

el Editor

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Week of April 15 thru 21, 2004

Lubbock, TX USA

¡Gutiérrez Gana!

Nuestra promesa de trabajar para crear un nuevo precinto 3 y nuestras metas nos dio la oportunidad de ganar," dijo Ysidro Gutierrez al terminar un largo día de trabajo y llegar a la victoria para ganar la nominación del partido Demócrata este pasado martes.

Ysidro Gutierrez trabajo todo el mes diciendo que el iba trabajar en una manera diferente que su contrincante habia trabajado en los ultimos 12 años. La oportunidad se habia dado con el resultado hace un mes donde los candidatos Gutierrez y Gilbert Flores sen encontraron en una eleccion para determinar el ganador para la nominación del partido demócrata para el puesto del Comisionado del precinto 3 del condado de Lubbock. A las ultima cueta Gutierrez logro gara el 64% del voto con

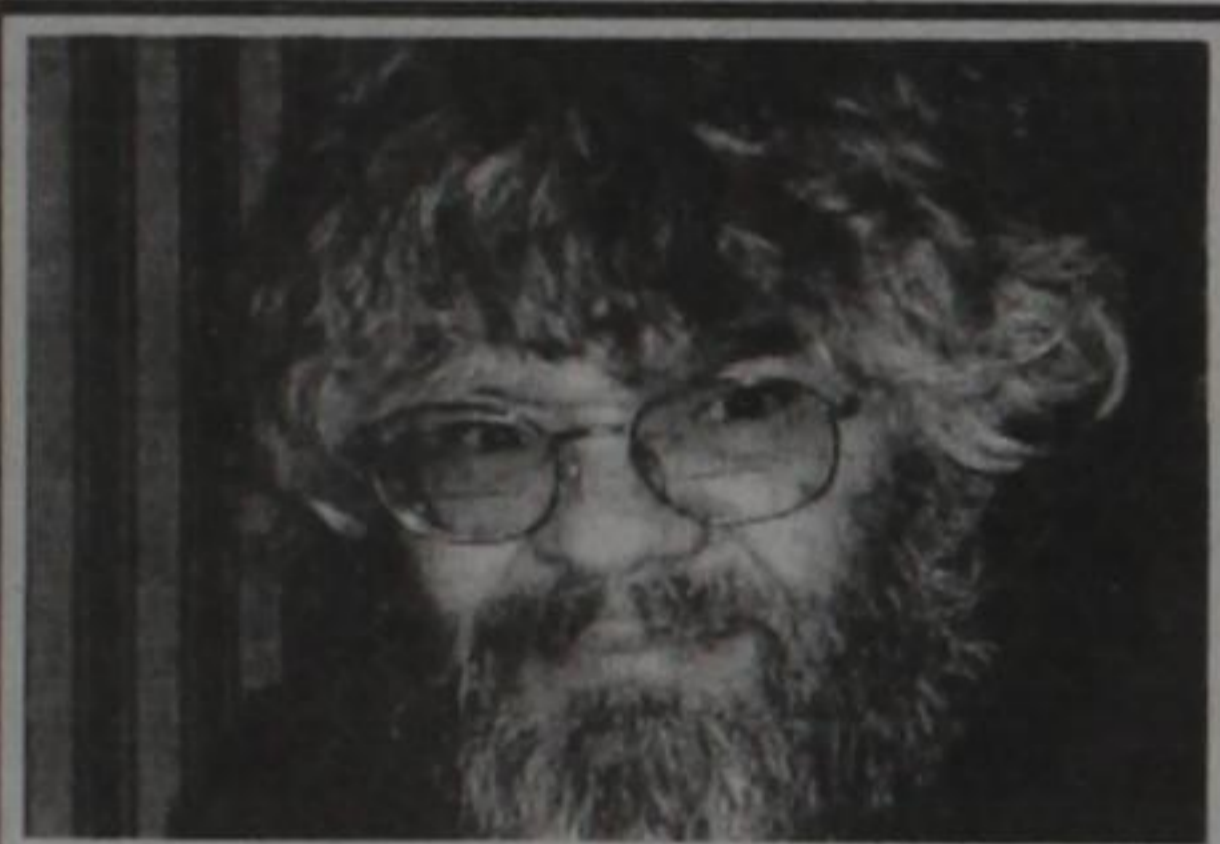


The final vote count in the Democratic race for County Commission numbered 1423 votes for Gutierrez and 838 votes for Flores.

una suma de 1423 votos en comperacion a otos para su contricante.

Al ganar lo nominación Gutierrez dijo que queria dar la gracias a tod la gente quien trabajo al igual a la gente quien voto. "No lo podia haber hecho sin el duro trabajo de mucha gente quien se dedico trabajara para poder tener un mejor Lubbock en el cercano futuro." dijo Gutierrez

Ahora Gutierrez se fijara en la boleta encontra el nominado del partido Republicano, Frank Gutierrez en Noviembre.



Comentarios

by Bidal Agüero

In the end, the people spoke loud and clear. "We want change!" and according to Ysidro Gutierrez, the new nominee for the Democratic Party to the County Commissioner's post for Precinct 3, change will happen if he is elected in November.

"My plans for the precinct are obtainable and I plan to start work immediately to accomplish them," said Gutierrez.

The race seemed a repeat of two others in which Flores touted his experience and past work as his reason for seeking re-election and Gutierrez insisted throughout the race that he had a vision for a new and prosperous Precinct 3. We congratulate Ysidro in his hard work toward gaining his nomination and encourage him to continue his work in looking to get elected. We pledge out support for his election in November.

