

LULAC Struggling to Regain Old Clout

CORPUS CHRISTI — After decades of fighting for Hispanic causes — and enduring internal turmoil threatening its viability in more recent years — the League of United Latin American Citizens finds itself in yet another struggle: trying to regain national impact.

LULAC is the nation's oldest Hispanic civil rights organization.

The group's president and others say the organization maintains a vibrant profile, has embraced visionary goals, and still is the strongest united voice for Hispanics across the country.

But as LULAC wrapped up its weeklong 70th anniversary celebration and convention Saturday here in the city where it was founded, some delegates turned a critical eye on the group.

LULAC has become unfocused and unwieldy, straying from its progressive roots to embrace the political mainstream at the risk of diminishing its relevance, the critics said.

While delegates still can find common ground on predictable issues like the census, education and immigration, some say the group should concentrate more on passing along a meaningful legacy to Hispanic youth rather than spending its time celebrating early successes.

"LULAC over the past few years has failed to shake the establishment like it used to," observed former U.S. Rep. Kika de la Garza, a longtime Democratic congressman from Mission.

"It still is, however, part of America's mosaic and has a strong legacy," he said.

Although LULAC's membership is difficult to

quantify — dues-paying members are said to be in the 150,000 range, but the group maintains a national roll of 250,000 active and nonactive members — the organization's base has expanded in recent years to include other Hispanic groups, such as Cubans and Puerto Ricans.

While LULAC President Rick Dovalina boasts about the organization's outreach, some members say it's led to rifts over partisan issues, forcing the leadership to make a hard choice: risk infighting or avoid hard topics.

"The political ideology is so broad in LULAC it makes it difficult to reach consensus," said Luis Wilmot of San Antonio, whose grandfather was one of the organization's founding members.

"The common denominator is color of skin and commonality of language. . . . After that, what is there?" asked Wilmot, who described his activism in the group as "off and on" since first joining in the early 1970s.

At the convention's panel discussion on education Thursday, not a word was said about school-choice initiatives using taxpayer-funded vouchers for private school enrollment, which have produced legislative battles in Texas, Florida and other states.

Dovalina called it a "nonissue," claiming only a few San Antonio delegates who favor vouchers were willing to defy an official stand LULAC members already had taken against the idea.

Perhaps one symptom of the group's apparent decline in clout was the noticeable absence of presidential candidates as speakers during the gather-

ing. An impressive list of invited guests — noted on tentative agendas and sent earlier this month to news organizations — included the likes of actress/singer Jennifer Lopez, baseball slugger Sammy Sosa and actor Antonio Banderas.

They were all no-shows. In 1987, the last time LULAC held its convention in Corpus Christi, eight presidential candidates, including seven Democrats and one Republican, addressed the delegates.

Just last year, speakers at the convention included Texas Gov. George W. Bush, House Speaker Newt Gingrich and House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt.

A Bush spokeswoman said the Republican presidential hopeful couldn't go to Corpus Christi because he had presidential campaign commitments in Iowa.

Vice President Al Gore also had campaign commitments. Earlier this year, he attended a LULAC banquet in Washington.

The absence of presidential candidates struck a nerve with Corpus Christi lawyer Ruben Bonilla, a former LULAC president.

"They must not consider our membership an important constituency," Bonilla said. "Bush and Gore attempt to patronize us by use of what I call 'taco politics' — say some words in Spanish, give us food and drink, and now 'La Vida Loca,' and we go crazy for you."

"We have millions of votes, but Bush is more interested in the green power than the brown power."

Continued Page 4



Menudazo

Se esperan mas de 1500 personas que asistan a el Gran Menudazo que se llevara acabo este fin de semana en el Parque Mckenzie en el alto donde estan los campos de Pelota. Entre el entretenimiento estaran tocando John G. y el Momento, Trancazzo, Lori y los Tentación, Eclipse, Los Fronterizos, Los Tremendos Gil y Juan y Los Favoritos. Habra comida, juegos y mucho mas. Todo es gratis para todos.

"El Respeto al
Derecho Ajeno
es La Paz."
"Respect for
the Rights of
Others Is Peace."
Lic. Benito
Juarez

EL EDITOR

Established 1977 - Texas' Oldest Hispanic Owned Newspapers

Vol XXII No. 43

Week of July 22 thru July 28, 1999

1502 Ave. M, Lubbock, TX 79401

Hispanics Not Convinced With Bush

WASHINGTON—It hasn't attracted as much attention as his astonishing fund-raising numbers, but Texas Gov. George W. Bush's efforts to court Latino voters—complete with trademark exchanges in Spanish—is turning heads across the GOP. So much so that it's obscuring the larger picture.

On issues relating to immigration in general, and Latinos in particular, it's not just Bush pushing for a new direction; the GOP as a whole is executing a remarkably rapid reversal.

Three years ago, the Republican Party looked like it wanted to roll up the borders; now most party leaders are pursuing a more balanced approach to illegal immigration and are rushing to greet legal immigrants, preferably in Spanish. That points toward more competition for Latino votes in 2000—and a more welcoming political culture for the nearly 10% of Americans (the most since the 1920s) who are foreign-born.

Two factors largely explain the change. Low unemployment has reduced the audience for an anti-immigration message because it's salved fears that immigrants (whether legal or not) are taking American jobs. Even more importantly, the flirtation with nativism obliterated GOP support among Latino voters, especially in 1996.

Bob Dole, the GOP's 1996 nominee, drew just 21% of Latino votes—down from Ronald Reagan's 37% in 1984. That exodus contributed to President Clinton's stunning '96 victories in Arizona and Florida and his landslide in California. Gray Davis' crushing victory in California's gubernatorial race last fall deepened GOP fears that Latinos could cement a generation of Democratic dominance in the state.

Democracy works. These political debates shifted the balance of power inside the GOP away from the anti-immigration forces toward those which had always resisted the nativist current. In particular, influence has moved from California Republicans (who generally define the hard line on immigration) toward GOP leaders from other border states (such as Bush and Arizona Sen. John McCain) where these issues traditionally have not proved as polarizing.

The result is a vivid change in direction. In 1996, anti-immigration sentiment was so strong in the GOP that even legal immigrants came under fire. Commentator Patrick J. Buchanan led the way by demanding a five-year ban on legal immigration, but even Dole pushed for a "modest, temporary reduction" in new arrivals.

Proposals to significantly reduce the level of legal immigration drew enough support to reach the floor in both chambers of Congress (and though each measure was defeated, two-thirds of House Republicans backed the cuts). And both chambers voted to cut off most legal immigrants who were not yet citizens from social welfare programs, such as Medicaid and food stamps.

Consider the picture now. Under pressure from Clinton, the GOP-controlled Congress since 1997 has restored about half the dollar value of the benefits for legal immigrants it eliminated in 1996; McCain now is sponsoring a bipartisan bill to restore health benefits for more children of noncitizens and pregnant women.

Neither Bush nor his closest pursuers—McCain, businessman Steve Forbes, and former Red Cross chief Elizabeth Hanford Dole—want to reduce legal immigration; some have already urged that more highly skilled immigrants be allowed in, as high-tech employers are urging.

"There's a greater realization of the distinction now between legal immigration and illegal immigration," says Forbes, one of the few pro-immigrant voices in the 1996 GOP race.

Actually, the change is broader than that. All the GOP contenders still promise to crack down on illegal immigration. But many have rejected the most polarizing means to deter illegal immigrants that the party touted in 1996. Not only Buchanan but also Bob Dole that year ardently embraced legislation that would have allowed states to bar the

children of illegal immigrants from public schools—an idea plucked from California's Proposition 187.

Though Dole couldn't persuade the Senate to go along, the Republican House twice voted to approve the change. Later, the '96 GOP platform endorsed a constitutional amendment to deny citizenship to the children of illegal immigrants born in the United States—an idea even Dole renounced.

This year's leaders—Bush, Forbes and McCain—all oppose both the citizenship amendment and removing the children of illegal immigrants from public schools; Dole hasn't taken specific positions, but her general statements on immigration suggest she's unlikely to back them. Both of these ideas are dead in Congress as well, and the citizenship amendment seems unlikely to survive in the GOP platform.

"I wouldn't be surprised to see it gone," says Bush advisor Linda Chavez, president of the Center for Equal Opportunity.

The debates on immigration aren't over—either within the GOP or between the parties. Buchanan recently fired a shot across Bush's bow when he ac-

cused him of not displaying enough concern about illegal immigration. And the GOP is still divided on cultural issues closely related to immigration. While both Bush and McCain oppose a ban on bilingual education, Forbes and former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander still want to end it, as California's Proposition 227 has mandated.

Meanwhile, debates over restoring social welfare benefits to legal immigrants will highlight continuing differences between the parties; it's no coincidence that Vice President Al Gore announced administration proposals this year to restore another \$1.3 billion in food, disability and health care benefits for legal immigrants.

Though Bush in 1997 used state money to help elderly and disabled immigrants cut off from federal food stamps, he'll have difficulty following Gore that far. Democrats will also stress broader economic initiatives—such as raising the minimum wage—that can help new immigrants climb toward the middle class.

All of these specifics matter. But the tenor of this overall debate may matter more. "The pendulum swung very far to the

Continued Page 5

Valle De Rio Grande Experimenta Dramatico Crecimiento Economico

Mission (Texas). - La región del Valle del Río Grande, en Texas, ha experimentado en los últimos años un crecimiento económico de enormes proporciones, luego de que fuera una de las zonas más empobrecidas de EEUU.

Eso explica por qué la semana pasada, el presidente Bill Clinton, de gira por las zonas marginadas de Estados Unidos—donde dialogó con personas olvidadas por la bonanza económica que atraviesa el país—no incluyó a esta región fronteriza en su itinerario.

El Valle, conocido antes como la "capital cítrica" del mundo, está registrando un crecimiento récord tanto en población como en productividad económica.

Un informe divulgado esta semana por la Asociación del Valle del Río Grande (Rio Grande Valley Partnership) indicó que, en general, las ventas al por menor en esta área aumentaron en un nueve por ciento en 1998, en comparación con el año anterior.

"Estamos viendo cada vez más el emparejamiento de la economía, ya no dependemos sólo en la agricultura o la manufactura", dijo a la prensa local, Bill Summers, presidente de la asociación.

El informe también muestra que aproximadamente el 40 por ciento de las ventas al por menor provienen de los turistas, la mayoría de ellos ciudadanos mexicanos que cruzan los puentes internacionales hacia EEUU, en busca de gangas.

