

White House Weighs Politics and Policy In U-Michigan Case

# Bush Opposes Affirmative Action in Education

President Bush declared his opposition to University of Michigan admissions policies that give preference to black and Hispanic students, injecting the White House into the Supreme Court's most far-reaching affirmative action case in a generation, administration officials said yesterday.

The officials said Bush, who faced a deadline Thursday for registering opposition with the high court, plans to pay tribute to the value of racial diversity in higher education. But he argued that Michigan's approach is fundamentally flawed.

The issue is politically sensitive and legally complex, and top administration aides last night were unable to provide crucial details about the brief's legal arguments, which are still the subject of discussion by top presidential advisers. For example, it was unclear whether the brief's praise of diversity would go so far as to assert that achieving racial diversity is so important that it justifies college admissions officials to consider race, in some fashion.

"Not all the decisions have been made,"



From left, University of Michigan law students Emily Dawson, Dan Krivinskas, Artisha Johnson and Mark Griffin talk over dinner at the Lawyer's Club dining hall on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2003, in Ann Arbor, Mich. President Bush, stepping into a key affirmative action case, has decided that racial preferences for University of Michigan applicants are unconstitutional, a senior administration official said Wednesday.

## Comentarios

By Bidal Aguero

Political observers are saying that President Bush was witty to oppose the University of Michigan's admission policy yet not include his objection to other affirmative action cases.

In the University of Michigan case, white students opposed to the program filed suits against the school.

The undergraduate admission process involves a point system where African American, Hispanic and Native American applicants earn 20 points on the basis of race out of a 150-point system.

Bush called the system "a quota system" that rejects or accepts students "based solely on race."

Bush actions come after many minority organizations (see "Ignored" page 2) had called for his administration to help to uphold U of M's policies.

The National Council of La Raza called on "the Bush Administration and all Americans to stand in support of affirmative Action policies not only for the sake of minority communities but for the sake of a better United States."

These thoughts were echoed by LULAC, MALDEF and countless other organizations concerned with civil rights and education yet Bush decided to ignore their requests.

Now how was that witty? Politicos maintain that Bush's actions in only opposing the Michigan case will appease Blacks and Hispanics. One commentator on Nightline said that because in reality most Hispanics and Blacks believe in education being fair and equal for everyone.

Yes we do. But is it fair that wealthy schools have computers for every student. It is fair that wealthy schools have a lower teacher to student ratio? It is fair that wealthy school have tutors and individual education for students while underprivileged schools struggle to provide a minimum of education.

As a result of this paucity of an adequate education for many of our youth, universities - those that have a conscious -- such as the University of Michigan have chosen affirmative action as a means of trying to guarantee diversity within their student bodies.

If the Supreme Court decides to rule that U of M's strategy to diversify their student bodies, we will be certain to see other University following in an effort to exclude students that do not fit their agenda.

Politicos have said that President Bush was witty because his actions in this case will maintain support - which translates to vote - within the minority community.

Let's hope that our community will see through his WITTY wisdom.

Randy Reugebauer, candidate for congress' recent endorsement of Priscella Owen as President Bush's nomination as a Judge to the Fifth Circuit made me gag. Owen has been described as a forerunner to efforts by groups to turn a woman's body back to an object of the court. Is this the type of Congressman Lubbock wants? More next week.

an official said.

The aides said Bush plans to point to an "affirmative access" program he championed as governor of Texas. It guaranteed state-college admission to the top 10 percent of each high school graduating class, regardless of race.

The Michigan case presented Bush with one of the thorniest political questions of his administration. The administration was eager to placate its conservative base, which generally opposes racial preferences, while also continuing to woo Hispanic voters, a growing percentage of the electorate.

Meanwhile, administration officials said they were aware of the sensitivities of African American voters after the furor over remarks by Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.) last month, when he praised a 1948 conservative opponents of affirmative action depicted Bush's planned position as a political compromise forged amid intense negotiation. Justice Department lawyers, led by Solicitor General Theodore B.

Olson, lobbied the president hard for a brief that would categorically declare that not even diversity can justify the use of race. White House political adviser Karl Rove and White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales, sensitive to the need to expand the Republican base to include minorities, pushed in the other direction, the officials said.

"It's a hard brief," an administration official said. "You can say it touches all the political bases or you can say everyone's going to hate us anyway."

White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said Bush, who leaves such decisions to the Justice Department in lesser cases, had taken deep personal involvement in preparing the administration position. "It's something the president has continued to focus on," Fleischer said yesterday. "He'll likely focus on it some more, and it remains a question under review."

A day earlier, Fleischer said Bush "views matters of race as some of the most important, sensitive matters in our country." He said Bush is sensitive to "giving opportunities to people from a variety of backgrounds, while also giving opportunities in a manner for one and for all in our country." continued on page 6

## Nueva Oposición Amenaza el Éxito de Tarjeta Bush se opone a cuotas de Indentificación de la Matricula Consular para minorías raciales

Por Fresia Rodríguez Cadavid

A medida que aumenta el número de jurisdicciones que reconocen de manera oficial la matrícula consular de México, y más países de América Latina siguen el ejemplo y emiten tarjetas de identificación similares a sus ciudadanos que viven en los Estados Unidos, está aumentando la resistencia por parte de grupos en contra de la inmigración y por lo menos de un miembro del Congreso que se hace oír.

Organizaciones conservadoras que investigan sobre políticas tales como el American Immigration Reform (FAIR por sus siglas en inglés) con base en Washington, DC y el Center for Immigration Studies (CIS por sus siglas en inglés) han expresado que las tarjetas de identificación que se expiden en el extranjero aceptadas en los Estados Unidos fomentan conductas ilícitas. El representante estadounidense Tom Tancredo (repblicano de Colorado) de forma pública ha solicitado al Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización (INS por sus siglas en inglés) que investigue entre los mexicanos que hacen cola para solicitar la tarjeta en el consulado de México en Denver.

Las tarjetas de tamaño billetera y laminadas han experimentado una "mayor positiva acogida" en muchos estados y ciudades, dice Mireya Magana Gálvez, asociada de prensa en la embajada mexicana en Wash-

ington, DC. Las tarjetas bilinges permiten a los mexicanos indocumentados, así como a otros inmigrantes quienes no cuentan con carnets de identificación aceptables, tener acceso a algunos servicios públicos y a asistencia médica aquí.

Los encargados de emitir las tarjetas de identificación también mantienen en contacto al gobierno mexicano con sus ciudadanos alrededor del mundo, añade.

Reconocida en trece estados y por lo menos por treinta gobiernos locales, en el 2002 se emitieron un millón de tarjetas. En los lugares donde se permite su uso, los portadores las utilizan para abrir cuentas para pagar las utilidades y como identificación al solicitar la licencia de conducir. Miles de agencias encargadas del cumplimiento de la ley ahora las aceptan como identificación, mientras las instituciones bancarias las aceptan para abrir cuentas.

La ciudad de Nueva York, donde un promedio aproximado de 200,000 mexicanos constituyen cerca de un nueve por ciento de los latinos en la ciudad, rechazó la tarjeta, atribuyéndolo a "asuntos de seguridad". El estado de Nueva York, Nueva Jersey y Connecticut también se oponen a su uso. Los estados con menos mexicanos como Utah y Nebraska han aprobado legislaciones para aceptar la matrícula consular. Salvador Beltrán del Rfo

Madrid, cónsul general mexicano en Nueva York, insistió en que la identificación no sólo es fidedigna, sino que más segura que algunas licencias de conducir de los Estados Unidos. Según Beltrán, el consulado de Nueva York emitió casi 28,000 tarjetas en el 2002, más del triple del total del 2001. Beltrán explica el aumento al citar los temores tras los eventos del 11 de septiembre y el hecho que 74 instituciones bancarias en la nación aceptan la tarjeta como identificación principal.

Beltrán espera que otros estados en la región acepten la tarjeta como identificación, pero sostiene que el consulado "necesita realizar más trabajo" para promover la aceptación de la misma.

El director ejecutivo de FAIR Dan Stein dijo al Hispanic Link que el documento es "una violación al espíritu de las leyes internacionales de los Estados Unidos y una obligación de los deberes estatales para reforzar las leyes" paralelas a la ley federal.

Stein anticipa cierta oposición federal este año a medida que más estados consideren conceder licencias de conducir a inmigrantes indocumentados.

Válida durante cinco años, la matrícula se puede conseguir en cualquiera de los 43 consulados mexicanos en el país por \$29.00.

(Continúa Pagina 6)

WASHINGTON (CNN) - El presidente de Estados Unidos, George W. Bush, anunció este miércoles su oposición a la legislación conocida como "acción afirmativa", que contempla la asignación de cuotas de admisión para integrantes de minorías raciales y étnicas, después de que un grupo de estudiantes presentaran una demanda a la Universidad de Michigan.

La querrela fue iniciada por un grupo de estudiantes de raza blanca, después de que fueran rechazados por la Universidad de Michigan bajo las normas de la acción afirmativa. Los estudiantes se oponen a esta ley, afirmando que la integración racial no debe interferir con los logros académicos.

Bush comenzó su discurso calificando esta ley como "fundamentalmente equivocada", y declaró que su administración la retará ante la Corte Suprema de Estados Unidos. La acción afirmativa es una ley que da la preferencia a las minorías en su consideración para oportunidades laborales y académicas para promover la integración racial.

Según Bush, esta ley es "un sistema de cuota que rechaza o acepta estudiantes basándose solamente en el color de su piel".

El portavoz del presidente Bush, Ari Fleischer, afirmó que "la



Bush dice que todas las razas deben ser tratadas con igualdad bajo la ley.

diversidad es una meta importante, pero el reto es promoverla sin utilizar este tipo de leyes, a las cuales el presidente Bush siempre se ha opuesto".

La Casa Blanca admitió que si bien la diversidad en la educación académica es importante, el programa que mantiene la Universidad de Michigan viola las leyes constitucionales de admisión escolar.

"Nuestra constitución dice que la gente de todas las razas debe ser tratada igual bajo la ley", dijo Bush.

Fleischer calificó este caso como "muy importante para todos los estadounidenses, que podría definir el futuro de esta ley en Estados Unidos".

## EL EDITOR #1 In News

# New Opposition Threatens Matricula Consular ID Success

By Fresia Rodríguez Cadavid

As the number of jurisdictions officially recognizing Mexico's matrícula consular grows and more Latin American countries follow suit and issue similar identification cards to their nationals living in the United States, resistance is growing among anti-immigration groups and at least one vocal member of Congress.

Conservative policy think tanks, such as the Washington, D.C.-based Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) and the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS), have expressed their belief that foreign-issued IDs accepted in the United States encourage illicit behavior. U.S. Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-Colo.) has publicly urged the INS to raid lines of Mexicans applying for the card at the Mexico consulate in

Denver.

The wallet-sized, laminated cards have experienced a "very positive reception" in many states and cities, says Mireya Magaña Galvez, press attaché for the Mexican Embassy in Washington, D.C. The bilingual cards allow undocumented Mexicans, as well as other immigrants who lack readily acceptable IDs, access to some public services and health care here.

Issuance of the cards also keeps the Mexican government in touch with its nationals worldwide, she adds.

Recognized in 13 states and by at least 30 local governments, 1 million cards were issued in 2002. Where permitted, bearers use them to open utility accounts and as identification when applying for driver's licenses. Hundreds of law-

enforcement agencies now accept them for identification purposes, while banking institutions recognize them to open accounts.

New York City, where an estimated 200,000 Mexicans make up nearly 9 percent of the city's Latinos, has rejected the card, citing "security concerns." New York State, New Jersey and Connecticut also oppose its use.

States with fewer Mexicans, such as Utah and Nebraska, have passed legislation to accept the matrícula consular.

Salvador Beltrán del Río Madrid, Mexican consul general in New York, insists the ID is not only reliable, but more secure than some U.S. state driver's licenses. According to Beltrán, the New York consulate issued nearly 28,000 cards in 2002, more than triple the

2001 total. He explains the increase by citing post-Sept. 11 fears and the fact that 74 banking institutions nationwide accept the card as primary identification.

Beltrán hopes other states in the region will accept the card as identification, but says the consulate "needs to do more work" in promoting its acceptance.

FAIR executive director Dan Stein told Hispanic Link that the document is "a violation of the spirit of U.S. international law and a breach of state's duties to enforce laws" parallel to federal law.

He anticipates some federal opposition this year as more states consider granting driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants.

Valid for five years, the matrícula can be purchased at any of 43 Mexican consulates through-

out the country for \$29. Applicants must submit a copy of a certified birth certificate, an official Mexican photo ID and U.S. residency proof to obtain it.

In response to its growing popularity, Guatemala and Ecuador began to issue similar identification cards in the United States last summer. El Salvador and Honduras are also exploring granting them.

