

Demonstrators ask: "Is it justice for some!"

About 100 protesters gathered and walked in front of the County Courthouse this Wednesday to protest the killings of Lubbock and area citizens at the hands of local peace officers.

The protest organized by County Commissioner candidate Frank Gutierrez "was meant to bring attention to the problem and to try and get local elected officials to do something about them."

Petitions presented to Sheriff David Gutierrez and Police Chief Ken Walker called to their attention the fact that Texas Peace Officers had shot and killed Joe Cavazos, Jr, Joseph Delarosa and Ruben Noah Rivera and had deprived them of life and due process under the law.

The petition further states that whereas "It is the right of citizens to petition government for redress. Killings by Peace Officers make citizens more fearful of Peace Officers than of the peace rendering circumstances from which they seek relief. Killings by Peace Officers

corrode and corrupt the trust and confidence of citizens in the law enforcement institutions in which they ought to confide."

The petition urged Sheriff Gutierrez and Chief Walker "to implement with deliberate speed and extreme resolve all processes and actions necessary to secure the freedom of citizens of Lubbock from all actions of Peace Officers that deprive citizens of life and due process."

Elected public officials present included Commissioner Gilbert Flores and Councilman Victor Hernandez.

Flores stated that he was waiting, like the other commis-

sioners, on results of the investigation. Hernandez stated that

among one of the actions that were going to be undertaken by City Council was to initiate

Senator Rodney Ellis was planning on introducing legislation to force studies into

a study on racial profiling. "We feel that rather than wait and have the federal or state mandate the study, the city council has decided to go ahead and start the process."

Hernandez also said that the Police departments has also instituted other programs including a new cultural diversity course to be provided for officers.

Concerning the racial profiling, Chief Ken Walker said that he was aware that

racial profiling but was not aware that the City was already planning to start a study. Concerning the protest Walker expressed that he shared the families' concerns for their loss. "The loss of a person's life is very tragic. The entire police department hopes that it will never happen again. I think that the entire community needs to try and look for ways to intercede on what is causing the crime caused mainly by drugs."

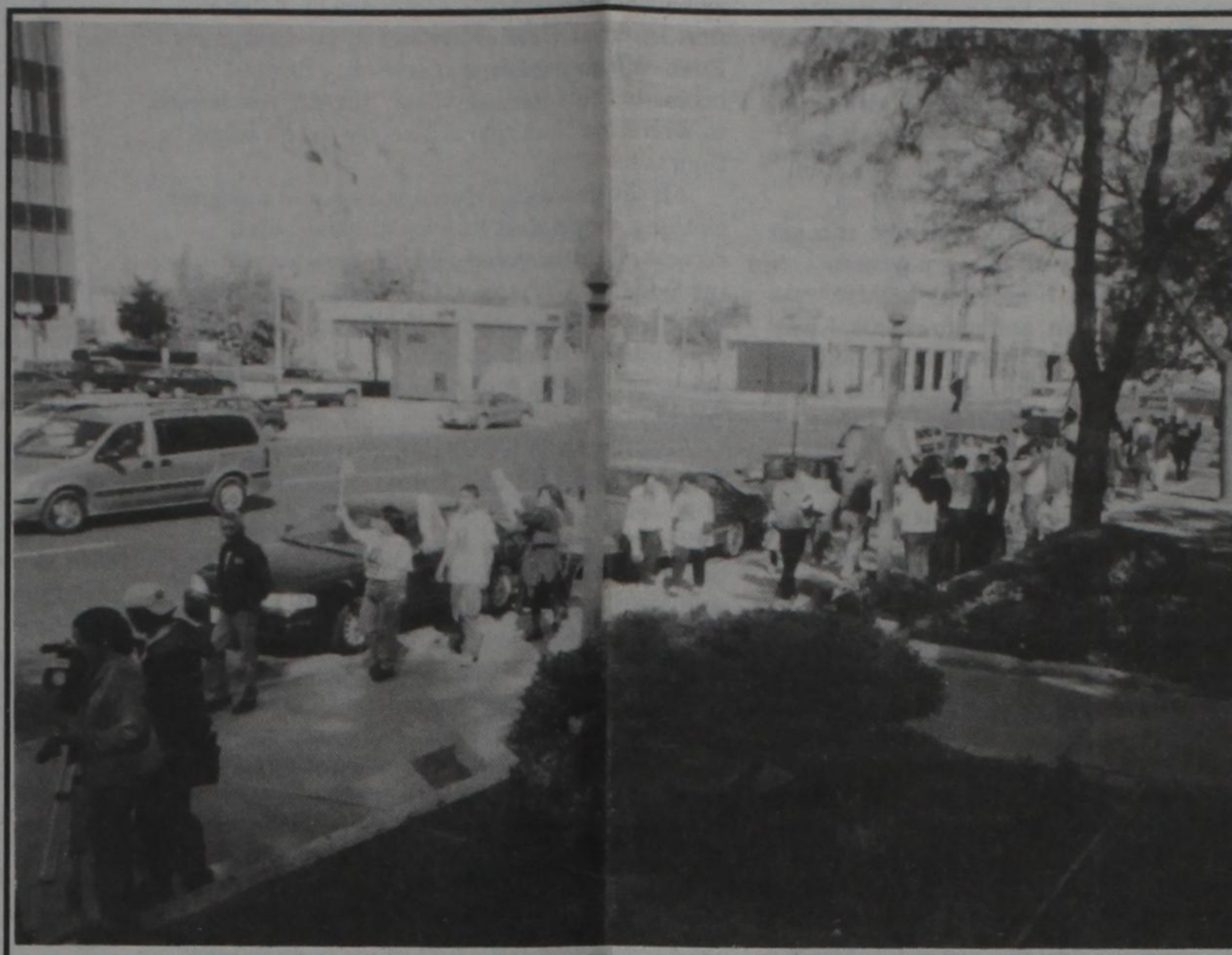
Sheriff David Gutierrez was unavailable for comment.

Signs quoting scripture from the bible including "Thou shalt not kill." and others were prevalent. Signs asking for Justice asked whether justice is for some.

Gutierrez stated that he was hopeful that the demonstration would accomplish its goals. "To bring attention to what people were saying in the community."

Bidal Agüero

El Editor Newspaper
News That Count



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

EL EDITOR

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Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

Memories of the 1970's were rekindled in my mind as I attended the demonstration held Wednesday at the County Courthouse.

The killing have recently brought to mind killing by police in Colorado City, Plainview and Lubbock.

Police brutality have brought personal memories of police breaking my arm when I was trying to help people in the barrios after the tornado.

The signs that mentioned God brought to mind the demonstrations called the "Marcha de Fe" held here in Lubbock at which priests joined us to protest police brutality and the killing of Ernesto Nerios who was shot over a dozen times and issued a traffic violation as he lie dying.

So why haven't these type of demonstration been held. We can't say that the police brutality and killing have stopped. The latest brutality allegation against police was recently as a young boy was beat after painting graffiti on a wall. The latest killings included a killing of a man accused of banishing a knife from across the street of the killer, a peace officer.

A this week's demonstration two elected officials were present, Victor Hernandez and Gilbert Flores. Both claimed initially that the demonstration was only being used by County Commissioner candidate Frank Gutierrez to further his political agenda. Saying nothing about the real concerns of the people.

Hernandez later said that he personally was doing something about their concerns by working to establish new studies and programs within the City.

Flores said that he was waiting on result of the investigation.

When asked about racial profiling Hernandez admitted that there was a problem and that after concerns that the City was going to be mandated by the state and federal government, the city had decided to go ahead with some sort of study. A study which the Police Chief knows nothing about.

Hernandez said that although he has expressed his concerns to his fellow City fathers, they ask why, if there are concerns, aren't there any letters to the editor or letters to them or public demonstrations.

Now there has been a demonstration. What is going to happen now?

With the election 26 days away as of press time, everything in Lubbock seems silent. That with the exception of a few TV ads that are being running by Congressman Mac Thornberry and a few signs springing up all over town. The most prevalent signs seem to be those put up by Democrats for Gore/Lieberman and on the local level the only noticeable person actively campaigning through signs is Frank Gutierrez who is running against incumbent Gilbert Flores for County Commissioner Pct. 3.

In an interview held this week during what was called his campaign kickoff Gutierrez said that in actuality, he has been campaigning since his primary victory.

"I have been out working door to door, talking personally to voters, contacting all my friends and trying to get their vote."

Speaking to a room full of supporters, Gutierrez said that it seemed that Flores was just taking the people in precinct 3 for granted.

"We are not. My wife and I have been out actively talking to people be it at the supermarket, at church, football games and where ever we can get someone to listen. We have a

message to give out. And that is that we can win this election with each and everybody's vote."

Although a definite supporter, one had a question. "So what do we tell people that you stand for on the issues. I support you because I know that you are a good person, you love your family, go to church and stay active in our community. But everyone asks me, what is Frank's platform?"

"I think you already answered your own question," Gutierrez answered. "You tell them exactly what you said as to why you are voting for me. That's enough of an answer. We don't have to argue with people on what's my platform. Just point out to them what you think of me."

Ysidro Gutierrez, who attended the kickoff and described himself as a yellow dog democrat who was going to split his vote on the commissioner's race said that their was a very specific reason why he was going to vote for Gutierrez.

"I have known Pancho since I got out of the military. I support him for the same reasons the lady has mentioned and especially because he is a veteran. But more that that I support Pancho because of what Gilbert said at one of the debates when

he was campaigning for his nomination. When he spoke to Isabel Luna, one of the candidates, with a paternalistic voice asking Luna who he taught he was and saying that Luna was just a car salesman running against an elected commissioner, that convinced me that I would not vote for Gilbert. No one needs to be talked down to like that, regardless if they are a car salesman, a trash collector or a lawyer."

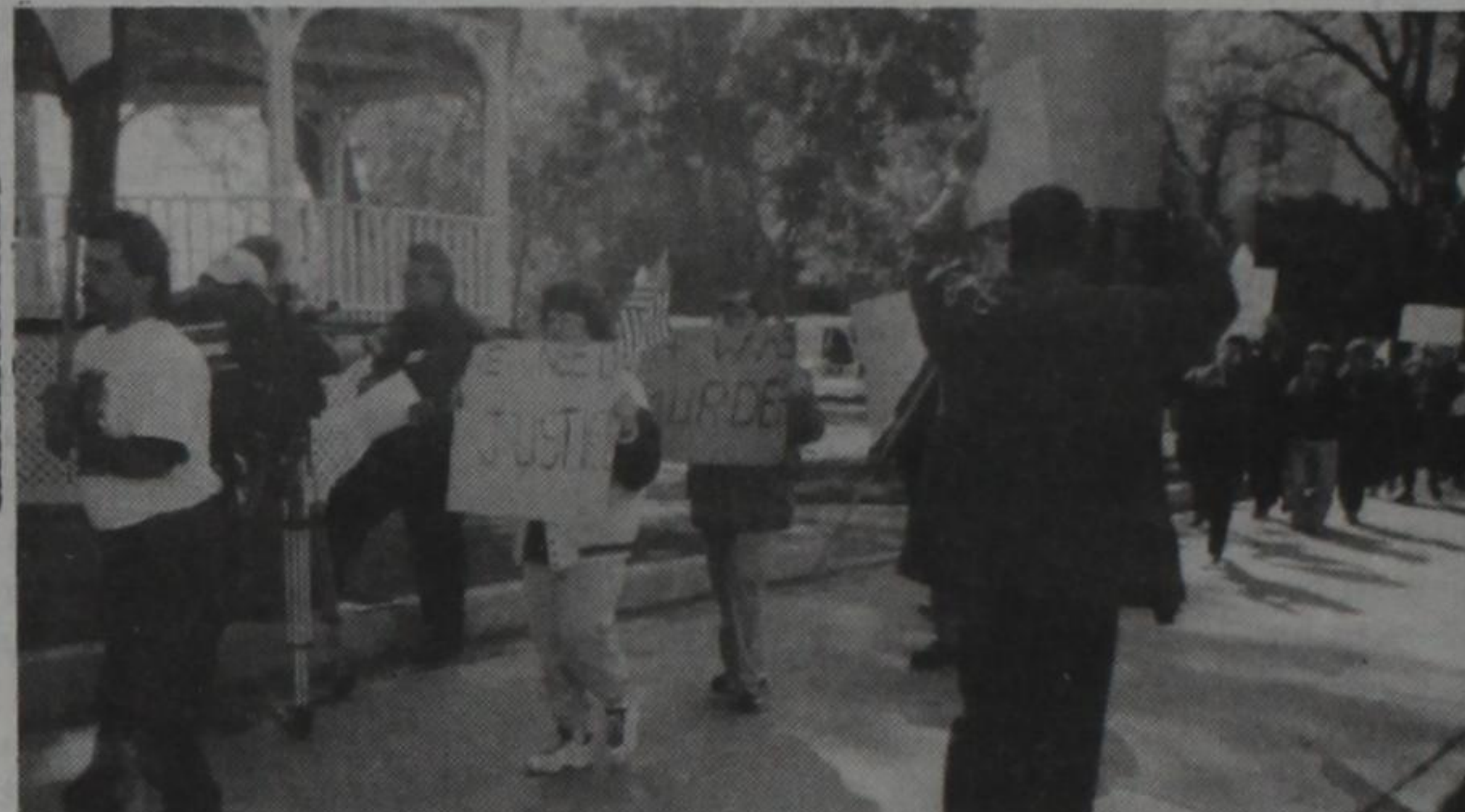
Gutierrez expressed that he was happy that Ysidro had brought up the issue of splitting the vote.

"Many people do not know that they can split their vote. They can vote for every democrat on the ticket and still vote for me. Law says that if you vote straight democrat at the top of the ballot and you go down and mark my name, your vote will count for me plus the rest of the democratic party."