And now comes the races for school board and city offices. In the next few weeks we will be examining each of the candidates and will keep the public informed of the issues. We hope that all our readers will read and make the best decision for our city. A close election to pay attention to is the Mayor's race, we hope that candidates will bring attention to numerous issues that affect our community and need attention.

We congratulate the Association of Women on their upcoming banquet to celebrate the Hispana of the year. We could have liked to feature the nominees but information was not furnished. Opps!

Cinco de Mayo will be celebrated in Lubbock on May 1 and 2 by a concert sponsored by Magic 93.7 and by the Budweiser Softball Tournament to be held at Berl Huffman Park. For information on the softball tournament call 806-763-3841. For information on the concert call 745-3434. Fiestas del Llano will also celebrate El Cinco with a banquet. More information on this next week.

Send us information to editor@llano.net or fax to 806-741-1110.

GOP, Demos, Court Hispanic Vote

BY LESLEY CLARK

The tug-of-war for the critical Hispanic vote in the presidential election intensified Monday with the bilingual Gov. Jeb Bush launching his brother's national outreach effort -- after an introduction by his Mexican-born wife, Columba.

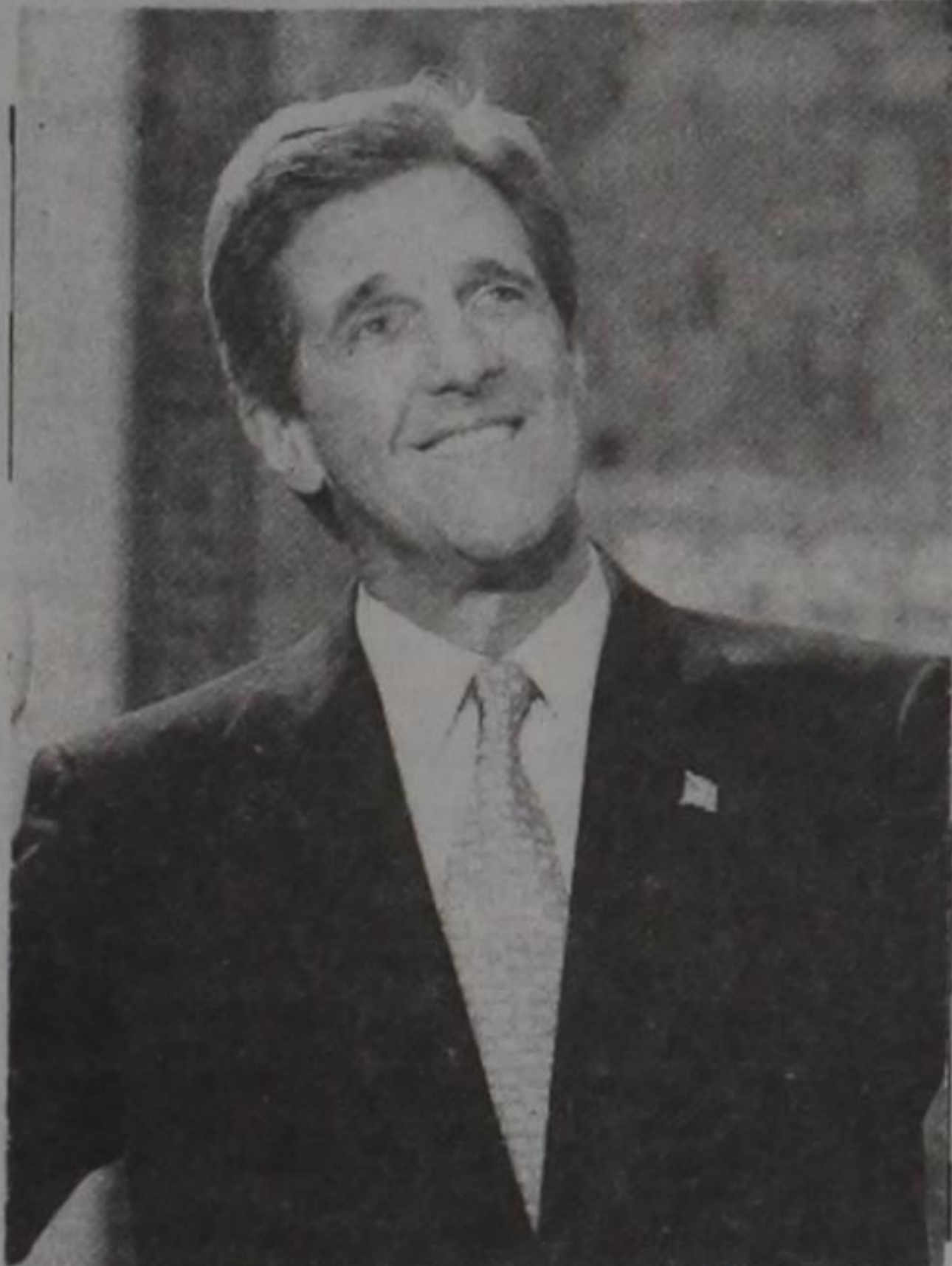
The "Viva Bush" rally -- an event featuring a mariachi band and Mexican singer Alicia Villarreal -- provided the official start-up for President Bush's pitch to a coveted voting bloc that has the potential to deliver up-for-grabs battleground states, including Florida.

And it comes as a national Democratic advocacy group vows to put up millions to make a play among Hispanics in South

United States, and Gov. Bush last week voiced support for a controversial effort to give drivers' licenses to undocumented aliens. Both moves are apparent efforts to energize Hispanics to vote Republican.

