

El Editor

"El Respeto al Derecho
Ajeno es la Paz"
Lic Benito Juarez

Casualties of
War in Iraq
3,260
as of
Apr 5, 2007

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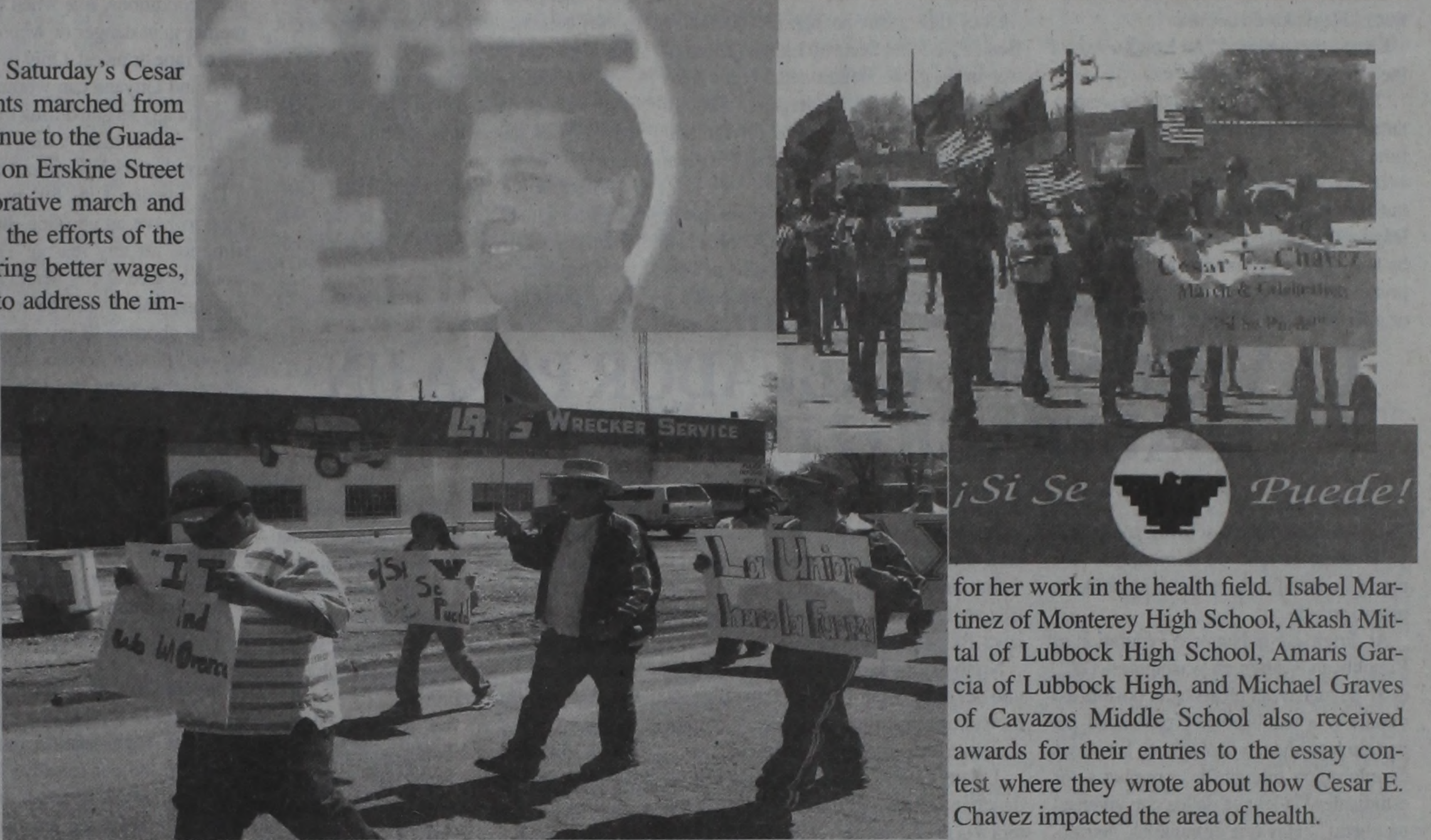
Cesar E. Chavez March and Celebration



By Carlos Quirino, Jr.

Close to 300 people participated in this past Saturday's Cesar E. Chavez March and Celebration. Participants marched from Cavazos Junior High School on University Avenue to the Guadalupe Economic Services, Inc. building located on Erskine Street and I27, about 3 miles away. The commemorative march and subsequent health fair was organized to honor the efforts of the late farm worker leader Cesar E. Chavez to bring better wages, working conditions and standards, as well as, to address the implorable health risks faced by families working who work to put food on the dinner tables of everyone in this country.

After the march participants, young and old, gathered at Guadalupe Economic Services to enjoy hotdogs and refreshments. Marchers also were treated to pozole de pollo and fruits like bananas, apples, and oranges. Everyone was able to take advantage of the presence of numerous health organizations that were available to provide information concerning health issues, medical services, and financial support for medical expenses. Ms. Christy Garcia-Martinez and Msgr. Curtis Halfman presented Josie Jaramillo Alvarado of Essential Home Health with the Spirit of Cesar E Chavez Award



for her work in the health field. Isabel Martinez of Monterey High School, Akash Mittal of Lubbock High School, Amaris Garcia of Lubbock High, and Michael Graves of Cavazos Middle School also received awards for their entries to the essay contest where they wrote about how Cesar E. Chavez impacted the area of health.

Kids of illegal immigrants forced to choose when parents are deported

A group of nearly two dozen clergy from across the United States have issued a joint statement calling for an end to immigration sweeps and protesting the way they are splitting up families.

As they issued the statement Tuesday, 12-year-old Adrian Ramirez huddled with his two sisters on a bench, trying to find words to talk about their mother's deportation to Mexico, scheduled for the end of the week.

Immigration officials are stepping up efforts to seize illegal immigrants, and the story the children were struggling to tell becomes increasingly familiar. Many of the more than 18,000 men and women who have been deported under Operation Return to Sender since June were raising families - among them, children born in the United States.

The religious leaders came from communities heavily impacted by Operation Return to Sender.

"I want my family to be together," said Adrian, wiping away tears as Yadira, 10, and Adriana, 6, stared at their shoes. "I want them to stop these laws. I don't know what life would be like in Mexico. My home is in Palo Alto."

Their father, Pedro Ramirez, was deported in February. Their mother, Isabel Aguirre, was arrested and ordered deported at the same time, but given a monitoring ankle bracelet and some time to make

arrangements for the children and to buy a ticket home.

In cases like this, the children - all American citizens - can stay in the United States with friends or relatives, or move with their parents to their country of origin.

Immigration officials defended their actions. They said the parents had evaded deportation orders and notices to appear since 1997, ignoring the law until they were seized at their home.

"We've been working with these people for years," said U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokeswoman Lori Haley. "Now it's up to the parents what they want to do. They can take the children with them, or leave them with relatives or people they can entrust them to."

But the predicament is tearing many families apart, said clergy and immigrant advocates familiar with such cases.

"Is it really a choice? Staying in foster care, or leaving with their parents?" asked Samina F. Sundas, the founder of American Muslim Voice, who learned of the family's situation and is trying to help.

For the youngest Ramirez children, the choice was clear: they want to be with their parents. But they said they are sad about leaving their friends, and worried about joining a school in Mexico and having to write in Spanish, which they never learned.

Their 15-year-old brother, Pedro, struggled with the decision, trying to keep up with school but breaking into tears at times, said his math teacher, Chris Schulz, who talked to him throughout the process.

"He wants to stay, he has a life, aspirations here," Schulz said. "But he's decided to go, to support his mother and his family."

Local priests who are helping the families, such as Father Richard Wilson of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, signed on to the religious leaders' statement against such raids.

"God calls on us to protect the weak, especially children," Wilson said in a statement. "Instead we are ripping apart the fabric of the community and leaving children behind."

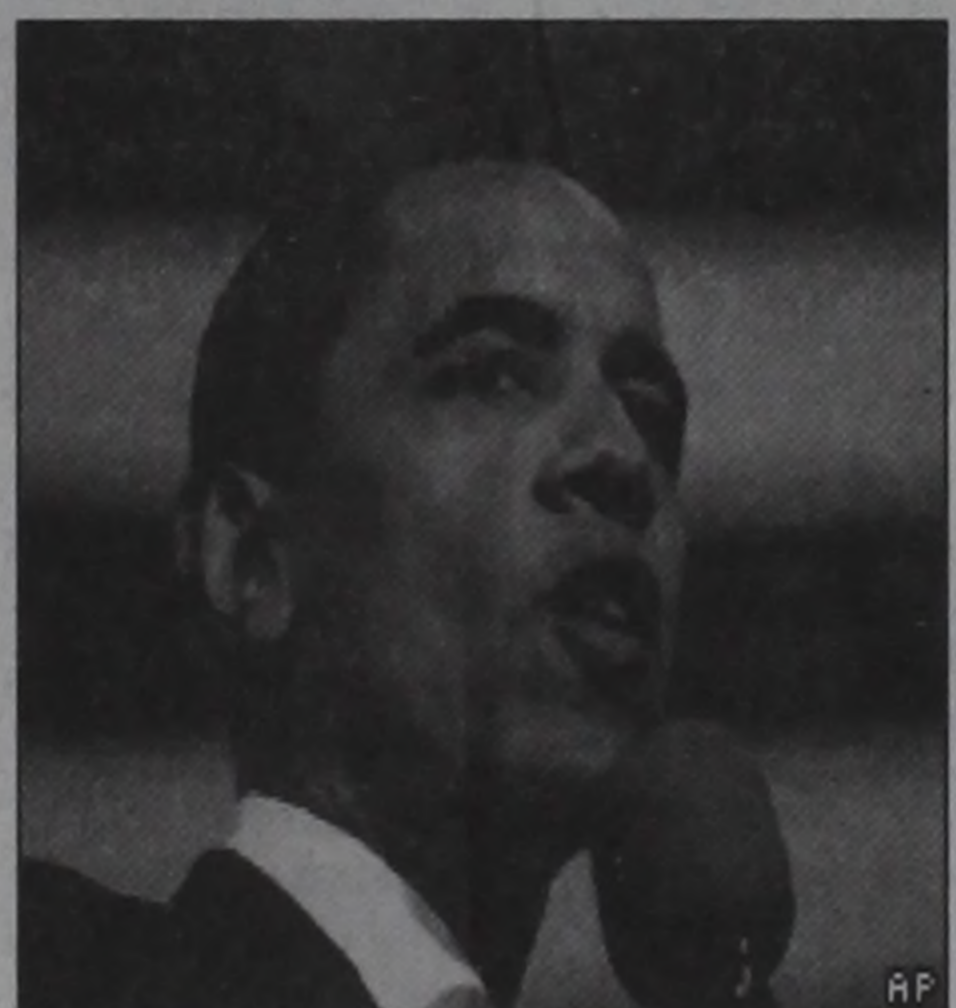
"No matter how we feel about immigration reform, leaving children abandoned and violating a person's constitutional rights are wrong," said Rev. Anna B. Lange-Soto of El Buen Pastor Episcopal Church, who went with Isabel Aguirre to see immigration officials and attorneys on Tuesday.

