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

# el Saltillo

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## Texas Governor Rick Perry, Opponent Tony Sanchez Speak to LULAC Convention

### LULAC panel disagrees over education issue

#### Comentarios

#### El 4 de Julio

The 4th of July has never been one of my favorite holidays. Maybe because when I was growing up, we were so poor that instead of fireworks, we had to snap our fingers. No se cren!



Kidding aside, I never have known why, other than having the day off, the 4th is just another day. No big family bar-b-ques or family gatherings. And certainly no piñatas or dances.

The news is saying that everyone should be extra careful this 4th of July because there is a threat that there might be a terrorist strike. Hopefully that won't happen but it can be fairly sure that if terrorist do strike, it won't be here in Lubbock.

It seems that with the recent decision by the 9th Court of Appeals on the pledge of allegiance, people are especially paying attention to patriotism and also since 9-11, we can be assured that flags will be waving high.

Many are saying that the current wave of patriotism can only be rivaled by the one experienced after World War II.

War has never been officially declared over the attack by terrorist. But no one has doubts that much has changed due to the attack. We have only to make a short trip to the airport to realize the change in security observed throughout the United States.

I have never been much of a patriot, opting to use my student deferment to say out of the Vietnam War and toward the last, joining the many who questioned the /war and took to the streets to protest the United States bombing of people in Cambodia in order to stop communism. It has always bothered me that minorities and poor young boys took the blunt of suffering and deaths in a war that was really declared either.

Be that all that may, I hope that everyone enjoys the 4th this year and we hope that everyone enjoys the parade, fireworks, concerts, corn on the cob, fajitas and burritos as they celebrate "el 4".

Use talcum powder on your fingers. it make them sound louder.

#### El Editor

Lo mejor en Noticias

Texas Gov. Rick Perry and his Democratic challenger, Tony Sanchez, on Wednesday wooed the state's fastest-growing population at the national convention of the League of United Latin American Citizens.

Sanchez, a Laredo multimillionaire who would be the state's first Hispanic governor, described the governor's race as "a unique moment in Texas history."

Perry, who has criticized Sanchez in other forums, never mentioned his opponent during a luncheon speech to the gathering of Hispanics from around the country.

Sanchez, by contrast, attacked Perry in an evening speech as a slave to special interests.

Perry stressed the ties he said bind Hispanics and his Republican administration.

"My focus as governor is to eliminate opportunity gaps wherever they exist," he told an enthusiastic crowd at the Westin Galleria.

"We must say to the young man or young woman from the Fifth Ward of Houston, the barrios of San Antonio or a colonia along the border, 'You are the future of this state and hope of tomorrow.'"

"We are going to do everything we can to make sure you are healthy, educated and safe in the community."

Perry, frequently interrupted by applause, reeled off a list of Hispanic appointments to key posts on his gubernatorial watch.

Among them are Commissioner of Education Felipe Alanis, Supreme Court Justice Xavier Rodriguez, Appeals Court Justice Eva Guzman, University of Texas Regent Bob Estrada, University of Houston Regent Raul Gonzalez,



Department of Criminal Justice board member Adrian Arriaga and Parks and Wildlife Commissioner Donato Ramos.

"My staff of nearly 200 individuals is comprised of 43 Hispanic public servants, including the grandson of LULAC founding member Luis

Gonzales, my assistant on border affairs, Buddy Garcia," the governor said.

Perry, hammering home an education agenda that includes zero-interest loans for higher education and competitive grants for first-generation

college students, received a standing ovation from members of the nation's oldest and largest Hispanic advocacy group.

Sanchez also was well-received several hours later, drawing standing ovations and several interruptions for applause during a speech that featured the staples of his campaign -- education, health care and ethics reform.

He charged that Perry is so indebted to lobbyists and business interests that the governor's office is "little more than a checkout line at the grocery store."

Sanchez, who is financing his campaign mostly from his personal fortune, vowed that he will be free of influence by special interests in addressing health care issues, rising insurance premiums and potentially higher electricity rates.

"These problems cannot and will not be solved by my opponent because the special interests have already paid him not to solve these problems," Sanchez said.

In a lighter moment, Sanchez received appreciative chuckles when he said in Spanish that he likes the sound of the phrase "Sanchez administration."

LULAC officials earlier this week released a list of top issues they want political hopefuls to address: education topped the list.

Candidates likely will take heed as both parties court the growing Hispanic population and Republicans reach out to a group that historically has voted Democratic.

"Governor Perry clearly recognizes it," said LULAC national president Rick Dovalina, a Houston attorney. "Maybe the old guard of the Republican Party doesn't get it yet but they will."

The No Child Left Behind legislation threatens the existence of bilingual education because it promotes an English-only instruction program, a University of Houston history professor and local activist said Friday.

"Based on civil rights struggle, we know they are not going to provide bilingual education unless it is mandated," said Guadalupe San



Miguel, history professor at UH and author of Brown Not White: School Integration and the Chicano Movement in Houston. "The policy eliminated mandates. It has the potential for having harmful effects.

The policy is geared toward an English-only program."

Speaking at the national convention of the League of United Latin American Citizens, San Miguel was

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## ONU pide combatir racismo en México

La alta comisionada para los Derechos Humanos de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU), Mary Robinson, pidió al gobierno de México la inmediata implementación de un programa de acción contra el racismo y la discriminación que imperan en este país.

Recordó que esta nación se suscribió a un compromiso adoptado en una reunión sostenida en Durban, Sudáfrica, en septiembre de 2001, con el propósito de contrarrestar los prejuicios de este tipo en el mundo.

La funcionaria enfatizó la importancia de que las estrategias acordadas en aquella cumbre internacional se conviertan en proyectos creativos e ideas prácticas que den resultados concretos a corto y largo plazo.

"Los planes nacionales de acción han mostrado su valor en la creación de nuevos marcos para la creación de políticas en favor de los derechos humanos", recalcó Robinson.

Al encabezar la ceremonia de la inauguración del Seminario de

Expertos en Derechos Humanos de América Latina y el Caribe, la especialista hizo hincapié en que tales tácticas deben conllevar modificaciones legislativas que estén orientadas a enfrentar con eficiencia el racismo y la discriminación que prevalecen.

La comisionada de la ONU destacó que tanto las modificaciones en las leyes como los programas de acción deberán ser incluyentes, con el fin de que toda la sociedad participe en la elaboración de herramientas de planeamiento que eventualmente pueden resultar fundamentales para los gobiernos.

La meta El objetivo, recalcó, es el de avanzar en el cumplimiento de los acuerdos alcanzados el año pasado en Durban, sobre todo en las básicas áreas de desarrollo humano, como son la administración de justicia, el empleo, la salud y la educación.

La representante del máximo organismo mundial recordó que en la pasada conferencia mundial contra el racismo, la diplomacia mexicana tuvo una participación importante sobre el tema de la migración.

Robinson consideró que los flujos migratorios conforman un fenómeno muy importante en América Latina, que compete a todos los gobiernos del hemisferio porque "es de esta zona de donde la población emigra para buscar mejores oportunidades de vida".

Al mismo tiempo, admitió que el mundo a cambiado gradualmente a raíz de los ataques terroristas del pasado 11 de septiembre en Estados Unidos, no obstante puntualizó que el racismo y la xenofobia son prejuicios que datan de mucho tiempo atrás.

Por lo anterior, se pronunció porque tanto México como los demás países con esta problemática social, política y cultural, inicien esfuerzos para instaurar legislaciones y proyectos contra este flagelo atentatorio contra los derechos humanos.

Repetidos informes de la ONU dan cuenta de la seria situación que en la materia predomina en México, donde los habitantes pobres, indígenas y migrantes constituyen los grupos más discriminados en el empleo, salud, educación, vivienda,

justicia y demás campos.

Horas después de su participación en el foro, Robinson acudió a la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE) para firmar un convenio que contempla la instalación de una representación de esta alta comisión en México.

