

LULAC Official Blasts Ruling In Favor of TAAS

A San Antonio official of a Hispanic civil-rights organization Sunday criticized a federal court ruling about the state's mandatory exam for public school students.

Minority children continue to be "victims of educational inequality," but their constitutional rights are not denied by a Texas requirement that public school students pass a standardized test to graduate from high school, a San Antonio federal judge ruled Friday.

Placido Salazar, vice president of League of United Latin American Citizens Council No. 363 in San Antonio, said last week's decision by U.S. District Judge Edward C. Prado of San Antonio "is not just a slap in the face for Hispanic children, but for all children, regardless of ethnicity, who reside in low-income communities."

LULAC was founded more than 70 years ago to try to improve Hispanic students' education.

In a statement, Salazar took issue with Prado's ruling, which found the disproportionate failure of minorities on the state's exit-level exam, the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills, is outweighed by the benefits they get from remedial instruction to pass it.

"The TAAS test would be a



MALDEF's Al Kauffman disputes the federal TAAS ruling Friday. At his side are Naalie Martinez, University of Texas-Pan American Professor Ernesto Bernal and Mike Garza, a plaintiff in the case.

great tool if the playing field was level for all our children," Salazar countered.

In a 32-page opinion, U.S. District Judge Edward C. Prado upheld the state's exit-level Texas Assessment of Academic Skills, stating the disproportionate failure of minorities on the exam is outweighed by the benefits they get from remedial instruction to pass it.

During a five-week trial in September, attorneys for the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund

argued the exam does not accurately measure the abilities of African-American and Hispanic students, who fail the test more frequently even when socioeconomic factors are not considered.

Prado's decision on the closely watched case came Friday. While he agreed the differences between the passing rates of Anglo and minority students are disconcerting, the judge said the test is necessary to ensure all students learn a standard set of knowledge and

skills.

"In short, the court finds, on the basis of the evidence presented at trial, that the disparities in test scores do not result from flaws in the test or in the way it is administered," the opinion states. "Instead, as the plaintiffs themselves have argued, some minority students have, for a myriad of reasons, failed to keep up (or catch up) with their majority counterparts."

"It is not for this court to determine whether Texas has chosen the best of all possible remedies for achieving these goals," he wrote. "The system is not perfect, but the court cannot say that it is unconstitutional."

Prado also found that the TAAS, as used, helps identify and address educational inequalities in the state's public schools.

But Salazar said such a statement offers little for minority students on the front lines of the contentious issue.

"That's not much consolation for a senior at that time in his life when he cannot get his diploma because of a faulty system," he said.

State leaders, celebrating the victory in Austin, said Prado's ruling helps preserve Texas' much-lauded school accountability system, which

holds educators responsible for student learning based on TAAS scores, attendance and dropout rates.

The exit-level test is the culmination of a testing sequence that starts in third grade. Students can take it up to eight times before graduation.

"We have graduated an entire generation of young Texans under this testing requirement, and I believe very strongly that the state is better for it," Education Commissioner Jim Nelson said in a news conference. "Texans want a high school diploma to mean something."

At the same hour in San Antonio, MALDEF lawyers and some of their plaintiffs and witnesses, expressed "great

disappointment" with the ruling, but took time to underscore Prado's conclusions about the plight of minorities and urged the public not to embrace the exam because of the legal ruling.

"The decision does not mean that the TAAS is a good test, that the TAAS is well-developed," MALDEF Regional Counsel Al Kauffman said. "It does not mean that the TAAS has not hurt minorities. It does not mean that the Legislature should not deal with this problem."

Kauffman said he will consult with his clients and the other lawyers, but added that "my general feelings at this time are that there are real legal and factual errors that provide a very sound basis for an appeal."

News Briefs

Plan Proposes That San Antonio Become Totally Bilingual

San Antonio, - Local businessmen on Friday announced a proposal to make San Antonio a totally bilingual city, as well as a tourist and commercial center.

The proposal, called "Imagine San Antonio," seeks to "develop an efficient labor force in both English and Spanish," said Rita Elizondo, president of the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and one of the project's principal promoters.

Elizondo said the plan, which will last five years, will attempt to integrate Spanish into local businesses and the city's school system.

She said that many countries are bilingual and that Mexico has even integrated English as part of its schools' curriculum.

Elizondo added that the promoters of the plan will attempt to get the support of local government and private organizations, educational institutions, business groups, corporations and community groups.

The project also seeks to create a school that offers classes in Spanish for students from various educational establishments, and to require public officials to be bilingual.

"We are trying to take advantage of the area's natural resources, such as its proximity and historic ties to Mexico," Elizondo said.

She added that the project is viable and feasible, as nearly 65 percent of the city's population is Hispanic.

The plan will lead to higher salaries for workers and will lead Mexican businesses to consider opening offices in San Antonio, Elizondo said.

According to the plan's organizers, it is widely supported in all of the city's sectors, even in the northeast, where the population is predominantly Anglo.

"Many people realize that our relationship with Mexico is important and professionals should be bilingual to be better prepared to face the new millennium," Elizondo said.

She added that the initiative should not be considered a threat to English but a response to the economic benefits of bilingualism.

As part of the project, the city's Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will air a television commercial with local students talking about the advantages of being bilingual.

Business Along the U.S.-Mexican Border Will Increase This Year

By Patricia Giovine

El Paso, Texas, Jan 7 (EFE).- Business leaders predicted that traffic along the U.S.-Mexican border will increase significantly this year due to an increase in the number of finishing and assembly enterprises on the Mexican side.

Analysts also attribute the projected growth to increased supply of staples on the U.S. side, where many Mexican shoppers come to do their shopping.

According to the U.S. Customs Service, during the fiscal year that ended in September 1999 some 87.9 million automobiles entered the United States from Mexico, a growth of 4.2 percent from the previous year.

The influx of trucks and pedestrians increased eight percent. The largest growth was registered at the border crossings in California, including San Ysidro, Calexico and Otay, which totaled a higher volume of private vehicles and commercial trucks than Texas.

"The economic situation is currently the best in this region, reflected by the heavy traffic along the border," U.S. Customs Service spokesman Vince Bond told EFE.

In 1999 some 17.5 million automobiles crossed the border in western Texas and New Mexico, an increase of 4.4 percent since 1998.

"This increase is largely due to the growth of the 'maquiladora' (assembly and finishing) industry in Mexico, more than sales from businesses on the United States side of the border," said New Mexico State University economist Jim Peach.

"The true growth is on the Mexican side of the border," he added.

Pete Parraz, director of the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, said that the traffic increase will continue in 2000 due to rising Mexican consumer activity on the U.S. border.

Women Allowed in Mexican Army for First Time

The Mexican army will allow women to serve in uniform for the first time in its history, the Defense Ministry announced Friday.

Women will be allowed to join as volunteers for service in a few restricted fields, including education, sports training and social work.

Gen. Jose de Jesus Rodriguez, head of the draft board, said it is expected that about 3,000 women will volunteer for service this year.

Military service for Mexican men over 18 is obligatory, and women have never before been allowed to join the army. Women recruits will not be given basic military training in the use of weapons, nor will they be involved in logistics, communications or other fields.

Women interested in doing social work with the army must be willing to be posted to the poorest regions of the country to take part in health-promotion campaigns, Rodriguez said.

Last year, some 12,000 men complied with their military service.

REMEMBERING

To the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Today I think of what you gave us, Your love, your joy, your heart and soul, Your faith and hope and truth and justice; Nonviolence was your burning goal...

Today I think of what you gave us, Your happiness and peace of mind; You reached to us and filled our beings With brotherhood for all mankind... Today I think of what you gave us; You helped us see the promised land; You shared with us your dream and courage, And gave us will to understand! Oberhdman

continued on page 2

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



Vol XXIII No. 15

Week of January 6 thru January 12, 2000

Lubbock, Tx

En El Siglo XXI

Dirigentes Latinos Miden Oportunidades Retos y a Que Se Engrentara la Comunidad

Por Oswaldo Zavala

La familia hispana está encontrando su lugar entre todos los grupos de los Estados Unidos, a medida que sus cifras y su influencia se propagan por todo el país. Al llegar el año 2000, Hispanic Link News Service invitó a 10 dirigentes y visionarios de diversos campos

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agiero

This Friday Lubbock Hispanic businesspersons and professionals will gather to celebrate the 25th anniversary of an organization formed to unite and to bring attention to the plight of the small and unrecognized Hispanic businessperson who struggled throughout the years to contribute and be a part of Lubbock.



The Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, originally named COMA, has worked throughout the years to help form the economic arm of the Hispanic community. It has worked throughout the years toward recognition from Lubbock's majority business community as well as from the general populous itself.

Now as we enter into the 21st century we see a vast amount of attention being brought to the fact that Lubbock Hispanics will, within the next 5 years, comprise more than 50% of the total population of Lubbock. Together with this fact will come the fact that we will also soon be the major consumer to Lubbock's economy. We will also comprise the largest block of manpower.

But the question remains, will we be given the recognition deserved? Will banks, public institutions, major corporations and all those powers that control Lubbock now consider us as a major and important part of Lubbock. Will we be allowed to become part of that power that already exists or will we be forced to create our own through whatever means necessary.

An Important Note Don't forget to go vote this Saturday to elect members to the Buffalo Springs Lake Board of Directors. We need a change. It's your Lake!

para que compartieran sus perspectivas sobre los retos y las oportunidades en sus respectivos terrenos de trabajo y conocimientos.

Arturo Madrid, catedrático Murchinson Distinguido de Humanidades en Trinity University de San Antonio, Texas, definió la tarea para esta comunidad de 33 millones que crece rápidamente: "Los hispanos deberían tomar la delantera para crear una sociedad multi-cultural, multi-étnica y multi-racial."

Actualmente, los latinos de Estados Unidos forman la cuarta "nación" latina por su importancia en el Hemisferio Occidental, después de México, la Argentina y Colombia, explicó Madrid, agregando que antes del final de la segunda década del siglo XXI estarán en el segundo lugar.

"El reto principal es medirmos a nosotros mismos como una comunidad estadounidense nacional y asegurar que las garantías, los beneficios y las oportunidades que ofrece esta sociedad estén disponibles para nosotros," dijo Madrid.

Su receta es: "Ejercer nuestros derechos y nuestras responsabilidades apropiadamente en esta sociedad," y las recompensas llegarán.

A continuación aparecen las palabras de algunas voces hispanas influyentes de todo el país, enfocándose sobre asuntos de su conocimiento:

Latino Leaders Measure Challenges, Opportunities as 21st Century Kicks In

By Oswaldo Zavala

The Hispanic family is finding its place among all groups in the United States as its numbers and influence spread across the country. At the start of the 21st century, Hispanic Link News Service invited 10 leaders and visionaries in various realms to share their perspectives on the challenges and opportunities in their areas of work and expertise.

Arturo Madrid, a Murchinson Distinguished Professor of Humanities at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, defined the task this fast-growing community of 33 million: "Hispanics should take the lead in creating a multicultural, multiethnic and multiracial society."

Currently, Hispanics in the United States constitute the fourth-largest Latino "nation" in the Western Hemisphere, after México, Argentina and Colombia, he said, adding that before the end of the second decade, they will be the second largest.

"The central challenge is to measure ourselves as a U.S. national community, and to assure that the protections, the benefits and the

DESARROLLO SOCIAL:

SIOBHAN NICOLAU, presidente del Proyecto Hispano para Desarrollo de Cursos de Acción de Nueva York: El reto más importante es el cambio demográfico. Hemos prestado poca atención a nuestra responsabilidad cuando lleguemos a ser una fuerza. El reto es qué hacer frente a la tensión del cambio, el modo de disminuir las diferencias entre blancos, negros, latinos y todas, las demás razas.

