

Juicio De Clinton Está En Sus Manos

WASHINGTON, 27 n El destino político de Bill Clinton está en manos, otra vez, de un gran jurado, como el que se reunió hoy por primera vez para estudiar el escándalo de sus supuestas relaciones sexuales con Mónica Lewinsky.

Un gran jurado es un grupo de entre 12 a 23 personas que escuchan las pruebas que el fiscal de la acusación ha reunido sobre un sospechoso.

La misión de esta institución es decidir si hay suficientes pruebas o testimonios como para iniciar una acusación formal. El gran jurado entiende siempre casos graves, que puedan suponer una pena de cárcel o incluso de muerte.

Si hay acusación formal, el sospechoso irá a juicio, y en el lado opuesto, quedará exculpado totalmente.

Esto quiere decir que el gran jurado no decide la culpabilidad o inocencia de nadie, sólo si hay suficientes indicios como para llevar a alguien a juicio.



A diferencia de los jurados ordinarios, un gran jurado (llamado también un "jurado de acusación") se reúne en secreto y no toma decisiones por

unanimidad, sino por mayoría.

Esta institución tiene amplios poderes legales para requerir la entrega de docu-

mentos y archivos, así como para llamar a declarar a testigos, que comparecen bajo juramento.

El origen de esta figura

está en la voluntad de ofrecer protección contra el celo excesivo de un fiscal que pueda intentar acusar a alguien de forma irregular o caprichosa.

Esta figura jurídica, propia del derecho anglosajón, fue abolida en Gran Bretaña, pero se mantiene en Estados Unidos.

Otro gran jurado, esta vez en Little Rock (Arkansas), estudia desde hace años el escándalo inmobiliario Whitewater, sin que el fiscal especial Kenneth Starr, haya podido lograr hasta ahora de-

mostrar la participación de Bill y Hillary Clinton en alguna irregularidad.

El gran jurado se reunió por primera vez para escuchar el informe del fiscal Kenneth Starr sobre qué podría decir Mónica Lewinsky si es llamada a declarar.

Betty Currie, la secretaria privada de Clinton, compareció el martes ante el gran jurado, pero no hizo ninguna declaración a los numerosos

periodistas reunidos ante un edificio judicial de



In this image from television, Hillary Rodham Clinton is interviewed Wednesday in Washington by Lisa McRee on ABC's Good Morning America. Mrs. Clinton said that she believes her husband has told her the full story of his relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

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

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Civil Rights Commission Finds A New Culprit

By Joseph Torres

Federal records show that the basic civil rights of non-English-speakers in the United States have been ignored

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

Most people think that writing a column such as this one would be easy. But some-times it's hard to come up with topics that are going to get our reader's attention.

I guess I could write about President Clinton and the troubles pertaining to Lewinsky or should I say, the problems being brought to the front by vengeful republicans looking for anything that will take away from the facts as expressed at the State of the Union address. Facts pointing to all the good things that are happening in the United States.

But I guess I won't write about that.

I guess I could write about the efforts by right-wing Californians to do away with bi-lingual education and how the Odessa American - only 150 miles away - wrote about how the anti-bilingual movement should spread to the whole nation because according to them "Learning English is the best way to assure success in America." A newspaper that by the way publishes a special section that is bilingual and actively seeks the Hispanic dollar.

But I guess I won't write about that.

I guess I could write about the \$700,000 grant that was given to the Arnett Benson area for prevention of juvenile crime yet it seems that little effort is being made to get people to the meeting that is to take place this Saturday at Cavazos Jr. High.

But I guess I won't write about that.

I guess I could write about the Denver Broncos beating the Green Bay Packers this past weekend. This topic would probably get the most attention.

But now I'm out of space.

and violated with regularity for years -- in the workplace, in our schools, in housing and other areas of daily life.

Now the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has fingered yet another culprit: a federal agency that is responsible to ensure that those rights aren't violated.

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights has not done enough to enforce federal statutes that provide limited-English-proficient (LEP) students with equal educational protections, the commission charges in a Jan. 21 report.

The report examines whether the OCR is enforcing Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1974 U.S. Supreme Court's Lau decision. Title VI mandates nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. The 1974 Supreme Court decision upholds the rights of LEP students to participate fully in the U.S. public education system. That includes teaching children, as appropriate, in a language they can understand.

After reviewing the 234-page tome, National Association for Bilingual Education executive director Jim Lyons says he's pleased that the commission is lighting a candle to expose the "widespread violations" committed against LEP students nationwide.

According to the report, there were 3.2 million students identified as limited-English-proficient in 1994, a million more than in 1990, and the number continues to grow. For that reason, says Lyons, strong enforcement efforts

are more critical now than ever before. Nearly three-quarters of the country's LEP students are Spanish-speakers, and 42 percent attend school in California.

The commission identifies five areas where the OCR must act more aggressively to force school districts to adhere to federal civil rights dictums. It says OCR should accelerate its efforts to make districts:

- 1) Generally structure their education programs to serve their diverse student bodies better,
- 2) Ensure involvement of LEP students' parents in the process,
- 3) Utilize neutral screening procedures when placing students,
- 4) Do a better job of checking teachers' qualifications and competence, and
- 5) provide LEP students with access to education opportunities -- such as gifted programs -- across the board.

Martha Jimenez, regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, points out that OCR has always been underfunded. While the report criticizes OCR, it concurs that funding is part of the problem.

It also warns that an additional 200,000 bilingual education teachers will be needed by the year 2000 and recommends that Congress and the Department of Education help states in the massive effort that will be needed to recruit and prepare them.

Additionally, the commission report complains that

Details of Clinton's Education Plan

President Clinton said Monday more than \$12 billion in federal money should be used to hire 100,000 new teachers and provide tax credits for school construction, reports Associated Press.

"All these will help our children get the future they deserve," Clinton said. He had planned to save the announcements for his State of the Union address Tuesday, but the news threatened to be overshadowed even more so by the crisis over his alleged sexual relationship with a White House intern.

The teacher proposal, costing \$7.3 billion over five years and \$12.4 billion over seven years, calls for the federal government to help pay the salaries of local teachers, with more subsidies going to poor districts that often cannot afford the higher pay offered in wealthier suburbs. The proposal, combined with the building initiative, also aims to reduce class size in grades first through third to 18 pupils. The current average is 22.

OCR has not worked closely enough with the Education Department's Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Languages Affairs on LEP issues. It describes OBEMLA as an ideal partner to help enforce federal civil rights statutes.

There's a certain irony in the fact that the commission is focusing on the performance of the Department of Education's enforcement unit. In other areas of enforcement such as affirmative action, OCR director Norma Cantu has been under fierce attack by conservative members of Congress for moving too aggressively.

In accusing OCR of failing to develop an adequate policy to implement Title VI effectively, the report points out that OCR hasn't published guidelines since 1970 to help school districts obey federal laws.

Ironically, when the office tried to do just that in 1980, it ignited a firestorm in Congress, followed by a national backlash against bilingual education. House Education and Labor Committee member John Ashbrook of Ohio actually introduced an amendment to the Department of Education's appropriations bill to prohibit the use of any federal funds to enforce regulations relating to helping LEP students in their own language.

Now OCR is dutifully convening a task force and studying the commission's recommendations, most of which it has already tried or is working on now. That's the way the game is played in the political world of Washington.

The reality is that some things are easier said than done. In the opinion of many in the field of education, OCR has, in Norma Cantu, its strongest and most effective administrator ever.

Forces led by such political opportunists as millionaire Ron Unz, author of the California initiative to effectively wipe out bilingual education, and his think-alike friends on Capitol Hill are the obstacles that dedicated educators and several million children face.

The Civil Right Commission knows that and should make it clear to the public, too.

News Briefs

Clinton to Push Medicaid Outreach

President Clinton has proposed a program aimed at enrolling 3 million uninsured children who are eligible but not in the Medicaid program, reports Associated Press.

The administration proposals for the 1999 fiscal year would:

--Make it easier for states to access a pool of money available to inform parents losing welfare that they may remain eligible for Medicaid.

--Allow states to let more children into Medicaid right away without waiting for workers to determine if they are eligible.

The first idea stems from a piece of the 1996 welfare overhaul bill, which created a \$500 million fund to make sure states would inform parents losing welfare that Medicaid may continue. But few states took advantage of the money because they were required to target only those parents losing welfare, and it is difficult to narrow outreach efforts.