El titular de la cancillería, Jorge G. Castañeda, anticipó que con la ubicación de esta sede se consolida aún más el compromiso del gobierno mexicano con la vigencia de los derechos humanos, ya que "se trata de un hecho trascendental: México es uno de los pocos países del mundo, acaso el único, que en una situación de paz y estabilidad ha decidido extender una invitación a la alta comisionada para establecer una representación en el país".

Adelantó que en adelante tal representación constituirá un apoyo a las acciones del gobierno y de la sociedad mexicana en la promoción del respeto pleno a las garantías individuales, en una nueva etapa que permitirá la elaboración conjunta de un diagnóstico objetivo y confiable en torno al tema en

territorio nacional.

Castañeda comentó que "ello nos permitirá diseñar políticas cada vez más pertinentes y eficaces para fortalecer, con la participación de los poderes públicos y la sociedad civil, la protección y la defensa de esos derechos en nuestro país".

Consideró que los derechos humanos son "una de las tareas de gobierno más importantes" y apuntó que la nueva política del Estado mexicano reconoce en estos "valores absolutos y universales que nos exigen, tanto por convicción como por congruencia, hacer todo lo que esté a nuestro alcance para asegurar que sean cabalmente respetados en México y en el resto del mundo".

El canciller hizo ver que si bien este nuevo compromiso de acceso "a la mirada externa" es esencial "para superar los graves rezagos que aún persisten en el país en este ámbito", del mismo modo "también creemos que esta apertura al exterior contribuirá, de manera decisiva, a fortalecer el cambio democrático en México, haciéndolo irreversible".

# Have a Happy & Safe 4th of July

# A Teenage Poet's Plea For Refugees

By Miguel Pérez

The politicians made eloquent remarks, as they usually do when they are trying to impress a crowd. But the speaker who stole the show was a 14-year-old girl.

Elizabeth Torres spoke of children who "don't want to use guns instead of pencils," children who "don't want to die instead of going to school."

And suddenly there was complete silence in a huge theater where a loud rally was being held. Everyone knew she was talking about the bloody civil war in Colombia. They knew the story because they have lived it. But they wanted to hear it from a child's perspective.

Everybody says that the children are the future," she said in Spanish, quoting her poem. "But how can we be the future if we don't have a present?" Elizabeth was addressing more than 1,000 Colombians the other evening at the Ritz Theater in Elizabeth, N.J., a U.S. city that shares her first name. They were there to call on the federal government to grant Temporary Protective Status (TPS) to

refugees from Colombia.

Many prominent elected officials attended the rally and vowed to fight for a TPS program in Washington. "One way or another, you're not going back," U.S. Sen. Robert Torricelli promised the crowd.

But Elizabeth read a poem she wrote for President Bush in which she described, even better than the adults, why Colombians need TPS -- an 18-month temporary stay and work permit granted to foreign nationals who have been forced to flee their countries due to armed conflicts, war or natural disasters.

Quoting her poem, she said Colombian children "don't want to have to run and hide." She said they "don't want to hear their mothers crying one more night." She said they "don't want to watch the news announcing another violent attack against other families."

Many Colombians who are here without documents say the guerrilla war that has claimed thousands of innocent lives in their homeland should qualify them for TPS. The rally, sponsored by various Colum-

bian organizations, drew many of the politicians who agree.

But no one described the journey better than Elizabeth, who came here three years ago.

"Lost in the darkness of death, the child packed his dreams in a bag and left, looking for another sun to lighten life," she recited.

"That's why many Colombian families came to the United States, looking for a feeling of protection that will heal their fear."

The poem-let to the president described the perspective of the children of undocumented immigrants.

"And now... how can he live if he has to hide?" she asked. "If that child sees his parents too tired, scared and sad? Don't they have a place where to take refugees from the storm?"

Elizabeth is a legal resident who doesn't need TPS protection. A recent graduate of Hamilton Middle School in Elizabeth, she said she wrote the poem "because many of my friends from school and many of their relatives need help."

At the rally, TPS proponents noted that they have encountered op-

position from some members of the Bush administration. In the poem, written in English and Spanish, Elizabeth tells the president that he is the only one who can help her friends.

"Then, the (Colombian) child will be able to come out to the light, live and wake up each morning with a smile, because his parents go to work to feed their family, and their future," the poem said.

Elizabeth said she has been told that her poem has reached the White House. "Senators and congressmen have told me they have given it to the president. But I want an opportunity to give it to him myself. I can tell him about the Colombian children, here and in Colombia, and I think I could make him understand."

(Miguel Pérez is a columnist with The Record in Northern New Jersey. He may be contacted by E-mail at miguelp236(AT)SIGN@aol.com)

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# Una poeta Adolescente Pide Por los Refugiados de Columbia

Por Miguel Pérez

Los políticos hicieron comentarios elocuentes, como suelen hacer cuando tratan de impresionar a una multitud. Pero el orador que se robó el espectáculo fue una niña de catorce años.

Elizabeth Torres habló sobre los niños que "que quieren utilizar lápices en vez de armas", niños que "quieren ir a la escuela en vez de morir".

Y de repente hubo un silencio absoluto en un teatro enorme donde se llevaba a cabo una concentración energética. Todos sabían que se refería a la sangrienta guerra civil en Colombia. Conocían la historia porque la han vivido. No obstante, la querían escuchar desde la perspectiva de una niña.

"Todos dicen que los niños son el futuro", dijo en español, citando su poema. "¿Pero cómo podemos ser el futuro si no tenemos un presente?" La otra noche, Elizabeth se dirigió a más de 1,000 colombianos en el Teatro Ritz en Elizabeth, NJ, una ciudad estadounidense que lleva su nombre. Estaban allí para hacer un llamado al gobierno federal para que le otorgue el Temporary Protective Status (estado protector temporero, TPS por

sus siglas en inglés) a los refugiados de Colombia.

Muchos funcionarios prominentes electos asistieron a la concentración y prometieron luchar por el programa del TPS en Washington. "De una forma u otra, ustedes no van a regresar", prometió a la multitud el senador Robert Torricelli.

Pero Elizabeth leyó un poema que escribió para el presidente Bush, en el cual describe aún mejor que los adultos, por qué los colombianos necesitan el TPS, un permiso temporero de estadía y de trabajo por 18 meses, que se le otorga a los extranjeros nacionales que han sido obligados a escapar de sus países debido a conflictos armados, guerras o desastres naturales.

Citando su poema, ella afirma que los niños "no quieren tener que correr y esconderse".

Dice que "no quieren escuchar a sus madres llorando una noche más". Dice que "no quieren ver las noticias que anuncian otro ataque violento contra otras familias".

Muchos de los colombianos que están aquí sin papeles expresan que la guerra de la guerrilla, la cual ha cobrado miles de vidas inocentes en su tierra natal, les debería dar el derecho de recibir el TPS. La concentración,

patrocinada por varias organizaciones colombianas, atrajo a muchos de los políticos que aprueban el TPS.

No obstante, nadie describió el trayecto mejor que Elizabeth, quien llegó aquí hace tres años.

"Perdido en la oscuridad de la muerte, el niño empacó sus sueños en una bolsa y se fue, buscando otro sol que le diera más luz a su vida", declaró.

Por eso es que muchas familias colombianas vinieron a los Estados Unidos, buscando una sensación de protección que curara sus temores".

El poema estilo carta dirigido al presidente describe la perspectiva de los hijos de los inmigrantes indocumentados. "Y entonces... ¿Cómo pueden vivir si tienen que esconderse?", preguntó. "¿Si ese niño ve a sus padres demasiado cansados, asustados y tristes? ¿No tienen un lugar donde acepten a los refugiados de la tormenta?"

Elizabeth es una residente legal que no necesita la protección del TPS. Se graduó recientemente de la escuela intermedia Hamilton en Elizabeth, y expresa que escribió el poema "porque muchos de mis amigos de la escuela y muchos de sus parientes necesitan ayuda".

En la concentración, los defensores del TPS dieron a conocer que han encontrado oposición de parte de algunos miembros de la administración de Bush. En el poema, escrito en inglés y en español, Elizabeth le dice al presidente que él es el único que puede ayudar a sus amigos.