Aguirre had to present tickets to immigration authorities showing she would leave the country by Friday. If attorneys are not able to find a way for her to stay, she will fly to Mexico with her children. Because the couple was here illegally, they would not be able to return for 10 years. The children tried to imagine life in Mexico.

"I don't know what that will be like," Yadira said quietly. "I don't think I remember anything from there."

Democrats' Diverse Field Thrills Party

There's never been a pool of presidential candidates like this. In U.S. Sens. Hillary Clinton of New York and Barack Obama of Illinois and New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, Democrats have a



chance to select a woman, a black man or a Mexican-American as their presidential nominee. All are considered viable candidates. "It's a reflection of our times," said former state Rep. Annie Betancourt, a Cuban-American Democrat from Miami. "It's long overdue. The race is very competitive. I'm excited." Unlike previous female and black candidates for the presidency, Clinton and Obama are leading in the polls and in the race for political contributions.

The contest for dollars will come to South Florida on Sunday when Obama arrives in West Palm Beach for a \$100 per ticket fundraiser at the Kravis Center. Later that evening, he will attend a small event at the Miami home of attorney Roy Black, where attendees will have a chance to meet the candidate, have copies of his book signed, take pictures with him and ask questions.

Although the presidential election is more than 19 months away, Clinton and Obama have garnered tremendous attention, in part because of their backgrounds. Richardson hasn't yet caught on, but he has huge potential, given the growing clout of Hispanic voters. Local political watchers don't expect gender, race or ethnicity to carry the candidates. "We're still in the window-shopping phase," said Mike Rodriguez of the Palm Beach Hispanic Democratic Caucus. "In the end, people will listen to the issues and not lean to a candidate because of an appeal to a constituency," he said.

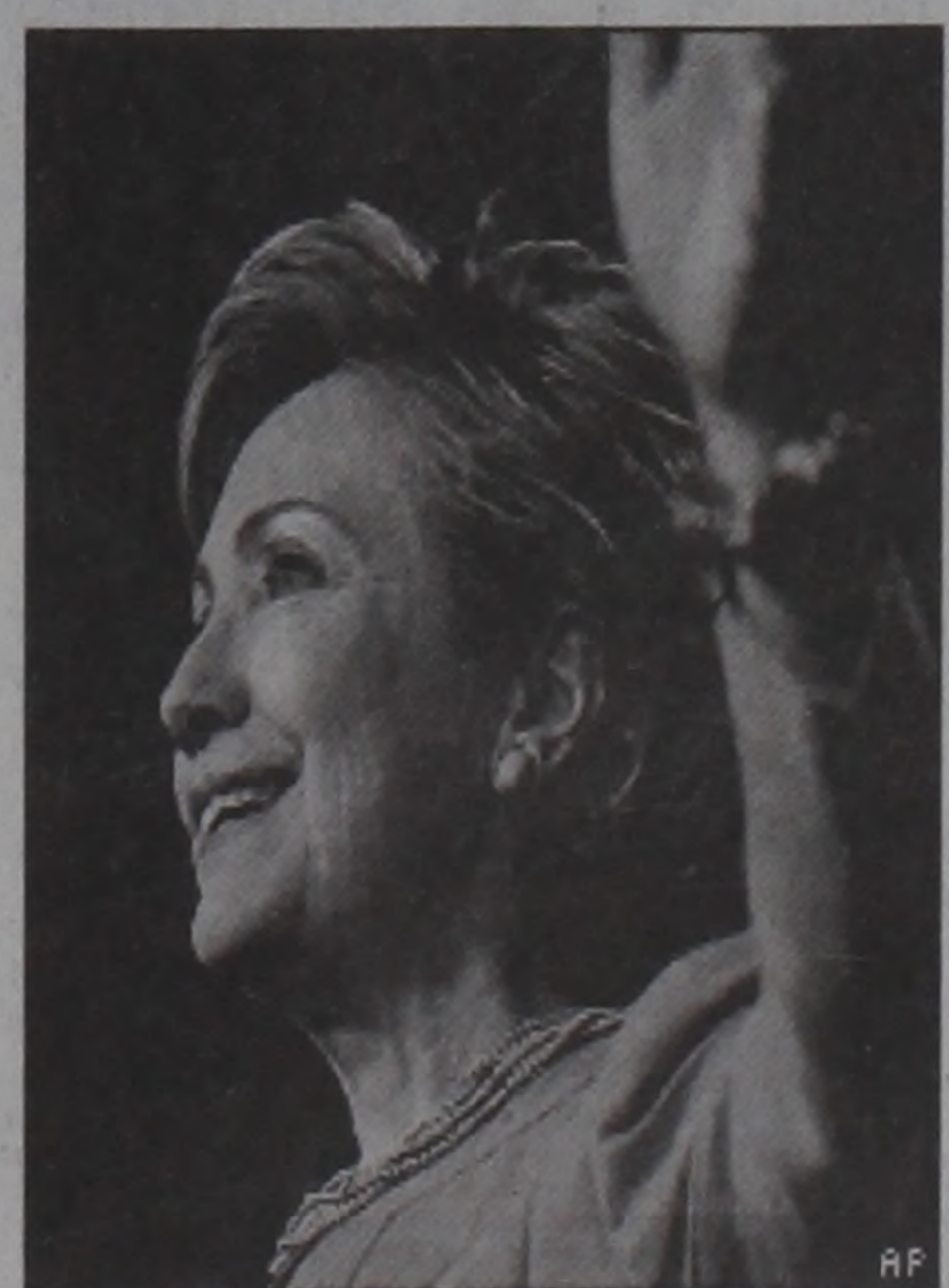
Rodriguez said the viable Democratic candidates include Clinton, Obama, Richardson and former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina, who was the Democratic nominee for vice president in 2004. "Un-

less Al Gore throws his hat in the ring," he said. But while there's talk of a woman, or a black or brown president, only white men have served as president of the United States. That fact has many Americans wondering whether the streak will be broken in 2008.

"We'll know we're ready when we elect a woman, a black or a Latino," said Sherry Bebib Jaffe, a University of Southern California political science researcher. The late U.S. Rep. Shirley Chisholm, a black Democrat from New York, ran for the presidency in 1972. Democratic nominee Walter Mondale chose Geraldine Ferraro as his running mate in 1984.

Blacks have run before, among them Democrats Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton and Carol Moseley Braun and Republican Alan Keyes. As groundbreaking as those campaigns were, however, it is the current group of Democratic candidates who have captured the nation's attention as never before, political observers say. Clinton and Obama both have broad support. "With very exciting candidates, we may overlook some of our prejudices, and look beyond ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds," said Harold Ostrow, past president of Voters Coalition, an independent, bipartisan political group in Palm Beach County.

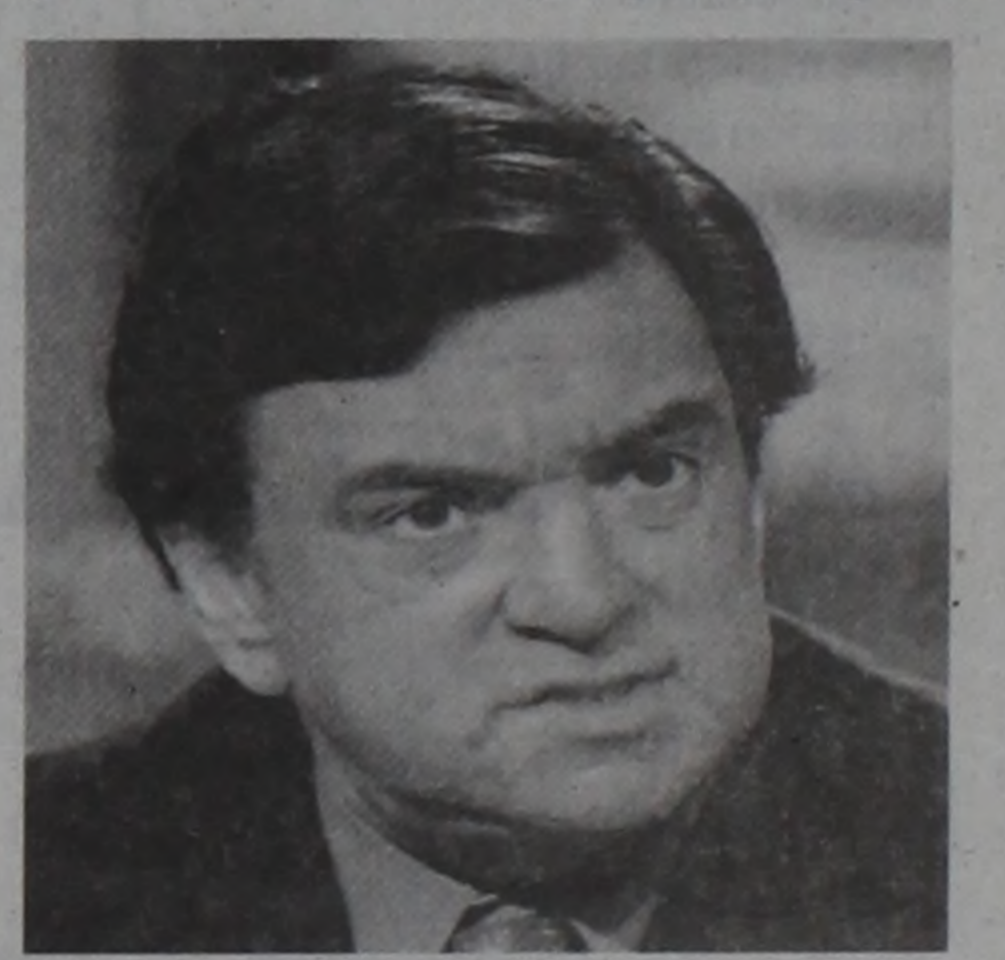
State Rep. Susan Bucher, a Mexican-American Democrat representing a predominantly Jewish district in West Palm Beach, couldn't be more pleased about the diversity of candidates in her party. "We're seeing our tastes change," she said. "It's about time. I'm excited about Hillary Clinton. I'm excited about [Barack] Obama and Bill Richardson. "With Nancy Pelosi as leader of the [U.S.] House, I



think we're not too far away from women and minorities representing everybody,"

Bucher said. Although Clinton once was leading among black voters who overwhelmingly voted for her husband, President Clinton, Obama has overtaken her, according to recent polls. But that doesn't mean he can count on the lion's share of black votes. "The civil rights folks and older black politicians will go with Hillary," said Alain Jean, a former Pelosi aide who has run for the Florida Legislature. "Idealistic younger people like Obama."

Although Richardson's poll numbers are low, the New Mexico governor is expected to excite Latino voters. But his government and foreign policy experi-



ence could broaden his appeal beyond Hispanics. Some argue that Richardson is the best-qualified candidate in the race. He has been a member of Congress, a delegate to the United Nations and energy secretary in the Clinton administration. "Look at Bill Richardson's background," said Luis Cruz, a Puerto Rican Republican who lives in Pembroke Pines. "He has international experience. He dealt with Saddam Hussein when he was in the United Nations."

Cruz said he will vote Democratic in 2008 and cast his ballot for Richardson because he thinks international experience is vital for the next president of the United States. Edwards, who ran with John Kerry in 2004, is among the early favorites in the Democratic field, which also includes Sens. Joseph Biden of Delaware, Chris Dodd of Connecticut and Rep. Dennis Kucinich of Ohio.