Jeb Bush raised few policy considerations, however, telling participants that his brother is the more trustworthy candidate, portraying him as a plain-spoken man -- "He'll never be ambassador to anywhere that I know of" -- in contrast to the Massachusetts senator, who is married to a millionaire.

"John Kerry has worked a couple days of his life in the private sector; he's never met a payroll," Gov. Bush said. "He has very little clue of what it's like for families to make ends meet."



Florida, long viewed as staunchly Republican.

From a stage at a Latin-themed restaurant at the Universal Studios park, the Florida governor told a crowd of nearly 300 that his brother, "more than any other president before him," recognizes and values Hispanic contributions.

To cheers, he ticked off a list of presidential appointees, including former U.S. Housing Secretary Mel Martinez, a Cuban American who is now seeking the Republican nomination for an open U.S. Senate seat.

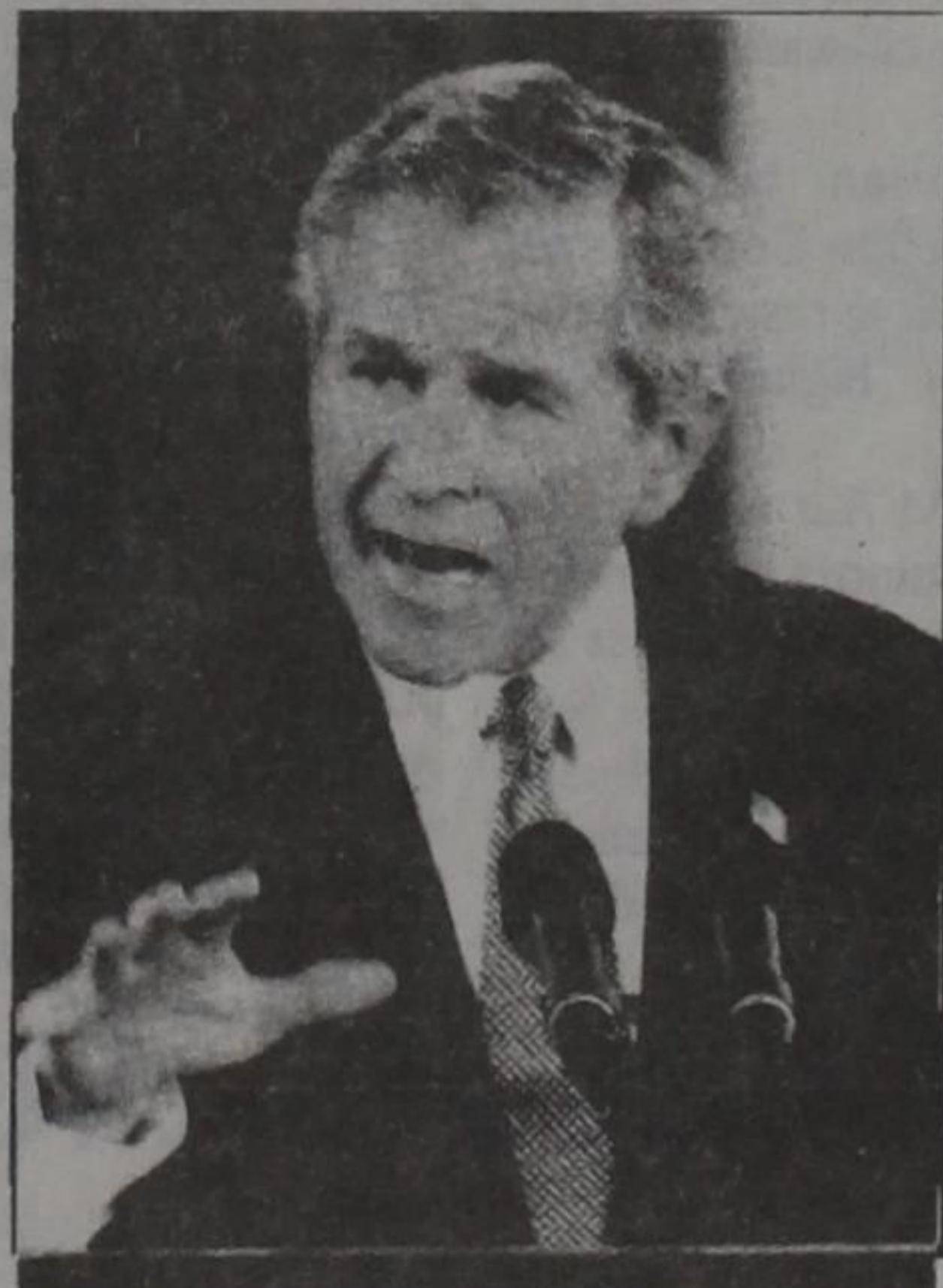
"It's important to share the values of a growing population that will make a difference in this campaign," the governor said. "George Bush gets it."

The outreach effort -- with teams in 30 states -- continues today in Kansas City, but the choice of Orlando for the inaugural event signals that Florida, particularly the vein of independent-leaning voters from Orlando to Tampa, will be at the center of the national fight for the Hispanic vote.

A national poll conducted for The Herald late last month showed John Kerry, the presumed Democratic presidential nominee, with a 58 percent to 33 percent lead over President Bush among Hispanic voters nationwide.

Democrats have vowed not to cede the traditionally Democratic base, but Republican strategists suggest that Bush only has to improve his performance among Hispanics by a few points to swing the balance in several states, including New Mexico, which he lost by just a few hundred votes in 2000.