Acostumbráramos pensar sobre nuestras diferencias en términos de negros y blancos. Ahora se trata de todos los grupos. Las oportunidades se encuentran en la educación. Tenemos que abordar el problema de lo que tenemos que hacer en las partes pobres de nuestras ciudades. Les damos soluciones de Head Start, pero éstas tienen que llevar seguimiento. Tenemos que permanecer con estos chicos. La gestión tiene que ser constante. Hay deficiencias graves y tenemos que hacer una inversión mayor en nuestro sistema de enseñanza.

FILANTROPIA HERMAN GALLEGOS, miembro de varias fundaciones y consejos empresariales de San Francisco, California: Actualmente, los latinos no tienen miembros en los consejos de directores de las principales empresas. Este asunto llega a ser importante debido al hecho de que las empresas tienen más influencia que el gobierno,

creando riqueza para sus accionistas y sus comunidades.

Creo que en el futuro habrá algún aumento de la participación latina en los consejos de directores empresariales. Pero actualmente no veo empresas que se den cuenta de que necesitan proyectarse hacia ese increíble mercado.

Pienso que las cifras de la participación latina aumentarán gradualmente, pero no que habrá un aumento dramático.

Cuando se mira al valor increíble del mercado de valores y de las propiedades de las fundaciones, el aumento del valor de las propiedades es considerablemente mayor que cualquier aumento de fondos que los latinos puedan haber recibido.

La Fundación Gates, que financia programas de becas, puede señalar a una tendencia que sugiere que estamos en la pantalla del radar de las fundaciones. Pero proporcionalmente, los donativos de las fundaciones no equiparan a los ingresos que las mismas reciben.

EDUCACION SARA MARTINEZ-TUCKER, presidenta del Fondo Hispano de Becas, de San Francisco, California: La educación se traduce en seguridad económica. Ahora tenemos oportunidades nuevas, tanto del Lilly Endowment de Indiana y de la Fundación de Bill y Melinda Gates, que crearon fondos de \$50 millones y \$1,000 millones

Continúa Pg. 3

opportunities that this society offers are available to us," he said.

His prescription: "Exercise our rights and our responsibilities properly in this society," and the rewards will come.

Following are the words of some influential Hispanic voices across the nation addressing issues of their expertise.

SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT SIOBHAN NICOLAU, president of the Hispanic Policy Development Project in New York: The most important challenge is demographic change. We have given little thought to our responsibility when we become a force. The challenge is how to deal with the tension of change, how to reduce the backlash between white, black, Latino and all other races.

We used to think of backlash in terms of black and white. Now it's all groups.

The opportunities are in education. We really have to come to grips with what to do at the inner cities. We give them Head Start solutions, but they have to be in a pipeline. We have to stay with these kids. It's got

El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, January 13, 2000

My 20-Hour Workweek Never Arrived

By Victor Landa

It was the early 1980s. I remember the exact location. I was driving on Bandera Road, about one block from Loop 410 in San Antonio, listening to the news on the radio. There was a report about the advent of personal computers and how they were going to change the way we live.

An expert interviewed for the news piece said that in 20 years, thanks to computers, the average workweek was going to be reduced to 20 hours. The United States was going to become a country of leisure and culture. We were going to have more time on our hands to fulfill our dreams. Computers were going to revolutionize medicine, business, communication, government, education, make our existence easier than we could imagine and rid us of the anxieties that plague us. The microchip would come to liberate us from our dreary unevolved selves.

Fast forward to the mid-1990s. I'm walking through an electronics store with my kindergarten-age daughter in tow, when we stop to look at the newest personal comput-

ers. "Look mija," I said, "do you know what this is?" I relished my fatherly duty to introduce my daughter to the wonders of the world.

"Uh-huh," she said. "This is a CPU. That's the monitor and this is the keyboard," pointing at each with a simple ease.

"CPU?" I asked.
"It's like the brain of the computer," she said, introducing me to the wonders of the modern world.

Jump to the present, the year 2000. The personal computer has proliferated. PCs are saturating larger and larger chunks of U.S. households, and Internet companies are dominating the stock market. Computers have paved the way for extraordinary research in genetics and quantum physics and space exploration. And we work more hours, are more harried and more anxious than ever before.

So much for the 20-hour workweek.

Twenty years ago I envisioned having the luxury of long walks, reading long books, volunteering my time to the community, taking up an interesting hobby. I saw myself

spending enormous amounts of time with the children, who were as yet in my imagination. I would read to them, throw a ball with them, tell silly jokes and laugh, and I would put them to bed and just stare at them as they slept.

I was going to travel, as well. I was going to visit the south of Spain, and Morocco. I would visit the Far East and breathe the thin air at Machu Picchu. In the time that it took me to drive four blocks in the afternoon rush-hour traffic, I had envisioned and planned my computer-assisted life in broad strokes. The details of this imagined life were unimportant. The little things always seem to take care of themselves.

So I drove on that day, dreaming, as I changed the gears of my little pickup, of a brave new microchipped world.

Here I am, here we are, all these years later, wondering where our extra 20 hours of leisure a week have gone. And I wonder what else we've lost in the interim. I wonder what we've gained.

It seems to me that if we've

moved forward at all, it has been in broad strokes, and that what's been left behind are the details, the little things that seldom get taken care of by themselves.

We've become more violent, or maybe there's just more of us so the violence seems to have increased.

We've become more distant — but not in the sense of traveling to the south of Spain or Machu Picchu. We can reach those places in a matter of a few short hours, and I can log on to any number of Internet sights to view a real-time image of the Rock of Gibraltar.

And yet we've become a society that hardly knows our neighbors, much less the person who wanders the streets without a home. Those details are still waiting to be taken care of.

Twenty years ago we were supposed to be on the verge of a technological revolution. What is it that they say? The more things change, the more they stay the same.

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

Mi Semana de 20 Horas de Trabajo Nunca Llego

Por Victor Landa

Estábamos a principios de la década de 1980. Recuerdo la situación exacta. Conducía por Bandera Road, a una cuadra del Loop 410 en San Antonio, escuchando las noticias por radio. Hubo un informe sobre el advenimiento de las computadoras personales y de qué modo iban a cambiar nuestro modo de vivir.

Un experto entrevistado para dicha noticia dijo que, en 20 años, gracias a las computadoras, la semana de trabajo promedio iba a disminuirse a 20 horas. Estados Unidos iba a convertirse en una nación de tiempo libre y cultura. Tendríamos más tiempo disponible para cumplir nuestros deseos. Las computadoras iban a revolucionar a la medicina, los negocios, las comunicaciones, el gobierno, la educación, a hacer que nuestra existencia fuera más fácil de lo que podíamos imaginar, y nos liberarían de las ansiedades que nos plagaban. Los microchips vendrían a liberarnos de nuestras naturalezas no evolucionadas y aburridas.

Adelantemos rápidamente hasta mediados de la década de 1990. Camino por una tienda de electrónica con mi hija que asiste al kindergarten, cuando nos detenemos para mirar las computadoras personales más

nuevas.
"Mira, mija," le dije. "¿Sabes lo que es esto?" Yo me recogíaba con mi deber paternal de introducir a mi hija a las maravillas del mundo.

"Uh-huh," dijo ella. "Esto es una CPU (unidad central de procesamiento). Esa es la pantalla y éste es el teclado," señalando a cada elemento con gesto fácil y sencillo.

"¿CPU?", le pregunté.
"Es como el cerebro de la computadora," dijo ella, presentándome a mí a las maravillas del mundo moderno.

Saltemos al presente, al año 2000. Las computadoras personales (PCs en inglés) han proliferado. Están saturando porciones cada vez mayores de nuestras casas de familia, y las compañías afiliadas a la Internet están dominando al mercado de valores (acciones y bonos). Las computadoras han allanado el camino para la investigación extraordinaria de la genética, la física cuántica y la exploración espacial. Y trabajamos más horas, estamos más devastados y más ansiosos que nunca.

Hasta aquí llegamos con la semana de trabajo de 20 horas.

Hace 20 años yo había vislumbrado el tener el lujo de dar paseos largos, leer libros extensos, dar mi tiempo voluntariamente a la

comunidad y emprender un pasatiempo interesante. Me vi a mí mismo pasando espacios de tiempo enormes con los niños que estaban todavía en mi imaginación. Yo les leería, jugaría a la pelota con ellos, les contaría chistes tontos y nos reíríamos, y los pondría a dormir y los miraría mientras durmieran.

También iba a viajar. Visitaría el sur de España y Marruecos. Visitaría al Lejano Oriente y respiraría el aire fino de Machu Picchu. En el tiempo que necesitaba para conducir el espacio de cuatro cuadras en el tránsito nutrido de la tarde, había vislumbrado y planeado mi vida ayudada por computadoras en amplios golpes de pluma. Los detalles de esta vida imaginada no eran importantes. Las cosas pequeñas siempre parecen cuidar de ellas mismas.

De modo que seguí conduciendo aquel día, soñando, a medida que cambiaba las velocidades de mi camioncito, con un nuevo mundo valeroso gobernado por microchips.

Aquí estoy, aquí estamos, todos estos años después, preguntándonos a dónde han ido nuestras 20 horas adicionales de descanso a la semana. Y me pregunto qué más hemos perdido mientras tanto. Me pregunto qué hemos ganado.

Me parece que si hemos adelantado del todo, ha sido a pasos

grandes, y que lo que ha quedado atrás son los detalles, las cositas que rara vez son atendidas por ellas mismas.

Hemos llegado a ser más violentos, o quizás es que hay más de nosotros y la violencia parece haber aumentado.

Hemos llegado a estar más distantes — pero no en el sentido de viajar al sur de España o a Machu Picchu. Podemos llegar a esos lugares en cuestión de pocas horas, y puedo conectarme con cualquier cantidad de lugares por Internet para observar una imagen de la Roca de Gibraltar en tiempo real.

Y sin embargo, nos hemos convertido en una sociedad que conoce poco a sus vecinos, mucho menos a la persona que vaga por las calles sin hogar.

Esos detalles esperan aún que alguien cuide de ellos.

Hace veinte años, se suponía que estuviéramos al borde de una revolución tecnológica. ¿Cómo versa el dicho? Mientras más cambian las cosas, más continúan siendo las mismas.

(Victor Landa es director de información de KVDA-TV-60, afiliada de la cadena Telemundo en San Antonio, Texas.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en el año 2000.

Challenges, From Page One

The Gates Foundation (scholarship programs) may point to a trend that suggests we are on the radar screen of foundations. But proportionately, the giving of foundations does not match the (earnings) they receive.

EDUCATION
SARA MARTINEZ-TUCKER, president of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, San Francisco, Calif.: Education means financial security. We now have new opportunities from both the Lilly Endowment of Indiana and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, who created funds of \$50 million and \$1 billion dollars benefiting Latinos and other groups. This has given us more credibility. It's a wake-up call.

More people are recognizing the importance of the Latino population and its education. People are more willing to listen now.

The cost of education is escalating for all people. Tuition and fees are rising at a rate twice the inflation. Given the lower Latino income, it's becoming more difficult for us. We need to continue to get financial resources to help the community in a stronger way. Our students are also telling us they need social and academic support. They need to work as a community. We need to lead parents to make college education the highest priority.

PUBLISHING
ZEKE MONTES, president, National Association of Hispanic Publications, and publisher, Tele-Guia, Chicago: Improved technology is increasing opportunities for our entrepreneurial publishers. Those who take advantage of it — including the Web — and serve the needs of their communities well will do very, very well.

Our community is growing everywhere, including parts of the United States where we hadn't expected it. The first thing that appears in any developing Latino community is a local Spanish newspaper.