Históricamente, cuando el peso sufre alguna devaluación, los negocios en la frontera se ven afectados, tal como sucediera durante la crisis del peso mexicano en 1995.

Pero la estabilidad que logró la moneda mexicana, junto al crecimiento de los negocios de exportación e importación—producto del Tratado de Libre Comercio de Norteamérica—, han cambiado la naturaleza de la economía en la frontera binacional.

Ahora, las ciudades fronterizas están creando alianzas para mejorar su competitividad en esta floreciente economía.

Por ejemplo, en un poblado fronterizo cerca de Brownsville, las municipalidades de Los Indios, Harlingen y San Benito se han unido para crear una especie de bodega cerca del Puente de Libre Comercio en Los Indios. Los beneficios económicos de esta improvisada asociación comenzó a dar frutos de forma inmediata en la región.

"Desde que establecimos esta bodega, el tráfico (de clientes) y la economía han crecido tremendamente", dijo a EFE la alcaldesa de Los Indios, Diamantina Bennett.

Después de la apertura de la bodega en enero pasado, el tráfico en la frontera se ha triplicado y la economía local ha experimentado un boom.

La bodega, a cargo de la empresa MagneTek, importa productos hechos por plantas de ensamblaje en México y los envía a distribuidores en todo Estados Unidos.

Ante este auge económico en los poblados esparcidos a lo largo de la frontera, las autoridades han comenzado a discutir formas de combinar los servicios municipales y así responder adecuadamente a las necesidades de la población local.

En una serie de artículos del

diario "Valley Morning Times" a finales del año pasado, el tema del crecimiento económico dominó sus primeras planas.

Algunos líderes vaticinaban que el Valle se convertiría en una gran zona urbana como Dallas-Ft. Worth, mientras que otros favorecían un modelo de crecimiento al estilo del sur de California.

Los alcaldes de McAllen, Brownsville y Harlingen, dijeron que el Valle nunca llegaría a ser una sola ciudad, sino una serie de ciudades con límites demarcados por rútolos.

"Puedo visualizar la combinación de nuestros servicios de agua potable y de aguas negras, y de servicios de emergencia, en donde ciudad pueda administrar los servicios de otra", afirmó el gerente de la ciudad de McAllen, Mike Pérez. "Ya lo estamos logrando con Mission, con un sistema radial para su departamento de policía".

La alcaldesa de Harlingen, Connie de la Garza, dijo que hay demasiadas comunidades que necesitarían incorporarse en una gran ciudad.

"Puedo preveer muchos más acuerdos dentro de nuestras comunidades y entre nuestros líderes sobre temas de interés común", dijo de la Garza a fines del año pasado, cuando se agudizó el debate sobre el futuro de la región.

"Pero simplemente no veo que en corto tiempo esto evolucione a una gran zona urbana. La mentalidad parroquiana lentamente dará paso a una mentalidad regional, y entonces sí habrá grandes cambios", puntualizó de La Garza.

News Briefs

Groups Plans to Register One Million New Hispanic Voters

Long Beach, California. - More than 800 participants at the Hispanic Vote '99 conference, in Long Beach, announced on Monday that they will register one million new Hispanic voters for the upcoming elections in the year 2000.

Southwest Voter Registration and Educational Project President Antonio Gonzalez, the conference organizer, told EFE that there are approximately 4.8 million registered Hispanic voters in California.

"Our goal is to surpass a record of six million registered Hispanic voters before the general election in November 2000," said Gonzalez, whose organization is constantly working to capture new Hispanic voters in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California.

Vice President Al Gore, the conference's keynote speaker, acknowledged that he, as well as his main rival Republican Texas Governor George W. Bush, whom he did not mention by name, are trying to win the Hispanic vote.

Gore, a presidential candidate hopeful for the Democratic party, blasted three California anti-immigrant law propositions, which would eliminate bilingual education, affirmative action programs and basic services offered to illegal immigrants.

"The candidate who tries to divide the nation instead of uniting it, who wants to appeal to fear instead of hope, will pay for it at the ballot box," said Gore.

Gonzalez, an activist, said that these propositions will serve "to add more fuel to the fire," in reference to a possible massive reaction by Hispanics who became citizens and registered voters after Proposition 187 became law in California, which denies basic services to illegal immigrants.

Law 187, which is not yet enforced because its constitutionality had been questioned before the courts, is used as an example of the anti-immigrant wave which led to the naturalization of thousands of legal residents who feared losing basic government benefits.

Bush, who is considered the favorite to win the Republican Party's presidential nomination, has declared his opposition to Law 187.

Evangelical Church Investigated in Immigrant Trafficking

By Francisco Miraval

Denver. - An accident which occurred in a Denver suburb one week ago has led city police to launch an investigation into a Hispanic evangelical group which could be using its religious organization to bring undocumented immigrants from Mexico into the United States.

According to Denver Police detective Juan Maestas, Antonio Gomez, a Mexican, was run over and killed while asking for donations for the Missionary Church of the Disciples of Jesus Christ, a Hispanic-Christian group with regional offices in San Diego and Austin.

Because Gomez was not carrying any identification, it took police three days to confirm that he was from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico and had no permanent residence.

Detective Maestas also reported that eight people from the same church arrived in Denver and stayed at a hotel east of the city.

Because Gomez lacked legal documents, authorities are now investigating whether or not the church was involved in the young Mexican man's entry into the United States and are trying to determine the church broke any laws by offering him employment.

"We came to Denver to expand the work of our church," said Salvador Lomeli, the leader of the group which arrived in Denver.

"When someone like Antonio (Gomez) comes to the church and says that he needs help, we don't ask him for his papers or his immigration status," said Lomeli to EFE.

According to Lomeli, the leaders of the Missionary Church of the Disciples of Jesus Christ had the impression that Gomez was from Texas and, therefore, a U.S. citizen.

"What has happened is a misunderstanding and a tragedy," he added.

On the other hand, Lomeli denied accounts that his church was charging approximately 1,500 dollars to Mexicans who want to arrive in the United States with a clergy visa.

John Haynes, the financial director for the Salvation Army in Denver, told EFE that "people who want to work in a church should have to meet all the requirements of the Labor and Immigration Departments. EFE

Bill to Revamp INS Meets Mass Rejection

Washington. - Immigrant rights defense groups on Thursday rejected bipartisan legislation to revamp the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), arguing that the in-depth reforms would cause "tremendous chaos."

The bill seeks to divide the INS into two large entities, each of which would be independently responsible for police and administrative tasks.

One of the bill's sponsors, congressman Lamar Smith (Rep-TX), who has traditionally supported a hard line against immigration, maintained that the current structure of the INS does not meet the needs of the public, who generally has to put up with tedious and drawn out proceedings to get their documents.

"Congress is responsible for filling the vacuum in immigration matters, to which the White House refuses to pay attention," Smith told reporters at a news conference in the Congress building at which the INS was harshly criticized.

Smith, chairman of the House Sub-Committee on Immigration, in 1998 called for the resignation of INS Commissioner continued on page 4

Do Hates Crimes Deserve Special Punishment?

By Victor Landa

The problem with hate crimes is that they're extremely honest. Not that bigotry is a virtue or that bigots are exemplary. On the contrary, both are loathsome. What makes crimes of hate so repulsive is that they're so blatant, and we're not used to that.

Novelist Carlos Fuentes once described U.S. violence as being impersonal and dishonest. He says we wage our wars by proxy, with smart bombs, and we never dirty our hands in the necessary mess of it all.

I'm sure not a few fighter pilots and infantry soldiers would dispute his point, but Fuentes does have an interesting idea. Only in the United States, the country that invented home delivery, would drive-by shootings be commonplace. Only here would expedient highways produce inconvenient road rage. Only in the United States do we accept as ordinary the notion that violence can sometimes be random.

Hate crimes don't fit into our scheme of possibilities. Take Benjamin Smith. He used a pen name, Benjamin August (in reference to Caesar Augustus, the Roman emperor) Smith, when

writing anti-Semitic and racist letters. He was known to the FBI as a hater. He distributed anti-black, anti-Jewish and anti-Asian literature at the University of Illinois and Indiana. He belonged to a religious group that preached the superiority of the white race. Then he went on a shooting spree that left two men -- one black and one Korean -- dead, and nine others wounded. He meticulously targeted Jews and persons of color.

Honest violence is calculating and hides nothing. It's a violence that sends out warnings and states what will happen. Unlike the passionate rage of jealousy that erupts as it happens, hate crimes are telegraphed.

Fuentes says that the violence of his native Mexico is very honest. If a Mexican is angry at you, Fuentes says, he will tell you so. A Mexican will tell you he's going for a gun and that he'll come back to shoot you; and then he does. And the victim will wait; what else is there to do? Run?

It's almost as if we can't perceive such nakedness, so when it happens we have to define it. Hate crimes, as opposed to jeal-

ousy, which could be defined as a warped love crime. Crimes of hate, in contrast to crimes of ignorance or stupidity.

Texas governor-turned-presidential-candidate George W. Bush recently passed up a chance to enact strict anti-hate crime legislation. The bill was written in the wake of the racially motivated murder of James Byrd Jr. It would have imposed longer prison sentences for crimes that fell within a precise definition of "hate."

The governor's reason for rejecting the bill was in the details. He figured it was too much of a hassle to classify murders by the emotions that prompted them. Hate is hate, and murder is murder, as far as he's concerned. Betrayal, insult, vengeance, insanity -- it's all the same if it ends in violence.

But there's something about racial hatred turned violent that seems indecent. To kill someone for no other reason than because he or she is different. To hate that difference to the point of rage. To exhibit the rage openly and then act upon it.

The end to the Smith saga was just as senseless. After leading Illinois state police on a

high-speed chase through a rural area, Benjamin Smith pointed a gun at his chin and pulled the trigger. Ironically, in the end he victimized himself. Should the governor have signed the hate crimes bill? Should he have enacted it as a deterrent? No. The bill would have done little to deter deep-seated ignorance and rage from evolving into bloodsport. Should he have signed it as a strong-arm tactic against known bigots and supremacists? No. These groups operate beyond the law and seem to thrive in adversity.

Should he have signed the bill as a gesture of intolerance against hate and racism and violence? Certainly.

In the face of hate, in the face of racism so vile that it turns our stomachs, we must never get to the point that we become used to it. In this, there is a bright beam of hope; that violence born in bigotry still shocks us because it has no place in these United States of America.