Dominican Republic and Ireland embassy officials have approached the Mexican consulate, too, to learn how to formulate the cards, according to Beltrán.

One thing is certain: As use of matrícula consular identifications spread, so will heated debate about them.

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# The Army Wants My Son

By Marisa Treviño

There's a scene in the fantasy blockbuster "Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers" that, given the times we live in, plays more like fact than fiction. Their Ruler tells the people of the kingdom of Rohan that every able-bodied male, from young to old, must join the battle to save the race of man from annihilation.

In the film, the boys are torn from their crying mothers' arms to fight the evil enemy.

My son is 19 and, like other young men his age across the nation, is registered with the selective service. With the threat of war escalating, I feel it's only a matter of time when I will be one of those crying mothers seeing her son off to fight a battle against a foe characterized by President Bush as posing a "danger of catastrophic violence."

And I, like any mother, don't like to think of that possibility.

But in the meantime, what bothers me more is the way military recruiters have targeted my son.

It began in his senior year in high school with recruiters calling him every other week. Even after he told them he was starting college out of state in the fall, they still didn't get

the hint. For whatever reason, the calls continued until we received a rather intimidating letter last month. It stated that since they had been unable to contact my son by phone they would make a home visit.

It didn't make sense to me that the military would spend so many man-hours to recruit somebody who clearly is not interested, until I researched the military's recruitment campaign of Latino students.

According to the annual Youth Attitude Tracking Study (YATS), which the Department of Defense depends on for gathering information about young people's feelings on a military career, "young men's propensity for military service continues to decline."

Among the African-American population, which once was a prime source for recruiters, the sign-up pool has dropped from previous years. YATS further found that those young people who have good job prospects or are going to college are also less likely to sit still for a recruiter's pitch.

Who does that leave?

It leaves that population whose number of poor rose to 8 million in 2001, and whose majority of young

people doesn't feel college is an affordable or viable option.

In other words, Latinos.

The military readily admits that their primary recruiting markets are high school seniors and graduates who aren't enrolled in higher education. The Bush administration has made it incredibly easy for military recruiters to track such students and exploit their situations.

In the "No Child Left Behind" Act, there is a provision requiring schools receiving assistance under the Act to provide military recruiters who ask with all of a student's contact information.

Of course, a school doesn't have to provide the information as long as the parent requests that it not do so. The trouble is, parents need to be notified to make the request.

Some would think that a career in the military would be more beneficial to those young Latinos who still have no direction in their lives. But most Latinos in the military are in the lower pay grades, mostly filling the ranks of private first class and corporal/specialists.

They are the ones on the front lines and, in this new battle where chemical and biological weapons are a real

threat, the most at risk.

A recent ABC News report described how Army troops have to train with bulky protective gear in case of a chemical attack. The suits are so cumbersome that troops have trouble pulling triggers on their weapons. The suits can be removed only when the air is declared safe.

How is that determined?

The lowest-ranking soldier is ordered to take off his gas mask. As Major Darin Lewis said, "We try to select the person that, well, is expendable." The disproportionately high number of persons of color and poor in the military's enlisted ranks is not lost on some congressional members.

Representative Charles Rangel of New York is introducing legislation to resume the military draft. According to him, it's a move to make his colleagues more conscientious about pursuing diplomacy, instead of warfare. As he reasons, "Service is no longer a common experience. The most privileged Americans are under-represented or absent."

Shouldn't any war effort, to borrow a phrase from another popular movie, (c) 2003, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by Tribune Media Services International.

# IGNORED by President Bush?

## Affirmative Action critical to Latino advancement

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) calls on the Bush administration to embrace the University of Michigan's admissions policy as one that promotes racial and ethnic diversity critical to higher learning institutions. The Supreme Court faces an opportunity to uphold the 1978 Bakke Supreme Court decision and continue to guarantee diversity in universities across the country when it hears two cases that will challenge Bakke in the next few days. "The Latino community has long faced an educational crisis of unacceptable drop-rates and low rates of college completion," LULAC National President, Hector Flores said. "LULAC firmly believes that the continuation of affirmative action is a number one priority and is essential to maintaining a diverse student body at our nation's top colleges and universities reflective of the racial and ethnic makeup of our great country, a country of opportunities."

The Latino student is at a disadvantage from the first day he or she enters the school system. According to the Harvard Civil Rights Project, Latinos have faced steadily rising segregation and re-segregation since the 1960s. To make matters worse, there are few significant desegregation efforts being practiced in school districts across the country. Furthermore, patterns of segregation by race and ethnicity are strongly linked to segregation by unequal opportunities and outcomes. Accordingly, dropout rates have been shown to be the highest in predominately minority, segregated high-poverty high schools. The 2000 Census demonstrated an extraordinary growth of the Latino community, particularly in the school population; yet 70 percent of Latino students are concentrated in low-income, urban schools.

"It is critical that the Supreme Court continue to uphold fairness and opportunity in America and continue supporting the right of our educational institutions to utilize carefully crafted diversity admissions policies, such as that of the University of Michigan, in order to guarantee access to all of our children to highly regarded institutions of higher education," Flores said. "Irrespective of the fact that many of our Latino youth come from schools in poverty-ridden areas, they should be included at these universities. The presence of Latino students in these universities helps to counter the trend in school districts across the country where there are lower levels of interracial and inter-ethnic exposure."

"This educational crisis affects not only Hispanics, but our nation's employers and retirees who will increasingly depend on the Hispanic population to be better prepared for employment, which means that they will be able to pay into the social security system. There are ample studies correlating the completion of university programs with higher income. It is therefore critical for Latinos to continue having access to these programs, especially given the disadvantages they experience in K-12," Flores added. "We strongly encourage President Bush to support efforts like those of the University of Michigan to reduce barriers to higher education and have inclusive policies for Latinos and other minorities. We feel that these ideas are compatible with President Bush's policies of inclusion," added Flores.

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization in the United States. LULAC advances the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, health, and civil rights of Hispanic Americans through community-based programs operating at more than 700 LULAC councils nationwide.

## NCLR calls on the Bush administration to support Affirmative Action

The National Council of La Raza (NCLR) calls on the Bush Administration to send a clear and strong message in support of Affirmative Action as the Supreme Court prepares later this spring to hear oral arguments in the cases, Gratz v. Bollinger and Grutter v. Bollinger, which challenge the constitutionality of the University of Michigan's undergraduate and law school Affirmative Action programs.

The Michigan admissions programs were developed after the Regents of the University of California v. Bakke case which allowed universities to use race as one of several "plus factors," but not the only factor, in choosing among applicants to advance a "compelling interest" in building a diverse student body. But even after 24 years of Bakke, increasing diversity on college campuses remains a challenge. The rates at which Latinos are currently entering and graduating from college, graduate, and professional programs are unacceptably low in comparison to Whites and African Americans. The Pew Hispanic Center reported that just 16% of Latino high school graduates, ages 25-29, have bachelor's degrees compared to 37% of White high school graduates and 21% of African Americans.

Due to the U.S.' changing demographics, Affirmative Action programs in higher education are more important than ever before. The White working-age population is projected to shrink by five million from 2005 to 2025 while the number of working-age Latinos will increase by 18 million. As such, the lack of Hispanic college graduates has significant and severe implications for our nation's workforce.

The original impetus for Affirmative Action was to correct past discrimination that barred many minorities from institutions of higher learning. Experience has shown, however, and the University of Michigan and others argue, that Affirmative Action also profoundly benefits other students and the nation as a whole. Diverse learning environments produced more well-rounded individuals who are better able to negotiate a complex global economy.

Moreover, America's growing economic interdependence with the rest of the world ensures that our nation's economic, political, and social health will be closely tied to the educational success or failure of all students, including Latinos. It is no surprise, therefore, that the value of diversity, as well as the need for more college-educated minorities, has been recognized by the business community. Thirty multinational corporations, including General Motors, have expressed support for the University of Michigan's Affirmative Action admissions programs.

NCLR calls on the Bush Administration and all Americans to stand in support of Affirmative Action policies not only for the sake of minority communities but for the sake of a better United States. Overturning Bakke would send a chilling message to the Latino community. It would not only deny equal opportunities and neglect the civil rights of this nation's minorities, but it will also jeopardize the nation's economic potential.

# El Ejercito Quiere a Mi Hijo

Por Marisa Treviño

Hay una escena en el éxito taquillero de fantasía "Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers" que, dado los tiempos que estamos viviendo, representa más la realidad que la ficción. Su gobernante le dice a los habitantes del reino de Rohan que todos los varones sanos, desde los jóvenes hasta los ancianos, tienen que unirse a la batalla para salvar la raza humana de la aniquilación.

En la película, los niños son arrebatados de los brazos de sus madres que lloran para pelear contra el diabólico enemigo.

Mi hijo tiene 19 años, y como otros jóvenes varones de su edad en la nación, está registrado para la conscripción militar. Con la amenaza de guerra intensificándose, siento que es sólo cuestión de tiempo para convertirme en una de esas madres que lloran al ver a su hijo listo para pelear una batalla contra un enemigo que según el presidente Bush representa un "peligro de violencia catastrófica."

Y a mí, como a toda madre, no me gusta pensar en esta posibilidad.

Pero, mientras tanto, lo que más me molesta es la manera en que los reclutadores del ejército han puesto a mi hijo en la mira.

Todo comenzó en su último año de escuela secundaria cuando reclutadores lo llamaban cada dos semanas. Incluso después de que les dije que

iba a comenzar la universidad en otro estado en el otoño, ellos todavía no recibían el mensaje. Por alguna razón, las llamadas continuaron hasta que recibimos una carta un tanto intimidante el mes pasado. La misma señalaba que debido a que no han podido comunicarse con mi hijo por teléfono le harían una visita.

Para mí no tenía sentido que los militares gastaran tantas horas y personal en reclutar a alguien que evidentemente no está interesado, hasta que investigué la campaña de reclutamiento del ejército enfocada en los estudiantes latinos. Según el estudio anual Youth Attitude Tracking Study (YATS por sus siglas en inglés), del cual el Departamento de Defensa depende para recoger información sobre el sentir de los jóvenes sobre la carrera militar, "la tendencia de los varones jóvenes hacia el servicio militar continúa disminuyendo."

Entre la población africana-americana, la cual una vez fue la fuente principal de los reclutadores, la lista de enlistados ha bajado comparado con años anteriores. Más adelante YATS encontró que aquellos jóvenes que tienen buenas perspectivas de trabajo o que asisten a la universidad también tienden menos a escuchar a los reclutadores.

¿Quién queda? Queda la población cuyo número de pobres alcanzó los ocho millones en el 2001, y cuya mayoría de jóvenes no siente que la

universidad sea una alternativa asequible o viable.

En otras palabras, los latinos.

El ejército admite con facilidad que su mercado principal de reclutamiento son los estudiantes de último año y los graduados de secundaria que no están matriculados en la educación superior. La administración de Bush ha facilitado de forma increíble que los reclutadores les sigan el rastro a estos estudiantes y exploten su situación.

En la ley "Que Ningún Niño Quede Rezagado", hay una disposición que exige a las escuelas que reciben ayuda federal a proveer a los reclutadores del ejército que la soliciten toda la información necesaria para contactar a un estudiante.

Por supuesto, la escuela no tiene que proveer la información si los padres indican que la misma no sea provista. El problema reside en que a los padres hay que notificarles que tienen esta opción.

Algunos pensarían que una carrera en el ejército sería más beneficiosa para aquellos jóvenes latinos que todavía no tienen una dirección en sus vidas. No obstante, la mayoría de los latinos en el ejército ocupan posiciones de menos paga, que en su mayoría comprenden los rangos de soldado raso de primera categoría y especialistas corporales.

Ellos son los que están en el frente y, en esta nueva guerra donde las ar-

mas químicas y biológicas son una amenaza real, los que corren mayor riesgo. Un informe reciente de ABC News describía cómo las tropas del ejército tienen que entrenar con un equipo de protección grueso en caso de un ataque químico. Los uniformes son tan pesados que las tropas tienen dificultad para disparar sus armas. Los mismos se pueden quitar sólo cuando se declare el aire seguro.

¿Cómo se determina esto?

Se le ordena al soldado de menor rango a que se quite la máscara de gas. Como dijo el mayor Darin Lewis, "Tratamos de escoger una persona, pues, prescindible."

El alto número desproporcionado de personas de color y pobres alistados en el ejército no pasa desapercibido para algunos congresistas. El representante Charles Rangel de Nueva York está introduciendo legislación para reanudar la conscripción obligatoria del ejército. Opina que es una medida para concientizar a sus colegas para que busquen la diplomacia en vez de la guerra. Según su análisis, "El servicio militar ya no es una experiencia en común. La mayoría de los estadounidenses más privilegiados están poco representados o ausentes."