The campaign efforts have been evident: President Bush has proposed granting legal status for millions of undocumented immigrants working in the



DEMOCRATIC RESPONSE

The Kerry campaign, which hopes to energize a growing Puerto Rican Democratic base in Central Florida and take advantage of a rift between President Bush and some in the Cuban-American community, scoffed at the outreach effort, suggesting it was more show than substance.

"The Bush campaign will kick off its Hispanic outreach program in Orlando, but any kick-off won't hide the fact that they're way off on the issues," said former U.S. Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros, who in a Friday conference call with reporters said the Republican rhetoric rings hollow when it comes to delivering jobs and education to Hispanics.

Kerry's campaign also is being aided by a Democratic advocacy group, the New Democrat Network, which has close ties to members of Congress and New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson. The group, which is already running anti-Bush ads in Miami, Orlando and Tampa, on Monday unveiled another ad in Orlando, accusing Bush of presiding over higher unemployment rates among Hispanics.

NO 'EMPTY PROMISES'

Miami-based pollster Sergio Bendixen, who is consulting for the group, said it will stick to pocketbook issues as it tries to compete with Republicans for Hispanic voters, including -- for the first time in 30 years -- staunchly Republican Cuban-Americans.

"We're not going to sell the Democratic party by making empty promises about Cuba," Bendixen said. "My sales pitch has been to wage a campaign on three issues that most people care about: the economy, education and healthcare. It's there we have the opportunity to make a dent."



Feds Target Drug Use by Hispanic Youth

The federal government announced a national media campaign Wednesday to discourage drug use among Hispanic youngsters.

Drug czar John P. Walters, joined by Florida first lady Columba Bush, said the campaign is targeting marijuana use among young Hispanics who are facing "the most crucial time in their lives."

"We know that parents are the most important influence in preventing youth drug use. These new ads demonstrate effective strategies for raising drug-free teens," Walters said.

Anti-drug advocates are worried by 2002 statistics, the most recent available, that show Hispanic eighth-graders have the highest rates of drug use -- including marijuana, cocaine and heroin -- among all ethnic groups. The 30-second TV ads will run in major Hispanic markets, including New York, Florida, Texas, California and other states bordering Mexico.

Online Hispanics Adopt, Adapt

By Robyn Greenspan

The largest U.S. minority is increasing its online presence, creating huge opportunities for marketers, a recent study finds. Hispanics, relative latecomers to the Internet, have quickly integrated the medium into their lives by shopping, communicating, and performing advanced Web activities.

The second annual America Online/RoperASW U.S. Hispanic Cyberstudy identifies the Hispanic market as one that is significantly influenced by the Internet, and found they are eagerly outpacing the general online population in the adoption of certain activities.

Online Hispanics use the Internet more frequently to listen to music than the general population (54 percent compared to 30 percent); and 6 percent of online Hispanics have bought a car online in the last three years, compared to 2 percent of the general population. The Cyberstudy echoed the findings from a Pew Internet and American Life Project report that more Hispanics communicate via instant messaging (IM) than the general online population (64 percent vs. 48 percent). IM adoption spills over to wireless phones for Hispanic cell phone users, with 34 percent reportedly using the device for IM, compared to just 9 percent of the general population.

America Online/RoperASW conducted telephone interviews with three separate samples during Dec. 2003 and Jan. 2004 to glean the results of the study. More than 600 Hispanic online consumers with online access at home were surveyed by bilingual interviewers, along with 300 online consumers from the general population with online access at home. Bilingual interviewers also conducted an additional 308 surveys from the total U.S. Hispanic population, with 180 of these respondents reporting that they did not have online access at home.

The online Hispanic population has demonstrated an increasing reliance on the Web for brand information since the 2002 Cyberstudy, which often affects purchase decisions. In comparison, the Internet as a source of information for making final brand decisions dropped for the general population -- 50 percent in 2002 to 47 percent in 2004.

Despite growing adoption of Internet resources, the Hispanic community finds language continues to be a barrier to home usage. Fifty-one percent of Hispanics who speak at least some Spanish say the lack of Spanish Web content is the reason for not going online at home. Two-thirds of online Hispanics say that they wish there were more sites with interesting information for Hispanic Americans, and 45 percent express a desire for more Web ads in Spanish.

Surge Como Tema Caliente el Acceso a la Universidad Para Estudiantes Indocumentados

Por Sonia Meléndez

El facilitar el acceso para algunos estudiantes indocumentados a costos de matrícula para residentes en algunas universidades estatales se está convirtiendo en un tema candente esta temporada política.

La mitad de los 50 estados en EEUU o han implementado o han presentado legislación a favor de otorgarles este acceso a los estudiantes indocumentados, con tal que cumplan con ciertos requerimientos, tales como haber asistido a una secundaria en el estado y haberse graduado de ella.

Hasta el momento, no obstante, sólo siete estados han aprobado tal legislación, entre ellos California, Nueva York, Texas y Washington.

Unos 65,000 alumnos carentes de documentación legal se gradúan cada año de escuelas secundarias estadounidenses, según Jeffrey Passel, asociado principal de investigación del Urban Institute, con base en Washington, D.C. De este grupo, 37,050 son latinos.

Como caso más reciente, la Cámara de Delegados de Maryland votó en pro de permitir que los estudiantes indocumentados accedan a niveles de matrícula universitaria estatales.

La legislación fue aprobada a pesar de una encuesta legislativa que mostró que los electores del estado, por un margen muy estrecho, se oponían a tal acción.

Desde enero del 2003, los legisladores de Arizona, Alaska, Colorado y Virginia

han presentado proyectos de ley destinados a denegar el acceso a costos estatales de matrícula a todos los estudiantes indocumentados.

