander, associate superintendent. "Ideally, an integrated experience is the way we should go for every child, so he or she can learn to live and work with others. . . . Brown vs. the Board dealt with equal educational opportunity, but I am saying now we need to look at equal education outcome. What do we need that will level the playing field?"

According to a recent study by UCLA's Institute for Democracy Education and Access, the playing field is far from level in California. John Rogers, the institute's director, said schools in the state serving large numbers of Latinos are six times more likely than majority-white schools to be overcrowded.

Such schools also have unqualified teachers and inadequate learning materials, including books and computers, he said.

In a modest residential area with small wooden and brick houses, Garfield High was portrayed in "Stand and Deliver," a book and movie about Jaime Escalante, a Bolivian-born math teacher who in 1982 inspired poor students there to master the advanced-placement test in calculus.

In the 1930s, Garfield's student body was predominantly white, but it did include African-Americans, Latinos, and Asian-Americans.

By the 1960s, Latinos were quickly becoming the majority, as Mexican immigrants flooded into East Los Angeles, an area the size of San Francisco. The change was part of a broader trend in California, now a state with one of the largest Latino populations.

"In the 1970s, the average Latino student in California was in a majority-white school. Now the schools are about

one-sixth white," Orfield said. "It's a huge change in terms of the experience of the average Latino kid. . . . Most of this change comes after the civil rights era, so there really hasn't been any initiatives to address it substantially."

In 1970, when the Supreme Court ruled in Cisneros v. Corpus Christi Independent School District, Latinos were given the same protection as African-Americans under the Brown decision. According to the

Civil Rights Project, Latinos in California, New York, Texas, Illinois, and New Jersey are increasingly attending overcrowded schools where there is no contact with white students.

Overcrowding is a problem at Garfield and the other high school on the east side, Roosevelt, which enrolls more than 5,000 Mexican-American students. As a result, the schools are on controversial year-round (Continued Page 5)



Comentarios

by Bidal Agüero

It is surprising to me that many people are asking how American soldiers could commit the type of torture and abuse against prisoners in Iraq that has been shown recently on national media.

But come to think about it maybe it is not surprising. Most people and especially most people in West Texas think of American soldiers as being "holier than Thou" and capable of committing nothing wrong because they are "American Heroes". With what I'm saying I don't want our readers to think that I do not support the troops; far from that. What I do not support is an unjustified war that in my opinion was started purely for economic reasons, to put it simply, to make the rich richer. Concerning the abuses committed by the soldiers, what can we really expect?

I mean what can really expect from 18, 19 and 20 year old kids who go through basic training on how to kill. What can we expect from children who go through a basic training that teaches them - no a better term might be - indoctrinates them to believing that America is Beautiful! Furthermore what can we expect when kids who are soldiers are told by their commander-in-chief that anyone that everyone that doesn't believe in what he believes is evil? What can we expect? Sometimes it is lonely being against the war in West Texas and it is getting harder and harder to stand up in front of the flag and pledge "justice for all?"

An editorial in Lubbock AJ praised the work of University Medical Center for its work in keeping the hospital financially stable. As I read the words a recent editorial that was published in the Houston Chronicle came to mind. The Chronicle wrote about how thousands of children are losing health insurance because of lack of funding for the CHIP program. As most know, the CHIP program provide health insurance for kids that come from low and middle income families and are unable to afford today's soaring health insurance costs. The editorial gave no mention about any efforts by the board of directors in trying to address the CHIP problem. We wonder if anything is being done or if the Board of Directors is simply ignoring the issue or are happy that they do not have to provide service to the thousands of kids that need health services. We understand that for every \$1 invested in CHIP, Texas receives \$2.59 in federal matching dollars. We can imagine that as a result of CHIP cuts UMC loses million is state and federal matching dollars. So what is the local hospital district and its Board of directors doing to get back full funding of CHIP? We understand that more than \$469 million in state dollars are available right now for the restoration of health and human services. Are they trying? Have they lobbied our State Legislators? If they have not, we cannot agree with the accolades given to UMC by the AJ. Keeping the UMC should not be the major goal. Our opinion is that service to the public should be more important.

Again, nearly everyone's hand went up. "Is this good or bad that nearly all the students in the school are of the same culture?" she probed. The class embarked on a discussion about school integration.

"For one thing, there is no racism," said one student. "No stereotypes," added another. "But," a third student interjected, "just think of the experiences you could get from other races."

At Garfield High in East Los Angeles, 99 percent of nearly 5,000 students are Mexican-American. Similarly, Latinos across the country largely miss out on the experience of going to school with classmates of different races and cultures.

Today, 50 years after the Supreme Court ended enforced segregation in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Latinos, the nation's largest minority group, are the most segregated in public schools, according to Harvard's Civil Rights Project. The 1954 landmark decision did not apply to Latinos until 1970.

Besides ethnic isolation, the Civil Rights Project says, Latinos endure overcrowded schools in areas like East Los Angeles, where immigrants settle in large numbers. In addition, Latino-majority schools tend to have less qualified teachers and fewer educational resources, the project says. The large number of immigrant children who arrive at class unable to properly speak English has also hindered academic achievement in the schools, it says.

"The problems that we are developing in the metropolitan areas are as serious as the problems in the South before Brown,"

U.S. Army deserter says he saw Iraqi prisoner abuse

Washington, D.C. - A US Army soldier to be tried on charges of deserting from the Iraq war claimed Tuesday that he saw civilians die and Iraqi prisoners mistreated.

"It wasn't what I had imagined as a soldier, that we were going to attack a defined enemy and that soldiers were going to be killed by enemies," said Florida National Guard Staff Sergeant Camilo Mejia, who will be court-martialed Thursday at a military base in Fort Stewart, Georgia.

"I saw rather that a lot of innocent people died, a lot of civilians," he told AFP in a telephone interview.

Mejia, 28, also claimed he saw as early as May 2003 prisoners being mistreated, an issue that has rocked the US military since recent revelations of abuse at the Abu Ghraib prison outside Baghdad.

"In early May (2003) we went to a prisoner detention camp" in Al Assad, he said. "We began to see that prisoners were not allowed to sleep for several hours.

"Plus, there was psychological mistreatment. They were threatened with death, they screamed at them and they insulted them," Mejia said. "It was something that did not appear right."

Mejia, who has dual Nicaraguan and Costa Rican nationality, said he was in Iraq from April to October 2003, when he obtained permission to return to the United States for two weeks.

Mejia, born in Nicaragua and raised in Miami, is not a US citizen but has permanent resident status.

In March, military officials said he would face a special court-martial, sparing him the risk of facing a death sentence, the harshest possible penalty for desertion.

A special court-martial means Mejia could receive no more than one year in a military prison and a bad conduct discharge if convicted, a military spokesman said.

Mejia filed for conscientious objector status with the Pentagon, his civilian lawyer, Louis Font of Brookline, Massachusetts, said in March.

He is seeking an honorable discharge and dismissal of all charges against him. He has been in the Florida National Guard for almost six years and served in the Army for three years before that.