As of press time no invitations or notices of a campaign kickoff has been received by our office from Flores.

Early vote is for the november election which will include races from the presidential level to the local level will begin on October 3 and will continue until November 3. The election will be held with polls open from 7 until 7 on November 7.

Gutierrez Actively Campaigning



Frank Gutierrez, candidate for Lubbock County Commissioner Pct. 3 who coordinated Wednesday's event was pleased by the two hour demonstration. By the end of the demonstration, more than 100 people participated in bringing attention to the issue of officers using deadly force.

News Briefs

Utah Wants English Only

According to statewide polls, Utah likely will pass a bill on November 7 prohibiting government business and printing information to be conducted in any language but English.

Though the bill would only apply to local and state agencies, opponents say this bill is racist and creates undue problems for immigrants.

"The ironic thing is [bill supporters] talk about creating more unity, and there is a probably nothing so racially divisive right now as this movement," Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson told AP. His city hosts the Winter Olympics in 2002.

According to U.S. Census estimates from July of 1999, 150,699 Hispanics live in Utah, a 78 percent growth since July of 1990. The rapid growth suggests many of the new Hispanic residents in Utah are Spanish-dominant immigrants, namely from Mexico and Central America. Almost 3 percent of Utah's population consists of Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Rep. Tammy Rowan, the sponsor of this bill, has been supported in this effort by U.S. English, an advocacy group based in Washington, D.C. The Chairman and CEO of U.S. English is Mauro E. Mujica, who immigrated to the United States from Chile in 1965. According to AP, his organization will spend close to \$150,000 to get this measure on the ballot and passed.

At least 20 states designate English as the official language of government. However, such designations do not prevent government to use other languages in print documents or in other ways.

¿QUE PASA?

October Fast So Lubbock's Hungry Can Be Fed

This year marks the 10th year Lubbock will participate in *Octoberfast*, and several events are planned surrounding World Hunger Day. *Octoberfast* is held each year to increase awareness of the hungry and homeless in Lubbock and the area and to raise funds for the food bank's Second Helpings program.

Every day of the week children and adults who would otherwise go hungry are being fed at Second Helping community kitchens throughout Lubbock. Would like to help? You can participate in *Octoberfast* by fasting for one meal and donating the cost of that meal to the Food Bank either directly (mail donations to South Plains Food Bank 4612 Locust Avenue - Lubbock, TX 79404) or through your church in a special collection to be taken on Sunday, October 15.

Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Upcoming Schedule

LHCC will have its regular monthly luncheon on Friday, October 27, 2000. The event will start at 11:45 and it will held at the Holiday Inn Towers which located on 801 Avenue Q. Esther Sepeda, President of the Chamber urges everyone to attend and to bring a friend.

In addition, the Chamber has schedule to host a Candidate Forum which will be held on Wednesday, October 25. The forum will start at 7:00 am at Jimenez Bakery which is located on 1217 Avenue G here in Lubbock. The public is urged to attend.

If you own or are thinking about starting a small business, stop by the SBA/Bankers Loan Fair and network with SBA and Lubbock area bankers. The Fair will be held from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2000 at Wayland Baptist University, located at 2002 W. Loop 289 in Lubbock. Please call 806-472-7426 or 806-745-1637 for more information.

En Tucson, El Dia Delvendedor de Paletas Es Calido y Largo

Por Ernesto Portillo Jr.

El tintineo de cuatro campanillas brillantes de la carretilla de paletas de frutas de Teófilo Ortiz anuncia su llegada. El se detiene bajo el sombreado Centro Ronstadt de Tránsito en la Sexta Avenida del Norte, en la parte central de la ciudad, donde el público espera los autobuses de Sun Tran.

"¿Qué sabor quiere usted?" pregunta él con su inglés de acento marcado, mientras un hombre se acerca a la carretilla. "Vainilla," le contesta el hombre en inglés.

El poner la mano dentro del compartamiento helado le ofrece a Ortiz, de 54 años de edad, un alivio momentáneo del calor de Tucson.

Pero no hay descanso para Ortiz, que empuja su carretilla de 14 a 18 millas diarias, 12 horas al día, seis días a la semana.

"Hace mucho calor aquí," dice él más de una vez. "Esto es muy duro."

"Tengo que estar moviéndome

para seguir vendiendo," dice él, cambiando al español. "No puedo quedarme mucho tiempo en el mismo lugar."

Ortiz es uno de 30 vendedores de paletas que trabajan en las calles de la ciudad, principalmente en el Lado Sur, vendiendo paletas de frutas Moreliana. Las golosinas de sabores múltiples se hacen en la planta de la compañía en Phoenix y se llevan a un almacén. Allí los vendedores recogen sus carretillas.

Ortiz y la mayoría de sus colegas son de Guanajuato, en el centro de México. Ellos llevan permisos del gobierno para trabajar y visas bajo el programa H-2 de trabajadores temporeros. Moreliana tiene que probar que anunció en busca de vendedores en la zona de Tucson, pero no encontró solicitantes. Entonces la empresa solicita las visas, explica Bill Johnston, jefe de la oficina local del Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización. "Mi presunción es que ellos no pueden conseguir personas que ven-

dan con una temperatura de 108 grados," dice él.

Los vendedores de paletas, aparentemente, son difíciles de conseguir, como los pastores de ovejas en Idaho, reclutados en el Perú; los criadores de caballos de pura sangre en California, que proceden de México igual que Ortiz; y los recogedores de manzanas de Nueva York, a menudo traídos desde Jamaica.

El vender paletas, como otros empleos desempeñados por extranjeros, o es demasiado duro o paga demasiado poco.

También puede ser peligroso. Varios vendedores fueron víctimas de robo hace poco, dice Ortiz, que ha trabajado indemne hasta ahora. El vive con otros seis vendedores en un apartamento casi vacío. Ellos duermen en el piso y ahorran su dinero para enviárselo a sus familias.

Ortiz llegó en mayo. Este es su tercer verano vendiendo las paletas en Tucson.

"Prefiero vender paletas que continua en la pagina 4

Despite Castro And Clinton, Cuba is Entering the 21st Century

By Margarita Engle

During a recent trip to my mother's homeland, I was surprised to see the degree to which certain key aspects of Cuban life had changed since my last visit, in 1997. Food is far more abundant than a few years ago. Hardly anyone in Havana depends on scanty government rations anymore. No one tries to make it through the month with nothing more than a stingy mound of rice and beans and a single roll of rationed bread per person per day. The long food lines that were ubiquitous until recently have virtually disappeared.

In other words, my relatives are no longer starving. Cousins who looked like walking skeletons during the mid-1990s are now healthy, some even plump.

The explanation for this tangible material improvement is simple. The U.S. economic embargo against Cuba has failed miserably. Tourism on the island is booming, bringing with it a limited, bizarre form of prosperity.

Cuba is, after all, an exotic Caribbean island, complete with breathtakingly beautiful tropical beaches, an enticingly sensual Afro-Cuban musical tradition and colorful seasonal carnivals that can be promoted as tourist attractions.

Tourists from cold, snowy countries find it easy to ignore the baffling Communist bureaucracy and utter lack of personal liberties, including freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Tourists are used to ignoring hardship. They've practiced by being oblivious to poverty in Jamaica, beggars in Mexico, oppression in Haiti. All it takes to make a typical tourist happy is fine white sand and a few gracefully swaying palm trees.

Canadian funds have modernized Havana's Jose Marti International Airport beyond recognition, and generous investment by European entrepreneurs has renovated old hotels and constructed new ones, complete with gymnasiums, swimming pools, restaurants, grocery stores and on-site medical offices staffed by highly trained Cuban doctors and nurses.

Sadly, all of these luxuries are available only to foreigners. Impoverished Cuban citizens are allowed only as far as the lobbies of hotels. They aren't permitted to visit friends or even close relatives who happen to be staying in newly renovated hotel rooms. In fact, unless a Cuban possesses coveted U.S. dollars, he can't shop in hotel stores or eat in hotel restaurants. It's a system that has been referred to as "tourist apartheid."

Beginning in 1991, Cuba's urgent need for hard currency became so acute that tourism was actively promoted. With Cubans now having endured many years without Soviet subsidies, the U.S. government's persistent

attempt to isolate the Communist island from the rest of the world has been clearly revealed as a failure. Four decades of our persistent, unwavering economic embargo have not come close to meeting the original goal of pushing the Cuban people toward rebelling and topping Castro.

In the privacy of their homes, Cubans joke about Fidel, calling him *el viejito loco*. But they are still rational, intelligent people, loving parents who want to protect their children from war. The minds of the Cuban people are fixed on the daily scramble to obtain dollars, not on arming themselves for a suicidal rebellion.

As evidence of the embargo's failure, it must be admitted that nearly all of our partners trade freely with Cuba. Israel may be just about the only exception, and as a result, I was shocked to see the Star of David vindictively displayed on a mural in a government building, alongside a swastika, a KKK robe and other overt symbols of violent oppression.

The average Cuban has found ways to adapt to his government's strange, two-tiered system of tourist apartheid. Cubans are, by necessity, inventive. They have created numerous ingenious pathways to sneak around the restrictions mandated by official policies. One way or another, daily life on the island has demanded a unique degree of creativity for 41 years. Decades of rationing and elaborate, secretive black marketeering have given the Cuban population a great deal of experience in scrounging. Since dollars are now the only currency honored by most government stores, everyone scrounges for the green paper treasures I saw referred to as sacrificial *dolores*, or "sorrows," beside a tongue-in-cheek church offering basket.

Of course, the easiest way to obtain dollars is by having a generous relative in the United States. Many of the same exiled Cuban Americans who refuse to visit their native island are more than willing to send gifts to needy loved ones.

Working in tourism is another approach to the dollar economy. Hotel employees, waiters and taxi drivers receive their tips in dollars, making them — along with prostitutes, thieves and con artists — the new elite of the island. Artisans who make handicrafts for tourists can also make ends meet, as do housewives who turn their living rooms into *paladares*, or home restaurants or *hostales*, bed-and-breakfasts.

The rest of the population has to make, grow or sell something that those who have dollars are willing to buy. The result is good old-fashioned capitalist competition. For instance, in order to sell bread to the wealthy (i.e., anyone who already possesses dollars), a Cuban must make better bread than the bread supplied by government rations. Personal

services are in demand, too. There are people who will wait in line for a fee, deliver messages for a fee, clean houses for a fee, repair for a fee.

On the surface, at least, you might think that Cuba is starting to sound a lot like other poor Third World countries. There are, however, certain unique and disturbing distinctions. Fax machines, cell phones and Cuba's first Internet Café are reserved for foreigners. Even college professors have only limited access to the Internet, their "surfing" restricted to Web sites that relate directly to the subjects they teach.

All the swank perfume stores and designer clothing shops that line the tourist-laden streets of a renovated Old Havana aren't intended for Cubans, either, and even the most basic necessities, such as food and medicine, are sold only in a foreign nation's currency. The prices are North American prices, not Third World prices.

One-fourth of a Cuban doctor's \$10-per-month salary will buy a single chocolate éclair at a 24-hour French bakery. Half a month's salary will purchase a tube of ringworm medicine or a few tablets of vitamin C in the well-stocked, dollars-only pharmacy of the Habana Libre Hotel (the shelves of public pharmacies that accept Cuban pesos are bare or stocked only with herbs from the mountains). A doctor's entire monthly salary will buy three gallons of gasoline or a few minutes of touring Old Havana in one of the quaint horse-and-buggy taxis available near the Plaza de Armas.

I know two doctors, a husband and wife, who live in a borrowed apartment and don't have access to medicine. I know pastors who don't have Bibles, teachers who don't have pencils and students who don't have paper. In rural areas, hitchhiking is the common form of transportation, and gardening and bartering are the only ways to supplement food rations.

Despite all these shortages, I still have to insist that the U.S. embargo has failed. Cuba remains isolated only in theory. At this point, our outdated U.S. policy seems just as absurd and inhumane as the Cuban government's system of tourist apartheid.

Even the theoretical chapter of Cuba's intellectual isolation is rapidly coming to a close. For the first time in the six visits I've made since 1991, I left my mother's homeland with several e-mail addresses. "People figure out ways," a young, self-taught computer hack explained enthusiastically.

There is nothing either Clinton or Castro can do to keep Cuba's creative and experienced scroungers out the 21st century.

Margarita Engle is the author of two novels, "Singing to Cuba" (Arte Público Press) and "Skywriting" (Bantam). © 2000, Hispanic Link News

A Pesar de Castro y de Clinton Cuban Esta Adelantandose en el Siglo XXI

Por Margarita Engle

Durante un viaje reciente a la patria de mi madre, me sorprendí al ver hasta qué punto habían cambiado ciertos aspectos de la vida cubana desde mi visita anterior, en 1997. Los alimentos están mucho más abundantes que hace unos cuantos años. En La Habana, casi nadie depende de las escasas raciones del gobierno ya más. Nadie trata de pasar un mes sin nada más que un montoncito de arroz y frijoles y un sólo panecito de pan racionado por persona por día. Las largas colas para conseguir alimentos que eran abundantes hasta hace poco, han desaparecido virtualmente.

En otras palabras, mis parientes ya no están muriéndose de hambre. Los primos que parecían esqueletos ambulantes durante la mitad del decenio de 1990 ahora están saludables, y algunos hasta han engordado.

La explicación de este mejoramiento material tangible es sencilla. El embargo económico de los Estados Unidos contra Cuba ha fracasado miserablemente. El turismo está prosperando en la isla, llevando consigo una forma de prosperidad limitada y extraña.

Cuba, después de todo, es una isla exótica del Caribe, completa con playas tropicales asombrosamente bellas, una tradición musical afro-cubana atractivamente sensual y carnavales periódicos coloridos que pueden ser promovidos como atracciones para el turismo.