Advertising is going to become more niche to the Latino. The challenge for Hispanic-owned publications is going to be tremendous. General market newspapers and magazines are now targeting us more and more as a way to make money. They're going after the younger, more English-dominant Latino. We must provide good content for our readers — more so in both Spanish and English — and be aggressive in getting advertisers to support such a medium.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

JOHN TRASVIA, special counsel for immigration-related, unfair employment practices, U.S. Department of Justice: Being in Washington, D.C., I see the priority as having a Hispanic on the U.S. Supreme Court. That's an issue in this and future administrations. Racial profiling is also a major challenge throughout the country. There is a tremendous danger that the Latino would be considered a newcomer, even if Latinos have been in the United States for generations. The community has to be vigorous in working with law enforcement to make sure that people have a voice.

As the greatest opportunity, the census count will set the tone for the decade. The government has the responsibility to produce a whole, accurate count. Community input is critical for that to occur. Other opportunities are that Latino voters have the ability to increase their power and to build a Congress that listens to our needs.

IMMIGRATION/HUMAN RIGHTS

ROBERTO MARTINEZ, director of the U.S.-Mexico Border Program of the American Friends Service Committee in San Diego: More humane immigration laws must be implemented. Repressive ones like the 1996 immigration act and Operation Gatekeeper have to be suspended. We need law enforcement that restores human rights and dignity of people. Violations of human and civil rights of immigrants continue to be our challenge.

We need to unite. Latinos are becoming a force for the upcoming elections. We hope to influence immigration laws. Latino officials must listen to what we have to say. We are going to be watching who listens and acts, and who doesn't.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

RON BLACKBURN-MORENO, president of Aspira, a youth leadership development organization based in Washington, D.C.: Education reform and technology are the main challenges. It's extremely important to see how education reform will affect Hispanic young people in the country by raising standards and expectations for students.

The access to technology is another challenge. Technology dominates education and other aspects of our lives. Without adequate access, we will be left out.

Both the opportunities also exist in but education reform and technology. We need to have more involvement by the community, with parents advocated to improve education. We now have more opportunities to access all kinds of information via the Internet that we never had before. Latinos are purchasing computers at a faster rate than any other group. Technology could be the great equalizer. The challenge is to gain access to it.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

JORGE CHINO, publisher of El Andar, Santa Cruz, Calif.: Politically we keep growing up. But that doesn't mean much in terms of Hispanic qualitative development. The same kinds of inequalities continue at all levels of government. The people at local, state and federal government levels are not making the necessary changes to provide Latinos with a better future. Our future depends on us. Our problems reflect a lack of leadership. We need national Hispanic leaders.

Concerning the media, Latinos

face a big challenge. We do not own the media, and that is reflected in the dissemination of our ideas, as well as coverage of our problems.

CORPORATE RELATIONS

ANNA ESCOBEDO CABRAL, president of the Hispanic Association of Corporate Relations (HACR), Washington, D.C.: I see the opportunity to strengthen our coalitions. The opportunity of broadening the reach to our community.

We need to start narrowing our focus on issues like employment, government and philanthropy. We must continue to deliver the message to corporate America. There is a strong economic argument, and it is that Hispanics are critical to the future of all corporations. They should include Latinos to a greater extent. We will show them why they need to include us.

(Oswaldo Zavala is a reporter with Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C.)

(c) 2000, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES AGREE CUBAN BOY SHOULD REMAIN IN U.S.

Grand Rapids, Michigan, - The six Republican presidential candidates agree on one issue: Elian Gonzalez should not be repatriated to Cuba as the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has ruled.

In their debate Monday night at Calvin College, millionaire publisher Steve Forbes, conservative activist Gary Bauer, radio talk show host Alan Keyes and Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch all opposed last week's INS ruling that the six-year-old shipwreck survivor should be returned to his father in Cuba by Jan. 14, arguing that his fate should be decided by the courts.

Forbes accused the Clinton administration of sacrificing the boy in favor of improving relations between the United States and Cuba, adding that Elian's father should be allowed to come to the United States to make his decision free of any intimidation.

Elian Gonzalez was pulled from the Atlantic on Nov. 25, two days after the ship carrying him, his mother, his stepfather and 11 others sank off the Florida coast.

The Republican front-runners, Texas Gov. George Bush and Sen. John McCain of Arizona, both came out against the INS decision last week.

Vice President Al Gore, the Democratic front-runner, also said Monday that the boy's case should be decided by the courts. McCain said Elian should remain in the United States because his mother gave her life so he could be free.

El Editor Newspapers

is a weekly bilingual published every Thursday by Amigo Publications in Lubbock, Texas, 1502 Ave. M, 79401. Tel. 806-763-3841. Subscribing \$40 per year payable in advance. Opinions and commentaries expressed by guest columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher or of advertisers.

Editor/Publisher: Bidal Aguero, Manager: Olga Riojas Aguero
Subscription: Bob Craig, Distribution: Joe Shelby

DEATH ROW INMATE'S LAST WORDS

U.S. Leads the World in use of the Death Penalty for Minors

BY DENNIS BERNSTEIN, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

Douglas Christopher Thomas was executed Monday for a crime he committed when he was 17-years-old.

Thomas, who was 26, spent his entire adult life on death row. He was prepared for Virginia Governor James S. Gilmore's refusal to sign a stay of execution, saying he was ready to die.

"The whole process that you go through while being on death row prepares you to die," he said, "because you're faced with death every day. If it is God's will that I die at 26, then I'm prepared to go."

Thomas spoke with me Friday afternoon, January 7, by telephone from his death row cell. He was calm, forthright and quite focused as he repeated his claim that his girlfriend, Jessica Wiseman, masterminded the 1990 murder of her parents and fired the shot that killed her mother. Several federal court decisions and new evidence support Thomas' claim.

Because Wiseman was 14 at the time of the crime, she is now free. Thomas said he was not bitter about this, but was troubled that "she was given only seven years, and she is free to resume her normal life while I'm four days away from paying the ultimate price for something we both participated in."

Thomas initially took the blame for the 1990 double murder of James and Catherine Wiseman. He confessed without advice of counsel and while he was high on drugs and alcohol.

Like many child and juvenile offenders, Thomas had an extremely difficult childhood. His parents divorced before he was born — Thomas did not meet his father until last year. At two, his mother left him to be adopted and raised by his grandparents.

When he was twelve, his life unraveled. Several close relatives, including his grandparents, died suddenly. He was shuffled back to his mother, though the two of them did not get along. In 1989, at 16, Thomas attempted to take his own life.

Around this time, he met Wiseman. Thomas said he was so desperate for love he would have done anything his new girlfriend told him to do.

Wiseman's parents tried to break up the couple, and her father threatened to kill him. "I wanted to be with my co-defendant," he said, "we were so much in love and her parents were trying to keep us apart."

"Jessica just showed me that love I so desperately needed and wanted that I would have basically done anything to keep her around. But I was just a kid when I committed the crime. I mean, I still had the capacity to change, to grow, to learn, and I have."

Thomas felt he should be given a chance to live. "I made the wrong decision. So I can't be angry at anyone but myself. But I don't feel the U.S. should execute juvenile offenders because it's basically saying that we have no chance to be rehabilitated."

"I can't see how at seventeen a court could say, 'Well, this juvenile doesn't have the capacity to learn and to grow and to mature.'"

Thomas is not alone in his sentiments. In fact, failure to abide by international treaties and UN conventions regarding the execution of youthful and child offenders has made the United States a pariah state.

Amnesty International reports 191 states have joined a "global consensus against executing child offenders." The United States has earned the "shameful distinction of leading a tiny and dwindling group of states.... Only five countries outside the United States are known to have executed child offenders since 1990." In that decade, the U.S. has executed 10 child offenders, more than the five other countries combined.

Chris Thomas' execution means the United States is the first country in the world to execute a juvenile offender who claimed that such an execution violates international law and well established fundamental norms of international human rights. Two more death row inmates convicted of crimes as minors are scheduled to die this month — Steve Edward Roach in Virginia on Jan. 13 and Glen Charles McGinnis in Texas on Jan. 25.

The stay of execution in June left him with "mixed feelings," Thomas said. "Since I've been on death row I've been searching for one thing and that's finality. In June I thought finally something is going to happen. I'm either going to be given life in prison or I'm going to die."

"When the stay came down I was happy for my family because I'm still here and that made them happy. Personally, I knew I was going back and would have to go through this whole process over again and I was a little disappointed."

Asked what he would do if set free, Thomas listed three things. "The very first thing I would do would be to go to church, get down on my hands and knees and thank God because it would truly be a miracle. The second thing would be to try to put all this behind me and try to get some normalcy back in my life. Try to get a job. Try to do something positive — maybe join the military for the discipline, the adventure, the traveling and the camaraderie."

Thomas worked hard to create some normalcy in his life. He earned his GED and reestablished family ties, including with his estranged dad.

"He read in the newspaper that I had gotten an execution date and he called the prison and he requested to speak with me," said Thomas. "I called back and we communicated back and forth on the telephone."

"This past June when I came down to Greenville [for the execution] they allowed him to come back and visit me and that was the first time I had ever seen him in my life. It meant a great deal, because even though he wasn't there in the past, he did at least try and make an effort now."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration

January 13-17, 2000

Theme: "After All We've Been Through - Still Standing" Ephesians 6:13

HIGH NOON PRAYER SERVICES
Thursday, January 13th - 12 Noon - New Hope Baptist Church 2002 Birch Avenue
Rev. Billy Moton, Pastor

OPENING SERVICES
Thursday Night, January 13th - 7:00 p. m.

Lakeridge United Methodist Church - 4701 82nd St. Rev. Bill Couch - Pastor

YOUTH NIGHT
Friday Night, January 14th - 7:00 p. m.
Community Baptist Church - 220 North MLK Blvd. Rev. Larry Brooks, Pastor Sister Mary White, Chairperson

GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA
Saturday Night, January 15th - 7:00 p. m.

Lyons Chapel Baptist Church - 1704 East 24th St.
Rev. W. D. Davis, Pastor
Brother Samuel Curtis, Chairperson

MASS CITY-WIDE CELEBRATION SERVICES
Sunday evening, January 16th - 5:00 p. m.
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theatre 1501 6th St.
Stg. Dr. Ralph Douglas West, Houston, Texas Guest Speaker

CLOSING SERVICES
Monday evening, January 17th - 7:00 p. m. St. John Baptist Church - 11712 E. 29th Rev. Solomon Fields, Pastor Guest Speaker Rev. Elliott C. Lambert Bethel A. M. E. church.

¿Quien Habla Espanol? Savvy Politicians

By DAVE MCNEELY

The Texas governor's inner office could sport a sign like those increasingly seen at businesses around Texas: "Se habla espanol," or "Spanish spoken here."

Gov. George W. Bush learned Spanish in junior high school in Midland, and later honed it at Yale University. He practiced it in the Texas oil fields. In politics, he not only speaks it occasionally to Hispanic audiences, but can respond to questions from Spanish-speaking reporters.

Texas' dealings with Spanish-speaking neighbors to the South are expanding rapidly, and Hispanics are also the growth industry in Texas politics. Despite some critics who say all official communications should be solely in English, Anglo politicians are rapidly figuring out that being as simpatico as possible with the rapidly growing Hispanic vote would be a good thing.

Lt. Gov. Rick Perry, who political handicappers think has a good chance to become governor in a year because Bush will be elected president, and who plans to run for governor in 2002 regardless, would like to keep the "Se habla espanol" sign up. He's taking Spanish lessons.

"It's something that he has long wanted to do," said Perry's press aide, Ray Sullivan. With the Legislature gone since June 1 and not due back for a full year, the Texas Senate's presiding officer "had a little bit more time in his schedule," Sullivan said.

Perry's interest was reignited when his former Aggie classmate Hector Gutierrez became legislative director, Sullivan said.