"There's intrigue about the diversity of the presidential field," said Susan MacManus, a University of South Florida political science researcher. "Politics is finally catching up with the American demographic picture." But that intrigue is almost certain to give way to voters' concerns. "At what point, does race, gender and ethnicity become old hat?" MacManus asked. "Too much is being made about that and not enough about the issues."

Isett Votes Against Children



A bill to restore full funding for the CHIP program was passed this week in Austin. Voting for the bill were Delwin Jones, Lubbock and Joe Helflin from Hale Center. Carl Isett from Lubbock voted against the bill.

LOUDMOUTH'S VISION FOR A LINGUISTIC SHIPWRECK

By José de la Isla
Newt Gingrich is only 64 but already he's afflicted with memory lapse. He has conveniently forgotten his own past.

Addressing the National Federation of Republican Women in Washington, D.C., March 31, the potential GOP presidential aspirant claimed bilingual-education classes are teaching students "the language of living in a ghetto." They must be eliminated, he insisted, and so should ballots in languages other than English.

Encouragement of bilingualism — which he once described as "a danger to the fabric of our nation" — should never be permitted at government expense.

But hold on a minute.
Is this the same Newt Gingrich who as Speaker of the House in 1998 sent out at government expense a proclamation in Spanish saluting Mexico's Cinco de Mayo holiday? The one that had us Hispanic political junkies doubled over in laughter?

Under Newt's signature was the identifier El Hablador de la Casa.

Literal translation: "The Loudmouth of the House."

"Presidente de la Cámara de Representantes" was Gingrich's correct title at the time.

The proclamation also weirdly singled out for praise two Cuban-American colleagues (not Mexican Americans for whom by heritage the celebration is more appropriate). Evidently, national heritage and origins make no difference to the then-

Speaker. That's like saying, "Oh, she's Danish or Greek, what difference does it make, it's all European?"

Not all Hispanics are carbon copies. Gingrich should make himself a whole lot more culturally literate if he has any further political aspirations.

Lately he has been dropping hints he might run for president in 2008 if a clear Republican frontrunner hasn't emerged by Labor Day. So it's too early to know whether language purification would be a centerpiece for his campaign.

What is becoming clear, however, is that he's a leader in the ranks of scare-yourself nativists who have a hard time accepting the world as it is.

Specifically, Gingrich told his cheering audience of 100, "We should replace bilingual education with immersion in English so people learn the common language of the country and they learn the language of prosperity, not the language of living in a ghetto."

Does this mean he opposes President Bush's National Security Language Initiative in the State Department? It provides U.S. students, from kindergarten through university, training in critical foreign languages, such as Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Hindi and Farsi.

At least 47 million U.S. residents speak a language other than English at home and 14.6 million of them are school-age. This diversity gives us a linguistic base. It's a national security, economic and diplomat-

ic asset of growing importance.

James Crawford, of the Institute of Language and Education Policy, puts it succinctly, "Why should any nation limit its horizons to a single language when the global economy rewards those who can accommodate diversity? Why choose isolation from other cultures in a time of change?"

Let's not play dumb. Gingrich's reference is not really about language at all. It's a swipe at Spanish (in code language "bilingual"), immigrants and any supportive programs to that national economic engine.

Gingrich may well reflect another crack in the Republican foundation that could render it unviable later. A national party needs feasible policies appealing to a growing population.

His recommendation is to make the nation vulnerable by appealing to a shrinking population base. His shtick on bilingual education may not be his biggest policy issue but it is the most telling about the shipwreck he proposes.

Worse still, he wants to turn schoolchildren and newcomers who want to become part of our fabric into villains and victims.

Where is the "opportunity state" Gingrich so famously spoke for in the '90s when he was the architect of the "Contract with America?"

It's out the window, according to El Hablador de la Casa.

LA VISIÓN DEL HABLADOR PARA UN NAUFRAGIO LINGÜÍSTICO

José de la Isla
Newt Gingrich tiene sólo 64 años, pero ya le aflige el fallo de la memoria. De manera conveniente, se ha olvidado de su propio pasado.

Al dirigirse a la National Federation of Republican Women, en Washington, D.C., el 31 de marzo del presente, el posible aspirante a la candidatura presidencial del partido republicano declaró que las clases de educación bilingüe les enseñan a los estudiantes "la lengua de los que viven en un ghetto". Hay que eliminarlas, insistió, al igual que las papeletas de voto en lenguas que no sean el inglés.

La promoción del bilingüismo — el que alguna vez describió como "un peligro a la composición de nuestra nación" — no se debe permitir nunca con fondos del gobierno.

Pero, esperemos un minuto.

¿Acaso es éste el mismo Newt Gingrich quien, en 1998, envió con fondos de gobierno una proclamación en español en celebración del día de fiesta mexicano, el Cinco de Mayo? ¿La misma proclamación que nos tuvo a los aficionados de la política muertos de risa?

Bajo la firma de Newt se encontraba su título, El Hablador de la Casa.

La traducción correcta de su título de entonces era "Presidente de la Cámara de Representantes".

De manera también muy extraña, la proclamación enfocó con parabienes a dos colegas cubano-americanos (no a mexicano-americanos, para quienes la celebración es más apta, por razones de herencia cul-

tural). Por lo visto, la herencia nacional y los orígenes no tienen importancia alguna para el entonces presidente de la Cámara. Como analogía se podría decir, "Ah, sí. Ella es danesa, o griega. ¿Qué diferencia hay? Todos son europeos".

No todos los hispanos son copia fiel el uno del otro. Gingrich tendrá que hacerse mucho más instruido en temas de cultura si tiene más aspiraciones políticas.

De un tiempo a esta parte, ha venido dando indirectas sobre su posible candidatura a la presidencia en el 2008 si no surge para el 3 de septiembre ningún candidato republicano viable. Por ende, es pronto para saber si la purificación lingüística sería un punto central de su campaña.

Lo que se está revelando, no obstante, es que es líder entre las filas de nativistas temerosos a quienes les cuesta aceptar al mundo tal como es.

De manera específica, Gingrich le dijo a su público afanoso de 100 personas que, "Debemos reemplazar a la educación bilingüe con clases de inmersión de inglés para que la gente aprenda la lengua en común del país, y aprenda la lengua de la prosperidad, no la lengua de los que viven en un ghetto".

¿Significa esto que se opone a la iniciativa lingüística para la seguridad nacional del presidente Bush para el Departamento de Estado? (National Security Language Initiative).

La iniciativa ofrece capacitación en lenguas críticas a los estudiantes de los EE.UU desde el kinder hasta la universidad, lenguas como el árabe, el chino, el ruso, el hindi y el farsi.

Hay al menos 47 millones de residentes de los Estados Unidos que hablan una lengua además del inglés en casa, de los cuales, 14.6 millones son de edad escolar. Esta diversidad nos provee con una base lingüística. Es una ventaja para la seguridad nacional, la economía y la diplomacia, cada vez más importante.

James Crawford, del Institute of Language and Education Policy, lo explica sin rodeos, "¿Por qué limitaría sus horizontes ninguna nación a una sola lengua cuando la economía global premia a los que saben atender a la diversidad? ¿Por qué optar por el aislamiento de otras culturas en una época de transformación?"

No nos hagamos los tontos. La referencia de Gingrich no trata de cuestiones de lenguas. Es un manotazo al español (la contraseña es "bilingüe"), a los inmigrantes y a cualquier programa de apoyo para es motor económico nacional.

Es muy posible que Gingrich sea reflejo de otra grieta en la fundación del partido republicano, la cual podría rendirlo caduco más adelante. Su hablaría sobre la educación bilingüe no será su tema de políticas más importante, pero sí es el que más revela el naufragio que propone.

Lo que es más, lo que intenta en convertir a los colegiales y recién llegados que quieren formar parte de nuestra composición nacional en maleantes y víctimas.

¿Dónde está el "estado de oportunidad" por el que habló tan famosamente Gingrich en los años noventa, cuando era el arquitecto del "Contrato con América"?

Se tiró por la borda, según el Hablador de la Casa.

ACTUALIDAD POLÍTICA: El latino malo

Pilar Marrero
Hay que convencerse de una vez por todas: ser latino e hijo de campesinos no garantiza que uno sea buena persona. Ni tampoco que uno vaya a ser un buen secretario de Justicia de Estados Unidos, como está demostrando en estos momentos Alberto Gonzales.

Confieso que me da cierto gusto poder desempolvar algo que dije hace unos dos años y medio y comprobar que no estaba tan despistada como algunos pudieran creer. Fue entonces cuando comparé al —entonces— recién nombrado Gonzales con el juez de la Suprema Corte Clarence Thomas: será muy oscuro de piel, pero no ha hecho gran cosa en favor de su raza.

Como todos deben saber, Gonzales está en problemas por el que quizá sea el menor de sus pecados como secretario de Justicia de la nación: politizar los nombramientos de los fiscales federales.

Se debate si Gonzales tuvo o no participación directa en la acción de despedir a fiscales profesionales, no por problemas en su desempeño como tales, sino presuntamente por no cumplir con

encargos políticos de los republicanos, o por hacer demasiado bien su trabajo, persiguiendo acusaciones de corrupción contra políticos del mismo partido.

¡Horror! ¿Cómo es posible? ¡Un miembro de la Administración Bush politiza su cargo y sirve a sus intereses personales en vez de los intereses de la nación! ¿Dónde se ha visto tal cosa?

Me perdonarán la ironía, pero me da mucha risa, si no ganas de llorar, que ahora Gonzales esté en problemas precisamente por este asunto, cuando desde el momento en que fue nombrado había razones para pensar que el personaje no era agua clara.

¿Se nos olvida que fue Gonzales quien, cuando fue asesor legal de la Casa Blanca, escribió aquellos famosos memos en los que decía que Estados Unidos no estaba obligado a respetar los acuerdos de Ginebra contra la tortura, en la guerra contra el terrorismo?

Tras ignorar unos 75 años de leyes internacionales, las ideas de Gonzales abrieron la brecha para los abusos de Abu Graib y Guantánamo y los procesos de sospechosos de terrorismo posteriormente anulados por los tribunales por encontrarse en ellos

severas ilegalidades.

Todo esto era bien sabido cuando Gonzales fue nombrado secretario de Justicia en 2004 por el presidente George W. Bush. Pero claro, como era latino e hijo de campesinos, nuestras venerables organizaciones defensoras de la raza salieron como locos a dar declaraciones elogiosas sobre el hombre.

Ahora recordamos las palabras de aquel comunicado del Consejo Nacional de La Raza en el que decía que Gonzales "es un servidor público consciente y razonable, un hombre de palabra, y damos por seguro que su nominación será muy bien recibida en la comunidad latina". Otras organizaciones latinas hicieron lo mismo, porque nunca han visto un latino malo.

Pero nunca es tarde. Ahora que conocimos a ese latino malo, de los que suponemos hay más de uno, habrá que tener más cuidado la próxima vez que nos nombren al próximo Alberto Gonzales para darnos gusto, mientras por otro lado nos dan los palos.

¿Será por eso que esas mismas organizaciones ahora guardan silencio?

A plan to legalize abortion stirs debate in Mexico City

By James C. McKinley Jr.

Dominated by liberals, Mexico City's legislature is expected to legalize abortion in a few weeks. The bill would make this city one of the largest entities in Latin America to break with a long tradition of women resorting to illegal clinics and midwives to end unwanted pregnancies.