Los turistas procedentes de países fríos y nevados hallan fácil el pasar por alto a la burocracia comunista desconcertante y a la falta máxima de libertades personales, incluyendo a las de expresión y prensa. Los turistas están acostumbrados a pasar por alto las dificultades. Ellos han practicado al ser indiferentes a la pobreza de Jamaica, a los mendigos de México, a la opresión de Haití. Todo lo que se necesita para hacer feliz a un turista típico es la arena blanca fina y unas cuantas palmeras que oscilen graciosamente.

Los fondos canadienses han modernizado al Aeropuerto Internacional José Martí de La Habana más allá del reconocimiento, y las inversiones generosas de los empresarios europeos han renovado antiguos hoteles y construido otros nuevos, que cuentan con gimnasios, piscinas de natación, restaurantes, tiendas de alimentos y provisiones y consultas médicas en los lugares, dotadas de médicos y enfermeros cubanos altamente capacitados.

Tristemente, todos estos lujos están disponibles solamente para los extranjeros. Los ciudadanos cubanos empobrecidos pueden llegar solamente hasta los vestíbulos de los hoteles. No se les permite visitar a sus amigos, ni siquiera a los familiares cercanos que acierten a estar alojándose en las habitaciones de los hoteles recién modernizados. En verdad, a menos que un cubano tenga los codiciados dólares estadounidenses, no puede comprar en las tiendas de los hoteles ni comer en los restaurantes de los hoteles. Es un sistema que ha sido llamado "apartheid para los turistas."

Comenzando en 1991, la necesidad urgente de Cuba en materia de divisas llegó ser tan aguda que el turismo fué promovido activamente. Por haber sufrido ahora los cubanos muchos años carentes de subvenciones soviéticas, la tentativa persistente del gobierno de los Estados Unidos para aislar a la isla gobernada por comunistas del resto del mundo ha sido revelada claramente como un fracaso total. Cuatro decenios de nuestro embargo persistente e implacable no han alcanzado siquiera a lograr el objetivo original de impulsar al pueblo cubano a rebelarse y derrocar a Castro. En la intimidad de sus hogares, los cubanos bromean acerca de Fidel, llamándole "el viejito loco," pero son todavía personas racionales e inteligentes, padres y madres amorosos que quieren proteger a sus hijos de la guerra. Las mentes del pueblo cubano están fijadas en la lucha diaria para obtener dólares, no en armarse para realizar una rebelión suicida.

Como evidencia del fracaso del embargo, debe reconocerse que casi todos nuestros asociados comercian libremente con Cuba. Israel puede ser la única excepción, y como resultado me sentí sorprendida al ver la Estrella de David vindictivamente desplegada sobre un mural en un edificio del gobierno, junto con una swastika, un capuchón del Ku-Klux-Klan y otros símbolos evidentes de la opresión violenta. El cubano promedio ha encontrado modos de adaptarse al sistema extraído de dos niveles de su propio gobierno, de apartheid para los turistas. Los cubanos son inventores por necesidad. Han creado numerosos senderos ingeniosos para deslizarse alrededor de las limitaciones ordenadas por los cursos de acción oficiales. De un modo u otro, la vida diaria en la isla ha exigido un grado singular de creatividad durante

41 años. Los decenios de racionamiento estricto y mercado negro elaborado y secreto han dado a la población cubana una gran cantidad de experiencia para arreglárselas y resolver. Ya que los dólares son ahora la única moneda aceptada por la mayoría de las tiendas gubernamentales, todos van en busca de los tesoros de papel verde a los que oí referirse como "dolores del sacrificio" irónicamente junto a una cesta de iglesia para las ofrendas.

Desde luego, el mejor modo de obtener dólares es tener un pariente generoso en los Estados Unidos. Muchos de los mismos exiliados cubano-americanos que se niegan a visitar a su isla natal están más que dispuestos a enviar regalos a sus seres queridos necesitados.

El empleo en el turismo es otro enfoque a la economía del dólar. Los empleados, camareros y conductores de taxis de los hoteles reciben sus propinas en dólares, haciendo de ellos, junto con las prostitutas, los ladrones y los artistas de la estufa, la nueva "clase selecta" de la isla. Los artesanos que fabrican objetos típicos para los turistas pueden arreglárselas también, así como las amas de casa que convierten sus salas de estar en "paladares" (restaurantes caseros) u "hostales" (posadas para dormir y desayunar).

El resto de la población tiene que hacer, cultivar o vender algo que aquellos que tienen dólares estén dispuestos a comprar. El resultado es la buena competencia capitalista antigua. Por ejemplo, a fin de vender pan a los ricos (es decir, a cualquiera que ya tenga dólares), un cubano debe hacer mejor pan que el suministrado por las raciones del gobierno.

Los servicios personales se hallan en demanda también. Hay personas que "hacen cola" por un honorario, entregan mensajes por un honorario, limpian casas por un honorario y reparan por un honorario.

En la superficie, por lo menos, se podría pensar que Cuba está empezando a sonar mucho como otras naciones pobres del Tercer Mundo. Hay, no obstante, ciertas distinciones singulares y perturbadoras. Las máquinas de facsímil (FAX), los teléfonos celulares y el primer Internet Café de Cuba están reservados para los extranjeros. Aún los catedráticos de las escuelas superiores tienen sólo un acceso limitado a la Internet, y su "navegación" se limita a los "lugares" de la Red pertinentes directamente a las materias que enseñan. Todas las tiendas lujosas de perfumes y las de ropas de diseñadores que se alinean en las calles llenas de turistas de La Habana Vieja renovada no están destinadas para los cubanos tampoco, y hasta las necesidades más elementales, como la comida y las medicinas, se venden solamente en moneda de una nación extranjera. Los precios son norteamericanos, no del Tercer Mundo. La cuarta parte del sueldo de un médico cubano, diez dólares al mes, comprará un sólo éclair de chocolate en una dulcería francesa abierta durante las 24 horas del día. La mitad del sueldo mensual comprará un tubo de medicina para las lombrices, o unas pocas tabletas de vitamina C en la farmacia bien surtida del Hotel Habana Libre (antes Havana Hilton), que sólo acepta dólares (las repisas de las farmacias públicas que aceptan pesos cubanos están completamente vacías, o surtidas únicamente de hierbas de las montañas). El sueldo mensual completo de un médico sólo puede comprar tres galones de gasolina o unos cuantos minutos de viaje por la Habana Vieja en uno de los pintorescos taxis, coches de caballos disponibles cerca de la Plaza de Armas.

Conozco a dos médicos, que son esposos, que viven en un apartamento prestado y no tienen acceso a la medicina. Conozco a pastores que no tienen Bibles, a maestros que no tienen lápices, y a estudiantes que no tienen papel. En las zonas rurales, el "pedir viaje" es la forma común de transporte, y la jardinería y el trueque son los únicos modos de complementar las raciones de comida. A pesar de todas estas escaseces, todavía debo insistir en que el embargo estadounidense ha fracasado. En este momento, nuestros anticuados cursos de acción estadounidenses parecen exactamente tan absurdos e inhumanos como el sistema del gobierno cubano de "apartheid para los turistas."

Hasta el capítulo teórico del aislamiento intelectual de Cuba está llegando rápidamente a su fin. Por primera vez en las seis visitas que he hecho desde 1991, salí de la patria de mi madre con varias direcciones de e-mail. "La gente se las arregla para hallar modos," explicó un joven autodidacta experto en computadoras con entusiasmo. No hay nada que pueda hacer Clinton o Castro para mantener a los "inventores" creadores y experimentados de Cuba fuera del siglo XXI.

Ocho Fuerzas en Juego Para Revitalizar A Nuestras Ciudades

Por Henry Cisneros

(Lo siguiente resume la presentación hecha por el ex-Secretario de Viviendas y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD) Henry Cisneros, el 25 de septiembre, en la cuarta charla anual James W. Rouse, en el Teatro Lincoln de Washington, DC. Esta fué la primera presentación importante de Cisneros desde que salió de su plaza como presidente y Funcionario Ejecutivo Principal de Univisión para regresar a San Antonio, Texas, a fin de organizar American CityVista, una empresa para desarrollar viviendas en las ciudades centrales de California, Texas, Arizona, Nevada y Colorado.)

El fenómeno que hemos llamado "crisis urbana" ha sido realmente una profunda transformación económica. El modo de que se desarrolló en nuestras ciudades procedió en una progresión de pasos. Las ciudades exitosas de esta nación han surgido como puntos focales de funciones económicas especializadas.

En los primeros años de este siglo y a través de los decenios de 1950 y 1960, las ciudades más fuertes de los Estados Unidos fueron centros fabriles. Pero a medida que la economía global cambiaba y nuestro desempeño fabril se deterioraba, así sucedió con el papel económico de nuestras ciudades.

En algunos casos se convirtieron en ubicaciones anticuadas para industrias que se mudaron a los suburbios. En otros casos, industrias enteras se mudaron fuera del país y se perdieron para las zonas metropolitanas y la nación.

A medida que ocurrían estos procesos, aquellos residentes urbanos que pudieron hacerlo, siguieron a los empleos a las zonas suburbanas y fueron alentados por cursos de acción federales que financiaron la construcción de carreteras y vías expresas en los suburbios, y por cursos de acción federales que hicieron posible la propiedad de casas en los suburbios en una escala impresionante.

Pero muchos residentes de las ciudades interiores fueron impedidos de mudarse a los suburbios, obstruidos por la discriminación descubierta, tal como las hipotecas aseguradas por la FHA (Administración Federal de Viviendas), que estaban atadas a las casas con restricciones raciales, o por el hecho de que los empleos que ellos habían desempeñado no les proporcionaban los medios para comprar casas en las zonas nuevas.

De modo que una generación de trabajadores fabriles, cuyas habilidades no estaban a la altura de los empleos financieros, de mercadeo, legales y relacionados con oficinas que permanecieron en los núcleos de los distritos comerciales centrales, fueron dejados atrás.

Dicho sencillamente, la economía se volvió metropolitana y global, y aquellas cosas relacionadas con las ciudades que permanecieron ancladas en sus lugares — sus terrenos y sus personas menos móviles — se quedaron sin vigor económico.

Durante los 20 años recientes vemos lo que ha significado el que muchas personas rehusaran darse por vencidas acerca de las ciudades — residentes, dirigentes municipales, activistas del desarrollo comunitario, funcionarios del gobierno, empresarios, banqueros, congregaciones religiosas. Ahora, a medida que la economía nacional sostiene su fuerza, las ciudades de todas las categorías reflejan nuevas posibilidades.

Quiero detallar ocho fuerzas que están haciendo posible edificar sobre la fuerza económica actual y construir nuestras ciudades y nuestras vecindades.

Primera, ésta es una economía que no sólo es fuerte, sino también nueva. Es una que tiene muchos elementos que están centrados en las ciudades.

Segunda, el surgimiento de la nueva economía y de los grupos económicos que la crearon están enlazando juntas a las ciudades con las economías metropolitanas y regionales mayores. Aún las ciudades centrales más afectadas pueden flotar sobre la ola de la especialización económica que lleva a una economía metropolitana.

Una tercera dinámica es el reconocimiento de que las ciudades centrales son mercados importantes, que se estiman valer \$920,000 millones por concepto de oportunidades no aprovechadas. El redescubrimiento de tales mercados de las ciudades centrales está convirtiendo a las intenciones empresariales que una vez habrían tratado de buena voluntad y filantropía en conversaciones productivas sobre negocios.

La cuarta es el aumento de una clase media "minoritaria", que en muchas ciudades viene aproximándose a una masa crítica de experiencia empresarial y posesión de negocios. Esto es parcialmente el resultado de los decenios de cursos de acción nacionales que han creado oportunidades más amplias para los latinos y otras personas en la forma de acceso a la enseñanza superior, así como los cursos de acción en las materias de contratación y adquisición que han creado pequeños negocios de propiedad minoritaria.

La quinta es la dirigencia pública empresarial, incluyendo a muchos alcaldes, que han forjado estilos de gobierno municipal colaborativos y semejantes a los negocios. Ellos se hallan unidos en coaliciones eficaces con grupos no lucrativos y dirigentes privados que dan una cantidad de tiempo importante a los proyectos públicos.

Un sexto factor está formado por los generadores de empleos que han permanecido en las ciudades y se han convertido en los bloques de construcción de las nuevas economías de las ciudades. Las instituciones de enseñanza superior son generadoras de empleos, compradoras en gran escala de servicios comerciales e imanes para multitudes de personas.

La séptima es la nueva vivienda en muchas ciudades centrales. La tasa sin precedentes de propiedad de viviendas de los años recientes ha acaiteado a las organizaciones no lucrativas nacionales y a cientos de organizaciones no lucrativas locales a construir casas en zonas donde no se han construido casas en una generación.

Un factor final es el cambio demográfico, incluyendo al aumento de los inmigrantes, que han creado enclaves de comercio. Zonas enteras de la Ciudad de Nueva York y de muchas otras ciudades pueden atribuir sus niveles elevados de vitalidad y espíritu empresarial a las energías constructoras de comunidades de los inmigrantes cubanos, dominicanos, israelíes, rusos, indios, filipinos, persas, chinos, mexicanos y salvadoreños. Ninguna estrategia económica puede tener éxito sin mejoramientos dramáticos en las escuelas de las ciudades. Dicho sencillamente, las familias que van en movimiento hacia arriba no vivirán en ciudades donde no puedan enviar a sus hijos a la escuela con la confianza de que estarán seguros y de que aprenderán. Los negocios no pueden reclutar a residentes locales que no tengan habilidades básicas. En muchas ciudades, las escuelas terminan siendo el factor crítico en cualquier estrategia de revitalización urbana.