(Victor Landa is news director of Telemundo affiliate KVDA-TV60 in San Antonio, Texas.)

© 1999, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate

La Insoportable Levedad del Ser Blanco

POR KATHY DOBIE, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

No he escuchado de nadie que hablara con Benjamin Smith durante su viaje asesino de tres días que culminó en suicidio. Que yo sepa, no tomó el teléfono tarde en la noche entre sus asesinatos para decir adiós a mamá o papá. No llamó a su ex-novia y dijo "Todo es culpa tuya" o "lo siento" o algo criptográfico, la letra de una canción a la que, quizás, le hubiéramos buscado significado más tarde.

Durante tres días Smith anduvo en su coche solo. Un joven hombre blanco en un Taurus celeste, dos pistolas de mano a su lado. Después de esa primera vez, ni siquiera salió del coche para disparar. Apuntó por la ventanilla. Disparó sin decir palabra. Se alejó a toda velocidad. Apareció una hora más tarde, un día más tarde, en otro barrio, otra ciudad, buscando blancos nuevos. No dejó notas sobre los cuerpos, ni envió panfletos racistas a la policía, ni gritó lemas antes de apretar el gatillo. Era un hombre al que no le quedaba nada para decir. Un joven hombre blanco. Asesinó durante todo el fin de semana, por ahí solo en su Taurus celeste, y se disparó a sí mismo aquel domingo a la noche.

¿Cuántos informes de noticias he leído con "Hombre mata a su novia e hijos, y luego se suicida"? Cientos, supongo. Siempre me he preguntado si al final se apuntan el arma a sí mismos para no ser juzgados. ¿O es que siempre habían sido suicidas y, simplemente, no pudieron soportar el dejar a ella y los niños detrás? No pudieron soportarlo porque sabían que sus familias sobrevivirían de lo más bien sin ellos; de hecho, estarían felices de verlos partir.

¿A quién decidió llevar consigo Benjamin Smith? No a su familia, ni a su novia -ella lo dejó hace más de un año. Un hombre negro caminando con sus hijos. Un hombre coreano saliendo de la iglesia con un grupo de compañeros de fe. Disparó a judíos ortodoxos regresando del templo y a un grupo de estudiantes asiáticos hablando fuera del dormitorio de su facultad. Como los asesinos de la escuela preparatoria de Littleton, Colorado, Smith fue detrás de cualquiera que creyera -en Dios, en la familia, en la rectitud de su propia existencia. Y de todo aquel que perteneciera.

Cuando entrevisté a skinheads del poder blanco hace unos años atrás, eran casi todos hijos de familias suburbanas de clase media, como Benjamin Smith, como los chicos de Littleton. Para los skinheads que conocí, ser blanco significaba no tener raíces, ni causa, ni bandera que agitar, nadie a quien ser leal, nadie sintiendo lealtad para con ellos. "Si la guerra de las razas sucediera ahora, los blancos perderían", se quejaban.

"Los negros están tan Unidos entre ellos. Sería muy fácil provocarlos, y todos se mantendrían Unidos, pero los blancos no".

Eran chicos con educación, lúcidos. Para tanta charla de orgullo racial no parecía que los blancos les gustaran demasiado. Blanco quería decir débil. Codicioso. Complaciente. Más que nada, solo. Se quejaban con enojo de cuán materialistas y exangües se habían vuelto las familias blancas.

Así es como un skinhead describía la vida de clase media de sus padres y las expectativas que éstos tenían para con él: "Era ir a la preparatoria, estar en el equipo de football, hacer todas las cosas que se supone tienen que hacer los chicos, luego ir a la universidad, ser doctor, tener un par de niños cuando tienes treinta". Su voz estaba llena de indignación.

Quería ser de la clase obrera. Quería estar viviendo en otra era -los años treinta o cuarenta, pensaba, "cuando América estaba orgullosa". A los dieciséis desafió a sus padres y su clase y dejó la escuela para casarse. Tenía tres niños, trabajaba en un par de empleos, y era FELIZ.

"Dormí en la cama que construí, me ocupé de lo que me tenía que ocupar", describía con orgullo. Luego su mujer lo dejó, se llevó los chicos.

Cada vez que oigo de otro joven homicida blanco, de Benjamin Smith o del asesino estudianto de la Biblia, o de los chicos de Colorado que pasaron sus sábados a la noche encerrados en el garaje fabricando bombas, pienso en la frase de Kundera, "la insoportable levedad del ser".

¿A quién le importan? ¿Qué valor tienen, estos extraños, librescos, solitarios, no demasiado atractivos chicos blancos? ¿Dónde encajan? Dudo que hoy nadie se sienta más blanco que estos chicos entregados a pasatiempos "poco sociales". Probablemente no sea una buena sensación; creo que tienen miedo de tener miedo. O de ser percibidos como débiles o como bichos raros. Y así es como se los ve hoy; no pueden hacer más que lo que un chico asiático puede hacer cuando se lo percibe como muy listo.

Cuidado con el solitario chico blanco. Cuidado con los estudiantos "bichos raros", los que no tienes chicas y se quedan clavados el uno con el otro en las noches de fin de semana, en el garaje, rompiendo vidrio, tratando de hacer una fiesta, una tribu de dos. Viven dentro de su propia cabeza porque lo que hay allí afuera y allí dentro es tan desagradable, se imaginan a sí mismos como guerreros, gamberros de venganza. "Carrie" de Stephen King es hoy un chico, un chico blanco. Está furioso porque es un chico libresco y extraño y se lo ha hecho vulnerable.

Cuando tenía veinte años, Smith se unió a la Iglesia Mundial del Creador. No pudo haber hecho un movimiento peor: una iglesia sin un Dios, una iglesia que no veneraba nada sino a sí misma, hombres blancos creyendo en hombres blancos. Y así Smith salió y mató gente que iba a iglesias reales, templos reales, gente que creía en algo más grande que ellos mismos, gente que vive dándole sentido a la vida.

Este fin de semana estuve mirando algunos de los sitios racistas blancos en el Internet. Uno de ellos era como una pesadilla. ¿"Hay alguien allí?", leía el mensaje más reciente. "Sigo viniendo aquí y todo sigue igual. Puse un mensaje hace rato pero nadie ha contestado" Totalmente solo en el ciberespacio, como el astronauta de Bowie, desconectado del Control en Tierra, dando vueltas sin parar. Nadie para oír tu llamada, ni voces que vengan del otro lado. Esta es la pesadilla del hombre blanco, una pesadilla que no puede hacer que deje de molestarle ni dejar de evocar, temblando de pavor todo el tiempo.

Lo último que supe es que el skinhead que sólo quería formar su propia familia había sido arrestado por asesinato. Y que Benjamin Nathan Smith murió una muerte de hombre blanco: solo en su coche, conduciendo rápidamente, se metió una bala en la cabeza. Era la noche del 4 de julio y su ex-novia declaraba al New York Daily News: "Este es el Día de la Independencia del gobierno, de todo".

He had three kids, worked a couple of jobs and he was HAPPY. "I slept in the bed I made. I took care of business," is how he described it, proudly. Then his wife left him, took the kids.

Every time I hear about another murderous young white man, Benjamin Smith or the Bible study killer or the Colorado boys who spent their Saturday nights closed inside the garage making bombs, I think of Kundera's phrase, "the unbearable lightness of being."

Who do they matter to? What value do they have, these awkward, bookish, lonely, none-too-pretty white boys? Where do they fit in? I doubt anyone feels more white today than these nerdy boys. It's probably not a good feeling; I think they're afraid of being afraid. Of being perceived as weak or nerdy. And that is how they are seen now; they can no more help it than an Asian kid can help being seen as smart.

Beware the lonely white boy. Beware the nerdy ones, the ones without girls and stuck with each other on weekend nights, in the garage, breaking glass, trying to make a party, a tribe out of two. They live in their heads because it's so unpleasant out here and in there, they imagine themselves as warriors, wreckers of vengeance. Stephen King's "Carrie" is now a boy, a white boy. He is in a rage because he's a bookish, awkward boy and he has been made vulnerable.

When he was twenty, Smith joined The World Church of the Creator. He couldn't have made a worse move -- a church without a God, a church that worshipped nothing but its own self, white men believing in... white men.

And so, Smith went out and he killed people who went to real churches, real temples, people who believed in something bigger than themselves, people living as if they mattered.

This weekend I went looking through some of the white racist sites on the Internet. One of them was nightmarish. "Is anyone out there?" read the most recent message. "I keep coming here and it looks the same. I posted a message awhile ago but no one's answered." All alone in cyberspace, like Bowie's astronaut, cut off from Ground Control, whirling endlessly.

No one to hear you call, no voices coming through. This is the white man's nightmare, a nightmare he can't stop tweaking and calling up, shivering in dread all the while.

Last I heard, the skinhead who wanted only to raise his own family had been arrested for murder. And Benjamin Nathan Smith died a white man's death -- alone in a car, driving fast, he put a bullet in his head. It was the night of July 4th and his ex-girlfriend told the New York Daily News, "This is his Independence Day from the government, from everything."

Miembros De Union Europea Codician Un Pedazo Del pastel De La America Latina

Por Ray Rodríguez

Mientras Estados Unidos se hallaba ocupado desplazando y desplegando su poderío militar en Europa para ayudar y proteger a nuestros amigos y aliados, esos mismos amigos, que representaban a 13 naciones de la Unión Europea, estaban ocupados haciendo los arreglos para una reunión con sus colegas de la América Latina. Su intención es la de poner una cua entre los Estados Unidos y sus asociados mercantiles.

¡Eso es ingratos -- ustedes pueden estar pensando -- después de todo lo que hemos hecho por Europa!

Sin embargo, esto no debería llegar como una verdadera sorpresa. Sólo comprueba el juicio mundano de que no hay amigos ni enemigos. Sólo hay intereses permanentes.

Europa reconoce el hecho de que América Latina es una colección de tesoros en recursos naturales que esperan ser desarrollados eficientemente y gananciosamente. O para ser más directos, explotados.

Es una ciruela demasiado tentadora como para resistir. Como los pretendientes que persiguen a una doncella bella, los europeos llegaron a cortejar en una conferencia comercial en Río de Janeiro el mes pasado. Mientras Estados Unidos ni siquiera fue invitado, la sesión de tres días atrajo a todas las naciones de la América Latina.

Estoy seguro de que todos nos estremecemos por la perspectiva

de perder a las naciones de la América Latina coAos asociados comerciales, mientras nos empanañábamos en los asuntos internos de los Balcanes.

