

El Editor

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

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Lubbock, TX USA

Maps Show Undocumented Migrants Best Routes

By Sam Enriquez

Mexico's National Human Rights Commission will print and distribute at least 70,000 maps showing immigrants the safest routes to cross the border into Arizona, officials said Tuesday.

The project, which immediately drew fire from groups organized against illegal immigration, is aimed at reducing the number of people who die trying to cross 50 miles of Sonoran Desert to reach highways in southern Arizona, according to Humane Borders, the Tucson-based humanitarian group that created the maps.

Steel barriers and stepped-up border patrols in California over the last decade have pushed immigrant smuggling routes east to more sparsely populated stretches of the Arizona border. Summer temperatures there routinely surpass 100 degrees.

"We can close the border with enough money and political will, which I don't think we have, but we don't have to kill people by forcing them out into the desert," said the Rev. Robin Hoover, president of Humane Borders.

The Mexican government said 441 of its citizens died last year on the border, most in Arizona.

The new maps will show spots where people have died — presumably discouraging some prospective migrants — as well as main roads, rescue beacons and the locations of water stations maintained by Humane Borders.

The Pima County Board of Supervisors this fall approved spending \$25,000 to support the group's water stations after administrators argued that it was cheaper than the \$300,000 the county spends recovering and storing the bodies of immigrants who died in failed desert crossings.

Hoover said work on the desert maps began in May using government

data and donated mapping software. The maps also show how far an average adult can walk in one, two or three days.

"The idea is to put the fear of God into some of these migrants so they'll stay in the main corridors and don't go where there's no water," said Hoover, pastor of the First Christian Church in Tucson.

Jose Luis Soberanes, president of Mexico's human rights commission, thanked Hoover and his group Tuesday, saying they have been saving the lives of migrants.

The group last year compiled safety tips for desert crossings that covered proper clothing and how much water to bring for each day's journey. Mexico was criticized for printing a million of the 32-page booklets for migrants headed to the United States.

Jack Martin, special projects director for the Federation for American Immigration Reform, said the maps and other efforts only encourage illegal immigration.

"The fact that there's an American group doing this," he said, "sends the message that there are Americans who think that it's perfectly acceptable to enter the U.S. illegally, and probably will be down on the border aiding and abetting the illegals when they get in the U.S."

The U.S. House of Representatives approved a bill in December that would add 700 miles of border fencing and make illegal immigration a felony. The bill is expected to reach the Senate next month.



Local Immigration Enforcements Dangerous Substitute for Comprehensive Federal Action

By John Trasviña

The absence of leadership from the Bush Administration and the enforcement-only approach taken by the U.S. House of Representatives have emboldened state and local legislators to attempt to enact immigration policies of their own.

Much of the legislation has been restrictive and overwhelmingly negative in scope. It has been opposed vigorously by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and other Latino immigrant rights, religious and labor organizations. As the U.S. Senate begins to take up comprehensive immigration reform, litigators and advocates need to pay close attention to state and local legislatures as well.

Under the U.S. Constitution, the setting of immigration policy belongs under the purview of the federal government. Typically, in cases that interpret the Constitution's Supremacy Clause, the responsibilities to naturalize new citizens, enforce land and sea borders, and grant

or deny admission to the United States are deemed to be federal functions.

On that basis, last summer MALDEF successfully helped challenge the actions of two New Hampshire local police chiefs who sought to apply state trespass laws against eight Latinos allegedly in the United States illegally and thus, according to the police, were in their towns without permission.

Had the Hudson and New Ipswich police in New Hampshire prevailed, sheriffs and police chiefs in cities and towns across the country - with no training or understanding of immigration categories or documentation - could have attempted unlawfully to apply similar laws in their jurisdictions.

Local law enforcement of immigration laws by untrained officials can easily lead to racial profiling, with police demanding documentation from individuals they perceive as "looking foreign" regardless of their citizenship or immigration status. This has been the experience with employer sanctions, where, for

Villaraigosa to Respond to Bush Speech in Spanish

By Edwin Chen

A congressional Democrats announced today that Antonio Villaraigosa will deliver the party's Spanish-language response

to next week's State of the Union address, the Los Angeles mayor called for bipartisanship in tackling the problem of working poor.

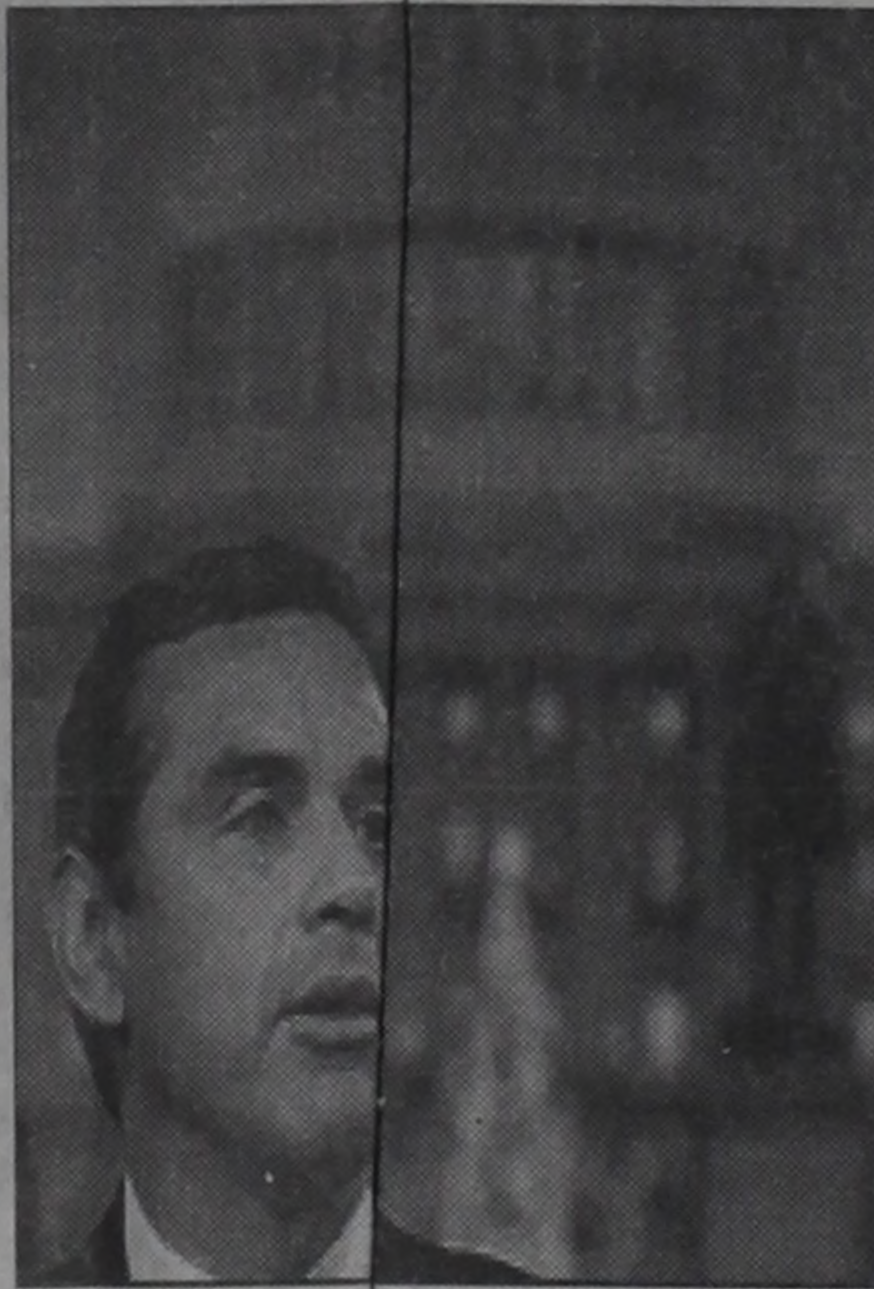
"Poverty is not a Democratic issue or a Republican issue. It is an American tragedy," Villaraigosa said in remarks prepared for delivery to the nation's mayors meeting here today.

In the speech, Villaraigosa sounded universal themes, calling "the poverty of our aspirations" one of America's greatest problems. He called for a reinvigoration of the American dream.

"That if you work hard, and you pay your taxes, and you take care of your kids, you ought to have a reasonable expectation of a good life. What's more, you should be able to look forward to the future, secure in the knowledge that your children will have greater opportunities than you had.

"Mayors, we need to restore this faith and keep that promise. We need to dream again," said Villaraigosa, who heads a task force on poverty and opportunity in America for the mayors' group.

Democrats also announced that Villaraigosa will respond Tuesday night to President Bush's State of the Union address. Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine will deliver the Democratic response in English from the governor's mansion in Richmond, Va., while Villaraigosa will do so in Spanish from his office in Los Angeles City Hall.



Sharp Freeway to alter look of Jackson Neighborhood

El Editor has obtained information that the city has sent out close to 200 letters to property owners whose property might be directly impacted by the opening of the Marsha Sharp Freeway.

Property owners who live or own property in an area located south of the proposed freeway service road and 3rd street, and homes facing 3rd street from the north, have been mailed a letter by city councilwoman Linda DeLeon about a proposed zoning change.

According to the letter mailed just this week, the Neighborhood Association held a series of meetings, prior to beginning of construction, concerning any land changes that might take place between the two major intersections; Ave Q and University. The information gathered during those meetings has resulted in staff creating three alternatives for the council's consideration.

According to Councilwoman DeLeon the alternatives will be presented at meeting for the affected property owners and residents scheduled for Monday evening January 23rd. The meeting will start at 7:00PM at Jackson Elementary on 2nd and Uvalde Ave.



COMMUNITY VOICES

This week, "Community Voices" readers tell us what's on their mind. We encourage readers to continue to write and share their thoughts and opinions. We also take this opportunity to thank the readers who write just to let us know they are reading this column and how much they enjoy it. "Put up or Shut Up"

I usually reserve my comments to myself and or immediate family members, but, after having read the Community Voices section of EL EDITOR dated January 19-25, 2006, I finally have to share with my two cents; for what it's worth. The Hispanics of this fine city need to communicate with each other and put all their biases behind them. We as a Hispanic population continue to bicker and bitch (for lack of a better term) about everyone else. At least Victor has the courage to seriously consider reentering the race for City Councilman and to my understanding Linda DeLeon has not even said she would seek reelection. We should all take a hard look at ourselves.

At this point I favor neither Victor Hernandez nor Linda DeLeon. I will exercise my right to vote when the time comes. In retrospect, I don't see or hear of anyone else stepping up to the plate to run for City Councilman. If you have something CONSTRUCTIVE to say and you can be part of the solution instead of adding fuel to the fire, then please step up and say it. This may be hard to swallow and I may get an earful for this but here goes "PUT UP OR SHUTUP"!!!