"Hector used to banter in what limited Spanish terms the lieutenant governor knew, and Perry was always asking him questions about words and phrases," Sullivan said. "And so it got his interest up. He just started - too soon to tell - well, he just started."

Gov. Bush's first appointee upon taking office was Tony Garza as secretary of state. Bush has gone out of his way to court the traditionally Democratic Hispanic vote. In his 1998 re-election race, Bush saturated the border area with Spanish-language TV and radio ads, and estimates of his portion of the Hispanic vote range from 33 percent to 49 percent - unprecedented for a Republican in Texas.

Despite the fact that former Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower used to joke that former Republican Gov. Bill Clements

Democrats Question Republican Agenda to Attract Hispanic Vote

San Jose, California, - The Democratic Party in California on Wednesday challenged the Republicans, who are attempting to win the minority vote, to deliver on their election promises instead of only developing strategies to win the Nov. 7 general elections.

Democratic Party Chairman in California Bob Mulholland told EFE that the Republicans do not have a grip on power just yet.

"Hispanic voters and other minorities in California have not forgotten Republican proposals and the former governor of this party who made several aspects of their lives difficult," the Democratic leader said.

On Tuesday, at the beginning of a four-day meeting with Hispanic community leaders in San Jose, the Republican National Committee (RNC) proposed the creation of a fund of up to 3,000 dollars to help individual families without health insurance or access to Medicare.

The purpose of the meeting is to come up with strategies to attract the Hispanic vote, which has traditionally gone to Democratic candidates in the general elections.

RNC Chairman Jim Nicholson said that the proposal called "Fair Care" because it offers fair medical treatment for low-income people is part of the benefits that the Hispanic voters will get if they vote Republican next November.

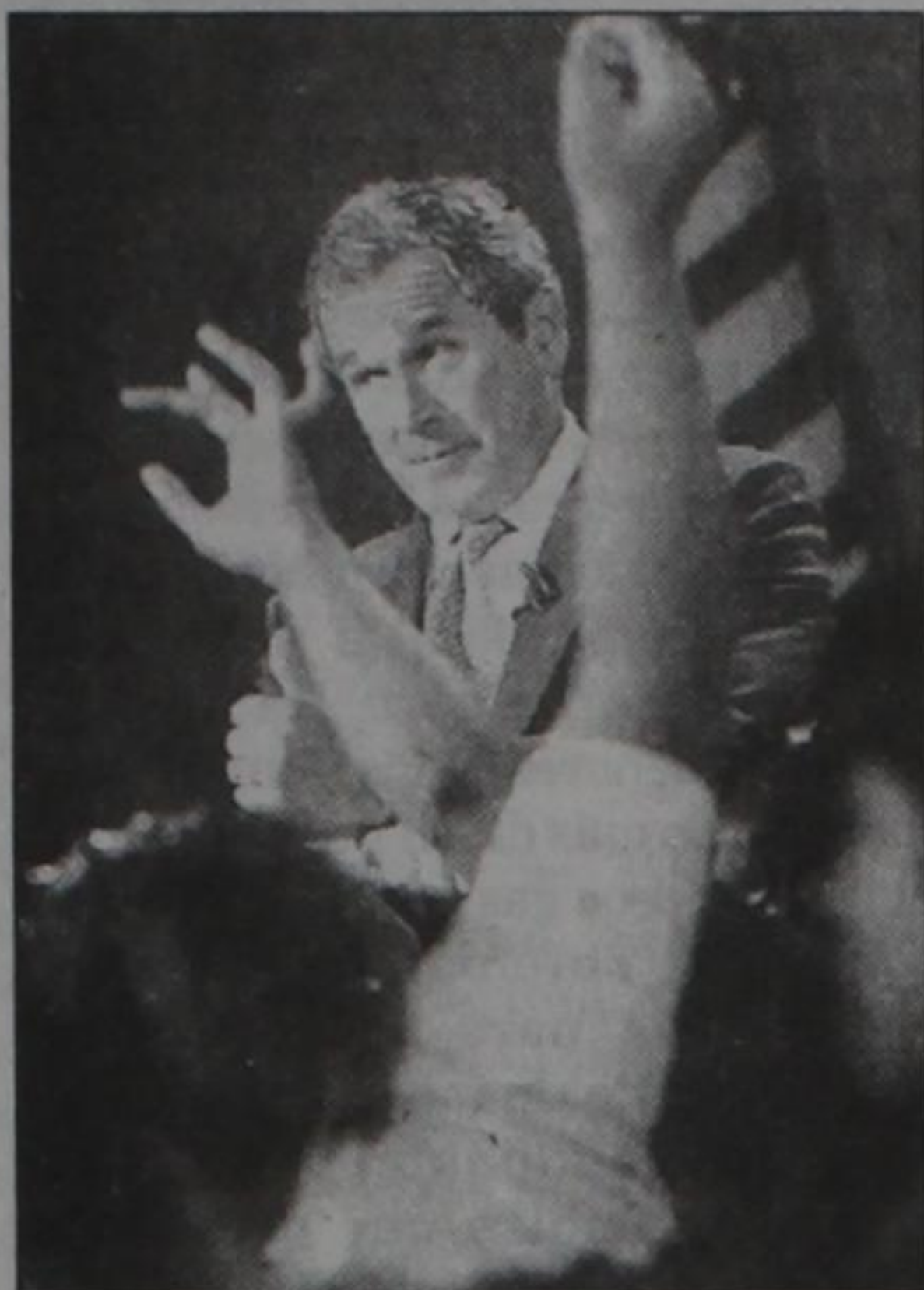
During the closing of the meeting Saturday, the RNC will release to the public the results of a study that says that 40 percent of Hispanics living in the United States would support a Republican candidate.

Nicholson also said that an ambitious ad campaign will target Hispanics and African Americans.

The Republicans have used this opportunity to promote a tax cut proposal for big companies, in search of businessmen from Silicon Valley in California, the capital of the computer manufacturing industry.

However, Mulholland said that when Hispanics go to vote in the Nov. 7 elections the voters will take into account the actions of former California Gov. Pete Wilson, "whom Republicans did not mention" at the meeting.

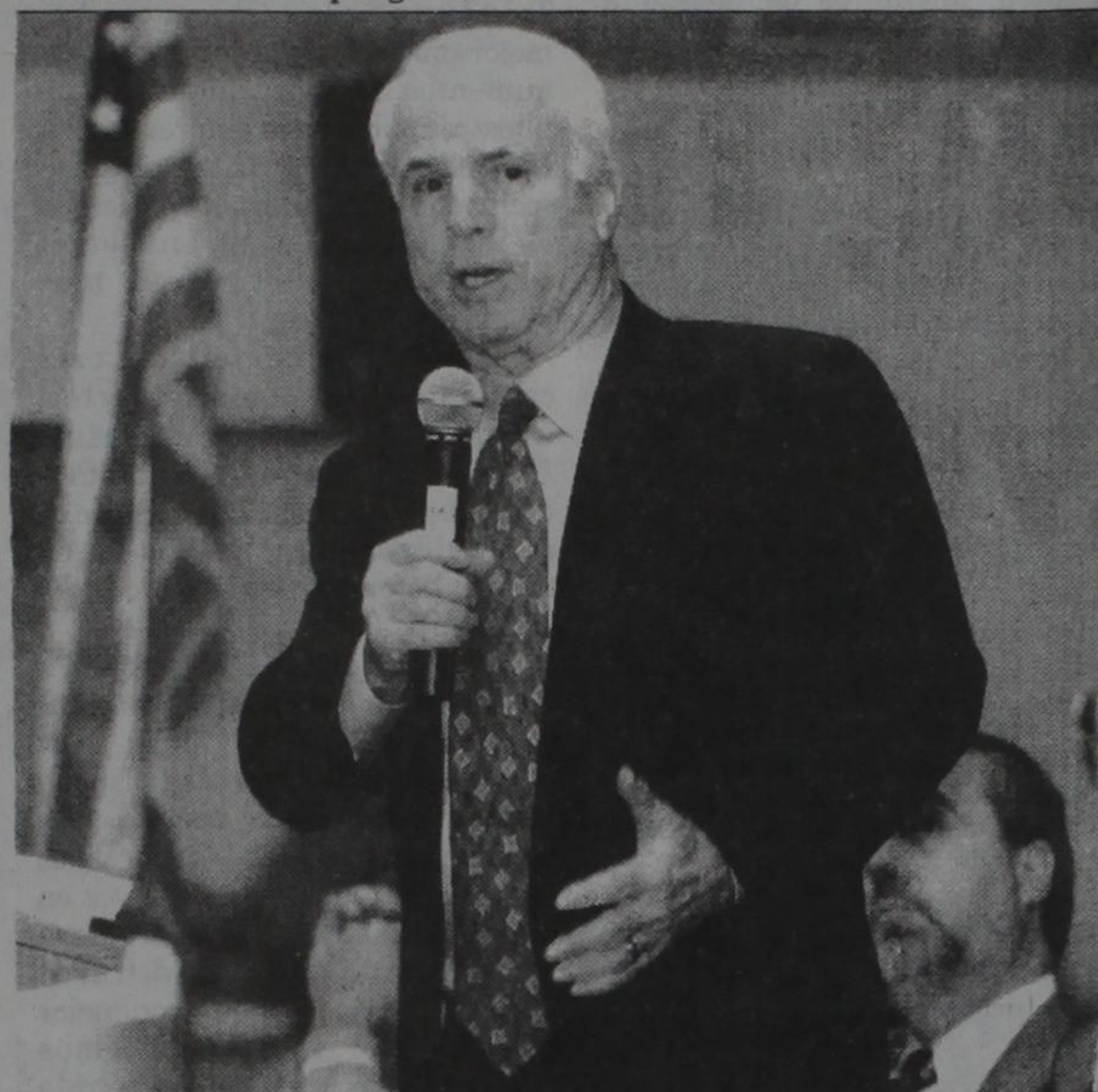
In 1998, more than 85 percent of Hispanic voters in California voted for Democratic Gov. Gray Davis, and against Wilson, who was the main sponsor of the controversial Proposition 187, which denied basic services to illegal immigrants and their fami-



was "bi-ignorant," several sitting Texas Anglo politicians know at least some Spanish.

Republican Land Commissioner David Dewhurst learned it early and practiced it plenty while working for the Central Intelligence Agency in South America.

Sen. Eliot Shapleigh (D-El



Paso) grew up speaking it, and says he campaigns more passionately in Spanish than English.

State Rep. Steve Wolens (D-Dallas) said his grandparents fled Alsace-Lorraine during Hitler's assaults and wound up in Mexico City.

"My grandfather and I conversed only in Spanish," Wolens said. Wolens polished it with summer school at a Mexican university. He later used it campaigning door to door in his inner-city district, and even debated a Hispanic opponent in Spanish.

Wolens said he occasionally

lies

The measure was later dropped by Gov. Davis, after a legal battle ensued. All election analysts said that Hispanics increased their participation in the elections, as well as their support for the Democrats, in retaliation against Wilson's conservative policies.

The state of California also eliminated "affirmative action" programs that gave minorities and women preferential treatment.

According to RNC estimates, the Republicans need the support of 40 percent of the Hispanic voters to win November's general elections.



Dr. Steve J. Lawson
Sr. Pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church
Mobile, Alabama

corrected the Spanish of former House colleague Dan Morales, who went on to become attorney general, and whose first language was obviously English. "He would always joke that I spoke Spanish better than he did," Wolens said.

Sen. Teel Bivins (R-Amarillo) said he speaks Spanish passably, if not fluently. He learned it in high school and polished it at Tulane University. But spending several months going overland to Peru after college and to Bolivia after law school helped a lot.

"When you're traveling by bus through Central and South America, you wind up using your Spanish because you have to, and that's the best way to really get good at it," Bivins said.