"I came back and I decided not to return (to Iraq) because I doubted the constitutional and international legality of the war, and because I was morally opposed to the things that I had seen over there as a soldier," Mejia said. AFP



Hispanics in Congress Opposed Legislation Forcing Health Care Providers to Serve as Immigration Enforcers

The Congressional Hispanic Conference (CHC) voted overwhelmingly today against H.R. 3722, the undocumented alien emergency medical assistance amendments of 2004 which would force public health professionals to act as immigration officers versus focusing on the necessary task of providing health care assistance. The CHC members stressed that every hospital in America should have the responsibility of caring for all people seeking medical assistance, not enforcing immigration policies.

"Hospitals have always been a place where the sick go for care and it should stay that way. To force health care workers to act as immigration officers will set a terrible precedent and it will cause many sick people to forgo health care because they are afraid of being hauled off to jail or deported. There are other ways that our law enforcement officials can uphold the law without having to involve our health care practitioners. I am glad that I voted against H.R. 3722." Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) and CHC Chair.

CHC members believe all new immigrants to this nation deserve respect and should not be deterred

from seeking necessary medical care. This creates a national problem with the health of our communities. Someone who goes untreated can propose a threat to the health of the entire community. This legislation would also make employers liable for reimbursing the costs of health care services provided to undocumented workers and provide medical insurance and state workers compensation coverage for such employees. This comes at a time when insurance rates are at an all-time high and many small businesses cannot afford further increases.

"Our emergency rooms must concentrate on providing life-saving care, as this is where their expertise and resources lie, not in performing complex immigration enforcement tasks," said Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-FL) "Let hospitals continue to provide health care for our communities and leave the enforcement of our immigration laws to the Department of Homeland Security," said Diaz-Balart.

As a congressional voice for millions of first-generation Americans, the Congressional Hispanic Conference commits itself to working for fairness in our nation's immigration

policy. The conference agrees that the immigration process must be streamlined and simplified. However, the CHC believes that this must be done while maintaining the security mea-

sures that ensure fair and legal immigration. Such a policy allows the United States to remain a nation of potential for those seeking asylum or economic opportunity.

Stenholm Against HR 3722

U.S. Congressman Charlie Stenholm (TX-17) today voted against requiring hospitals to question emergency room patients about their citizenship and immigration status prior to administering treatment.

"Doctors, nurses and other health care providers tell me over and over how they want more time to treat patients but instead they have less time because of all the paperwork to fill out," Stenholm said. "This bill is an unfunded federal mandate on community hospitals because it places extra burdens on health care providers whose resources are already stretched thin."

"Hospitals provide care to anyone who walks through the doors-regardless of race, ethnicity or citizenship status-twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. H.R. 3722 would add a new role to hospitals-that of border patrol agents," Stenholm said. "This is not why our doctors and nurses enter the medical profession."

U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) sponsored H.R. 3722, which was defeated in the full House of Representatives by a margin of 88 to 331.



La Historia Olvidada de Sylvia Mendez

Andy Porras

Cuando el anterior gobernador de California, Earl Warren, se hizo juez principal del Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos, ya conocía a Sylvia Méndez.

Warren y el Tribunal Supremo escandalizaron a la nación con su fallo en el caso Brown v. la Junta de Educación de Topeka, un caso hito que en 1954 dio el toque de gracia a una época en la que los niños blancos y los de color asistían a las llamadas escuelas "separadas pero iguales".

Casi una década anterior al fallo histórico de Brown, que encontró que las escuelas separadas eran "inherentemente desiguales", Sylvia Méndez, hoy una residente de California de 67 años, estaba al frente de la lucha por cambiar leyes similares que perjudicaban a escolares chicanos en un caso llamado Méndez v. Westminster, aquí en California.

Como juez principal durante una de las épocas más turbulentas de nuestra historia nacional, Warren lidió con casos de controversia referentes a los derechos y las libertades civiles, casos que trataban la misma naturaleza de nuestro sistema político.

Quizás por lo que se crió en Bakerfield y recordaba la corrupción de todo tipo que el gobierno allí apoyaba, al igual que el entonces ardiente racismo contra los asiáticos en la

costa oeste, fue que se hizo campeón tanto del caso Méndez como el de Brown.

Egresado de la Universidad de California en Berkeley, sirvió brevemente en el ejército estadounidense durante la primera guerra mundial. Más adelante trabajó en las oficinas del fiscal del condado de Alameda durante 18 años. Una encuesta realizada en 1931 concluyó que Warren era el mejor fiscal distrital de todo Estados Unidos.

Se convirtió en fiscal del estado de California y a continuación fue elegido gobernador. Se le recuerda mayormente por su papel al exigir que se evacuaran los japoneses de la costa oeste. Aunque esta acción pareciera incongruente con sus futuras decisiones, Warren mantuvo durante toda la vida que en el momento parecía ser lo correcto. En sus memorias, sin embargo, reconoció que había cometido un error. Pero esa historia fascinante queda para otra ocasión.

Hace poco hablé con Sylvia Méndez, una enfermera jubilada y abuela de dos, y me contó su propia historia fascinante. Por desgracia, como muchos eventos de primicia chicanos, la suya brilla por su ausencia en nuestros textos de historia actuales y en nuestros reportajes noticiosos nacionales sobre la integración.

En 1944, Sylvia tenía nueve años. Su padre, Gonzalo Méndez, un agricultor arrenda-

tario méxico-americano, había mudado a su familia de un vecindario hispano en el centro de California a un pueblo mayoritariamente de blancos, Westminster, en el sur de California. Méndez quiso matricular a sus hijos en la escuela del vecindario, pero le dijeron que no aceptaban que los niños de aspecto mexicano se mezclaran con los estudiantes blancos. Así, a Sylvia y a sus hermanos los mandaron a una escuela "mexicana" del área.

Furiosos, Méndez y otras cuatro familias méxico-americanas el 2 de marzo de 1945 lanzaron una batalla legal contra cuatro distritos escolares del condado de Orange que resultarían, finalmente, en desmantelar las leyes de segregación escolar de California y toda la región del suroeste estadounidense. De nuevo, California inicia una tendencia nacional.

Fue el primer caso federal en dar un fallo contra la segregación en base a origen nacional, por ser violación de la cláusula de igualdad de protección de la decimocuarta enmienda, y sería catalizador para el proceso que culminaría en la apertura de oportunidades para los hispanos y otros grupos de color que viven en los Estados Unidos.

El caso que sentó precedentes, que incluyó la labor del abogado de Los Angeles, David Marcus, llevó al gobernador Warren en 1947 a impulsar por la legislatura una revo-

cación más amplia de las leyes de segregación poco después de darse el fallo. A continuación, en 1954, redactó la decisión Brown.

Lo demás es histórico. En California, la derrota de las leyes de segregación no sólo acabó con la época de "escuelas mexicanas", y permitió acceso a los importantes beneficios de una educación de calidad, sino que también levantó muchos de los obstáculos racistas que enfrentaban las familias hispanas, incluyendo la compra de sus casas.

En combinación con el fallo Brown años más tarde, las medidas abrirían todo un mundo de oportunidades que han ayudado a impulsar el creciente bienestar económico y la creciente influencia de la comunidad hispana que se difunde hoy por toda la nación.

Ahora Sylvia Méndez cuenta su historia a pequeños grupos de estudiantes de escuela como la que nombraron en honor a sus padres, la Gonzalo y Felicitas Méndez Fundamental Intermediate School en Santa Ana, California.

Tristemente, el cuerpo estudiantil de la escuela que lleva el nombre de sus padres valientes es actualmente 95 por ciento latino por la segregación de facto.