Clinton's proposal would allow states to use this money to reach out to all uninsured children. The administration plans to ask for an additional \$25 million to increase outreach activities, making it easier for states to get access to the \$900 million already available.

The second plan stems from last year's children's health initiative, which allowed immediate Medicaid coverage for children enrolled in Indian health centers and other venues. Clinton's plan would apply the expedited process to children who sign up at schools, child care resource and referral centers and child support enforcement agencies.

The administration is also encouraging states to make it easier for children to sign up for Medicaid. Among the suggestions: simplifying the application, establishing a toll-free hot line for enrollment information, allowing application by mail, allowing application during evening and weekend hours at convenient sites and publicizing information about the program.

Land Not Owned by Indians

An area of South Dakota that was part of an Indian reservation created during the 1850s for the Yankton Sioux tribe can no longer be considered Indian country, the Supreme Court ruled today.

The court's unanimous decision said about 168,000 acres the tribe sold to non-Indians under an 1894 federal law are no longer Indian land.

Therefore, the justices said the state has control over a waste site built on the land sold by the tribe at the end of the 19th century.

The Yankton Sioux reservation was created in an 1858 treaty with the U.S. government, under which the tribe exchanged 11 million acres for cash and a 430,000-acre reservation in southern South Dakota.

Under an 1894 federal law, the government paid the tribe \$600,000 for about 168,000 acres, which was to be sold to settlers. The rest of the reservation land was allotted to individual tribe members, and most of that land has since been sold to non-Indians.

The 1894 law also said provisions of the 1858 treaty that created the reservation were to remain in force.

But Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote for the court, "The 1894 act at issue here ... bears the hallmarks of congressional intent to diminish a reservation."

She said the court's ruling applied only to the land ceded by the tribe in 1894, adding that the court was not deciding whether Congress intended to terminate the reservation altogether.

A dispute arose over the land's reservation status after a regional waste management district, formed in 1992, sought to build a landfill in Charles Mix County. The land, owned by a non-Indian, was among the land sold by the tribe in 1894.

The tribe sued the waste district in federal court to stop construction. The state joined the case to argue that the tribe had no authority over the land sold in 1894.

The case is South Dakota vs. Yankton Sioux Tribe, 96-1581.

Hillary Clinton Denuncia Conspiración



Sitting Here Thinkin'

by Ira Cutler

I am going to forego, at least for this week, the opportunity to trash Bill Clinton. How very sad it is that his personal stuff is getting in the way of what are really important national issues.

Instead, I am going to focus on the other little dirty secret in Washington: that the rich are getting richer while the poor are getting poorer and the inescapable conclusion that nobody, at least in Washington, really cares. On the eve of the State of the Union Address, this is what we ought to be, and will not be, talking about.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities reports that in last twenty years the incomes of the upper fifth of Americans has risen 30% while the incomes of the lowest fifth declined by 21%, both adjusted for inflation. In the 1970's there was no state in which the richest families had average incomes ten or more times larger than the poorest families. In the 1990's there are thirty states where the gap is that large. The longstanding national economic boom, for which every politician takes credit has left an awful lot of people literally out in the cold.

At the same time that income disparity is increasing, the efforts of our national and state governments to ameliorate the effects of poverty are being trimmed back and made more difficult to receive. Following a multi-billion dollar cut in the food stamp program, and amidst the economic boom, the US conference of Mayors reported last year that there had been a 16% increase in requests for emergency food at the nation's informal web of food banks.

The economic boom and the huge glut of tax revenue it has produced, coupled with the absence of any real military threat, has placed us in a position where we can afford to increase the quality of life for all Americans, and certainly for all American children. The federal budget is in short-term balance and many states and cities have budget surpluses in the billions. Never before have we had the opportunity to essentially end poverty but, ironically, never before in this century have we had so little political will to use that opportunity.

The specter of a nation so rich and yet so poor does not seem very shocking anymore. There is not much outcry for the government to remedy the problems of homelessness, inadequate health care,

persistent unemployment or substandard housing. There are a number of reasons for the lack of concern, any one of which would be worthy of reflection in a State of the Union Address.

One reason is that it has become fashionable to blame poor people for their poverty - to scorn the "welfare queens" and to suggest that all poverty stems from laziness and immorality. Making this case is aided by the social distance that exists between rich and poor in America. As former President Carter often points out, most of us do not know a single poor person on a personal level - hence, it is easy to build "us" and "them" barriers. Race, religion and immigration status further divide us - we might be willing to help if it was "our people," but not if it is for "those people."

Add to that the political expediency that has reduced our two political parties to having one muddled, middle of the road political point of view. The old Democratic Party coalition of labor unions, minorities, liberals, has been shattered and now there is no national political voice on the left. The conventional wisdom -- that winning in American politics means being the center -- has become deeply ingrained and makes putting forth activist social ideas seem foolhardy. Instead, candidates run for office (and win!) by promising to not do anything. If elected "I will get the government off the people's back" is a proven winner.

Further, the media which in times past spoke out for social justice is now owned by Corporate America - General Electric owns NBC, Disney owns ABC, there are fewer newspapers with smaller readership -- and news reporting today is a lot more closely allied with the show business of Hard Copy than the journalism of Upton Sinclair or Edward R. Murrow.

But the most important reason for growing income disparity, in my view, is that the poor and working classes in America have stopped fighting back. There is no price to be paid for screwing them over - they will not march or embarrass you or even oppose you very vigorously. The government just dismantled the national welfare system and hardly any recipients complained. Nor will the poor or working class vote for your opponent if you take positions that harm them. The poor, as is well known, do not vote at all and the working class has been fooled into thinking that it is the middle class. They think high taxes and welfare queens are their enemy, too, just like the rich folks.

You will not hear it in the State of the

Union, or in very many other places, but the only solution to the growing distance between the haves and have nots is for the have nots to take collective action to force change. Wealth and power are never given up easily - concessions must be forced if they are to happen at all.

In earlier generations the collective action of working people, in unions, caused employers to pay better salaries, offer fringe benefits and improve safety. Associations of welfare recipients forced reforms that guaranteed appeal rights against arbitrary agency decisions. Civil rights groups forced legal changes that enabled large numbers of minorities to get a better education, improved employment and increased wealth.

To gain a larger, fairer slice of the pie, poor people will have to get it on their own. If there were leadership evident on their behalf we might see economic boycotts of companies that move factories overseas; increased organizing and collective bargaining of poorly paid service workers; a public relations thrust that countered the view that poor people choose their poverty and deserve its consequences. We might see poor people demanding a political party that represented their interests.

The old saying is that if you cannot beat them, you have to join them. That saying does not apply here. In terms of rich and poor in America, not only can you not beat them, but they will not let you join them, either. We forget, especially in times of prosperity, that great wealth is most often made on the backs of the poor and working classes. Certainly that has been the story of America in the 1980's and 1990's.

Ultimately, if the poor and working class want a fair shake, they will have to organize and act collectively. There is strength in numbers, someone once said, and numbers is about all that low income Americans have going for them. There are lots of them, and there will be lots more as "welfare reform" and the inevitable economic downturn kick in.

That is what the State of the Union should be about and I suspect that President Clinton might, in some ways, try to take it there. But it is too little, too late, and certainly it is now the wrong voice. Everyone will be watching the State of the Union but no one will be listening.

Ira Cutler, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irrelevant, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.

WASHINGTON, 27 n La primera dama estadounidense Hillary Rodham Clinton denunció hoy que una "amplia conspiración de la extrema



Linda Tripp with Monica Lewinsky

derecha" está detrás de las acusaciones de adulterio contra el presidente Bill Clinton.

Entre los mencionados por la primera dama como parte de laconspiración está el reverendo Jerry Falwell, que predica por televisión; dos senadores republicanos de Carolina del Norte, Jesse Helms y Lauch Faircloth, y el fiscal Kenneth Starr.

En una entrevista extraordinaria concedida al programa "Today" de la cadena de televisión NBC, la primera dama dijo que el fiscal que investiga los cargos, Starr, estaba confabulado con los opositores

políticos del presidente.

"Bill y yo hemos sido acusados de todo, incluso de asesinato, por algunas de las mismas personas que se encuentran detrás de estas acusaciones", subrayó.

La acusación de complicidad en un homicidio se debe a la muerte en 1993 del abogado de la Casa Blanca Vince Foster. Varias investigaciones concluyeron que se suicidó.