Según la organización Friends of Immigration Law Enforcement (FILE por sus siglas en inglés) y otros grupos, este tipo de legislación resulta ser discriminatoria contra los ciudadanos estadounidenses.

"Si a los ilegales les vas a otorgar niveles de matrícula estatales, entonces hay que otorgarles el mismo derecho a los ciudadanos estadounidenses que no son residentes del estado", dice Craig Nelson, director ejecutivo de FILE.

El año pasado, el Fondo México-Americano para la Defensa Legal y la Educación (MALDEF por sus siglas en inglés) abrió un caso contra siete universidades estatales en Virginia en defensa de estudiantes latinos indocumentados que postulaban a las mismas, en base a haber sido denegados la admisión por razón de su estado legal. En febrero un juez federal dio el fallo que las universidades habían actuado según su derecho a denegar la admisión a los estudiantes, pero el caso prosiguió con otras demandas.

MALDEF y otros grupos han sido claves en promover legislación en varios estados, con el argumento que los estudiantes indocumentados no deben resultar perjudicados por llegar a los Estados Unidos ilegalmente como niños. "No es justo castigarlos por una decisión que tomaron los adultos", indica

James Ferg-Cadima, abogado legislativo de MALDEF. "Los niveles de matrícula estatales les dan una oportunidad realista de alcanzar el sueño americano al quitarles un obstáculo que otros no tienen".

Grupos de oposición dicen que hacerse cargo de los estudiantes extranjeros indocumentados no debería caerles a los estados. "Este tipo de legislación es un excelente ejemplo del mensaje confuso que el gobierno envía a los inmigrantes indocumentados", reclama David Ray, vocero de la Federation for American Immigration Reform. "Se les premia por violar la ley federal".

Los requerimientos para que estos estudiantes califiquen para los niveles de matrícula estatales incluyen asistir a la escuela secundaria un mínimo de dos años, completar la secundaria y aceptar firmar una declaración jurada que solicitarán legalizarse.

La diferencia de costos entre las matrículas estatales y las de no residentes puede ser alta. Por ejemplo, asistir a Northern Virginia Community College cuesta al residente de Virginia \$64 por unidad, mientras que para una persona de otro estado, o extranjera, el costo es de \$211 por unidad. Un residente local paga \$6,149 al año en la Universidad de Virginia, mientras que un estudiante de otro estado o extranjero paga \$22,169 al año.

Dos proyectos de ley bipartitas han sido presentados al Congreso para revocar el requerimiento de residencia

federal para ingresar en las instituciones de educación superior estadounidenses.

El acta DREAM permite que los menores de edad indocumentados alcancen el estado legal y permite que los estados les ofrezcan matrícula estatal. Otro proyecto de ley, el acta Student Adjustment, ofrece un alivio comparable.

Ninguno de los proyectos llegará ni a la Cámara ni al Senado antes del fin de esta sesión legislativa.

En Alaska, el representante estatal Bob Lynn, quien representa el área de South Anchorage, apoya el denegar a los estudiantes indocumentados la matrícula estatal. "Pedir que los estudiantes que no residen en el estado paguen matrícula más alta al mismo tiempo que se otorga tratamiento preferencial a los ilegales que violaron la ley me resulta sencillamente ilógico", comenta el padre Thomas Moffat, jefe de personal de Lynn.

Nancy, una joven de 18 años, de Texas, vino a los Estados Unidos a los cuatro años. Nancy quiere ser doctora. Percibe el acta DREAM como la única legislación posible para alcanzar el estado legal. "Quiero tener la oportunidad de devolverle algo a este país que me ha dado tanto", mantiene. Espera matricularse en San Jacinto College North en Houston el próximo año y pagar matrícula estatal.

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The People Have Spoken!

By Abel Cruz

Tuesday, April 13, 2004 will go down as the day that the voters in Precinct 3 decided that they wanted to change the course that they had been following for the past 12 years and, handing the baton to Ysidro Gutierrez, elected him as the Democratic nominee for County Commissioner for precinct 3.

And they did it by a wide margin. The final score: 1423-828! That's a long way from the 9 votes that separated the two in the primary.

What is most impressive in these numbers is that they represent a significant increase from the vote totals in the primary when there were 3 candidates and from the vote totals from the year 2000 primary. That represents a healthy increase of 11.59% and 17.81% respectively.

But even more important than the numbers is that these totals went up while vote totals in other races went down. Traditionally, that is what has been happening in elections, most are colored by voter apathy. Although these totals only represent a small percentage of the registered voters in the precinct, about 9%, it is still a small victory in the fight against voter apathy and non involvement. That's the good news, the other news is that in order to continue to make a difference in the precinct, Hispanic voters must continue this upward trend and not fall into the trap of just sitting on the bench.

Let Gutierrez versus Gutierrez begin!

Switching gears, did you see the so called presidential news conference on Tuesday night? Unbelievable!

At last count 699 American lives have been lost since the start of the so called war, but Bush still maintains that we were right to wage this useless war and are doing the right thing. Never mind that the general public was misled, knowingly or not, about the real reason for invading Iraq. Never mind that no weapons of mass destruction have been found, Bush still maintains that they might still be there! Right and I still believe in the tooth fairy and leprechauns!

It is a sad commentary, when Bush's arrogance, egotism, and conceit are more evident in his remarks than the sympathy that he should convey to the families of those 699 soldiers!

Reporters referring to the events of September 11, 2001, asked Bush whether he felt that he or his administration should personally apologize for being asleep at the wheel when this nation was attacked, he bluntly said that it was the terrorists that should apologize. Never mind that he knows that they never will and that as the President of this country, he is ultimately responsible for the failures of his administration.