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Decisions and Consequences

By Abel Cruz

At this time last week, I was already thinking about the city and school board election results and dreading what the total voter turnout would be. I even held out fool's hope that the numbers would be huge even though the early voting numbers were not. Well, the turnout was so low that it reminded me of a line that was popular during my high school and college peace activist days; it went, "what if we had a war and nobody came?"

That saying almost applied to Saturday's elections... First and foremost, congratulations to the newly elected city and school board member. The commitment you have made to public service is commendable. And to those who weren't successful in their quest, thank you for having the desire to serve your community with your hard work and efforts. Unfortunately, only a small percentage of registered voters appreciated it and took the time to vote in such an important election. That's too bad...

Not to downplay the winners, but it is a sad commentary on District 1 in both the city and school board when the percentage of votes barely registered at 7% of total registered voters which number about 25,000. I'll bet you that more people will attend a Jimmy Gonzalez y Mazz concert on a Saturday night in January, with the weather bad outside and the wind chill at 10 degrees and falling, than voted in this election!

To those of you that did take time to vote, thank you for taking the time and for fulfilling your obligation to the community so that all of us might continue to enjoy representation on our elected councils and boards. Your actions, serve as an example of what it means to stand up and be counted. Now I just hope that the decision made by a few, will be the right decision for the many that now get to live with the consequences of not voting!

In other news, the consequences of a decision made by a young man 45 years ago to give his life to God has touched the lives of many of us who have the pleasure of knowing him. That man is Monsignor Curtis Halfman, a man of faith and a man whose loyalty to the people of this community can never be questioned.

I first had the pleasure of meeting him when my family moved from Guadalupe to Arnett Benson in 1969. At the age of 16, my altar boy days were over, but during a 10 year period at San Jose's, I had met a lot of priests who had had a major influence in my short life. But none like Father Halfman.

For one, he spoke perfect Spanish and would talk to his congregation as if we mattered, as if we were something more than just "Mejicanos Catolicos". I also recall seeing him on several occasions, marching along with the rest of the community when the words activist and civil disobedience meant something to the Chicanos/Mejicanos/Hispanics in Lubbock. There he was, leading the peaceful march for the "causa", for equality, for civil rights. There was not much that happened in the community that he would not address in his Sunday sermons if he felt that it needed to be brought to the attention of the community.

Now, at the ripe young age of 70, he just celebrated his 45 year Ordination Anniversary on May 14. Congratulations Monsignor!

After many years of serving the people that he so loves as a parish priest, the Monsignor is retired and goes on a well deserved fishing trip from time to time. He still helps out weekly at Our Lady of Grace though, and just a couple of weeks ago was urging people to go out and vote and be heard.

Unfortunately, I guess a lot of folks just weren't listening. Fortunately for us, Father Halfman was not afraid to make the decision 45 years ago that has touched so many lives in so many meaningful ways. He is not afraid to speak his mind, to share the truth with those that take the time to listen, and above all to take an unpopular stand on controversial issues.

In a day and age when the local Bishop seems to go out of his way not to address local issues relevant to the every day lives of people, or God forbid, political issues, it is good to know that Father Curtis Halfman continues to serve as a voice of reason, a voice that will hopefully continue to be heard!

Peace!
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The Neglected Story of Sylvia Mendez

By Andy Porras

When former California Governor Earl Warren became chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, he already was acquainted with Sylvia Méndez.

Warren and the Supreme Court shocked this nation with their ruling on Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, the landmark case that in 1954 sounded the death knell for an era in which white and non-white children attended so-called "separate but equal" schools.

Nearly a decade before the historic Brown ruling found separate schools "inherently unequal," Sylvia Méndez, today a 67-year-old Southern Californian, was on the front lines with those challenging the fairness of similar laws for Chicano schoolchildren in a case known as Méndez v. Westminster, here in California.

As chief justice during one of the most turbulent times in our nation's history, Warren dealt with controversial cases on civil rights and civil liberties and the very nature of the political system.

Perhaps because he grew up in Bakerfield and recalled corruption of all kinds countenanced by government there, as well as the anti-Asian racism then rampant on the West Coast, he championed both the Méndez and Brown cases.

A University of California-Berkeley graduate, Warren served a brief stint in the Army during World War I. Later he worked for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office for 18 years. A 1931 survey concluded that Earl Warren

was the best district attorney in the United States.

He became attorney general of California and was then elected governor. He is remembered mostly for his role in demanding the evacuation of Japanese from the West Coast. Though the action seemed inconsistent with his future decisions, Warren maintained during his lifetime that it seemed like the right action at the time. In his memoirs, however, he acknowledged error. But that's another compelling story.

Recently I spoke with Sylvia Méndez, a retired nurse and grandmother of two, and heard her tell a compelling story of her own. Sadly, like many Chicano "firsts," hers is nowhere to be found in our current crop of history books or covered by the national media in their reports on integration.

In 1944, Sylvia Méndez was 9 years old. Her father, Gonzalo Méndez, a Mexican-American tenant farmer, had moved the family from a Hispanic neighborhood in central California to the predominantly white town of Westminster in southern California. Her father had tried to enroll his children in the neighborhood school but was told it didn't allow children who appeared to be Mexican to mix with its white students. So Sylvia and her brothers were sent to a "Mexican school" nearby.

Incensed, Gonzalo Méndez and four other Mexican-American families launched a legal battle on March 2, 1945, against four Orange County school districts that would ultimately result in the dismantling of school segregation

laws in California and throughout the Southwest. Once again, the Golden State set a trend.

It was the first federal case to find that segregation based on national origin was a violation of the 14th Amendment's equal-protection clause, and it would be the catalyst for a ripple-effect that would open broad opportunities across the nation for U.S. Hispanics and other groups of color.

The precedent-setting case, which included work by Los Angeles attorney David Marcus, moved Governor Warren in 1947 to push a broader repeal of segregation laws through the legislature soon after the ruling. Then in 1954, he wrote the Brown decision.

The rest is history. In California, the defeat of segregation laws not only ended the days of "Mexican schools," allowing access to the significant benefits of qual-

ity education, it also lifted many of the racist obstacles Hispanic families faced, including buying homes.

Combined with the Brown ruling years later, the measures would open a world of opportunity that has helped drive the growing affluence and influence of the entire Hispanic community throughout the nation that is spreading today.

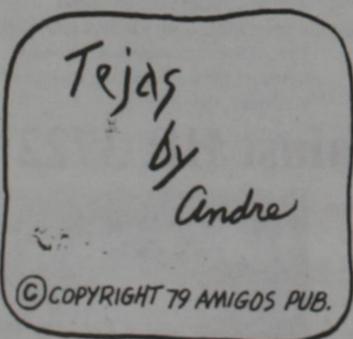
Now Sylvia Méndez tells her story to small audiences of students at schools like the one named after her parents, the Gonzalo and Felicitas Méndez Fundamental Intermediate School in Westminster.

Sadly, the student body of the school named after her brave parents is currently 95 percent Latino because of de facto segregation.

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En el prólogo del informe anual Bush se opone al uso de las reservas de petróleo



El presidente George W. Bush rechazó ayer la solicitud de la oposición demócrata de acudir a la Reserva Nacional Estratégica para frenar el aumento en el precio de la gasolina, un asunto altamente politizado en el país.