Christina Gonzales, Lubbock Via Email

Reader Comments on Hispanic Leadership and Hispanic Organizations

1. Yes, Lubbock does have the leaderships it needs in the Hispanic community, but could always use more.
2. Commissioner Isidro Gutierrez and Councilwoman DeLeon in addition to Judge Medina and Sheriff Gutierrez and many others like Judge Hernandez, represent our community well in political offices. Bishop Placido Rodriguez obviously leads our region in a spiritual sense. At the same time, I consider Beto Cardenas, Texas Tech University System's Director of Federal Relations and Special Assistant to Chancellor Dr. David Smith to be one of Lubbock's greatest Hispanic leaders and a premier asset to West Texas. He is probably the highest ranking Hispanic in Tech's administration. I read recently that under Mr. Cardenas' direction in Washington, DC, Texas Tech has surpassed \$100 million in federally appropriated funds toward Tech's research. That is amazing and quite an accomplishment - something that takes strategy, skill and connection.
3. I think the West Texas Organizing Strategy is a good organization advancing the cause of many West Texans, not just Hispanics. The Texas Migrant Council and Catholic Social Services also do their part as do many other organizations. †

Carlos Lopez, Lubbock Resident and Registered Voter, Via Email

Reader Laments Needless Tragedy!

The elderly couple freezing to death...a NEEDLESS TRAGEDY! SHAME ON the governmental bodies who should be intervening in cases like this. SHAME ON the Legislature, the Railroad Commission and the Public Utility Commission for not promulgating rules to prohibit utility cutoffs in the wintertime. SHAME ON the Lubbock City Council for not passing ordinances or providing assistance.

Yet on Thursday, the Council is poised to vote [and approve, of course] YET ANOTHER BOONDOGGLE, the second Civic Center to be located in Overton Park, and yet the same Council that is quick to act on this...and give tens of millions to the proposed Bush Library...sits idly by and lets utility companies prey on the poor, the elderly, the children, the disadvantaged. †REVERSE ROBIN HOOD...take from the poor to give to the rich" "Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, He also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard." Proverbs 21:13

Roger Settler, Lubbock via Email

Does Lubbock have kind of Leadership needed in Hispanic community?

While Lubbock's Hispanic community does have a handful of hardworking, dynamic leaders active in business, local government, and community volunteerism, I don't feel their numbers accurately represent our community. You will see these people taking the lead in multiple projects and endeavors, and we should be appreciative of their efforts, but most are probably stretching themselves thin. In other words, we need more people to get involved, step up and take that leadership role to get the Hispanic community to the next level.

I have much hope and confidence in the ability of our youth to become even greater and more capable leaders. We need to encourage and cultivate our youth as they learn to become effective and influential leaders; and ensure that once they are grown, they choose to stay in Lubbock and lead the Hispanic community. One organization that promotes leadership training for our youth is the South Plains Area Family Leadership Academy (SPAFLA), a local subsidiary of the National Hispanic Institute. NHI values the talent of our youth and the potential they represent to the future of the Hispanic community, and recruits students who are the cream of the crop in their schools. Through participation in NHI programs, they are challenged, so they may become intellectually, culturally, and socially engaged in determining the roles they wish to play in shaping tomorrow's world. NHI is currently recruiting high school and college students for our programs. More information is available at www.nhi-net.org.

Grace Quirino Garza, Lubbock via Email

Lubbock Organizations No Longer Speak Out

I think we have the capabilities (for leadership). There are many educated people who can be leaders but many people are just sitting back and not doing anything to better the community. Some people need to get off their cans and work for the community.

I don't see any of the Lubbock organizations speaking out as they did in the past when we could see people marching in the streets, when we used to see the old GI Forum and the old LULAC speaking out about civil rights. Back then if a couple had died because the utilities were turned off, you can bet someone would be protesting.

Blas Mojica

New Ideas and New Direction Needed

I believe the Hispanic community here in Lubbock is rich with potential leaders. I see very competent Hispanic leaders everyday serving as leaders at my church; Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, and at my job; Texas Tech University. I have asked some of them to consider becoming a public servant. † The responses I receive are mixed. Some say "Yes! I want to serve as a leader in Lubbock politics!", while others say, "Why should I? Hispanics don't vote!" "We need new ideas and new directions that will address the future of Lubbock that includes a plan to develop North and East Lubbock with new business opportunities and jobs for the residents of that side of town. We need new leaders who are concerned for the community and not using their political

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Inmigración

Ejecución Local de Leves un Sustituo Peligroso

John Trasviña

La falta de liderazgo de la administración de Bush y el enfoque sobre ejecución de la ley de inmigración a exclusión de otras medidas que propone la Cámara de Representantes han resultado en envalontar a legisladores estatales y locales a intentar poner en acción políticas propias de inmigración. Mucha de la legislación ha sido restrictiva y de sobremanera negativa en su alcance. El Fondo Mexicano Americano de Defensa Legal y Educación (MALDEF) y otros grupos defensores de los derechos de inmigrantes, religiosos y de trabajo se han opuesto vigorosamente a la legislación. En la medida en que el Senado estadounidense se prepara a presentar reformas comprensivas del sistema de inmigración, abogados y defensores deben prestar mucha atención a las legislaturas estatales y locales también.

Según la Constitución de los Estados Unidos, el establecer políticas de inmigración pertenece a la competencia del gobierno federal. Típicamente, en casos que interpretan la Cláusula de Supremacía de la Constitución, las responsabilidades en la naturalización de nuevos ciudadanos, ejecución de leyes referentes a las fronteras y el mar, y el otorgar o denegar entrada a los Estados Unidos se consideran funciones federales.

Sobre esta base, MALDEF el verano pasado ayudó a contrarrestar exitosamente las acciones de dos jefes de policía en Nueva Hampshire, quienes querían aplicar leyes estatales contra la intrusión en propiedad ajena a ocho latinos supuestamente en los Estados Unidos ilegalmente y por ende, según la policía, en sus pueblos sin autorización.

Si los casos hubieran prevalecido, los jefes de policía en ciudades y pueblos por todo el país - sin capacitación ni comprensión de las categorías de inmigración ni la documentación - sin el amparo de la ley habrían podido aplicar leyes similares a la de intrusión en sus propias jurisdicciones.

La ejecución de leyes de inmigración por parte de agentes del orden locales sin capacitación puede llevar al fichaje racial, en el que la policía ejija la presentación de documentos de individuos que perciban "parecen extranjeros", sin hacer caso de su estado de ciudadanía o inmigración.

(continued on page 5)

Consolidation in Media Swallowed Jobs

By Julio Morán
The California Chicano News Media Association is the first organization of journalists of color to be founded in this country. Last October in Los Angeles it held its 27th Journalism Opportunities Conference, the largest annual journalism job fair on the West Coast for people of color.

Over the years the conference has grown from a Latino-only event into a multicultural conference that includes all people of color. It has brought in as partners the Los Angeles chapters of the Asian American Journalists Association and the Black Journalists Association of Southern California.

In the late 1990s, the University of Southern California's Annenberg School of Journalism, which has housed CCNMA for more than 25 years, became a part of the conference, and the job fair was expanded to three days.

While the number of young people looking for opportunities in journalism remains strong, the number of recruiters attending the JOC continues to dwindle. At its height in the early 1990s, nearly 100 recruiters representing about 80 companies attended the CCNMA job fair. This past year we had about 60 recruiters representing some 40 companies.

The decrease in recruiters can be attributed primarily to two things: the consolidation of media companies and the shrinking workforce in journalism. Where in the past we had recruiters from several newspapers or TV stations owned by the same chain, we now often see a single recruiter representing the chain and all of its newspapers or broadcast stations.

Clearly it is more difficult for one person to recruit for several properties, and that has hurt diversity efforts, particularly at newspapers, where the presence of journalists of

color remains below 14 percent, according to the 2005 newsroom census by the American Society of Newspaper Editors. Meanwhile, the overall population of people of color continues to grow. It's currently at more than 30 percent of the total population.

Consolidation is also responsible for the shrinking number of jobs at newspapers. Since 2001, newsrooms in the nation's English-language dailies have lost a net of more than 4,100 jobs, according to the ASNE survey, and a tally this year by Editor & Publisher.

We also lose experienced journalists who know the Latino community. In Los Angeles, Frank Sotomayor, with more than 30 years of service, and editorial writer Sergio Muñoz, a former editor of the Los Angeles Spanish-language daily La Opinión, have both accepted buyouts to leave the Los Angeles Times.

Money is at the root of consolidations and layoffs. Fewer employees and economies of scale mean higher profits, which seem to be the primary motivation for many of these companies. Profits are obviously impor-

tant for a newspaper to continue publishing, but how much is enough?

ASNE has set a goal having the percentage of people of color working in newsrooms nationwide equal to the percentage of people of color in the nation's population by 2025. That goal will be difficult to reach, even with the shrinking newsrooms, which can artificially increase the percentage of journalist of color.

It is easy to be pessimistic about the future of journalists of color, in particular, and of journalism, in general. But when you see the enthusiasm and commitment from young people who attended CCNMA's job fair, it still gives hope that things can turn around in this industry.

(Julio Morán, for 14 years a reporter for the Los Angeles Times, has served as executive director of the California Chicano News Media Association since 1997. He is a part-time journalism lecturer at the University of Southern California and at California State University, Northridge. He may be reached at juliomoran@ccnma.org.)

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What Kind of City do We Really Live In?

By Abel Cruz

That there is a responsibility to be assigned for the freezing deaths of an elderly couple is a foregone conclusion. Where that responsibility lies remains the unanswered question.

What is certain is that there is no reason whatsoever for a tragedy of this dimension to happen in any city, let alone this city. We often hear or read about this kind of tragedy taking place in a large urban area and exhale with a sense of relief that we live in a city that is still small town, one which still values and takes care of its own; at least that's what we hear.

Can we really continue to say that though when just last December, a mother, Brittany Lilly and her son Devin died in a house fire caused by using improper heating equipment and kerosene heating units because they could not afford to properly heat their home? Can we continue to say that if we just witnessed what happened?

The deaths of the elderly couple, Ida and Alfredo Quiroz, serve as a vivid, living example of what happens when we lose focus of the things that really matter. Until we regain our focus and stop pretending that the potential for things like this happening do not exist in this city, we will always be in danger of these things reoccurring.

What strikes me is that public comments do not reflect the severity of a situation like this. News accounts in the mainstream media are sketchy at best; comments from utility company spokespersons seem more interested in explaining their policy rather than expressing their regret about what happened to these two individuals and ensuring that these types of situations do not happen again.

As residents of this city, most of us look to our government officials to have a vision of a certain quality of life in this city that takes all people into consideration. That's one of the benefits of investing in a city by paying taxes. But when great plans are devised that will for example, grow commercial development or increase property tax rolls, or regulate commerce, too often people like the Quiroz are left out of that equation. Are we more intent on ensuring financial profits as opposed to protecting our human resources?

But in case you think I am assigning blame, think again. Rather, it seems to me that it might just be proof of the kind of society we have become. Perhaps we have reached that point where profits come before people; where survival of the fittest once again rules.

Before we promote this city as a wonderful place to live, as being the "Shangri-La" of the west side of Texas, we better make sure we are a city that protects and helps the less fortunate among us.

Whatever the reason and whomever or whatever is to blame for this tragedy, when will we recognize that without the preservation of our most important resource, the human kind, people like the Quiroz or the Lilly's, we will not be able to continue to grow as a city or as a society; at least not with a clear conscience.

Rather we are destined to become a city just like any other, a city of strip malls and housing developments, and ordinances designed for those fortunate enough to enjoy them.

All the while, leaving those that also matter, the elderly, those living in poverty, and the less fortunate among us, to their own devices to survive by whatever means necessary?

If so, we should expect that some of them won't.