Referring to another question posed to him concerning public opinion polls, Bush made it very clear that he does not make his decisions based on polls. That means he sees no reason to listen to what you or I have to say either. I sure hope that the public gets it and sends him one last message at the polls in November!

Finally...

What do you have to do to get noticed by the media around here? If you are Hispanic, I guess you have to commit some kind of crime. It was very disappointing to see the limited coverage by the local media given to the funeral of Mr. Israel Garza. Mr. Garza, a native of Lubbock, lost his life in Iraq on April 4, fighting for the lost cause espoused by an unsympathetic president! Earlier this year I had applauded the local Fox channel for their attempt to cover the Hispanic community and running a series on the evolution of the community. Not this time!

The coverage in the local broadcast media lasted all of a couple of minutes the day that Mr. Garza was laid to rest. Local stations tend to find time for weather and other insignificant news items, but cannot find at least 5 minutes to honor a person who has sacrificed his life for his country?

I suspect that if Mr. Garza had been caught committing a crime or selling drugs or something of the kind, his face would have been all over the front page and surely would have led the 6 o'clock newscast!

How terribly sad, in this case, Mr. Bush is not the only one who just doesn't get it...

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College Access for Undocumented Students Emerging as Hot Political Issue

By Sonia Meléndez

Providing some undocumented students access to in-state college tuition is building as a hot-button issue this political season.

Half of the 50 U.S. states have either implemented or introduced legislation giving them access, with certain requirements, such as in-state high school attendance and graduation.

So far, though, just seven states have passed such legislation. Included among them are California, New York, Texas and Washington.

About 65,000 students who lack documentation graduate every year from the nation's high schools, according to Jeffrey Passel, principal research associate of the Washington, D.C.-based Urban Institute. Of those, 37,050 are Latino.

Most recently, the Maryland House of Delegates voted to allow undocumented students to be eligible for in-state tuition. The bill passed despite a legislative survey that showed state voters, by a narrow margin, opposed such action.

Since January 2003, legislators in Arizona, Alaska, Colorado and Virginia have introduced bills to deny all undocumented students access to in-state tuition.

The organization Friends of Immigration Law Enforcement and other groups claim that this type of legislation discriminates against U.S. citizens.

"If you are going to grant in-state tuition to illegal aliens,

then the same right should be extended to out-of-state U.S. citizens," says FILE executive director Craig Nelson.

Last year, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) sued seven Virginia state colleges and universities on behalf of Latino undocumented students seeking entrance to the schools on grounds that they were denied admission due to their status. This February, a federal judge ruled that the schools were within their rights to deny the students admission, but the lawsuit moved forward on other claims.

MALDEF and other groups have played a key role in pushing legislation in various states, arguing that undocumented students should not be penalized for coming to the United States illegally as children. "It's unfair to punish them for a decision made by adults," says MALDEF legislative staff attorney James Ferg-Cadima. "In-state tuition gives them a realistic chance to achieve the American Dream by leveling the playing field."

Opposing groups say that taking care of foreign-born undocumented students should not be the states' responsibility. "This type of legislation is a prime example of the mixed signals the federal government sends to illegal immigrants," objects David Ray, spokesman for the Federation for American Immigration Reform. "They get rewarded for violating federal law."

Requirements for these stu-

dents to qualify for in-state tuition include high school attendance for at least two years, high school completion and an agreement to sign an affidavit promising to seek legal immigration status.

The price differential between in-state fees and out-of-state fees can be substantial. For example, attending Northern Virginia Community College costs a state resident \$64 per unit, while an out-of-state student pays \$211. At the University of Virginia, a local resident pays \$6,149 a year while an out-of-state student pays \$22,169.

Two bipartisan bills have been introduced in Congress to repeal the federal residency requirement for higher education.

The DREAM Act allows undocumented minors to gain legal status and permits states to offer them in-state tuition. Another bill, the Student Adjustment Act, offers similar relief.

Neither bill is expected to

reach the full House or Senate floors before the end of this legislative session.

In Alaska, State Rep. Bob Lynn, who represents South Anchorage, supports denying undocumented students in-state tuition. "To ask out-of-state students to pay higher fees while giving preferential treatment to illegal aliens that broke the law is simply illogical to me," says Father Thomas Moffat, Lynn's chief of staff.

Eighteen-year-old Nancy from Texas, who came to the United States at the age of 4, aspires to a medical career. She sees her only path to legal status as legislation like the DREAM Act.

"I want to have the opportunity to give something back to this country that has given me so much," she maintains. She hopes to enroll in San Jacinto College North in Houston next year and pay in-state tuition.

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Latinos As Noisy Party Animals