Como podría imaginarse, las naciones de la América Latina se sintieron complacidas por la atención espléndida que recibieron. A nadie le gusta que lo den por sentado. En la América Latina, no se ve a la Doctrina de Monroe como un escudo protector, ofrecido galantemente por los Estados Unidos para proteger a sus vecinos más débiles.

Antes bien, se le ve como un manto conveniente detrás del cual Estados Unidos ha explotado a la América Latina para su propio beneficio. ¿Cómo creen ustedes que la United Fruit Company y otras empresas pudieron dominar y administrar a las "repúblicas bananeras" de la América Central como ejes personales?

Aunque la reunión duró solamente pocos días y no se adoptaron decisiones trascendentes ni se acordaron tratados de comercio, fué importante porque abrió la puerta para charlas futuras y posibles convenios de comercio. Las naciones de la Unión Europea ven una oportunidad de romper el dominio absoluto que ha tenido Estados Unidos en aquella zona durante demasiado tiempo.

México, por ejemplo, resiente aún el hecho de que, antes de que confiscara las propiedades petrolíferas de los Estados Uni-

dos e Inglaterra, estaba pagando más por los bienes producidos de su propio petróleo que lo que el pueblo de Estados Unidos pagaba por los mismos productos. Comprensiblemente, sin esperar que sus vecinos concierten cualesquiera acuerdos, lo cual puede estar a distancia de aos, México está yendo adelante por sí mismo y procurando hacer algunos tratos preliminares.

Cuba está igualmente procurando establecer relaciones económicas con las naciones de la Unión Europea a fin de contrarrestar el embargo de Estados Unidos que lleva ya 35 aos, así como la Ley Helms-Burton, que permite la imposición de sanciones contra las naciones que hagan negocios con las propiedades que antes pertenecieron a empresas estadounidenses y que fueron confiscadas por Fidel Castro. Muchas naciones consideran que dicha ley es ilegal a tenor del derecho internacional, pero le temen a las represalias de los Estados Unidos.

España está llevando la delantera para invertir en la América Latina. Después de Estados Unidos, es el inversionista más prolífico en aquella región. No es extraño que España parezca tener una predilección tan sólida por invertir en México y que haya comprado muchas empresas cuando fueron devueltas al sector privado por el gobierno.

Hay pocas zonas que no hayan sentido, o que no sentirán pronto, su influencia voraz. Junto

free of regrets."

I stayed through the length of the panel discussion, which was taken up mostly by a sales pitch from a Microsoft executive. The rest of the discussion was half-hearted. The panelists were dismayed at the crumbs of time left to them, at the empty hall and at the attitude of their colleagues who only the day before had derided George W. Bush for ignoring them.

Solomon says the dream of today must be lived -- if not, it bot-

The Unbearable Lightness of Being... White

BY KATHY DOBIE, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

I haven't heard of anyone who spoke to Benjamin Smith during his three day killing spree that ended in his suicide. As far as I know, he didn't pick up the phone late at night between killings and say good-bye to mom or dad. He didn't call his ex-girlfriend and say, "It's all your fault" or "I'm sorry" or something cryptic, a line from a song, perhaps, that we could've milked for meaning later.

For three days, Smith cruised in his car alone. A young white man in a light blue Taurus, two handguns at his side. After that first time, he didn't even get out of the car to shoot. He aimed out the window. He shot without saying a word. He sped away. He appeared an hour later, a day later, in another neighborhood, another city, finding new targets. No notes were left on the bodies, no racist pamphlets mailed to the police, no slogans shouted before pulling the trigger. He was a man with nothing left to say. A young white man. He killed all weekend, out there alone in his blue Taurus, and shot himself that Sunday night.

How many news reports have I read where "Man Kills Girlfriend and Children, then Self"? Hundreds, I suppose. I've always wondered if they turn the gun on themselves at the end to escape judgment. Or were they suicidal all along and just couldn't bear to leave her and the kids behind? Couldn't bear it because they knew that their families would survive fine without them; indeed, they would be happy to see them go.

Who did Benjamin Smith decide to take with him? Not his family, not his girlfriend -- she left him over a year ago. A black man walking with his children. A Korean man coming out of church with a group of fellow worshippers. He shot at Orthodox Jews returning from temple and a group of Asian students talking outside their college dormitory. Like the high school killers in Littleton, Colorado, Smith went after anyone who believed - in God, in family, in the rightness of their own existence.

And anyone who belonged.

When I interviewed white power skinheads a few years back, they were almost all the children of middle class, suburban families, like Benjamin Smith, like the Littleton boys. To the skinheads I met, being white meant being rootless, causeless, no flag to wave, no people to feel loyal to, no one feeling loyalty to them. "If the race war happened now, whites would lose," they complained. "Blacks are so close together. They'd be real easy to set off and they'd all stick together but whites wouldn't."

They were educated kids, articulate. For all their talk of racial pride, they didn't seem to like white people much. White meant weak. Greedy. Complacent. Most of all, lonely. They complained bitterly about how materialistic and bloodless white families had become.

Here's how one skinhead described his parents' middle class life and their expectations for him: "It was to go to high school, be on the football team, do all the things kids are supposed to do, then go to college, be a doctor, have a couple of kids when you're thirty." His voice was filled with disgust.

Solomon's Wisdom On Journalists of Color

By Victor Landa

Solomon of Somalia told me he had never seen anything like it, and 6,800 journalists together in one same place is enough to make anyone stop to take notice. Especially when you add the words "of color."

And what do 6,800 journalists of color talk about when they congregate in one same city? Each other, of course. For roughly one week they did so. Black, Hispanic, Asian and Native American journalists got together in Seattle this month to discuss their future and drink a river of overpriced coffee.

Solomon Issa of Somalia doesn't write for a newspaper or string video for a television station. He's a Seattle cab driver, and for that week at least, a very happy cab driver. "I never make this much money driving cabs," he said.

He has a wonderfully crisp accent that makes his English sputter in staccato syllables, adding a double "ee" to words that end in "t." "How many journalist-ee come to conference? I drive many to airport-ee."

Solomon had the wisest insight as to what sets so many journalists of color apart from the rest. "I make good money," he said, "because minority give better tips. They don't hold money like disease."

The thought crossed my mind that wise Solomon was playing on my vanity so I would dig deep into my wallet at the end of the ride, but his line of thought intrigued me. "Minority dream a different dream of life," he said. "They live today and spend the money in their pocket-ee."

Folded on the seat next to me was a copy of that day's Seattle Times. I'd been reading about Vice President Al Gore's appearance at the conference the

day before. I'd sat through the same speech and was now comparing my impressions with those in the article. The writer and I took the same notes. Gore pushed the right buttons, didn't look as wooden as he does on television. He seems more authentic when he deviates from his script. The rest was a campaign stump.

The article made the inevitable comparison to Gov. George W. Bush, whose decision to decline an invitation to speak at the UNITY conference came across to the participants as a snub. The matter was made worse when Bush made a short, last-minute "meet and greet" appearance in the exhibit hall. If Solomon the cab driver were a journalist, he would have written, "The governor holds his time like a disease."

But Bush's wasn't the only snub that day.

Gore had gone to the conference to speak about technology and the future of information. And he did so, slightly. His speech was to be followed by a panel discussion with at least 15 journalists present onstage eager to talk about "new media" and the technological divide that is leaving non-white households behind in the age of the Internet. But what followed was a mass exodus.

As soon as the vice president walked off the stage, thousands of Latino, black, Asian and Native-American journalists left also. The panelists were left to scribble notes to each other, looking out to a cavernous hall where the 30 or so remaining journalists made the room seem even emptier.

"Minority dream the dream of today," said Solomon. "The dream of tomorrow will come in time,

Noticias Breves

Proponen Inscripción de Un Millón de Nuevos Latinos

Long Beach (California), - Más de 800 participantes de la conferencia Voto Latino '99, en Long Beach, anunciaron que inscribirán un millón de nuevos votantes hispanos para las elecciones del año 2000.

El presidente del Proyecto de Registro Electoral y Educativo del Suroeste (SWVRP), Antonio González, organizador de la conferencia, dijo a EFE que en California hay alrededor de 4,8 millones de electores hispanos inscritos.

"Nuestro compromiso es superar la marca de los seis millones de votantes latinos inscritos antes de las elecciones de noviembre del año 2000", dijo González, cuya organización mantiene un trabajo permanente para captar nuevos electores hispanos en Texas, Nuevo México, Arizona y California.

El orador principal de la conferencia, el vicepresidente Al Gore, quien es aspirante presidencial del Partido Demócrata, reconoció que tanto él como su principal rival republicano George W. Bush, a quien no mencionó por nombre, están tratando de ganar el voto latino.

Gore condenó tres proposiciones de ley aprobadas en California en contra de los inmigrantes, que eliminan la educación bilingüe, los programas de preferencias a minorías conocidos como "acción afirmativa" y los servicios básicos a indocumentados.

"El candidato que trate de dividir a la nación en vez de unirla, que quiera apelar al temor en vez de la esperanza, lo va a pagar en las urnas", dijo Gore.

El activista González consideró por su parte que esas proposiciones servirán para "echar más combustible al fuego", en referencia a una reacción masiva de hispanos que se nacionalizaron y registraron como nuevos electores luego de la aprobación en California de la ley 187 que niega servicios básicos a los indocumentados.

La ley 187, que aún no se implementa porque su constitucionalidad ha sido cuestionada en los tribunales, se mantiene como un símbolo de la ola antiinmigrante que impulsó la naturalización de miles de residentes legales, que temían perder sus beneficios básicos.

El gobernador de Texas, George W. Bush, que se perfila como favorito a candidato del Partido Republicano para la presidencia, ha manifestado su rechazo a la 187.

Bush recorrió recientemente varias ciudades de California y en cada presentación pública habló en español y se acercó a electores latinos.

En la conferencia Voto Latino '99, el asambleísta republicano de Riverside, Rod Pacheco, admitió que las propuestas antiinmigrantes habían creado la oposición de muchos de sus colegas.

Gloria Molina, miembro del Consejo de Supervisores de Los Angeles y aspirante demócrata a la alcaldía de esa ciudad, opinó que hay mucho resentimiento entre los votantes latinos en relación a esas propuestas.

Investigan Iglesia Evangelica Por Supuesto Trafico de Indocumentados

Por Francisco Miraval

Denver - Un accidente ocurrido en un suburbio al norte de Denver hace una semana originó que la policía de la ciudad iniciara la investigación de un grupo evangélico hispano que estaría usando su estructura religiosa para traer inmigrantes indocumentados de México a Estados Unidos.