"Entonces, el niño (colombiano) tendrá la oportunidad de salir a la luz, vivir y levantarse cada mañana con una sonrisa, porque sus padres van al trabajo para alimentar a sus familias, y a su futuro", lee el poema.

Elizabeth afirma que le han dicho que su poema ha llegado a la Casa Blanca. "Algunos senadores y congresistas me han dicho que se lo han dado al presidente. Pero quisiera tener la oportunidad de dárselo yo misma. Le puedo hablar sobre los niños colombianos, de aquí y de Colombia, y pienso que puedo hacerle entender."

(Miguel Pérez es un columnista en The Record en el norte de New Jersey. Contáctese con él por correo electrónico a miguelp236(AT)SIGN@aol.com)

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# AT GRADUATION, ANGELA TAUGHT THE LESSON

By Miguel Pérez

The graduation program described the valedictorian as "an extremely mature and intelligent young woman, who is delightful, energetic, dynamic, poised, mannered, and always considerate to others." And yet there was tension and apprehension when Angela Salazar got up to speak.

That moment at the State Theater in New Brunswick, N.J., had been much anticipated by everyone who had been following the controversy over her speech -- all because Salazar, 17, wanted to say a few words in Spanish.

Since more than 60 percent of New Brunswick High School students are Latinos and since many of the parents who would be in the audience spoke little English, she felt a bilingual speech was appropriate -- especially since nowadays, even President Bush will occasionally deliver a few words in español.

But school officials had warned her that she couldn't do it, supposedly because the speech would then exceed its allotted time limit. They had even threatened, in writing, that "the approved speech is the only speech to be read at graduation" and that "any deviation from that written text will result in (your) removal from the podium during your speech."

Salazar found herself a lawyer and threatened to sue the school for violating her constitutional right to free speech. By the time she got up to the podium, school officials had recanted. They let her deliver her entire speech, in English and Spanish.

Yet the damage had been done. They had created the unnecessary tension of that moment. Their archaic attitude had even influenced about two dozen of Salazar's classmates to stand up and turn their backs on her when she rose to speak.

Salazar was undaunted. She had come to the United States from Ecuador, knowing little English, only four years ago and managed to finish at the top of her class. She wasn't going to let anyone stop her.

She walked up to the podium, holding Ecuadorean and U.S. flags. "Getting here has not been easy," Salazar said during her bilingual speech. "Nothing in life comes easy. When one struggles to get somewhere or to accomplish something, then it can be truly appreciated."

She could have been talking about the accomplishments of all of her 150 graduating classmates. But to the Latinos in the audience who cheered for her, it was the moment to savor a victory over those who would censor their constitutional right to speech -- in Spanish.

In many ways, it was a typical valedictorian speech, speculating about the challenges of the future. But Salazar's story had to be a little different. She had to thank her relatives for helping her "avoid the unpredictable obstacles that as an immigrant, who arrived in this country in 1998, I had to overcome to work my way to this podium."

Halfway through Salazar's speech, before she starting speaking in Spanish, the protesters sat back down and the catcalls subsided.

"It was the power of her message," said her lawyer, Martin Pérez. "Instead of the school teaching her one final lesson at graduation, she's the one who taught the school a lesson."

Pérez said officials should have been celebrating the fact that they were graduating an immigrant valedictorian who accomplished so much in so little time. And in the end, they did -- reluctantly.

After the ceremony, outside the theater, holding flags from various Latin American countries, a group of Salazar's Latino classmates chanted in Spanish, (ITAL) "Si, se puede." (ENDITAL) "Yes, it can be done."

"We love this country," Salazar said after her graduation. "We want to defend this country and we want to speak English. But we are proud of being Hispanic and we want to maintain our Hispanic roots."

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# LULAC Ranks Grow, Yet Gains Superficial

In the four years that Houston lawyer Rick Dovalina has led the venerable League of United Latin American Citizens, the national president has crisscrossed the country hard on the heels of America's fastest-growing minority.

He helped a blossoming community of mainly new immigrants establish a LULAC branch in Memphis, Tenn., and organized a huge membership of Latinos in Fayetteville, Ark.

In Wisconsin, Oregon and Nebraska, from the South to New England, Dovalina has carried the LULAC banner into growing enclaves of working-class Latinos not always welcome or even safe.

Today, as LULAC delegates arrive in Houston for their 73rd national convention, Dovalina knows that some question the relevance of the nation's oldest Hispanic civil rights group in the new millennium.

Latinos can vote, sit on juries, attend public schools, hold political office and be buried in integrated cemeteries, all basic liberties, once legally denied, that LULAC's early members won.

Democrat Tony Sanchez is within striking distance of the Texas Governor's Mansion. Sylvia Garcia is poised to become the first Hispanic and first woman elected to the Harris County Commissioners Court, a once stoutly white, male bastion.

But for Dovalina, one of a new cadre of urbane, well-educated and businesslike LULAC leaders who have wrenched the organization into the new century, the battle for equity still is palpable and the core mission vital.

"You have good areas like Arkansas where they have embraced Latinos," Dovalina says. "But we recently lost a battle against an English-only law in Utah, and bilingual education was banned in Arizona. In Kansas, we just intervened against a fast-food chain that was calling immigration officials to pick up its Latino customers."

"After the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center, we also are facing a new resurgence of discrimination against anyone who looks foreign."

"We still have a long way to go."

Hispanics in Houston, a once quintessentially Southern and conservative city, overtook whites in the 2000 Census to become the largest ethnic group. They are now the dominant population in the state's five largest cities; one of every three Texans today is Hispanic, and most inhabit urban centers.

When Dovalina steps down as president during this week's convention at the Westin Galleria, he likely will pass the reins to Hector M. Flores, director of recruitment for the school district in Dallas, a city undergoing demographic shifts as profound as Houston's.

Like Dovalina, Flores is a well-schooled professional who moved up the ranks of LULAC determined to steady and stay the course. The 1990s were a tough go.

Plagued by infighting and major scandals, LULAC foundered as more contemporary groups with sharper political and economic edges emerged -- the massive and sophisticated National Council of La Raza, the research-bent National Association of Elected and Appointed Offi-

cials and, ironically, the feisty Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund, which LULAC itself created.

In 1990, boosted by votes from freshly recruited, all-Filipino chapters, Jose Velez, a Las Vegas casino promoter, was elected national president in a raucous convention that climaxed when his supporters swarmed the stage and commandeered the mike. Velez was later indicted in a massive scheme to smuggle undocumented immigrants.

It was LULAC's nadir. "Sometimes when the battle is not directed outward toward a common enemy, it turns inward as factions within the group battle for power," says Flores, the only announced candidate to succeed Dovalina. "But at the national level, we're now about consensus-building. We have debate, but there's a very professional decorum, and once we go forward, we try to maintain a united front."

Flores credits the two most recent presidents with bringing a new focus and level of efficiency to LULAC as well as impeccable reputations. But El Paso Customs official Belen Robles, the only woman ever elected national president, and Dovalina, then her legal adviser, discovered Velez had left in his wake not just a house divided but a house broken.

"Belen had to reconstruct everything from scratch," Flores says. "We became very solvent, but we had to restructure the entire financial underpinnings of the organization."

"She gave LULAC the integrity it needed to have to look political and corporate America in the eye as

equals. Rick, as her legal counsel, gave it the tough litigator, businesslike perspective."

LULAC and its 700 local councils sprawled across virtually every state survived, and Dovalina today ticks off his accomplishments with characteristic dispatch.

On his watch, the Washington, D.C., national office expanded to a full-time staff that includes a policy director and communications officer. Operations were computerized top-to-bottom, and almost every chapter was brought online.

The first of what Dovalina hopes will be many state offices was opened in Austin with an executive director and full staff focused on Texas issues; he is seeking funding for another in California.

"I worked very hard to get LULAC to run as a business," Dovalina says. "We're now doing very well financially, and we've also been able to develop some very strong relationships with corporate partners."

There was much to save. Dovalina grew up in Corpus Christi, the LULAC cradle where Hispanics, plagued by lynchings, segregation and legal discrimination, in 1929 gathered from the discontented barrios of South Texas and took an audacious step.