El crudo sigue subiendo. Los precios del petróleo superaban nuevamente los 41 dólares ayer en Nueva York, impulsados por la gasolina, luego de abrir en baja tras el anuncio de un aumento de las reservas estadounidenses de gasolina.

Hacia las 4:40 p.m., el precio del barril de crudo de referencia en Nueva York ganaba 54 centavos a 41.08 dólares, después de haber perdido más de 50 centavos a comienzos de la sesión.

El precio de la gasolina estaba en alza de 2.91 centavos, a 1,4160 dólares por galón. Las cifras de esta mañana eran muy bajas y no me explico el alza de los precios, indicó Jim Still, analista de Refco.

La gasolina lidera el movimiento, destacó por su parte Bill O'Grady, director de investigación de AG Edwards.

Tanto los demócratas como los republicanos se han lanzado acusaciones de politizar la persistente subida del petróleo, de cara a los comicios presidenciales del próximo 2 de noviembre.

"No jugaremos a la política con la Reserva Nacional Estratégica", aseguró Bush a los periodistas tras una reunión con miembros de su gabinete.

El mandatario estadounidense explicó que se opone a la idea que promueven algunos demócratas porque considera que el uso del petróleo destinado a la reserva sólo haría más vulnerable a Estados Unidos a posibles ataques terroristas.

Actualmente, esa Reserva tiene unos 660 millones de barriles de petróleo, que el gobierno quiere incrementar hasta los 700 millones, para los tiempos de "vacas flacas".

En 2000, la presidencia de Bill Clinton permitió el uso de 30 millones de barriles provenientes de la Reserva, lo

cual, según el senador demócrata Edward Kennedy, ayudó a reducir el precio del combustible en aquel periodo.

Pero Bush cree que la idea de vaciar la Reserva Nacional Estratégica para saciar el creciente apetito y dependencia de los estadounidenses del petróleo "colocaría a Estados Unidos en una posición peligrosa en la lucha contra el terror".

Previamente, el secretario de Energía, Spencer Abraham, indicó que el objetivo de la Reserva es evitar problemas de abastecimiento y no regular el mercado.

Pero un grupo de legisladores demócratas ha criticado a Bush por no hacer lo suficiente para atajar la espiral ascendente de la gasolina y pidieron que el gobierno "suelte" al mercado un total de 30 millones de barriles en igual número de días, o una mayor cantidad, de ser necesario.

Sólo en California, los consumidores gastan poco más de 46 dólares para llenar un tanque de 20 galones, lo que para un hogar promedio se traduce en un gasto de casi mil dólares más de cuando Bush asumió el poder en 2001, según la senadora demócrata por ese es-



tado, Dianne Feinstein.

El precio nacional medio de un galón se situó en 2.017 dólares por galón, 51.9 centavos más que hace un año, según datos de la Administración de Información de la Energía (EIA), un organismo oficial.

El problema, que podría agravarse en el verano cuando aumenta la demanda de carburantes, se ha sumado al intenso debate político con vistas a los comicios de noviembre, en los que Bush postula a

la reelección.

La campaña de John Kerry, el rival demócrata de Bush, criticó esta semana al gobierno por no reducir la dependencia del país del petróleo importado, y señaló que los únicos beneficiados en todo esto han sido las compañías petroleras.

La Casa Blanca dijo el martes que ha contactado a los principales productores mundiales para pedirles "compromisos" destinados a frenar el creciente precio de los productos energéticos.

EE.UU. presenta con retraso informe sobre situación mundial de DDHH

El secretario de Estado norteamericano, Colin Powell, afirmó que la promoción de los derechos humanos y de la democracia en todo el mundo refleja los principales valores de Estados Unidos, en el prólogo del informe anual sobre los derechos humanos del Departamento de Estado presentado en Washington.

El informe sobre la situación mundial de los derechos humanos 2003/2004 iba a ser difundido a principios de mayo, pero su presentación se pospuso a causa del escándalo por las torturas de presos iraquíes en las cárceles estadounidenses en Irak y Afganistán.

Según el secretario adjunto de Estado para Democracia, Derechos Humanos y Trabajo, Lorne Craner, este contexto no era "el apropiado para transmitir el mensaje... de que promovemos los derechos humanos mundialmente".

"La promoción de los derechos humanos y de la democracia en todo el mundo no sólo refleja los valores más importantes de nuestra nación, sino que también es de nuestro mayor interés", escribió Powell.

El gobierno estadounidense acusa en el informe a China y a

numerosos países de Cercano y Medio Oriente de violaciones de los derechos humanos. Según el informe, la tendencia general en Cercano y Medio Oriente es seguida con preocupación, a pesar de algunos adelantos en algunos países.

Muchos estados están impregnados por la "negación sistemática de las libertades políticas". La combinación de estancamiento político y económico amenaza con generar "más inestabilidad política, inseguridad y pobreza", señala el informe.

El accionar israelí en los territorios palestinos también es criticado por el gobierno estadounidense. Las fuerzas de seguridad israelíes suelen aplicar "una violencia excesiva", que causa la muerte de muchas personas. La destrucción de casas o los estrictos toques de queda también afectan a civiles inocentes.

Además, Powell destaca en el prólogo la transición política pacífica de Georgia, pero señala que el país debe seguir construyendo instituciones democráticas.

El informe describe además el compromiso de Estados Unidos en la lucha contra las torturas y la defensa de las libertades religiosas y la libertad de prensa en más de 101 países.

Hector V. Barreto Sr. was Passionate about Hispanic Business

By RauDi E. Cisneros

The story of Hector V. Barreto Sr. is one of those stories that reminds us what a great country this is.

He was born in Mexico City in 1935 and grew up in Guadalupe. His "American journey" began in 1958, when he moved to west-central Missouri. Life

is seldom easy for new immigrants, and Barreto's was no exception. After a series of backbreaking jobs, he decided to do what many immigrants dream of doing: becoming his own boss.

So with this help of his wife, Mary Louise, he started his first enterprise, a restaurant

serving Mexican food. That establishment grew into another. After that, came an import company, followed by a construction firm. These were family affairs. The children of the Barreto home shared in the work. As any entrepreneur would tell you, it was tough

continued on page 6

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El Editor



¡Personas Verdaderas, Ganadores Verdaderos!

Pregunteles a April y Sylvester Ledesma de Corpus Christi, Texas, si hay personas verdaderas que realmente ganan en grande con los Scratch Offs. Ellos ganaron con el juego de raspar Diamond Mine. Aunque éste es el premio más grande que April y Sylvester han ganado, ellos dicen que se divierten jugando y ganando premios todo el tiempo.



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Emilio Estefan to make Latino version of "The apprentice"



Music world tycoon Emilio Estefan will make the Latino version of "The apprentice", a reality show that millionaire businessman Donald Trump so successfully headed a few months ago for NBC television network.

Estefan's program for Hispanic chain Telemundo, owned by NBC, would focus on different aspects of the music world business and an entertainment company, according to the details revealed by the Anglo press.

Estefan is currently in New York where Telemundo is to hold its "upfront" for advertisers today and where it is expected the details of the new reality show will be revealed, confirmed the Cuban-American producer's spokesperson.

"We cannot reveal any of the

details since it is an announcement that can only be made by the broadcaster," said the spokesperson to Notimex.