La creación de circunstancias seguras en las escuelas y la modernización de las instalaciones físicas son primeros pasos fundamentales — circunstancias indispensables. Después los tamaños menores de los grupos de clase, la capacitación de los directores como administradores de los lugares, la instrucción pedagógica para los maestros, las reformas sobre responsabilidad, el acceso a la tecnología, las "escuelas-ímanes" y los programas de honores, la re-estructuración del gobierno amplio, las innovaciones para fomentar la competencia y la selección — todos juntos forman elementos de un conjunto de reformas para las escuelas urbanas.

Un asunto relacionado de capital humano es la integración de los inmigrantes a la sociedad estadounidense y el aprovechamiento de sus energías constructoras de comunidades. Ellos pueden ser una fuerza creadora enorme en las economías urbanas si están preparados para participar plenamente en la sociedad, o pueden ser una sub-clase disgustada y enajenada — insuficientemente instruída y sub-empleada — si dejamos de hacer que arranquen a subir la escalera.

Esta es una lista de comprobación de algunas de las fuerzas que sabemos que tienen mucho que ver con el adelanto urbano que estamos presenciando. Ellas nos dan los instrumentos con los que podemos trabajar. Ellos también nos instruyen sobre lo que funciona.

A medida que actuamos sobre los desafíos y problemas que hay adelante, empleemos estas dinámicas urbanas profundas para llenar las brechas que queden.

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El Editor Newspapers

Latino Education Commission Decries Past, Bust Sees Bright Future

By Olivia Muñoz

Ten years and a day after it was created by President George Bush, the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans issued what may be its final report on the nation's continuing failure to educate Latino students.

With U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley and most of its 21 current members present, the commission shared the 76-page document with the media at the National Press Club on Sept. 25. Also that day, the commission officially transmitted the report to President Clinton and all 535 members of Congress.

Overall, "Creating the Will: Hispanics Achieving Educational Excellence" offers a critical yet optimistic analysis. It acknowledges a list of problems besetting Hispanics -- from preschool (20 percent enrollment of 3-year-olds vs. 44 percent for blacks and 42 percent for whites), through high school (63 percent completion rate vs. 81 percent for blacks and 90 percent among whites) into higher education (while Hispanics constitute 14.5 percent of the college-age population, only 9 percent of undergraduate students and 4 percent of graduate students are Hispanic). The report also highlights strategies that are working effectively in a number of communities.

Specifically, the commission recommends more emphasis on initiatives that will encourage greater parental involvement, train more bicultural teachers and develop more after-school and mentoring programs.

In recent years, the panel has called on community organizations and the private sector to join in identifying and pursuing successful strategies. Additionally, it has pressed all federal agencies to detail in writing and expand efforts to support Hispanic education reform.

Secretary Riley told his Press Club audience that the United States must no longer deny a quality education to 6 million Latino public school students. "We need to have much higher expectations of our Hispanic children," he said.

Since President Bush initiated the commission on Sept. 24, 1990, it has undergone a series of changes in leadership and focus.

In its first year, the commission had three different executive directors. It has never received much of a budget. Housed for the most part within the U.S. Department of Education, it has been staffed mostly with executives loaned from that department and other federal agencies.

It remained dormant for months after Bush left office. Finally, in response to more than a year of lobbying by Latino organizations, in February 1994 President Clinton reconstituted it.

Its mandate remains in effect until the end of the federal fiscal year, Sept. 30, 2001, but its renewal depends on the incoming administration.

National Council of La Raza President Raúl Yzaguirre chaired the rejuvenated body but quit after a year, frustrated over the commission's "inability to rise from the bureaucratic morass and partisan politics to deliver a substantive, independent report to the president."

Its present director, Sarita Brown, told Hispanic Link that the initiative's office now functions with four regular staff members. The total budget to cover expenses and activities was \$143,000 for the past fiscal year 2000, which ended Sept. 30. At the press conference, Univisión news anchor/correspondent Teresa Rodríguez detailed the Spanish-language television network's commitment to the body's mission.

In its effort to "serve an under-served community," she said, Univisión has developed and broadcast a series of public service announcements with the theme *Tu futuro depende de ti... ¡Educate!* "Your future depends on you. Get an education."

Additionally, it launched a reading partnership with Scholastic Books to promote early literacy.

World Duty Free America chief Ramón Bósquez described his company's initiatives with community groups and colleges to create work-study programs and teach accounting and law skills. And community organizations -- such as the Massachusetts Education Initiative for Latino Students, the first such statewide Hispanic education initiative in the country -- have also been tapped by the commission to develop a statewide Latino education agenda, says MEILS co-chair Antonia Jiménez.

The commissioners, led by popular New York City Council member Guillermo Linares, seem at last to have built some internal harmony, settled on a well-defined strategy and -- aided by a series of hearings conducted around the country -- created a growing constituency willing to work with them.

Many of the initiative's political backers, including Riley, however, will be leaving office soon. And with a new president running the show in January, even if the commission is allowed to continue pursuing its objectives, the present crew of commissioners isn't likely to be asked to stay on.

Yet deputy director Deborah Santiago remains optimistic. "We went beyond rhetoric to action," she says. "The commission will go on if the new administration recognizes the need."

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Comision latina de Enseanza Censura El Pasado Pero Ve Futuro Brillante

Por Olivia Muñoz

Diez años y un día después que fué creada por el Presidente George Bush, la Comisión Asesora del Presidente sobre Excelencia en la Enseñanza para los Hispano-Americanos ha publicado el que puede ser su informe final sobre el fracaso continuo de la nación para enseñar a los estudiantes latinos.

Con el Secretario Federal de Instrucción Pública, Richard Riley, y la mayoría de sus 21 miembros actuales presentes, la comisión compartió el documento de 76 páginas con los medios informativos en la Asociación Nacional de la Prensa el 25 de septiembre. El mismo día, transmitió oficialmente el informe al Presidente Clinton y a todos los 535 miembros del Congreso.

En conjunto, el informe titulado 'Creando la Voluntad: Los Hispanos Logran la Excelencia en la Enseñanza' ofrece un análisis crítico aunque optimista.

El mismo reconoce una lista de problemas que hostigan a los hispanos, desde la pre-escolar (20 por ciento de matrícula de los niños de tres años contra el 44 por ciento para los negros y el 42 por ciento para los blancos) hasta la escuela secundaria (tasa de terminación del 63 por ciento contra el 81 por ciento para los negros y el 90 por ciento entre los blancos) y la enseñanza superior (mientras que los hispanos forman el 14.5 por ciento de la población de edad para las escuelas superiores, sólo el 9 por ciento de los estudiantes sub-graduados y el 4 por ciento de los estudiantes graduados son hispanos). Después, el informe destaca las estrategias que están funcionando eficazmente en cierta cantidad de comunidades.

Específicamente, la comisión recomienda más énfasis sobre las iniciativas que alientan a una mayor involucración de los padres y las madres, que capaciten a más maestros biculturales y que desarrollen más programas para después de las horas de clases y de tutoría.

En los años recientes, la comisión ha pedido a las organizaciones comunitarias y al sector privado que se le unan para identificar y proseguir las estrategias que tengan éxito.

Además, ha premiado a todas las dependencias federales para detallar por escrito y ampliar sus gestiones que apoyen a la reforma de la enseñanza para los hispanos.

El Secretario Riley dijo a su auditorio de la asociación de prensa que los Estados Unidos no deben negar por más tiempo una enseñanza de calidad a los 6 millones de alumnos latinos de las escuelas públicas. "Necesitamos tener expectativas mucho más altas de nuestros niños hispanos," dijo él.

Desde que el Presidente Bush dió inicio a la comisión el 24 de septiembre de 1990, la misma ha atravesado una serie de cambios de dirigencia y enfoque.

En su primer año, tuvo tres directores ejecutivos distintos. Nunca ha recibido un presupuesto suficiente. Alojada en su mayor parte dentro del Departamento Federal de Instrucción Pública, su personal administrativo ha consistido primordialmente en ejecutivos prestados desde ese departamento y otras dependencias federales.

Permaneció en letargo durante meses después que Bush salió de su cargo.

Por último, en respuesta a más de un año de cabildero por parte de las organizaciones latinas, en febrero de 1994 el Presidente Clinton la reconstituyó. Su mandato continúa en vigor hasta el fin del año fiscal, 30 de septiembre del año 2001, pero su renovación depende del nuevo gobierno.

El presidente del Consejo Nacional de La Raza, Raúl Yzaguirre, presidió al organismo rejuvenecido pero renunció después de un año, desilusionado por la "incapacidad de la comisión para elevarse desde la confusión burocrática y la política partidista a fin de entregar un informe substancial e independiente al presidente."

Su directora actual, Sarita Brown, dijo a Hispanic Link que la oficina de la iniciativa funciona ahora con cuatro miembros normales del personal administrativo. El presupuesto total para sus gastos y las actividades de la comisión fué de \$143,000 para el año fiscal 2000, que terminó el 30 de septiembre.

En la conferencia de prensa, la corresponsal de noticias y ancla de Univisión, Teresa Rodríguez, detalló el compromiso de la cadena televisora en español a la

misión de la comisión.

En su gestión para "servir a una comunidad insuficientemente servida," dijo ella, Univisión ha desarrollado y transmitido una serie de anuncios de servicio público con el tema: "Tu futuro depende de ti... ¡Educate!"

Además, lanzó una asociación de lectura con Scholastic Books para promover la alfabetización temprana.

Ramón Bósquez, jefe de World Duty Free America, describió a las iniciativas de su compañía con los grupos comunitarios y las escuelas superiores para crear programas de trabajo y estudio, así como enseñar habilidades de contabilidad y derecho.

Las organizaciones comunitarias, tales como la Iniciativa de Enseñanza de Massachusetts para los Estudiantes Latinos (MEILS en inglés) -- la primera iniciativa de enseñanza hispana estatal del país -- han sido reclutadas por la comisión para desarrollar programas de trabajo estudiantil en materia de enseñanza para los latinos, dice la co-presidenta de MEILS, Antonia Jiménez.

Los comisionados, dirigidos por el popular Concejal de la

Ciudad de Nueva York Guillermo Linares, parecen haber construido por fin alguna armonía interior, haberse asentado sobre una estrategia bien definida y -- ayudados por una serie de audiencias efectuadas alrededor del país -- creado un electorado cada vez mayor dispuesto a trabajar con ellos.

Muchos de los partidarios políticos de la iniciativa, incluyendo a Riley, sin embargo, estarán abandonando sus cargos pronto. Y con un nuevo presidente a cargo del programa en enero próximo, aún si se permite a la comisión proseguir sus objetivos, el grupo actual de comisionados no tiene probabilidades de que se le pida continuar en sus cargos.

Empero, la directora adjunta Deborah Santiago continúa sintiéndose optimista. "Fuimos más allá de la retórica hasta la acción", dice ella. "La comisión continuará si el nuevo gobierno reconoce la necesidad".

(Olivia Muñoz es corresponsal de Hispanic Link News Service en Washington, DC.)

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Let's Reprioritize:

All Children in Texas Deserve Access to Quality Health Care

(WASHINGTON, DC) In a country armed against all manner of illnesses with the most modern medical technology the world has to offer, it is nothing short of a tragedy that 11.9 million children are without health insurance, the only means to access our prohibitively expensive health care system. Of the 11.9 million children without health coverage, over 13%, or 1.6 million, are Texans.

Texas children desperately need health care coverage. According to a recent Children's Defense Fund report, Texas ranks 50th (next to last) in the percentage of children who have health insurance coverage and 46th in the percentage of children living in poverty. Residents of Bexar County, the Rio Grande Valley, El Paso, and other predominantly Hispanic areas are hit the hardest. Many of these counties have an

even higher rate of uninsured children than the state average of 24%.

In 1989, Congress amended the federal laws governing Medicaid to strengthen access to health care for children. States across the nation embraced the higher standards and welcomed the accompanying federal funds that made desperately needed preventative and acute health and dental care a reality for many poverty-stricken children. Since that time, however, the number of children receiving Medicaid coverage has steadily decreased in Texas.