Members of the Knights of America, the Order of the Sons of America and a sprinkling of other groups with old-fashioned names but newfangled notions merged into a single group; in numbers, strength.

It worked. LULAC's early years were studded with milestones. It filed and funded the lawsuits that ended 100 years of segregated schools in California and Texas. It spun off the American G.I. Forum for Mexican-American veterans and later MALDEF, to serve as the emerging community's legal arm.

The late John J. Herrera of Houston, a former LULAC national president revered in the local Latino community, in 1954 argued the Hernandez v. State of Texas lawsuit before the Supreme Court that won the state's Mexican-Americans the once legally denied right to serve on juries.

The late Houston restaurateur Felix Tijerina, another LULAC president and son of a farmworker, was the guiding force and financial backer of the "Little School of the 400." Aimed at teaching Spanish-speaking preschool children 400 basic English words, it was the seed that spawned Head Start during President Lyndon Johnson's administration.

The list is long and proud and the fruits of these labors evident. Hispanics emerged from the 2000 Census 35.3 million strong and now rival blacks as the nation's largest minority. Citizenship rates are up, voter



# El Editor Newspapers

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continued on page 5

# Tribunal Supremo da esperanza a condenados a la muerte

Washington - Dos dictámenes del Tribunal Supremo de EE.UU. han dado nueva esperanza de vida a más de mil condenados a muerte, cuyo destino ha quedado ahora en manos de jurados y psicólogos.

La medida significó la anulación inmediata por inconstitucional de 168 ejecuciones previstas y la Embajada de México anunció que iniciará la revisión de los casos de 54 mexicanos que podrían verse beneficiados por una o las dos resoluciones.

El jueves pasado, el Tribunal Supremo prohibió la ejecución de los discapacitados psíquicos por considerar que en su caso el castigo es inconstitucional.

Miguel Monterrubio, portavoz de la Embajada de México, dijo que esta decisión beneficiará a los mexicanos Raúl Soto y Ramón Martínez, en Arizona, y Pedro Alberto Hernández, en Florida.

Cuatro días después, el lunes, siete de los nueve jueces del máximo tribunal determinaron que la decisión sobre la pena capital debe recaer en los miembros de los jurados que determinen la culpabilidad del acusado, y no en los jueces. Señalaron que atribuir al juez la facultad de la condena a muerte también es inconstitucional porque viola el derecho del reo a ser juzgado por sus iguales, es decir, los miembros de un jurado.

"Hemos concluido que los acusados por crímenes capitales, no menos que otros acusados, tienen derecho a que un jurado determine acerca de cualquier factor sobre el cual la ley condiciona un incremento en su castigo máximo", indicó la juez Ruth Bader Ginsburg, que representó la opinión de la mayoría de los magistrados.

La juez Sandra Day O'Connor, uno de los dos disidentes,

confirmó que el fallo declara anticonstitucional las sentencias de pena de muerte contra 168 condenados en Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana y Nebraska, las cuales fueron dictadas por jueces y no por jurados. Sin embargo, O'Connor consideró que será una pérdida de tiempo para los acusados que, según ella, probablemente no tendrán éxito en su apelación, y para los tribunales, "que afrontarán una gran carga en esos cinco estados".

El Centro de Información sobre la Pena de Muerte (CIPM) dijo que esta última decisión favorecerá a más de 800 de los más de 3.770 convictos que esperan ejecución en los corredores de la muerte. Agregó que más de 200 podrán cobijarse en el primer dictamen si sus abogados logran que los psicólogos confirmen que su coeficiente intelectual es inferior a



70 puntos. En referencia a los mexicanos, fuentes judiciales manifestaron que en los próximos meses los tribunales serán invadidos por peticiones de que se revisen condenas de reos que se consideren discapacitados mentales o hayan sido emitidas por un juez, no un jurado. Agregaron que habrá

un aumento en la intervención de especialistas y psiquiatras que pasarán a convertirse en elementos cruciales en la suerte final de los reos.

Ambos dictámenes fueron una bienvenida sorpresa para los detractores del castigo máximo porque fueron tomadas por una corte conservadora en un gobierno encabezado por George W. Bush, quien durante cinco años como gobernador de Texas presidió inclemente casi dos centenares de ejecuciones.

Señalaron que, en última instancia, apuntaría a la abolición del castigo, que ha perdido respaldo en los últimos años y ha sido blanco de duras críticas de la comunidad internacional.

"La decisión beneficiará a centenares de condenados y demuestra lo importante que es reconsiderar todo el proceso de la

pena de muerte en EE.UU.", dijo Richard Dieter, portavoz del CIPM.

Para Amnistía Internacional-EE.UU., el dictamen es "otra importante admisión de los problemas vinculados al sistema de la pena de muerte en EE.UU."

De todas maneras, sean los miembros de un jurado o un juez los que tomen la decisión, "la pena de muerte es simplemente una violación aberrante de los derechos humanos", agregó.

Amnistía Internacional dijo que los Estados deben ver este último dictamen del Tribunal Supremo como una oportunidad para considerar el próximo paso: "abolir del todo la pena de muerte

**El Editor - Léa Lo Mejor en Noticias**

## LULAC Disagrees

From Page One

part of a panel discussion Friday focusing on bilingual education and biculturalism. Discussion addressed the effects the law, signed in January by President Bush, will have on bilingual education.

Kathleen Leos, with the Office of English Language Acquisition in the Department of Education, challenged San Miguel's comments.

Leos, a former trustee on the Dallas school board, said the legislation is designed to help students transition into English while still keeping their native language.

"What the law says is we must teach and they must learn. It does not say bilingual programs cannot be used," Leos said. "The goal is that every student that comes to the system will acquire both languages and have the ability to go on to college."

Under funding changes that were part of the No Child Left Behind Act, school districts now must apply to the Texas Education Agency for money to fund language programs.

Before, school districts applied to the U.S. Department of Education for money to supplement bilingual education programs.

The TEA distributes money through a formula-based grant. Texas is expected to receive about \$62 million in grant money. Applications for the grants went out to districts this week.

Leos said the change means more money will be made available to states to fund language programs.

"The legislation put money into the hands of states who will determine what the programs will be," she said.

Education was the theme of the day Friday at the LULAC's national convention, which ends today. Education tops LULAC's 10 critical issues affecting the Latino community, issues the group challenges political candidates to address.

In its national education agenda, the organization contends Latinos have experienced a history of neglect from educational and political communities.

Brent A. Wilkes, national executive director of LULAC, said both the Hispanic dropout rate and language acquisition programs are important issues to the organization.

Wilkes said that despite their population growth in urban school districts, Latinos remain an underserved community in terms of education. He said if something isn't done nationally to address deficits in education, Latinos will be stuck in the underclass.

"We see education as the vehicle to make it into middle class and so we've been pushing that from the very beginning," Wilkes said.

"There are a lot of education issues. It (bilingual education) has been under attack for sometime now. So we are very concerned."

State Sen. Mario Gallegos, D-Houston, who also participated in the panel discussion, said a student should not leave a bilingual education program unless the child is proficient in reading, writing and speaking English.

"If we exit that child just reading, writing or just speaking, then we have done a disservice to that child," Gallegos said. "Ultimately that's why we have a high Hispanic dropout. The English-only movement is alive, and it's too bad that some of our own folks are a part of the movement."

"While the rest of the world promotes knowing more than one language, we are in the process of trying to limit language. There should not be a punishment for those who don't have a mastery of English," Gallegos said.

Also at the LULAC convention Friday, U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, pushed for improvements in education to help reduce the dropout rate, which is highest among Hispanics.

Department of Education statistics indicate that nearly one-third of Hispanic students drop out of high school, Hutchison told an afternoon session.

Hutchison said public schools need to lift teacher certification barriers that keep retired business and military workers from teaching languages, math and sciences -- fields where there is a teacher shortage.

Hutchison also supported allowing single-sex classrooms if parents and school districts like that option.

"We want every child in America to receive a quality public education," Hutchison said.

"But we have let our creativity go downhill," she said. "It is imperative that we get our education system back on track."