In the show that Trump headed, 16 participants battled for 13 weeks to show they deserved a high-level position as a top executive with a six digit annual salary.

An estimated audience of 28 million spectators viewed the final, disputed last April 15, turning it into a huge success for NBC.

Estefan, co-founder of Miami Sound Machine in the 80's, has built up a musical empire whose main stem is his wife, Gloria Estefan.

His company, Estefan Enterprises, owns recording studios, manages the careers of dozens of artists, and owns the copyright to many compositions, besides real estate interests that have helped the couple diversify their businesses.

Emilio has recently produced musical variety shows for Telemundo chain as well as for its rival Univisión.

His personal fortune is estimated at 300 million dollars according to press figures.

"Alzatevi, andiamo" Lanzan a la venta libro autobiográfico de Juan Pablo II

El libro autobiográfico de Juan Pablo II, titulado "Alzatevi, andiamo" (Levántense, vamos) salió a la venta al público en general, en coincidencia con el cumpleaños número 84 del pontífice.

El volumen, de 160 páginas, editado por la casa Mondadori, recoge la experiencia de Karol Wojtyla desde 1958, cuando fue nombrado obispo auxiliar de Cracovia, Polonia, hasta 1978, cuando fue electo como sucesor de Pedro.

En el texto, el jefe de la Iglesia Católica confiesa su sorpresa por el nombramiento episcopal cuando apenas tenía 38 años de edad.

"Eminencia, yo soy demasiado joven, apenas tengo 38 años de edad", dijo Wojtyla al cardenal primado polaco, Wyszyński, que le replicó que "es una debilidad de la que se liberará pronto; le suplico no oponerse a la voluntad del Santo Padre".

En el libro, el Papa confiesa su pasión por el remo, el deporte, la música, la metafísica y la fenomenología, así como por la literatura (entre sus autores favoritos está Ernest Hemingway).

Wojtyla relata su vocación, actividad, compromiso científico y pastoral y su paternidad de obispo inserido en la colegialidad episcopal.

Admite su vocación por el diálogo y su convicción de que el obispo debe luchar con todas sus fuerzas para no convertirse en un simple empleado, porque "no debe olvidar que es ante todo un padre".

El Papa reconoce que si no hubiera estallado la Segunda Guerra Mundial y hubiese muerto su padre, quizás no sería el sucesor de Pedro, sino un literato o un escritor.

Señala también su admira-

ción por Edith Stein, una monja carmelita de origen judío y convertida al catolicismo, muerta en el campo de concentración de Auschwitz.

También confiesa que le gusta viajar (en junio realizará su gira internacional número 103) y opina que el obispo debe dar el ejemplo ante el rebaño que debe guiar.

Una amplia parte del libro es dedicada a la lucha contra el régimen comunista polaco, a cuya caída contribuyó decididamente al ser electo Papa.

El primer tiraje del libro (que se publica en italiano, francés, alemán, español y polaco) es de 500 mil copias, aunque se prevén tirajes sucesivos también en otros idiomas (incluido el inglés).



EL EDITOR

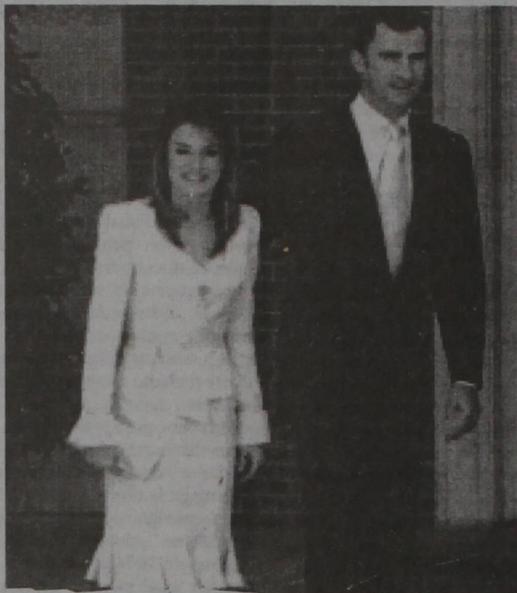
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Wedding gown and royal honeymoon, best-kept secrets



The gown Letizia Ortiz will be wearing for her wedding to Prince Felipe and the agenda of their honeymoon are the best-kept secrets in the royal wedding.

Designer Manuel Pertegaz has only revealed that the wedding gown's "neckline will not be

low-cut, but modest", with sleeves flared to the elbow, a wide skirt, a grand veil and "a very long train".

The silk, lace and every other material needed for tailoring the wedding attire were all produced in Spain, as everything else pertaining to the wedding:

floral arrangements, decorations, rugs, dinnerware, table dressings, candles, etc.

Letizia, who is expected to wear a diadem and her hair in a half-up-sweep, was seen several times at Pertegaz's fashion design house in Barcelona for fittings, first by herself, and later with both her mother, Paloma Rocasolano, and her future mother-in-law, Queen Sofia.

The type A silk for the dress, produced directly by the silkworm, all 100 meters of it, was woven on the looms of Catalá - founded in 1775 - at night, to avoid any indiscretion and to allow for halting the process in case of impurities in the raw material.

Alberto Catalá, owner of the textile mills, explained that the material was woven with the highest quality thread, considering its shine and wrinkle-resistance since it will be such a long event.

As to the honeymoon, the heir to the crown revealed during an informal exchange with the press that they would be making a stopover in Amman, Jordan to attend the wedding of Crown Prince Hanzeh and his

betrothed, Princess Noor.

Another scheduled stop for the Prince and Princess of Asturias will be the Vatican where they will be received by the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, a traditional stopover for European royalty on their weddings.

Other destinations for the royal couple are mere speculations, since the Royal House is going to great lengths to guarantee that the "paparazzi" do not interrupt the privacy of the newlyweds.

Putting the trip together is in the capable hands of Cristina Barrios, former Head of Protocol at the Zarzuela Palace and Spain's current Ambassador to Mexico.

Spain's current monarchs, King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia had a five-month-long honeymoon around the world; the infanta Elena and Jaime de Marichalar also enjoyed a wedding trip that included stopovers on all five continents; infanta Cristina and Iñaki Urdanagrin spent their nuptial get-away in New Zealand.



Fiesta del Llano Cinco de Mayo Si Se Puede banquet was recently held and Juan Hernandez was honored as Outstanding Community Leader. In above photo are members of the board of directors for Fiesta del Llano who are responsible for the annual 16 de septiembre celebration, Hispanic Cultural Center and cinco de mayo activities.

Ambicioso estudio sobre el Alzheimer

Un reciente estudio reveló que una persona con el mal de Alzheimer sobrevive alrededor de la mitad del tiempo en comparación a aquellas de edad similar que no padecen la enfermedad.

También destacó que entre los pacientes con ese diagnóstico, las mujeres tienden a vivir más que los hombres.

La investigación fue realizada por Seattle's Group Health Cooperative y la Universidad de Washington, y financiada por el Instituto Nacional sobre Envejecimiento (NIA) que pertenece al Instituto Nacional de Salud (NIH).

De acuerdo con el estudio, luego de que a una mujer se le diagnostica el mal de Alzheimer (AD) sobrevive aproximadamente seis años, en comparación con el hombre cuya expectativa es de cuatro años, pero este espacio se podría reducir dependiendo de la edad.