Según el detective del Departamento de Policía de Denver, Juan Maestas, en el momento de ser atropellado, el mexicano Antonio Gómez solicitaba donaciones para la Iglesia Misionera de los Discípulos de Jesucristo, un grupo cristiano hispano con oficinas centrales en San Diego y Austin.

Debido a que el joven carecía de identificación, las autoridades necesitaron tres días para confirmar que Gómez, de 21

años, es oriundo de Ciudad Juárez, México y no tiene domicilio fijo.

El detective Maes informó además que ocho personas de esa iglesia llegaron a Denver y se alojaron en un hotel económico al este de la ciudad.

Debido a que Gómez carecía de documentos legales, las autoridades ahora investigan si la iglesia estuvo involucrada en la llegada del joven mexicano a los Estados Unidos, y si se violaron leyes vigentes al ofrecerle trabajo.

"Llegamos a Denver para expandir la obra de nuestra iglesia", dijo a EFE Salvador Lomeli, encargado del grupo que llegó a la ciudad.

"Cuando alguien como Antonio (Gómez) viene a la iglesia y dice que quiere ayudar, no le pedimos papeles ni le preguntamos su situación de inmigración", agregó.

Según Lomeli, los líderes de la Iglesia Misionera de los Discípulos de Jesucristo tenían la impresión de que Gómez era originario de Texas, y, por lo tanto, ciudadano estadounidense. "Lo que aconteció es un malentendido y una tragedia, una de esas cosas de Dios", comentó.

Lomeli negó, por otro lado, las versiones que su iglesia estaría cobrando unos 1.500 dólares a mexicanos que quieren llegar a Estados Unidos con visa para religiosos.

John Hayes, director de desarrollo financiero del Ejército de Salvación en Denver, dijo a EFE que "las personas que quieren trabajar en una iglesia deben llenar todos los requisitos exigidos por el Departamento de Trabajo y el Departamento de Inmigración".

"Aún aquellos que realizan un trabajo voluntario deben llenar los formularios correspondientes, para evitar problemas legales", agregó.

Según Hayes, muchos pastores hispanos desconocen las leyes de Estados Unidos, por lo cual ponen a su iglesia y a su ministerio en serio peligro legal.

"Muchos pastores han cometido serios errores al tratar de ayudar a la gente, por no aplicar las leyes vigentes. Hay pastores que lo han perdido todo por un solo error de papeles con el Servicio de Inmigración", agregó.

Hayes contó el caso de Eutimio Torres, originario de Zacatecas, México, que dejó su puesto como pastor de una congregación hispana en Denver por haberse equivocado al usar un número de seguro social.

"Aunque uno sea una buena persona, y se trate de una buena obra, las leyes se aplican a todos por igual", dijo Hayes.

El cuerpo de Antonio Gómez todavía no ha sido reclamado y permanece en la morgue de la ciudad de Denver.

Según Lomeli, autoridades de la Iglesia Misionera harán una donación a favor del sepelio de Gómez, y colaborarán con las autoridades en sus investigaciones.

Laboratorio Planea Un Parche Anticonceptivo Para la Mujer

NUEVA YORK

Tiene el tamaño de una moneda de medio dólar y es tan efectivo como la píldora y tiene una duración de una semana.

Johnson & Johnson, el líder mundial en el mercado de los anticonceptivos orales, se encuentra en las etapas finales de las pruebas de un parche anticonceptivo femenino que es efectivo durante una semana, dijo la empresa el martes.

El parche, cuyo tamaño es aproximadamente el de una moneda de medio dólar, sería el más reciente tipo de control de la natalidad en salir al mercado estadounidense en varios años. Las mujeres pueden usarlo en el abdomen, un brazo o en las nalgas.

Las pruebas preliminares muestran que el parche, llamado Evra Contraceptive Patch (Parche Anticonceptivo Evra), trabaja en forma tan efectiva como la píldora. La empresa planea solicitar la aprobación del gobierno a principios del año próximo.

Johnson & Johnson, el con-

glomerado de productos de salud con sede en New Brunswick, Nueva Jersey, dio a conocer su trabajo en relación con el parche en una reunión de analistas de acciones el martes en Nueva York.

Los ejecutivos de la empresa dijeron que el parche ha demostrado ser seguro en las pruebas, y las mujeres lo encuentran fácil de usar.

Una vez que la droga es absorbida a través de la piel, el parche trabaja en forma similar a las píldoras anticonceptivas, dijeron ejecutivos.

El parche, aparentemente, sería fácil de usar para las mujeres, porque ya no tendrían que recordar tomar la píldora todos los días.

Attention Advertisers
Last Weeks inside
pages of El Editor
were incorrectly
labeled July 22th
The Front is correctly
labeled July 15. - Please
Excuse the Inconvenience

DRD Satellite Sales HOT SUMMER SPECIALS

Dish Network Home Entertainment Satellite System

Only \$49.00

Se Puede Conseguir Estas Estaciones en Español
Univision, Galavision, Telemundo Fox, Sports, HBO,
Showtime, Cinimax - Call for Program Prices and Details
Home - 797-4582 or Cel Phone 891-0970

Se Necesitan Techeros
Se requiere troca o traira y
equipo para quitar techos.

West Texas
Roofing Amarillo TX.
Llame al 1-800-749-9897
o FAX 1-806-3005

MUCHAS CUENTAS
POR PAGAR?

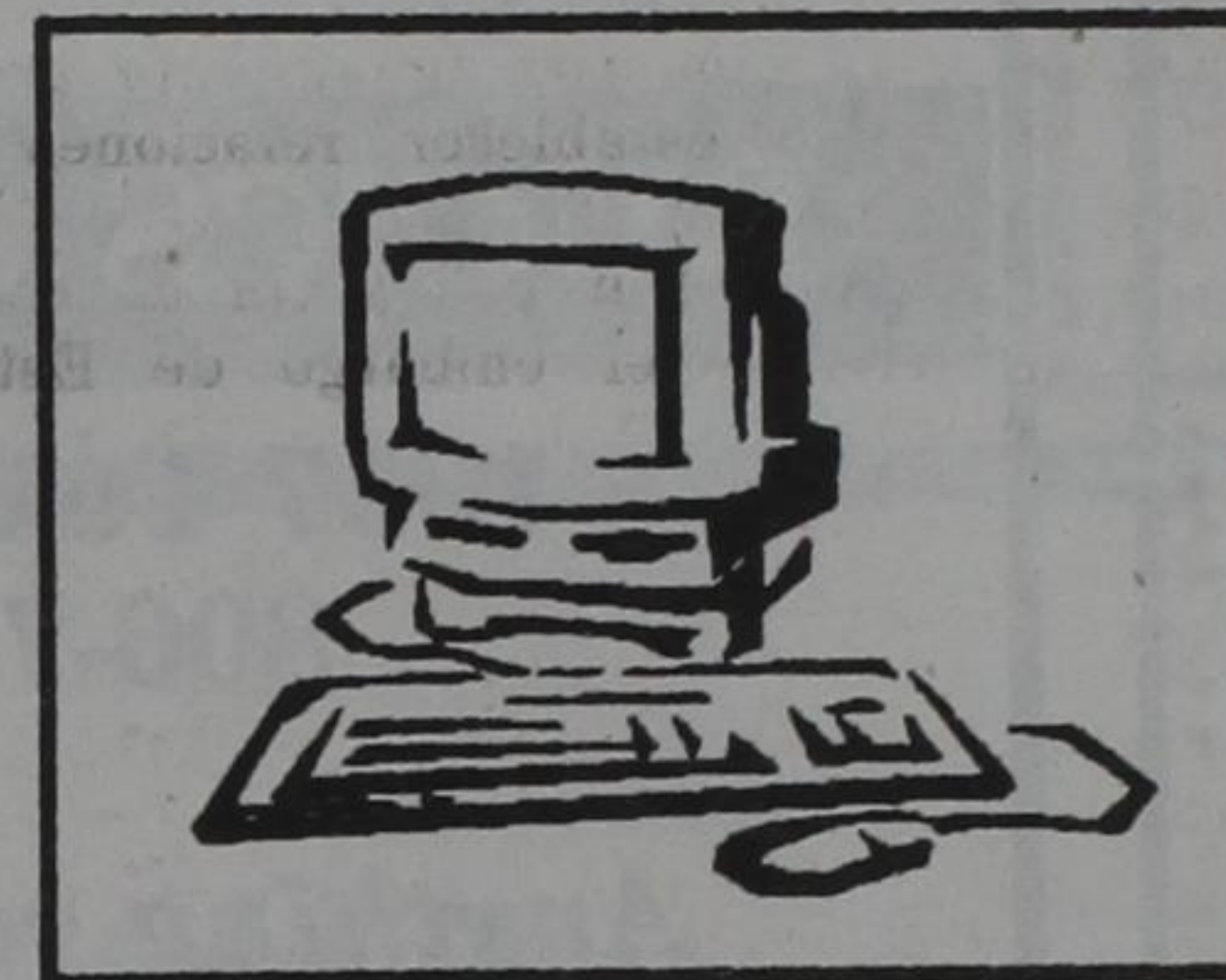
Gratis, Consolidacion
de cuentas facil. Un
pago mensual-reducido
mas del 50% Genus
Credit Management -
Nonprofit
1-800-779-7395 (1280)