## Esperanza Gonzales Solis October 1949 to March 2002



Stand Up!!... For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything. "Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good..." Galatians 6:9-10

Esperanza Gonzales was born at Memorial Hospital on October 20, 1949 in Corpus Christi Texas. She died March 22, 2002 at Covenant Hospital in Lubbock Texas, after a seven week ordeal with peritonitis, an infection of the body cavity that quickly gets out of control. It was brought to our attention that many folks were not aware of her death, so rather than just do demographics, we are printing some thoughts about her by Xavier, her son; reprints of articles on her in the Texas Tech Techsan, the alumni magazine; an article in La Verdad Newspaper from Crystal City where she started her teaching career; the eulogy by her husband, Eliseo, and photos in various times of her life.

She was simple, yet complex. Generally non-combative, yet assertive, stern and militantly protective of her family. Coquettish but keenly aware of the limits required by morals and spirituality. Unpretentious but naturally beautiful, a trait that did not change her character when her body was ravaged by the kidney disease, chemicals and related infirmities... ultimately taking her life when an infection that most of us could have fought off, got out of control because of her lack of an immune system that was killed when she had an incompatible transplant in 1994.

She could be runner-up for Teacher of the Year in Texas, yet yell "burritos" at the top of her lungs to construction workers on Interstate I-27 without hesitation. Class distinction never occurred to her; she was the epitome of class. Esperanza was not unique, she just happened to be among those that manifest the traits that announce what's good about humanity.

Y ahora, Esperanza Vuela con los Angeles.

Esperanza's Eulogy Another monument has been torn down as it relates to humanity. We will never see the facial expressions that only she could make, hear the laughs and giggles that betrayed her innocence, that smile that takes your breath with the radiant teeth, and most of all the unconditional love that radiated from her being when you heard the first word coming from her mouth. She was not perfect or flawless though. She chose me... She just made things and people better... with enduring patience and without being

overbearing. Driving back and forth to the hospital every day during this crisis, I would see the landscape being slowly made barren in preparation for the East/West Freeway. What was once a thriving, vibrant thoroughfare along 4th St from I-27 to University particularly, looks listless and sad in the void that now exists. The buildings re-



moved were never going to be included in the register of historical monuments. Some were just solid structures that stood out because of the

strength of their construction. And so it was with Esperanza. I wanted to take different routes at times, but realized the connection as it relates to her and how barren our lives will now be...with her absence.

The human landscape of Lubbock is also being stripped of a vibrant, full-of-life portion of its life. Esperanza sold her burritos this past year and a half with the same passion and enthusiasm that she did with her teaching the hundreds of students who received not only her knowledge but her unconditional love. There are people who worked with her in the classroom and could relate better than me how she made a presence with her ability to effect the field of education, not as a professional, but as a human being who never saw her work as a stepping stone.

Teaching was important to her for at least two reasons:

1. The benefit to the hundreds of students that learned from her giving.
2. The ability to spend summers with her children which earlier on, eliminated as an option, accepting positions as a principal, which were offered several times.

Esperanza was not unique, and other than her beauty, would not particularly stand out. She is just one of many individuals in this world who

continued on page 5

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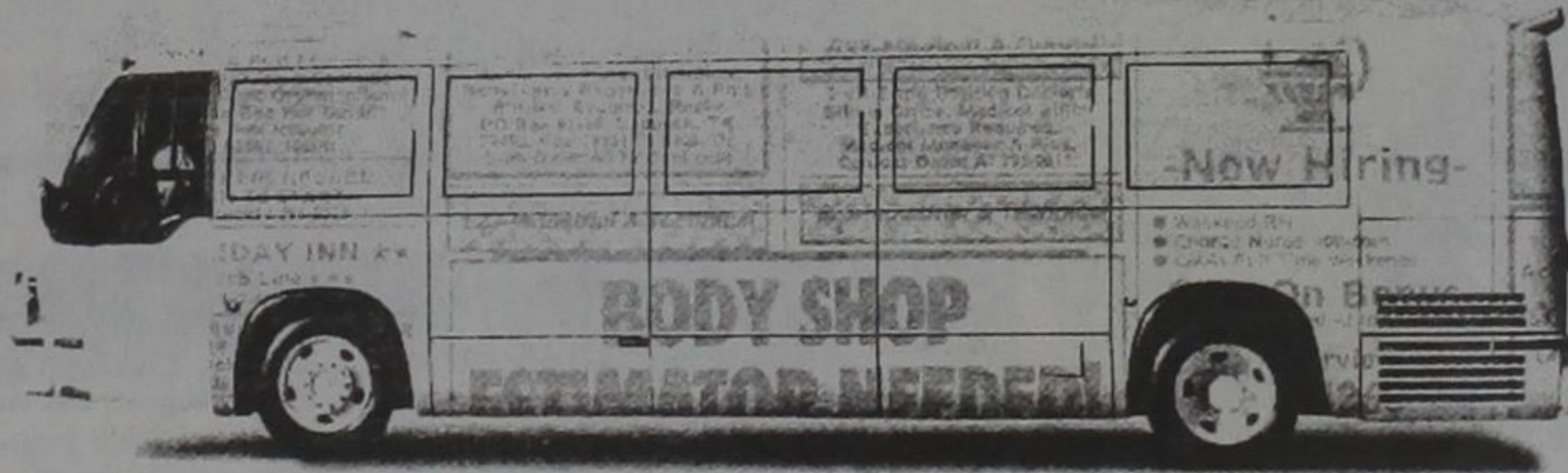
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# Henin Drops Seles to Set Up Semifinals vs. Venus



Venus Williams swept to another easy straight-set victory Tuesday as she moved into the semifinals and closer to her third consecutive Wimbledon title.

Justine Henin also reached the semis, beating Monica Seles in straight sets, and will face Williams in a rematch of last year's final. Jennifer Capriati made it to the quarterfinals.

Venus Williams easily advances to the Wimbledon semifinals Tuesday. The top-seeded Williams, who has dropped one set in five matches, crushed 48th-ranked Elena Likhovtseva 6-2, 6-0 in 44 minutes in the day's opening match on Centre Court.

It was Williams' eighth consecutive victory over the Russian, all in straight sets.

Likhovtseva, the only unseeded player to reach the women's quarters, was helpless against the American's relentless power game and won only seven points in the second set.

"I'm just trying to play more solid every round, garner each point for myself," Williams said. "When it happens like it did today, it's very nice I think. I don't think she gave me a lot of errors. I had to produce most of the shots and put a lot of pressure on her."

Williams has spent only 4 1/2 hours on court in her run to the semifinals

and remains a strong favorite to become the first woman to win three straight titles since Steffi Graf in 1991-93.

"Now I expect for myself to be almost perfect," she said. "When I first started, first getting to the quarterfinals, it was all new. But now I expect to be there."

Williams will next face Henin, whom she beat in three sets in last year's final. Henin, seeded sixth, beat No. 4 Seles 7-5, 7-6 (7-4) in a match that was interrupted twice by rain.

"She didn't play top players in the tournament, so maybe I have a little advantage on this part," Henin said of Williams. "But it's going to be tough for me. But today also it was difficult and I won. I'm in the semifinal and I will have nothing to lose, for sure."

It was Henin's first victory over Seles after four defeats, including a quarterfinal loss at the French Open last month.

## Euphoric Return for Triumphant Brazil



Brazil's victorious World Cup team have arrived back home to a rapturous welcome.

The team's official plane landed in the capital on Tuesday after being escorted by four fighter jets.

The team were greeted by thousands of fans who exploded into shrieks of delight as the soccer stars disembarked.

Dressed head-to-toe in the green and yellow of the national flag, fans jostled to get a glimpse of the World Cup champions as the beaming players emerged from a chartered plane after flying half way across the globe from Japan.

Their arrival back home came after three days of celebrations in Brazil.

Their plane, with Brazilian soccer players painted on the sides, circled the clear blue sky above the futuristic capital several times before landing.

Team captain Cafu and coach Luiz Felipe Scolari leaned out of the cock-

pit windows, waving Brazilian flags, as the plane taxied to the terminal.

Cafu stepped off the plane, raising the World Cup trophy in the air, as horns and hooters blasted and a brass band played.