But the measure has stirred a vicious debate and shaken this heavily Roman Catholic country to its roots. In recent days, the bill has dominated conversations from family dinner tables to the president's office. Celebrities and politicians of all stripes have lined up on both sides, throwing verbal darts at one another. Catholic and feminist groups have staged dueling protests and marches.

The contours of the debate are familiar to veterans of similar battles in the United States. But Mexico City's law would be groundbreaking in Latin America, where most countries allow abortion only under strict conditions, like when the life of the mother is in danger or when she is a victim of rape or incest. Only in Cuba, Puerto Rico and Guyana can women have abortions for any reason during the first trimester. Three countries — Chile, Nicaragua and El Salvador — ban it without exception.

The Mexico City bill would make it legal to have an abortion during the first trimester for any reason. The procedure would be free at city health facilities. Private hospitals would be required to provide an abortion to any woman who asks for one, though doctors with religious or ethical objections would not be required to perform abortions.

Catholic leaders and church officials have denounced the proponents as "baby killers" and have warned that the law could provoke violence against doctors who agree to provide the service. A group of Catholic lawyers are pushing for a city-wide referendum on the issue, hoping to avert the vote in the city Legislative Assembly.

Calderón has tried to stay above the fray, but he said last week, "I am in defense of life." His health minister and other surrogates in the conservative National Action Party, however, are in the thick of it. They have proposed streamlining adoption laws, improving sex education and providing subsidies to unwed mothers as alternatives.

Leftists and feminists, meanwhile, have accused opponents of turning a blind eye to reality. They say millions of women here, and indeed throughout much of Latin America, already ignore the law and choose to abort fetuses, often in dingy underground clinics or the private homes of midwives. They risk infection, sterility and sometimes death.

"Women are dying, above all poor women, because of unsafe abortions," said María Consuelo Mejía, the director of Catholics for the Right to Decide. "What we would like is that these women never have to confront the necessity of an abortion, but in this society it's impossible right now. There is no access to information, to contraceptives. Nor do most women have the power to negotiate the use of contraceptives with their partners."

Conservatives respond that abortion is tantamount to murder. "This law is a law that will cost many lives," said Jorge Serrano Limón, the head of Provida, an anti-abortion group. "If it is signed, it will spill a lot of blood, the blood of babies just conceived in the maternal womb."

Serrano Limón and other opponents also dispute that the law will end illegal abortions. The procedure carries such a stigma here, they say, that whether legal or not, many women will seek out underground clinics to keep their condition secret from their friends and families anyway.

The bill, tentatively scheduled for a vote on April 19, is likely to pass the 66-member city Legislative Assembly with a solid majority, and the mayor, Marcelo Ebrard, has said he will sign it, the sponsors say. It would legalize abortion in the capital, which has eight million residents, and could make Mexico City a magnet for women seeking abortions across the country.

The debate now roiling Mexico would have been nearly unthinkable a decade ago, proponents of the law say. The topic was so taboo that the church once excommunicated actresses and television producers for bringing it up in a soap opera.

"People are talking about abortion openly for the first time in Mexico," said Lilian Sepúlveda, a lawyer with the New York-based Center for Reproductive Rights who tracks the issue in Latin America. "It is historic."

Still, lawmakers in the Assembly are bracing for an ugly fight, and each side has held competing rallies.

Several hundred people in favor of the law marched Thursday afternoon through the narrow streets of the historic city center. The crowd was made up mostly of women, largely from women's rights groups and political parties that support legalizing abortion.

Last Sunday, Cardinal Norberto Rivera was among the church leaders who joined a protest march down the boulevard to the Basilica of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Despite a ban on the clergy taking part in politics, the cardinal told the crowd of several thousand, "We are united here so that they hear our voice, the voice of life."

"They say that it's a problem of a woman's rights over her body, but they ignore the right over their bodies that all the aborted girls and boys have," he said later in his homily. "They deny them the fundamental right, which is the right to life."

Víctor Hugo Ciriago Vázquez, the majority leader of the Assembly, said many of the 34 legislators from his Party of the Democratic Revolution who support the measure had received threatening calls and messages on their cellphones, as well as nasty e-mail. They were told they would be excommunicated or go to hell if they approved the law.

"There is a media lynching campaign that has been orchestrated by clerical groups from the very, very far right," he said. He added, "It's a black campaign that's coming hard."

The bill's prime sponsor, Jorge Díaz Cuervo of the Alternative Party, said church leaders had broken Mexican law by meddling in the legislative process. "This is a layman's state," he said. "There is no reason to impose the beliefs of one church on 100 percent of the people."

Many women here are watching the political battle with a mix of trepidation and hope. Like many laws in Mexico, the abortion law is honored as much in its breach as its observance.

Government officials estimate at least 110,000 women a year seek illegal abortions in Mexico, and many abortion rights groups say the number is much higher. At least 88 women died in 2006 from botched abortions, the Health Ministry says, though it is far from clear that all cases were reported.

For the well off, it is common knowledge that certain gynecologists perform illegal abortions in private hospitals, disguising the procedure as something else on documents.

For the poor, unwanted pregnancies often mean finding a midwife or an underground clinic, abortion rights advocates say. Some young women also resort to huge doses of drugs for arthritis and gastritis, available over the counter, that can cause miscarriages. Others use teas made from traditional herbs to cause miscarriages. All of these methods carry dangers.

The story of one woman, Dolores, who did not want her full name used, is typical. When she was 18, she became pregnant after her first sexual encounter with a boyfriend she barely knew, mostly because she knew nothing about contraception or even the basics of sexuality.

"I was alone and had no help," she said in an interview. "In fact, I thought about it a lot before I made the decision, but in the end there was no other way. I wasn't in the economic position to face the situation."

Panicked, she visited a midwife, who inserted a flexible tube into the womb to let air in and provoke a miscarriage. Dolores was told to wait three days before removing the tube.

She started bleeding within 15 minutes of leaving the midwife's house. The bleeding continued unabated for a month. At last, she fainted in front of her parents from a loss of blood and they took her to a hospital, where she recovered slowly after a week of treatment. "I almost died," she said.

Now 41, she has never carried a baby to term. Two of her pregnancies ended in premature births, and both infants died.

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Survey: Many Latino Voters Think Iraq War A Mistake



Immigration and the war -- two key issues that could have a major impact on the Latino vote in the 2008 presidential election.

A new survey shows that nearly half of all Latino voters have a family member or a close friend serving in Iraq or Afghanistan, making the war a pivotal issue.

Lilly Jimenez has a personal connection to the war in Iraq. Her cousin Jesse recently ended his tour of duty there.

Lilly Jimenez, San Jose: "I'm proud of him, very proud of him."

A survey released today by the Latino Policy Coalition shows Lilly Jimenez is not alone. Lake Research Partners interviewed 1,000 registered Latino voters and found 46 percent say they have a close family member or close family friend currently serving in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Jim Gonzalez is the chair of the Latino Policy Coalition which commissioned the survey.

Jim Gonzalez, chairman, Latino Policy Coalition: "It's pretty dramatic. It means that the Latino community is very connected to this war in a very personal sense."

The survey went on to ask Latino opinions on the war. Two of three Latinos surveyed say they believe the war in Iraq was a mistake, while one in four feel the war was the right decision.

The same registered voters were then asked if they favor or oppose President's Bush's request for \$100 billion dollars in additional funding for the war. Again, 66 percent opposed the request and 23 percent favor the funding.

Lilly Jimenez echoes the majority sentiment.

Lilly Jimenez, San Jose: "Per-

sonally I don't think it's our war. I don't think we have any business there."

Last year's immigration marches displayed growing political strength among Latinos nationwide and many say presidential candidates will have to address Latino concerns on the war issue.

Jim Gonzalez, chairman, Latino Policy Coalition: "When they approach states that have early primaries like Nevada, like California, where the Latino community is very much the margin of victory, they're going to be asked by Latino voters for some real specific plans for ending this war."

The Latino Policy Coalition will reveal more survey results this week looking at how Latino's feel about specific presidential candidates, the new Congress and energy policy.

News from The Guadalupe Neighborhood Association

The Guadalupe Neighborhood Association, Inc. (GNA, Inc.) met on March 26, 2007 to elect new officers. Elected for a one year term as President for the association was Lilé Medina de Quirino. Carlos Quirino, Jr. was elected to serve as Vice-President. Elections for the offices of Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian will be held at the associations' next meeting on April 24, 2007.

Other items on the agenda that were considered were the existing tin fence along Avenue P owned by the Falson Steel, Co; the recent relocation of the R.C. Taylor, Co. into the neighborhood; and the continued blight to the area being caused by the old Lubbock Building Products cement plant. Also discussed was the rational for the

continued GNA, Inc. membership in Lubbock's United Neighborhood Association (LUNA).

According to Ms. Quirino her main concern is to increase the participation of the Guadalupe community within the association. And plans to propose various activities within the Barrio in an effort to truly connect with the areas residents. Some of these activities include a possible children's mural on the corner of Avenue K and 1st street. A clean-up campaign along the Arroyo behind Aztlan Park, and a Cinco de Mayo fundraising swap-meet to raise funds for GNA, Inc.

The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm. April 24, 2007 at St. Joseph's Church. Everyone is welcome. Bring your vote.



National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

"The National Council of La Raza NCLR, the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the U.S., will partner with the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy on a new education and outreach initiative aimed at Latino teens and young adults. The launch of the new initiative was announced today at a news conference on Capitol Hill featuring Representative Hilda Solis D-CA.



"Nearly half of Latinas become pregnant before age 20. High teen pregnancy rates are robbing our young women of too many opportunities - the opportunity to go to college, the opportunity to start a rewarding career, and the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of a better future," stated Janet Murguía, NCLR President and CEO.

"Unplanned and unprotected sex also poses serious health risks for Latinas. That's why we welcome the opportunity to work in partnership with Representative Solis and the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy on this issue," continued Murguía.

"The National Campaign has been a key leader in the successful effort to reduce overall teen pregnancy rates in our country. The new Latino initiative will build on this track record of success and zero in on the specific themes, messages, and approaches we need to reach Hispanic young people, especially those overlooked by traditional mainstream efforts," Murguía said.

"We commend Representative Solis for her passion and leadership on this issue. I can think of no better champion than Hilda Solis to spearhead our efforts on Capitol Hill," noted Murguía.

"The National Campaign has involved Hispanic community-based organizations and substantive experts at every phase, and on every level, of this campaign. They're going about this exactly the right way, which gives me great confidence that we can successfully reverse the teen pregnancy crisis in our community," concluded Murguía.