Email: acruztc@aol.com

Puestos de Trabajo en los Medios de Comunicación Fueron Tragados por la Consolidación

Julio Morán
La California Chicano News Media Association (CCNMA) es la primera organización de periodistas de color en fundarse en este país. En octubre realizó su vigésima séptima conferencia sobre oportunidades en el periodismo, en Los Angeles, la feria de trabajo más grande anual para personas de color en la costa oeste.

conferencia, y se extendió la feria de trabajo a tres días.

Si bien sigue fuerte el número de jóvenes en busca de oportunidades en el periodismo, el número de reclutadores que atienden la conferencia sigue en declive. En su auge a comienzos de los noventa, unos 100 reclutadores en representación de unas 80 empresas asistieron a la feria de trabajo de la CCNMA. Este año que pasó nos tocó registrar a sólo unos 60 reclutadores en representación de unas 40 empresas.

La reducción en el número de reclutadores se puede atribuir en parte a dos cosas: la consolidación de las empresas mediáticas y la reducción en la fuerza laboral del periodismo. Mientras que en el pasado tuvimos reclutadores de varios periódicos o estaciones televisivas propiedad de una misma cadena, lo que vemos con frecuencia hoy es un solo reclutador en representación de la cadena y todos sus periódicos o estaciones de televisión.

Resulta claramente más difícil para una persona reclutar en nombre de varias propiedades, lo cual ha perjudicado los esfuerzos por aumentar la diversidad, en particular en los periódicos, en los que la

presencia de periodistas de color se mantiene en menos del 14 por ciento, según el censo de salas de redacción del 2005 que realizó la American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE), mientras que el total de la población de personas de color sigue en aumento, actualmente en más del 30 por ciento de la población total del país.

La consolidación también tiene como resultado la reducción en el número de puestos en los periódicos. Desde el 2001, las salas de redacción en los diarios en inglés del país han perdido un total de más de 4,100 puestos de trabajo, de acuerdo con la encuesta de la ASNE, y con un recuento que este año realizó la organización Editor & Publisher.

También hemos visto la pérdida de periodistas con experiencia que conocen la comunidad latina. En Los Angeles, ambos Frank Sotomayor, con más de 30 años de servicio, y redactor editorial Sergio Muñoz, anterior editor del diario en español en Los Angeles, La Opinión, han aceptado indemnizaciones para irse de The Los Angeles Times.

La raíz de todas las consolidaciones e indemnizaciones es el dinero. Menos empleados y escalas de economía significar mayores ganancias, que parece ser la

motivación primordial de muchas de estas empresas mediáticas. Las ganancias evidentemente son importantes para que un periódico continúe publicando, ¿pero hasta dónde decimos basta?

ASNE se ha propuesto la meta de alcanzar que el porcentaje de personas de color que trabajen en las salas de redacción sea igual al porcentaje de personas de color de la población nacional para el 2025. La meta será difícil de alcanzar, aun con las salas de redacción contrayéndose, lo cual puede aumentar artificialmente el porcentaje de periodistas de color.

Es fácil ser pesimista sobre el futuro de los periodistas de color, en particular, y sobre el periodismo, en general. Sin embargo, al ver el entusiasmo y el compromiso de los jóvenes que asistieron a la feria de trabajo de la CCNMA, surge la esperanza que las cosas puedan cambiar en esta industria.

Former Councilman Announces Formation of Exploratory Committee

In a press release emailed to El Editor, Former City Councilman, Victor Hernandez, announced the formation of an exploratory committee whose job will be to give advice and counsel as to the advisability of Hernandez running for his old council seat.

Hernandez stated, "Preliminary telephone polling shows that there is a generalized feeling of dissatisfaction with the hard times that have befallen District 1. Specifically, residents of District 1 are unhappy that over a million dollars earmarked for improvements in the District (through the last bond election) have been reallocated to other parts of the city."

Although all committee seats are not filled, the following is a preliminary list of participants:

Emilio Abetya - Attorney - Downtown Business Owner, Frank Castaneda - Josie's Restaurant, Mary Lou Garcia - Jackson Mahon Neighborhood Juan Hernandez - Hernandez Plumbing, Arnett Benson Neighborhood, Gilbert Flores - former County Commissioner, Richard Lopez - former District 1 candidate, Guadalupe Neighborhood Blas Mojica - retired veteran, Vicente & Ruby Rosales - Arnett Benson Neighborhood, Damon C. Richards - Attorney, Downtown Business Owner, Rudy Rosales - Montelongo's Restaurant, Natalia Salazar - Arnett Benson Neighborhood, Johnny & Lala Salinas - Guadalupe Neighborhood, Cloetta Shotts - former District 1 candidate, Maggie Trejo - former councilwoman, District 1, Arnett Benson, Louis Trejo - business owner, Arnett Benson Neighborhood Linda Yezpe - public relations

There are only three meetings currently scheduled at this time. It is anticipated that former Mayor Pro Tem Hernandez and his family will make a decision shortly thereafter.

Community Voices Continued

office for the accumulation of gross personal wealth. † We need leaders who are prepared to deal with the issues that are plaguing our community: Economic Development, Equitable distribution of public funding, Immigration, Education, Welfare, Medicaid/Medicare, Teen Pregnancy, Gangs, and Drug Addiction." "It appears that Hispanic organizations need to be more active, organized, and pay more attention to advertising their accomplishments. They must join the 21st century by posting their agendas and minutes online for others to read. † A good example of an organized Hispanic organization comes from the Texas Tech Hispanic Faculty and Staff Association <http://www.orgs.ttu.edu/hlfsa>. Almost 75% of all American Hispanics below the age of 30 and above the age of 10 are computer literate and are connected to the Internet. † Hispanic organizations need solid web representation to get the word out to new potential members, especially the younger, educated, and well-connected empowered Hispanics in the Lubbock community." "We need Hispanic leaders and organizations that can be positive role models for the people they serve!" Jerry Perez, Lubbock via Email

Community Voices " would like to hear from you, the readers. Your comments may remain anonymous, but El Editor reserves the right to edit all comments for offensive or distasteful content. Mail your comments to Community Voices, 1502 Ave M, Lubbock, 79401, or email your comments to acruztc@aol.com

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CARTAS Dear Editor



Chicano "Leadership" by Roger Quannah Settler "El Indio"

The question of "leadership" has always been a thorny one in minority politics...what constitutes a "leader"? Who elects, or designates, a "leader"? Is every minority elected official a "leader"?

In the early days of the civil rights movement, it was often the "leaders" who tried to suppress the legitimate aspirations of the people for equality and advancement. Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King, Jesse Jackson, Dennis Banks and Russell Means...all of the popular, charismatic folks had to contend with neighborhood "leaders" who often acted like feudal warlords, jealously guarding their territory while attacking their "enemies"...and often the "enemies" were those who sought change, rather than the real oppressors of the people.

In today's Lubbock, it seems that "leadership" is in short supply...be it minority or otherwise. This power vacuum has contributed to the hostile takeover of the political and business communities in the city. This takeover has been orchestrated by certain vested interests whose goal is to make money, often at the public expense, and without serious public input. These interests saw the power vacuum and moved in, and have "enriched" themselves mightily at the expense of the rest of us.

Business is one thing, but to make profits while exploiting ourselves is despicable. This atmosphere of greed is likely to continue unless people wake up, and say, "we're not going to take it anymore!" Who are the "leaders" of the Chicano community? Not many...it might be better to say, Who is active on behalf of the people?

Bidal and Olga Agüero come to mind first...the wide spectrum of activities sponsored by this couple is nothing short of amazing, and the people are fortunate to have them. Ysidro Gutierrez has been a model Commissioner, in the mold of Eliseo Solis...when the community needs him, he is there. Eliseo fought the good fight for many years, and paid a heavy price for it. Richard Lopez has been a mainstay of North Lubbock, and his Guadalupe efforts have been a godsend for many people. Victor Hernandez started off slowly, but grew in office, and spoke out forcefully against Eminent Domain when it counted.

Conrado Cavazos and his wife Lala have been active in both the political and business communities. John Cervantez has dedicated himself to the neighborhoods. Tavita Dorow has spoken out forcefully for the community for many years. Paula Montoya, Esther Sepeda, Henry Martinez, Mike Mojica, Louis Trejo and Ernesto Barton have always worked hard in a variety of causes.

We must not forget those who have passed on...Jose Ramirez, Jorge Moreno, Leonel Galindo, Joe Trujillo, Lorenzo Sedeno, Cucu Alvarado and many others who fought when it was not easy to do so.

The early fighters included Nephtali DeLeon, Frank Carrillo, Joe Carrillo, Mariano Garcia, Manuel Aguilar, Frank Gutierrez, Cathy Gutierrez, Mary Lou De La Cerda, Chevo Morales, Paulina Jacobo, Gus Medina, Carlos Quirino, Edward Quirino, Edward Oliva, Tomas Garza and countless others. There were a few of us who were not Chicano who were proud to fight alongside these early activists...James R. Swann, Craig Campbell, Marvin Pendleton, Clyde James and many dedicated priests.

Aurora Hernandez serves as Justice of the Peace, as does

Marina Garcia as Constable, GOP Precinct Chair Ruben Reyes might be appointed to Blair Cherry's judgeship in the near future. Tomas Guillen just joined the Democratic Executive Committee, and Frank Gutierrez serves on the GOP Committee. Mike Arismendez, former Shallowater Mayor, is on the JOP Primary ballot this year, and Mario Ybarra was recently appointed to the Lubbock School Board. Three community folks served long terms in office: Froy Salinas as State Representative, Giert Flores as County Commissioner, and Maggie Trejo as a City council member.

David Gutierrez is currently serving as Sheriff, Inda DeLeon is on the City Council, and Sam Medina is a District Judge.

Unfortunately, many of our officeholders seem to be remote from the community, and fail to speak out on issues which are vital to the minority neighborhoods. It is one thing automatically considered a "Hispanic voice" simply because one holds office, and quite another to genuinely represent El Arrio.

This is certainly true of Hispanic organizations...the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has been particularly meekly representing the people, while being especially vigorous in sucking up to the powers that be. LULAC and the GI Forum have fought many fights over the years, and continue to be aive, but the Chamber of Commerce no longer represents the ideals of its founders. I think it is nothing short of scandalous that the Hispanic Chamber "honored" Delbert McDougal during the period when he was very, very busy displacing thousands of Chicano residents from Overton North, to their detriment and the detriment of the city as a whole.

It was equally shameful that our elected representatives sat by in silence while this travesty went on...that Overton was "off limits" from any political oversight or protection. Only Victor and Ysidro spoke out during this fiasco, Victor before he resigned and Ysidro during his campaign. Other news conferences were called...no marches scheduled, no protests. Finally, the community awakened during the Tommy Zayas fiasco, when Racism was the order of the day at the City Hall, and dozens gathered to speak to the Council recently when bond monies were illegally diverted from North, Central and E Lubbock to a handicapped park in Southwest Lubbock.

But now, I am still waiting to see a news conference called to protest the deaths of two elderly Chicano citizens, who froze to death because of greedy utility companies and public indifference. I am waiting to see the outcry about the \$50 million which was pledged to the Bush Library which few want, the \$40 million which will be pledged this very day to another center in Overton. We now have two Amphitheatres, now we shall have two Civic Centers, but Guadalupe will have a "get by" with a used building, because the City doesn't have money for a new Community Center...and where are the votes which should be raised against this travesty? The people speak when they are "allowed" to...but where are the public officials?