After beating Germany 2-0 in Sunday's final, Brazil became the only country in the world to win the World Cup five times. (Final)

Fans lined the highways, hoping to catch a glimpse of the players on their way to the presidential palace, where President Fernando Henrique Cardoso would receive them.

Thousands of fans descended on the huge square in front of the palace, where 4,000 police officers were stationed.

It was a triumphant homecoming for the team and for coach Scolari, or "Big Phil," after being ripped apart by the national media before the championship and virtually written off after struggling to qualify.

Instead, they returned to the jubilant South American nation as World Cup record breakers.

Ronaldo ended the tournament as top striker with eight goals, equaling a Brazilian record of 12 goals at World Cup finals set by soccer hero Pele.

He scored two goals past German goalkeeper Oliver Kahn, who won the Golden Ball award for best World Cup player and also was named the best keeper.

Ronaldo's name was splashed across giant banners lining the sun-blazed streets of Brasilia and bouncing fans clamoured for a wave or a wink from the man they call "the phenomenon."

Brazil won the 1958, 1962, 1970 and 1994 cups had never before met Germany in a finals tournament.

ace on match point.

The match resumed just before 6 p.m. after a series of rain delays throughout the afternoon. The match was moved from Court 1 to Court 18 to ensure it could be completed.

Capriati said the extra day worked in her favor.

"In that second set, she was playing pretty unbelievable," she said. "It would have been very tough to beat her if we would have kept playing. I really came out strong today."

Capriati will face ninth-seeded Amelie Mauresmo of France for a place in the semifinals.

Williams' sister, Serena, is scheduled to play Daniela Hantuchova in a quarterfinal Wednesday. The Williams sisters are on course to meet in their third Grand Slam final in 10 months.

Belgium's Xavier Malisse advanced to the quarterfinals by beating Britain's Greg Rusedski 6-4 in the final set of a match that had been suspended Monday evening at two sets apiece.

Malisse broke Rusedski for a 4-3 lead and served out the match three

games later. After saving two break points, one with an ace, he converted on his second match point to close it out at 3-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Malisse jumped high in the air with his right arm extended, then dropped to his knees and bent his head down on the grass.

Malisse is the first Belgian man to advance this far at Wimbledon in the Open era -- and only the second Belgian to reach any Grand Slam men's quarterfinal. Filip de Wulf reached the semis at the French Open in 1997 and the quarters in 1998.

Play started just over an hour late on Centre Court and Court 1 after a rain delay, the second consecutive day of wet weather. After several rain interruptions, play was stopped for the day just after 7 p.m.

Richard Krajicek, the 1996 winner and only former men's champion left in the draw, and Mark Philippoussis were tied at two sets apiece -- all in tiebreakers -- in a fourth-round match. They will resume Wednesday.

Rusedski's defeat left Tim Henman as the last British player in the draw. No Briton has won the men's title since 1936.

## Los Jugadores De Beisbol Latinos Estan Adentro, Pero Los Aficionados Se Quedaran Afuera

Por Arlene Martinez

Mi hermana y yo estamos aprendiendo por encima de la verja, mirando detenidamente la casa club para ver quien está en los alrededores. Sólo hay un puñado. No todos los jugadores se encuentran en el campo, y el equipo visitante practica el batco. Conocemos por nombre a cada soltero del equipo de los Padres de San Diego.

lugar. No todo cambia. Algunas cosas si. ¿Se ven más y más hispanos? Seguro. El beisbol es el único deporte en los Estados Unidos donde el talento hispano se destaca.

## continua en la pagina 5 Ailing Tiger Withdraws from Western Open

No somos del tipo normal que reconoce a los chicos con un "¡Oye, tú! ¡Oye, número 23!" Conocemos sus estadísticas, si son solteros o casados. Algunas veces sonríen y saludan, otras veces nos pasan por alto.

Salen más jugadores. Unos cuantos se están estirando al frente de nosotros, otros practican la atrapada. Todo se ve informal mientras calientan, pero las bolas producen un silbido cuando las lanzan. Acabamos de ver a un encargado del mantenimiento del campo de juego caminando lento hacia el cuadro dejando que la tiza blanca rellene las líneas. Nuestro papáanda con nuestro hermano Estudiante detenidamente a los jugadores, que se encuentran en los extremos del campo, y recolectan las bolas fallidas. Comemos semillas de girasol como los jugadores. Al menos, supusimos que eso tenían en la boca hasta que les vimos la saliva negra y pegajosa.

Al final de la década de los 90 hasta mediados de los '90, los Padres estaban pasando apuros. En una buena noche, la multitud llegaba a los 15,000. Este año, a mediados de la temporada están enterrados en último

Tiger Woods withdrew from the Western Open Tuesday morning due to illness.

The two-time champion of the tourney had planned to make the Western his final tuneup before he goes after the third leg of the single-season Grand Slam at the British Open. The British Open will be played July 18-21 in Muirfield, Scotland.

Woods, who won The Masters and U.S. Open earlier this year, will remain in Florida to recuperate before leaving for England later this month.

"Naturally, we are disappointed he has had to withdraw," said John Kaczowski, the tournament director. "We wish Tiger all the best in his pursuit of golf's Grand Slam this year and hope he will be able to compete next year in the 2003 Western Open."

Woods has played in the Western seven of the past eight years, including every year since 1997 -- his first full season on the PGA Tour. In addition to his 1997 and '99 Western titles, Woods also won the Western Amateur in 1994.

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### CITY OF LUBBOCK PUBLIC NOTICE

#### CITY COUNCIL APPROVED PROJECTS FOR FY 2002-2003 FOR

The City of Lubbock's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)

On June 26, 2002 the Lubbock City Council held a Public Hearing and voted to recommend to Housing and Urban Development (HUD) the following projects for FY 2002-2003. Comments on the plan, and proposals will be accepted through July 31, 2002. Comments may be sent in writing to:

City of Lubbock  
Community Development Department  
Attn: Todd Steelman  
P.O. Box 2000 Lubbock, TX 79457

AGENCY	PROJECT	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED
<b>COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT</b>		
Lubbock Black Chamber	Minority Bus. Broch	\$8,425
Boys & Girls Club	Job Ready Program	\$10,725
Buckner's Children's Home	Project ROCK	\$10,313
Catholic Family Services	Sell Sufficiency	\$24,750
Children's Advocacy Center	Healing For Abused Children	\$11,000
Christian Women's Job Corps	Job Training	\$14,795
City of Lubbock Health Dept.	Step Up to Health	\$2,500
City of Lubbock Parks	Community Learning Labs	\$33,000
City of Lubbock Parks	Summer Satellite Program	\$70,278
City of Lubbock Parks	Tree Planting	\$10,000
City of Lubbock Parks	Wellness Center	\$250,000
City of Lubbock Parks	Skate Park	\$200,000
City of Lubbock Parks	Berry Park Development	\$44,000
Early Learning Centers	Child Care	\$22,000
Guadalupe Parkway	Summer Blast	\$12,152
Guadalupe/Parkway Neigh. Center	Renovation	\$27,000
Guadalupe/Parkway Neigh. Center	Playground	\$25,000
Coalition for Literacy	Literacy Outreach	\$3,300
March of Dimes	Stork's Nest	\$9,350
Cotton Kings	Kids Hockey	\$45,000
Fiestas de Llano	Parking Lot	\$40,000
Lutheran Social Services	Adult Daycare	\$38,700
100 Black Men of West Texas	Rites of Passage Boxing	\$19,487
Prevent Blindness	Minority Vision Awareness	\$15,250
YWCA	Interfaith Volunteer	\$6,300
YWCA	Breast Cancer	\$3,000
YWCA	Challenger	\$8,925
YWCA	Childcare	\$22,000
City of Lubbock CD	Emergency Repair	\$200,000
City of Lubbock CD	Micro-Enterprise Loans	\$75,000
City of Lubbock CD	Barrier Free Program	\$175,000
City of Lubbock CD	Target Residential Rehab	\$400,000
City of Lubbock CD	Sidewalk and Ramps	\$139,266
City of Lubbock CD	HEEELP	\$175,000
City of Lubbock Bus. and Neigh.	Salary Reimbursement	\$100,000
Hispanic Chamber	Business Assistance	\$30,000
Lubbock Heritage Soc.	Preservation	\$70,000
SPWB	Childcare	\$23,100
Children's Home	Family Care	\$25,000
Campfire	On Wheels	\$12,300
City of Lubbock CD	Housing Delivery	\$582,000
City of Lubbock CD	Indirect Costs	\$90,000
City of Lubbock CD	CDBG Administration	\$502,084
Total CDBG		\$3,586,000
<b>HOME Investment Partnership Program</b>		
City of Lubbock CD	Reconstruction	\$602,750
City of Lubbock CD	New Construction	\$240,000
City of Lubbock CD	LAZIP	\$178,000
Community Housing Resource Board	Lease Purchase (CHDO Project)	\$212,550
Community Housing Resource Board	Operations	\$50,000
City of Lubbock CD	HOME Administration	\$128,700
Total HOME		\$1,412,300
<b>Emergency Shelter Grant</b>		
Alcohol Recovery Center	Operations	\$7500
ASK House	Operations	\$8000
Salvation Army	Operation	\$15200
Salvation Army	Homeless Prevention	\$30000
Salvation Army	Essential Services	\$23300
Women's Protective Services	Essential Services	\$10000
LIHN	Operations	\$11500
City of Lubbock CD	ESG Administration	\$5550
Total ESG		\$111,000