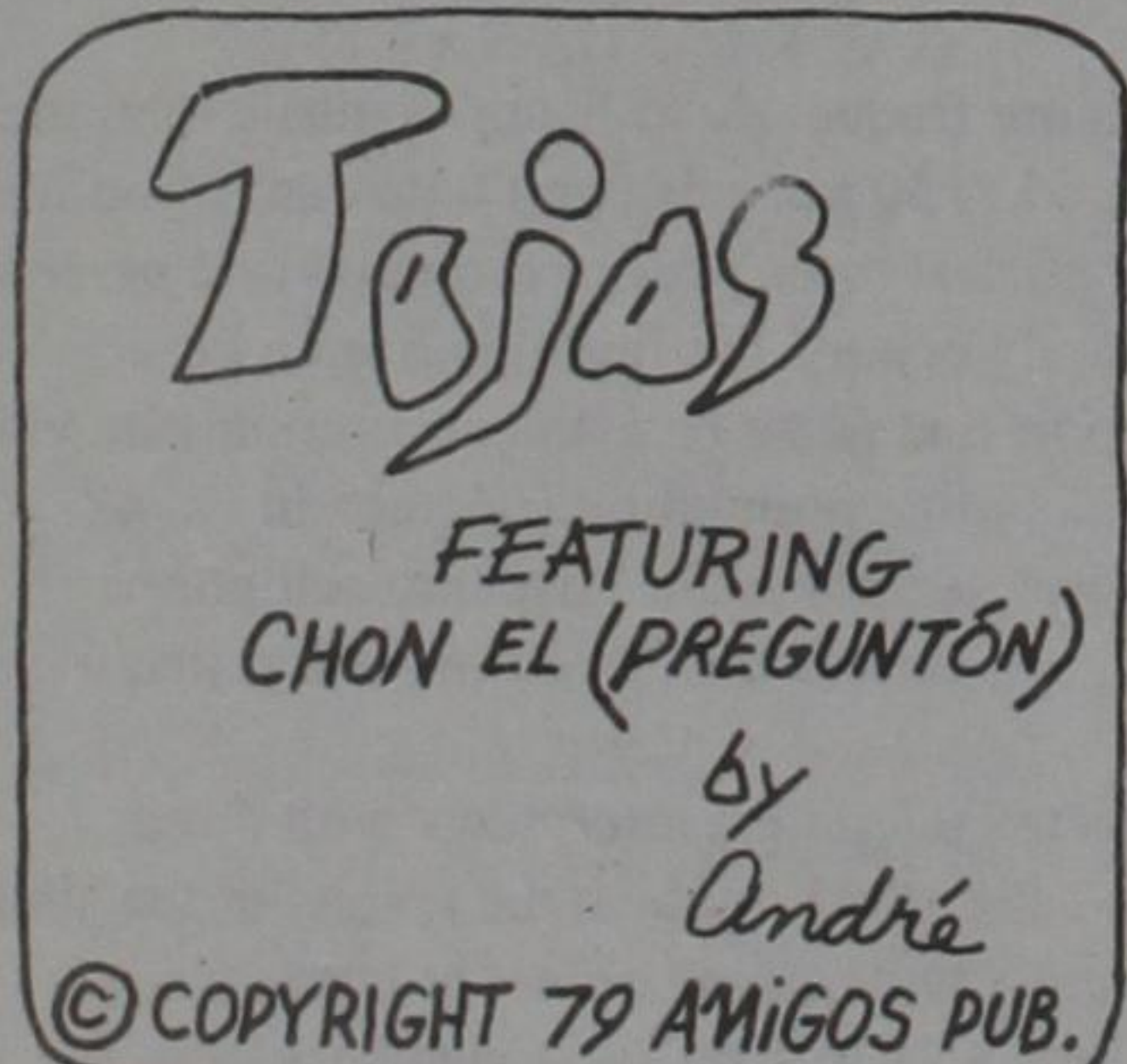
By William Medina

Latinos don't celebrate quietly. When we party, it's loud. And though having a good time at excessive decibels seems harmless, experience has told me that it can get you in trouble with City Hall.

But now, at last, there may be relief for us Latino party animals.

In Springdale, Ark., Margarita Carrillo and her mother have been cited by police four times for making too much noise at parties.

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in Riverside, Calif., with a banquet room that's used for parties. We host weddings, quinceañeras and baptisms. It's true that when guests arrive, things can get loud. Speakers start heaving like bloated chests, and the noise level sometimes reaches celestial heights. Whenever a neighbor called City Hall or the police to complain, I was the one who had to take action. My problem: how to get Latinos to celebrate in a sedate manner.

Inevitably, a woman from Code Enforcement, wearing a neat uniform, arrived at the restaurant with a formal complaint. We were in violation of the city's noise ordinance. If the problem wasn't corrected, there would be consequences.

As noise constable, I monitored each event. One night a mariachi band, hired by a couple celebrating their 50th anniversary, began playing too loudly. I approached the group's leader during a break and told him to play softly.

When the band resumed making music, the notes flowed out with less intensity, but not long afterward, the sound returned to its earsplitting status. I reminded the mariachi of his promise, but he just gave me a puzzled stare. It's foolish to expect a mariachi to play lightly.

The worst offenders have been the DJs, especially those with speakers that barely fit through the front door. Once I warned the DJ about catapulting the noise level, and during the dinner portion of the event, the music was moderate. But when people began to dance, things escalated. People started screaming and made the *grito*

sound. They were imploding from the music before my eyes, a force beyond containment.

I thought of attaching an anti-noise device to the speakers that would automatically shut off the power, but I didn't have sufficient security on hand to protect me.

As the arrest by the Springdale police attests, children are another source of Latino decibel-disturbance. Unlike other ethnic groups, we take our children everywhere, even when the invitation says "no children allowed." At the café, it's not uncommon to have scores of loud children at weddings, playing tag and even dancing with the adults. Often the banquet room seems more like a day-care center. I don't know how to silence children or effectively exclude them.

The conclusion of a party moves the clamor outside. We Latinos enjoy being with family, so we prolong our good-byes. Sometimes the parking lot is filled with *tias*, *primos*, and *abuelos* hugging and talking. The parking lot resembles the departure area of a bus depot. Again, how can one regulate departure etiquette? Should I scold an *abuela* for shouting out "I love you" to her grandchildren as they drive away?

Sometimes Latino weddings last three days. Maybe I should just book weddings between Anglo-Saxon couples. They're very structured. Children are scarce or nonexistent, and the music is usually just a few notches above a normal conversation, certainly within the decibel limits of the law.