UFW Co-Founder Dolores Huerta Recognized for Labor Organizing and Activism

A resolution honoring Dolores Huerta, who co-founded the United Farm Workers (UFW) with Cesar Chavez, has been introduced in the US House of Representatives. House Resolution 37, introduced by Rep. Hilda Solis (D-CA), would express "the sense of the House of Representatives that all workers deserve fair treatment and safe working conditions, and honoring Dolores Huerta for her commitment to the improvement of working conditions for farm worker families and the rights of women and children." Currently, the resolution has 41 co-sponsors and is in the Committee on Education and Labor. Huerta, who

is a founding board member of the Feminist Majority Foundation and serves on the board of Ms. magazine, began her community organizing legacy with the Community Services Organization (CSO), a Latino civil rights group. She has worked as a teacher, a community activist working for Spanish-speaking police officers and hospital workers, a lobbyist, and a labor contractor. As one of the most famous and celebrated Latinas in the US, Huerta has been an advocate for women's rights and reproductive freedom. At the age of 75, she continues to work for women, immigrants, workers, and youth as the president of

the Dolores Huerta Foundation. Huerta's UFW co-founder Cesar Chavez was also just honored last weekend during Cesar Chavez Day, March 31. California recognizes the day as a state holiday, and all state government offices, community colleges, and libraries are closed. Public schools, however, remain open, and students at about 15 Los Angeles Unified School District campuses participated in a coordinated walk-out on Friday, demanding that the state better honor Chavez's legacy, NBC reports. Texas also recognizes the day as a holiday, and Arizona and Colorado have declared it an optional holiday.

Happy Easter to all Our Readers & their Families!

Poesia Del Barrio De Guadalupe

It is good to hear the ringing of the church bells in the barrio.
It is nursing to the body and soul
It is good to smell the cooking of tortillas y comida en el barrio.
It is good to see neighbors talk to each other over their fences en el barrio.
It is wonderful to visit señoras and talk to them about their experiences in life, en el barrio.
Everything en el barrio from earth to sky is good.
I give thanks to God for brining me to el Barrio De Guadalupe.

Lile Medina De Quirino

Guadalupe Neighborhood Association, Inc. announces a **Crafts & Garage Sale** Cinco de Mayo - May 5th 120 N. Avenue P (behind Parish Hall)

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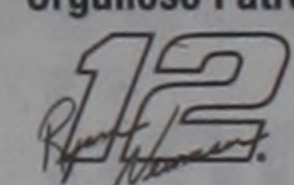
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Exercise may fend off arthritis in women

Get moving, Grandma! Exercise isn't just about improving your heart and fighting flab that comes with aging. It may also be the answer to preventing stiff, achy joints that can lead to debilitating arthritis.

Doctors have long encouraged exercise among aging patients to keep joints flexible, muscles strong and to keep off weight, which is a leading risk factor for arthritis. This is the first study

less clear.

"Maybe the exercise directly benefits the joints. Maybe exercise makes you lose weight and the latter benefits the joints. Maybe exercise causes pain sensing receptors to become less sensitive so one feels less pain," said Dr. John Hardin, chief scientific officer at the Atlanta-based Arthritis Foundation, who did not participate in the study.

Conversely, exercise had no effect on arthritis symptoms reported by middle-aged women. Heesch said it's unclear why the results differed among the two age groups.

The findings also contradict some earlier research, which found no direct link between fitness and arthritis. The Australian study, published last week, focused on specific age groups of fairly healthy women predominantly from rural areas who had not been diagnosed with arthritis, which may partially explain the difference, Heesch said.

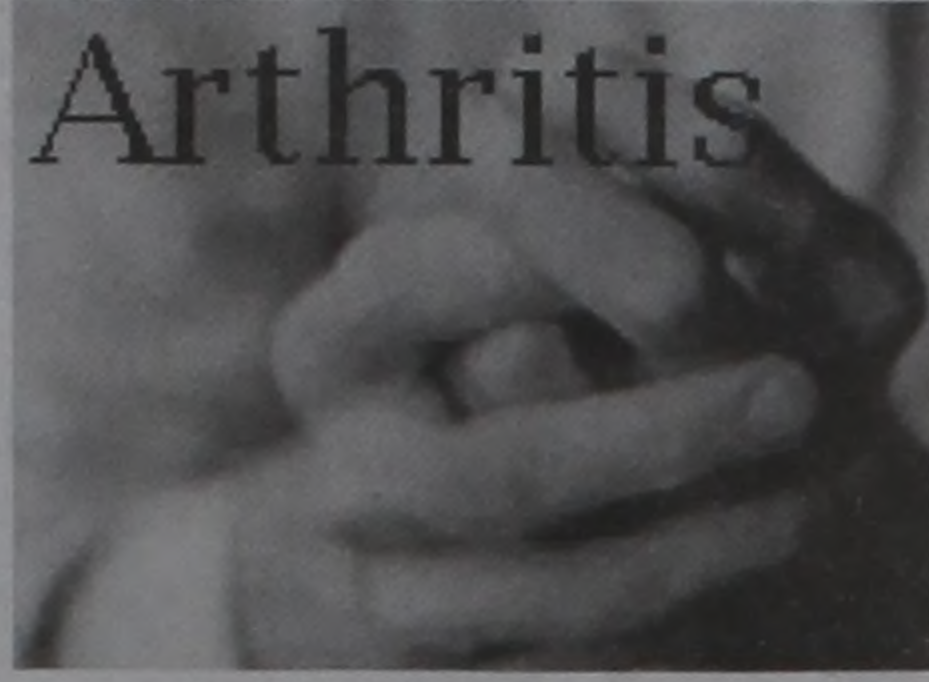
"If we could put out a pill that would solve a lot of problems, it would be physical activity, but we can't wrap it up into a little pill and

give it to people," she said. "Particularly with the baby boomers getting older, there's going to be a lot more griping and need to address this."

She said walking, swimming, yoga, tai chi and even some weight training were all great ways for older women to exercise after getting their doctors' approval. More women than men suffer from arthritis, and the risk increases greatly with age.

"The fact that the study showed change in a short time speaks to the fact that exercise shows benefit quickly and is another reason to encourage people that exercise has a payback sooner than many people think," said Dr. Patience White, chief public health officer at the Arthritis Foundation.

One in five American adults has been diagnosed with arthritis, half of those over age 75 have reported it, costing billions of dollars each year. In both the United States and Australia, it is the number 1 cause of disability.



Arthritis

An Australian study suggests the more time older women spend exercising, the better their chances are of staying pain-free from one of the biggest chronic conditions plaguing developed countries.

Even exercising as little as one hour and 15 minutes a week now can make a difference over the next three years, according to findings recently published in the journal Arthritis Research & Therapy.

"I don't think the results are suggesting that you should just become this maniac exerciser," said lead author Kristiann Heesch from the University of Queensland, Australia. "What it does suggest is that just adding some walking and moderate activity to your life can make a big benefit."

stiff and painful joints. It looked solely at pain and symptoms reported by more than 8,700 Australian women over a three-year period, and could offer a vital clue about prevention.

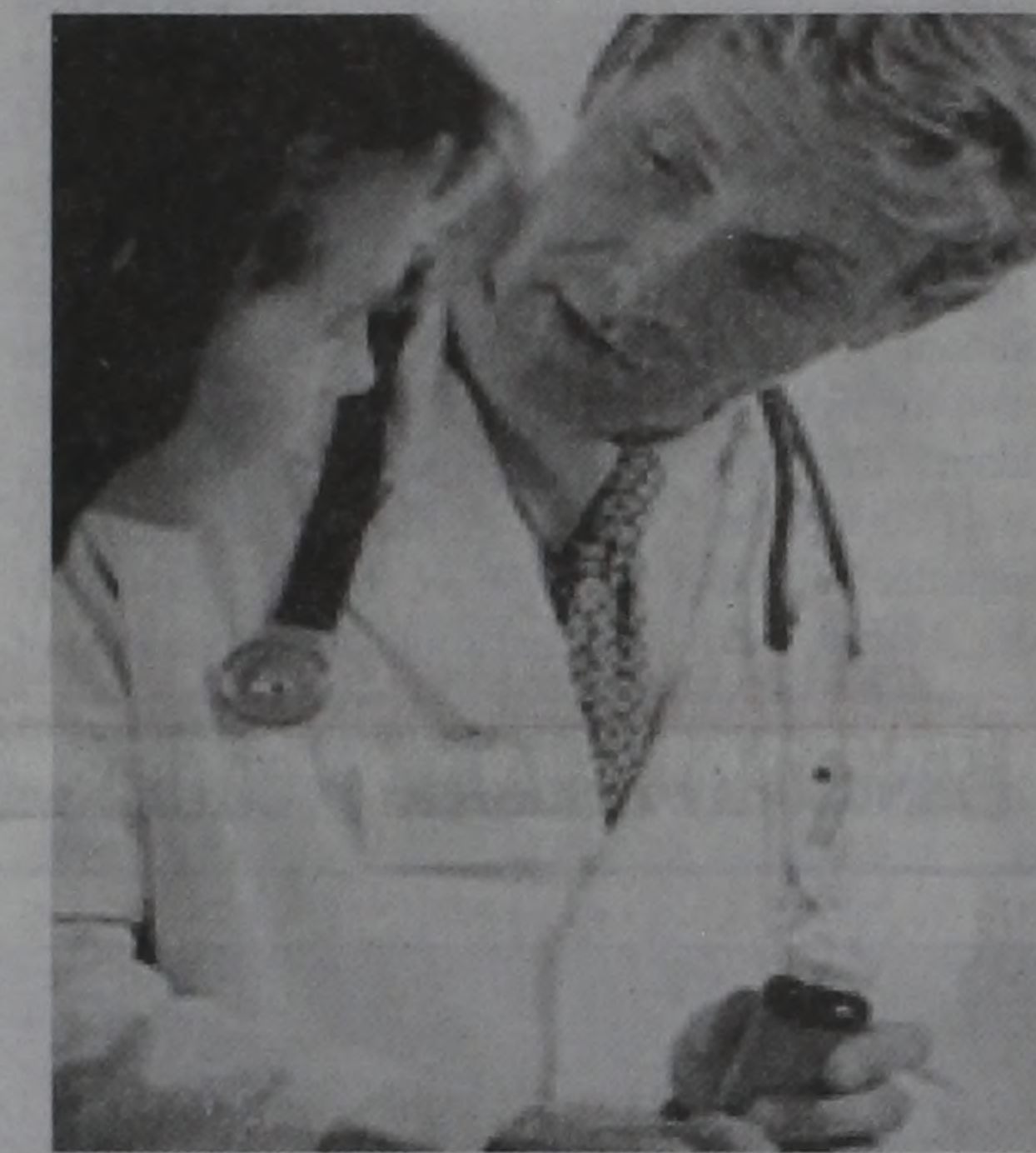
Women in their 70s who exercised 75 minutes a week reported fewer symptoms of arthritis than those who did less, while more spry women who were active at least 2 1/2 hours weekly had even less pain in the three years that followed. Although there appeared to be a direct correlation between exercise and lower joint pain, the reasons why were

Katrina Bauer from the Public Health Institute in Sacramento, California and colleagues compared the demographic, clinical

panic women. Women under 40 years old were at greater risk than women over 60 years old. Women living in lower SES were also at higher risk compared to the highest SES

Clinically, these tumors were more aggressive, diagnosed at more advanced stages. They were also associated with shorter survival, regardless of stage at diagnosis. African American women had the poorest five-year survival, with only 14 percent alive five years after diagnosis.

From these results, Ms. Bauer and co-authors conclude that "age less than 40 years, being non-His-



and survival characteristics of 6,370 women diagnosed with triple negative breast cancers with 44,704 women with other breast cancers.

The authors found that race and age, in particular, as well as socioeconomic status were risk factors for this type of breast cancer. Compared to Caucasians, African American women were at greatest risk followed by His-

Factores genéticos predicen riesgo de cáncer de próstata

Científicos en EEUU descubrieron siete factores genéticos que predicen el riesgo de sufrir cáncer de próstata, lo que constituye la primera prueba de que la genética juega un papel importante en esa enfermedad, según un estudio publicado.