On or About August 5, 2002 the City of Lubbock will forward the 2002-2003 Action Plan including these projects to the Housing & Urban Development (HUD) for review.

From Page 2

participation is on the rise and both major political parties now see the future.

Convention delegates this week will be courted by Gov. Rick Perry and Sanchez, his Democratic opponent. Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee will come to coax delegates to bring their national meeting to Little Rock.

It's not a presidential election year, so President Bush took a pass. But White House Counsel Al Gonzales and Housing and Urban Development Secretary Mel Martinez will fly the GOP flag.

LULAC, more than any other Latino organization, bridges the economic and social divides within the community. The new immigrants who fuel the working class, the essential and rising middle class and the growing ranks of college-educated professionals all are represented in the LULAC ranks.

To incoming President Flores, the self-made son of farmworkers, LULAC is ideally positioned to represent the country's growingly diverse Latino population. And the work remains, Flores says.

"I never thought growing up in this state that I would see a black running for the U.S. Senate and an Hispanic for governor," Flores says of Sanchez

and former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk. "It speaks a lot about the promise of America. There is no dream you can't achieve if you work hard enough.

"But our dropout rate is close to 50 percent and unacceptable. We can only have so many of our kids flipping burgers. As we have continuing waves of immigrants, we need to ensure that they don't become the next underclass.

"We need to see that they assume their rightful place in society."

New immigrants and high Hispanic birth rates have fueled booming population numbers; Hispanics accounted for 60 percent of Texas' growth through the 1990s, and nationally their ranks swelled by 58 percent through the 1990s.

Within three years, Hispanics are expected to be the nation's largest minority.

For Johnny Mata, LULAC director of this 12-county area and its most constant and indefatigable presence, this means new and continuing challenges.

Mata was LULAC director of civil rights when Joe Campos Torres drowned in Buffalo Bayou in 1977 at the hands of Houston police. He was district director when Moody Park in El Segundo Barrio, where the city's Latino population first took root, erupted in riots after the officers in-

volved in Torres' death were slapped on the wrist.

He protested the lack of a Hispanic on former President Clinton's much-touted race and sports panel in Houston; the White House quickly added one. He politely but firmly asked Texans majority owner Bob McNair why the ostensibly diverse team ownership did not include a Hispanic; it does now.

As delegates arrive at the convention today, Mata will be MIA, time-managing his day to include a Baytown rally protesting the reinstatement of police involved in the Jan. 20 death of Luis Torres, who quit breathing after a struggle to handcuff him.

"Our role is to empower our community until we have an even playing field, and we are not there yet," Mata says. "There are superficial and cosmetic public gains, but in the trenches the fight continues and so does LULAC's role.

"Hispanics have the most decorated number of soldiers in U.S. wars than any other group, but since the World Trade Center we're moving toward a police state and minorities will bear the brunt of this. That's why LULAC, the NAACP and other civil rights groups are going to be more important in the 21st century than when we were being lynched and persecuted."

tro de los que hay que crecer. Es un juego lento. Hay que apreciar las sutilezas, hay que verlo en vivo.

Mi padre me malcrió al insistir que observáramos las prácticas de bateo, al insistir que nos sentáramos cerca. No muchos maestros de escuela superior con tres niños pequeños ocupan esos espacios hoy día. Hay algo que decir sobre esos asientos frontales. Es un juego totalmente diferente.

Le comenté a un amigo en Los Angeles que me dirigía a Camden Yards para ver el partido de los Orioles vs. Dodgers, con asientos al nivel del campo de \$32, regalo de otro amigo. Me preguntó a quién apoyaba. A los Dodgers, le dije. La liga americana es muy aburrida. No puedo creer la forma tan radical en que el bateador designado cambia el ritmo del juego. ¿Qué clase de estrategia utiliza el bateador designado? ¿Sacas al lanzador si te encuentras con una oportunidad de anotar a última hora o lo dejas lanzar? ¿Lo dejas salirse del aprisco o lo sacas porque está programado para batear primero en la próxima entrada?

Conozco sobre los bateadores designados por los juegos de estrellas. Prefiero a la liga nacional, lo admito, los juegos de la liga interestatal comenzaron recientemente y no fue hasta la temporada pasada que vi el primer partido de la liga americana. El

bateador designado atrasó el partido por lo que el tiempo se mantuvo fijo, desde mi asiento por las nubes.

Jugué softball por años. Entre esto y la transmisión de los Padres de Jerry Coleman, aprendí estrategias, aprendí estadísticas. Pero esto no sustituyó el sonido de las bolas al golpear la madera, los aplausos y la música, la excitación de la multitud cuando tu equipo anota un jonrón.

Lo siento por los niños latinos que no pueden asistir al estadio. Lo siento por los niños que, si logran encontrar una liga recreativa asequible, pronto los niños ricos quienes pueden jugar todo el año, cuyos padres pueden contratar entrenadores personales de bateo, fideo y lanzamiento, lo sobrepasarán.

Escuché que el béisbol es un deporte que está muricndo. El béisbol no soportará otro "strike", si echan a los fanáticos de los parques.

No pienso que éste sea el caso. Al igual que ese niño que desea un jonrón con dos 'out' al final de la novena, en el séptimo partido de la Serie Mundial, yo espero que las caras en las gradas sean como las caras en la caseta.

¿Puede suceder? Pregúntele al 'diamondback' de Arizona, Luis Gonzales, quien bateó la carrera ganadora en la Serie Mundial contra los Yankees el año pasado.

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Esperanza Solis

From Page Three

belong to a class that if given control of the problems of the world, would end the senseless taking of lives with war and other social ills that affect our society. She never wanted to be president of anything. She just made things happen. Esperanza was too good to be a leader, yet she led. She avoided, no, she refused the so called limelight. She did tell me though, that she would have won all the elections that I lost.

Manuel Aguilar and Harry Stokely can attest to her unwillingness to give up as long as the polls were open. In 1980, they walked the streets with her on separate occasions and asked me afterward to please not send them out with her again. They were two of the many people who joined our campaigns who reflected her commitment to tasks that had to be completed. Her actions were about making it happen, not about who should be out in front.

She disliked the decision making part of campaigns. She would tell me that she just wanted to always walk the streets during voter registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns because of the senior citizens and shut-ins that needed to vote. She was simply able to mobilize close to 200 votes at each election on her own.