¿No debería ser todo esfuerzo de guerra, prestándonos una frase de otra película conocida,

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## Border cities fear Plan would hurt economy

By Steve Taylor

AUSTIN — Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn has recommended abolishing the manifesto program, claiming the system is subject to widespread fraud along the border.

In a new report outlining ways the state can save money and improve efficiency, Strayhorn says local sales tax collections would increase by almost \$35 million over the next five years in border counties if the law on customs-broker certifications of exports was amended.

The proposal was immediately condemned by chambers of commerce leaders, customs brokers and some Rio Grande Valley lawmakers, with predictions that far fewer Mexican nationals would come and shop if the tax exemption was harder to obtain.

"This report spells disaster for the Valley economy. Where on earth did it come from?" asked Cynthia Sakulenzki, president and CEO of the McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

"We worked closely with the Comptroller's office, yet it goes against everything we spoke about. They talk about widespread fraud, but the

percentage of fraud is tiny when compared to the total sales of Mexican nationals. This is going to hit our sales big time."

Strayhorn's proposals come in a 485-page report titled "e-Texas." It outlines savings and additional revenue of nearly \$3.7 billion for the state, including \$1.7 billion in general revenue funds, for the next biennium.

Under the manifesto-elimination plan, Mexican nationals would find it much harder to get a rebate for the sales tax they pay buying American goods that are taken back to Mexico. The U.S. Constitution prevents state governments from taxing goods exported to foreign countries.

Under Texas law, foreign buyers in Texas can receive a sales tax refund by providing documentation by a customs broker. Strayhorn recommends abolishing the law.

Foreign buyers would still be able to get a tax refund by proving the item was shipped out by a retailer through a federally licensed freight company, showing import documents from a foreign country, or by showing export documents from a federally licensed

freight company.

Comptroller Enforcement and e-Texas staff members visited Hidalgo, McAllen, Brownsville, El Paso, Laredo and San Marcos during 2002, the report states.

After interviewing customs brokers, small retailers and large national retailers, Strayhorn's staff "found a system riddled with fraud."

"In theory, customs brokers verify that merchandise has left the country," the report states.

"In fact, they do not verify that goods are exported or even that they exist. Only licensed customs brokers or their employees are supposed to sell stamped manifestos. But unlicensed 'brokers' operate by buying the stamps from licensed brokers."

In Brownsville, investigators found evidence of sales receipts collected from dumpsters being offered as proof of purchase in order to use manifestos. In Hidalgo, "brokers" admitted buying manifesto stamps for 25 cents from a broker who gets them from the Comptroller's office.

"If we adopt this proposal, we would be coming into line with Arizona,

California and New Mexico," said Clint Winters, a policy analyst in the Comptroller's office. "We estimate border cities will collect \$7 million a year under our plan through increased sales tax collections. We dispute the suggestion that the local economy will crater."

State Rep. Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville, said Strayhorn's plan was like a "cold shower" to customs brokers and border retailers. He said that while everyone knew there was some fraud involved, eliminating manifestos entirely would put the Valley's economy at risk.

"Goods in American stores would become more expensive for Mexicans because they would have to pay for shipping of items so they could have the documentation necessary to get their sales tax back, which are constitutionally protected," Oliveira said.

"Retail sales would drop, resulting in layoffs, and probably some business closures. State customs brokers would be put out of business, and their employees laid off. This would definitely cause economic pain, in the part of the state that suffers greatest."

Oliveira, chairman of the House ways and means committee, said he had directed his staff to study the issue in conjunction with other border representatives and the Comptroller's office.

"We looked at this option and decided the risks to our economy were too great to implement it," Oliveira added. He said he is drafting a bill that would "greatly improve reporting requirements and eliminate the suspicious circumstances in which some manifestos are written."

State Sen. Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville, praised Strayhorn's report, saying it would help save Texas taxpayers' money. Lucio said that if the manifesto program was abolished he

continued on page 3



# Léa El Editor

**El Editor**  
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# Bush está 'harto de los juegos' de Irak

El presidente George W. Bush aseguró ayer que está "harto de los juegos y engaños" iraquíes y advirtió, como Londres, que se "está acabando el tiempo" de Saddam Husein para desarmar al país o ser desarmado por la fuerza, mientras que París y Berlín reclaman una nueva resolución de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) en caso de conflicto.

El secretario general de la ONU, Kofi Annan, también afirmó ayer que todavía hay tiempo de evitar la guerra, si Saddam Husein cumple lo mandado por el Consejo de Seguridad.

En tanto, el jefe de los inspectores de armas de la ONU, Hans Blix, dijo en una entrevista concedida a la BBC que se hallaron varios casos en los que Irak importó material relacionado a armamentos, en violación de las prohibiciones del Consejo de Seguridad.

Por otro lado, dijo, "todavía tenemos que determinar si estos descubrimientos están relacionados con armas de destrucción masiva. Pero ha habido una considerable cantidad de importaciones en el sector de armas, que claramente es contrabando y está en violación, y encontramos grandes cantidades", añadió Blix, que debe entregar un informe al Consejo de Seguridad el 27 de enero.

Bush dijo ayer: "Hasta ahora no he visto ninguna evidencia de que se esté desarmando. El tiempo se está acabando para Saddam Husein: tiene que desarmarse. Estoy cansado de tantos juegos y engaños. Ese es mi punto de vista sobre los plazos".

Bush hizo esas declaraciones en la Casa Blanca, en presencia del presidente polaco Aleksander Kwasniewski, mientras el Pentágono

multiplica las órdenes de despliegue militar.

En relación con estas manifestaciones, el portavoz de la Casa Blanca, Ari Fleischer, subrayó que la cuestión "no reside ahora en saber cuánto durarán las inspecciones, sino en saber si Saddam Husein cumplirá, y hasta ahora no hay indicación de que lo esté haciendo".

"No cumple y el tiempo se está acabando", manifestó Fleischer.

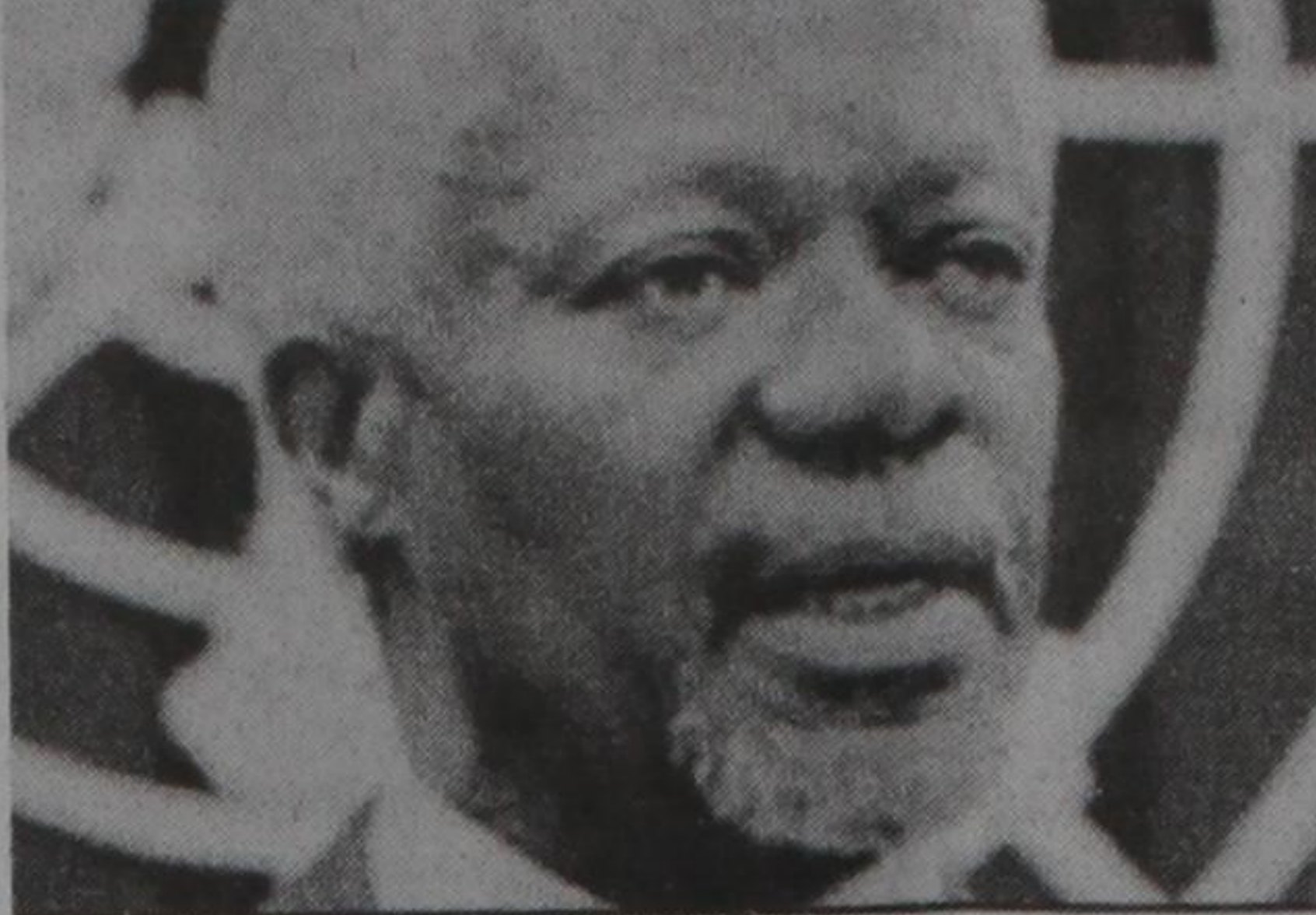
Alrededor de 150 mil efectivos estadounidenses estarán preparados en la región del Golfo antes de mediados de febrero para una eventual intervención en Irak.

El secretario de Defensa, Donald Rumsfeld, firmó hace unos días dos órdenes para enviar a otros 62 mil efectivos --infantes de Marina y soldados de Infantería-- que se sumarán a los 64 mil ya presentes y a los 20 mil permanentemente desplegados en países de la región.

El Pentágono anunció ayer que la Marina prepara el envío en breve de siete buques de guerra con base en California, con siete mil infantes de Marina a bordo, que se unirán a otro contingente de siete buques y siete mil hombres que zarparon el fin de semana de Virginia.

La Marina trabaja también para desplazar seis portaaviones a aguas del Golfo Pérsico, que fondearán a distancia de tiro de Irak, dos de los cuales están ya en posición, dos pueden zarpar de inmediato y dos podrían estar listos en breve.

Como Estados Unidos, Gran Bretaña piensa que el tiempo de Saddam Husein ya se agotó y que debe "cooperar plena y realmente" con los inspectores de la ONU, según declaró en Londres el ministro británico de



Relaciones Exteriores, Jack Straw.

No obstante, Straw también recordó el martes su "preferencia" por una segunda resolución de la ONU, aunque Gran Bretaña se reservó el derecho de actuar contra Irak aun sin una nueva resolución del Consejo de Seguridad.

Desacuerdos

Por su parte, los diplomáticos europeos se muestran cada vez más partidarios de confiar en el trabajo de los inspectores de desarme de la ONU para solucionar la crisis.

*"Si Irak persiste en su desafío y se el desarme no tiene lugar, entonces el Consejo de Seguridad deberá hacer frente a sus responsabilidades y tomar las medidas necesarias", dijo Kofi Annan, secretario de la ONU.*

Para Francia y Alemania es imprescindible una nueva votación del Consejo de Seguridad antes de un eventual ataque contra Irak.

Francia --que preside en enero el Consejo de Seguridad-- destacó que "una nueva resolución" de la ONU era "el mejor medio para que cada uno explique su posición", según las palabras del ministro de Relaciones Exteriores francés, Dominique de Villepin.

Por su parte, el canciller alemán,

Gerhard Schroeder, también se pronunció a favor de una segunda resolución de la ONU antes de cualquier intervención militar.

Durante su primera conferencia de prensa del año Kofi Annan apoyó esa actitud afirmando que es "posible desarmar a Irak pacíficamente".

Annan agregó que "si Irak persiste en su desafío y si el desarme no tiene lugar, entonces el Consejo de Seguridad deberá hacer frente a sus responsabilidades y tomar las medidas necesarias", agregó.

Los inspectores visitaron ayer 10 lugares. Su jefe Hans Blix consideró que la misión se prolongará como mínimo hasta marzo.

En esa fecha, la UNMOVIC tiene que presentar al Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU un informe sobre las "tareas clave restantes" y su futuro programa de trabajo, explicó Blix.

Según Annan, las consecuencias humanitarias de un eventual conflicto serían "extremadamente preocupantes" y la ONU, dijo sin dar más detalles, comenzó a prepararse para

ello para "no ser tomada de improviso".