Por ejemplo, aquellos a quienes se les diagnosticó con el AD a los 70 años tuvieron más expectativas de vida que aquellos a quienes se les detectó

cuando tenían de 85 en adelante.

Según el estudio, entre las múltiples preguntas que existen alrededor de esta enfermedad, una de las más frecuentes que hacen los familiares de un paciente con AD es: ¿Qué se puede esperar?

Los resultados de esta investigación, según el estudio, sugieren que, evaluando varios aspectos claves de la enfermedad una vez que sea diagnosticada, los médicos podrían predecir la expectativa de vida a largo plazo. Esto ayudaría también a las autoridades de salud pública a proyectar los costos y planificar los servicios de una enfermedad que cada vez perjudica más a las personas mayores en edad de contraer esta enfermedad.

El mal de Alzheimer es un desorden o trastorno irreversible del cerebro, que lleva a una pérdida de la capacidad intelectual

y física de la persona, que tarde o temprano la conduce a la muerte.

Los síntomas normalmente se presentan en adultos mayores de 65 años, aunque también puede afectar a personas entre los 40 y 50 años. Entre los padecimientos se incluye la pérdida en las habilidades del lenguaje, como dificultad para encontrar palabras, problemas en el pensamiento abstracto, juicio pobre, desorientación en tiempo y espacio, trastornos de conducta y personalidad.

El resultado en general es una notoria disminución en las actividades personales y en el desempeño del trabajo.

Recientes estudios estiman que unas 4.5 millones de personas actualmente tienen la enfermedad, y el número de pacientes se duplica cada cinco años. Se cree que para 2050, las tendencias demográficas

siguen y no se descubre un tratamiento preventivo, habrá aproximadamente 13.5 millones de estadounidenses con el mal de Alzheimer.

El doctor Eric Larson, quien participó en el estudio y es director del centro de estudios en el área de salud Group Health Cooperative's Center for Health Studies y antiguo director del Hospital de la Universidad de Washington, dijo que "este descubrimiento nos lleva a tener una visión más exacta del curso que puede tomar el mal de Alzheimer con pacientes con ciertas características clínicas".

Según Larson, el resultado de la investigación proporciona datos muy útiles a los doctores para analizar qué tan grande es el daño de un paciente con AD. Y el experto, agregó: "Para los afectados y quienes se encargan de cuidarlos, los resultados de la investigación les ayudarán a planear su futuro apropiadamente".

Metodología y conclusión
La investigación consistió en observar el desarrollo del AD en 521 pacientes, entre mujeres y hombres de más de 60 años y que han recibido un diagnóstico reciente.

Los pacientes con esta enfermedad fueron seleccionados de una lista de 23 mil personas de Seattle.

La expectativa de vida de los pacientes con AD fue medida a partir del tiempo del diagnóstico inicial hasta su muerte o en el momento que concluyó la investigación en el año 2001.

Durante el estudio, se evaluó el estado cognoscitivo y de la memoria de cada participante. Se examinó su condición cardíaca, diabetes, estado emocional y hasta su incontinencia urinaria.

Según la investigación, cuando se comparó el tiempo de vida de la población estadounidense en general, el resultado fue inferior para la gente con AD en todas las categorías de edad.

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Garnett Proves Unstoppable on his 28th Birthday

Kevin Garnett jumped atop the scorers' table and made a huge footprint in the chalk dust before saluting a screaming sellout crowd.

The league's MVP left his mark all over this game, too, putting the Minnesota Timberwolves in the Western Conference finals with one of the greatest performances of his career.

Garnett had 32 points, 21 rebounds and five blocks on his 28th birthday, and the Timberwolves held on to beat the Sacramento Kings 83-80 Wednesday night in Game 7 of their semifinal series.

"I felt like I had to be the example to everybody," Garnett said.

The victory wasn't assured until Chris Webber's 3-point attempt spun around the rim and out as the final buzzer sounded, giving star-crossed Sacramento a Game 7 playoff loss for a third straight year.

"I definitely thought the last shot was good," Webber said. "It did everything but go in."

Minnesota will play host to the Los Angeles Lakers, who have been idle since Saturday, in Game 1 of the conference finals Friday night.

With the Timberwolves clinging to a three-point lead, the Kings had a final possession to tie. Doug Christie's off-balance 3-pointer was an air-ball, and Brad Miller's layup attempt off the rebound was blocked by Garnett into the seats near Sacramento co-owners Joe and Gavin Maloof.

The Kings got another in-bounds pass with 2.2 seconds remaining. Webber pump-faked Garnett in the air and got a clean look as Garnett avoided contact.

"I thought it was going down," coach Rick Adelman said. "But it just didn't happen."

Webber, who had 16 points, collapsed to his knees in disappointment after Sacramento failed again, just as the Kings did against the Lakers in 2002 and last year against Dallas.

"I've had some real special presents on my birthday, but nothing like this," said Garnett, who hugged Webber before going to celebrate.

"K.G. is probably my favorite player in the league," said Webber, whose readjustment to his team was a struggle after he returned from a knee injury in early March. "I love going against him. He told me to get healthy, keep my head up."

Christie, Sacramento's sixth-leading scorer during the season, had 21 points as his team's unlikely leader. Mike Bibby added 15 points, and Miller had 11.

"We just kept fighting, man," Miller said. "I think that's what it's all about."

Sam Cassell played through an ailing back and returned to form with 23 points and seven assists for Minnesota. Latrell Sprewell scored 14, and Wally Szczerbiak had 10 off the bench.

The Kings, who trailed by as many as 13 in the first half, were down only four when Garnett delivered a big blow. As the shot clock ran down, he hit a 3-pointer over Miller and Bibby to make it 77-70 with 3:39 remaining.

Sacramento cut a nine-point deficit to 79-75 when Bibby made a 3-pointer in the corner with 1:40 left. After Garnett threw the ball out of bounds, the Kings missed a chance to

cut it to two when Webber missed a layup with one minute to go.

Still down by four, they blew another opportunity when Garnett stole the ball from Miller and made one of two foul shots with 31.1 seconds left.

Bibby hit two free throws, cutting it to 80-77, but Sprewell made one of two to make it a four-point game. Christie's 3-pointer with 16.8 seconds on the clock sliced the lead to one, and Cassell sank both of his foul shots to make it 83-80.

A day after apologizing for war-weapon metaphors he used to describe his mindset, Garnett played his usual high-energy game at both ends of the court on the biggest night in the franchise's 15 seasons.

"Seven games a lot of times define who you are, and a lot of times the bigger the game the bigger the guy who steps up," Wolves coach Flip Saunders said.

After seven straight first-round losses, Garnett is finally having a positive postseason experience -- but he couldn't have done it without his teammates.

Cassell, who had 40 points in Game 1 but just 62 over the last five, had 11 points in the first quarter and went 10-for-11 from the line despite grimacing every time he ran up and down the court.

Szczerbiak used a six-inch advantage on Bibby to score all 10 of his points in the second quarter. He turned three offensive rebounds into baskets.

Minnesota was especially sharp on defense. Sacramento's offense never found its rhythm. Webber went 8-for-17 for 16 points, Peja Stojakovic shot 3-for-12 and Bibby was just 4-for-13. The Kings missed nine of their 17 free-throw attempts, too.