Los siete factores son secuencias de ADN que están presentes en las células de algunas personas, pero no de otras, y que están agrupados en una pequeña zona del cromosoma 8 de los seres humanos, de acuerdo con la investigación, divulgada en la edición de internet de la revista "Nature Genetics".

Cada uno de esos factores por sí solo predice un mayor riesgo de sufrir cáncer de próstata, que es la segunda mayor causa de muerte en EEUU entre los hombres, tras el cáncer de pulmón.

David Reich, profesor de genética de la Facultad de Medicina de la Universidad de Harvard y autor principal del estudio, enfatizó que este resultado puede llevar a aplicaciones prácticas.

Así, la determinación de la existencia de alguna de esas variantes "puede ayudarnos a identificar a hombres que deberían someterse a exámenes preventivos para el



cáncer de próstata de forma prioritaria", según explicó.

La población afroamericana estadounidense, en especial, manifiesta una mayor tendencia a poseer esos factores genéticos, lo que puede explicar que sufran cáncer de próstata más a menudo que otros grupos étnicos, según el estudio.

Para llegar a sus conclusiones los investigadores analizaron la estructura genética de esa zona del cromosoma 8 de 2.500 afroamericanos.

Además, hicieron pruebas a estadounidenses de origen japonés, europeo, latinoamericano y hawaiano, hasta un total de 7.500 hombres, con y sin cáncer de próstata.

En todo caso, los investigadores enfatizaron que la genética no lo explica todo y que factores ambientales y personales contribuyen al riesgo de sufrir esa dolencia.

'Triple Negative' Breast Cancers Linked To The Young, Minority

So-called "triple negative" breast cancers, tumors that do not contain any of three significant tumor markers, are aggressive, deadly cancers that affect young, poor minority women, according to a new study. Published in the May 1, 2007 issue of CANCER, a peer-reviewed journal of the American Cancer Society, the study suggests that these tumors are more common among women who are African American and Hispanic, under 40 years old, and who have lower socioeconomic status (SES). The study found triple negative tumors are also associated with later diagnosis and shorter survival.

Tumor and tissue markers provide important information, including disease type and prognosis. Three important markers in breast cancer are estrogen receptor (ER), human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2), and progesterone receptor (PR). In particular, these markers are useful in selecting appropriate adjuvant therapy and prognosis. Around 15 percent of breast cancers do not express any of these markers and are generally identified as basal-like subtypes. While these "triple negative" tumors are associated with poor prognosis and survival, hormone adjuvant therapy failure, and are often identified in African American women, little is understood about other associated demographic risk factors.

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Novedades Médicas Afrodisiacos para después del parto

El ajo no es como lo pintan

Siempre se ha dicho que el ajo es bueno para bajar el colesterol malo y que beneficia la salud cardiovascular. No obstante, un estudio realizado recientemente por la Universidad de Stanford desmiente estas afirmaciones. Según los investigadores, aunque en el pasado se habían demostrado ciertos resultados con animales de laboratorio, la verdad es que no existe nada concluyente y esto ha contribuido a que la industria engañe a los consumidores ofreciendo suplementos y medicamentos a base de ajo. Los científicos de la Universidad de Stanford concluyeron que el consumo de este popular condimento no reduce los niveles de colesterol en la sangre ni afecta la salud del corazón. Así que si le gusta el ajo, disfrútelo por su sabor, pero no piense que le está causando un beneficio a su corazón. Y si no le gusta, pues ya no tendrá que verse forzado a consumirlo. Eso sí, siempre tenga una menta a la mano para después de las comidas al ajillo.

Dolor de cabeza: qué depresión

A muchas nos duele de verdad. Otras lo usan como excusa. Para algunas son leves, para otras crónicas y en ciertos casos, indican tendencia a la depresión. Así lo explica un estudio que salió publicado en la revista Neurology. Aproximadamente 18 millones de mujeres estadounidenses sufren de dolores de cabeza: al 90% se les diagnosticó migraña. Las que padecen de dolores de cabeza crónicos tienen 4 veces más probabilidades de tener síntomas de depresión que las que los tienen ocasionalmente. Le aconsejo que esté atenta pues si además del dolor de cabeza sufre de falta de energía, insomnio, náuseas, dolores en la espalda, dolores en las piernas y problemas durante las relaciones sexuales, podría estar deprimida. Según los autores del estudio, en la mayoría de los casos la depresión aumenta la percepción del dolor y por eso podría hacer que sienta que su cabeza "le va a estallar". Así que quizá valga la pena que evalúe su salud emocional.

Las niñas obesas llegan más rápido a la pubertad

Los especialistas en endocrinología pediátrica aseguran que las niñas que sufren de sobrepeso a los 4 años, tienen muchas más posibilidades de entrar en la preadolescencia antes de cumplir 10 años. En este estudio, los especialistas analizaron a 400 niñas desde que tenían 3 años, hasta que cumplieron 14 y, además de confirmar su teoría, encontraron que el inicio temprano de la pubertad se asocia con problemas sociales y psicológicos, como son el consumo temprano del alcohol y del tabaco, que pueden llevarlas a tener relaciones sexuales prematuramente. Los investigadores del Centro de la Salud Infantil de la Universidad de Exeter (Inglaterra), hicieron otros estudios que sugieren que la falta de ejercicio también puede contribuir con la llegada temprana de la pubertad. Esta es otra razón valiosa para vigilar el peso y la actividad física de nuestras hijas.

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Felipe Cazals: the conscience of Mexican cinema

A singular Mexican filmmaker has been getting lots of attention here lately. What's shocking is that his name isn't Alfonso Cuarón, Guillermo del Toro or Alejandro González Iñárritu.

Back in the late 1970s, when the so-called Three Amigos were in high school, director Felipe Cazals was busy pushing cultural hot buttons and flaying cinematic sacred cows. He was part of a group of Young

Mexican reality that we were living every day," said Cazals, who also has produced and written films and occasionally stepped in front of the camera as an actor.

In keeping with this philosophy,



Cazals said, he and many of his contemporaries chose to resist Hollywood's siren song and stay in Mexico, drawing artistic sustenance from the country's rich culture while not shrinking from its problems and failings. That viewpoint continues to animate his work. "Mexico has 110 million inhabitants; 42 million don't eat two meals a day," he said. "So my place is being here."

While other Mexican directors cranked out romantic piffle and lucha libre camp-fests, Cazals crafted thoughtful, bleakly humorous allegories about political repression and probing quasi-documentaries about corruption, sexual slavery and social decay. He helped to liberate Mexican cinema from the stereotypes of charros (picturesque cowboys) and guys in sombreros dozing against cactuses. And by turning a klieg light on shadowy corners of the national psyche, he encouraged Mexicans to face their dark side.

Not an easy task, either then or now, said José Antonio Valdés

Peña, a film analyst at the Cineteca Nacional, Mexico's national film theater. "The great problem that we have in our country is that we don't grasp the past," he said. "It's a country that's always beginning at zero."

Time seems to have validated Cazals, who was born in France to Spanish parents exiled after the Spanish Civil War and raised in Mexico's Jalisco state before his family settled in the nation's capital. Today, he is still filling the role of artistic conscience, as a recent retrospective of his work here demonstrated.

A few days ago, a packed auditorium at the Cineteca Nacional watched a screening of Cazals' harrowing "Las Poquianchis," based on a notorious true incident in Guanajuato state in which young women were pressed into prostitution, brutally abused and murdered. The movie, whose title refers to the sisters who ran the prostitution ring, is part of a trilogy that includes "El Apando" (The Heist) and "Canoa,"

widely regarded as the director's masterpiece. All three movies

were released in 1976.

Before the Cineteca screening, Cazals, sporting his trademark baseball cap and seated at a table at the front of the auditorium, listened to others praise his body of work. The retrospective was in honor of his receiving Cineteca's Salvador Toscano Medal, named for a Mexican film pioneer and regarded as the country's highest cinematic honor.

Leonardo García Tsao, Cineteca's director, told the audience that a constant thread of Cazals' movies is using the past to illuminate the present. When "Canoa" premiered in Mexico, Tsao said, "You sensed a change in Mexican cinema."

That film, a kind of fictional documentary based on real events, tells of a group of students whose trip to the small Mexican town of San Miguel Canoa ends in mob violence when a local priest accuses them of being communist agent-provocateurs.

It's generally been interpreted as an allegory of the infamous Tlatelolco massacre on Oct. 2, 1968, when police and federal agents reportedly slaughtered hundreds of protesters

a few days before Mexico began holding the Summer Olympics. "Nothing like it had been seen before," Tsao said of "Canoa."

The same could be said of "Las Poquianchis," which opens with a scene of reporters flocking to an exhumation of maggot-infested bodies in a rural pueblo. This spectacle, simultaneously horrifying and grotesquely funny, sets the tone for the story that follows of a prostitution ring in which nearly the entire town is implicated, and the line between victims and victimizers grows disturbingly blurred.

Cazals explored this idea of the duality of the Mexican national character often, in such movies as "El Apando," "Las Inocentes" (1986) and "Su alteza serenísima" (His Most Serene Highness), made in 2000, about the last days of the dictator-president Antonio López de Santa Anna, best known north of the Rio Grande as the man who lost Texas to the United States.

Although his movies never recoiled from splattered blood, Cazals always has been more interested in the moral dimension of violence than in the act itself. But even in his most critical mode, Cazals never lost touch with his sub-

jects' humanity or his own macabre wit, Valdes Peña said.

Cazals speaks favorably of younger colleagues such as Cuarón ("Y tu mamá también," "Children of Men") and Del Toro, whose films have brought global attention to Mexican cinema in the last half a dozen years. He also thinks well of Iñárritu's "Amores perros" ("a very estimable movie") but less so



of the director's "21 Grams" ("perfectly forgettable").

And he believes it's a good time to be a Mexican filmmaker, because

for the first time in a while, he said, the nation's cultural institutions are "in the hands of people that understand perfectly what is Mexican cinema." He has two movie projects in the works, one of which addresses terminal illness.

Sounds dispiriting? Not for this filmmaker. "I'm an incurable optimist," he said, "because I believe what always has permitted Mexico to go onward is this cultural force, at times in open rebellion, or in constant rebellion, which is what makes the arc of the arrow go forward."

Freddy Rodriguez follows momentum into movie world

You could call him Steady Freddy.

Freddy Rodriguez, the 32-year-old lead of "Grindhouse" (opening Friday), remains married to his high school sweetheart.

He hums along a steady career path, enjoying the occasional kudos, including his Emmy nomination for "Six Feet Under," and enduring the big-screen flops such as "Poseidon."

"I'm happy with the track I'm on because I know it will lead to bigger things," he says. "It'll lead me to playing a lead role in a Robert Rodriguez-Quentin Tarantino movie, playing an action hero. Everything is a building block."

Big opportunity "Grindhouse," the Rodriguez-Tarantino double-bill of exploitation flicks, is more like an elevator to the penthouse for the actor. His character Wray in the Robert Rodriguez contribution "Planet Terror," is Freddy Rodriguez's first gun-totin', knife-wieldin' matinee idol. Who in Hollywood could say he graduated from busboy (in "Bobby") to alpha-man savior?