En Riad, el presidente egipcio, Hosni Mubarak, y el príncipe heredero saudita, Abdalá Ben Abdel Aziz, destacaron durante una reunión "su compromiso con la unidad y la integridad [de Irak], así como con la necesidad de dar una oportunidad a la diplomacia para evitar una guerra y sus catástrofes humanas", según la agencia oficial SPA.

Durante un viaje a Marruecos, el vicepresidente iraquí, Tarek Aziz, informó que Irak estaba "orgulloso del apoyo" de Marruecos.

En Roma, el hijo del dirigente libio Moamar Gadafi, Seif Al Islam Gadafi, desmintió las informaciones sobre un ofrecimiento de asilo a Saddam Husein y a sus allegados. La información "es falsa", afirmó durante una conferencia de prensa. Libia se opone a una intervención militar contra Irak y, si eso ocurre, "numerosos voluntarios están dispuestos a partir de Libia y otros países árabes para combatir al lado de los iraquíes", declaró.

## Veterans of Vietnam War Protests Aim to Stop Attack on Iraq

"There are certainly a lot of veterans of the anti-war movement who have a lot of valuable experience," said Lippman, who spent time in a federal penitentiary in the late 1960s for his role in planning anti-war protests in Seattle. "But there is a large number of young people who are very committed, who feel that this is their future that is being ruined by (President) Bush."

And Rising said the estimated 3,000 people who turned out for a candlelight vigil and march last week in Seattle clearly demonstrated that the current movement is not confined to 50- and 60-somethings trying to recapture the fading glory of the Vietnam-era protests.

"There were little kids and young parents, and students and the elderly and middle-aged," she said. "Yes, the 'usual suspects' were there, but I also saw a huge number of people that I'd never seen before."

Still, activists acknowledge that the atmosphere today is very different than it was when the Vietnam War protests were beginning to build momentum.

Renny Christopher, in a 1995 photo taken at the Veterans Building in Santa Cruz, Calif.

"The anti-war movement in the '60s ... grew out of the (Students for a Democratic Society), which grew out of civil rights," said Renny Christopher, author of "Vietnam War/The American War" and a professor at California

State University Channel Islands in Southern California. "We don't have a lot of organized social movements going on now ... and (the anti-war effort) has to be organized almost from scratch."

LITTLE ATTENTION FROM MEDIA

The media, which was instrumental in galvanizing opposition to the war in Vietnam, also has contributed to the perception that there is little opposition to a war with Iraq by largely ignoring the anti-war movement, the activists say. They note that recent demonstrations in cities like Denver, Los Angeles, New York City, San Francisco, Seattle and Washington, D.C., many of which drew thousands of protesters, as well as much larger demonstrations overseas received scant attention in the U.S. media, the activists say.

"The media covered the Vietnam protests because the demonstrators were getting their heads busted open and shot by the National Guard," said Christopher. "... I think the media like to cover violence and if there's no violence at a peaceful protest, there's no story."

Ted Lewis, director of Global Exchange's human rights program

Lewis, the director of Global Exchange's human rights program, said the public also is unlikely to get the full story of the conflict if the United States does attack Iraq. The reason, he said, is that Pentagon's strategy of relying on surgical air strikes to soft-

ten up an enemy serves the dual purpose of preventing TV networks and newspapers from showing the graphic battlefield images that helped fuel opposition to the Vietnam War.

"When you're living in a sanitized media bubble, it's easier not to have to psychologically engage with the issue," he said. "If you don't know someone that's involved (in the fighting), it's an abstraction."

Despite such impediments, Mike Yarrow, a 62-year-old organizer for the interfaith Fellowship of Resistance in Seattle, said that the process of ramping up to oppose a war with Iraq has been far more rapid than he anticipated.

See images from protests around the world denouncing war with Iraq

"I've been astounded by the incredibly swift mobilization of various groups," he said, describing how 24 disparate organizations quickly joined the newly organized (Puget Sound Non-violent Opponents of War (SNOW) coalition. "There are churches that have taken 300 (anti-war) yard signs and then called back for more and we've got people calling our office every day. That's much farther along than in the early days of the Vietnam War resistance."

Lewis, also sees encouraging signs that Americans who harbor "quiet doubts" about President Bush's threat to use force, if necessary, to disarm Saddam Hussein are privately voicing their concerns.

SENSE OF MOMENTUM

"They aren't taking it to the streets yet, but they're taking it to the phone, to the fax and to the email," he said, adding that some members of Congress reported communications from constituents ran as high as 100-to-1 against going to war with Iraq before recent votes on a resolution authorizing the use of military force.

"No one thought we were going to see 133 (House) members voting against the resolution," he said. "We thought it was going to be a stampede, but there was a tremendous outpouring from the grass roots."

Mike Yarrow, organizer for the Fellowship of Reconciliation

While many activists share the sense that their effort to prevent a military conflict is gaining momentum, Yarrow, the Seattle organizer, said that the prevailing mood of those involved in the campaign could hardly be described as upbeat.

"People are heartsick ... when they contemplate what this could lead to, both for the Iraqi people and for the young Americans," he said.

Nor is there any feeling of nostalgia for those whose service to the cause dates back to the heady days of the protests against the Vietnam War, said Lewis.

"In my list of life priorities," he said, "this is the last thing I want to be doing."

**EL EDITOR**

## Border Cities

from page 2

would ask her to track its effects to ensure it did not cause a "negative impact" on retailers.

"We're in a situation where we depend on every nickel we can get our hands on to make ends meet," Lucio said. "When we shop in Mexico - and many of us do - we pay taxes because we understand that they need the money to provide public services, so I hope that our visitors from Mexico also understand that our budget shortfall is requiring us to eliminate some tax exemptions."

"The last thing we want to create is higher unemployment, but at the same time any fraud that is occurring is causing serious economic damage, so eliminating the manifestos may prove more economically beneficial for the border."

Phillip Garcia, a customs broker from Hidalgo, predicted there would be an "outcry" over the proposals. He said that although the paperwork involved in processing manifestos was "a nightmare" for brokers, he did not like the plan.

"Big-ticket items are going to be affected," Garcia said. "Hopefully, Mexican visitors will get over it because of better quality of products over here."

# Read El Editor

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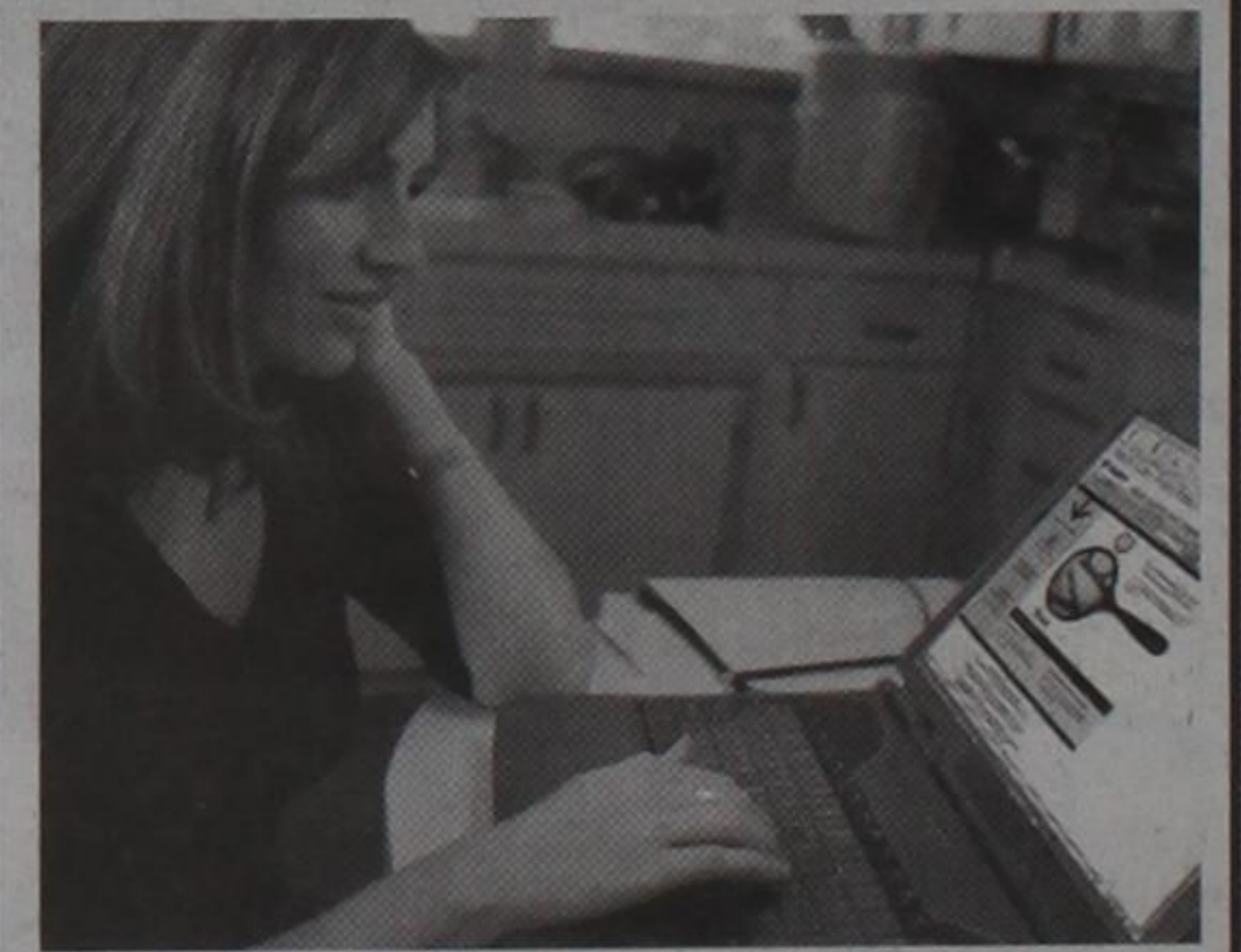
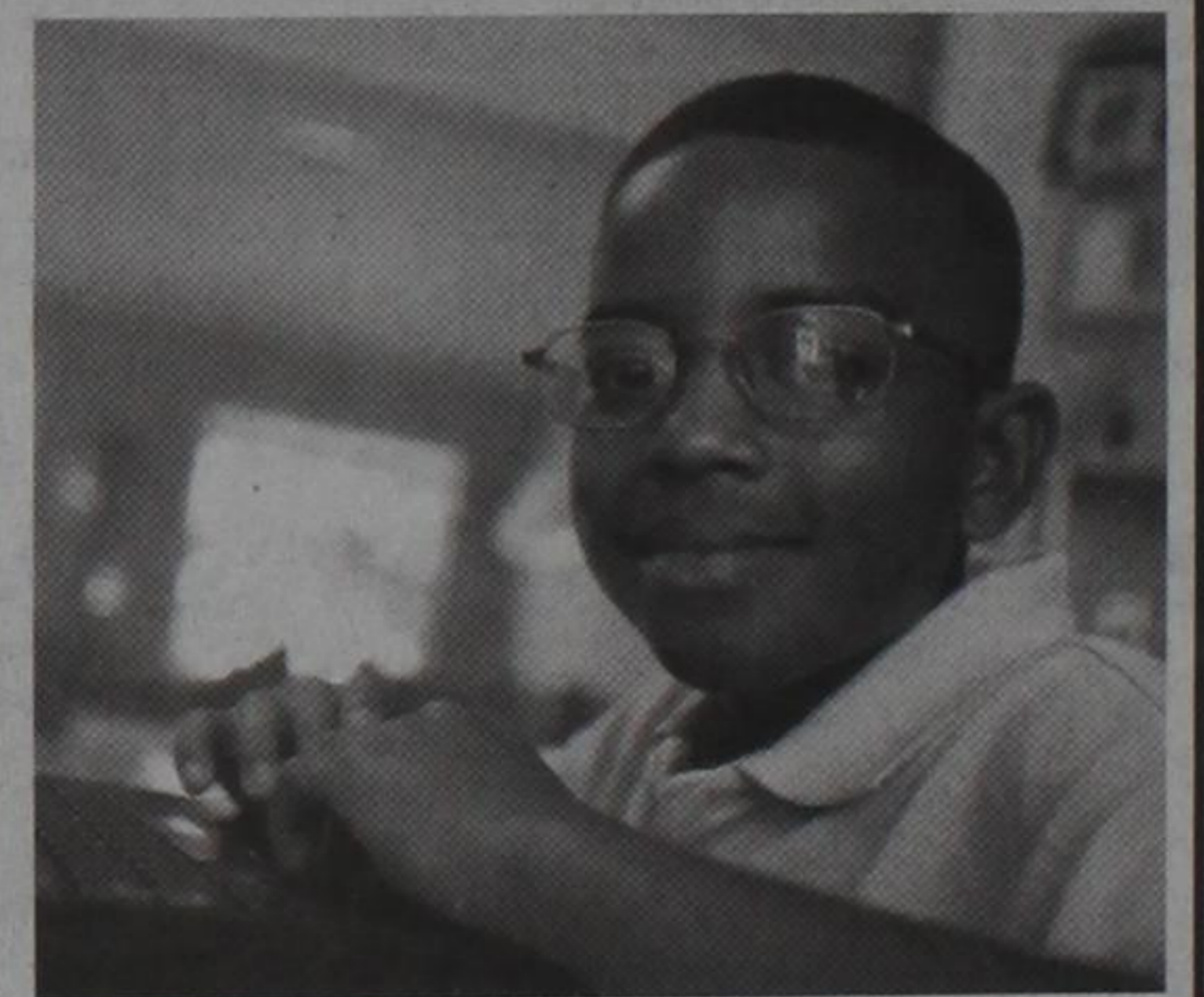
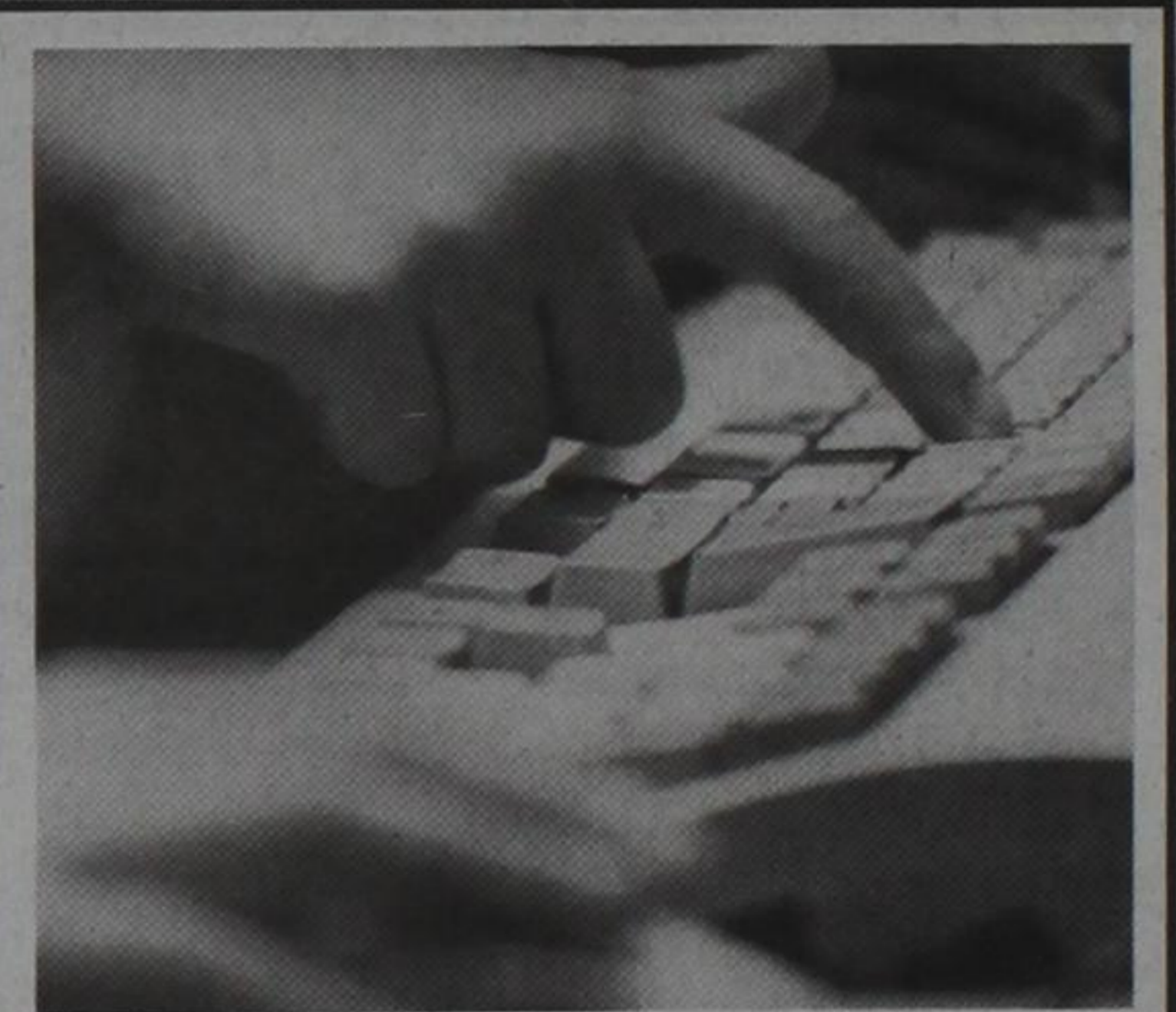
La Inclusión Digital es el principio bajo el cual se fundó la Fundación Beaumont de América. Nuestra visión es "cumplir la promesa de la Era Informativa mediante el suministro de acceso a la tecnología para los americanos y los conocimientos para utilizarla."