Sacramento took its first lead at 58-57 on Webber's jumper with 1:55 left in the third quarter. It didn't last long: Cassell's 3-pointer with 33.9 seconds remaining put Minnesota back in front 62-60.

New media mergers between Hispanic & U.S. Newspapers



The growing alliances of U.S. media giants continued in Washington with The Washington Post's acquisition of Spanish-language daily *Tiempo Latino*, serving the Hispanic residents of the nation's capital.

Washington Post executive, Boisefeuille Jones Jr. said, "El *Tiempo Latino* is an outstanding community newspaper and it will play a key role in our efforts to reach the growing Spanish-speaking sector."

"The transaction helps *Tiempo Latino* as much as The Washington Post in meeting the needs of their Hispanic readers as well as of advertisers seeking to reach them," he added.

El *Tiempo Latino* was founded in 1991 by businessman Armando Chapelli Jr., its circulation of 34 thousand copies is distributed without cost in ethnic supermarkets

Fish outta water:

Marlins' slump continues with loss to Astros

A night after handing the Florida Marlins their most-lopsided loss of the season, the Houston Astros did it again.

Lance Berkman homered for the second time in as many nights, and Jeff Kent and Morgan Ensberg drove in three runs each to lead the Astros over the slumping Marlins 10-2 Wednesday.

Houston beat Florida 9-2 Tuesday and have outhit the defending World Series champions 30-12 in the two games.

The Marlins have lost four of five since winning two of three

at Houston. The loss prompted manager Jack McKeon to give the team a tongue-lashing after the game.

"We're playing bad baseball right now -- all around," outfielder Jeff Conine said. "That sums it up. Every team in baseball goes through a slump. There's no magic formula, no drink you take that make it go 'poof.' We've got to work through it."

Tim Redding allowed two unearned runs and three hits in 6 2/3 innings, improving to 3-

continued on page 6

September, then, almost simultaneously, *La Estrella*, appeared, a daily by the Fort Worth Star Telegram, owned by Knight Ridder chain, one of the most powerful in the United States.

Likewise, the San Antonio Express News announced in April the launching of its bi-weekly *Conexión*, only one week after Meximerica Media announced its upcoming June presentation of the *Rumbo* dailies in Houston, San Antonio, Austin and the McAllen-Brownsville area.

Another state with a large number of Hispanic residents is Illinois where The Chicago Tribune has for years published

the daily *Hoy*.

The alliance between The Washington Post and *Tiempo Latino* dates back to 2000 when the Capital's main daily provided it stories translated into Spanish from its English version.

The price of the transaction was not revealed and they will maintain their operations separate as The Post explained that the take-over does not seek to increase its circulation.

"We believe that *Tiempo* produces good journalism," said the Post's editor-in-chief, Leonard Downie Jr., adding, "We hope that as word of the merger spreads, people will want to read both papers."

50 years after Brown

(from page 5) schedules, causing students to receive 17 fewer days of instruction.

Luis Sanchez, director of Inner City Struggle, a nonprofit organization that works to improve Los Angeles schools, said some Garfield students are left without textbooks during the first few weeks of school, others use dated books, and still others cannot take the books home, because they might be lost. The California Department of Education says 19 percent of Garfield teachers are not fully certified.

Another obstacle to achievement starts outside the school. One-third of Garfield students do not speak English as their primary language, which education specialists say only adds to the isolation. Many students come largely from poor immigrant families in East Los Angeles, and their parents are unable to help with homework because of language barriers.

Two years ago, Samandi Sanchez, arrived in the United States from Puebla, Mexico, 60 miles from Mexico City. The other day she sat in her English as a Second Language class, where students quietly chatted in Spanish. While Garfield High has the usual cliques -- the jocks, the rockers, and the geeks -- Sanchez and other students said they are also divided by those who speak English and those who cannot. To improve her English, Sanchez hangs around the school's few African-American and white students. Some are in her ROTC class.

"At first, it was hard to be here," she said. "All the people look at you if you cannot speak good English."

The overcrowding, uneven teaching, and language problem

contribute to the school's poor academic results. About 60 percent of Garfield freshmen drop out or leave within four years.

Two out of 10 Garfield students take the courses required to get into college, and an average of 99 seniors enroll in a four-year college every year, said Luis Sanchez, the director of Inner City Struggle.

Garfield's acting principal, Onofre Di Stefano, said Garfield is hardly equal to predominantly white schools in the city, but cites some educational accomplishments. The advanced-placement calculus program is still going strong, he said, though Escalante left in 1991. He ticked off the names of alumni who made it to college and even a few who got into Harvard.

"By no means is it perfect," Di Stefano said of Garfield's segregated student body. "The ideal situation is for our students to see the world as it really is, and the world is not all Latino. But for our kids, we want them to be able to converse and negotiate with kids who are different, and leave here able to compete with other groups."

Orfield warned that if Latino students around the nation continue to be isolated from students who are white, those who are middle class, and those who speak English, they will be less able to compete.

"It's dangerous," he said. "That three-way kind of isolation is devastating to kids' development. When you add up all these things up, it's really a devastating picture for opportunity."

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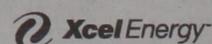
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Tras Asesinato de Salim Blair reafirma su política en Irak

El primer ministro británico, Tony Blair, aseguró en Ankara que mantendrá su política en Irak, pese a la difícil situación en el país del Golfo.

El atentado suicida contra el presidente de turno del Consejo de Gobierno provisional iraquí, Izzedin Salim, subraya "cuán importante es que nos quedemos hasta finalizar el trabajo", declaró Blair tras reunirse con su colega turco Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

"Esta es la única respuesta posible al terrorismo", aseguró el premier británico en la capital turca.

Interrogado acerca de si perdió autoridad política o moral para continuar manteniendo a las tropas de su país en Irak, Blair aseveró que el pueblo iraquí está claramente mejor con las fuerzas de ocupación que bajo el régimen de Saddam Hussein.

"La autoridad moral para mantener tropas británicas en Irak es ésta: antes de la guerra en Irak Saddam Hussein estaba a cargo, tratando brutalmente al pueblo y destruyendo al país.

Estamos intentando que el país sea mejor con el apoyo de la amplia mayoría del pueblo iraquí", apuntó.

"Cada vez que hay un incidente terrorista o alguien es asesinado... es una razón para mantener el curso", dijo Blair.

Por su parte, Erdogan señaló que en este momento Turquía no se plantea el envío de soldados a Irak.

El primer ministro turco expresó que la actual situación en Irak es un problema impor-

tante, especialmente la evidencia de torturas por parte de tropas estadounidenses.

"Cuando analizamos los últimos sucesos, no podemos considerar que la situación esté yendo en dirección positiva", sostuvo Erdogan.

"Estoy seguro de que las últimas fotografías que fueron publicadas generan preocupación tanto entre la opinión pública turca como la británica. No hay forma de defender esas acciones", apuntó.

En el terreno de las relaciones bilaterales, ambos jefes de gobierno acordaron un "plan de acción" para intensificar la cooperación, entre otros con cumbres anuales bilaterales, indicó Blair. Ambas naciones también se proponen fortalecer el combate conjunto contra el terrorismo.

Además, el premier británico subrayó que Turquía debe convertirse en miembro de la Unión Europea (UE). "Espero y creo que las negociaciones de ingreso pueden comenzar en diciembre", manifestó.