"Así que desde mi perspectiva, esto forma parte de una continua campaña política contra mi esposo".

Clinton ha sido acusado de haber tenido una aventura amorosa con la expasante de la Casa Blanca Mónica Lewinsky.

La primera dama recono-

ció la posibilidad de que el mandatario hubiese regalado varios objetos a la exoficinista, pero de ser verdad se debería a la naturaleza amigable y campechana del presidente, aclaró.

"Por supuesto, creo en esa posibilidad. En ocasiones vi cómo se quitaba la corbata y la regalaba a alguien.

"Su comportamiento, su trato con el público, ciertamente explica todo".

Por su parte Jerry Falwell rehusó responder a Hillary Clinton. El predicador bautista y fundador de Liberty University, dijo que las acusaciones de que Clinton tuvo relaciones sexuales con una pasante de la Casa Blanca deberían llevar a Estados Unidos a ponerse de rodillas y orar.

Read It First In El Editor Subscribe 763-3841

Las Guerras Culturales

Por Jorge Antonio Renaud

"Tú no eres un chicano verdadero, 'esé'".

Al principio, no estoy seguro de lo que dió lugar a la acusación. Es a última hora de la tarde. Estamos regresando a la unidad después de un día de cortar yerba, donde un grupo de 30 hombres o algo así se alinean, pecho con espalda, las azadas sin filo sujetas a un lado. Levantamos las azadas por encima de las cabezas a una voz de mando, para sacar a las yerbas malas y moler las piedras hasta reducir las a guijarros y después a polvo.

Es un ejercicio brutal e insensato, como lo son tantos de aquí. Para resistir, converso con un colega convicto, un negro miembro de la Nación del Islam. No paso el día con "mi raza" cotoreando sobre los "babosos" a quienes hayamos despachado, ni comparando las guerras del "barrio" ni los motines pasados. Lo paso compartiendo ideas, conceptualizando, en inglés sin acento, con un maldito "tinto".

Y como resultado, un golpeador gordiflón con tatuajes feos dice que no soy un chicano verdadero.

Hago una pausa antes de contestar. Mi acusador habla

poco español, y no lo lee ni tampoco lo escribe; no puede deletrear la palabra Aztlán; no sabe de Alurista ni de su "Manifiesto"; cree que "La Raza Unida" es una pandilla de prisioneros y que César Chávez es un boxeador mexicano desgastado. El se sentiría asombrado por las siglas actuales como sopa de letras del "chicanismo" de hoy: NCLR, MALDEF, NAHJ y "los demás".

Lo paso por alto y sigo adelante. Me desilusiona que, por su acusación, estoy cada vez más cerca de asentir con la afirmación ahora infame del Profesor de Derecho de la Universidad de Texas, Lino Graglia, de que nuestra cultura no sólo tolera al fracaso, sino que quizás desanima al éxito.

No estoy seguro de lo que es un chicano verdadero, pero si se recibieran solicitudes, la mía sería aceptada. Hay tierra con antigüedad de decenios en mis rodillas, de mis veranos en la "pisca". Soy veterano, del Ejército y de las marchas y recaudaciones de fondos de La Raza Unida.

Fué el primer chicano contratado como editor de copias a tiempo completo en el "Austin-American Statesman" y el primero de mi fa-

milia que haya ido a la cárcel. La ciudad de Austin me otorgó una subvención literaria; la Universidad de Texas me dió un foro político y el estado de Texas me sentenció a prisión. Soy lo verdadero, "ese" -- poeta, político y peleonero.

Sin embargo, durante mi vida he bailado al son discordante de dos mensajes contradictorios, ambos característicos de MI cultura -- la música de "mis maestros", instándome a afinar mis talentos, y la de "mis camaradas", burlándose: "Te creés muy bueno".

Y no estoy solo. No hay suficientes Craglias en el mundo a quienes culpar por la intratabilidad de las tasas de abandono escolar desconsoladoras de "mi raza", las peores de cualquier grupo étnico de los Estados Unidos.

Cuando explotamos de indignación por la mezquindad del Profesor Graglia, ¿fué ésa la cultura que defendíamos?

¿O bien fué la cultura que exige un tributo de sangre -- al estilo de los "estimados aztecas" -- de niños cuando se adentran en el barrio equivocado? ¿Era la cultura que marca a un "vendido", "ése", un coco -- cualquier chicano que sube y se va, que se niega

a someter a su familia a la violencia interminable de represalias que se disfraza como honor en nuestras vecindades?

O puede que sea a la cultura que nos mantiene incapaces para decidir si somos chicanos, o latinos, o hispanos, o "indios", o "mejicanos" o cualquier otra cosa que "americanos", que lo incluye todo.

Porque de eso es que se trata -- de inclusividad. Pregúntense a ustedes mismos: ¿Cómo podemos ser tan testarudos para observar el Cinco de Mayo y el Dieciséis de Septiembre, tan adoradores de los "aztecas" y los "mayas", tan regresadores a Teotihuacán, y permanecer tan absolutamente despreciativos de los "campesinos" que atraviesan la frontera en busca de mejoramiento?

¿No es porque estamos tan al tanto de las divisiones de clase? ¿No es porque NUESTRA cultura -- esa amalgama coincidental de música, historia, creencia y leyenda americana, española e indígena -- ha instilado en nosotros una arrogancia que nos impulsa a clasificarnos a nosotros mismos como "La Raza", con la inferencia de que todos los demás son

menos?

Y, ¿no está esa arrogancia manchada por una furia por aquéllos de nosotros que se atreven a progresar, que asumen formas y creencias que estimamos incompatibles con las nuestras?

Resistir, vean ustedes, es la forma chicana. Si fué lo suficientemente bueno para "abuelito", es suficientemente bueno para mí. Procurar, esforzarse, empujar, es decir que lo que ha sido antes de algún modo no es lo suficientemente bueno. Muestra una inquietud con las circunstancias actuales y una falta de respeto no expresada por el pasado. Todo inferido, desde luego, pero casi imposible de superar y aún pertenecer.

¿Cuántos jóvenes chicanos han proseguido el éxito, sólo para oír que uno de sus iguales susurra: "¿Crees que eres demasiado bueno para nosotros?" Y, ¿cuántos han respondido cerrando sus libros, cerrando sus mentes y, sí, al aceptar menos que el éxito que estaba en la punta de sus dedos?

Lino Graglia, en su desprecio ignorante, habló cerca de la verdad. El modo de negarle la satisfacción de anotar aún más cerca no es ponerle pleito, como lo hizo un estudiante desorientado, por la picadura de sus palabras.

Comprobamos que Lino está errado cuando reunimos el valor para decir que, sí, somos en verdad demasiado buenos para aquéllos que nos mantendrían debatiéndonos en la pobreza, que estarían contentos con los logros sangrientos de un antecesor conquistado a costa de nuestro futuro.

No somos "aztecas". No somos "mayas". La mayoría de nosotros ni siquiera son "mejicanos".

Somos americanos. Aunque nuestra historia nos haga diferentes, nuestro orgullo, nuestro honor y nuestra dignidad no dependen de seguir siendo diferentes, sino de que seamos veraces para con nosotros mismos.

(Jorge Antonio Renaud está cumpliendo una sentencia de 60 años como infractor por tres veces en la Prisión Estatal de Texas, en Huntsville.)

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Why Anti-Bilingual Initiative Makes Learning English Harder, Not Easier

EDITOR'S NOTE: California's anti-bilingual education initiative promises to make learning English easier in California's schools -- the goal of every immigrant parent. But a close reading of the text of the initiative shows why it will actually narrow the options for poor and immigrant students and make learning English more difficult. PNS associate editor David Bacon writes widely on immigrant and labor issues.

BY DAVID BACON, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

The title of the "English Language Education for Immigrant Children Initiative" -- on California's June ballot -- would have voters believe it will make learning English easier for immigrant children. Publicity by its supporters claim it will give parents of non-English speaking children more choices in how their children learn English.

But a close read of the actual text of the initiative suggests its real purpose is to abolish bilingual education -- and give Republicans yet another wedge issue, after their successful anti-immigrant and anti-affirmative action campaigns, to draw conservative voters to the polls.

The goal sounds simple: "All children in California public schools shall be taught English by being taught in English." Contradicting the experience of thousands of immigrant children, the initiative states that "young immigrant children can easily acquire full fluency in a new language, such as English, if they are heavily exposed to that language in the classroom at an early age."