Soon, hundreds of people from the Jackson neighborhood will be displaced from their homes by the "Marsha Sharp" way, which will divide minority communities from the rest of Lubbock. Then, Guadalupe is next...Jackson Elementary, Guadalupe Elementary and O.L. Slaton Junior High are all in danger of closure, and who shall speak out then?

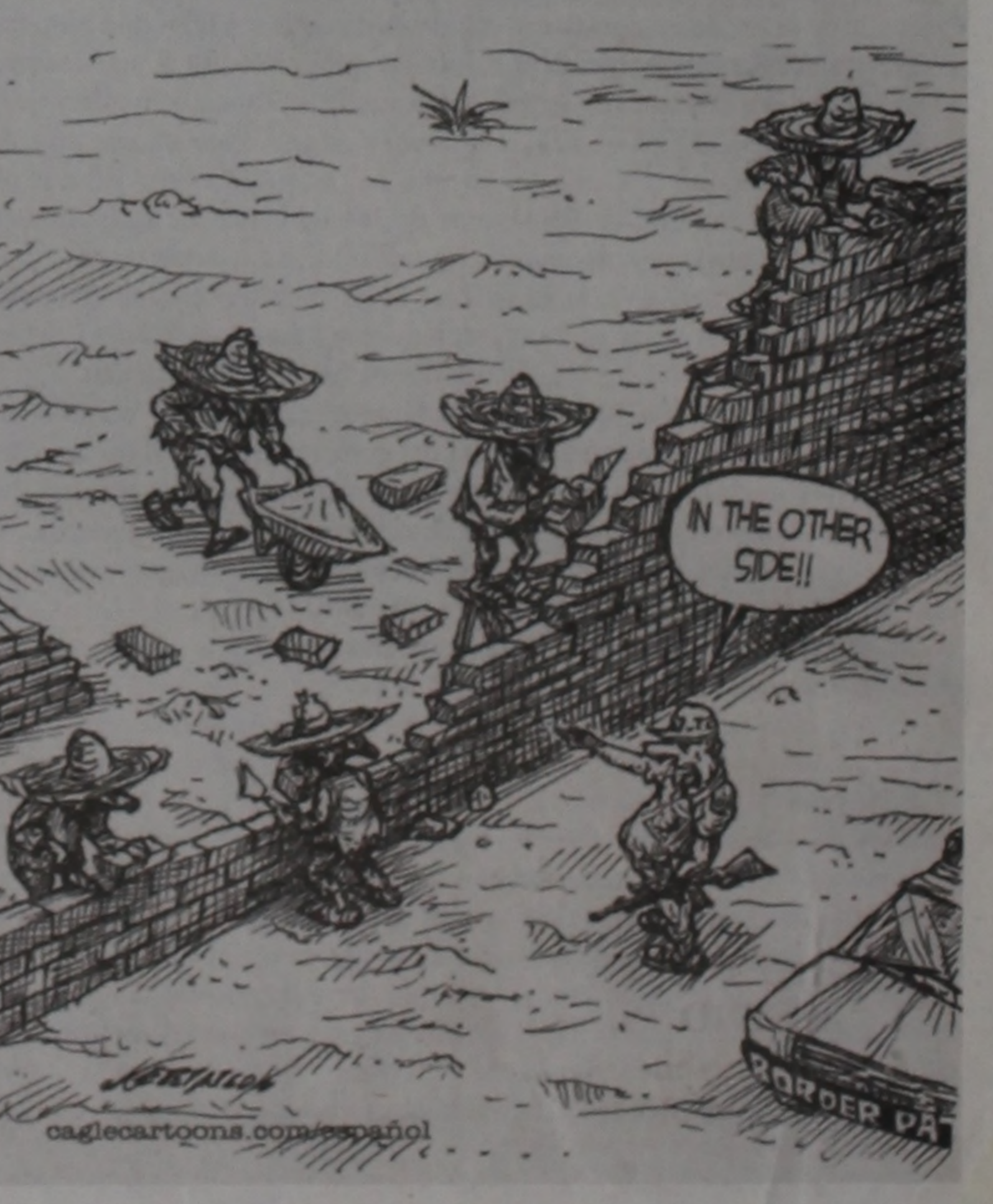
The special interests, led as usual by the McDougals at Tom Martin, are fielding candidates for the School Boards and City Council, while our communities seem to be asleep...are we going to let them win AGAIN and AGAIN? Emiliano Zapata, Elio Zapoteca, once said, "It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees." How long are we going to live on our knees?

EL EDITOR

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Cambios en el estilo de vida mejoran la salud

La cardiopatía es un problema de gran magnitud entre los hispanos que viven en EU

Muchos no saben que sus niveles de colesterol se encuentran tan altos que los colocan en riesgo de sufrir infartos y derrames cerebrales. De hecho, la cardiopatía es el asesino número uno de los hispanos que viven en Estados Unidos y los expertos recomiendan cambios en el estilo de vida como la primera medida para prevenir el colesterol elevado. Afortunadamente, cada vez más estadounidenses siguen este consejo.

Entre los cambios recomendados figuran una dieta saludable, ejercicio físico, mantenimiento del peso, consumo de alimentos con



fibras y vegetales llamados esteroides y estanoles, recomendados por el gobierno de Estados Unidos como parte de su programa nacional de información sobre el colesterol.

"Los cambios en el estilo de vida no tienen que ser drásticos", afirma Sandra Marin, dietista registrada y experta de salud. "El simple hecho de incorporar suplementos o alimentos fortificados con esteroides y estanoles vegetales y fibras viscosas como la avena a la dieta diaria puede reducir el colesterol malo en un 10% o más. Una reducción del 10% en el colesterol puede disminuir el riesgo de sufrir enfermedades cardíacas hasta en un 30%".

Los esteroides y estanoles son sustancias de origen vegetal que se hallan naturalmente en alimentos tales como nueces, maíz y arroz y que ayudan a bloquear la absorción del colesterol en el organismo. Dado que sólo se hallan cantidades mínimas de esteroides y estanoles en la dieta promedio, varios expertos en salud recomien-

dan consumir alimentos fortificados o un suplemento de esteroides y estanoles vegetales.

Recomendaciones para corregir el estilo de vida en beneficio de la salud:

• La regla de los 30: al menos 30 minutos de ejercicio por día son fundamentales para tener un corazón saludable. Por ejemplo, no estacionar el automóvil cerca de la entrada del supermercado y hacerlo en un extremo del estacionamiento puede sumar unos minutos de ejercicio.

• Midase la cintura: como regla general, la circunferencia de la cintura de un hombre debe medir menos de 40 pulgadas, y en el caso de las mujeres, debe ser inferior a 35 pulgadas, pero es importante trabajar con el profesional de salud de cabecera para desarrollar un objetivo de peso personalizado.

• Agregue color: las frutas y verduras coloridas tienen un elevado contenido de nutrientes y vitaminas esenciales y hacen más atractivas las comidas.

Minority vs. Minority Race Bias: The Latest Trend?

The Wall Street Journal reports that two recent employer settlements with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) underscore a new trend in race discrimination: African-Americans who feel they're being passed over for Hispanics.

Last fall, EEOC reached a \$110,000 settlement with Farmer John Meats (Los Angeles) after seven black applicants were rejected for production jobs there. The EEOC found that the meatpacking company had been almost exclusively hiring Hispanics.

More recently, EEOC settled with Zenith National Insurance Corp. (Woodland Hills , CA), a workers-compensation specialist, for \$180,000. In that case, 10 blacks had applied for a mailroom job, but a Latino with no mailroom experience was hired for the position. A number of the black applicants had relevant experi-

ence. Hispanics have become the second-largest population in the U.S. ahead of African-Americans and behind Caucasians. These cases, the Journal reports, "highlight mounting tension" between African-Americans and Hispanics as they compete for job opportunities. "There used to be a reluctance to bring cases against other minorities," said EEOC attorney Anna Park (who oversaw both the Farmer John and Zenith cases). "It's no longer a white-black paradigm. This is a new trend."

The Journal explains that workers from all backgrounds use networks within their ethnic groups to find employment, and that Hispanic workers often bring in other family members or neighbors to join them on a job. This can be helpful to employers in blue collar industries--such as

construction--who can use their workers to recruit others.

The Farmer John case shows that such practices can open employers to lawsuits, however, if applicants from other races are being shut out as a result. EEOC said Farmer John had an all-Hispanic hiring staff and recruited new hires by word of mouth.

Some civil rights and community groups say that employer stereotypes are partially to blame for the trend, the Journal reports. For example, John Trasvina, vice president for law and policy at the Mexican-American Defense

League says some employers believe Latinos can be exploited because they assume many Latinos are immigrants who will accept lower wages and aren't as aware of their rights as blacks. "Employers sometimes pit one group of employers against the other," Trasvina says.

Study on hypertension indicates racial disparity among Hispanics

Hispanics in America who self-identify as Black are suffering higher rates of hypertension than their Hispanic counterparts who identify as White, according to research conducted at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. However, the study found that on the whole, U.S. Hispanics have lower rates of high blood pressure (16.8 percent) than non-Hispanics (24.7 percent).

The study suggests this apparent health advantage could be an artifact of the U.S. Census grouping of all Spanish speaking people into a single category (Hispanic) without regard to race. According to Luisa Borrell, DDS, PhD, assistant professor of Epidemiology at the Mailman School and author, "In fact, the research confirms that the 'protective effect' of being Hispanic does not extend to Black Hispanics." Dr. Borrell's research is the first to examine hypertension along racial lines within the Hispanic ethnic group.

"The idealized Hispanic health advantage disappears when race is accounted for," she observes.

Dr. Borrell analyzed data collected in the National Health Interview Survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics. The survey asked participants if they had been told by a doctor or other health professional if they had high blood pressure, and included interviews with more than 12,000 Hispanic adults. "Overall, Blacks, regardless of their ethnicity, exhibited the highest prevalence of hypertension," Dr. Borrell indicated.

As a first step toward explaining how health is affected by race, Dr. Borrell's findings beg the question, what is it about being black that makes the difference? "This kind of comparison could help tease out the effect of race as a marker for inequality in opportunities and, further, as a cause for existing health disparities," Dr. Borrell said of these findings.

According to Dr. Borrell, hypertension has been found to be associated with discrimination and racism among non-Hispanic Blacks. She suggests, "because of the racialized society in which we live, Hispanic Blacks could face a double jeopardy - discrimination both from outside the Hispanic community and from within. Such discrimination may lead to inequality in opportunities and life chances which can translate into poorer health."

Dr. Borrell's work was supported by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research and the Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholars Program.

The full study findings are published in the Winter issue of the journal, Ethnicity & Disease.