"Increasingly, speaking to groups around the district, so many of the small towns in the Panhandle are now majority Hispanic," Bivins said. "I just like the language. I like to speak Spanish. I'm certainly not fluent, but I can get by."

Former Attorney General Jim Mattox, who lost races for governor, the U.S. Senate and a comeback race for attorney general, says he took Spanish "a little," but the language didn't come easy for him.

"I can barely speak English, much less Spanish," Mattox joked.

ANGELA HIGHTOWER
INCOME TAX SERVICE
1805 34th Street 762-2460

BIENVENIDOS/WELCOME TAX CLIENTS

ARREGLAMOS IMPUESTOS DEL GOBIERNO \$\$\$ DINERO PRONTO \$\$\$

- TAX PREPARATION
- ELECTRONIC FILING
- FAST REFUNDS \$\$\$\$

Open 7 Days a Week
Open Late til 9:00

Dinero Pronto 762-2460

Candidates Ferverently Compete For Hispanic Vote

By EMILIO SANCHEZ

It is a clear fact at this point, a year away from the presidential elections, that the candidates will heatedly compete for the Hispanic vote like never before because of that ethnic group's power in the polls.

If the 1996 elections proved the Hispanic vote was not marginal, for the 2000 elections it has become a valuable asset sought after fervently, with candidates employing varied means to capture that vote.

Vice President Al Gore and Texas Governor George W. Bush appear to understand the great value of the Hispanic vote, which accounts for 11 percent of the population, gaining phrases in Spanish to gain this group's favor.

It is estimated that some five million Hispanics - of a total 100 million voters - will vote for the next president in the 2000 general elections.

The majority of these voters are concentrated in California, Florida, Illinois, New York and Texas, which also have the most weight, due to their populations, in the Electoral College, which ultimately elects the president.

"If the race between Bush and Gore is close, Hispanics will easily represent the decisive vote," Harry Pachon, director of the Thomas Rivera Policy Institute in California, told EFE.

"That's why all of the candidates are hurrying to learn how to say 'we need your vote' in Spanish," he added.

According to a Univision survey, opinion polls confirm that 79 percent of Hispanics like for the candidates to speak to them in Spanish.

In the 1996 elections, Gore danced "La Macarena" and now pronounces, not without difficulty, phrases in Spanish in attempts to capture the California and Texas vote, where Hispanics represent 31 and 29 percent of the electorate, respectively.

Bush is counting on the Hispanic support he received in two previous victorious elections in Texas, but on a national level Hispanic support may prove to be different.



Bush aired his first commercials in Spanish three weeks ago and is clearly intent on winning the Hispanic population's hearts and votes.

Besides having Rep. Henry Bonilla (Texas) as one of his campaign directors, he has contracted with various experts, such as Lionel Sosa and Enrique Herrera, to find the most suitable way to transmit his message to Hispanics.

Sen. John McCain (Arizona), who, over the past few weeks, has become a viable alternative to Bush, clearly realizes the importance of the Hispanic vote as well, as seen from his use of a number of Hispanic consultants.

In speeches before Hispanic leaders, McCain has praised the contributions of the Hispanic community to the U.S. stating,

"when Hispanics unite, they form a powerful group that should be heard."

Arizona is the state with the fourth largest Hispanic population (22.1 percent) behind New Mexico (40.3 percent) and the aforementioned California and Texas.

The Democrats also realize the importance of gaining Hispanic favor, placing Lydia Camarillo in charge of the party's national convention which will officially select its presidential candidate in August.

El Editor
Newspapers

VOTE

Lubbock Co. Water Control District #1 - Pct. 3
Buffalo Springs Lake Board of Directors

BRANDON R. HUGHES

- I will work to provide an enjoyable and safe park for all of the residents of the South Plains.
- As your board member, I will work to promote Buffalo Springs Lake in a positive, progressive fashion that will make all of us proud.
- I am a life-long resident of Lubbock County who will work for the entire community and will make honest, open, and ethical government a reality and will serve all of the precinct, not just a few groups or special interests.

Vote Hughes in Position 3 in Precinct 3 at the Idalou City Hall 208 Main St.

VOTE THIS SATURDAY JANUARY 15TH

Pd. for by the committee to elect Brandon Hughes, 2218 6th St., Lubbock, TX

West Texas Festival 2000 Church Leaders Rally

For Pastors, Festival Leadership Teams and Their Spouses

This Rally is important to the involvement of every church.

Thursday, January 20 • 7:00-9:00 PM
First Baptist Church
2201 Broadway Avenue, Lubbock
Phone: 747-8906



Plan to have at least one Representative from your church in each of the following workshops!
Pastors and Congregational Leaders • Mobilization • Children • Counseling and Follow-Up
Love-In-Action • Youth/Student

For more info call the Festival Office: 806-780-5900
E-mail: westtexas2000@bgea.org
Website: www.westtexas.grahamfestival.org

In cooperation with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association ©1999 BGEA



Television Y La Desaparicion De Precursores Marcaron El Año Para Los Hispanos

Por Antonio Mejías-Rentas
(Segunda de dos partes)

He aquí algunos de los principales acontecimientos de la televisión y el cine que involucran a artistas y personajes latinos de entretenimiento que tuvieron lugar en 1999. Fue un año que vio la desaparición de algunos precursores latinos en las artes. También los recordamos.

La escasez de personajes y actores latinos en las cuatro redes televisoras principales llegó a los titulares cuando se anunció la temporada de otoño en mayo último. De cerca de dos docenas de programas nuevos en las cuatro redes, sólo dos mencionaban a actores latinos en sus repartos y sólo a uno en un papel de estrellato. Ese fue Martin Sheen en "West Wing," un drama de la NBC que comprobó ser uno de los éxitos verdaderos de la temporada.

En protesta, los grupos nacionales latinos escenificaron un "apagón de las redes televisoras," pidiendo a sus miembros que desconectaran los televisores durante la semana del 12 de septiembre, que señalaba oficialmente el comienzo de la temporada de otoño.

Apresurándose para evitar las críticas, algunos programas de televisión agregaron a latinos y otras personas de color a sus repartos. El actor John Huertas llegó a estar fijo en el programa "Sabrina" de la ABC, y Christian de la Fuente obtuvo un lugar en "Family Law," de la CBS. Roselyn Sánchez fue incluida en el reparto como artista principal en "Ryan Caulfield: Year One" de la cadena Fox, pero el drama policiaco, que empezó a transmitirse en octubre, salió al aire sólo en dos episodios antes de convertirse en una de las primeras bajas de la temporada.

Uno del puñado de programas

que regresaron con un actor principal latino, la comedia "Jesse" de la NBC, y su estrella Bruno Campos, fueron reconocidos en enero en la ceremonia de Galardones Imagen en Los Angeles. El acontecimiento anual dió también un galardón al programa especial de HBO "Freak" de John Leguizamo, basado en el monólogo postulado para un premio Tony.

En septiembre, Leguizamo ganó un Emmy por "Freak" en Los Angeles. Fue nominado en dos categorías por el programa especial. Otros postulados incluyeron a Jimmy Smits por su última temporada en "NYPD Blue" de la ABC, y a Héctor Elizondo por "Chicago Hope" de la CBS.

La competencia entre las dos cadenas de televisión en español se intensificó, cuando Telemundo y Univisión hicieron las llamadas "presentaciones anticipadas" a los anunciantes en la primavera.

Telemundo, que hizo un trato en junio último con el sindicato de actores AFTRA, mudó la producción de sus programas a Hollywood. Dicha red presentó las primeras transmisiones de un bloque de comedias por la noche, incluyendo al nuevo programa "Los Beltrán," sobre una familia cubana-mexicana de Los Angeles.

Univisión continuó con los mejores ratings y pocos cambios en su programación. Cristina Saralegui, que cumplió 10 años como animadora de uno de los programas de mayor teledaudiencia de la red, empezó a producir un programa de juegos titulado "A que no te atreves." El programa salió al aire pocas semanas antes de que la estrella de Cristina obtuviera su propia estrella en el Sendero de la Fama de Hollywood, en

noviembre último.

CINE:
En mayo, un estudio realizado por el Instituto Tomás Rivera para Cursos de Acción, encargado por el Gremio de Actores de la Pantalla, encontró una disminución en los papeles de la pantalla para los latinos y otras personas de color, con los latinos siendo los menos representados. El reporter, titulado "Desaparecidos en Acción: Los Latinos que Entrán y Salen de Hollywood," estudió también los hábitos de los consumidores, informando que los latinos gastan \$500 millones anualmente en los cines y que los temas latinos tienen mayores probabilidades de atraer a los auditorios hispanos.

Poco antes, en marzo, cuando el Consejo Nacional de La Raza anunció sus nominados para los premios ALMA, dijo que ni una sola película de 1998 fué hallada digna de consideración.

Veintenas de actores latinos estaban entre los postulados en cerca de 30 categorías de películas y televisión; los ganadores anunciados en abril en muchas de las categorías eran casi idénticos a los del año anterior.

El actor cinematográfico latino más mencionado de 1999 fué el español Antonio Banderas, quien recibió un Galardón de Imagen Duradera en la ceremonia de Imagen y que entre varios papeles de estrellato hizo su debut como director de cine en el Festival Cinematográfico de Venecia en septiembre, con la cinta "Crazy in Alabama."

Una sorpresa de taquilla y uno de los mayores éxitos del año fué la película de terror de bajo financiamiento "The Blair Witch Project," que fué hecha con un presupuesto de sólo \$60,000 pero que ganó \$36.5 millones cuando se estrenó en

julio. La cinta fué co-escrita y dirigida por Eduardo Sánchez, uno de los cinco graduados de cinematografía de la Universidad del Centro de la Florida, cuya empresa Haxan Films obtuvo un trato para mudar la producción a los Estudios de Disney-MGM en Orlando.

En enero, el 15avo Festival Cinematográfico Sundance anual de Park City, Utah, celebró un aniversario especial con la exhibición de "El Norte" de Gregory Nava. El director anunció un nuevo contrato de producción con New Line.

LAS DESAPARICIONES:

Entre los que murieron en 1999 se encuentra el novelista Gonzalo Torrente Ballester, figura principal de la literatura española contemporánea, que murió el 27 de enero a los 88 años; Abelardo Díaz Alfaro, el más famoso y quizás el más querido de los escritores de historias cortas de Puerto Rico, murió en enero en San Juan a los 82 años; José Angel "Pepe" Farías, de 23 años, y Silvestre Rodríguez Jr., de 28 años, de McAllen, miembros de la banda Intocable con sede en Texas, murieron en un accidente automovilístico en México el 31 de enero; el cantante puertorriqueño Felipe Rodríguez, murió el 26 de mayo a los 73 años; el escritor puertorriqueño José Ramón Piñero murió el 31 de agosto en un hospital de Madrid, a los 69 años; y el cantante y actor mexicano Tito Guizar, que actuó como estrella en varias cintas de Hollywood, murió el 24 de diciembre a los 91 años.

(Antonio Mejías-Rentas, de Los Angeles, es editor de artes y entretenimiento del semanario nacional Hispanic Link Weekly Report. Escribe sobre el tema para varias publicaciones nacionales.)

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

From Page 1

Melinda Gates, que crearon fondos de \$50 millones y \$1,000 millones respectivamente, para beneficiar a los latinos y a otros grupos. Esto nos ha dado una mayor credibilidad. Es una llamada para despertarnos.

Un mayor número de personas están reconociendo la importancia de la población latina y de su educación. Las personas están más dispuestas a escuchar ahora.

El costo de la enseñanza va en aumento para todas las personas.

Las matrículas y los honorarios están aumentando al doble del índice de inflación. Dados los ingresos menores de los latinos, está haciéndose más difícil para nosotros el costear esos gastos. Necesitamos continuar obteniendo recursos económicos para ayudar a la comunidad de un modo más sólido. Nuestros estudiantes nos están diciendo también que necesitan apoyo social y académico. Ellos necesitan trabajar como una comunidad. Necesitamos llevar a los padres y las madres a hacer que la educación superior sea su prioridad más alta.