Octavio Sifuentes, now a librarian at Ventura College in southern California, remembers the language based discrimination he experienced as a teenage Mexican student in California -- before the Federal courts mandated bilingual education. School officials at St. Mary's in Los Angeles' Boyle Heights put him in the 7th grade.

"For the first year, I just looked around," Sifuentes remembers. "In class I felt really bad, because I just couldn't understand what they were saying. All I could do was math, which I learned in school in Mexico. So they just gave me math problems to do all day. No one would or could talk to me. I was a lost and lonely kid."

Under the English Language Education initiative, children who don't speak English would be herded into a one-year "sheltered English immersion" class where "all classroom instruction is in English, with the curriculum and presentation designed for children who are learning the language."

All other subjects have a secondary priority. No research supports the premise of the one-year, English-only approach. In fact, the definitive study of various methods of bilingual instruction, by Wayne Thomas and Virginia Collier of George Mason University (September 1995), states that academic achievement, both in English and in core subjects, among non-English speaking students depends on three factors:

- * academic instruction in the student's first language for as long as possible, with English-language instruction during the second part of the day;
- * a full academic curriculum was provided;
- * English-speaking students integrated into the classroom in a supportive environment, treating bilingual education as a gifted program for all students.

Learning English takes more than a year, the study found, and can take three years or more. Far from widening options for poor and immigrant parents, the English Language Initiative would make the sheltered English immersion process mandatory. Any parent wanting their child taught in a bilingual class must go in person to the school to ask for a

waiver. A school district can deny waivers for any reason.

If the parents of fewer than 20 students demand waivers, for example, a school is not required to provide a bilingual class. This means that the poorest parents have to find other, more distant, schools and somehow get their children there. Undocumented parents are unlikely to ask for waivers at all. These hurdles effectively deny low-income immigrant families the right to choose the English-learning method for their children.

"The initiative eliminates school and parental advisory committees which now exist," explains Dolores Sanchez, legislative representative for the California Federation of Teachers which opposes the initiative. "Right now, parents have a choice about the programs used to teach their children, which the initiative takes away."

The initiative also threatens teachers. "Any school board member or other elected official or public school teacher or administrator," it says, "who willfully and repeatedly refuses to implement the terms of this statute by providing such an English language educational option at an available public school to a California school child may be held personally liable for fees and actual damages by the child's parents or legal guardian."

A teacher who occasionally answers a child's question in Spanish could be sued for damages and lawyers' fees. "What would this mean for maintaining a relationship of trust between teachers and students?" Sanchez asks. Meanwhile, the initiative has sent a clear political message. In September, Federal District Judge William B. Shubb allowed the city of Orange to end bilingual classes entirely in favor of the initiative's English-immersion approach. Shubb lifted a state court injunction blocking the city's move, effectively ending bilingual education for 29,000 students.

La Comision De Los Derechos Civiles

Halla Un Nuevo Infractor

Por Joseph Torres

Los registros federales muestran que los derechos civiles fundamentales de las personas estadounidenses que no hablan inglés han sido pasados por alto e infringidos con periodicidad durante años -- en los centros de trabajo, en nuestras escuelas, en las viviendas y otros terrenos de la vida diaria.

Ahora, la Comisión de los Estados Unidos sobre los Derechos Civiles ha señalado a un infractor más: Una dependencia federal que tiene la responsabilidad de asegurar que esos derechos no sean infringidos.

La Oficina de los Derechos Civiles del Departamento Federal de la Enseñanza no ha hecho lo suficiente para hacer cumplir los estatutos federales que dan salvaguardas iguales en la enseñanza a los estudiantes que tienen una capacidad limitada en el inglés (LEP en inglés), según acusa la Comisión de los Derechos Civiles en un informe de fecha 21 de enero.

El informe examina si la Oficina de los Derechos Civiles está haciendo cumplir el Título VI de la Ley de los Derechos Civiles de 1964 y la decisión de 1974 del Tribunal Supremo de Justicia de los Estados Unidos en el caso "Lau".

El Título VI ordena que no haya discriminación por motivo de raza, color u origen nacional. La decisión de 1974 del Tribunal Supremo afirma los derechos de los estudiantes con capacidad limitada en el inglés (LEP) para participar plenamente en el sistema de enseñanza pública de los Estados Unidos. Eso incluye el enseñar a los niños, como sea adecuado, en un idioma que ellos puedan comprender.

Después de revisar el volumen de 234 páginas, el director ejecutivo de la Asociación Nacional para la Enseñanza Bilingüe, Jim Lyons, dice que se siente complacido de que la Comisión de los Derechos Civiles esté "encendiendo una vela para revelar las infracciones muy extensas" cometidas en todo el país en contra de los estudiantes con conocimiento limitado del inglés. Según dice el informe, había 3,200,000 estudiantes identificados como LEP en 1994, un millón más que en 1990, y la cantidad sigue aumentando. Por esa razón, dice Lyons, las gestiones enérgicas para el cumplimiento de la ley son más críticas ahora que nunca antes.

Casi las tres cuartas partes de los estudiantes LEP son

hispano-parlantes, y el 42 por ciento de ellos asisten a las escuelas de California.

La Comisión identifica a cinco terrenos en que la Oficina de los Derechos Civiles debe actuar más agresivamente para obligar a los distritos escolares a cumplir las disposiciones federales sobre los derechos civiles. La Comisión dice que la Oficina debe acelerar sus gestiones para hacer que los distritos escolares:

1) Estructuren por lo general sus programas de enseñanza a fin de que sirvan mejor a sus cuerpos estudiantiles diversos.

2) Se aseguren de la participación de los padres y las madres de los estudiantes LEP en el trámite de la enseñanza.

3) Empleen procedimientos de examen neutrales al situar a los estudiantes en las aulas de clases.

4) Efectúen un trabajo mejor de verificar la capacidad y la competencia de los maestros, y

5) Proporcionen a los estudiantes LEP el acceso a las oportunidades de enseñanza -- tales como los programas para alumnos super-dotados y talentosos -- en toda su extensión.

Martha Jiménez, asesora legal regional del Fondo Méxicoamericano para la Defensa Legal y la Enseñanza (MALDEF en inglés) señala que la Oficina de los Derechos Civiles ha estado siempre carente de fondos. Aunque el informe critica a dicha oficina, concurre en que la carencia de fondos es parte del problema.

También advierte el informe que se necesitarán 200,000 maestros de enseñanza bilingüe para el año 2000, y recomienda que el Congreso y el Departamento Federal de la Enseñanza ayuden a los estados en la gestión de gran envergadura que se necesitará para reclutarlos y capacitarlos.

Además, el informe de la Comisión se queja de que la Oficina de los Derechos Civiles no ha trabajado en contacto lo suficientemente estrecho con la Oficina de Enseñanza Bilingüe y Asuntos Idiomáticos Minoritarios del Departamento Federal de Enseñanza (OBEMLA en inglés) sobre los asuntos relacionados con los estudiantes LEP. La Comisión describe a la OBEMLA como una asociada ideal para ayudar al cumplimiento de los estatutos federales de los derechos civiles.

Hay una cierta ironía en el hecho de que la Comisión está

enfocándose sobre el funcionamiento de la unidad del Departamento Federal de la Enseñanza (la Oficina de los Derechos Civiles) que está encargada del cumplimiento de las leyes. En otros campos de la ejecución de las leyes, tales como la acción afirmativa, la directora de la Oficina de los Derechos Civiles, Norma Cantú, ha estado sujeta a un ataque feroz por los miembros conservadores del Congreso, quienes alegan que dicha oficina se mueve con demasiada agresividad.

Al acusar a la Oficina de los Derechos Civiles por dejar de desarrollar un curso de acción adecuado para poner en práctica de modo eficaz al Título VI, el informe señala que la OCR no ha publicado directrices desde 1970, a fin de ayudar a los distritos escolares a obedecer las leyes federales.

Irónicamente, cuando la OCR trató de hacer exactamente eso en 1980, desató una tormenta en el Congreso, seguida por una resaca nacional contra la enseñanza bilingüe. El Representante John Ashbrook, por el estado de Ohio, miembro del Comité de Enseñanza y Trabajo de la Cámara de Representantes, realmente presentó una enmienda al proyecto de ley para asignación de fondos al Departamento de la Enseñanza, a fin de prohibir el uso de cualesquiera fondos federales destinados a cumplir los reglamentos relacionados con la ayuda a los estudiantes LEP en su propio idioma.