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La Fundación Beaumont de América está donando equipos de cómputos a organizaciones calificadas sin fines de lucro, religiosas y comunitarias, así como a bibliotecas, escuelas e individuos que las necesiten. Las solicitudes de donaciones para el año 2003 serán aceptadas hasta Marzo. Para información mas detallada sobre ésta y otras futuras oportunidades para aplicar, póngase en contacto con la Fundación Beaumont de América en [www.bmtfoundation.com](http://www.bmtfoundation.com) o llámenos al 866-505-COMP.



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# Cream of the crop in conference title games

By Pete Prisco

When the playoffs started, fresh off a wild regular season, the thinking was it wouldn't be such a shock to see a Super Bowl matching a pair of six seeds.

Yet here we are, just days away from the conference championship games, and who's left playing?

All four top seeds from the conferences will play Sunday. First it will be Tampa Bay playing the Eagles at Philadelphia in the NFC title game, followed by the Titans at the Raiders for the AFC crown.

The four still standing obviously got their seeds for a reason. The Eagles and Bucs earned theirs with great defense, and the Raiders and Titans earned theirs with outstanding quarterback play.

All have real shots to win the Super Bowl — even the Titans, who are prohibitive underdogs.

All the potential Super Bowl matchups bring intrigue.

If it's Oakland-Tampa Bay, we have the Jon Gruden factor.

Eagles-Raiders will be a clash of the wackiest fans.

Titans-Eagles would bring us Donovan McNabb against Steve McNair, the first Super Bowl featuring two black starting quarterbacks.

Titans-Bucs? Ah, heck. Just play the game. (You can bet the NFL doesn't want the Dixie Bowl, either).

Championship Game Sunday is one of the best days in sports, perhaps even better than Super Bowl Sunday. You have two winning teams on top of the world, readying for a week they've only dreamed about since they were kids. They don't think about what a dagger it is to the heart to be a Super loser.

Getting there, you see, is almost as much fun as winning it.

Almost, we said. We're not crazy.

Here's a capsule look at each of the four teams left playing.

## Philadelphia Eagles

Best matchup for them: In Bobby Taylor, Troy Vincent and Al Harris, the Eagles have the best three-man corner group in the league. All can play man coverage, which is not a good thing for the Tampa Bay receivers. Keenan McCardell, Keyshawn Johnson and Joe

Jurevicius don't run that well. By being able to play man, the Eagles can blitz their safeties and pressure a bad Tampa Bay line.

Trouble spot: When your middle linebacker weighs 300-plus pounds, he can be a liability in coverage. Look for the Bucs to attack Levon Kirkland in the passing game on early downs. If they can force him to cover backs out of the backfield, they may be able to have some success throwing it against the Eagles.

Underrated player who could make a difference: Left guard John Welbourn is a mauler who doesn't get the credit he deserves. He will be matched with Warren Sapp at times, and if he can keep him out of the backfield, and move him on run downs, the Eagles will score points.

Player who gets far too much attention for what he does: Kirkland. He'll make a hit in the run game that people will notice, but he isn't fast enough to be a major factor anymore.

Offensive strategy they should use if they want to win: Attack the middle of the Tampa Bay line. The Bucs don't like it when teams run right at them. In the past, they've wilted against teams that are physical (see Pittsburgh). The Eagles have to get Duce Staley going early against the middle of that Tampa Bay defense. Any runs that go wide are a waste of time against the Bucs' speed.

Defensive strategy they should employ: Play man coverage with those corners and blitz the heck out of Brad Johnson. With the Tampa Bay offensive line so bad, they might be able to get pressure without attacking, although that isn't Jim Johnson's nature.

Interesting fact: They held the Bucs without an offensive touchdown in their past three matchups at the Vet.

Interesting stat: The Eagles have just two offensive touchdowns in their past two games, not exactly playoff-ready stuff.

Why they can win: They have a well-rounded team, with a great defense and a big-time playmaker in McNabb. Plus they are at home. The Vet will be jumping, and the Eagles will follow the lead of this zany crowd. That defense feeds off the crowd.

The thing that can prevent them from advancing: Turning the ball over. It's the only thing that will stop them from winning. McNabb has to take care of the ball. If he does, the Eagles will be in the Super Bowl.

## Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Best matchup for them: They have the speed to shut down quarterbacks who like to get out of the pocket. They did it to McNabb and they did it twice to Michael Vick this season. They are the one defense that has speed at enough positions to run those mobile quarterbacks down. Having two good corners in Ronde Barber and Brian Kelly will allow them to blitz McNabb.

Trouble spot: The offensive line, especially the tackles. Hugh Douglas should be able to have a big day against Roman Oben, which isn't good news for Brad Johnson. Douglas is too fast for Oben, so look for the Bucs to help with a tight end. The rest of the line is so-so at best, although they played well last week against San Francisco.

Underrated player who could make a difference: Wide receiver Keenan McCardell is a terrific route runner. If the Eagles aren't careful, he could make some big plays in the passing game.

Player who gets far too much attention for what he does: Safety John Lynch is a good football player, but he isn't nearly as good as his reputation. He makes big hits, which gets him a lot of pub. But get him in coverage, and he doesn't run that well.

Offensive strategy they should use if they want to win: If they expect to go into the Vet and pound the ball at a good Philadelphia defense, they will lose to the Eagles for the third consecutive year in the playoffs. If Philly plays as much man coverage as expected, the Bucs have to take their chances down the field. As good as the Eagles are in coverage, no team can continually win

those battles if they are attacked.

Defensive strategy they should employ: The Bucs should use their normal cover-2 scheme, with a little blitzing on top. The Eagles don't run the ball well enough to force the eighth man down, so play it with a back four on defense. Work in a blitz here and there to disrupt McNabb's timing. McNabb played well last week against Atlanta, but the Falcons don't have the speed Tampa Bay has on defense.

Interesting fact: The Bucs' Jon Gruden is the first coach to win playoff games in back-to-back years with different teams.

Interesting stat: The Bucs are 0-6 in road playoff games.

Why they can win: They have the top-ranked defense. That's good enough to win every week. If they can keep McNabb inside the pocket, the Bucs should hold the Eagles under 17 points. If they do that, they may win this thing.

The thing that can prevent them from advancing: A bad offensive line. The Eagles will blitz Johnson, which could lead to turnovers. Even a gimpy McNabb can drive his team 20 yards to a touchdown against the Tampa Bay defense. Short fields kill teams in the playoffs.

## Tennessee Titans

Best matchup for them: The Raiders have a tough time getting off the field on third down. They finished 16th in the league in that category. That is not a good thing against Titans quarterback Steve McNair. He seems to flourish on third down, with his ability to make plays outside of the pocket if flushed. The Titans finished fourth in third-down offense, so McNair gives them a huge edge.

Trouble spot: The Titans finished the season 25th against the pass, giving up 221.1 yards per game. The Steelers had success throwing on them last week.

Oakland finished first in the league in passing yards. If the Titans don't clamp down on the Oakland receivers, they could be in for a long day.

Underrated player who could make a difference: Drew Bennett is a former quarterback who the Titans turned into a receiver. He's now starting to remind some of Denver's Ed McCaffrey. He has great hands and, despite not having big speed, has the ability to separate with his route running. Knows how to find the soft spots in the zones, too.

Player who gets far too much attention for what he does: Eddie George isn't the same player he was a couple of years ago. His body has worn down and he doesn't hit the hole like he once did. That's why the Titans are McNair's team now. George will get his 70 yards, but he doesn't run over people like he once did.

Offensive strategy they should use if they want to win: Spread Oakland out. Although it would be a better decision with a healthy Kevin Dyson, they have enough good receivers to make this happen against a beat-up Oakland secondary. With McNair having the ability to get outside the pocket, that will put even more pressure on the Oakland corners. Derrick Mason is the best of the Tennessee receivers, so look for him to see most of the attention for the Oakland secondary. Watch out for Bennett.