President Clinton's Balanced Budget Act of 1997 created the Children's Health Insurance Program -- CHIP -- which provides health insurance to low-income children who do not qualify for Medicaid. But, as of June 2000, Texas had an estimated \$449.4 million in unspent

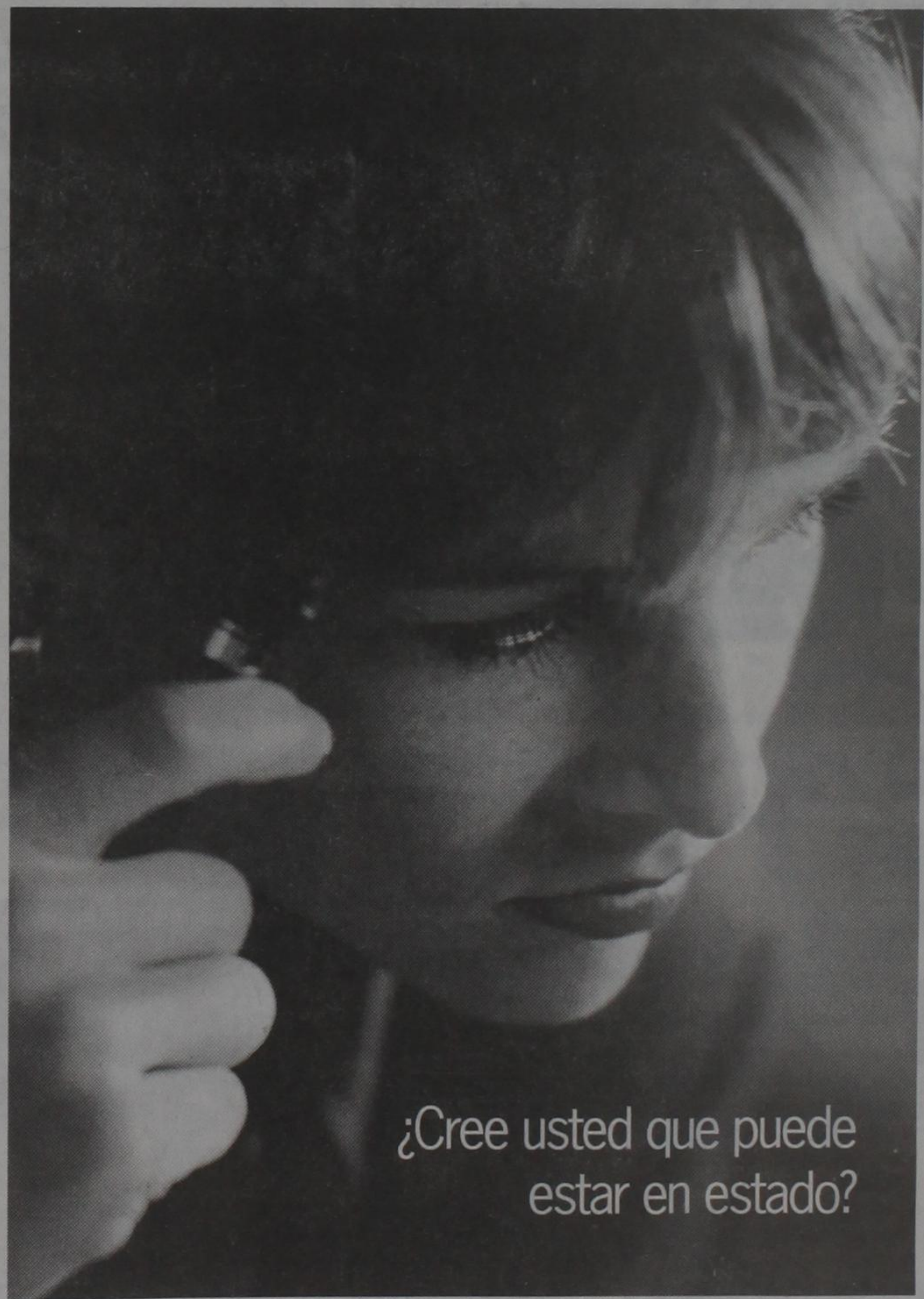
CHIP funds from its FY 1998 allotment. Under Federal law, states are required to forfeit unspent funds.

Those forfeited funds will then be redistributed to the states that have already established their CHIP programs. I am currently working with my colleagues in the United States Congress to ensure that those funds remain available for Texas children.

Knowledge is key. Many eligible children are not in a CHIP program because their families lack basic information. Uninsured children who live in working families with low or moderate incomes are eligible. For example, in Texas, children in a working family of four that earns \$2,629 through \$2,842 monthly would qualify.

Many people believe that because they have a job their

Continued on Page 4



¿Cree usted que puede estar en estado?

Sépalolo con certeza.

El grupo Childbirth Network (Red de Partos) le ofrece pruebas del embarazo, gratuitas y confidenciales de 8 AM a 5 PM de lunes a viernes. Sencillo, rápido, y recibirá los resultados de inmediato.

Llame al 780-4084 para más información. Y sépalolo con certeza.

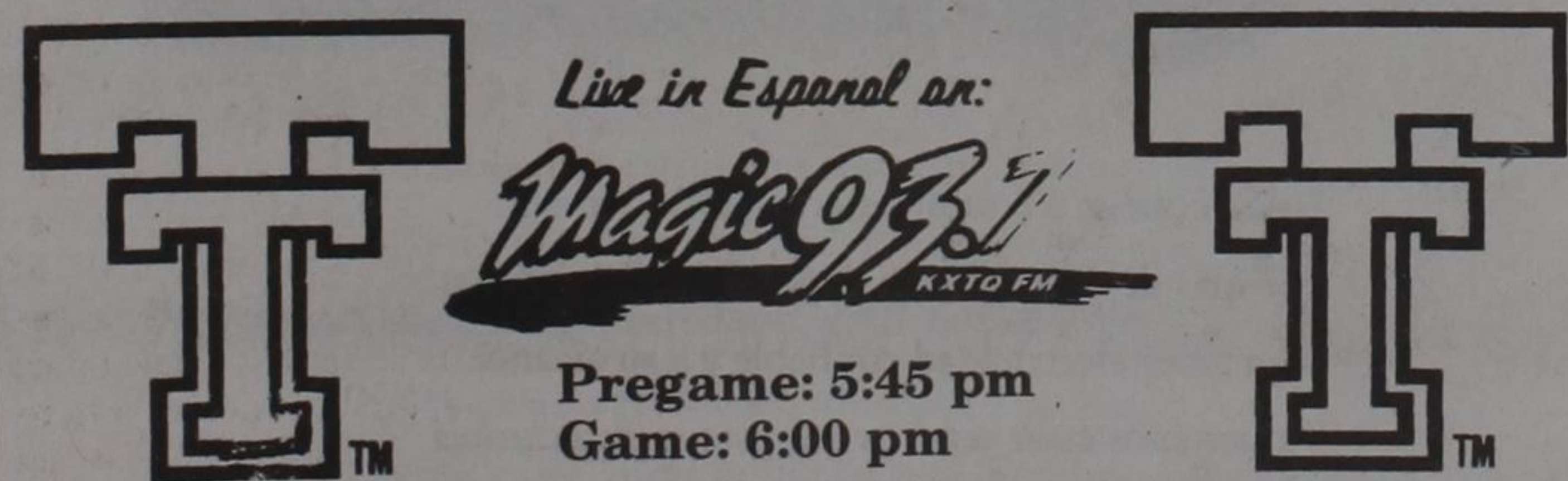


Los hechos.

La Childbirth Network es un programa de apoyo a las madres y los bebés, patrocinado por el Centro Médico Highland, el Centro de Manejo de Pacientes Externos de Diabetes de West Texas (The Diabetes Outpatient Management Center of West Texas) y el March of Dimes. Nosotros le ofrecemos información de todo, desde cuidados durante el embarazo hasta medidas de seguridad para su bebé, y cualquier persona puede participar.

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Chief Sign Peterson to Replace Stoyanovich

By Len Pasquarelli

In a move hinted at for several weeks, SportsLine.com confirmed that the Kansas City Chiefs on Wednesday released 12-year veteran kicker Pete Stoyanovich and have signed free agent Todd Peterson to replace him.

A six-year veteran who was released this summer by the Seattle Seahawks despite a career year in 1999, Peterson worked out for Kansas City coaches and officials on Tuesday, but the team waited until he passed a thorough physical exam Wednesday morning before officially signing him to a two-year contract.

SportsLine.com also confirmed the Chiefs have signed free agent wide receiver Michael Ricks, who was released by San Diego last week, to a two-year contract. Ricks worked out

on Tuesday for team officials, along with fellow free agent wideout Joey Kent, formerly of Tennessee.

Peterson, 30, had spent the last several weeks rehabilitating a strained abductor muscle, and had filed an injury grievance against the Seahawks after his release. Agent Michael Moye had said after Seattle surprisingly cut his client in the final preseason roster purge that it might take 4-6 weeks before Peterson was healthy enough to even audition for teams.

In the interim, several clubs inquired about Peterson, but the Chiefs were the first team for which he worked out.

"Physically I'm a lot better now and I think something will happen soon," Peterson said earlier this week. "I want to get back (into the league)."

Peterson established Seattle franchise records for field goals made (34 of 40) and points (134) in '99, but was released this summer when coach Mike Holmgren determined his kickoffs were not deep enough. For his career, he has converted 128 of 158 field goals and all 181 extra point tries. His field goal conversion rate, 81.0 percent, currently ranks as the third-best in NFL history. He made 14 of 16 field goal tries from between 40-49 yards last season.

Since punter Todd Sauerbrun handles the kickoffs in Kansas City, Peterson won't have to worry about that chore.

Stoyanovich, 33, has been the Chiefs' kicker since 1996, when he was acquired from Miami in a trade for a fifth-round choice in the 1997 draft. In his four previous seasons with the team, he made 91 of 111 field goals and 148 of 149 extra points. While several of his conversions were among the biggest kicks in franchise history, he missed a 44-yarder in the regular-season finale last year that kept the Chiefs out of the playoffs.

Stoyanovich made two of four field goal tries this season. One of his misses was from 36 yards in a Sept. 10 overtime loss to Tennessee. He made all 15 of

his extra point attempts.

For his career, the first seven years of which were spent in Miami, Stoyanovich has made 269 of 333 field goals and 409 of 414 extra points. He holds the league record for the longest field goal, 58 yards, in post-season play.

Ricks was the Chargers' second-round pick in the 1998 draft, the 59th overall selection that year. Blessed with great size (6-foot-5, 237 pounds), Ricks was thought to represent the bigger wideout most teams covet. But he lacked quickness and the ability to gain separation from cornerbacks, and caught just 73 passes for 914 yards and two touchdowns in 37 games. Last season was his best year, as he started 15 games and had 40 catches for 429 yards. SportsLine.com Senior Writer Steve Schoenfeld contributed to this report.

From Page 3

children don't qualify. Many others don't know how to apply for benefits, or find the application process too complicated. Further information about the Texascare Partnership -- Texas' CHIP program -- including eligibility requirements and applications, may be obtained toll-free at 1-800-647-6558 or via the Internet at <http://www.texacarepartnership.com/>.

Callers with hearing impairments may obtain further information by calling 1-800-735-2988.

CHIP covers services such as hospital care, surgery, x-rays, therapies, prescription drugs, mental health and substance

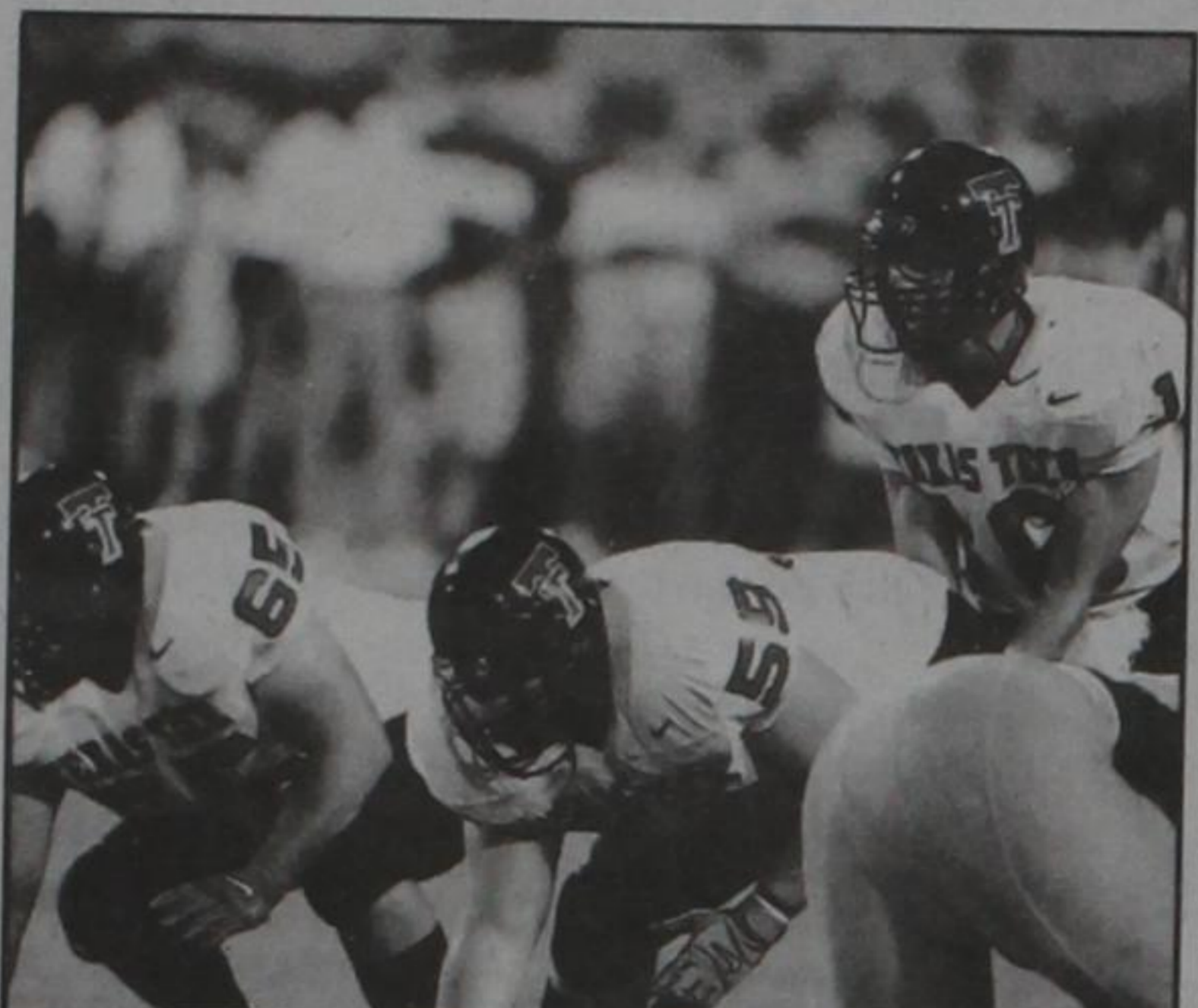
abuse treatment, emergency services, eye tests and glasses, dental care, and regular health check-ups and vaccinations. Preventative care is crucial, yet, among the 50 states, Texas currently ranks 48th in the percentage of child immunizations. We can and must do better.