He laughs at the dichotomy in this recent phone chat. Measured in physical attributes, Rodriguez is no one's Rambo.

He's 5 feet 6 and admits he is not the obvious choice to play a freak-azoid-slaying bad boy. But he was flattered that the director saw a

valiant essence in the audition.

It is no coincidence that, in a collaboration of Hispanic director and actor, the protagonist is a generic brand of macho. He could be played by Will Smith, Orlando Bloom or, yeah, Steady Freddy.

"The misconception about Latin actors is that, because you're Latin, you always have to play a Latin, or you must always reference your ethnicity in film," says Freddy Rodriguez, who is of Puerto Rican descent.

"I don't think that's right. You do that all the time, you put yourself in a box."

Rodriguez spent five years putting others in a box as Federico the mortician on HBO's "Six Feet Under" (2001-05).

"Right now, the momentum is in film, and I have to follow that momentum," he says.

He tells no grand tale of being discovered. His idols are his parents, "immigrant factory workers who did everything they could to see that me and my two brothers were OK. That inspired me to go forward."

Rodriguez eventually landed a supporting role with Keanu Reeves in the World War II winery tale "A Walk in the Clouds" (1995), moving to Los Angeles around the same time. He says he considers himself a pioneer for young Hispanic actors, just as

there were those who blazed a trail for him.

Working on "Grindhouse" was a tonic of sorts. Rodriguez got to lose himself in a character that is a "polar opposite" of most of his roles.

"Working with Robert and Quentin taught me it's OK to be enthusiastic and passionate about what you do after the level of notoriety and success they've achieved," Rodriguez says.

The "Chasing Papi" and "Havoc" star is now developing a movie about Puerto Rico's La Perla ghetto.

He had hoped to make an official announcement before "Grindhouse" opens.

The long haul If his personal life is any indication, he can wait. In his milieu, staying married to his prom date, Elsie (they now have three children), qualifies him for induction into Ripley's Believe It or Not.

"We try to keep a good spiritual base in our family, try to keep normalcy in our family."

That's Freddy. Keeping it steady.

Los Lonely Boys Look for the Words to Describe Their Unique Sound



Texican is a word often used to describe what Los Lonely Boys play. Guitarist and frontman Henry Garza, one of the three brothers in the group, also embraces many of the other labels that have been attached to the group, such as pop, rock, Tejano and country. But even he has difficulty coming up with a few choice words to pinpoint his band's music. "Is there a 'real' category?" he said in a telephone interview from his tour bus near Phoenix. "It's hard to put a finger on it. There's a little bit of everything in it, from Stevie Ray Vaughan, Ritchie Valens, Carlos Santana. It's just real music and we think it rocks." The brothers from San Angelo will join fellow Texas trio

ZZ Top, as well as Cross Canadian Ragweed and Kid Rock, April 7 at Ford Pavilion. The show will be Los Lonely Boys' first in the area since 2004. Best known for their 2004 Grammy Award-winning hit "Heaven," Los Lonely Boys are touring in support of their latest album, "Sacred," and a new documentary about them called "Cottonfields and Crossroads." Their music is distinguished by bilingual lyrics and cross-cultural rhythms that reflect the music scene of their West Texas upbringing. "There was just a mixture," Garza said. "There was a lot of traditional conjunto, Tejano bands and the occasional rock group. Music was around, just wherever dad took us." Their dad Enrique, a con-

junto musician who had his own group, the Falcones, in the 1970s, began taking his boy Henry to gigs when he was about 6. Henry Garza's brothers -- bassist Jo Jo, and drummer Ringo -- tagged along and together they played all over Texas and the South. Among the challenges the brothers faced trying to make it in the industry was that nobody knew how to categorize their music. "It was always like that in the beginning," he said. Industry executives "didn't know what Los Lonely Boys were. There were people telling us, 'You should do this, you should do that.' You just have to know what's right and wrong." Their big break came when country music star Willie Nelson saw them perform in Austin and invited them to record at his studio in 2003. Their self-titled major-label debut CD was released the following year and featured Nelson's guitar playing on the song "La Contestación." The album reached No. 9 on Billboard's Top 200 chart and the single "Heaven" made it to the top of the adult contemporary charts. The brothers, who write their songs in English, were initially a bit hesitant to record in Spanish, but decided to try anyway. Their fan base, Garza said, is just diverse as the sound. "We feel blessed," he said. "We have a lot of fans here in the States that are Hispanic. You gotta feel proud, like the way we feel about Ritchie Valens or Los Lobos. But our fans are multicultural, have a lot of colors. We're not just Chicanos. We're humans." The band has played with the likes of Santana, Paul McCartney and Tim McGraw, and sharing a stage with ZZ Top, Garza said, is like "a blessing from the good Lord upstairs, man." "They were a big influence on us, so it's like a dream come true," he said. "You got two Texas trios in the house, look out, man."

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For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager for Project #1 - Debbie Griffin; for Project #2 - Rick Richeda. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fax 806-742-2241 or e-mail: debbie.griffin@ttu.edu, rick.richeda@ttu.edu.

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Protagonizan latinos el día inaugural del playball

Profesionales dominicanos, venezolanos, puertorriqueños, cubanos, panameños y mexicanos, entre otros, han incrementado su presencia en cada uno de los equipos de las Grandes Ligas y posiciones de juego y como símbolo los 10 abridores que trabajaran en el montículo en las dos primeras jornadas después del grito de "play ball".

La responsabilidad de dejar de nuevo en alto la aportación de los lanzadores latinos recaerá en cuatro serpentinos venezolanos, tres cubanos, un dominicano, un mexicano y un nicaragüense.

Como es tradicional, el equipo campeón de la Serie Mundial y defensores del título, los Cardenales de San Luis, verán acción para enfrentarse a los Mets de Nueva York, en la primera revancha desde que disputaron la serie del banderín de la Liga Nacional.

Tony La Russa, responsable de los Cardenales, se decidió por el estelar Chris Carpenter para que se salga al montículo, mientras que Willie Rándolph, se irá con el veterano zurdo Tom Glavine.

Después de que se cumpla la jornada inaugural del próximo 1 de abril, la siguiente verán acción 26 de los otros 28 equipos que configuran la competición de las Grandes Ligas y ahí es donde estarán los abridores latinoamericanos.

El zurdo venezolano Johan Santana, por méritos propios, será sin discusión el abridor estelar de la jornada cuando suba al montículo para defender los intereses de los Mellizos de Minnesota.

Santana, que ha demostrado estar entre los mejores de las Grandes Ligas, ganador dos veces del premio Cy Young de la Liga Americana en las últimas tres temporadas, tendrá que superar al zurdo estelar canadiense Erik Be-

dard, de los Orioles de Baltimore.

El derecho Carlos Zambrano, completamente feliz por la renovación de contrato, espera desde el primer día ser productivo con los Cachorros de Chicago que se enfrentaran a los Rojos de Cincinnati y a su abridor estelar Aaron Harang.

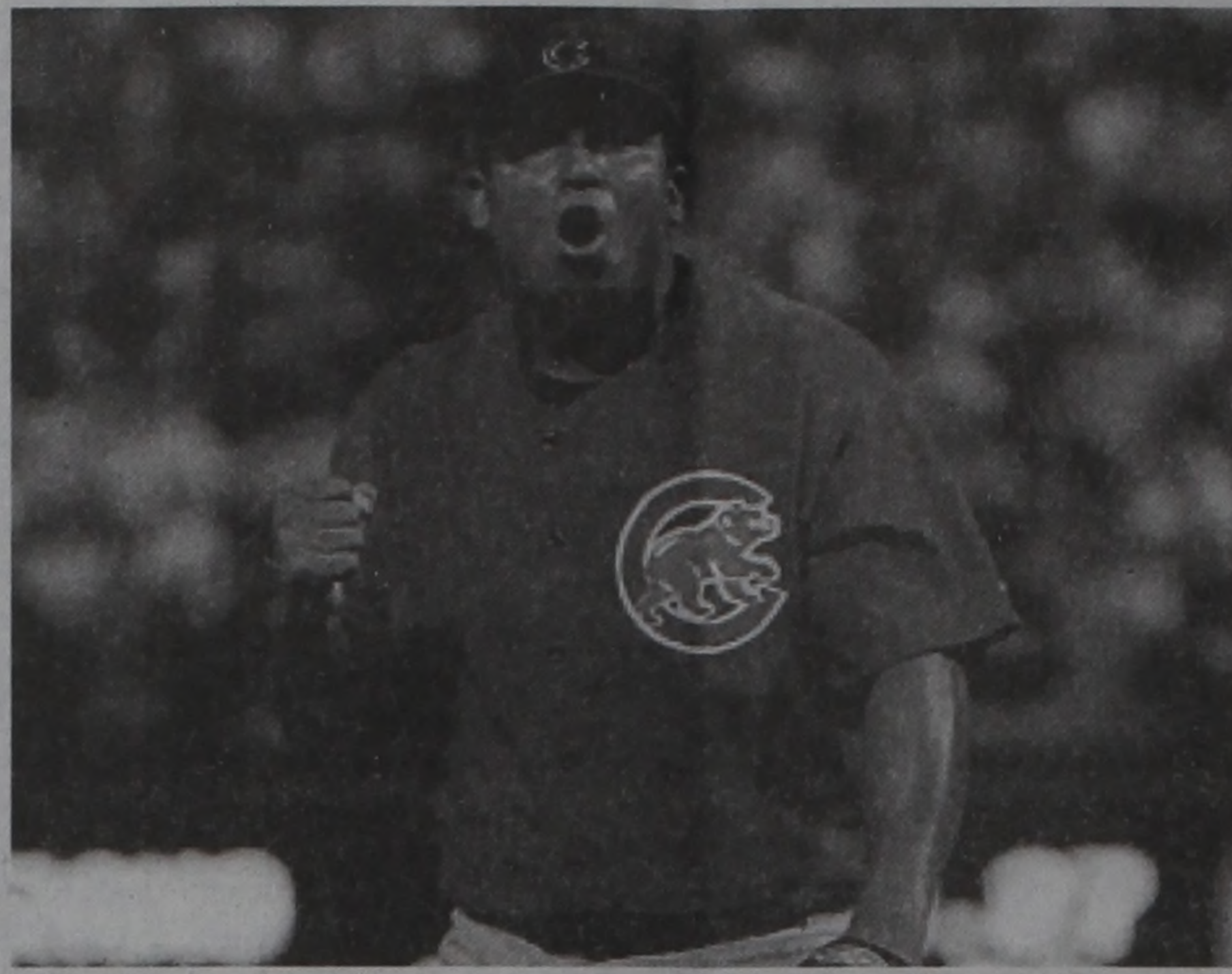
"Estoy listo para demostrar que los directivos de los Cachorros no se equivocaron cuando decidieron renovarme el contrato", declaró el criollo Zambrano, que llegará a Cincinnati listo para conseguir su primer triunfo de la temporada.

Si Santana y Zambrano son la experiencia del pitcheo venezolano en las Grandes Ligas, el derecho Félix Hernández ya se ha ganado por méritos propios un sitio de protagonismo en la rotación de los Marineros de Seattle y será el abridor del Día Inaugural.

Hernández con sólo 21 años, lleva ya dos en las Grandes Ligas, espera que esta campaña sea la que le permita consolidarse no sólo como estelar del equipo sino entre los mejores de la Liga Americana.