Defensive strategy they should employ: If they sit back and play zone against Rich Gannon, he will kill them. They have a solid cover corner in Samari Rolle, a guy who can shut down the other team's top receiver. But with Jerry Porter, Tim Brown and Jerry Rice the Raiders have three top receivers. The Titans will have to get big games from their other corners, especially Donald Mitchell. But to sit back and play zone would be inviting Gannon to eat them up.

Interesting fact: The Titans gave up two punt returns for touchdowns in the regular-season meeting between the teams. That gave them three on the year but they didn't allow another the rest of the season.

Interesting stat: The Titans offensive line, despite having some injury problems late, allowed just 21 sacks. That was second best in the NFL.

Why they can win: They are resilient. And coach Jeff Fisher's teams feast on these underdog situations. It's similar to when they went to Jacksonville and won the title game in 1999 as big underdogs. With McNair playing his best football, they have a chance to put points on the board. McNair just might carry this team to the Super Bowl on his aching back.

The thing that can prevent them from advancing: If they don't stop the

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# Oscar de la Hoya Va Por La 'Raza'

Ramiro González  
Redactor Deportivo

Oscar de la Hoya por fin se dio cuenta de lo que significa ser promotor de boxeo, de hablar y de actuar como tal.

En efecto, el quintuple campeón mundial y ex medalla de oro en Barcelona 92, conocido por sus nervios de acero que siempre ha mostrado en los recordados, ayer fue traicionado por éstos en ciertos momentos, durante la última rueda de prensa de cara a la función de mañana.

"La verdad es difícil el papel de promotor, y ahora sé lo que sufren los grandes de este deporte al anunciar sus funciones", comentó De la Hoya, quien adelantó que todo marcha viento en popa.

"Va por la 'raza', definitivamente tiene que satisfacer el apetito del aficionado de hueso colorado al boxeo, y de aquellos que vivieron las épocas de gloria en el caserón de la 18 y Grand", agregó.

En esta velada, que significará la reapertura del histórico recinto, Oscar Larios se medirá a Marcos Licona en la estelar a 10 asaltos en pluma, y Carlos "Terror" Madrigal dirimirá los cetos supermosca Continental de la IBA y de la NABO ante José Navarro en la semiestelar.

También, "Mighty" Mike Anchondo buscará el cetro juvenil ligero del Consejo Mundial de Boxeo (CMB) ante Angel Ríos, Samuel López irá ante Francisco "Panchito" Arce, el argentino Guillermo Saputo chocará con Alex Carrillo, y el invicto Ricardo Cortez enfrentará a Larry Banks.

"Hay duelos para todos los gustos, y por eso creo que la gente que asista quedará satisfecha, pues se buscaron las mejores contiendas y los peleadores ideales para que esta primera función de HBO Latino sea todo un éxito".

"Una prueba de que todo marcha

bien es la venta de los boletos, y hasta el momento quedan muy pocos de 15 dólares, que sinceramente son los mejores, pues la gente que conoce el Olympic sabe que desde arriba se aprecia bastante bien, y sobre todo que es un precio módico", puntualizó.

Los únicos que no llegaron a la conferencia fueron Samuel López y Francisco Arce. Este último por un problema de tráfico sin consecuencias.

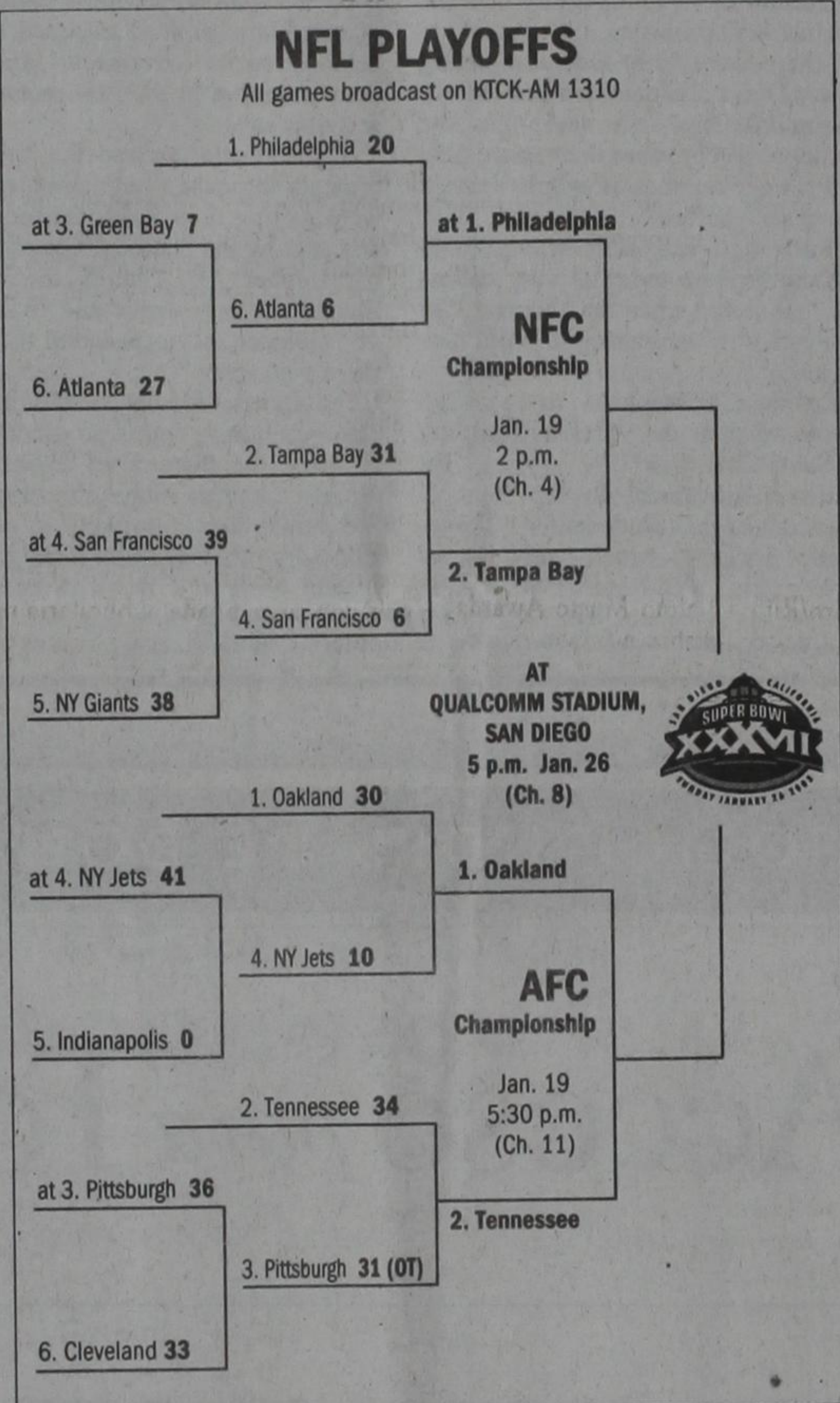
Invitados de gala  
Una vez recuperado del momento crítico y tras dirigirse a la prensa y hablar para las cámaras, el "Golden Boy" informó que a esta histórica velada llegarán celebridades políticas, deportivas y de la farándula, que iluminarán con su presencia la función, como ocurría en el pasado.

"El jueves [mañana] tendremos visitas muy importantes, y entre lo más granado estará Ramón 'Yory Boy' Campas, a quien enfrentaré el 3 de mayo en Las Vegas, así como Erik 'Terrible' Morales y su rival, el californiano 'Bobby Boy' Velázquez, y mucha gente más del boxeo".

"Escuché por ahí que Fernando Vargas también asistirá a esta cartelera, así como Julio César Chávez, y si hay oportunidad los sentaré a mi lado como mis dos grandes 'compadres", finalizó De la Hoya, quien asistió a entrevistas de la radio angelina, donde habló a nivel nacional, y donde al final tuvo que salir por las puertas de atrás debido al gentío que lo esperaba.

Finalmente, hoy se efectuará el pesaje a las 5:30 de la tarde en el hotel Wilshire Grand de Los Angeles, y mañana la función iniciará a las 5:30 de la tarde.

Así lo dijeron:  
"Ya estudiamos en el gimnasio, y ahora hay que pasar el examen. Aunque no defendiendo el título, de todos modos me emplearé a fondo".



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# Music, the Arts, Personal Landmarks & Passings

By Antonio Mejias-Rentas

Major figures in literature, the fine arts and the entertainment world passed on in 2002, but Latino performers and artists continued to distinguish themselves in a number of disciplines. Following are highlights from 2002:

## MUSIC

In spite of a dearth of blockbuster recordings by Latino artists and a decline in sales, the year saw an increase in the number of awards ceremonies for so-called Latin music.

None of the superstars who led a Latin music boom of recent years figured prominently at the February Grammy Awards, where better-known names were chosen over critical favorites in the Latin music categories.

In September, the Latin Grammys rebounded for a third edition, after the 2001 terrorist attacks forced the cancellation of that year's ceremony, but the show's future was put in jeopardy when ratings for its telecast showed a sharp decline in viewership.

The year's absence of recording artists from Cuba -- the focus of controversy surrounding the Latin Grammys since their onset -- brought attention to the Bush administration's new policy on visas to visitors from that country, placed on a list of terrorist states. Several Cuban artists who had visited and performed in this country over the past decade were denied entry and forced to cancel concert tours.

The year ended with a glut of Latin music-related awards ceremonies, including the premiGering MTV Video Music Awards, Latinoamérica, in Miami Beach and the fourth Premio Lo Nuestro/Ritmo Latino Music Awards in Hollywood, both in late October.

But the year also marked the first decline in several years in Latin music sales, with a 26 percent drop in shipments for the first half of 2002 reported in August by an industry trade group.

## El Recorrido Artístico Latino del 2002:

### Musica, Las Artes, Logros Personales, y Decesos

Por Antonio Mejias-Rentas

Figuras principales del mundo de la literatura, las bellas artes y los espectáculos desaparecieron en el 2002, pero los artistas latinos continuaron distinguiéndose en un buen número de disciplinas. Los siguientes fueron momentos culminantes del 2002.

## MUSICA

A pesar de que ninguna grabación por un artista latino dominó el mercado, y que en efecto hubo una baja en ventas, el año vio un aumento en el número de ceremonias de premiación para el llamado campo de la música latina.

Ninguna de las grandes estrellas que protagonizaron un boom de la



Among recording artists making news in 2002: In February Jennifer López released "J To Tha L-O!" the first remix album ever to debut in the No. 1 spot in sales; in June, Mexican singer Paulina Rubio went on a publicity blitz to push her crossover "Border Girl" project; in September, Enrique Iglesias released "Quizás," his first all-Spanish album in five years; and in November, rock guitarist Carlos Santana shot to the top of the pop charts with "Shaman," his follow-up to his blockbuster "Supernatural" from 1999.

Celia Cruz, the 78-year-old Cuban singer who led this year's list of Latin Grammy nominees, underwent emergency surgery in December but was released after a two-week hospitalization. According to her manager, she is expected to record a new album in February.

## THE ARTS

Two young artists of Mexican heritage were the toast of Broadway in 2002, and a veteran of the New York stage received a major national recognition. Chicago actor Raúl Esparza, who pleased critics and audiences with his starring turn on the musical "Cabaret," left the production to star in back-to-back roles in Stephen Sondheim musicals as part of a tribute to the composer-lyricist at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

Bianca Marroquin took a hiatus from starring in a Spanish-language version of "Chicago" in Mexico City to take over the Roxie Hart role for a two-week stint on the long-running Broadway production, becoming the youngest thespian ever to tackle the part -- and the first to do it bilingually.

In December, Broadway veteran Chita Rivera was one of five artists awarded a Kennedy Center honor.

In literature, Argentina native and New York resident Tomás Eloy Martínez won the Premio Alfaguara, a top Spanish-language fiction prize, for the novel "El vuelo de la reina."