PUBLICIDAD
ZEKE MONTES, presidente de la Asociación Nacional de Publicaciones Hispanas y director de Tele-Guía, de Chicago: Los mejoramientos de la tecnología son aumentos de oportunidades para nuestros publicistas empresariales. Los que aprovechen la tecnología — incluyendo a la Internet — y sirvan a los intereses de nuestras comunidades, obtendrán muy buenos resultados.

Nuestra comunidad está creciendo en todas partes, incluyendo a partes de Estados Unidos donde no lo habíamos esperado. Lo primero que aparece en cualquier comunidad latina en desarrollo es un periódico local en español.

La publicidad va a llegar a tener un lugar más especial para los latinos. El reto para las publicaciones de propiedad hispana va a ser tremendo. Los periódicos y las revistas del mercado general nos están enfocando ahora cada vez en mayor medida, como medio para hacer dinero. Están yendo detrás de los latinos más jóvenes y con mejor dominio del inglés. Debemos proporcionar un buen contenido para nuestros lectores — en español e inglés preferiblemente — y ser agresivos para lograr que los anunciantes apoyen a dichos medios informativos.

LA ADMINISTRACION DE JUSTICIA

JOHN TRASVIÑA, asesor legal especial para las prácticas de empleo injustas relacionadas con la inmigración en el Departamento de Justicia de los Estados Unidos: Por estar en Washington, D.C., veo la prioridad de tener a un hispano en la Suprema Corte de Justicia de Estados Unidos. Ese es un asunto para el gobierno actual y para el futuro. La inspección de vehículos conducidos por personas de color — práctica conocida como "perfiles raciales" — es igualmente un reto importante en todo el país. Hay un peligro tremendo de que al latino se le considere como "recién llegado," aún cuando los latinos hemos estado en los Estados Unidos durante generaciones. La comunidad tiene que ser vigorosa en trabajar con las autoridades, para asegurarse de que las personas tengan una voz.

Como la mayor oportunidad, el Censo de Población fijará la tonalidad para la década. El gobierno tiene la responsabilidad de producir un conteo exacto y completo. Las impresiones de la comunidad son críticas para que eso suceda. Otras oportunidades son que los electores latinos tienen la capacidad de aumentar su poder y de construir un nuevo Congreso que escuche nuestras necesidades.

INMIGRACION Y DERECHOS HUMANOS

ROBERTO MARTINEZ, director del Programa para la Frontera entre los Estados Unidos y México, del American Friends Service Committee de San Diego: Se deben promulgar leyes de inmigración que sean más humanas. Las represivas, tales como la Ley de Inmigración de 1996 y la Operación Gatekeeper tienen que ser suspendidas. Necesitamos un cumplimiento de las

leyes que restablezca los derechos humanos y la dignidad de las personas. Las violaciones de los derechos humanos y civiles de los inmigrantes continúan siendo nuestro reto.

Necesitamos unimos. Los latinos estamos llegando a ser una fuerza para las próximas elecciones. Esperamos influir las leyes de inmigración. Los funcionarios latinos deben escuchar lo que tenemos que decir. Vamos estar observando quiénes escuchan y actúan y quiénes no lo hacen.

LIDERAZGO JUVENIL

RON BLACKBURN-MORENO, presidente de Aspira, una organización para desarrollo de dirigencia juvenil con sede en Washington, D.C.: La reforma de la enseñanza y la tecnología son los retos principales. Resulta extremadamente importante el ver de qué modo la reforma de la educación afectará a los jóvenes hispanos del país al elevar las normas y las expectativas para los estudiantes.

El acceso a la tecnología es otro reto. La tecnología domina a la enseñanza y a otros aspectos de nuestras vidas. Sin un acceso suficiente, nos quedaremos fuera.

Pero las oportunidades existen igualmente, tanto en la reforma de la enseñanza como en la tecnología. Necesitamos tener una mayor involucración por parte de la comunidad, con padres y madres dedicados a mejorar la enseñanza. Como nunca, ahora tenemos mayores oportunidades de acceso a toda la información mediante la Internet. Los latinos están comprando computadoras a un ritmo más rápido que cualquier otro grupo de la población. La tecnología podría ser la gran igualadora. El reto es la obtención del acceso a la misma.

LA DIRIGENCIA COMUNITARIA

JORGE CHINO, director de El Andar, de Santa Cruz, California: Continuamos creciendo políticamente. Pero eso no significa mucho en términos de desarrollo hispano en materia de calidad. Las mismas clases de desigualdades continúan a todos los niveles del gobierno. Las personas que se hallan en los niveles local, estatal y federal del gobierno no están haciendo los cambios necesarios para dar un mejor futuro a los latinos. Nuestro futuro depende de nosotros. Nuestros problemas reflejan una falta de dirigencia. Necesitamos dirigentes hispanos nacionales.

En lo tocante a los medios de información, los latinos se enfrentan a un reto considerable. No somos propietarios de los medios de comunicación y eso se refleja en la divulgación de nuestras ideas, así como en la información sobre nuestros problemas.

RELACIONES EMPRESARIALES

ANA ESCOBEDO CABRAL, presidenta de la Asociación de Relaciones Empresariales (HACR, siglas en inglés), de Washington, D.C.: Veo la oportunidad de fortalecer a nuestras coaliciones. La oportunidad de ampliar la proyección hacia nuestra comunidad.

Necesitamos empezar a concentrar nuestro enfoque sobre los asuntos tales como el empleo, el gobierno y la filantropía. Debemos continuar llevando el mensaje a las empresas de Estados Unidos. Hay un argumento económico sólido, y es que los hispanos son imprescindibles para el futuro de todas las empresas. Estas deben incluir a los latinos en mayor medida. Les mostraremos por qué necesitan incluirnos.

(Oswaldo Zavala es reportero de Hispanic Link News Service en Washington D.C.)

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

TV Tumult, Passing of Pioneers Marked Year For Hispanics

By Antonio Mejías-Rentas
(Second of two parts)

Here are some of the major television and film events involving Latino artists and entertainers that occurred in 1999. It was a year that saw the passing of several Latino pioneers in the arts. They also are remembered.

The dearth of Latino characters and actors on the four major television networks made headlines when the fall season was announced in May. Out of nearly two dozen new shows on the four major networks, only two listed Latino actors in their casts, and only one in a starring role. That was

Martin Sheen in "West Wing," a drama on NBC that proved to be one of the season's bona fide hits.

In protest, national Latino groups staged a weeklong "network brownout," asking constituents to turn off television for the week of Sept. 12, which officially marked the beginning of the fall season.

Scrambling to avoid criticism, some network shows added Latinos and other people of color to their casts. Actor John Huertas became a regular on ABC's "Sabrina," and Christian de la Fuente got a spot on CBS's "Family Law." Roselyn

Sánchez was cast as a lead on Fox's "Ryan Caulfield: Year One," but the police drama, which premiered in October, aired only two episodes before becoming one of the season's first casualties.

One of a handful of returning shows with a Latino lead, the NBC sitcom "Jesse," and its star Bruno Campos were recognized in January at the Imagen Awards ceremony in Los Angeles. The annual event also gave an award to the HBO special by John Leguizamo, "Freak," based on the Tony-nominated monologue.

In September, Leguizamo won an Emmy for "Freak" in Los Angeles. He was nominated in two categories for the special. Other nominees included Jimmy Smits for his last season on "NYPD Blue" (ABC) and Héctor Elizondo for "Chicago Hope" (CBS).

Competition between the country's two Spanish-language networks intensified, with both Telemundo and Univisión making the so-called upfront presentations to advertisers in the spring.

Telemundo, which struck a deal in June with the performers union AFTRA, moved production of its shows to Hollywood. The network premiered a Sunday night block of comedies, including the new "Los Beltrán," about a Cuban-Mexican family in Los Angeles.

Univisión continued to lead in the ratings with little change in its schedule. Cristina Saralegui, who marked 10 years as the host of one of the network's most watched shows, began producing a game show titled "A que no te atreves." The show premiered a few weeks before the star of Cristina got her own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, in November.

FILM:

In May, a study by the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute commissioned by the Screen Actors Guild found a decline of screen roles for Latinos and other persons of color, with Hispanics the most underrepresented. "Missing in Action: Latinos In and Out of Hollywood" also studied consumer habits, reporting that Latinos spend \$500 million yearly at the movies, and that Latino themes are more likely to attract Hispanic audiences.

Earlier, in March, when the National Council of La Raza announced its nominees for the ALMA awards, it said that not a single 1998 motion picture was found worthy of consideration.

Scores of Latino actors were among nominees in some 30 film and TV categories; winners announced in April in many of the categories were almost identical to those from the previous year.

The most talked-about Latino



Paquito D'Rivera
For connoisseurs of Latin jazz, he needs no introduction. His name is synonymous with musical excellence. Paquito D'Rivera is a two-time Grammy Award-winning clarinetist, saxophonist and composer.

film actor in 1999 was Spaniard Antonio Banderas, who took a Lasting Image Award at the Imagen ceremony and, in between various starring roles, made his debut as film director at the Venice Film Festival in September, with "Crazy in Alabama."

A surprise at the box office and one of the year's biggest hits was the low-budget thriller "The Blair Witch Project," which was made on a \$60,000 budget and earned \$36.5 million when it opened in July. The film was co-written and directed by Eduardo Sánchez, one of five film graduates from the University of Central Florida, whose Haxan Films got a deal to move production to the Disney-MGM Studios in Orlando.

In January, the 15th annual Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, held a special anniversary screening of Gregory Nava's "El Norte." The director announced a new production deal with New Line.

IN PASSING:

Among those who died in 1999, novelist Gonzalo Torrente Ballester, a major figure in Spanish contemporary literature, Jan. 27 at age 88; Abelardo Díaz Alfaro, Puerto Rico's most famous and perhaps most beloved short-story writer, died in January in San Juan at 82; José Angel "Pepe" Farías, 23, and Silvestre Rodríguez Jr., 28, of McAllen, members of the Texas-based band Intocable who died in a car accident in northern Mexico on Jan. 31; Puerto Rican singer Felipe Rodríguez died May 26 at 73; Puerto Rican writer José Ramón Piñero died Aug. 31 in a Madrid hospital at 69; and Mexican singer and actor Tito Guizar, who starred in several Hollywood movies, died Dec. 24 at 91.

*** VOTE FOR CHANGE ***

RICK LUJAN

WATER CONTROL DISTRICT #1
(Buffalo Lakes Board of Directors)

Precinct 3, Lubbock, County

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF BAD PUBLICITY!!

As a resident of Buffalo Springs Lake for 15 years, I want to update and improve your West Texas Oasis by serving the people of Precinct 3 as a Director of the Board. I want to be your voice for our local recreational facilities. My goal is to stop the discrimination among employees and Board Directors.

Buffalo Springs Lake, administered by Lubbock County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1, originated as a public recreational facility. Let's keep it that way!

IF YOU WANT TO SEE:

- #1 Improved public relations for all
- #2 Improved camping facilities and picnic areas
- #3 Improved boat docks
- #4 Improved dam and fishing opportunities
- #5 Improved public restroom facilities

VOTE FOR RICK LUJAN

JANUARY 15, 2000

EARLY VOTING: Dec. 29, 1999 through Jan. 11, 2000
Lubbock County Court House
ELECTION: JAN. 15, 2000, 7 AM - 7 PM
Idalou City Hall, Main Street, Idalou, Tx

Paid for by Rick Lujan

**EL EDITOR
NEWSPAPERS**
Lubbock #1 for
NEWS-- Sports - & MORE
CALL BOB TODAY TO
SUBSCRIBE
806-763-3841

TOMMY FISHER EXPERIENCED

My number one priority during my service on the Buffalo Springs Lake Board has been to work toward better maintenance of the infrastructure. By doing this it will create a better place for our families to have a good time at Buffalo Lake.