As a former member of the Texas House of Representatives and as the current Chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Health Task Force, I have worked closely with state and federal health care officials to address this health care crisis. I applaud State Senators Judith Zaffirini, Rodney Ellis, Frank Madla, and Leticia Van de Putte, among other members of the Texas State Legislature who have led the fight for Texas' children.

Texas Tech Red Raiders

vs.

Nebraska Huskers



De la Pagina Primera

trabajar en la construcción', dice él. El dinero es mejor. El gana 45 centavos por cada paleta de \$1 que venda. En un día bueno, él vende 200 paletas, que le representan \$90. La mitad de eso es un día malo.

En Guanajuato, Ortiz gana \$3 al día trabajando en proyectos de vías públicas.

En Tucson, él empieza su recorrido a las 8am., empujando su carretilla a lo largo de la Sexta Avenida del Sur hacia el centro de la ciudad. Viajando a través de South Tucson, él llega al centro antes del mediodía. El se detiene en la estación de los autobuses Greyhound, donde el taxista Raúl Morales espera.

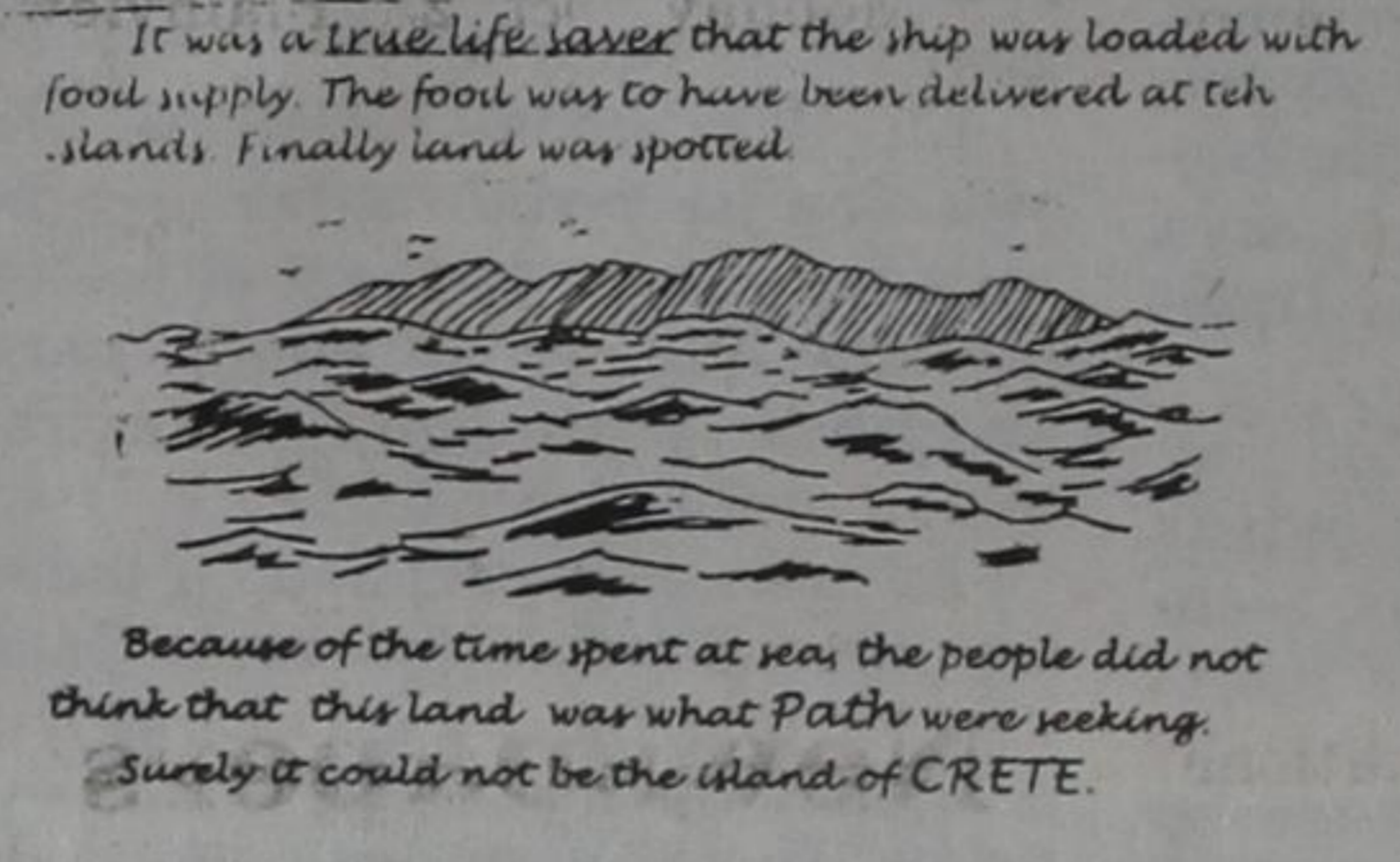
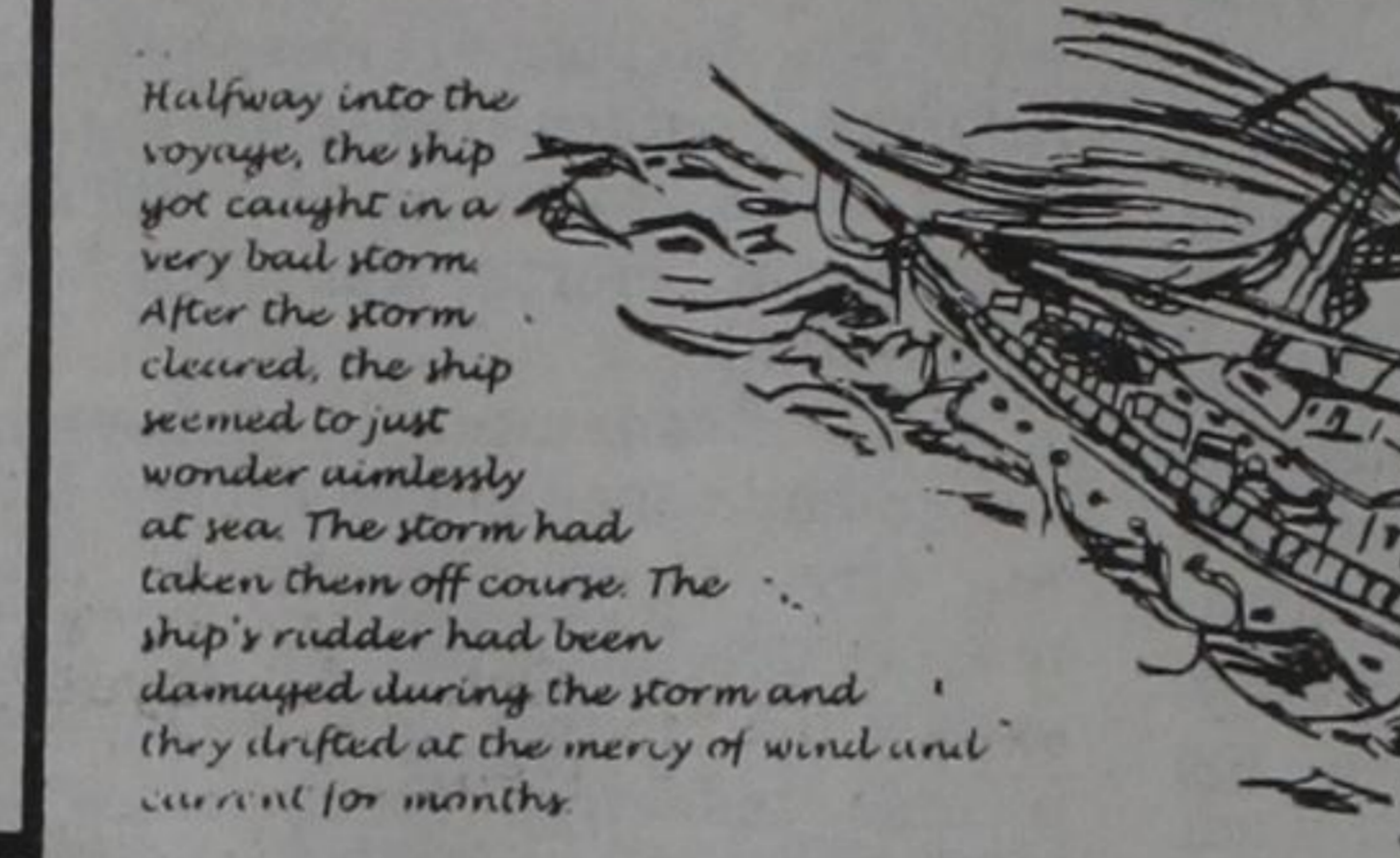
"Lo vemos todos los días," dice Morales, a quien le gusta comer dos paletas de nuez al día.

Desde la estación, Ortiz continúa bajo el paso inferior de la Cuarta Avenida, hasta el University Boulevard y sigue hasta la puerta principal de la Universidad de Arizona. Entonces se dirige al oeste, hacia el Barrio Anita y termina su día en Menlo Park, de costumbre a las 8pm.

"Mis días son largos y el calor es fuerte," dice Ortiz. "Pero tengo que caminar."

(Ernesto Portillo Jr. es el columnista metropolitano del Arizona Daily Star en Tucson, Arizona.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en el año 2000. Distribuido por Los Angeles Times Syndicate.



Many people were being arrested by the Roman Army because of rumors that a particular group called the "PATH" was plotting to revolt against the Roman Empire. Mid through the cult-type people and turned over to these leaders were had games for members of the was Horrid while all child Karla that all these First Century A.D., this were hunted, arrested the rulers of that time of esthetic nature and sport that involved "Path". The result Death this happened the was unaware events would... ultimately affect her life.

Some families fleeing these predators met at "Melito", a small town by the shore of the "Mediterrano", Gulf. They boarded a large merchant ship headed to some near by islands. Joining them was a teacher named "Nicodemus". He was going to one of the islands named "Plamos". Nicodemus was transporting a multitude of ancient scrolls. The ship took sail to the islands early that morning.

Halfway into the voyage, the ship got caught in a very bad storm. After the storm cleared, the ship seemed to just wonder aimlessly at sea. The storm had taken them off course. The ship's rudder had been damaged during the storm and they drifted at the mercy of wind and current for months. It had to be "MALTA".

An island one hundred miles south of "SITRACURA."

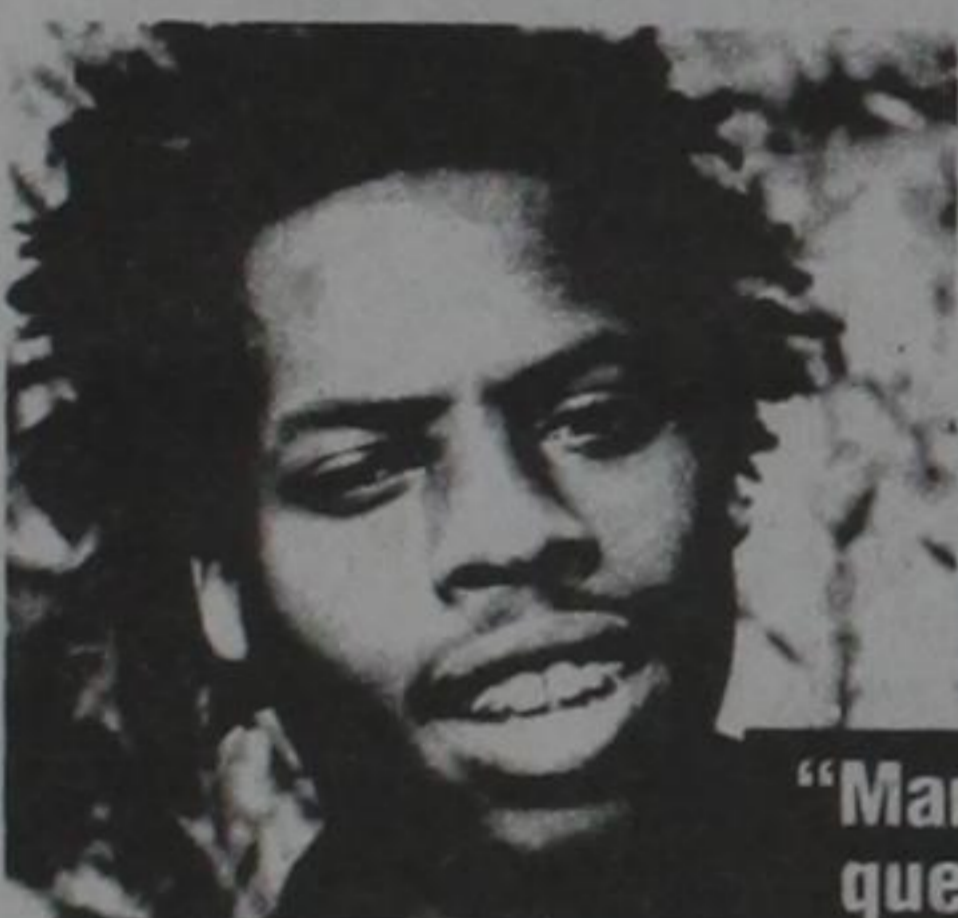
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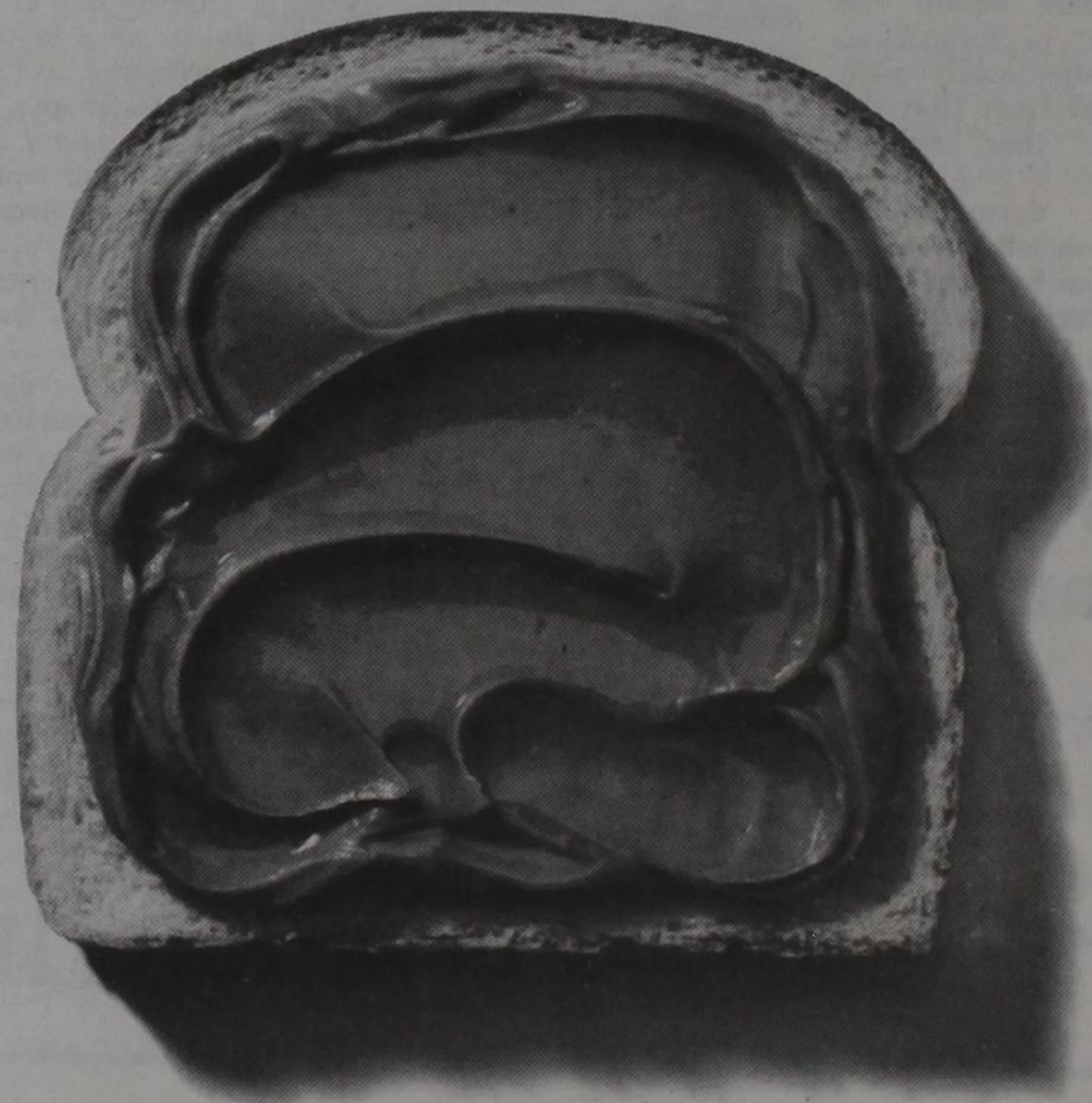
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Dóblese aquí