Bush defiende espionaje Insistió en que es necesario seguir interceptando llamadas y correos electrónicos

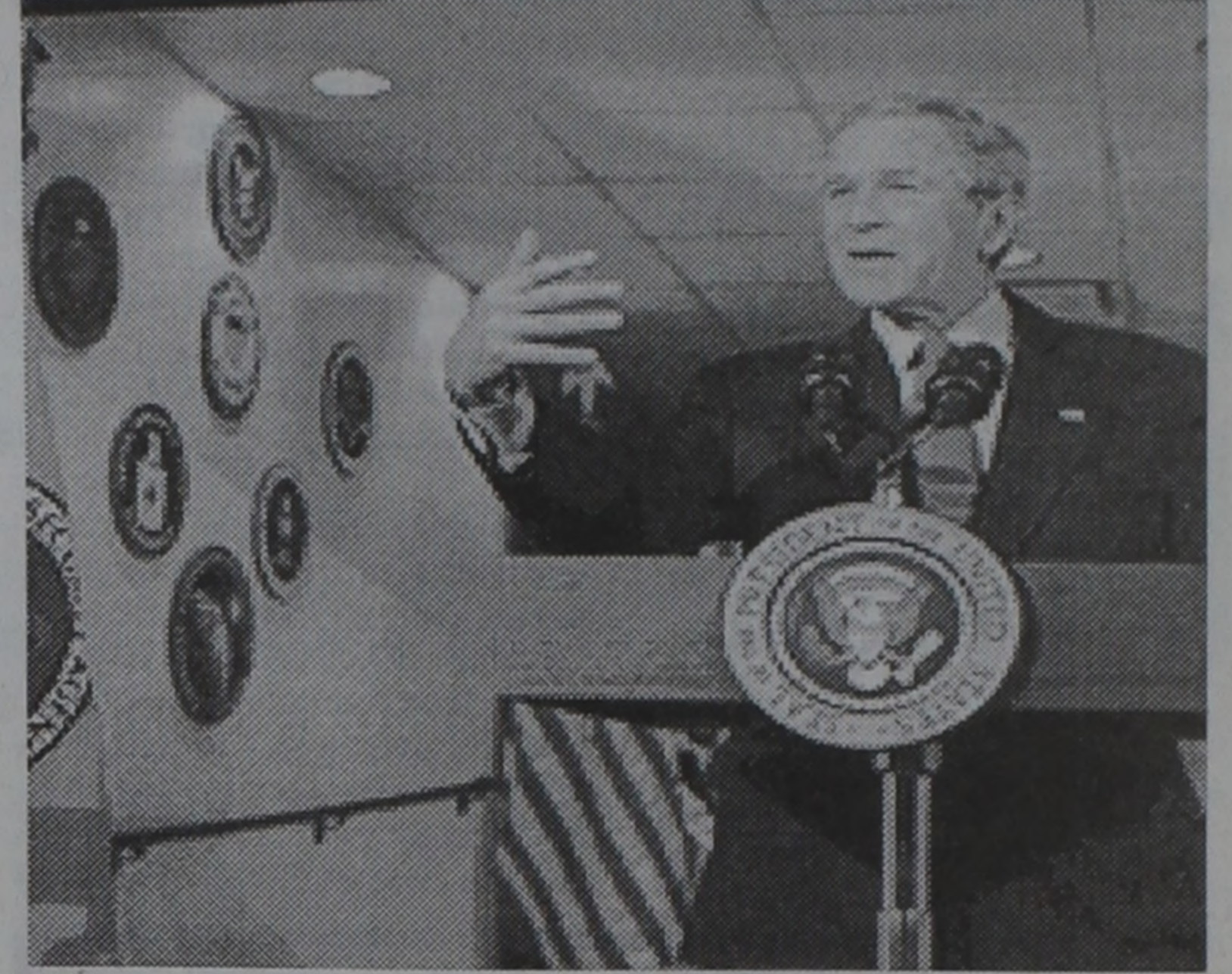
FORT MEADE, Maryland.— El presidente George W. Bush insistió ayer en que es necesario el programa de interceptación de llamadas y correos electrónicos sin orden judicial.

Así se pronunció al visitar la sede de la Agencia de Seguridad Nacional (NSA), el organismo encargado de llevar a cabo la iniciativa.

La escala de Bush en el sitio fue fuertemente protegida de la super-agencia de espionaje en las afueras de Washington tuvo dos objetivos. Bush reforzó la moral de la gente que lleva a cabo el trabajo de un programa de espionaje interno de cuatro años de duración, en el que el gobierno supervisa las comunicaciones internacionales de personas dentro de Estados Unidos de quienes cree tienen vínculos con la red terrorista Al Qaida.

"Es imperativo que nos entereemos de los planes de nuestros enemigos antes de que ataquen", declaró Bush. "Eso es lo que hacen aquí: protegernos".

En los últimos días Bush y sus subalternos han emprendido una ofensiva política a fin de defender el controversial programa, que ha sido calificado por algunos políticos y expertos como ilegal e inconstitucional. El Congreso se



dispone a efectuar audiencias en los próximos días sobre la legalidad del plan.

En poco menos de dos semanas se iniciarán las audiencias en el Senado sobre si Bush tiene, como afirma, la autoridad para permitir la existencia del programa.

"Hemos visto que parte de la estrategia terrorista es colocar operadores dentro de nuestro país. Se mezclan con la población civil. Reciben sus órdenes desde el extranjero y luego salen de su escondite para atacar desde el interior", dijo a periodistas, después de hablar a puerta cerrada con empleados de la NSA y recorrer las instalaciones.

"Debemos poder detectar rápidamente cuando alguien vinculado con Al Qaida se está comuni-

cando con alguien dentro de Estados Unidos", dijo.

Los demócratas y otros críticos sostienen que Bush ya tenía esa autoridad bajo la Ley de Intendencia de la Inteligencia Extranjera (FISA), aprobada por el Congreso en 1978, y que autorizaba a la escuela de comunicaciones para fines de inteligencia considerados de emergencia, siempre y cuando se le notificara a una corte de la FISA en un plazo de 72 horas para buscar aprobación después de haber realizado el hecho.

Bush ha argumentado que ese proceso no es lo suficientemente flexible.

En la NSA, también repitió su argumento de que tiene la autoridad para permitir la vigilancia sin una orden judicial.

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Si usted fue desplazado por los huracanes y todavía está viviendo en un hotel o motel, es vital que entienda que FEMA terminará el programa de pago directo de habitaciones en estos hoteles o moteles. La fecha de terminación es el próximo 7 de febrero del 2006, a menos que usted se comunique con FEMA en o antes del 30 de enero del 2006.

Para que FEMA continúe pagando por su habitación después del 7 de febrero de 2006, usted tiene que comunicarse con FEMA en o antes del 30 de enero para recibir un código de autorización que usted le proceerá a su hotel. Todos los desalojados que se muden de un hotel a otro, en cualquier momento en o antes del 30 de enero deben tener el código de autorización de FEMA.

Si usted aún no ha conseguido su código de autorización, llame e inscribáse con FEMA hoy. Además, en esta llamada telefónica FEMA le ayudará a conseguir referidos de viviendas disponibles.

Inscribáse con FEMA o solicite su código de autorización para que podamos continuar pagando por su habitación de hotel después del 7 de febrero. Llame al 1-800-621-3362 o para aquellos con impedimentos auditivos o del habla al TTY 1-800-462-7585 de inmediato. Espere hasta el 30 de enero y entregue el código de autorización a su hotel lo antes posible.

Las líneas telefónicas están operando las 24 horas del día.

Si usted fue desplazado de una vivienda a bajo costo pagada por el gobierno o usted no tenía una casa donde vivir antes de las tormentas, el Departamento de la Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD) puede ayudarlo a conseguir ese lugar donde vivir. Llame a HUD al 1-866-373-9509 (TTY 1-800-877-8339).

Además de la asistencia para vivienda temporera, hay una variedad de programas para los cuales usted podría cualificar. Usted no necesita llenar y devolver la solicitud de la Administración de Pequeños Negocios (SBA) para ser considerado en el programa de asistencia para vivienda temporera de FEMA o los dineros para cubrir otras necesidades relacionadas con el desastre que usted esté experimentando.

Más de 700,000 familias han recibido la asistencia de alquiler para pagar por vivienda a largo plazo. Participe en los programas de FEMA al igual que todas estas familias y consiga una mejor vivienda, hoy.

La asistencia de recuperación por desastre está disponible sin distinción de raza, color, sexo, religión, nacionalidad, edad, incapacidad o condición económica. Si usted o alguien que conoce ha sido discriminado, repórtelo llamando al 1-800-621-3362 o comuníquese con Oficina Estatal de Igualdad de Derechos.

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Los Latinos en las Artes: Un Breve Adios al 2005

Antonio Mejías Rentas (Último artículo en una serie sobre momentos destacados en las artes y el entretenimiento del año 2005)

Un golpe fuerte a un espectáculo musical latino con destino a Broadway se compensó con la primera vez en la historia que una artista mexicana recibiría un premio Tony, en el 2005.

Sara Ramirez, nacida en Tijuana, ganó el premio Tony en junio por su actuación como la dama del lago, con laudes de los críticos, la única protagonista mujer en el espectáculo musical exitoso de Monty Python, Spamalot. Ramirez se llevó el Tony en la categoría de mejor actriz principal en un espectáculo musical - uno de tres premios Tony que ganó Spamalot.

Ramirez no fue la única artista mexicana con un éxito en Broadway en el 2005: celebridad de la televisión, Eugenio Derbez, protagonizó la puesta en escena corta, pero exitosa, de Latinologues, que estrenó en el otoño en el teatro Helen Hayes. La obra la creó el artista Rick Nájera, nacido en San Diego, con dirección de Cheech Marin.

Sin embargo, una de las grandes decepciones en Broadway en el 2005 fue la cancelación del espectáculo musical que costó \$12 millones, The Mambo Kings, a sólo escasas semanas de su fecha de estreno en Nueva York. Con base en la novela de Oscar Hijuelos, premiada con un Pulitzer, que trata el tema de músicos cubanos en la década de los cuarenta en Nueva York, el espectáculo, con

los estrellas Jaime Camil y Esai Morales, recibió malas críticas en los ensayos de verano en San Francisco.

En el 2005 estrenaron dos exposiciones importantes sobre culturas pre-colombinas en museos estadounidenses.

La exposición, Los Señores de la Creación: Los orígenes del reinado sagrado maya, abrió el 10 de septiembre en el Los Angeles County Museum of Art, donde estuvo hasta el 2 de enero del 2006. Contiene unos 150 objetos, incluyendo a unos 70 que prestaron México, Guatemala y Honduras nunca antes vistos en los Estados Unidos. Este año la exposición se transfirió al Dallas Museum of Art y al Metropolitan Museum of Art en Nueva York.

Una exposición itinerante de mucha importancia, que considera los retratos latinoamericanos desde épocas precolombinas hasta el siglo XX se detuvo en Miami y en San Diego antes de llegar a su penúltimo destino en octubre a la Galería Nacional de Retratos, de la Smithsonian Institution, en Washington, D.C. Retratos: 2000 Años de Retratos Latinoamericanos llegará el mes entrante a su último destino, el San Antonio Museum of Art, donde seguirá hasta fines de abril.

Una colección expansiva de arte que tiene Cheech Marin forma el núcleo de la exposición Visiones Chicanas: Artistas Americanos al Borde, que continuó su gira de quince ciudades en cinco años. En el 2005 la exposición se vio en el Mexican Fine Arts Center en Chicago en el otoño, y en la Universi-

dad de Houston en el invierno. **FINADOS EN EL 2005:** Entre los que murieron el año pasado están dos figuras importantes de la literatura latinoamericana y dos tremendos compositores de canciones.