Ahora, la Oficina de los Derechos Civiles está organizando debidamente un grupo de trabajo y estudiando las re-

comendaciones de la Comisión, la mayoría de las cuales ya ha puesto a prueba o está trabajando en ellas ahora. Ese es el modo de hacer el juego en el mundo político de Washington.

La realidad es que algunas cosas son más fáciles de decir que de hacer. En opinión de muchas personas del campo de la enseñanza, la OCR tiene en Norma Cantú su administradora más sólida y eficaz de todos los tiempos.

Las fuerzas dirigidas por oportunistas políticos tales como el millonario Ron Unz, autor de la iniciativa de California para borrar del mapa eficazmente a la enseñanza bilingüe, y sus amigos de igual pensamiento en el Capitolio, son los obstáculos a que se enfrentan los educadores dedicados y varios millones de niños.

La Comisión de los Derechos Civiles sabe eso y debería aclarárselo al público también.

(Joseph Torres es el editor de la publicación nacional "Hispanic Link Weekly Report" de Washington, DC.)

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El Editor Lubbock #1 Source for News In the Hispanic Community

From Front Page

Washington.

"No tengo nada que declarar", dijo su abogado Labren Engler a los periodistas, mientras ayudaba a Currie a pasar en medio de una multitud de reporteros, fotógrafos y cámaras de televisión.

Pero fuentes judiciales confirmaron que Currie presentó su testimonio dentro de los procedimientos secretos.

Currie declaró después de John Whitehead, el jefe del Instituto Rutherford, un grupo de abogados conservadores en Virginia que ha ayudado a representar a la ex empleada del estado de Arkansas Paula Jones en una demanda de acoso sexual contra Clinton.

Whitehead no explicó qué documentos presentó al gran jurado, pero varias fuentes coincidieron en que serían la declaración jurada en la que Lewinsky supuestamente niega cualquier relación sexual con el presidente.

También estaría una declaración jurada de Clinton dentro del caso Jones, la ex empleada del estado de Arkansas que ha llevado al presidente ante los tribunales por acoso sexual.

Dado que esos documentos son parte del caso de Paula Jones, ya obraban en poder de los abogados de la mujer de Arkansas que ha llevado a juicio al presidente.

"He venido a entregar documentos, no he comparecido como testigo", declaró Whitehead tras presentarse ante el gran jurado federal.

Los documentos habían sido requeridos por el fiscal independiente Kenneth Starr dentro de su investigación.

El director del Instituto Rutherford negó las acusa-

ciones de Hillary Clinton acerca de que todo el escándalo Lewinsky es "una vasta conspiración" de elementos derechistas para derribar al presidente demócrata.

La primera dama, en una entrevista con la cadena "NBC", denunció la existencia de "una vasta conspiración derechista", en la que incluyó

a Starr y también a los senadores de Carolina del Norte, Jesse Helms y Lauch Faircloth, así como al telepredicador conservador Jerry Falwell.

"Es una teoría absurda", afirmó Whitehead, quien aseguró que él no ha tenido ningún contacto con Starr excepto la recepción del requerimiento para entregar los documentos.


"Que nos enseñen los hechos. ¿Quién conspira y dónde?", se preguntó Whitehead.

La fiscalía expuso al gran jurado los datos disponibles hasta ahora, incluida la oferta de Lewinsky de testificar a cambio de no ser perseguida judicialmente.

Esa oferta ha retrasado la comparecencia de la ex becaria de la Casa Blanca hasta que se decida si el fiscal independiente acepta el acuerdo, anunciado el lunes por el abogado de Lewinsky.

La oferta se refiere a que "diremos la verdad a cambio de inmunidad, o mejor dicho, de que no haya acusaciones" contra su defendida, explicó hoy William Ginsburg, el abogado de Lewinsky.

Starr no tiene todavía, aparentemente, ningún testigo que pueda corroborar las supuestas relaciones sexuales entre Clinton y Lewinsky.



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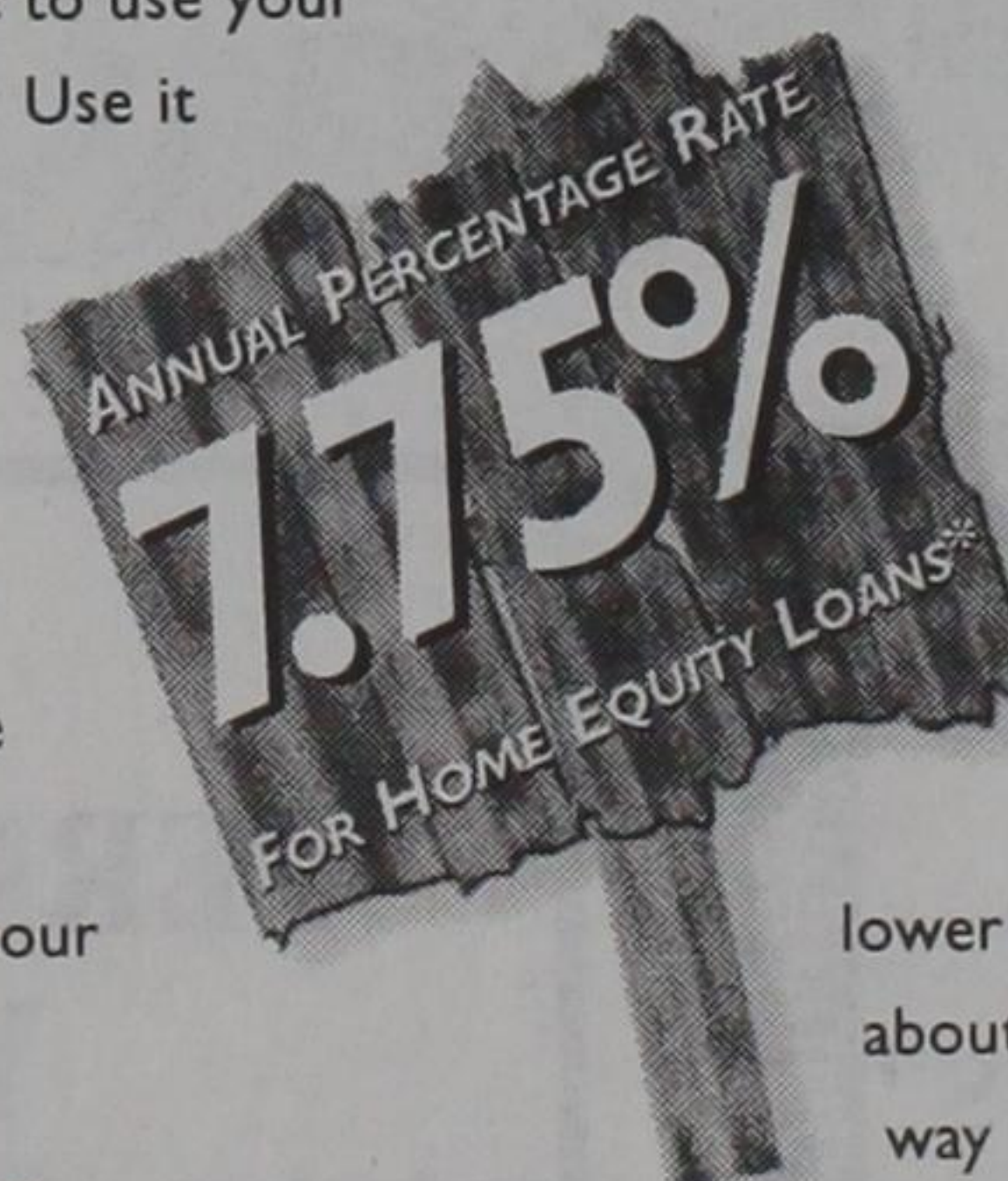
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El 'Evergreen' Cubano

Por Jorge Luis Romeu

Hay un famoso juego de ajedrez que todo jugador serio estudia y disfruta, llamado "Evergreen". En ese juego, dos maestros mundiales se empeñan en duelo por el campeonato. Uno de ellos, en un ataque sagaz, "regala" a la reina, a fin de lograr "jaque mate" doce jugadas después.