Barriers Stymie Latino Vendors As They Ply Cultural Paths To Survive

By Cynthia L. Oroasco

They're known as *eloteros*, *tamaleros* and *paleteros* in places such as Chicago, Phoenix and San Diego.

Many are immigrants, carrying on a tradition their families brought with them from their homelands. For these vendors, the day-to-day work of selling their products is more than a livelihood. It's a way of life.

As the Latino diaspora spreads throughout the nation, so does one of its more cherished and stabilizing cultural institutions -- the entrepreneurial street vendor.

Many sell food, clothing, crafts and a variety of wares from sidewalk *puestos* and push carts. Others hawk citrus fruits and flowers on street medians. Their earnings are minimal and lifestyles frugal. As these street vendors try to use the centuries-old tradition to survive in a strange land, they encounter resistance -- often overwhelming -- in the form of economic, bureaucratic and political barriers.

"What a lot of businesspeople don't understand is that these vendors are not stealing business from them -- they are trying to make a living," says Steven Soto, president and CEO of the Los Angeles-based Mexican American Grocers Association. "We need to remember that many of the established stores, especially Latino ones, started on a sidewalk corner, in a truck or with a pushcart."

The issue has been brewing in cities ranging from Los Angeles to New York to Washington, D.C. For years, cities have attempted to outlaw or curb the activities of street vendors, claiming they interfere with established businesses, create sanitation problems and are unsightly fixtures in residential

areas and public parks.

In 1994, the Los Angeles City Council approved a two-year measure to designate eight neighborhood districts where vendors could sell goods -- excluding food items. Only those with \$5,000 to cover the cost of a cart, insurance, permits and uniforms could set up shop in one of these areas.

In New York, a city panel voted in 1998 to ban street-food vendors from the Manhattan financial district between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. -- prim sales time. Many of the 350 vendors affected were immigrants. Just last week in the Washington Heights area of the Bronx, Dominican vendors who sell boiled meat, fried yuca and other specialties from food trucks were moved into one crowded area on Amsterdam Avenue because of sanitation and noise complaints.

Most recently, Chicago's city council has been hashing out details of an ordinance restricting vendors to doing business within a certain time frame and area. They would be restricted from operating within 200 feet of restaurants, schools or churches, and banned from city parks and residential neighborhoods.

"This issue comes up every year around the same time, in the summer months, when the majority of vendors are active," says Nick Valadez, a lawyer representing Chicago's Ambulant Vendors Association. "We would like to have an ordinance, yes, but one that will allow the vendors to stay in business legally and to keep from having their carts and goods confiscated."

Battles over restrictions on street vendors are also being waged in Phoenix. After more than a year of debate, the city council on Oct. 5 voted 7-1 to

approve an ordinance to license mobile vendors. Since 1998, vendors and community members have been at odds over the legitimacy of the mobile businesses and their effect on the surrounding neighborhoods.

Over the last few months, about 40 of the city's vendors joined to form *Unión Pochteca*, a word the first Aztec vendors used to describe themselves in early Mexico. One of the group's coordinators, Aureliano Domínguez, says concerns have come mostly from store owners and urban merchants who feel street vendors infringe on their businesses. "We are regulated by the health department and are just working to make a living," Domínguez says. "Many who are on private property won't be able to comply with the regulations and will lose their businesses."

Fear of jail time and fines have prompted many *paleteros* -- ice-cream vendors -- in San Diego to seek the assistance of the Latino Unity Coalition. The 8-year-old group, comprised of vendors and Latino community groups who support them, has asked the city to amend its current law, which prohibits mobile vendors.

"These vendors are just people continuing a cultural tradition of trying to make money," says coalition founder Luis Natividad. "I can't believe that with all the crime on the streets, the police have time to chase down these ice-cream vendors who are barely surviving."

(Cynthia L. Oroasco is a correspondent with Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C. She can be reached at cynthia@hispaniclink.org)
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- * Monday, Oct. 16, Snyder, 3500 College Ave.;
 - * Tuesday, Oct. 17, 82nd Street and Boston Avenue;
 - * Monday, Oct. 23, Plainview, 24th Street and Columbia Avenue; and
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El Editor Newspapers

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Los Obstaculos Bloquean a los Vendedores Latinos Mientras Recorren Senderos Culturales Para Sobrevivir

Por Cynthia L. Oroasco

Se les conoce por "eloteros," "tamaleros" y "paleteros" en lugares tales como Chicago, Phoenix y San Diego. Muchos son inmigrantes, que continúan una tradición que sus familias trajeron con ellos desde sus países de origen.

Para estos vendedores, el trabajo diario de vender sus productos es más que un medio de buscar la vida. Es un modo de vida.

A medida que la diáspora latina se propaga por toda la nación, también lo hace una de sus instituciones culturales más apreciadas: El vendedor callejero empresarial.

Muchos venden comida, ropas, artesanías y una diversidad de artículos en puestos a las orillas de las aceras y carretillas que empujan. Otros venden frutas cítricas y flores en las zonas medianeras de las calles. Sus ganancias son mínimas y sus estilos de vida son frugales.

Mientras estos vendedores callejeros tratan de usar la tradición de siglos de existencia para sobrevivir en una tierra extraña, encuentran resistencia -- a menudo abrumadora -- en forma de obstáculos económicos, burocráticos y políticos.

"Lo que muchos comerciantes no comprenden es que estos vendedores no están quitándole negocios a ellos -- están tratando de buscarse la vida," dice Steven Soto, presidente y funcionario ejecutivo principal de la Asociación de Tenderos Méxicocoamericanos. "Necesitamos recordar que muchas de las tiendas establecidas, especialmente las latinas, empezaron en la acera de una esquina, en un camión, o con una carretilla de empujar."

El asunto ha estado surgiendo en ciudades desde Los Angeles hasta Nueva York hasta Washington, D.C. Durante años, las ciudades han tratado de ilegalizar o frenar las actividades de los vendedores callejeros, alegando que interfieren con los negocios establecidos, que crean problemas sanitarios y que son aditamentos desagradables para la vista en las zonas residenciales y los parques públicos.

En 1994, el Consistorio de Los Angeles aprobó una medida por dos años para designar a ocho distritos vecinales donde los vendedores podrían vender sus artículos -- excluyendo a los comestibles. Sólo aquellos que tuvieran \$5,000 para cubrir el costo de una carretilla, el seguro, los permisos y los uniformes podrían establecerse en una de estas zonas.

En Nueva York, un grupo de la ciudad acordó en 1998 prohibir los vendedores de comida en el distrito financiero de Manhattan desde las 8 a.m. hasta las 7 p.m. -- las horas de mejores ventas. Muchos de los vendedores afectados eran inmigrantes.

Sólo la semana pasada en Washington Heights, el Bronx, los vendedores dominicanos que venden carne hervida, yuca frita y otras especialidades en camiones de alimentos fueron mudados a una zona congestionada en la Avenida Amsterdam, debido a las quejas de problemas sanitarios y de ruido.

Más recientemente, el consistorio de Chicago ha estado preparando los detalles de una ordenanza para limitar a los vendedores a hacer negocios dentro de un cierto marco de tiempo y zona. Estarían limita-

dos a funcionar dentro de una distancia de más de 200 pies de los restaurantes, las escuelas o las iglesias, y se les prohibiría situarse en los parques municipales y las vecindades residenciales.

"Este asunto sale a relucir cada año, aproximadamente por la misma época, en los meses de verano, cuando los vendedores están activos," dice Nick Valadez, abogado que representa a la Asociación de Vendedores Ambulantes de Chicago. "Nos gustaría tener una ordenanza, sí, pero una que permitiera a los vendedores hacer negocios legalmente y evitar que sus carretillas y artículos fueran confiscados."

Las luchas por las restricciones contra los vendedores callejeros están siendo libradas también en Phoenix. Después de más de un año de debate, el consistorio municipal acordó el 7 de octubre aprobar una ordenanza para licenciar a los vendedores móviles. Desde 1998, los vendedores y los miembros de la comunidad han estado enfrentados sobre la legitimidad de los negocios móviles y su efecto sobre las vecindades circundantes.

Durante los meses recientes, 40 de los vendedores de la ciudad se unieron para formar la Unión Pochteca, una palabra que usaban los primeros vendedores aztecas para describirse a ellos mismos en los primeros tiempos de México.


Uno de los coordinadores del grupo, Aureliano Domínguez, dice que las preocupaciones han procedido mayormente de los propietarios de tiendas y comerciantes urbanos que creen que los vendedores perjudican a sus negocios.

"Estamos reglamentados por el departamento de salud y sólo estamos trabajando para buscarlos la vida," dice Domínguez. "Muchos que están en propiedad privada no podrán cumplir los reglamentos y perderán sus negocios."

El temor de ir a la cárcel y pagar multas ha impulsado a muchos "paleteros" -- vendedores de "paletas" de helado -- en San Diego a procurar la ayuda de la Coalición de Unidad Latina. Este grupo, de ocho años de fundado, compuesto por vendedores y grupos de la comunidad latina que les apoyan, ha pedido a la ciudad que enmiende su ley actual que prohíbe los vendedores móviles.

"Estos vendedores son únicas personas que continúan una tradición cultural para hacer dinero," dice el fundador de la coalición, Luis Natividad. "No puedo creer que con toda la delincuencia que hay en las calles, la policía tenga tiempo para ir detrás de estos vendedores de helados que están apenas sobreviviendo."

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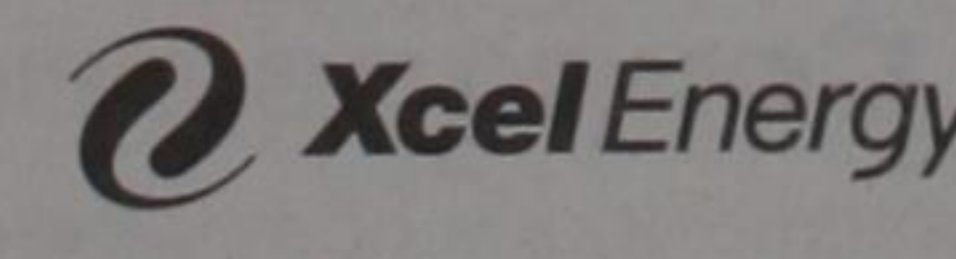
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*CONDITIONS APPLY - CALL FOR DETAILS

Profit First, People Second, As Embargo Erodes

By Jim Lobe

Washington, - The Republican leadership of the US Congress has bowed to both farm interests and the still-powerful anti-Castro lobby by clearing a bill that would conditionally permit US companies to sell food to Cuba and codify existing curbs on US travel there.