Ysidro Gutierrez and Jerry Perez

PH: 787-6506 Pager: 723-4569

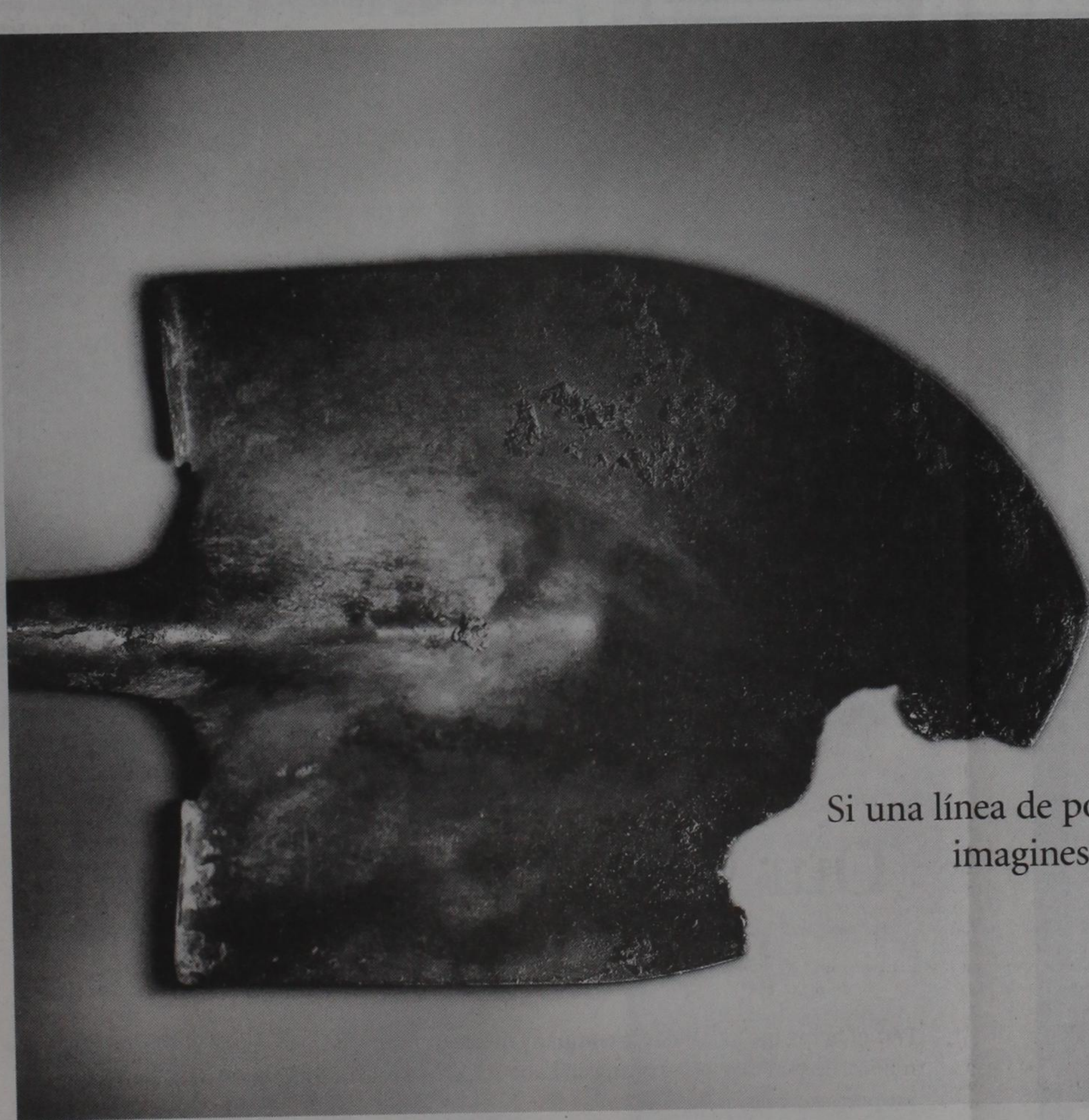
BACK TO LIFE COMPUTERS

Hispanic Owned and Operated



- PERSONAL COMPUTERS
- *Designed *Built
- *Upgraded *Installed
- We do Local Area Networks
- Web-pages for home or business

POWER - SPEED - MEMORY: ITS WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS



Si una línea de poder enterrada le hizo esto a una pala,
imagíneselo lo que le hizo a la persona que la estaba usando.

Sparky dice: ¿Por favor llame antes de excavar? Porque un simple trabajo como excavar un hoyo de poste puede volverse potencialmente fatal cuando líneas de poder enterradas están presentes. Líneas de poder eléctricas escondidas muchas veces están enterradas en su patio y pueden ser extremadamente peligrosas si son cortadas o quebradas. Siempre llame al Sistema de Seguridad de Excavación de

Texas (Texas Excavation Safety System) al 1-800-DIG-TESS (1-800-344-8377) por lo menos dos días de trabajo, el tiempo requerido para esperar, antes de empujar a excavar. Como un servicio gratis, marcadores pintados y banderas de color serán colocadas para su seguridad. Por favor excave alrededor de ellas con cuidado. Recuerde, es la ley. Excave con cuidado. Excave con seguridad.





Thank You Very, Very Much ...

Ballet Folklorico Aztlan de Lubbock would like to say thank you to the following businesses and individuals for all their support and efforts. Some students of the ballet were able to travel to Guadalajara, Mexico for a week long conference to learn more dances and at the same time to get educated in the regions of Mexico. Zenaida Aguero Reyes-director of the group says that next year's conference will be held at San Antonio and with the community support, hopefully the whole entire group would be able to attend this week long conference. The group consists of over 45 dancers from 5 years old to 30. "Thank you Lubbock for all your support," says Mrs. Reyes to everyone who contributed in one way or another.

El Editor newspapers, La Malinche, David Martinez-attorney, West Texas AutoPlex, Lubbock Convention Tourism Bureau, Emilio Abeyta-attorney, Jorge Hernandez-attorney, Charles Mais-attorney, Heather Baines at First United Bank, Dr. R.J. Mehdiabadi, United Supermarket 50th & Ave. Q & North University & Carlos Martinez. Mil Gracias ...

Lo Mejor En Comida Mexicana

MONTELONGO'S RESTAURANT
3021 Clovis Rd - 762-3068

News Briefs

From Page 1

Doris Meissner, accusing her of ineffective management, pointing out that the INS does not adequately fulfill its role despite the fact that its budget has been tripled over the past four years.

The INS budget for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, 1998 and ending Sept. 30, 1999, was 3.8 billion dollars.

Smith stressed that the bill, which completely separates INS police and administrative functions, sends a message to some six million foreigners living illegally in the United States that the law will be strengthened and that they will not be allowed to remain illegally in the country.

Shortly after the announcement, immigrant defense groups, such as the National Council of La Raza, denounced the bill for failing "to introduce reforms and for destroying the INS."

According to John Henriksen, a U.S. immigration specialist, the bill's basic flaws include the division of INS police and administrative functions and the fact that it leaves intact the unchecked power of INS district chiefs throughout the country.

Representatives of La Raza, the American Bar Association of Immigration Attorneys, the National Immigration Forum and other organizations, agreed that the INS is bankrupt, but, while acknowledging the need for reforms, they firmly oppose dismantling in order to rebuild it.

Border Patrol Promotes Recruitment of New Agents

San Diego, - The head of the U.S. Border Patrol, Gus de la Viña, said that a group of agents will be recruiting new members in educational facilities and employment centers.

The Border Patrol has until the end of September to hire 800 new agents.

In the last few months, the agency has only been able to hire 200 new members, and in October it must present a list of a total of 1,000 new agents, according to a 1996 immigration law.

"There is real competition among the federal agencies for finding the best people, and on top of that we have a strong economy, which offers additional opportunities in other areas," De la Viña said during a news conference.

A group of 100 new agents began an intensive four-day training on recruiting techniques on Thursday in San Diego, in a seminar given by recruiters from the U.S. Navy, Army, Air Force and local police.

On Monday, the agents will join another 100 recruiters who are already visiting universities, adult learning centers and job centers, to exhibit the benefits of working for the Border Patrol, De la Viña said.

De la Viña regretted that besides the lack of new agents, still others frequently resign from the Border Patrol because they find better benefits and working conditions in other federal agencies.

"We hope that a bill allowing us to change our salary policy will be enacted into law so that we can make working for the Border Patrol more attractive," De la Viña said.

We've Moved!!

BUCK'S CAR CARE

1937 Texas Avenue
806-747-4411

Anything you need done!
Your #1 Stop for Car Care
Cars, Trucks, Vans, RV's
Brakes, tune-ups, overhauls, transmissions

From Page 1

er. We ought to tell him it doesn't work that way," Bonilla continued.

"It is obvious candidates view LULAC as nonpartisan and nonthreatening," he said.

But Bonilla also criticized LULAC's leadership, which he said should've been more aggressive at courting the presidential hopefuls.

Just days before LULAC opened its convention, Bush made an unannounced appearance at a convention of 6,000 minority journalists in Seattle after a newspaper story suggested Republican presidential hopefuls were more interested in raising funds than wooing the minority vote.

Perhaps part of the reason candidates and entertainers snubbed the group is because it's lost some of its vision, Bonilla said.

"We aren't a homogeneous lot anymore. We aren't in the pocket of any party. There has to be competitive zeal for seeking Hispanic support in this country," Bonilla said.

"It's good for us to talk about census and civil rights and immigration. But what is going to put the bread on the table is in the global marketplace. And LULAC needs to be negotiating for a piece of the economic pie," he said.

Wilmot, a former lawyer for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund in San Antonio and for a Houston legal aid office, said his views clashed with those of LULAC on the 1970s issue of benefits for immigrants.

Ben Marqu ez, a University of Wisconsin political science professor who's written a book about LULAC, noted how the organization's recent history includes the perception it's moderated its traditional stands on issues.

"All they wanted was to be treated equally. . . . They had no problem with free-market capitalism," Marqu ez said.

An example of that change came in 1989 in the LULAC's Orange County, Calif., chapter.

Although Republicans comprised a small council minority, the chapter invited conservative beer tycoon Bill Coors to be guest of honor at a scholarship fund-raiser.

LULAC and several other Hispanic associations had previously boycotted Coors Brewing Co. over minority hiring practices, but had lifted the boycotts five years earlier after Coors promised affirmative action and money for Hispanic groups.

Dovalina, a Houston lawyer elected without opposition to his second one-year term on Saturday, acknowledged change within the organization was inevitable, but said it was for the better.

"Hispanics are no longer located just in the Southwest," he said. "Our primary goal for the next century is to harness political and economic power for Hispanics."

Dovalina noted LULAC intends to add chapters across the country and strengthen ties with other civil rights organizations.

In a demonstration of spirited cooperation during the convention, he and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, head of the National Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, agreed to a 10-point "covenant" aimed at economic and educational parity for minorities.

With that, Dovalina dismisses notion the organization is losing strength.

"The basic difference between us and other Hispanic civil rights organizations is we continue to reach out on a grass-roots level," Dovalina said in recalling how the group first was established.

While LULAC keeps its sights on the future, Dovalina said the group must remain mindful of its past.

It was LULAC that led the charge for Head Start programs, launched MAL-DEF, defended affirmative action against its challengers through the years and fought anti-immigrant initiatives, he said.

More recently, Dovalina said, LULAC intervened on behalf of 80,000 Hispanics in Memphis, Tenn., who complained about the police response to a spate of killings in their community.