VOTE AT THE SLATON COMMUNITY CENTER
OR AT THE BUFFALO SPRINGS LAKE OFFICE
COUNTY COURTHOUSE OR VOTE SATURDAY
VOTE TOMMY FISHER FOR LUBBOCK
WATER CONTROL DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF DIRECTORS PCT. 2

Pd. for by Tommy Fisher

El Niño Cubano "Debe Retornar Cuanto Antes Su Hogar"

Washington, - La secretaria de Justicia de EEUU, Janet Reno, afirmó hoy que el niño cubano Elián González "debe retornar cuanto antes a su hogar, a su padre" en Cuba.

González, de 6 años, fue rescatado el pasado 25 de noviembre en aguas del estado norteamericano de Florida tras el naufragio de la embarcación en la que se dirigía a Estados Unidos, que causó la muerte de once de los catorce balseros cubanos que la ocupaban, incluidos su madre y su padrastro.

Desde entonces, el niño ha estado al cuidado de unos tíos abuelos y otros familiares residentes en la ciudad de Miami (Florida), pese a que su padre, Juan Miguel González, lo reclama desde Cuba.

"Este es, sencillamente, el caso de un padre que quiere recuperar a su hijo", dijo Reno hoy en una conferencia de prensa.

Las autoridades estadounidenses "harán todo lo posible para garantizar la seguridad del padre, si él decide venir a Florida a recoger a su hijo", agregó.

Los padres de Elián estaban

divorciados y la madre, Elizabeth Brotons, abandonó la isla sin conocimiento de su ex esposo.

Reno dijo que "el padre tiene el derecho a hablar por Elián, y el niño debe estar con su padre cuanto antes".

El Servicio estadounidense de Inmigración y Naturalización (INS) anunció el pasado día 5 que el niño sería devuelto a su padre antes del 14 de enero, pero Reno determinó ayer miércoles un aplazamiento de la repatriación por tiempo indefinido.

Ese anuncio se produjo después de que un legislador republicano propusiera citar al niño ante el Congreso y de que una juez de Miami otorgase esta semana la custodia temporal del menor a su tío abuelo paterno Lázaro González, residente en esa ciudad.

Elián se ha convertido en motivo de disputa política entre la influyente comunidad de exiliados cubanos del sur de Florida y el Gobierno de La Habana, que considera que el niño está secuestrado.

"Lo que intentamos es que el trámite de la ley sea claro, que cada paso sea claro y se cumpla con la ley", y "lo que esperamos



Se va Elián ¿Dijo o No Elián Que Quiere Regresar a Cuba?

Por Alberto García Marrder

Miami - Una controversia sobre si el niño náufrago cubano Elián González dijo que quería o no regresar a Cuba ha venido a crear en Miami una gran confusión en una situación altamente volátil por los intereses en juego.

La polémica comenzó cuando el Canal 10 abrió sus noticieros el miércoles con un video del menor jugando en el jardín de la casa de sus familiares en la ciudad estadounidense de Miami y en el que al observar en el cielo un avión, decía, según la traducción al inglés que hizo la emisora: "Yo quiero que tú me regreses a Cuba".

Pero los telespectadores hispanos escuchaban otra cosa diferente en español: "Yo quiero que no me regresen pa' Cuba".

Las emisoras cubanas de Miami, indignadas con el Canal 10, han estado repitiendo desde el miércoles la grabación en español y pidiendo una rectificación.

Asimismo, los exiliados cubanos han encontrado un nuevo lugar para manifestarse y desde el miércoles protestan ante el edificio del Canal 10 por lo que interpretan como una campaña de esa emisora contra ellos.

El diario "The Miami Herald"

es que la gente de buena voluntad tome la iniciativa, que colaboremos, y que se deje que se cumpla lo que manda la ley", subrayó hoy Reno.

"El niño debe tener una vida normal, cuanto antes, sin que las cámaras de televisión de todo el mundo estén enfocadas constantemente en él", agregó.

"Tenemos que hacer lo mejor, de la manera más digna, para que el niño vuelva cuanto antes con su padre", recalzó.

La fiscal general y titular de Justicia destacó que las autoridades estadounidenses han hablado con Juan Miguel González, y se han asegurado de que es el padre de Elián, de que mantenía una relación estrecha con su hijo y de que quiere hacerse cargo de él.

La Administración estadounidense "ha analizado las circunstancias y no se han encontrado pruebas de que el niño vaya a ser sometido a persecución si retorna a Cuba", por lo cual la petición de asilo político cursada por sus familiares en Miami carece de base, advirtió Reno.

"No beneficia a nadie que esto se prolongue y por eso espero que se resuelva cuanto antes", concluyó.

Polls Suggest Most Americans Want Elián Reunited With Father

Washington, - A majority of Americans believe that 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez should be returned to his father in Cuba rather than stay in the United States with relatives, according to a new opinion poll commissioned by ABC News.

In the poll, 52 per cent thought that no matter where he lives, the boy's father should be granted custody of Elian, whose mother and stepfather drowned when the boat in which they were trying to illegally enter the United States overturned off Florida in November.

Elian was rescued alive after drifting two days at sea on the inner tube to which his mother had lashed him, and since has become a cause celebre in Cuba, where leader Fidel Castro has used the calls for his return to rally support for the regime.

Earlier this month, a Florida judge froze a pending order by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for Elian to be sent home to his father, and ordered the father to appear in court in February or forfeit his right to petition for custody.

Of the respondents to the ABC poll, only 36 per cent said that he should stay in the United States, where his relatives and the Cuban-American community have demonstrated and lobbied vehemently for Elian to be allowed to stay.

In a poll by Florida's Spanish-language Channel 23 television station nine out of ten Hispanics residing in Dade County said Elian should stay in the United States. But a majority of African-Americans or non-Hispanics surveyed thought otherwise.

With the same question put to them in another poll carried out by Gallup for CNN and the USA Today newspaper, 56 per cent said Elian should stay and 36 per cent wanted to see him reunited with his father in Cuba.

A Gallup organization spokesman said those results indicated an opinion shift from a month earlier, prior to the INS order, when the sample was for all intents and purposes equally divided between supporters and opponents of the repatriation option.

Abogados Familiares Del Niño Naufrago Presentaran Demanda Federal

Por Sonia Osorio

Miami - Los abogados de los familiares del niño náufrago cubano Elián González presentarán una demanda federal la próxima semana, en un nuevo intento por evitar que el menor sea repatriado a Cuba.

Un equipo de cinco abogados prepara la acción legal, tras anunciar el gobierno norteamericano que desconocía una decisión de un tribunal de Miami que otorgó la custodia provisional a Lázaro González, tío abuelo del menor, fallo que permitiría tramitar un asilo político para Elián.

"Estamos preparando una demanda federal que obligue a inmigración a cumplir con sus propios requisitos, a observar el debido proceso de ley para que se le conceda una audiencia de asilo político y se escuchen ambos lados", informó el abogado José García Pedroza.

La demanda podría incluir una petición para que el padre de Elián, Juan Miguel González, se traslade a Miami y testifique en el proceso.

La fiscal general de EEUU, Janet Reno, en un carta enviada el miércoles a los abogados de los parientes del niño en Miami, dijo que "la cuestión sobre quién puede hablar por el niño de seis años para solicitar la admisión o asilo, es un asunto de las leyes federales de inmigración".

"Son las leyes federales las que pueden determinar quién puede hablar en nombre del niño, y no las leyes estatales", precisó la funcionaria.

Reno también anunció que el plazo para devolver al niño a Cuba con su padre, quien lo ha reclamado con el apoyo del gobierno cubano, será ampliado, pero no dio fecha.

Según la misiva, el niño no será repatriado el próximo 14 de enero, como había ordenado el Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización de EEUU (INS), para darle a los familiares del niño en Miami la oportunidad de presentar el caso ante un tribunal federal.

"Estoy dispuesta a considerar cualquier información que pueda surgir, pero en estos momentos no veo bases para revocar la decisión de la representante del INS, Doris Meissner, de que el

padre de Elián, en Cuba, es el único que tiene la autoridad de hablar por su hijo en asuntos migratorios", señala la carta.

García Pedroza calificó el anuncio de Reno como "bochornoso y ofensivo" y consideró que la funcionaria "tergiversó" el fallo de la juez estatal Rosa Rodríguez.

"Ha tergiversado completamente la decisión de la juez Rosa Rodríguez sugiriendo que se estaba inmiscuyendo en la administración de leyes migratorias federales", indicó el abogado a la emisora Radio Única.

"Se hizo lo que se hace diariamente en los tribunales familiares, pedirle a un juez que nombre un custodio provisional para un menor que necesita protección. Esa actitud y esa decisión de la fiscal general Janet Reno, es bochornosa y ofensiva", agregó.

Spencer Eig, otro de los abogados que le prestan asistencia gratuita a los familiares de Elián, dijo que intentarán buscar la protección del niño y de sus derechos civiles en un tribunal federal y continuarán invitando al padre del niño y a toda su familia, para que vengan a EEUU a participar en el proceso.

El gobernador del estado de Florida, Jeb Bush, se mostró decepcionado con el anuncio de Reno y consideró que el futuro del menor estaría mejor decidido por un tribunal estatal.

Por su parte, la congresista republicana de Florida, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, destacó que la decisión de Reno "tiene un aspecto positivo y es que el viernes (14 de enero), que era la fecha tope para devolver a Elián, ya no existe".

El niño también tiene una citación emitida el pasado viernes por el legislador republicano Dan Burton, quien ha solicitado que comparezca ante una comisión legislativa el próximo 10 de febrero.

Elián y otras dos personas fueron los únicos supervivientes de un naufragio ocurrido en noviembre pasado en las costas de Florida, en el que murió su madre y su padrastro, además de otros nueve inmigrantes cubanos.

BEST
El Editor
Newspaper

El Editor

Come by and Visit Angelo Carrillo and Get \$500 OFF Your Next Car from Spirit 4611 Ave. Q - 747-4461



Lo Mejor En Comida Mexicana

MONTELONGO'S RESTAURANT
3021 Clovis Rd - 762-3068

VOTE SATURDAY FOR Joe Hefley
Buffalo Lake Board of Directors Pct. 2

"Buffalo Lakes should be a friendly place to take our families. Let's take the Lake away from those who abuse it and give it back to the people who use it."

HELP ME BE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE ON THE BOARD BY VOTING SATURDAY - JAN. 15
Polls Open from 7 am til 7 pm at Slaton Community Center and the Lake Office
Elect Joe Hefley
Lubbock Water Control District #1 Board of Directors Precinct 2
Paid for by Joe Hefley

Curl Up & Dye Hair & Nails
Stylist and Nail Tech
Rose Gutierrez

For All Your Beauty Needs! Looks what's available today all for you!

Men & Women Haircuts, Perms, Prisms Highlights & Color Available
Nail sets, manicures, pedicures, waxing and the list goes on!
Great Affordable Prices!!

Everyone Welcome - Se Habla Español
205 A North University - Lubbock

763-1404

Appointments Only - Tues.-Sat. 10am-6pm

Subscribe Today to El Editor
Call Bob - 806-763-3841



Ben Detwiler hoped to make the world a better place. That hope died when he was killed by a drunk driver.

What should you do to stop a friend from driving drunk?
Whatever you have to.
Friends don't let friends drive drunk.