Augusto Roa Bastos, el escritor más celebrado de Paraguay, quien pasó más de la mitad de su vida en exilio político, murió en abril en Asunción, a los 88 años. Guillermo Cabrera Infante, novelista y escritor de ensayos cubano quien vivió casi 40 años en el exilio, murió el 21 de febrero en un hospital en Londres, a los 75 años.

Compositora de canciones mexicana, Consuelo Velásquez, quien escribiera algunas de las canciones de amor en español más famosas, incluyendo la muy grabada, Bésame mucho, murió el 22 de enero, a los 84 años.

Eduardo "Lalo" Guerrero, el amado "Padre de la música chicana", cuya obra prolífica de varias décadas se reconoció tanto en los Estados Unidos como en México, murió en marzo, en Palm Springs, California, a los 88 años.

Otros: Soprano española, Victoria de Los Angeles, superestrella de la ópera jubilada, murió el 15 de enero, a los 81 años.

Pintor y escultor venezolano, Jesús Rafael Soto, fundador de la escuela de arte cinética, murió a los 81 años.

Cantante cubano, Lázaro Ros, el intérprete más importante de cantos religiosos yoruba, murió el 8 de febrero de cáncer, a los 80 años.

Cantautor mexicano, Rigo Tovar, quien lideró el estilo grupero de música de los setenta, murió el 27 de marzo en la Ciudad de México, a los 59 años.

Músico nacido en Italia, Tony Croatto, quien desde 1968 vivió en Puerto Rico y cultivó la tradición folclórica de la música de la isla, murió el 3 de abril, a los 65 años.

Marga López, estrella de la época de oro del cine mexicano, murió el 4 de julio en la Ciudad de México, a los 81 años.

Ibrahim Ferrer, cantante cubano quien reinició su carrera musical con el Buena Vista Social Club, murió el 6 de agosto en un hospital en La Habana, a los 78 años.

Fernando Bujones, estrella del American Ballet Theater, murió el 10 de noviembre, a los 50 años. (Antonio Mejías Rentas es editor de la sección de entretenimiento del diario en español, La Opinión. Comuníquese con él por correo electrónico a: latino@aol.com). (c) 2006, Hispanic Link News Service

Ejecución de Leyes

viene de la primera Así ha ocurrido con sanciones laborales, en las que, por unas dos décadas, muchos patronos de obreros latinos han pedido documentos más allá de lo que la ley requiere.

Una consecuencia aun más peligrosa de la participación de agentes locales del orden en la ejecución de las leyes de inmigración es el perjuicio que surge sobre las relaciones entre la policía y la comunidad. Por ejemplo, los agentes locales del orden tienen dificultad en instruir y asegurar a las víctimas de la violencia doméstica y sus defensores que el mismo policía que responde al llamado de auxilio no usará su nueva autoridad en la ejecución de las leyes de inmigración para presionar a los testigos o a miembros de la familia a cooperar en una investigación.

Cualquier jurisdicción que quiera ejecutar leyes de inmigración debe cerciorarse de instruir a los miembros de la comunidad sobre el alcance legal de su autori-

dad. En gran parte las jurisdicciones locales se quedan tanto responsables de defender sus acciones como sujetas a pagar por ellas.

A mediados de la década de los noventa, cuando agentes del orden en Chandler, Arizona, realizaron redadas en conjunto con el entonces Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización (INS), el predecible alboroto resultante se dio en la comunidad latina local. La ciudad de Chandler, no el gobierno federal, tuvo que pagar \$500,000 a miembros de la comunidad cuyos derechos civiles habían sido violados.

Otra área en la que las ordenanzas locales se combinan con leyes de inmigración está en la prohibición a los jornaleros que buscan empleo a reunirse en lugares de mucho tránsito. En el 2005, MALDEF consiguió órdenes judiciales que obstructúan la implementación de ordenanzas en dos comunidades del sur de California. La organización continúa con el monitoreo de ordenanzas que rigen en contra de los jornaleros y pendiente de los pleitos contra propuestas restrictivas.

Más recientemente, las ciudades de Herndon, Virginia y Burbank, California han promocionado la operación privada de centros de trabajo que albergan a los trabajadores y que reducen la posibilidad de molestar a los de las casas o negocios circundantes.

Además, la ciudad de Los Angeles contempla lo que muchos consideran ser legislación modelo que requeriría que los centros temporales de trabajo se reubiquen en la propiedad de los almacenes muy grandes de materiales de construcción. En tanto que los pequeños empresarios de las industrias de construcción y renovación de viviendas sigan buscando y contratando a trabajadores temporales, los trabajadores - no todos indocumentados - se reunirán para darles el encuentro. Este enfoque funcional permite que las autoridades locales promuevan la contratación segura y asegurada sin enmascararse en la competencia federal de establecer políticas de inmigración.

La administración de Bush y el Congreso deben dirigirse a los problemas de inmigración de nuestra nación con una solución comprensiva que incluya mejoras necesarias en la ejecución de la ley así como canales legales de ajuste del estado migratorio de los trabajadores indocumentados para que continúen contribuyendo a las comunidades locales.

El mosaico de medidas locales no reemplaza la acción federal. El permitir que las autoridades locales ejecuten leyes federales de inmigración, sin capacitación, recursos ni educación de la comunidad resulta en no sólo crear mayores problemas, sino también en que propicien peligros las mismas autoridades que han jurado proteger a las comunidades.

(John Travasña es vicepresidente principal de Legislación y Políticas del Fondo Mexicano Americano de Defensa Legal y Educación. Comuníquese con él por correo electrónico a: jtravina@maldef.org.)

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Local Immigration Enforcement is Dangerous

viene de la primera pagina

This has been the experience with employer sanctions, where, for almost the past two decades, many employers of Latino workers have made excessive requests of documents beyond what the law requires.

A more dangerous consequence of involving local law enforcement in immigration laws is the damage it does to police-community relations. For example, local law enforcement officials are hard pressed to educate and reassure domestic violence victims and their advocates that the same officer who responds to a call for help will not use his new immigration authority to pressure witnesses or family members to cooperate in an investigation.

Any jurisdiction that seeks to enforce immigration laws must take great pains to educate its community members on the legal scope of its authority. For the most part, local jurisdictions are left with both the responsibility to defend their actions and the liability to pay for them.

In the mid-1990s, when officials in Chandler, Ariz., conducted sweeps jointly with the then Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), predictable turmoil followed in the local Latino community. The City of Chandler, not the federal government, had to pay \$500,000 to community members whose civil rights were violated.

Another area where local ordinances interact with immigration laws is the prohibition of day laborers seeking employment by gathering around high traffic areas. In 2005, MALDEF obtained court orders blocking the implementation of ordinances in two Southern California communities. It continues to monitor day labor ordinances and fight unwelcome restrictive proposals.

More recently, the cities of Herndon, Va., and Burbank, Calif., have promoted privately run temporary labor centers that are safer for workers and reduce the potential for disturbances to neighboring homes or businesses.

In addition, the City of Los Angeles is contemplating what many consider to be model legislation that would require temporary worker centers to be co-located on the premises of very large home improvement stores. As long as small employers in the construction, home improvement and related industries seek out and hire temporary workers, the workers - not all of whom are here illegally - will gather to meet them. This workable approach allows local officials to advance safe and secure hiring without involving themselves in the federal act of setting immigration policy.

The Bush Administration and Congress must address our nation's immigration problems with a comprehensive solution that includes necessary improvements in enforcement as well as legal channels for undocumented workers to adjust their status and continue contributing to local communities.

St. Elizabeth Designated Historical Building



Dedicated on March 29, 1956, the church was named for St. Elizabeth to honor the mother of Papal Conness Katherine Price, who contributed greatly to the building project. Father diamante became the first pastor. Over the years, the parish added programs and facilities. Members helped establish a Catholic Student Center as part of the St. Elizabeth University Parish in 1980. Today, the church represents a diverse membership of ages, races and nationalities, including university students and longtime Lubbock residents. The Building was designated as a historical structure by the Texas Historical Commission this month.

Photos by John P. Cervantez



Quinceañera Sweetheart

by Marisol Agüero

This week's Quinceañera Sweetheart is Jochebel Torres who will celebrate her quinceañera this coming weekend on January 28.

Jochebel says that getting ready for the Quinceañera is lots of works but with the help of her Mom she know it will be great.

Her colors for the celebration are red white and black. She says that she and her grandmother fixed all her dresses especially for all the girls. She also wants to thank her friend Tia that fixed all the of the girls nails. Jochebel said that much of her family is coming from out of town. "I think that that is



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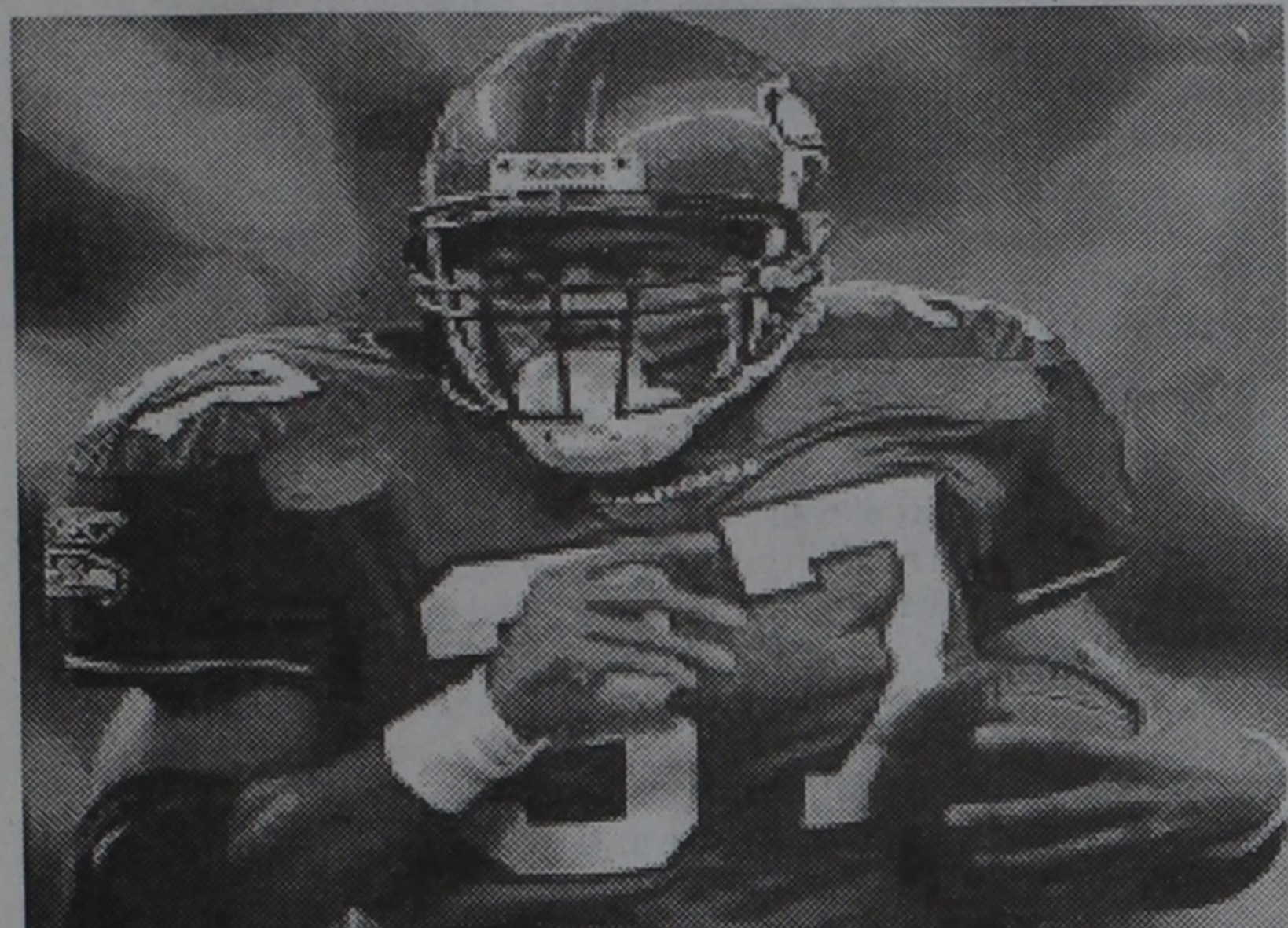
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They're Better