Esperanza sold what I called, the most educated burritos in Lubbock. Although sick, she still craved human interaction and the need to support her family financially, which was her style since the days she picked cotton during the school years. Her family tells me that she was the best cotton picker in the crew. Her sister Margarita related that she would take it upon herself to get up in the morning before everyone else to make sandwiches or tacos for lunch out in the fields. They didn't look that good, she said, but her intention was to see after the family. The Burrito lady was popular with her customers and this last period was the best demonstration of the type of person she was. Our last two years together have been the most rewarding because of how we strengthened our relationship and deepened our love. It was not about the gaining of position or solving the problems of the world, but about developing the bond between us and seeing about our family, which she had wanted to instill in me for so many years. Yo de terco y ella con paciencia siempre.

False pride was not applicable to Esperanza. Sincerity was. Humility was. Loving was her nature. Forgiving was her way because she did not judge behind your back. She would though, in her naive manner, tell you uncomfortable things at times. She would always misstate cliches and dichos, like when out in the sun one day, she said,

"I am taking a sunburn".

Most of you have heard others I'm sure.

Considerate was her way also. She saw goodness in every person she met.

Magnanimous comes to mind when I think of her, but also unassuming, unpretentious and meek. Naive maybe, but profound.

And so it is that we find ourselves here now. The telling of her story is not over, so we will let it be for now.

I just want to relate the following.

The most difficult time amongst difficult times for her was when we brought her home the last two days. As she lay in her bed, gaining consciousness, but confused. She was unaware of the seriousness of her condition due to the drugs they gave her to forget, so she kept asking "What's going on" or "I don't understand". She thought that she had come home because she was well, but knew that something was not right. She would lift her arms and wonder why she could not move her legs. She said "Daddy, please, please, I gotta move". Although I had told her several times the seriousness and finality of her condition, the drugs would erase information every time she slept. I think she also wanted someone to tell her things other than what I was saying.

Slowly, reality began to sink in when she said, "I've got mixed emotions. I should be happy", then trailed back to sleep. At 6:30, she gathered us all around her and began uttering in spurts, the following:

Lord, Jesus, we love you. (twice)

"I love ya'll", then "I can't hear"

Finally, she said, "That's the power of family and still is".

She slipped into a coma twice and

after all the tearless cries in the hospital and at home, she let out a magnificent tear finally and died At 9:34 PM. We need to understand that in spite of one's spirituality and faith, which was Esperanza... the dying process is difficult and painful. I struggle to understand the mystery as to why it was necessary for her to pain so much. She did not deserve such an experience. May God take her into his arms and cherish her like she was cherished here on earth.

To Mom:

My Thoughts

As I sit here and watch my beautiful mother struggling, gasping, and clinging on to life; I think and ponder on all the memories she has bestowed upon us over the years. Like the respirator that has breathed life into her, she in turn breathes hope into us with every passing day. And just like the medicine that helps her take away the pain, she is our medicine for, although she lies there in a state unknown to all but her, I can not help to think what she is feeling inside. The memories are those of times past or of thoughts in the future. Although her skin may be dry and rough on the outside, her heart and spirit are warm, soft and full of love. Though I can dwell on the time not spent together doing what I would want to if the situation were different, I can still cherish the countless times spent together, doing what I thought at that time, was nothing. Though tubes and infection have taken over her body I can't help to still see a beautiful person. As I sit here and watch such an extraordinary human being, I am satisfied with the thought of another angel entering heaven. By: Isaias Xavier Solis

From Page 4

Cerca de 200 latinos nacidos en el extranjero comenzaron la temporada en un equipo de las ligas mayores, alrededor de un 22 por ciento de las listas. Sumando esto a los hispanos nacidos en los Estados Unidos, y uno de cada cuatro jugadores es latino.

Pero, ¿quién puede pagar para verlos? Aquellos boletos de \$7 al nivel del campo en el Estadio Jack Murphy de San Diego ahora cuestan \$28 cada uno. Con un salario de maestro, hoy día mi papá no hubiera podido llevarnos a tantos juegos.

Los latinos, ya atascados en el sector más pobre de la nación, no son los fanáticos que están presentes, porque a menudo están trabajando duras jornadas no tradicionales, noches y fines de semana, la hora de los partidos.

Las ligas mayores invierten millones de dólares para reclutar en Cuba, dar a un dominicano sumergido en la pobreza la oportunidad de gloria, o firmar a un jugador caribeño por \$2,000. Mientras, un grupo con talento potencial sin explotar, la población de jóvenes latinos en los Estados Unidos, queda casi intacta.

Muchas veces he escuchado que el béisbol es uno de esos deportes den-

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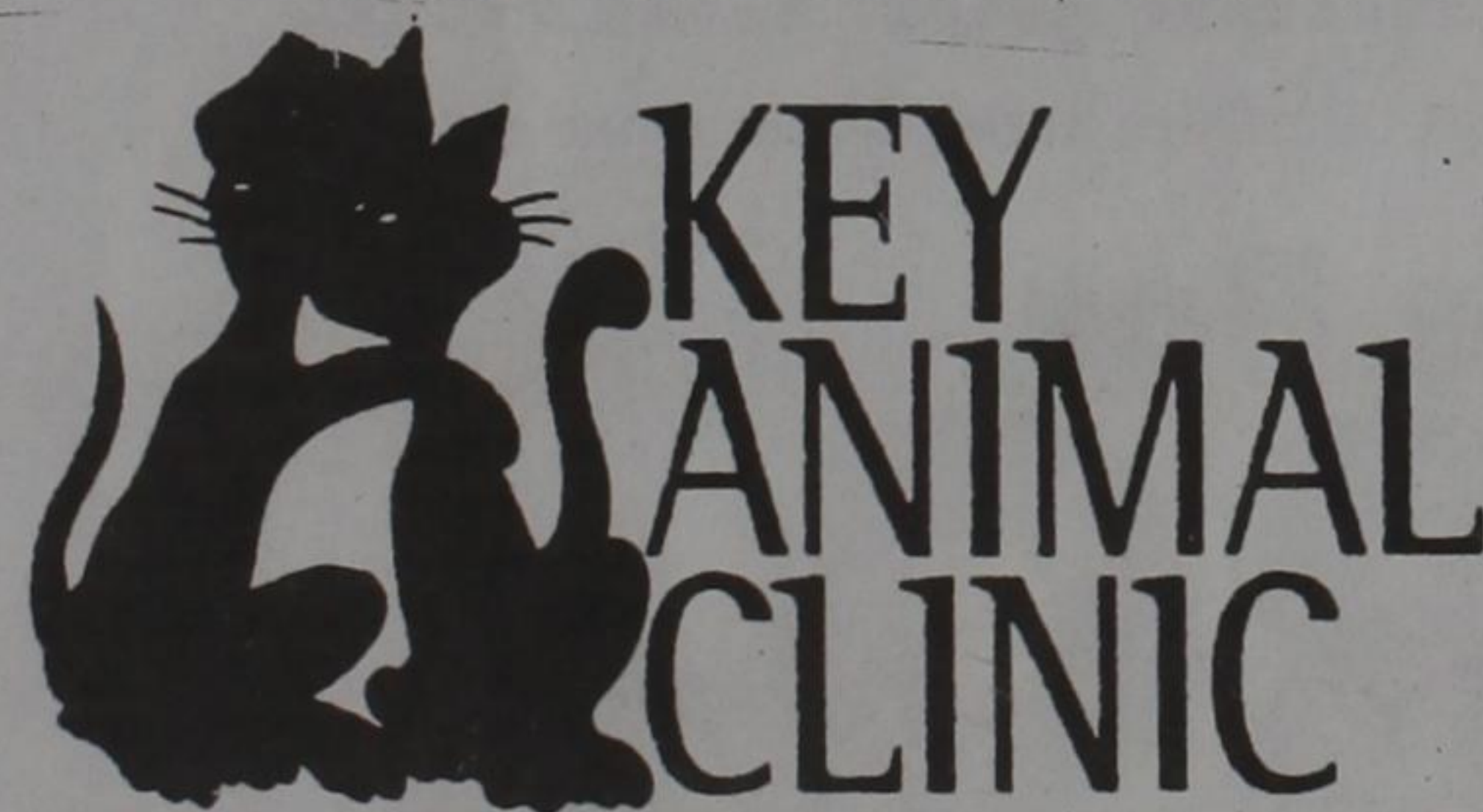
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