"There were no Hispanic officers on the city's police force," Dovalina said, "and, consequently, residents charged cases involving Hispanics weren't being investigated properly."

Interventions like the one in Memphis are important, said Regla Gonzalez of Boston, who said Cuban immigrants like herself rely on LULAC for such support.

"For many recent immigrants arriving from Caribbean countries, they're turning to us when they face discrimination because of their color or language," said Gonzalez, national vice president of LULAC's 13-state Northeast District.

Others agree sharing the group's history and progress with its youth is particularly important.

Throughout the week, 65-year-old Benny Martinez of Houston sat proudly at his exhibition booth, which displayed decades of LULAC memorabilia, including photographs, programs and banners.

Among the throngs that visited his booth were a few fresh-faced teens who

continued on page 5

With FHA's new
higher loan limits,
you can buy your
dream home.

How's that for a housewarming gift?



Since 1934 we've helped over 26 million Americans get into new homes. And starting this year, HUD can help you get a home loan for up to \$208,800. Be sure to check with your lender to find out what the FHA-insured loan limits are in your area. We can also help you with any questions you might have. Just call 1-800-HUDS-FHA and ask for our free 100 Questions and Answers brochure. It'll tell you how

to get an FHA loan for as little as 3% down. How to choose the right lender. How to prepare yourself for the homebuying process.

And much more. In fact, if you're looking for a home, it's all the information you need.



HUD and FHA are on your side.



1-800-HUDS-FHA



Paul Thompson
Director

Our way of accomplishing more is giving back

Part of being the best electric company means we can give back to the city more than nine million dollars this year--saving all Lubbock taxpayers the equivalent of 25% of their property tax bill.

We have also lowered prices to save LP&L customers over \$5 million this year alone.

Isn't it time you made the switch to LP&L and become part of the home-owned advantage of Lubbock Power and Light and the power to fuel the next generation and beyond.

It's all a part of your
Home-Owned Advantage
...and the power to fuel the next generation



1301 Broadway • 775-2509

Because of innovative ideas, like the new generation plant, we have the opportunity to share our profits with our customers. I am very proud that this year we will return \$5.4 million to our customers in the form of rebates and rate reductions.

Paul Thompson

El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, July 22, 1999

Former Tyson Foe, Possible Future One To Fight

NEW YORK -- Francois Botha was in Mike Tyson's recent past, and Shannon Briggs hopes to be in Tyson's future.



Shannon Briggs might get a chance to face Mike Tyson. (AP)

Briggs could get his wish by beating Botha in a pay-per-view bout Aug. 7 in Trump Taj Mahal at Atlantic City, N.J.

Botha had his chance Jan. 16. He was leading Tyson on all three cards after four rounds, but he got knocked out in the fifth round by a single right to the head.

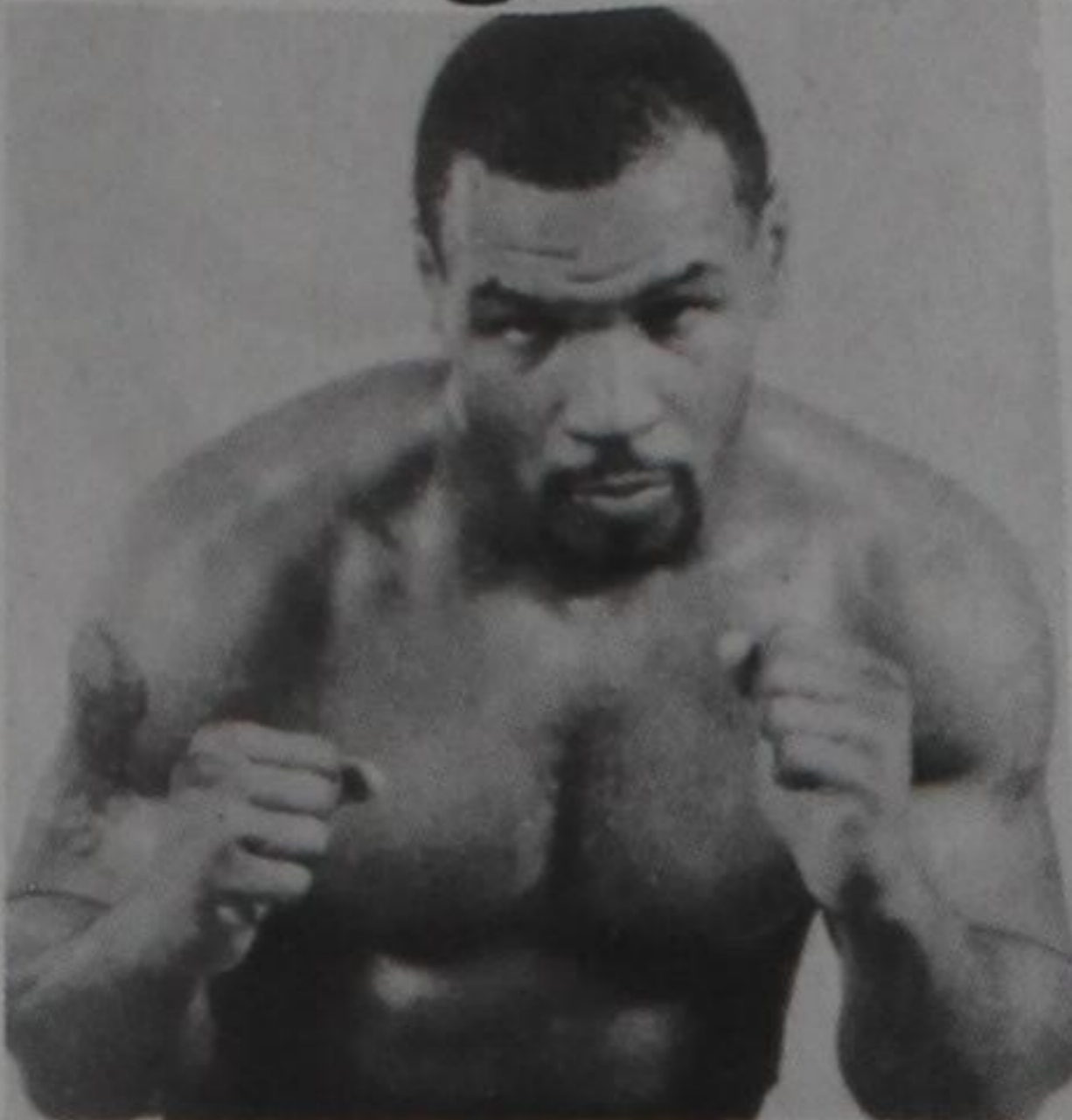
Tyson is expected to fight Oct. 2 against an undetermined opponent. It will be his first bout since he fought Botha and his first since he was released from jail in Maryland on May 24 after serving 312 months for assaulting two motorists.

The opponent won't be Briggs (31-2, 25 knockouts).

"I DON'T EXPECT TO FIGHT HIM then," Briggs said Monday from his training camp in Big Bear, Calif. "It would be nice, but it's not going to happen."

There's an outside chance the 27-year-old fighter could be Tyson's opponent in December if all goes well for Tyson in October. Shelly Finkel, Tyson's adviser, said Briggs is on a list of possible opponents.

"It would be a fight between



two guys from Brownsville, Brooklyn," Briggs said. "It would be a great fight, especially in Madison Square Garden. I got into boxing because I wanted to fight Tyson."

As for the Tyson he might fight, Briggs said: "He's definitely not the fighter he was when he was young, but I still respect him. I still respect his ability. He still has the power."

BRIGGS GAINED NATIONAL ATTENTION WITH a 12-round majority decision win over George Foreman on Nov. 22, 1997. In his next fight he was stopped in the fifth round by WBC champion Lennox Lewis after having Lewis in serious trouble in the first two rounds on March 28, 1998.

Should a fight against Tyson not happen, Briggs is still happy about his prospects and likes his chances of becoming a heavy-weight champion.

Tyson is 33 years old and has faded, and IBF-WBA champion Evander Holyfield is 36. Lewis is 33 and Briggs thinks he doesn't want to fight much longer.

"Once they're gone I'll be at the top," he said.

The Botha fight will be Briggs' second since he lost to Lewis. He stopped overmatched Marcus Rhode in the first round Dec. 8 in the Roseland Ballroom at New York.

Agente Deportivo Denuncia "Camplot" De Grandes Ligas

Miami - Las Grandes Ligas de Béisbol pretenden usar el talento cubano sin tener que pagar por su valor, denunció el agente deportivo de origen cubano, Joe Cubas, quien ha ayudado a desertar a varios jugadores de la isla.

"Lo que quieren es establecer un sistema para que en el futuro puedan aprovechar el gran talento que hay en Cuba sin tener que pagar por su verdadero valor", dijo Cubas en una entrevista publicada hoy en el diario "El Nuevo Herald".

Según el agente deportivo, el juego celebrado el pasado domingo en La Habana entre la selección de Cuba y los Orioles de Baltimore, "es una maniobra de móviles financieros del comisionado de las Grandes Ligas, Bud Selig, y del dueño del equipo estadounidense, Peter Angelos".

"Ellos han tratado durante años de buscar la forma de acercarse a Cuba porque saben del talento que existe allá y porque en los últimos años no han podido firmar a un solo pelotero cubano", manifestó.

Afirmó que las Grandes Ligas está "trabajando para lograr algún acuerdo con Cuba y este juego fue el primer paso para lograrlo".

Cubas ha ayudado a desertar a más de 20 peloteros cubanos y ha conseguido contratos millonarios a varios de ellos, incluyendo al

From Page 4

paused to gaze at a photograph of a park sign that read: "No Mexicans or Negroes allowed."

For Martinez, the sign alone conveys a strong message he hopes everyone in the group remembers.

"This organization has been responsible for a lot of our freedom today," Martinez said, "but it must never forget our past struggles, and why we exit."

lanzador de los Yankees de Nueva York, Orlando "El Duque" Hernández (6,2 millones dólares) y a su medio hermano, Liván Hernández, de los Marlins de Florida (4,5 millones).

El agente deportivo aseguró al diario que asistirá al juego de vuelta entre la selección cubana y los Orioles que se celebrará el próximo tres de mayo en Baltimore, Maryland para ayudar en caso de que algún jugador quiera desertar.

"Esa decisión (de desertar) es algo muy personal y tiene que ser tomada por cada uno de los peloteros, pero si alguno de ellos toma este paso, quiero que sepan que yo estaré ahí para brindarle mi ayuda, señaló.