The measure, which emerged after weeks of internal debates among Republicans, was hailed as a victory both by US commercial interests which seek to repeal the 38-year-old trade embargo against Cuba, and by Cuban-American lawmakers from Florida who have been trying to maintain the embargo against a steadily rising tide of opposition.

"Despite all the pressure against us," said Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, who hails from the Little Havana section of Miami, "we have achieved a tremendous victory by freezing the prohibition on US tourism to Castro's Cuba."

The final deal was hashed out Thursday among Republican leaders in the Senate and the House of Representatives as part of an amendment to the 2001 agricultural appropriations bill, which will be voted on and almost certainly approved by both houses next week. The bill also lifts curbs on the sale of food and medicine to other countries on the US "terrorism" list, including North Korea, Iran, Sudan, and Libya.

Minority Democrats serving on a House-Senate "conference committee" to negotiate a final version of the bill opposed the Republican proposal precisely because it did not end restrictions on travel to Cuba.

"I can't believe the incredible arrogance of a government telling human beings where they can and cannot travel," said Democratic Rep. David Obey. "This impinges on a basic human right."

The Republican deal climaxes a dramatic year in US Cuba poli-

cy, much of it dominated by the saga of Elian Gonzalez, the six-year-old Cuban boy whose mother drowned last November while trying to reach Florida by boat. Elian eventually was reunited with his father in April after an early-morning raid by federal agents on the home of his Miami relatives who, backed by anti-Castro groups, had fought all the way to the Supreme Court in a legal battle to prevent his return to Cuba.

The vast majority of US citizens, according to public-opinion polls, strongly opposed the Miami family's efforts to keep the boy from his father, and, when the Little Havana section of Miami exploded in anger after the federal raid, it appeared that the political clout of the anti-Castro forces had fallen to its lowest point ever.

Indeed, within just a few weeks after Elian's eventual return to Cuba, the House of Representatives voted by a three-to-one margin to conditionally exempt sales of food and medicine from the embargo, while the Senate voted to permit sales of food and medicine to Cuba without restriction.

The House also voted 241-174 on an unrelated bill to bar the Treasury Department from enforcing the long-standing ban on travel to Cuba by US citizens.

In addition to growing anger with anti-Castro forces, the votes reflected the success of a three-year campaign by a coalition of different interests eager to broaden ties with Cuba. These included major business associations, such as the Chamber of Commerce, devoted to lifting unilateral US economic sanctions worldwide; farm groups eager to seek new markets in the wake of their loss of government subsidies; and an amalgam of church, development, humanitarian, and Cuban-American groups which long favored increased contact and dialogue with Havana as the best way to promote liberalization there.

While the administration of President Bill Clinton has gradually eased restrictions on US-Cuban relations, it stayed out of the debate. Vice President Al Gore, who hopes to succeed Clinton in the November elections, is running surprisingly strongly in Florida, a key battleground state, and has long been a hawk on Cuba. In an interview with the New York Times published Thursday, in fact, he described himself as a "hardliner on Castro" who opposes "any openings to the Castro government."

The coalition has been opposed mainly by the anti-Castro forces, led by the Cuban-American National Foundation (CANF), and its hard-line allies in the Republican leadership in the House. Recognizing early on that it would have to compromise on the issue, these forces wanted to give as little away as possible in the negotiations which followed the July votes.

It appears now that their efforts largely succeeded, as the Senate Republican leadership acceded to their position, even though at least two Republican senators on the conference committee initially voted for an amendment which would have permitted unconditional sales and travel.

Under the measure that emerged from the conference committee, US companies may sell food and medicine to Cuba so long as such transactions are not financed by any US government agency, bank, or other financial institution. Significantly, that condition can be waived by the president for other countries on the terrorism list, but not for Cuba.

Given this restriction, most analysts feel their US sales to Cuba will be marginal at best. "It's not likely to open up to any trade at all," according to Wayne Smith of the Center for International Policy here and formerly Washington's top diplomat in Havana. "If there's no credit available from US banks, it will

be very difficult to do."

Moreover, Cuba itself said Thursday it would not buy food from US companies with such restrictions. "If this bill is approved under these discriminating and humiliating conditions," the foreign ministry said, "Cuba will not carry out any trade transaction with the US."

As for travel restrictions, the bill adds agricultural sales agents to a list of US citizens that includes academics and journalists to travel to Cuba. At the same time, however, it codifies existing restrictions - which until now could be waived by the executive branch on a case-by-case basis.

"Yesterday, the President had the power to modify the travel restrictions, and let more Americans go to Cuba to see the country for themselves," said Geoff Thale, a Cuba analyst at the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), a human rights group. "With this language, the President loses that power and any move to let more Americans go to Cuba will require approval by both Houses of Congress."

That will hurt Cuban-American families in particular, according to the Cuban Committee for Democracy (CCD). "Cuban-Americans who want to visit their relatives in Cuba will continue to be restricted and regulated in doing so," said Elena Freyre, CCD's director in Miami.

"I believe that Cuban-Americans who want to keep in touch with family members in Cuba are going to be extremely critical of the fact that their ability to visit loved ones is now frozen in statute," said Dodd, who noted that US citizens now are free to travel to Iran, Sudan, and even North Korea.

"This really does thwart the will of the majority in public opinion and in Congress," Smith said. "but I think people are really fed up. In the next one, two, or three years, the dam is going to break."

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Congreso De EEUu Pone a las Ganacias Primero

por Jim Lobe

Washington, - La mayoría republicana del Congreso de Estados Unidos puso en marcha un proyecto legislativo que permitirá a las compañías de este país vender alimentos y medicinas a Cuba, pero convertirá en ley la prohibición de viajar a la isla.

De esta manera, el Congreso, dominado por el opositor partido republicano, contempló los intereses agrícolas que desean levantar el embargo comercial contra Cuba y también a la comunidad de exiliados cubanos que defienden la medida impuesta hace 38 años contra el gobierno de Fidel Castro, a pesar de la creciente oposición al embargo en este país.

"A pesar de toda la presión contra nosotros, hemos alcanzado una tremenda victoria al congelar la prohibición del turismo estadounidense a la Cuba de Castro", declaró la representante Ileana Ros Lehtinen, de Miami.

El acuerdo se alcanzó el jueves entre líderes republicanos del Senado y la Cámara de Representantes como parte de un proyecto de ley de asignaciones presupuestarias para el sector agrícola, que será votado y seguramente aprobado por ambas cámaras la próxima semana.

El proyecto también levanta la prohibición a la venta de alimentos y medicinas a otros países considerados terroristas por Washington, como Corea del Norte, Irán, Libia y Sudán.

La minoría del gobernante partido demócrata que negoció el proyecto se opuso a la propuesta republicana porque no levantó las restricciones de viaje a Cuba.

"No puedo creer la increíble arrogancia de un gobierno que le dice a los seres humanos a dónde pueden y no pueden viajar. Esto viola un derecho humano básico", declaró el representante demócrata David Obey.

El acuerdo entre republicanos culmina un año en que la política hacia La Habana estuvo dominada por el caso de Elián González, el niño cubano de seis años cuya custodia fue disputada durante meses por familiares en Estados Unidos y por su padre en Cuba desde que llegara a este país cuando naufragó la embarcación clandestina en la que viajó desde Cuba.

Elián, cuya madre se ahogó en el naufragio, finalmente volvió a Cuba con su padre. La opinión pública estadounidense, según sondeos, respaldó el resultado final y se opuso al intento de la familia de alejar al niño de su padre.

Varios grupos de intereses protagonizaron una campaña de tres años para profundizar las relaciones con Cuba. Entre ellos estaban la Cámara de Comercio, representantes agrícolas que buscan nuevos mercados para sus productos, y organizaciones religiosas y humanitarias que proponen un mayor relacionamiento con La Habana como for-

ma de fomentar la democracia en el país.

Aunque el gobierno de Bill Clinton liberó gradualmente las restricciones a las relaciones con Cuba, se mantuvo fuera de la discusión legislativa.

El vicepresidente Al Gore y candidato a las elecciones presidenciales de noviembre tiene gran apoyo en Florida, donde vive gran parte de la población cubano-estadounidense y considerado un estado clave para las elecciones, debido a su firme postura contra Castro.

En entrevista con el diario The New York Times, Gore se describió como un "crítico de Castro" que se opone a toda "apertura" hacia su gobierno.

La campaña para liberalizar las relaciones tiene la oposición por las fuerzas anticastristas lideradas por la Fundación Nacional Cubano-Americana y sus aliados en la mayoría republicana de la Cámara de Representantes.

Finalmente, la postura anticastrista primó esta semana entre los republicanos del Senado, aunque al menos dos senadores habían votado a favor de una enmienda que permitiera las ventas y los viajes sin condiciones a Cuba.

El proyecto finalmente adoptado permitirá a las compañías estadounidenses vender alimentos y medicinas a Cuba, siempre que las transacciones no sean financiadas por el gobierno ni los bancos de Estados Unidos. El Presidente podrá no acatar esa condición en el caso de otros países considerados terroristas, pero no para Cuba.

Debido a esta cláusula, la mayoría de los analistas considera que las ventas estadounidenses a Cuba serán mínimas. "Si no hay crédito de los bancos estadounidenses, será muy difícil abrir el comercio", declaró Wayne Smith, del Centro de Política Internacional y ex jerarca diplomático de Washington en La Habana.

En caso de "aprobarse este proyecto de legislación bajo estas condiciones discriminatorias y humillantes, Cuba no realizará transacción comercial alguna con Estados Unidos", declaró el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores cubano.

En cuanto a la posibilidad de viajar a Cuba, el proyecto agrega a los agentes comerciales agrícolas a la lista de ciudadanos de Estados Unidos, que incluye a académicos y periodistas, que podrán viajar a territorio cubano.

Pero, simultáneamente, convierte en ley las restricciones existentes, que hasta el momento podían ser evitadas para determinados casos, según decisión presidencial.

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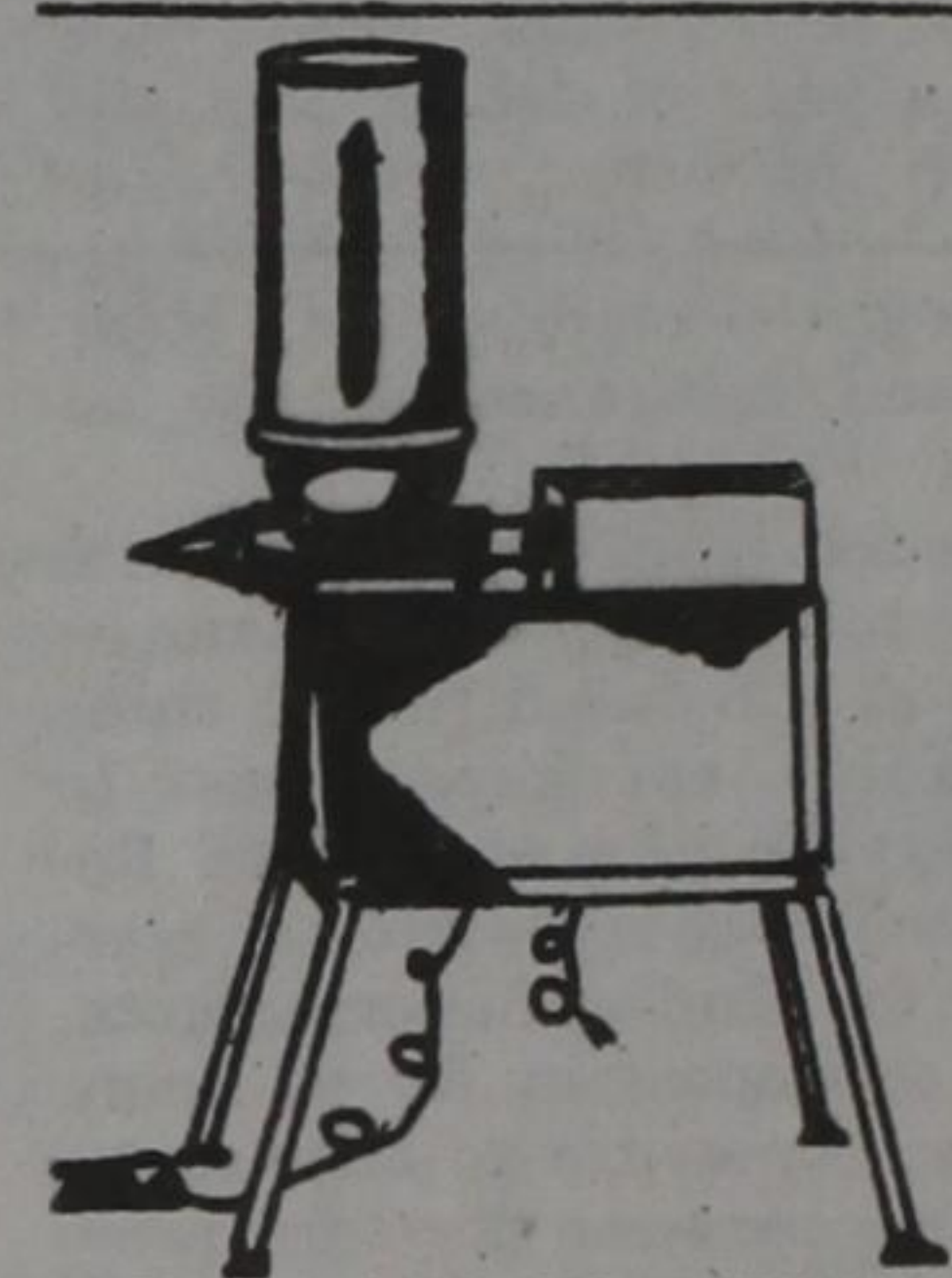
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