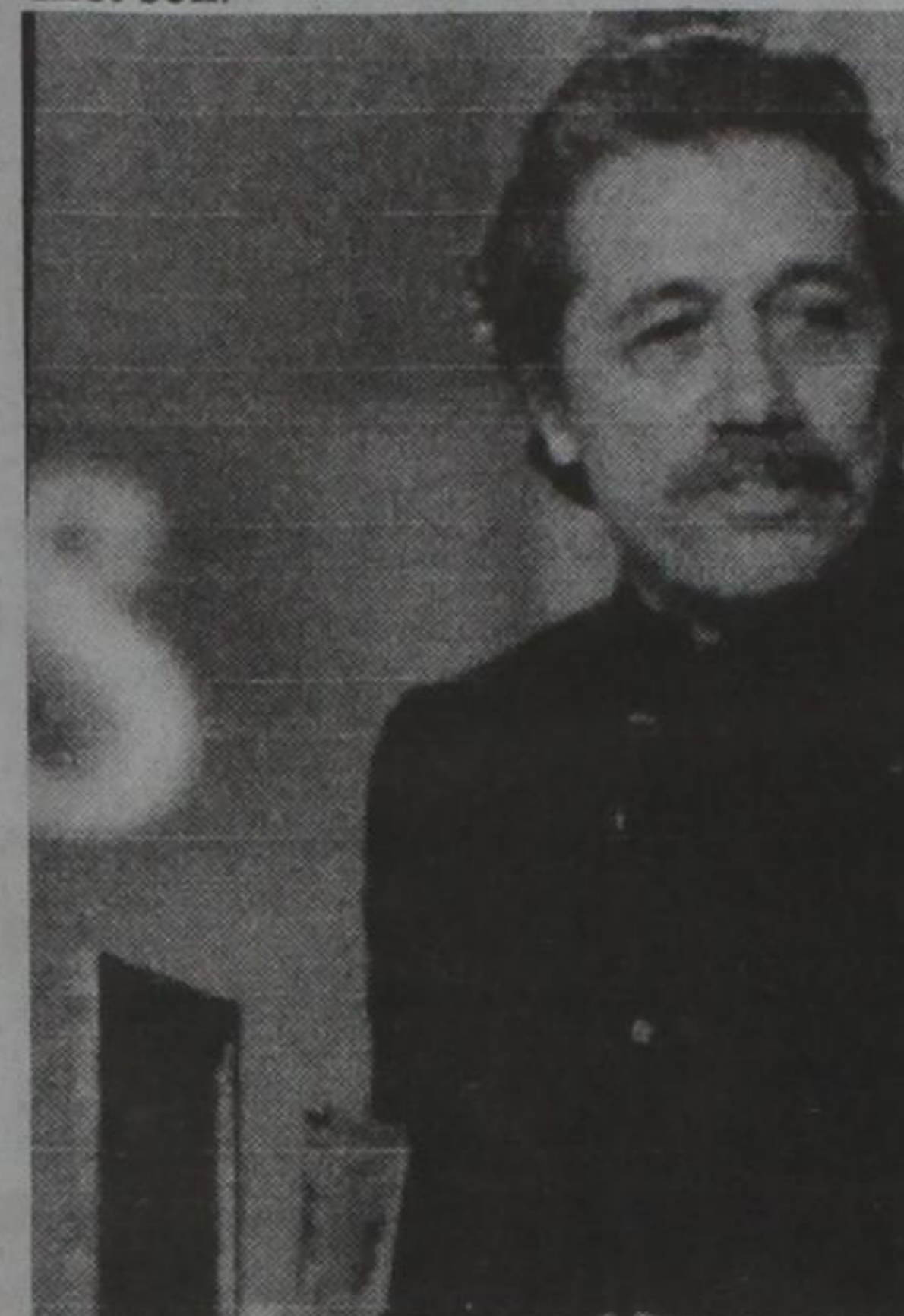
Another Argentina-born artist, Israeli citizen Daniel Barenboim, won the Prince of Asturias peace prize, given by Spain's royal family, for his efforts to promote peace in the Middle East. Barenboim, who directs the Chicago Symphony (and won a Grammy last year for a recording with that orchestra), made headlines when he defied the Israeli government and taught a master class in the West Bank in September.

In September, arts groups and cultural organizations from throughout the country met with a wide-ranging agenda for the fourth biennial conference of the National Association of Latino Arts and Culture (NALAC).

## PERSONAL LANDMARKS

The year 2002 was one of unexpected liaisons and not-too-surprising splits.

Famous couples marrying in 2002 included Chilean actor Cristián de la Fuente and news anchor Angélica Castro; Charlie Sheen and Denise Richards; and Freddy Prinze Jr. and Sarah Michelle Gellar. Benjamin Bratt and Talisa Soto, who met during the 2001 filming of "Piñero," were married in April and welcomed baby Rosalinda in December. Andy Garcia and wife Marivi announced the birth of Andres Antonio Garcia-Lórida in January, the couple's fourth child and first son.



Filing for divorce in 2002: Edward James Olmos, from his estranged wife, Lorraine Bracco; Lorenzo Lamas from former Playboy playmate

Shauna Sand; and Jennifer López from choreographer and husband of less than a year, Cris Judd.

After announcing a split in July, singer Marc Anthony and former beauty queen Dayanara Torres renewed their vows at a December ceremony in the San Juan Cathedral in what the media dubbed Puerto Rico's "Wedding of the Year."

## PASSINGS

Nicaraguan poet Pablo Antonio Cuadra, Jan. 2, at 89; Mexican musician Juan García Esquivel, Jan. 3, 83; Mexican singer Amparo Montes, Jan. 12, 81; Spanish writer and Nobel laureate Camilo José Cela, Jan. 16, 85; popular Cuban DJ Carlos D'Mant, Jan. 20, 52; Cuban actor Rolando Barral, Jan. 21, 62; Puerto Rican musician and (ITAL)cuatro(ENDITAL) master Roque Navarro Jiménez, Feb. 18, 88; Iranian actress and adopted Mexican star Irán Eory, March 10, 62; Mexican legendary actress María Félix, April



mental de "Supernatural" en 1999. Celia Cruz, la cantante cubana de 78 años de edad que obtuvo el mayor número de nominaciones al Grammy Latino este año, fue sometida a una cirugía de emergencia en diciembre pero fue dada de alta tras dos semanas de hospitalización. Según su administrador, deberá grabar un álbum nuevo en febrero.

8, 88; singer-songwriter Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes, member of the rap trio TLC, April 25, 30; Brazilian actor, composer and activist Mario Lago, May 31, 90; Basque composer Carmelo Alonso Bernaola, June 5, 72; Cuban singer Elena Burke, June 9, 74; Puerto Rican musician Angel "Lito" Peña, June 9, 80; Mexican film star Katy Jurado, July 5, 78; Mexican film actor Roberto Cobo, Aug. 2, 72; Alberto Castillo, July 23, 87; Puerto Rican actor and musician Tony Martínez, Sept. 16, 82; Mexican master photographer Manuel Alvarez, Oct. 21, 100; Puerto Rican writer Pedro Juan Soto, Nov. 7, 74; New York-born Merlin Santana, Nov. 9, 26; Chilean painter Roberto Matta, Nov. 23, 91; and Cuban folk singer Polo Montañez, Nov. 27, 47.

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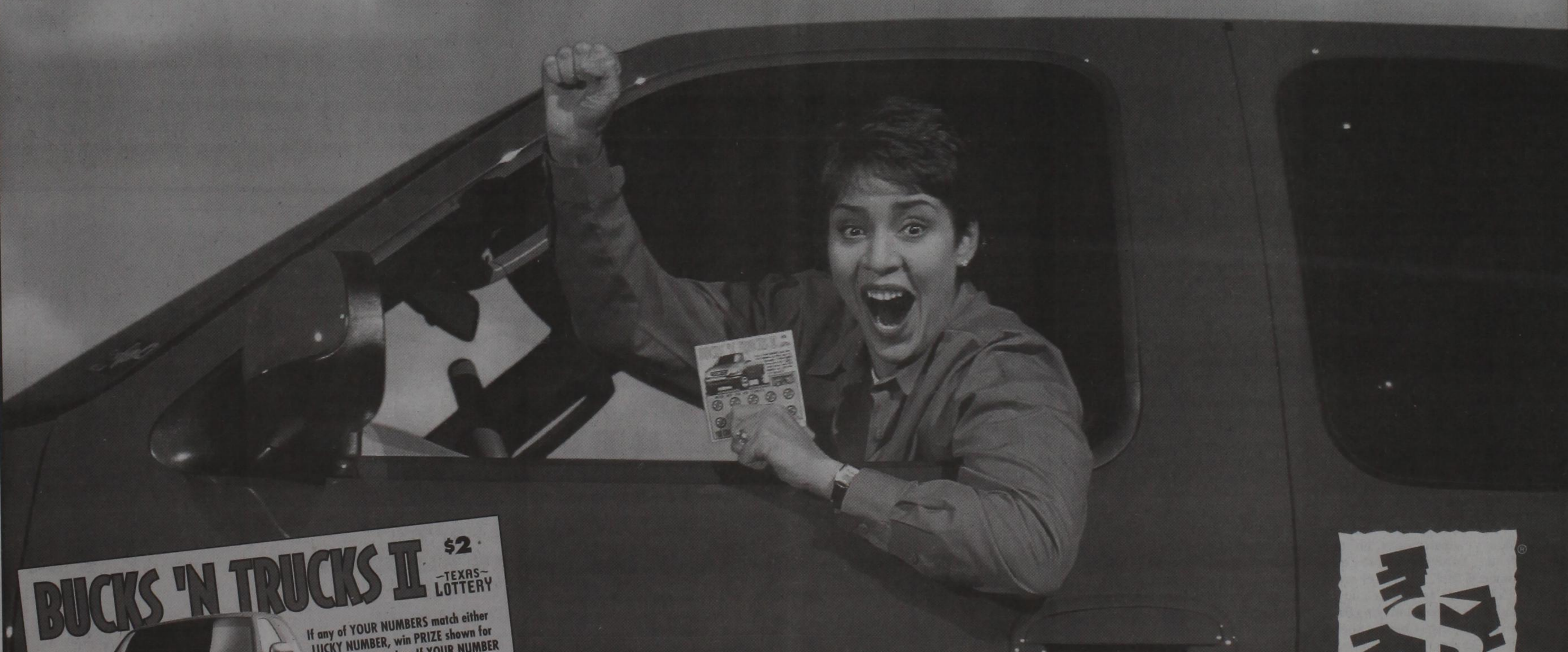
Las artes Dos artistas jóvenes de ascendencia mexicana fueron celebrados en Broadway en el 2002, y una veterana de las tablas neoyorquinas recibió un reconocimiento nacional de gran importancia. El actor de "Chicago" Raúl Esparza, que encantó al público y a los críticos con su actuación estelar en la obra musical Cabaret, abandonó esa producción para tomar sendos papeles estelares en dos producciones consecutivas de musicales de Stephen Sondheim, como parte de un tributo a dicho compositor y letrista en el Kennedy Center de Washington, D.C.

Bianca Marroquin se tomó un descanso de su papel protagónico en la versión en español del musical "Chicago" en la Ciudad de México para tomar por dos semanas el mismo papel de Roxie Hart en la producción de Broadway, convirtiéndose en la actriz más joven en interpretar el personaje -- y la primera en hacerlo en dos idiomas. En diciembre, la veterana de Broadway Chita Rivera fue una de cinco artistas en recibir el premio Kennedy Center.

En literatura, el escritor argentino residente en Nueva York Tomás Eloy Martínez ganó el importante Premio Alfaguara para una obra de ficción en español, por su novela "El vuelo de la reina."

Otro artista nacido en Argentina, el ciudadano israelí Daniel Barenboim, continúa en la página 6

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# Mexican farmers say NAFTA ruins lives, forces migration

Organized farmers here are using every tactic they can think of - violent protests, hunger strikes and cat-calls - to show Mexican President Vicente Fox that NAFTA is killing their way of life and driving many of them across the U.S.-Mexican border to earn a living.

Their complaints center on the Jan. 1 lifting of tariffs on almost 80 farm products under the 10-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement, part of a gradual phaseout of all taxes.

Nogales is an important port of entry and exit for that trade, primarily winter vegetables and grain. More than 60 percent of winter vegetables imported from Mexico enter the United States there, about \$1.4 billion worth of business last year. About \$16.8 million worth of grain, meat and dairy products crossed into Mexico from U.S. farms in 2001 through Nogales, according to the U.S. International Trade Commission.

The Arizona border also is a prime point of entry for illegal immigrants, with between 1 million and 2 million crossings each year. More than 25,000 people were arrested last year, according to the U.S. Border Patrol.

Mexican farmers, who make up 18 percent of the population but 30 percent of those in dire poverty, have been protesting since last month. They defied police and broke into congressional chambers Dec. 10, one



of them on horseback and carrying a Mexican flag, breaking windows and causing lawmakers to run for cover. A threatened blockade of the border on Jan. 1 was averted only when Fox agreed to talks.

Last week, farmers began a hunger strike at the foot of the Angel of Independence, a Mexico City landmark, vowing not to eat until Fox promises to improve their lot.

At a forum in Veracruz state, farmers loudly dismissed Agriculture Minister Javier Usabiaga, whom they called "stubborn and closed-minded" after he told them they should be more effective producers.

The farmers say they can't compete

with cheap pork, corn, milk and other products from government-subsidized and highly mechanized U.S. farmers. More and more are being forced to rent or sell their land to corporations, then head to the United States, illegally crossing into Arizona, California and Texas in search of jobs, said Jaime Castillo Ulloa, one of the hunger strikers and a member of the National Union of Regional Autonomous Peasant Organizations.