The Steelers were the sixth seed because they played in a tough AFC, plus they had to deal with injuries. They lost their quarterback for three games. Left tackle Marvel Smith's injury forced them to start a rookie in that spot for some time, so the Steelers struggled to get things going on the offensive line. The past six weeks, it has been outstanding. And that's a big reason the offense is clicking. The defense has played well all season. But the real reason the Steelers are favored comes down to one number: 3.4. That's what they allowed per rush in the regular season. The

Seahawks base their offense off what they do in the running game, which means a lot of Shaun Alexander. It won't be easy running against the Steelers. They are also the so-called "hot" team. Winning three games on the road the way they did impressed people. They knocked off the two best teams in football on the road. The feeling is Seattle, even though it was the No. 1 seed in the NFC, isn't as good as a handful of teams in the AFC. Thus, we have a four-point line. And it's probably not high enough.

If Alexander gets mega-deal, it's Seahawks who should offer it



By Clark Judge
Nobody is in a better position today than Seattle running back Shaun Alexander.

He was the league MVP. He set an NFL record for touchdowns. And he helped propel Seattle to its first-ever Super Bowl. It doesn't get much better than that, but it will for Alexander, because now comes his reward for a year's hard work.

The only question is: When? And it's one that has Alexander, his agent and much of Seattle in a quandary. If Alexander is so valuable -- and a nationwide panel of writers named him the league's most valuable player -- why haven't the Seahawks moved to keep the guy?

His contract expires in a month, and Seattle promised not to protect him by designating him its franchise or transition player for 2006. Which means, yep, Shaun Alexander, who scored 28 times this year and led the league in rushing, could be playing his last game for Seattle in Super Bowl XL.

The thought isn't as inconceivable as it sounds.

The Seahawks were willing to peddle him last year after he produced a franchise-record 20 touchdowns and was the league's second-leading rusher. But you have to believe that somewhere between now and March 3, the Seahawks come to their senses and lock down their most valuable player -- correction, the NFL's

most valuable player -- and keep him off the free-agent market.

What I don't understand is why it has gone this far.

"I really don't know," said agent Jim Steiner, who attended the Seahawks' NFC Championship Game win last weekend. "It's just one of those strange occurrences."

Typically, clubs try to extend star players one or two years before their contracts expire, but that hasn't happened here. Alexander has made it known he wants to remain in Seattle, and the rapport he seems to have gained with coach Mike Holmgren this season can only help his cause.

But why are we even having this discussion? Alexander could've been tied down to a long-term deal long ago. Steiner said he first addressed the idea with the Seahawks two or three years ago, but talks went about as far as Seattle went in the playoffs -- which was nowhere.

"And it could have been to their advantage," Steiner said.

He's right about that. Look at how Philadelphia gained strength the past five years, and you understand why. The Eagles identified key players or potential stars, then signed them to long-term deals -- with benefits to both sides. The player gains a wad of guaranteed money early, while the club gains a discount on the average salary.

That might have happened with Alexander, except the two sides never reached an agreement. So

¡Ahora si...! Fidel Castro asegura participación de Cuba en el Clásico

LA HABANA — Fidel Castro dijo ayer que Cuba jugará en el Clásico Mundial de Béisbol, que, organizado por las Grandes Ligas, comenzará el 3 de marzo próximo.

"Creía que todo el mundo tenía esa decisión como tomada. Nosotros estaremos allí", aseguró el líder cubano a un grupo de periodistas.

Castro dio así la confirmación oficial de que un equipo cubano, formado por peloteros amateurs, estará presente en Puerto Rico, donde Cuba deberá jugar contra Panamá, Holanda y el equipo local.

"Sólo fenómenos étlicos pueden impedir que Cuba vaya", agregó el mandatario cubano.

La administración del presidente George Bush, que en principio había negado la licencia por considerar que violaba las leyes actuales del embargo contra Cuba, aceptó el pasado viernes que el equipo de la isla jugará.

El gobierno cubano donará todo el dinero que le corresponda a las víctimas del huracán Katrina, una alternativa que había propuesto Cuba para evitar que las autoridades estadounidenses alegasen el embargo como razón para impedir al seleccionado antillano estar en la cita.

Castro se mostró confiado en las posibilidades de Cuba, pero atacó a Estados Unidos por haberse llevado a algunos de sus peloteros estrellas.

"A luchar en buena lid, aunque nos han robado buenos peloteros", dijo Castro, al atacar con fuerza a los estadounidenses. "Se los llevaron, los sobornaron, los corrompieron (...) son impotentes contra nosotros", dijo.

"A ganar o a perder luchando allí, no vamos a decir que somos los mejores, ya lo hemos demostrado, les hemos ganado a ellos", afirmó.

"Vamos a ver cómo es la competencia y nos alegramos, que por primera vez en la historia aceptan a nuestro país (...) Metieron la pata, lo prohibieron, se les sublevó todo el mundo porque si estamos allí es porque mucha gente protestó contra esa ridiculez", dijo Castro, en alusión a los países participantes en el Clásico que

mostraron su decepción por la decisión inicial estadounidense.

La presencia cubana en el Clásico ha disparado la expectativa en la afición cubana por ver en acción a sus peloteros frente a los de las Grandes Ligas, pues mucho se ha cuestionado las posibilidades de triunfo de los antillanos ante equipos de alto nivel.

Este torneo deberá tener un gran impacto en la preparación de los isleños con vistas a su posterior participación en los Juegos Centroamericanos y del Caribe en Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) en julio, y en un torneo de clasificación olímpica en La Habana en septiembre, que serán también importantes compromisos internacionales del año.



La NBA Latin America inauguró el pasado viernes 13 de enero una cancha de básquetbol completamente renovada en la zona de Cuauhtémoc en el Distrito Federal como parte del programa "Es Tu Cancha", la iniciativa comunitaria que se enfoca en la renovación de canchas de básquetbol en vecindarios de escasos recursos alrededor del país.

La renovación en Cuauhtémoc es la segunda que la NBA realiza en México con la idea de entregar

un lugar seguro y atractivo para la práctica de este deporte.

La primera cancha renovada se entregó el 23 de julio del 2005 en el Módulo Deportivo Cañitas, parte de la Delegación Miguel Hidalgo en Ciudad de México.

Como parte del programa, la NBA y Spalding venderán brazaletes coleccionables en tiendas departamentales y de artículos deportivos en todo el país, incluyendo Aurisports (10 tiendas).

Sears (47) y Deportes Martí (50).

Un porcentaje de todas las ventas se utilizará para la renovación de canchas en todo el país.

La ceremonia contó con la participación de ejecutivos de la NBA, Spalding, autoridades locales y habitantes de la zona y se realizó en el Centro Deportivo Cuauhtémoc, ubicado en la calle Luis Donaldo Colosio S/N, esquina Aldama, Colonia Buenavista, Delegación Cuauhtémoc, D.F.