Añadió que en la selección cubana "hay varios jugadores con nivel de Grandes Ligas".

Para Cubas, no obstante, la estrategia de las Grandes Ligas es asegurarse el acceso al mercado de los peloteros cubanos una vez que caiga el gobierno de Fidel Castro, o mediante un acuerdo que les permita firmar a jugadores a través de algún convenio especial.

De acuerdo con el agente, lo más preocupante, es que las ligas mayores estadounidenses logren incorporar a los peloteros cubanos en el "draft" de novatos, en el cual los equipos seleccionan a jugadores que por obli

From Page One

right, now it's swinging back to the middle," says Frank Sharry, executive director of the National Immigration Forum. "It's gone from being a race to the bottom [to get tough on immigrants] to who can be more pro-immigrant, without appearing to be soft on uncontrolled immigration."

That's a healthy change at a time when America, as much as at any moment this century, is once again a nation of immigrants.

Breves De Beisbol

Miércoles, 21 de julio de 1999
Brian Rose inmoviliza a Liván (21 jul. 1999)

Eran los mismos protagonistas, pero el resultado fue completamente distinto. Los Marlins, que en los dos primeros partidos de la serie ante los Medias Rojas anotaron 19 carreras y sacudieron 30 hits (12 ante el genial Pedro Martínez), fueron maniatados el martes por el derecho Brian Rose y cayeron ante Boston, 7-1.

Marlins se aprovechan de fallas del nuevo circuito (21 jul. 1999)

BOSTON -- Múltiples misterios atormentan la serenidad del hombre. Nadie sabe a ciencia cierta por qué las cucarachas envenenadas mueren patas arriba o la razón de los bostezos. Así mismo pocos se atreven a ofrecer una explicación al fenómeno de los Marlins y su increíble éxito en los partidos de interligas.

Un 21 de julio de . . . (21 jul. 1999)

1921 -- Los Indios de Cleveland y los Yankees de Nueva York se combinaron para establecer un nuevo récord de la Liga Americana al conectar un total de 16 dobles en el juego en que

los Indios ganaron 17-8. Cleveland bateó nueve dobles y Nueva York siete.

Castillo con manos calientes y cabeza fría (20 jul. 1999)

Yogi Berra dio en el clavo cuando aseguró en una ocasión que el juego de pelota es 90 por ciento mental y el resto físico. Un jugador talentoso es doblemente productivo si cuenta con una mente serena. Luis Castillo es un clásico ejemplo de esta máxima.

Arbitros comienzan a dar marcha atrás (20 jul. 1999)

A algunos árbitros de la Liga Americana estarían tratando de dar marcha atrás a sus renunciaciones y los umpires de Ligas Menores habrían pospuesto su anunciada huelga del próximo lunes, aunque mantienen sus demandas, indicaron fuentes del béisbol.

Un 20 de julio de . . . (20 jul. 1999)

1906 -- Malcolm Eason, de Brooklyn, lanzó no hit no run y los dodgers vencieron 2-0 a los Cardenales en San Luis. 1925 -- Dazzy Vance, de Brooklyn, ponchó a 17 bateadores y los Dodgers vencieron a los Cachorros de Chicago 4-3 en 10 innings.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the Alcoholic Recovery Center of Lubbock, Inc. until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 3, 1999, to install plumbing in a new wing being added to the existing structure located at 608 17th Street, Lubbock, Texas.

This is a federally funded project subject to Equal Employment Opportunity provisions and HUD Section 3 regulations.

Beginning Tuesday, July 20, 1999, bid packets may be obtained at 608 17th Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

All sealed bids will be opened Wednesday, August 4, 1999 at 8 a.m. Bidders will be notified of the results of the bidding process on August 5, 1999 by 5 p.m. by telephone.

GANGA A LO GIGANTE!

Reciba Por Television

Galavision, Univision

88+ Canales Basicos Por Solo

\$29.95

Por Mes + impuestos

Ademas Con la Compra de Un Systema Completo DDS Por Solo

\$86.25*

1 Mes gratis de selectos Canales Premium

*Sujeto a Cambio al Instante

Servicio a todo pueblo circumbecino

Llame Hoy Mismo A

Peña

(806) 778-3583 o 1-877-456-5925

Descubra un nuevo mundo en...

Discovery
EN ESPAÑOL



Todos los Lunes 7pm/6c

Lo Mejor De Los Dos Mundos



Whether you're a serious athlete or a weekend warrior, a sports injury can be more than just a cramp in your style. When an injury occurs, the sports medicine program of Texas Tech Orthopaedic Surgery Associates is there to help you. Our physicians are board certified and specially trained in sports medicine. Along with an expert team of nurses and therapists, they'll quickly get you up and running and back in the swing (or swim) of things again.



TEXAS TECH MEDICAL CENTER

AMARILLO • EL PASO • LUBBOCK • ODESSA

Teaching. Caring. Healing.

743-1998

"Staying in the game of life."



The warmer weather inspires us to get outside and become more active. With our increased activity comes the bumps, pulls and sprains. Your best choice for recovery is visiting the sports medicine doctors at the Texas Tech Medical Center. These doctors are specifically trained in the treatment of sports-related injuries.

You'll find some the region's very best doctors - some of the world's best doctors doing the extraordinary to get you back into the action and the game of life...and they can be your doctor too.

Menudazo 99 Fun Festival Saturday and Sunday July 24 & 25

Music With Johnny G. y El Momento, Tentación, Los Fabulosos Gil, Eclipse, Juan y Los Favoritos, Trancazzo, Los Fronterizos, Lori y Tentación and Many More!

Pool Registration Until Friday at Crossed Ties Saloon - Starts Saturday

Washer and Horseshoe Registration - Sunday Before Noon

Volleyball Tournament Registration before 8 P.M. Friday - Starts Sunday Morning

Come and Enjoy Bar-B-Q by Big D's, Tripas by Joe, Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Cold Drinks and Games for Kids



Register for a FREE
Vacation to
Florida or The
Carribean at the
Festival

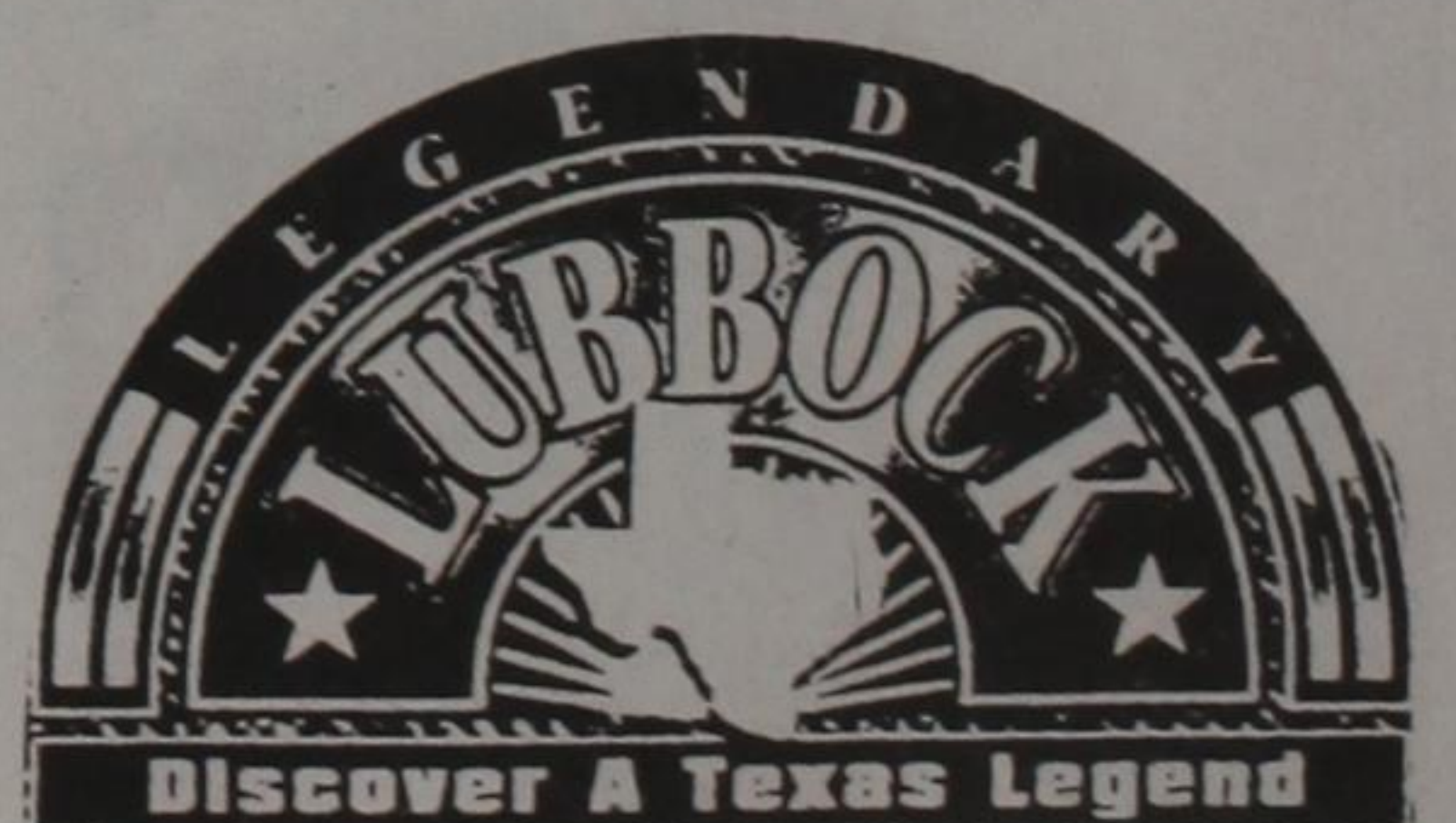
Softball Games Start Friday Night MackKinzie Park

*Menudazo Music
Festival*

Free to All Music by leading
Chicano Bands
Food and Beverage Booths
Menudo cooking Contest and
More for the Entire Family

*Don't forget about
the 8-Ball Tournament*

Call Today to Enter
806-763-3841 or
elellub@aol.com.



**El Editor
Newspapers**



For More Information, contact:
Lubbock Convention &
Visitor's Bureau
1301 Broadway, Suite 200 * Lubbock TX
(806) 747-5232 * 1-800-692-4035
Lubbock Sports Authority
806-747-7572 * 877-747-7572