"This is a process of struggle that we have carried from years back," Castillo Ulloa said. "But it has gained strength because of the recent

opening (lifting of the tariffs)."

The farmers want Fox to renegotiate the agriculture portion of NAFTA and craft a new farm policy. Otherwise, they say, they will fight at the border and in the streets to keep their way of life.

"Farmers are worn down," Castillo Ulloa said. "Sooner or later, this fight is going to explode and tear this country apart."

Fox has been cordial. On Jan. 6, he began negotiations with a coalition of 12 farmers groups under the banner "The Countryside Can Bear No More." They hope to reach an agreement by early next month to end the rural crisis.

Fox and Luis Ernesto Derbez, the economic minister who last week became Fox's new foreign minister, indicated NAFTA will not be renegotiated. U.S. officials have echoed the sentiment. But Fox said he is open to discussion and to a new farm policy.

"We have to achieve, through a joint effort, that (agriculture) should give these thousands of farm families the standard of living they deserve," Fox said during the opening of talks. "We also have to have a more rational use of our agricultural resources, specializing in crops in which we have comparative advantages, so we can obtain as much benefit as possible from the free trade agreements."

Even with no revision, the farmers and their legislative backers say both countries can reach side deals for when commodities such as grains can be exported to Mexico.

"What we're calling for is not necessarily a revision, but a nearing of interests," said Jesus Dueñas Llerenas, a congressman from Fox's National Action Party who is a member of the legislative Agriculture Commission. "We should have temporality. When our farmers are harvesting corn and beans, we stop imports until their grain is sold."

Parr Rosson III, a professor at the University of Texas and member of the Phoenix-based pro-NAFTA Border Trade Alliance, said some of that is happening, through rules that allow Mexico to charge extra-high tariffs if the price of commodities like corn drops below a certain point. However, Mexico has chosen not to enforce those duties because it is a net importer of corn, and the corresponding price increase would hurt Mexicans.

Rosson said it was understood all along that the Mexican government would sacrifice small grain farmers, pork producers and poultry growers for the sake of its competitive edge in vegetables, fruits and tropical products.

"When corn and wheat and rice producers talk about being in trouble, they're probably right," he said. "That's part of the tradeoff that happened."

NAFTA renegotiation could upset Mexican farmers, too, Rosson said. He said U.S. farmers would love to renegotiate the part governing tomato, avocado and sugar imports from Mexico, labor-intensive crops where Mexico has advantage.

"In this country we've lost a lot of tomato growers," he said.

U.S. farmers also face the same competition and subsidy problems Mexican farmers complain about.

## Matricula Consular

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Los solicitantes tienen que someter una copia del certificado de nacimiento, una identificación mexicana oficial con foto y evidencia de residencia en los Estados Unidos para conseguirla.

En respuesta a su creciente popularidad, Guatemala y Ecuador comenzaron a emitir tarjetas de identificación similares en los Estados Unidos el verano pasado. El Salvador y Honduras también están considerando concederlas.

Además, funcionarios de las embajadas de República Dominicana y de Irlanda se han acercado al consulado mexicano para aprender cómo se formulan estas tarjetas, según Beltrán. Una cosa es segura. A medida que el uso de las identificaciones de la matrícula consular se expanda, también se expandirá el acalorado debate sobre las mismas.

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## Cream of the crop

from page 6

Raiders passing attack, it's going to be a long day. They have to get pressure on Gannon. If that means blitzing, then do it. Defensive end Jevon Kearse has to have a big game. If Gannon sits back and picks them apart, they have no chance.

### Oakland Raiders

Best matchup for them: Their offensive line is the best in the NFL. They have good players at all five positions, and will be a tough match for the Tennessee defensive front. If they can keep that line off Gannon, the Raiders will score their points. The key matchup will be Oakland right tackle Lincoln Kennedy against Titans left end Jevon Kearse. Kennedy will outweigh Kearse by close to 100 pounds. Look for the Raiders to run right at him.

Trouble spot: The secondary has had major problems and would have had more last week had the front not had such a fierce pass rush on Chad Pennington. Corner Charles Woodson is clearly not 100 percent, so look for the Titans to try and attack him. Tory James has never been a great player. Oakland is vulnerable outside.

Underrated player that could make a difference: Defensive tackle Rod Coleman had two sacks last week and 11 on the season. He has become a good player in the middle of the line, particularly on passing downs. The Tennessee inside three will have their hands full with him.

Player who gets far too much attention for what he does: Safety Rod Woodson is a smart, heady player but he doesn't run like he once did. If he can get matched up in man coverage, he can be beaten. Look for the Titans to try and isolate him in coverage. Woodson can still get errant throws, as evidenced by his eight interceptions, but he isn't as good as his reputation.

Offensive strategy they should use if they want to win: The Raiders have run the ball more than they've thrown it the

past two games. Can that work against the Titans? Tennessee has had problems defending the pass, so look for Gannon to come out early and establish that. If the Raiders get that going, then they can give the ball to Charlie Garner. He has big-play ability and they can pound the Titans inside with the lead.

Defensive strategy they should employ: With their pass rush coming on, they might be able to play soft in the secondary and still get pressure. Their corners will need the help, so they better hope they can drop seven in coverage. That will put a lot of pressure on their front, considering the Titans are good in pass protection. Some of their young outside rushers will have to play big.

Interesting fact: The Raiders' Bill Callahan is the third Oakland coach to lead his team to a conference title game in his first season. The others were John Madden in 1969 and Art Shell in 1990. Callahan can become the first to get his team to the Super Bowl.

Interesting stat: Neither Oakland kicker Sebastian Janikowski nor Tennessee's Joe Nedney have missed an extra point this season. They are a combined 86-for-86.

Why they can win: They're at home for starters. Oakland is a tough place to play any Sunday, but with a trip to the Super Bowl on the line, it will be even tougher. Plus the Raiders seem to be peaking at the right time. They can throw it and they can run it. If the defense continues to play like it did last week against the Jets, they won't be beaten.

The thing that can prevent them from advancing: If they allow McNair to make big plays against them, especially on third down, they will see a lot of the Titans' offense on the field. The best way to stop the Oakland passing game is to keep it off the field. If Oakland can't get Tennessee's offense off the field, the Titans may pull off the upset.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Lubbock will hold a public hearing Thursday January 23, 2003 at 10:45 a.m. at City Hall 1625 13th Street in the Council Chambers. This hearing will allow for citizen comments on the following items:

- Reallocation of: \$300,000 in Community Development Block Grant Funds

On January 8, 2003 the Community Development Services Board approved the following recommendation for the City Council to consider:

- North & East Lubbock Soft Second \$150,000
- North & East Lubbock Down Payment And Closing Cost Assistance \$50,000
- Street Paving \$100,000

For further information you may contact the Community Development Department at 775-2301. This hearing is open to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance please contact the Community Development Department at 775-2301 or write to Community Development P.O. Box 2000, Lubbock, Texas 79457, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

### Observando a Texas

#### Aeropuertos verdes

La 2a Conferencia sobre Vehículos que limpian el aire contará con la participación de muchos estados y se realizará el 9 de enero del 2003 en el Gran Hotel Sheraton, en el extremo Norte del Aeropuerto Internacional de DFW. El evento explorará las maneras de expandir el uso de vehículos que usan combustibles que ayudan a mantener limpio el medio ambiente.

Los participantes destacarán los beneficios de estos programas basados en su experiencia actual de la historia para poner en marcha estos vehículos en los caminos y fuera de ellos.

Si desea obtener más información, mire el sitio de la web Clean Airport Partnership, en: <http://www.cleanairports.com/2003conference.html>.

ORIGENES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Contralora de Cuentas Públicas de Texas.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Parks and Recreation Board will hold two public hearings Tuesday, January 21, 2003 at 12:15 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. respectively at Mahon Library 1306 9th Street in the Community Room. These hearings will allow for citizen comments on the following items.

**12:15 p.m.**  
Consideration of a Regional Park Grant Application to Texas Parks and Wildlife. The grant proposal will be for the Jim Bertram Lake System Regional Park. Funding will be requested to assist with the development of Vaquero Lake Dam #4, wildlife habitat observation platforms, trails, amphitheater, restrooms, parking as well as acquisition of land for the development of soccer fields.

**12:30 p.m.**  
Consideration of the development of Vaquero Lake located on the North Fork, Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos River, 900' downstream of North Ave. Q as its western boundary and 700' downstream of I-27 in Mackenzie Park as its eastern boundary. The recreation area will be approximately 2 square miles and the lake will have approximately 10 surface acres. Said development will be located in the 100-year flood plain as established by FEMA. The principal outdoor recreational facilities include a new lake, dam, trails, fishing pier and boat dock.

A preliminary plan will be on display at the Parks and Recreation Department, 1010 9th Street, on January 16-18, 2003 and on January 21, 2003. A preliminary plan will also be on display at the site of the public hearing.

For further information you may contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 775-2689. These hearings are open to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 775-2673, or write to Parks and Recreation Department P.O. Box 2000, Lubbock, Texas 79457, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

## Artístico Latino de la pagina 6

ganó el Premio de la Concordia Príncipe de Asturias -- otorgado por la Casa Real española -- por sus esfuerzos para promover la paz en el Medio Oriente.

Baremboin, quien dirige la Orquesta Sinfónica de Chicago (y ganó un Grammy en el 2002 por una grabación con esa orquesta), hizo noticia cuando desafió al gobierno israelí para dar una clase magisterial en territorio palestino en septiembre.

En septiembre, asociaciones artísticas y culturales de todo el país se reunieron para discutir una amplia gama de asuntos durante la cuarta reunión bienal de la Asociación Nacional de las Artes y la Cultura Latina (NALAC, por sus siglas en inglés).

**LOGROS PERSONALES**  
El año 2002 fue el año para enlaces inesperados y separaciones no tan sorprendentes. Entre los famosos que se casaron en el 2002 figuran el actor chileno Cristián de la Fuente con la presentadora de televisión Angélica Castro y los actores Charlie Sheen con Denise Richards y Freddy Prinze Jr. con Sarah Michelle Gellar. Benjamin Bratt y Talisa Soto, quienes se conocieron durante la filmación de Piñero en el 2001, se casaron en abril y recibieron a la bebé Rosalinda en diciembre.

Andy García y su esposa Mariví anunciaron en enero el nacimiento de su cuarto heredero Andrés Antonio García-Lórda, el primer hijo varón de la pareja. Solicitaron el divorcio en 2002: Edward James Olmos de Lorraine Bracco, de quien llevaba varios años separado; Lorenzo Lamas de la ex modelo de Playboy Shauna Sand; y Jennifer López del coreógrafo y marido de menos de un año Cris Judd. Tras anunciar su separación en julio, el cantante Marc Anthony y la ex reina de belleza Dayanara Torres renovaron sus votos de matrimonio

en una ceremonia en diciembre en la Catedral de San Juan, que la prensa puertorriqueña llamó la "boda del año".

### DECESOS

El poeta nicaragense Pablo Antonio Cuadra, el 2 de enero, a los 89 años; el músico mexicano Juan García Esquivel, 3 de enero, 83; el escritor y premio Nobel español Camilo José Cela, 16 de enero, 85; la cantante mexicana Amparo Montes, 12 de enero, 81; el locutor cubano Carlos D'Mant, 20 de enero, 52; el actor cubano Rolando Barral, 21 de enero, 62; el músico puertorriqueño y maestro del cuatro Roque Navarro Jiménez, 18 de febrero, 88; la actriz iraní y estrella adoptada mexicana Irán Eory, 10 de marzo, 62; la legendaria actriz mexicana María Félix, 8 de abril, 88; la cantautora Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes, miembro del trío de rap TLC, 25 de abril, 30; el actor, compositor y activista brasileño Mario Lago, 31 de mayo, 90; el compositor vasco Carmelo Alonso Bernaldo, 5 de junio, 72; la cantante cubana Elena Burke, 9 de junio, 74; el músico puertorriqueño Angel "Lito" Peña, 9 de junio, 80; la estrella mexicana del cine Katy Jurado, 5 de julio, 78; el actor mexicano Roberto Cobo, 2 de agosto, 72; el cantante argentino de tangos Alberto Castillo, 23 de julio, 87; el actor y músico puertorriqueño Tony Martínez, 16 de septiembre, 82; el maestro fotógrafo mexicano Manuel Álvarez, 21 de octubre, 100; el escritor puertorriqueño Pedro Juan Soto, 7 de noviembre, 74; el actor neoyorquino Merlin Santana, 9 de noviembre, 26; el pintor chileno Roberto Matta, 23 de noviembre, 91; y el cantante folclórico cubano Polo Montañez, 27 de noviembre, 47.

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