El Alcoholismo Se Desarrolla Antes De Los 20 Años

Washington - Un estudio comparativo de tres generaciones de estadounidenses ha revelado que los problemas del alcoholismo comienzan cada vez más temprano, antes incluso de los 20 años, y que las mujeres se están equiparando a los hombres en este problema. "Cuanto más temprano comienza la gente a beber, más probable es que desarrollen problemas de alcoholismo", sostiene Scott Stoltenberg, investigador de la Universidad de Michigan y director del estudio. Los resultados se publicaron en el número de diciembre de la revista "Alcoholismo: investigación clínica y experimental", que se edita en E.E.U.U. La investigación sostiene que el uso temprano de alcohol, cigarrillos y otras drogas conduce a alcoholismo, depresión y comportamientos que ponen en riesgo la vida, como violencia e intentos de suicidio. Victor Hesselbrock, profesor de psiquiatría de la Facultad de Medicina de la Universidad de Connecticut, explica que, para llegar a ser alcohólico, como para habituarse a las drogas, es necesario tener un contacto repetido con esas sustancias. "Cuanto antes se comienza, más expuesto se está a los efectos de las drogas", indica el investigador, que también concede gran importancia a los trastornos de conducta que sufren los jóvenes como desencadenantes de la dependencia del alcohol. "Hay niños -explica- que tienen problemas con sus padres, que rechazan la disciplina, que tienen problemas en la escuela, que no se dejan dirigir, que entran en problemas con el vecindario y, por cualquier razón, empiezan a utilizar esas sustancias a una edad temprana". El estudio realizado por la Universidad de Michigan ha investigado los comporta-

mientos de tres generaciones distintas de estadounidenses, entre los nacidos antes de 1930, los nacidos entre 1930 y 1949 y los nacidos después de ese último año. Los considerados "jóvenes", el grupo de los nacidos después del año '49, "comienzan el consumo regular de alcohol antes de los 25 años" y es el grupo más propenso a desarrollar los comportamientos del denominado "alcoholismo antisocial" con problemas de violencia, enfrentamientos con la policía y detenciones por conducir bajo los efectos del alcohol.

El estudio concede importancia a la tendencia genética o heredad hacia el alcoholismo, pero reconoce que no existe un gen determinado que pueda considerarse causante del alcoholismo. "Los genes no determinan, sólo incrementan el riesgo", ha afirmado Hesselbrock. Al menos existen 10 genes cuyas funciones están relacionadas con el alcoholismo como factor que predispone a sufrir este problema. Con todo, los investigadores conceden más importancia a los factores sociales que a los genéticos. "Claramente dicen un individuo con un amplio historial familiar de alcoholismo tiene mayor riesgo de problemas de alcoholismo que un individuo sin esa historia", apunta el profesor de psiquiatría de Connecticut. El estudio dedica especial atención a la tendencia creciente del consumo de alcohol entre las mujeres y a que sufran los mismos problemas que ya son conocidos en el hombre. Afirman que en los años '50 era poco común ver a una mujer bebiendo en un bar, pero hoy es algo habitual. "Mujeres y hombres tienen la misma predisposición biológica a comportarse de ese modo", a caer en la dependencia del alcohol o a convertirse en alcohólicos, indican los autores del informe.

Churches Join in the Count:

Thou Shalt Complete Thy Census Form

By MELANIE FELICIANO

This is the third story in a series about Census 2000.

With the census asking more personal questions than a nosy tabloid reporter, religious leaders across the nation are tweaking their regular church services to quell the fears Latino immigrant parishioners may have toward the government.

For instance, the Texas Archbishop invited a congressman and Census Bureau director Kenneth Prewitt to speak at a February mass.

A Presbyterian preacher in Arkansas applied for a grant to print T-shirts that read, "How America Knows What America Needs" for his congregation.

And a monsignor in Anaheim, Calif. is implementing messages of "thou shalt complete thy census form" into Sunday sermons.

"We want to convey to people the seriousness of this matter without saying it's a sin if you don't [participate in the census]," said Monsignor Jaime Soto, Hispanic community vicar for the Diocese of Orange County in California. "Participating in the census helps us distribute the goods of this society more fairly among all of God's children."

Traditionally, Latinos have trusted the church over the government, and Census Bureau officials feel religious leaders are conduits to this "hard-to-enumerate" community. Besides language barriers and the difficulty of counting multi-family homes, confidentiality is the resounding issue that largely contributed to a five-percent undercount of Latinos in the 1990 census.

"The Latino community is becoming a significant presence in southern California as well as the rest of the nation. In order to ensure that this growing presence translates into effective power and leadership, it is incumbent on all Latinos to work together not only for the sake of our own community, but to build up the greater society in which we live."

- Monsignor Jaime Soto
"I believe the effort this time around is much larger and broader than before because we

are making a concerted effort to reach every religious organization," said Luz Villegas, Census team leader for South Texas.

Each church, she said, will receive a census packet in the mail that includes informational brochures, public service announcements to print in Sunday church bulletins, and a list of sample sermons to "increase the comfort level of the public."

Taking the Census suggestions even further is Texas Archbishop Patrick Flores, who has invited the Census Bureau director and Congressman Charles Gonzalez (D-San Antonio) to a special mass in San Antonio on Feb. 20. Census officials said the mass will be televised nationally on a Catholic cable network.

Gilbert Chavez, a census community partnership specialist in San Antonio, said the event is important since San Antonio lost \$142 million in public funds as a result of the 1990 undercount.

"This is such a significant event not just because it will be televised, but because people in churches talk to each other, and the message will be carried to homes," he said.

Other ways churches are getting involved in the census is by becoming "Be Counted" sites, home bases for people who didn't receive forms in the mail and who need assistance in filling them out.

The time and energy Flores and his religious colleagues are investing in the census will not only help secure their community's fair share of needed services, but also help in planning new facilities and programs for their congregations.

"It's a win-win situation for everybody," said Albert Garcia, a census community partnership specialist who is working with Protestant churches in northwest Arkansas. He said he is encouraging preachers to embed census themes into their sermons each month. During Christmas, for example, he found a way to relate the story of Christ's birth to the census.

The second chapter of the Book of Luke reads, "In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be

taken of the entire Roman world...And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David...to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child."

After all is said and done, religious leaders are optimistic that their communities will

think twice about ignoring the census. Soto said he and other leaders like himself serve as reliable messengers of information, including changes in immigration, social services, and now, the census.

"St. Paul speaks an awful lot about the body of Christ, and that influences our preaching of the importance of the census," said Soto. "All members of the body of Christ are important."

PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR
Por Pastor: Frank García
Lubbock, Texas

**SI NO VIVO PARA SERVIR,
NO SIRVO PARA VIVIR.**



Todos nosotros somos llamados a servir a Cristo así como él vino a servir o para servir y dar su vida por nosotros o sea por muchos, así como él mismo explicó a sus discípulos en Marcos 10:45. El dijo: "Porque el Hijo del hombre no vino para ser servido, sino para servir, y dar su vida en rescate por muchos." Pues el servicio que él presentó a su Padre, lo hizo a través de la necesidad que había en las gentes, pues las gentes necesitaban un Salvador, el mundo necesitaba ser perdonado de sus pecados. Y aquí fue donde Cristo concentró su servicio. Por eso dice la Escritura en Juan 14:6, "Yo soy el camino, la verdad y la vida y nadie viene al Padre sino por mí." Y allí fue donde Cristo presentó su servicio. Y así todo cristiano somos llamados a servir, pero el cristiano que no sirve, no sirve. ¡Cuidado! Ahora: todos nosotros somos llamados por Dios a presentar nuestro servicio a Cristo. Y esto lo haremos también como él lo hizo, por medio de la necesidad que hay en las gentes de ser salvos. Y aquí concentraremos también nosotros nuestro servicio a Dios. Tal vez pregunte Usted, pero cómo podré servir o dónde podré servir. La contestación más correcta que le podremos dar es: Donde veamos la necesidad. Usted tiene que buscar dónde haya una necesidad en la iglesia, y ahí, servir. Como vemos en el libro de los Hechos Cap.2: que algunos de los nuevos convertidos de la iglesia temprana vieron la necesidad en la iglesia, y allí sirvieron al Señor. Presentaron su servicio a través de la iglesia, que es el cuerpo del Señor. Vendiendo algunos de ellos algunas de sus propiedades, y traían el dinero y lo entregaban para la obra de Dios. Pues la iglesia comenzaba y tenía necesidad de ofrendas, como lo tiene toda obra de Dios cuando comienza. Pero no todo el tiempo la necesidad en la iglesia es de dinero, y no nomás con dinero se puede o se debe de servir a Cristo. Porque en el libro de los Hechos Cap.6: tenemos que siete varones sirvieron a la iglesia sirviendo las mesas. Y otro varón llamado Pablo en Hechos 9:6. dijo "¿Señor, qué quieres que haga?" Así que nosotros también podemos ver dónde halla una necesidad en la iglesia y ahí presentar nuestro servicio al Señor. No todos podemos servir igual, pero todos podemos servir. Quizá la necesidad sea de visitar o de traer a alguien a la iglesia, allí se puede servir. ¡Oh...! hay muchas maneras de servir al Señor. Porque si nosotros queremos y estamos dispuestos a servir al Señor, siempre hay y habrá la buena oportunidad de servir a Dios. Por lo cual oremos y pidámos a Dios que abra nuestros ojos a las necesidades que siempre hay en la iglesia, y que podamos decir como Paplo: "¿Señor, qué quieres que haga?"
**Porque SI NO VIVO PARA SERVIR,
NO SIRVO PARA VIVIR.**

El Editor Newspapers

is a weekly bilingual published every Wednesday by Chinati-Tres-Casas, 1401 Rankin Hwy, Midland, Texas 79701. Subscriptions are \$58 per year payable in advance. Opinions and commentaries expressed by guest columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher or of advertisers.

RN's & LVN's--Tired of patient overload? Want to have fun again taking care of patients? COME TO THE COUNTRY! Cochran Memorial Hospital in Morton, Texas has openings NOW for all shifts, competitive salary & benefits Contact Shonda Chancey RN, DON at 806-266-5565. Fax: 806-266-5342

Now Only DirecTV
En Español
Reciba Por Television
Galavision, Univision
98+ Canales Basicos Por Solo
\$29.99
Ademas Con la Compra de Un Sistema Completo DBS Por Solo
\$86.27
1 Mes gratis de selectos Canales Premium
*Sujeto a Cambio al Instalar Restricciones
Servicio a todo pueblo circunvecino
Llame Hoy Mismo A
Peña
(806) 778-3583,
872-3417 o
1-877-456-5925

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

Own A Computer? Put it to Work!
\$25-\$75/hr. PT/FT
www.home-at-atlast.net
1-888-788-1033

TAMOLINO NO. T4570
Se hacen hasta 100 docenas de tamales en 2 1/2 horas con esta TAMOLINO. Es eléctrico, mide 12x24" y 36" de alto, pesa 48 Libs. Está pequeño de tamaño, pero grande en PODER. Pida su hoja de información, (gratis)
A Frank Garcia
P.O. Box 207
Lubbock, Texas 79408-0207
O llame al (806) 763-4044
A la siete de la mañana.

Desagase de los Cucarachos!
Call Today for Our El Editor Special
Corder Pest Control
4801 44th
797-2279
763-3659

MLS G. Garza Real Estate
Gonzalo Garza 794-3738
Call us today to - Sell your House
Rent Your House - Buy a Home
We are also looking for talented outgoing individuals who want to learn the real estate business!
Call us today!



It's a fact.

The more you get involved in the lives of children, the less likely they are to use alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs.

Positive, healthy activities help kids build skills, self-discipline, and confidence.

Get into the act. Call 1.800.729.6686. Se habla español.

Your Time. Their Future. Let's Keep Our Kids Drug Free.

TIDD 1.800.487.4889. <http://www.health.org>



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Center for Substance Abuse Prevention