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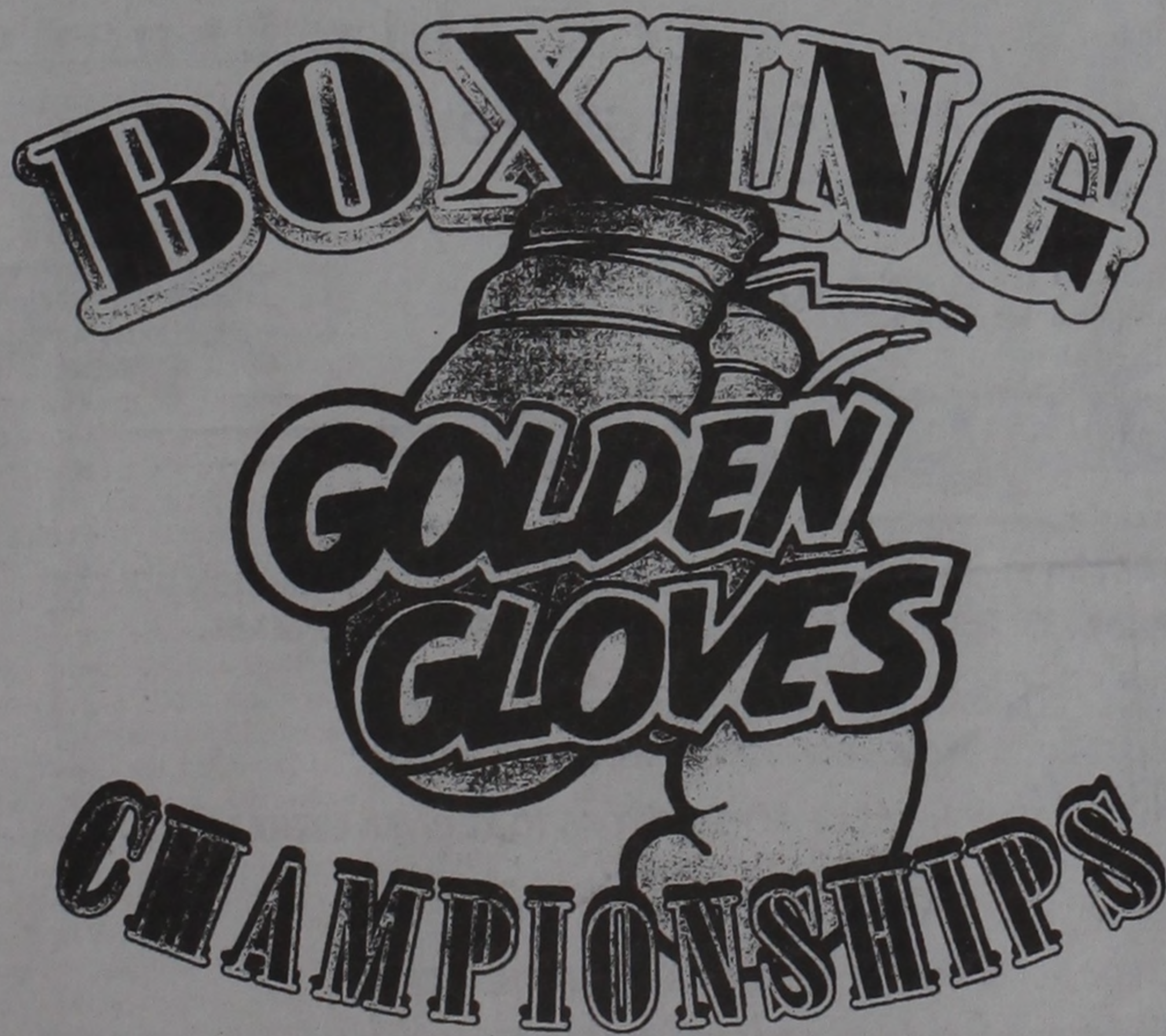
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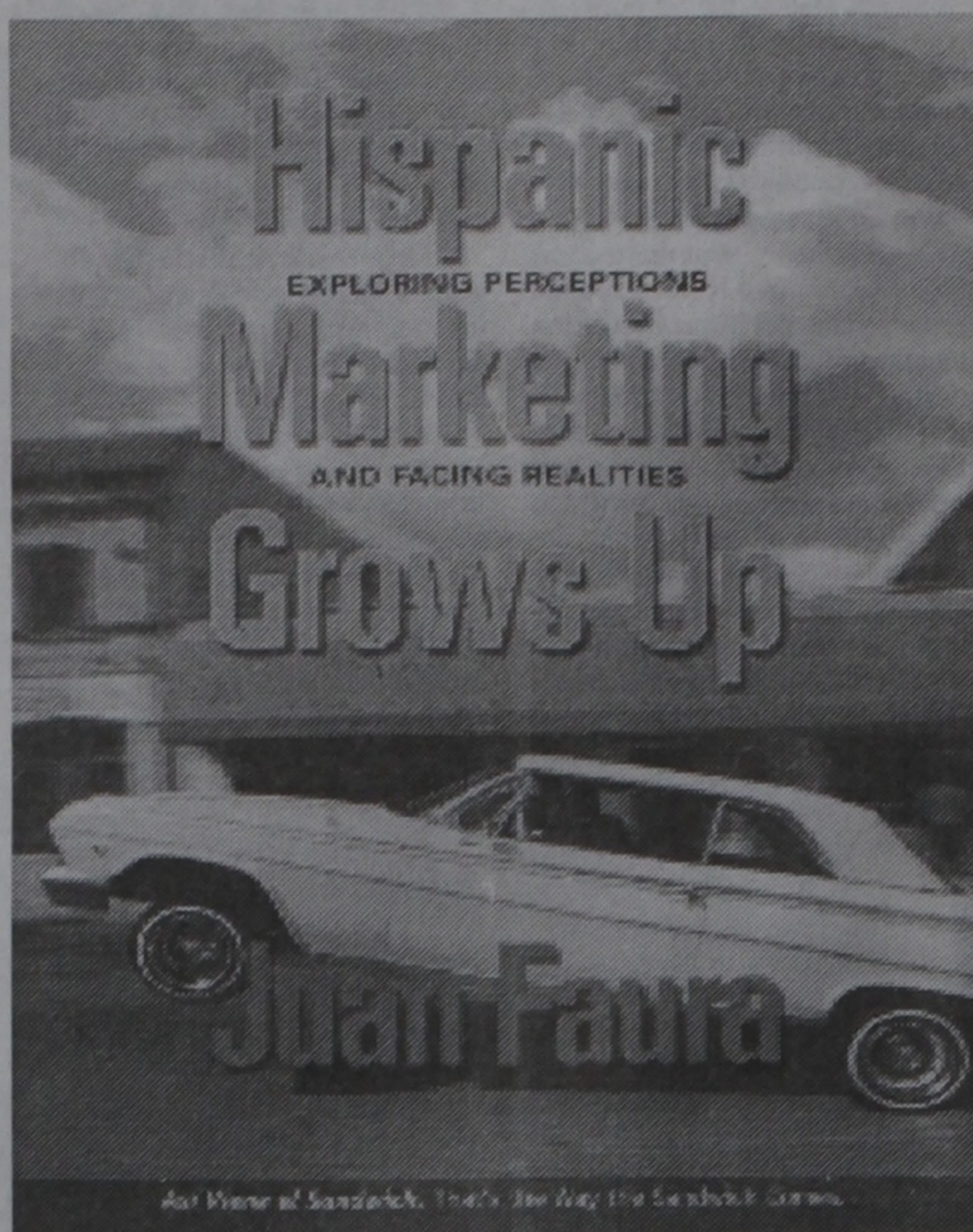
The Lowrider History

Rebecca M. Cuevas De Caissie

Many people look at the Lowrider today and do not understand its origins, meanings and values. Many people have adopted this distinctly Chicano invention and attempted to call it their own. The Lowrider. Truly one of the greatest and most beautiful recreations of a plainer and blander version of the automobile that in the eyes of one social group has lost its value and was cast off. Nevertheless, to truly appreciate the Lowrider, you have to understand its roots. To pay proper tribute to the whole concept you have to understand the history of the Lowrider.

In the early years of cars, most Mexican immigrants as well as Chicanos were poor farm workers at best and did not have the money to afford a vehicle. Naturally, as time went by, white middle class America began casting off older cars to acquire the newer models, which to white America is a statement. In the eyes of most of America, a car is no good after 2 to 3 years. You should trade it in and purchase a newer car. The theory of having bigger, newer, shinier version of anything and the wasteful abuse of everything has all but destroyed the family unit, as we know it. Everything in our society is disposable, replaceable and comes with an expiration date including friends and family. The only thing important today in the majority of races living in the United States is "Me" agenda. Selfish pursuits of pipe dreams ending in lonely abandoned old age misery that grasps out of the darkness trying to steal companionship from those who chose a different path. No family, no friends only your material possessions to keep you company in cold silence. These statements may seem out of place, unless you know how the Lowrider was born. The history of the Lowrider tells us about Mexicans and Chicanos and is a statement to be proud of.

When these cast off cars came into the hands of the Chicanos, many of whom were closely tied to their Mexican roots, they began, as all Hispanics are apt to do, to define themselves and make an unintentional statement to the world. Hispanics are proud and resilient if we are nothing else. We make something out of nothing, are grateful for all we get but strive always for something better. We value family and friends, whom without we are nothing, just like everyone else, the difference being we know this to be true. When the Chicanos purchased these cars, they were larger cars usually and the entire family road in them causing them to ride low to the ground. In the beginning, as you can imagine, Chicanos and Mexicans were made fun of for riding in such large groups and I have no doubt that the term Low-



Art: Manuel Al. Sanz. Photo: The Lowrider. The Book: Juan Faura.

riders was a derogatory term, though I have no historical data to back it up to date. Yet, because we find our value in family and see the slanderous terms of White Americans for what they are, fear and jealousy speaking, Chicanos were not deterred.

Because Chicanos loved the way the car road low to the ground, in the early years, bags of sand were added to keep the low profile all the time. As Chicanos began gaining financially, so the quality of all things in their life went up and the means to express ones self in artistic ways was given its first breath of freedom. The once quaint and humble Lowrider burst forth with the bold statement of color, art like no one had ever seen before. The old cast offs of one society remade into a rolling work of art. The financial ability to buy hydraulics and install them an innovation in and of itself took the Lowrider to a whole new level. Air brushed painting on vehicles, done off the top of the head of the artists are a one of a kind production. The loving and classy restoration of the interior of classics respecting the way the vehicle looked previously while gently bringing it into fashion once again another work of art. The adding of rims, spinner, sound systems and a variety of other details to enhance the Lowrider is like the application of makeup to the bone structure of a fashion model. You want to enhance the already apparent beauty as opposed to covering it up by attempting to make it into something it was never meant to be or

ever could be. The colors so bright and full of life, tastefully combined to draw the attention. Upon closer inspection, you notice the fine details and artistry that goes into each and every aspect of the Lowrider. The engine is lovingly restored and at times completely replaced, chromed out to mirror perfect reflections, both dazzling and brilliant. Often freehand rendered images of the Catholic faith

and Jesus y la Santa Maria adorn our Lowriders. Airbrushed pictures of beautiful women usually inspired by the women the owners and artists love are everywhere. The list of ingredients of the delicacy goes on and on.

The Lowrider may have been born from a humble beginning but it is of no doubt gained a position of royalty as the King of Cars and master of the road. However, the Lowrider is more. It is a statement to the world, which they have openly embraced. It says something about Chicanos and Mexicans, albeit unintentionally, that needs to be respected and understood. The Lowrider though accepted internationally and coveted equally is and always should be respected as a uniquely Chicano invention. Nowhere does the beauty of the Chicano Lowrider show itself than at car shows where they are placed next to others Lowriders. There amidst the other contestants stands the owner, usually male but more frequently female, with their family. Mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, children and friends. We stand with the cars we worked on, usually as a family, depicting beautiful artwork done by a cousin or such. Detailing done by one family member and rims brought with our children along. Hydraulics done by a close family member who eats dinner with us like a cousin and engine restoration done by maybe you dad or an uncle. When you look at the Chicano Lowrider, you are not looking at just a restored or updated car. You are looking at a statement that says yes, we have large families, yes we aren't like our white counter parts. We are not like anyone at all. We are everything you thought we were, nothing you said we were and we unlike others, can

make nothing out of something without taking away from you. We are proud of who we are, we are Chicano and Mexican, making a new way in this world that has been turned into a foreign land, which once belonged to us. Family is everything, and what you throw away we never would.

Not only is the Lowrider a visual statement but it is a statement of a way of living. To relax, go slow, be proud, and never sell out who you really are. The Lowrider bring cruising to a whole new level using luxury cars so they feel as good on the road as they look passing by. Taking time to enjoy the good things in life while never forgetting who you are. Looking at something you spent time and money on and being proud of its uniqueness and ingenuity. A proud statement of your beliefs as beautifully rendered as the image of carnal beauty. Passion and fashion poise and grace.

Aztec images mix with Catholic ones. So complex are Chicanos that the possible artistic combinations are endless. A calling card and testimony like no other.

The Lowrider history is fascinating and inspiring, but that is only because of the people who it is really about. Chicanos are looked at as a trouble people by the White ruling society as are Mexican Immigrants. That is only because they are misunderstood. The major troubles they have are racism and targeted media attacks. They are warm, wonderful, creative and resilient and when you look at the Lowrider in the arena of a car show, you will never see anything as beautiful all because of the family and friends that are there creating the background that highlights very well indeed everything the Lowrider ever was and will ever be, a truly Chicano original! Never more beautiful than when it is free rolling down Main Street. Orale!

Villaraigosa

from page one

The annual presidential address, before a joint session of Congress and a nationally televised audience, traditionally gives the chief executive the opportunity to lay out his agenda for the coming year.

Bush's speech will begin at 6 p.m. PST; the Democratic response generally begins about an hour later. The mayor's comments will be carried on Spanish-language networks.

This will be the third consecutive year that Democrats have offered a Spanish language response to Bush's speech.

Two years ago, Gov. Bill Richardson of New Mexico delivered the first such response. Last year, it was jointly given by then Rep. Robert Menendez, now a senator

from New Jersey, and Sen. Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico.

Bush began editing drafts of his speech yesterday. He is expected to propose an array of new initiatives, including allowing Americans to take tax deductions on more of their out-of-pocket medical expenses.

"We are proud to have Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa delivering the Spanish language response this year," Reid and Pelosi said in a joint statement issued in both languages.

"Mayor Villaraigosa is working hard to increase economic opportunity and provide affordable and quality education for the people of Los Angeles. As the first Latino mayor of Los Angeles in more than a century, we are proud to have his diverse voice within the party," they said.



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