La visita de Blair, la primera de un jefe de gobierno británico a Turquía en más de una década, se desarrolló en medio de fuertes medidas de seguridad, luego de que durante la noche explotaran bombas ante cuatro filiales del banco británico HSBC en la capital turca y en Estambul.

Las bombas produjeron daños materiales, pero no víctimas mortales ni heridos. La policía por el momento no tiene pistas de los autores de estos ataques.

La sede del HSBC en Turquía fue uno de los cuatro objetivos de ataques suicidas de extremistas islámicos en noviembre de 2003 en Estambul, que dejaron más de 60 muertos.

Activistas de izquierda en Turquía han llevado a cabo protestas contra las políticas de Estados Unidos y Gran Bretaña en Irak y contra la cumbre de la OTAN que está prevista para finales de junio en Estambul.

Antes de la visita de Blair, un grupo de manifestantes protestó frente al consulado británico en Estambul con pancartas.

"A WORD" (The One Kind)

A good thing to know about when life begins is that life of a child begins in the body of the male, way before conception.

"I knew you before you were in your mother's womb", are words right out of the Bible's Old Testament! The Devil knew that, and knew if you kill the male you kill the seed, you kill the seed, the life line stops there.

When Abel was killed by his brother Cain the Devil's plan was to kill a seed and working, using Cain as an instrument, but God gave Adam another son like Abel to continue the seed line to Noah, from Noah after the Flood, to later the chosen people called "Hebrews", also called the circumcised Jews.

Salvation first came from the Jews by keeping the Law given to them by God. Today salvation comes by God's grace in Jesus Christ.

When God made the world and everything in it-it was for his Adam who was coming by faith, both male and female. God made first the male and created the female out of the male. For that reason the future females and males were to leave their parents and become one flesh, both one, called one kind; mankind!

(Hebrew 11:3-4; Exodus 1:15-22)

Isaac, the first born of Abraham was in his father's body before in his mother's womb. The Christ "was" also, before born of the Virgin Mary. The born again "are" also before they become new creations.

(Genesis 15:4; Matthew 1:18-21)

So the complete man was made by God, both the male and female by faith. Today males and females as "new creatures" are all made by God; "not of natural decent, nor of human's will, but born of

God", all in Jesus Christ. Returning back to the predestine purpose.

(John 1:12-13)

To date the such are still becoming; yet, but fewer and are still experiencing by the same grace of God the new beginning as born again individuals. This grace of God was also well experienced in Jesus's household, in the dramatic and profound transformation that his mother had. Having once been the mother of the Christ to later becoming a humble child of whom at one time was her son; she became a child of the King of Kings, our Father God!

(Genesis 15:4; John 1:12-13; Acts 2:34-41,4:12; Hebrew 11:3)

"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." Faith is trusting in the invisible, trusting in the unseen or believing in what one hopes for.

It was predestine for everyone to be saved, even before the world was created. That means salvation does not come from nothing but from something invisible, with the certainty that it can be visible and obtainable by wanting it and by the same faith that God created the universe.

(Hebrew 11:3)

Those who depended on the Law for their righteousness and never did received what was promised, yet kept their hope to the end, this people of the Law, they together with those in Christ are made perfect by that same faith.

Today, because of the availability of such a salvation, made possible by the grace of God; those found to ignored it; Sodom and Gomorra will receive more mercy than they will in judgment day. "The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" "And let him who hears say, "Come!"

(Revelations 22:14-17) a friend

From Page 3

going at first, but they worked hard and with that came success.

In the late 1970s, Barreto turned to a new endeavor, joining forces with others to advance the opportunities of Hispanic entrepreneurs. This led to the formation, with a few other pioneers of the Kansas City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, to the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 1979.

Little by little, corporate America and the political establishment began to take notice. In the process Barreto became a passionate voice for the growing Hispanic community of this nation.

In a discussion about assimilation of Hispanics in 1981, Barreto told President Ronald Reagan that he didn't want to be part of the proverbial melting pot. He much preferred the stew pot, where the carrots, potatoes and meat all contribute to the total flavor but still retain their identity. Proud of his Irish roots, Ronald Reagan understood completely, and that was the start of a friendship and strategic partnership.

He went on to advise President Reagan and his successor, George H.W. Bush. He also served his country and community through the appointments to various task forces, councils and advisory boards,

including his appointment as president of the National Economic Development Agency.

Never forgetting where he started from, Barreto became a tireless advocate for closer commercial ties between the United States and Mexico and all of Latin America. He understood well the opportunities between U.S. business communities and those to the south. It was here where he devoted his efforts as he neared the end of his remarkable life.

For his accomplishments, Barreto was honored by many civic and business organizations. Among the most special was being named chairman emeritus of the USHCC as well as his induction into the Hall of Fame by the League of United Latin American Citizens.

HeDctor V. Barreto Sr. passed away May 14 after a long illness. He is survived by Mary Louise, his wife of 43 years; his children, HeDctor Jr., Anna, Gloria, Rosa and Mary; and 12 grandchildren.

Because education was one of his lifelong passions, a scholarship fund has been established in his honor at the USHCC Foundation. Contributions may be sent to the HeDctor Barreto Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, USHCC Foundation, 2175 K Street NW, Suite 100; Washington, DC 20037. © Hispanic Link

Marlins' slump continues with loss to Astros

from page 5

0 in four career starts against the Marlins.

Redding (2-3) beat the Marlins twice last season and had a no-decision against them last week. He has allowed six runs -- only four earned -- in the four starts.

"There are certain teams you throw well against, and this is one of them for me," said Redding, who helped the Astros improve to 12-4 on the road. "I would rather do it against teams from our division, teams that we face more than just a few times a year. But I'll take it against whoever I can."

"It's just something that has worked out for me."

Berkman gave the Astros an early lead with his seventh homer, a solo shot in the second. He added an RBI double in a four-run ninth against Nate Bump.

Kent had a run-scoring single in Houston's three-run third, an RBI double in the sixth and a sacrifice fly in the ninth.

Ensberg had a sacrifice fly in the sixth that made it 5-2, an RBI single in the eighth and doubled home Berkman in the ninth.

Carl Pavano (3-2) allowed five runs and nine hits in seven innings, striking out five.

"We've been through these slumps before, but good teams get out of it quick," Pavano said. "We've got to dig deep and do the little things."

McKeon declined to give details about his postgame team meeting.

"We just had a little get together," he said. "I just told them they're a better club that this. We've got to grind it out, do something different."

Trailing 4-0 in the fourth, the Marlins cut the lead in half on Hee Seop Choi's inside-the-park homer. It came with two outs and Miguel Cabrera on first. Cabrera reached base on an error by Adam Everett.

Choi drove Redding's fastball over Craig Biggio in center. The ball caromed off an angled part of the wall and started rolling down the warning track toward right field.

By the time Biggio picked it up, Cabrera had scored and Choi was nearing third. Choi barely beat Kent's strong relay throw home.

"It hit the bottom of the wall and took a funny bounce," Biggio said. "That's usually what happens with inside-the-park home runs. It's something weird -- usually a funny bounce."

It was Choi's 10th homer this season. It also was the second inside-the-park home run in the majors this season. Boston's Pokey Reese had one against Kansas City on May 8.

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