Este es el modo de que yo percibo a la visita del Papa Juan Pablo a Cuba. El presidente Fidel Castro, dictador de Cuba durante casi 40 años, hizo la invitación. Y Karol Wojtyla, el Papa polaco que se opuso al comunismo en su Polonia natal y que ha viajado por todo el mundo propagando el Evangelio y la doctrina social de la Iglesia, aceptó alegremente el reto.

El catolicismo ha sido siempre la religión predominante (aunque no la oficial) en Cuba. Pero en oposición a, digamos México, nunca hemos sido extremadamente devotos ni virulentamente irreligiosos. Cuba nunca tuvo sacerdotes revolucionarios como Hidalgo o Morelos, ni Leyes de Reforma (de la religión), que cerraran los conventos y monasterios. Aún durante la

época de Castro, las iglesias no han sido cerradas formalmente; en vez de eso, la presión política extremada ha estado en vigor para desanimar activamente a la asistencia del público, especialmente de los jóvenes.

¿Cómo y por qué, entonces, ocurrió esta diferencia entre la Iglesia y el estado en Cuba? Y, ¿por qué está Castro tratando de arreglarla en este momento?

Puede que nos sea posible aportar algunas respuestas aquí.

Castro, hijo de un terrateniente español, fué instruído en las escuelas jesuítas. En 1959, después de cinco años de lucha sangrienta y de 20,000 bajas políticas, Castro llegó al poder al timón de una revolución liberal y democrática. Sin embargo, la palabra "comunismo" no fué usada ni una vez. El hecho de que Castro impulsara a lo mejor de la juventud cubana a sus muertes bajo un gallardete falso puede suministrar nuestra primera respuesta a su invitación: Para procurar la legitimidad.

Poco después de ocupar el poder y cambiar abruptamente su ideología, el gobier-

no de Castro cerró la mayoría de las organizaciones y los medios informativos que no eran comunistas. Sin espacio político alguno para funcionar, y traicionadas por los dirigentes revolucionarios, muchas de ellas miraron hacia la Iglesia Católica como la única puerta que les quedaba. Hubo cartas pastorales escritas y Misas al aire libre celebradas durante 1960, en las que se advirtió sobre el apoderamiento comunista inminente. El gobierno de Castro cerró entonces las escuelas católicas, disolvió las organizaciones laicas y obligó a los sacerdotes y las monjas a salir del país, muchos de ellos a punta de pistola, entre quienes se hallaba Monseñor Eduardo Boza Masvidal, Obispo Auxiliar de La Habana.

Después de eso, todo fué cuesta abajo. El gobierno exigió que todos llenaran formularios oficiales. A los que profesaron ser católicos se les prohibió enseñar en las escuelas, fueron expulsados de las universidades, no se les permitió matricularse para las carreras tales como las de medicina e ingeniería y fueron enviados en masa a los campamentos de trabajos for-

zados de la UMAP, donde trabajamos durante años 12 horas diarias, seis días a la semana, en los cañaverales. Con medidas tales como éstas, no había necesidad de poner barreras a las puertas de las iglesias!

De este modo, Castro vivió felizmente durante 30 años, con su ego lleno de alegría. El era el "dirigente máximo" indisputado. Nadie se atrevería a competir con él por la atención del pueblo cubano. Por ejemplo, cuando el General Ochoa llegó a ser ampliamente popular en 1989, Castro le acusó de ser traficante de narcóticos y lo hizo fusilar.

¿Por qué ha permitido Castro que el Papa vaya a Cuba, celebre todas estas Misas multitudinarias al aire libre y le hable libremente al pueblo?

La respuesta es la economía. Después del fin de la Guerra Fría, Castro perdió el ingreso procedente de alquilar el territorio cubano a la Unión Soviética -- una base de espionaje en tiempo de paz, un puesto avanzado en caso de guerra. De aquí que Cuba esté ahora en bancarrota. Si el Papa visitara a Cuba, los países de Europa proporcionarían ayuda económica y los Estados Unidos podrían exactamente levantar el embargo.

De modo que el Papa fué invitado a visitar a Cuba. El fué recibido oficialmente y se le permitió organizar Misas al aire libre en Santa Clara, Camaguey, Santiago de Cuba y La Habana, las ciudades mayores. Allí, multitudes de cientos de miles (incluyendo a los partidarios del gobierno), no sólo asistieron sino que también vitorearon al Papa y a las muchas alusiones abiertas hechas por los Obispos a las libertades individuales, al reconocimiento político de la Iglesia y a la reconciliación con la oposición, tanto la interna como la del exilio.

El Papa Juan Pablo elogió a algunos de los proyectos sociales de la revolución cubana y condenó al embargo estadounidense. De este modo, él legitimaba lo que algunos miembros de la oposición, tanto interior como exiliada, han hecho también anteriormente. La revolución cubana nunca se destinó a ser comunista, y algunos programas son compatibles con la doctrina social de la Iglesia. Se espera que éstos sobrevivan a la dictadura comunista. Por último, el embargo ha servido primordialmente como la mejor excusa de Castro para ocultar sus propios cursos de acción económicos desastrosos.

En las Misas al aire libre, en Santiago de Cuba y La Habana, Juan Pablo y los Obispos dijeron claramente en sus homilias que las actuales circunstancias sociales y políticas de Cuba son inaceptables. Ellos han reconocido que los



cubanos de la dispersión y los que están dentro de la isla no son más que uno, que sufren y esperan juntos y deben construir juntos la solución para los problemas del país.

Ese fué el mensaje que el Papa llevó a Cuba. El tiene la estatura moral singular para decir en términos muy claros y en público, las cosas que muchos otros estadistas de España y la América Latina han estado diciéndole a Castro en privado, sin ningún resultado práctico. Además, el Papa ha llevado este mensaje de moderación y reconciliación nacional al interior de Cuba, a las masas y a la clase política de Cuba. De este modo, el Papa no sólo ha legitimado, sino que también ha galvanizado a las fuerzas moderadas a ambos lados del diferendo político cubano de mucho tiempo.

Después de esta visita, nada en Cuba puede ser lo mismo. El Papa ha abierto la puerta, como nunca se había abierto antes, para enfocar a los prob-

lemas conjuntos de Cuba. No sólo él ha hablado sobre los asuntos tocantes a la libertad religiosa y a la Iglesia Católica, sino también acerca de las circunstancias socioeconómicas y políticas en general. Asuntos tan importantes sólo pueden resolverse mediante charlas pacíficas, que lleven a una transición inequívoca al pluralismo, en las que todos los cubanos, en el interior de Cuba y exiliados, recobren su espacio político y económico, tal como ha ocurrido en Chile, la Argentina y Nicaragua.

Por esta oportunidad, estaremos siempre agradecidos al Papa. ¿Tendrán todos los jugadores involucrados, cubanos y extranjeros, las habilidades políticas, la entereza y el sentido de propósito nacional como para aprovecharse de ella? ¿O bien se perderá para siempre esta oportunidad dorada? Este es el gambito que ha propuesto este "Evergreen" político. Le toca a Castro hacer la próxima jugada.

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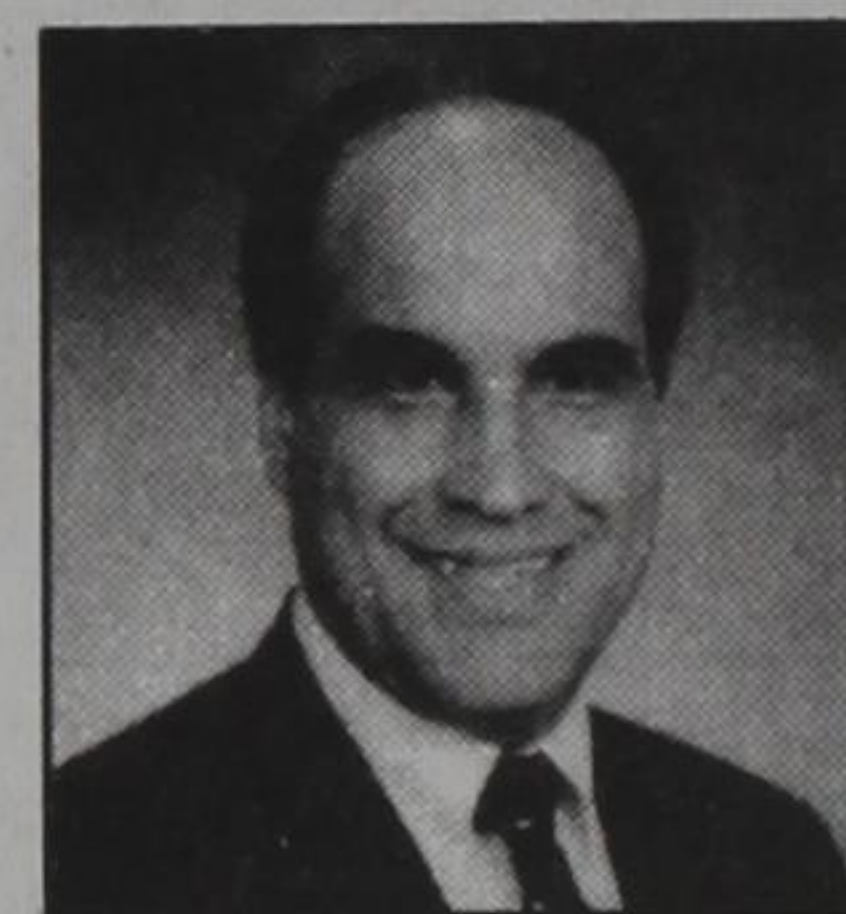
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Aplazan Combate JC Gonzales!