Pero sobre todo, el gran objetivo de Hernández es superar la inconsistencia que ha tenido en las dos últimas temporadas y nada mejor que demostrarlo desde el primer día cuando los Marineros se enfrenten en el Safeco Field de Seattle a los Atléticos de Oakland y su estelar Danny Haren.

El cubano José Ariel Contreras fue designado por segundo año seguido por el manager de los Medias Blan-



cas de Chicago, el venezolano Ozzie Guillén, como primer abridor y tendrá una prueba de fuego ante el estelar C.C.Sabathia, de los Indios de Cleveland.

Si en la segunda jornada, el protagonismo de los lanzadores venezolanos será completo, en la tercera habrá representación general de los lanzadores latinos con dos cubanos, un dominicano, un nicaragüense, un mexicano y otro criollo.

Los hermanastros Orlando y Liván Hernández serán los responsables de abrir para los Mets y los Cascabeles de Arizona, respectivamente, y están listos para ser de nuevo protagonistas durante la temporada regular.

"El Duque" Hernández tendrá que enfrentarse a Kip Wells, de los Cardenales, mientras que su hermanastro deberá hacer frente a Jeff Francis, de los Rockies de Colorado.

El derecho mexicano Esteban Loaiza se ganó por méritos propios la confianza de los directivos

de los Atléticos y será el abridor para el segundo partido de la nueva temporada ante los Marineros que sacaran a Jarrod Washburn.

El derecho Daniel Cabrera tendrá el honor de ser el primer dominicano que abra un partido en la nueva temporada y lo hará cuando se equipo de los Orioles se enfrenten a los Mellizos, que pondrán a Boof Bonser en el montículo para buscar la victoria.

Mientras que el primer duelo de abridores latinoamericanos de la nueva temporada del béisbol profesional lo van a protagonizar Padilla y Escobar cuando se enfrenten los Vigilantes de Texas contra los Angelinos de Los Angeles.

Padilla llega reforzado a la nueva temporada después de haber renovado con los Vigilantes y Escobar sigue siendo el lanzador productivo que necesitan los Angelinos de cara a ser de nuevo un equipo aspirante a la lucha por el banderín de la Americana.

Recargado, Rocky vuelve a Las Vegas

El texano Ricardo "Rocky" Juárez enfrentará al mexicano José Hernández, en lo que será la pelea semiestelar de la función entre Oscar de la Hoya y Floyd Mayweather Jr. el próximo 5 de mayo en Las Vegas, Nevada.

Tras perder ante Marco Antonio Barrera en dos ocasiones, Juárez (26-3, 19 KO) tuvo una gran reaparición recientemente en Tucson, Arizona, el pasado 9 de febrero. En esa velada televisada a nivel nacional, Juárez noqueó en cinco asaltos a Emmanuel Lucero, lo que lo catapultó a la función que será vista alrededor de 176 países, según los organizadores.

José Andrés Hernández (22-3, 14 KO), oriundo de Ciudad Juárez, viene de una convincente victoria por nocaut en el octavo asalto ante el estadounidense Jason Litzau en diciembre pasado.

"Queremos regresar a Juárez al lugar donde merece estar, disputando un título mundial", indicó Éric Gómez, el organizador de peleas de Golden Boy Promotions.

"Juárez es uno de esos box-

eadores que reaparecerán, cuando todas las figuras del boxeo actual se hayan retirado", agregó Gómez.

"Apenas ayer me dijeron que iba a ser parte de la cartelera, estoy muy emocionado", indicó Juárez, de 26 años de edad, cinco menos que su rival.

Juárez agregó que no fue fácil levantarse de las dos derrotas consecutivas ante Barrera pero que la gran contienda que tuvo ante Lucero, le recuperó la confianza.

Además de la contienda principal entre De la Hoya (38-4, 30 KO) y Mayweather Jr. (37-0, 24 KO) y la Juárez-Hernández, el filipino Ray "Boom Boom" Bautista (22-0, 17 KO) enfrentará al invicto argentino Sergio Manuel Medina (28-0, 16 KO).

Por otra parte, la promotora Golden Boy manifestó que tendrán 22 mil asientos disponibles para presenciar el pleito por Circuito Cerrado en el MGM Grand.

Además, los representantes del hotel-casino indicaron que Mayweather sigue siendo favorito en las apuestas por 2-1, aunque "De la Hoya ha estado mejorando sus números", agregaron

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Alex Rodriguez: Highest-paid player in MLB

The Yankees' pinstripes might as well be green. Four of the top seven players on baseball's salary list play in the Bronx, led by Alex Rodriguez at a record \$27.7 million, according to a survey of contract terms by The Associated Press.

A-Rod is followed by Jason Giambi (\$23.4 million) and Derek Jeter (\$21.6 million), with Boston's Manny Ramirez fourth at \$17 million.

"I love being the highest-paid player in the game. It's pretty cool," Rodriguez said when he arrived at spring training, explaining the money allows him to do more charitable work. "You get crushed, but you know what? It's pretty cool. I enjoy it."

Colorado's Todd Helton (\$16.6 million) was fifth, and the Yankees' Andy Pettitte was tied for sixth with the Los Angeles Angels' Bartolo Colon at \$16 million.

"We should make it. We're the ones doing the entertaining," said San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds, 11th on the list at \$15.5 million.

The Yankees' opening-day payroll dropped slightly for the second straight season to \$195.2 million from \$198.7 million last year and a record \$205.9 million in 2005.

Boston was next at \$143.5 mil-

lion _ and that doesn't include the \$51.1 million fee the Red Sox paid the Seibu Lions for pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka. The Yankees' figure also didn't include the \$26 million they sent to the Hanshin Tigers for pitcher Kei Igawa.

The New York Mets were third at \$117.9 million, followed by the Chicago White Sox (\$109.7 million), the Angels (\$109.3 million), the Los Angeles Dodgers (\$108.7 million) and the Seattle Mariners (\$106.5 million).

"Owners wouldn't pay it if they weren't making it," said Yankees pitcher Mike Mussina, whose \$11.1 million salary ranks him just 50th.

Tampa Bay had the lowest payroll at \$24.1 million and Florida was 29th at \$30.05 million, double last year's figure of just under \$15 million. Nineteen of 31 players on the Marlins make the minimum \$380,000.

Payroll figures don't include cash transactions, such as money the Yankees are receiving from Texas for Rodriguez and the White Sox are getting from Philadelphia for Jim Thome.

An influx of injured players kept baseball's average salary from breaking the \$3 million barrier on opening day. The average was a record \$2.94 million, up 2.7 percent from last year's opening average

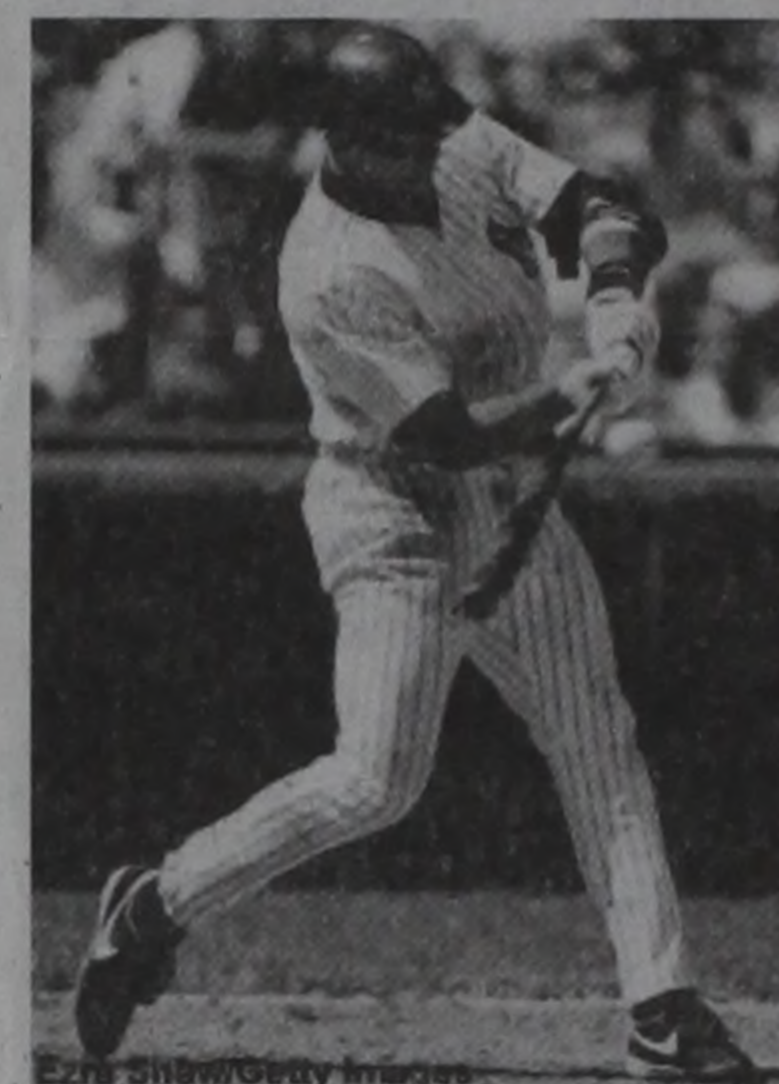
of \$2.87 million. Although many large contracts were signed during the offseason, many were backloaded.

There were 32 more players on the disabled list this year than at the start of last season. That meant the addition of nearly three dozen extra players _ nearly all earning close to the minimum. Baseball's average broke the \$1 million barrier in 1992 and the \$2 million mark in 2001.

Sixty-six players made \$10 million or more, and that \$1 million club jumped from 409 to 425 _ matching the record set in 2001. That doesn't include Russ Ortiz, listed at the minimum with San Francisco, while Arizona, which released the pitcher last year, pays him \$7,120,000.

The median salary (the point at which an equal amount of players fall above and below) matched the \$1 million record set last year.

"There's no doubt that there are a dozen or more players who are overpaid, but that's the American way. Shouldn't we all be overpaid? Don't we all want to be overpaid?" said Dodgers second baseman Jeff Kent, 70th at \$9.8 million. "A lot of these guys don't make that average salary. They make the median, which



is closer south than north. Agents are getting smarter, ballplayers are getting smarter, and the business is generating so much money that there needs to be give and take. I wish I was making \$25 million, but I'm not. And the average salary is closer to my salary than the guys getting paid a lot more. But, so be it."

Figures for the study included salaries and prorated shares of signing bonuses and other guaranteed income for the 847 players on opening-day rosters and disabled lists, plus Mets reliever Guillermo Mota, serving a 50-game suspension following a positive steroids test. For some players, deferred money was discounted to present-day value.

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Error Correction

El Editor would like to apologize for an error on Community Health Center of Lubbock locations listed in our Health Edition dated March 29- April 4.

The following are CHCL clinic sites:

CHCL-Broadway Medical & Dental 1318 Broadway Lubbock, TX 79401 806-765-2611	Parkway Clinic 406 MLK Drive Lubbock, TX 79403 806-767-9744	Parkway-Dental 1702 Parkway Drive Lubbock, TX 79403 806-687-6259	Chapman Clinic 2301 Cedar Ave. Lubbock, TX 79404 806-749-0024
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A new medical and dental clinic will be opening soon in the North Lubbock community. El Editor will keep you informed about this new development.

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