Por tercera ocasión se aplazo la pelea entre los ex campeones mundiales Julio Cesar Chavez y Miguel Angel Gonzalez, la cual se realizara el proximo 7 de marzo, informo el Consejo Mundial de Boxeo.

Segun el Consejo, el promotor Don King aviso del cambio de fecha, ya que la contienda estaba programada para el 28 de febrero, en la Plaza de Toros Mexico.

"El cambio de fecha es para

favorecer la promocion", senalo una nota del Consejo.

La ultima postergacion de este esperado combate entre dos idolos del boxeo mexicano fue el 25 de octubre, cuando "JC" Chavez se resintio del codo izquierdo y semanas despues fue internado quirurgicamente.

Otro combate de esa velada que fue aplazado es el de Ricardo Lopez, campeon paja del Consejo, y el monarca nicaraguense Rosendo Alvarez, campeon de la Asociacion Mundial de Boxeo.

La pelea entre Lopez y Alvarez sera un combate entre pugilistas invictos. Lopez tiene una foja de 46 peleas ganadas, con 35 nocauts, mientras que Alvarez tiene 24 ganados, 16 por nocaut.

Es una pelea esperada por todos los mexicanos ya que de aqui seguira siendo el ganador un idolo y surgira una nueva figura del pugilismo azteca.

Don King dice que no habra mas aplazamientos a este encuentro y se declara listo para el gran evento.

DeLaHoya Contra Chavez Nuevamente

Oscar de la Hoya, campeón wltor del Consejo Mundial de Boxeo, se comunicó al organismo para reiterar su deseo de enfrentar de nueva cuenta al sonorense Julio César Chávez, con la condición de que JC debe ganarle a Miguel Angel Gonzalez, el próximo 7 de marzo en la Plaza de Toros México, y obtener el centro superligero que se encuentra vacante.

El "Golden Boy", quien busca rivales de calidad desesperadamente en peso wltor, luego de ya no enfrentar al estadounidense Terry Norris, ante la derrota de ésta ante Keith Mullings, ahora no descarta medirse a Chávez de nueva cuenta en una batalla, para los aficionados, obligada, pues Julio César merece otra oportunidad, pero tendrá que sacar una victoria.



Oscar de la Hoya

ternó el manager jarocho. El manejador explico que en el boxeo siempre pasan este tipo de cosas y "estoy acostumbrado a que un día se diga algo y al otro se diga lo contrario".

Pro Bowl

HONOLULU - The NFC roster for the Pro Bowl has the look of a Tampa Bay team meeting. Eight Buccaneers will play in Sunday's game, the most of any NFL team.

The strong contingent reflects Tampa Bay's first playoff appearance in 15 years, and the Buccaneers hope this is a sign of things to come.

"It's an exciting week for us," said Tampa Bay quarterback Trent Dilfer, appearing in the all-star game for the first time. "I was thinking that on Sunday, the fans back in Tampa will be able to turn on the TV and see a bunch of us."

Seven Tampa Bay players were voted into the game, including Dilfer's backfield mates, running back Warrick Dunn and fullback Mike Alstott. Also on the squad are linebackers Hardy Nickerson and Derrick Brooks, center Tony Mayberry and defensive tackle Warren Sapp. Safety John Lynch was added to the team because of injuries.

Nickerson, a three-time all-star, is the only Pro Bowl starter among the Buccaneers.

The Buccaneers, a study of futility through the years, matched a franchise high with 10 regular-season victories. They beat Detroit 20-10 in the opening playoff round before losing 21-7 to Green Bay.

Tampa Bay's turnaround began in 1996 when it won five of its last seven games after starting 1-8.

"I think we have a very good foundation of young players," said Dilfer, a fourth-year pro who threw for 21 touchdowns this season. "We've got to continue to get better, maybe add a couple of players, and I think we can make a run at it."

Dunn, who had 1,440 yards rushing and pass receiving and is the only rookie in the Pro Bowl this year, is buoyed by what he sees.

"Hopefully, it's a turnaround that will continue," he said. "I think we have a lot of potential, a lot of young players. And as we get more experience, I believe we will can get a lot better."

Tampa Bay's playoff loss to Green Bay followed a trend. The Buccaneers have lost to the Packers in 11 of the last 12

meetings, including the last five.

The Packers were upset by Denver 31-24 in the Super Bowl. Dilfer said he didn't want to watch Green Bay, or any other team for that matter, in the big game.

"I just can't watch it," he said, shaking his head. "I can't until I play in it."

Jones Hesitant On New Cowboys Coach

IRVING, Texas - Not since Tom Landry was hired in 1960 have the Dallas Cowboys gone this long without a head coach.

Tuesday marked the 18th day since Barry Switzer's resignation statement was read at a news conference by owner Jerry Jones and a replacement has yet to be named.

When Jones fired Landry, he immediately hired Jimmy Johnson.

When Johnson got his \$2 million resignation check, Jones hired Switzer a day later.

Jones has interviewed former San Francisco coach George Seifert and former UCLA coach Terry Donahue twice each. He also has interviewed Green Bay offensive coordinator Sherman Lewis and has a strong interest in Brian Billick of the Minnesota Vikings as offensive coordinator.

Jones didn't name his new coach Super Bowl week as a

few predicted he would, but he made sure his mileage was a tax write-off. He interviewed Seifert, Donahue and Lewis the day after the Super Bowl in San Diego.

He previously had interviewed Donahue in Dallas and Seifert in San Diego. Jones made three trips between the cities last week.

He has not yet interviewed Denver Broncos offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak, who was rumored to be one of his choices.

Jones was working the telephones again Tuesday, but wasn't disclosing who he was calling.

Lewis said he doesn't know when or if he'll meet again with Jones.

"That's up to Jerry," Lewis said. "It's in his court."

Jones has spent more time with Donahue than with the other candidates. Donahue was coach at UCLA when Troy Aikman was the Bruins' quarterback.

'Golden Boy' No Ha Hamado a Beristáin!

Mexico-Ignacio Beristáin, fue claro al decir que: "Me tiene sin cuidado si De la Hoya me manda llamar o no".

Indicó que está lleno de trabajo, y la prueba de ello es que viaja a Buenos Aires para estar en la esquina de Melchor Cob Castro, campeón minimosca de la Organización Mundial de Boxeo, quien defiende el título por primera ocasión frente al argentino Juan Domingo Córdoba. Cómo se recordará, en los últimos meses de 1997 se habló mucho de que Beristáin fue abordado por gente de De la Hoya para ofrecerle estar en el equipo.

"Se habló mucho de eso, pero no se ha concretado nada, aunque tampoco estoy esperando a que me llamen", ex-

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Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

Dios, muchas veces, antes de confiarnos una misión, quiere y tiene que purificarnos, quitarnos toda la mugre y lo podrido que tenemos. En Isaías 6, 4-8, vemos como se siente impuro, y como el Señor lo purifica con una brasa encendida, y cuando ya estaba purificado, ya no tuvo miedo, y cuando el Señor preguntó: ¿a quién enviaré? Isaías contestó: "Heme aquí, envíame".

También hay ocasiones en que, sin que nosotros lo queramos, el Señor puede indicarnos claramente su voluntad, aún cuando estemos pensando en otra cosa, o bien cuando por culpa nuestra, por nuestro orgullo, por nuestra flojera, no queremos oír su voz. En Hechos 9, 4-7, vemos que el Señor llamó a su servicio a Saulo, haciéndole ver su luz cuando él iba persiguiendo a los cristianos. Lo hizo caer del caballo, como muchas veces tiene que hacer con nosotros, haciéndonos caer de esos caballos de los que no queremos bajarnos: nuestra terquedad, nuestra auto-sufi-

ciencia, etc. A Saulo el Señor lo dejó ciego hasta que le obedeció, y, aquí vemos otra vez como el Señor nos purifica antes de confiarnos alguna misión.

A Saulo (Pablo) lo hizo después el Apóstol de los gentiles; ¿para que nos ha de querer a nosotros si nos dejamos caer del "caballo" al que estamos atados...?

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KCBD-TV has an opening for Production Assistant. Full-time. Weekend sign-on, plus flexible hours. Tape room operations & Crew Position in newscasts. Prefer previous experience. Pre-employment drug test required. Apply at KCBD-TV, 5600 Avenue A, Lubbock, Tx 79404
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STOMP

STOMP, the international percussion sensation, continues its phenomenal runs with two concurrent national tours, covering over 50 cities on the road, as well as the New York company's sellout run at The Orpheum Theatre. STOMP's international engagements have included Korea, Brazil, Chile and The Acropolis in Athens, Greece. STOMP has been an overwhelming success marked by rave reviews, numerous awards, a celebrated appearance on the 1996 Oscar telecast, and Academy Award nomination for the short film "Brooms" by co-creators/directors Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas, TV appearances ranging from Roseanne to Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood, three North American tours, and a series of award-winning national commercials. The eight-member percussion groups have caused a sensation at every one of its groundbreaking appearances and comes to the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium February 10th-12th.

STOMP has made its unique presence known outside their live stage show, on cuts on Quincy Jones' CD Q's Jook Joint (for which they received a Grammy nomination), the movie soundtrack for "Tank Girl", and in the Academy Award nominated short live action film, "Brooms." Cresswell and McNicholas scored the Showtime film "Riot" which aired in April and have just completed production for a STOMP special for HMO which aired December 6th.

Critics and audiences have raved: "STOMP is a sure fire crowd pleaser with a rock-and-roll heart," says *The New York Times*. "STOMP finds beautiful noise in the strangest places," says *USA Today*.

STOMP is the winner of an Olivier Award for Best Choreography (London's Tony Award), an Obie Award, a drama Desk Award for Unique Theatre Experience, and a special citation from Best Plays.

The young performers "make a rhythm out of anything we can get our hands on that makes a sound," says co-founder/director Luke Cresswell. Synchronized stiffbristle brooms become a sweeping orchestra; eight Zippo lighters flip open and closed to create a fiery fugue; wooden poles thump and clack in a rhythmic explosion. STOMP uses everything but conventional percussion instruments--dustbins, tea chests, plastic bags, boots, hub caps--to fill the stage with one of the most compelling and unique acts to arrive in Lubbock for a long time. STOMP's appeal is universal; it attracts an audience ranging from "kids to grannies to bank managers", according to Cresswell.

Come see what all the noise is about! Presented by SOUTHWEST COCA-COLA and FIELDS LIVING CENTER, in association with CELEBRITY ATTRACTIONS and the CIVIC CENTER MUSIC HALL, STOMP is directed and created by Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas. It appears at the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium February 10th-12th. Season subscribers have the first opportunity to purchase tickets by contacting Select-A-Seat at 770-2000. Single tickets will go on sale to the general public at a later date. Groups of twenty or more may purchase tickets at a discount by calling 1-800-869-1451.

El Editor Newspaper

Culture Wars

By Jorge Antonio Renaud

"You're not a real Chicano, ese."

At first, I'm not sure what prompts the accusation. It is late afternoon. We are returning to the unit after a day of flat-weeding, where a group of 30 or so men line up, chest to back, dull hoes held out to one side. We lift the hoes overhead on command to pound unruly weeds into submission and grind stones into pebbles, then to dust.

It is a brutal, pointless exercise, as so many here are. To endure, I converse with a fellow convict, a black man, a member of the Nation of Islam. I don't spend the day with mi raza cackling over the babosos we've blown away or comparing barrio wars or past riots. I spend it sharing ideas, conceptualizing, in unaccented English, with a damn tinto.

And as a result, a pudgy banger with ugly tatoos says I am not a real Chicano. I pause over my response. My accuser speaks little Spanish, and neither reads nor writes it; he can't spell Aztlan; knows not of Alurista y de su "Manifiesto"; thinks La Raza Unida is a prison gang and Cesar Chavez a washed-up Mexican boxer. He would be bewildered by the alphabet-soup acronyms of today's Chicano -- NCLR, MALDEF, NAHJ y los demas. I dismiss him. I trudge onward. I am dismayed that, by his accusation, I am ever closer to agreeing with University of Texas law professor Lino Graglia's now-infamous assertion that our culture not only tolerates failure, but perhaps discourages success.

I am unsure what a real Chicano is, but if applications were being taken, mine would be accepted. There is decades-old dirt on my knees from my summers en la pisca. Soy veterano, of the Army and of Raza Unida marches and fundraisers. I was the first Chicano hired as a full-time copy editor at the Austin American-Statesman and the first in my family to go to jail. The city of Austin awarded me a literary grant, the University of Texas gave me a political forum and the state of Texas sentenced me to prison. I'm the real deal, ese -- poeta, politico y peleonero.

Yet throughout my life I've danced to the discordant jangling of two contradictory messages, both characteristic of MY culture -- The music of mis maestros, urging me to hone my talents, and that of mis camaradas, sneering, "Te crees muy bueno".

And I am not alone. There aren't enough Graglias in the world to blame for the intractability of my raza's abysmal high-school dropout rates, the worst of any ethnic group in the United States. When we exploded in rage over Professor Graglia's meanness, was that the culture we defended? Or was it the culture that demands blood tribute -- a la estimados Aztecas -- from niños when they stumble into the wrong barrio? Was it the cul-

ture that brands a sellout -- a vendido, ese, a coconut -- any Chicano who moves up and out, who refuses to submit his family to the endless, retaliatory violence that masquerades as honor in our neighborhoods?

Or maybe it is the culture that has us unable to decide if we are Chicano, or Latino, or Hispanic, or indio, or mejicano or anything other than the all-inclusive americano.

Because that is what this all about -- inclusiveness. Ask yourself -- how can we be so adamant in observing Cinco de Mayo and Diez y Seis de Septiembre, so worshipful of los Aztecas y los Mayas, so revertant of Teotihuacan and remain so utterly contemptuous of the campesinos who cross the border in search of betterment?

Isn't it because we are so very mindful of class divisions? Isn't it because OUR culture -- that coincidental amalgamation of American, Spanish and Indian music, history, belief and legend -- has instilled in us a hubris that compels us to label ourselves La Raza, with the implication that all others are less? And is not that hubris tainted by a rage for those of us who dare to move on, who assume ways and beliefs we deem inconsistent with ours?

Enduring, you see, is the Chicano way. If it was good enough for abuelito, it is good enough for me. To seek, to strive, to push, is to say that what has gone before is somehow not good enough. It shows a restlessness with present conditions and an unspoken disrespect for the past. All implied, of course, but almost impossible to surmount and still belong.

How many Chicano youth have pursued success, only to have a peer hiss, "You think you're too good for us." And how many have responded by closing their books, slamming shut their minds and, yes, by accepting less than the success that was at their fingertips?

Lino Graglia, in his ignorant thrashing about, spoke near the truth. The way to deny him the satisfaction of scoring even closer is not by suing him, as one misguided student did, for the sting in his words.

We prove Lino wrong when we summon the courage to say that, yes, we are in fact too good for those who would keep us wallowing in poverty, who would remain content with the bloody attainments of a conquered ancestor at the expense of our future.

We are not Azteca. We are not Maya. Most of us are not even mejicano. We are American. While our history makes us different, our orgullo, honor y dignidad do not depend on our remaining different, but in being true to ourselves.

(Jorge Antonio Renaud is serving a 60-year sentence as a three-time offender in Texas State Prison in Huntsville.)

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