Some couples hire wedding coordinators to ensure that

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Bush firme sobre la guerra en Irak

El presidente George W. Bush afirmó anoche que las tropas estadounidenses permanecerán en Irak "el tiempo que sea necesario y ni un día más" al tiempo que insistió en que la ola de violencia de las pasadas semanas "no es una guerra civil ni un levantamiento popular". De ser necesario, dijo, se incrementará la cifra de tropas y el 30 de junio sigue siendo la fecha para el traspaso de poder a un gobierno provisional iraquí.

La analogía entre Irak y Vietnam "es falsa", dijo Bush en rueda de prensa en la Casa Blanca refiriéndose a los comentarios de los críticos hacia su política en Irak de que Estados Unidos está sumiéndose en un pantano del que será difícil salir victorioso. La analogía no sólo es falsa, "sino que envía un mensaje equivocado a nuestras tropas y a nuestros enemigos".

Sobre el manejo de los reportes de inteligencia previo al 11 de septiembre de 2001, que sugieren que la administración pudo haber hecho más para prevenir o minimizar los ataques, Bush no se disculpó ante los estadounidenses, como lo hizo su ex asesor en materia antiterrorista, Richard Clarke, y tampoco asumió ninguna responsabilidad.

"El responsable por los ataques [del 11 de septiembre de 2001] fue Osama Ben Laden y por eso es que vamos a mantener el curso para traer justicia", sostuvo Bush refiriéndose a las víctimas de los siniestros. "Si hubiese habido una amenaza que requiriera acción, habría lidiado vigorosamente con ella... Hubiésemos movido cielo y tierra para proteger a la nación", afirmó Bush.

"Me enferma pensar en la matanza que se produjo ese día... y me pregunto si algo pudo haberse hecho", agregó el mandatario. Pero reiteró que el boletín presidencial diario del 6 de agosto de 2001, titulado, "Ben Laden determinado a atacar dentro de Estados Unidos" no contenía "nada nuevo".

armamento estadounidense.

Como los pasados generales estadounidenses de la guerra de Vietnam, quienes pintaban un cuadro color de rosa en medio del caos reinante, Sánchez descartó la analogía de Vietnam. "Un nuevo amanecer se acerca", dijo a un grupo de atónitos reporteros quienes sólo veían una explosión de violencia y devastación a su alrededor.

Cuando "alcanzar el éxito en el mundo de los blancos" se convierte en el objetivo principal de uno, muy a menudo se presta poca atención a cuales "blancos" uno desea complacer.

En el caso de Condi Rice y Rick Sánchez, el trabajo duro, el talento y las decisiones personales los han colocado en una posición de representar al grupo de blanquitos más arrogante, deshonesto y agresivo que esta nación ha visto en mucho tiempo.

Como el viejo refrán español nos recuerda "Dime con quién andas y te diré quién eres".

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En su duodécima rueda de prensa y la primera de 2004, Bush afirmó que ninguna de las decisiones que ha tomado se basan en sondeos, algunos de los cuales dicen que los estadounidenses ya están incon-

el primer ejecutivo.

Si se necesitan más tropas y más recursos, agregó, "los proveeré".

Asimismo, insistió en que el 30 de junio es la fecha firme para el traspaso de poder a los

amenazas antes de que se tornen peores. "Esta nación tiene que estar a la ofensiva y mantenerse a la ofensiva", dijo.

Y por eso, reiteró, es que autuó en Irak.

Aunque no se hallaron las ar-



formes con la guerra en Irak o con las inacciones del gobierno previo a los ataques terroristas del 11 de septiembre de 2001.

Y aunque está consciente de que es año electoral y que sus planes de reelección están en juego, "no pienso perder mi trabajo porque planeo decirle a los estadounidenses que tengo un plan para ganar la guerra en contra del terrorismo... y estoy seguro que me apoyarán", dijo Bush refiriéndose a los electores.

Estabilidad

La mayor parte de Irak, indicó Bush, está "relativamente estable" y cualquier titubeo o marcha atrás por parte de Estados Unidos no sólo sería un craso error sino que fortalecerá al enemigo e invitará a un mayor derramamiento de sangre, afirmó. Los estadounidenses, dijo Bush, entienden eso, y las tropas desplegadas en Irak también lo entienden.

"Terminaremos el trabajo a nombre de los caídos", declaró

iraquíes. "Es importante que cumplamos con esa fecha... No somos [Estados Unidos] un poder imperialista como pueden atestiguar Japón y Alemania", afirmó Bush.

La misión en Irak, reiteró Bush, "es vital para la seguridad de Estados Unidos".

Y sobre si lamenta que no se hayan tomado ciertas decisiones previo al 11 de septiembre de 2001, Bush indicó que es muy sencillo después que se produce algún hecho, decir que se debieron hacer ciertas cosas de otro modo. Por ejemplo, dijo, "no existiera un Departamento de Seguridad Interna para lograr una mejor coordinación de las agencias de inteligencia".

Pero lo más que lamenta, dijo, "es que no estábamos en pie de guerra y, sin embargo, el mundo estaba en guerra en contra de nosotros".

Una de las lecciones del 11 de septiembre, agregó Bush, es que hay que lidiar con las

mas de destrucción masiva que justificaron la guerra en un principio, Bush dijo que aún "deseo saber por qué no las hemos encontrado". "Pero sí sé que estamos mejor sin Sadam Husein".

La rueda de prensa de Bush se produce en medio de la caótica situación en Irak, donde se ha producido una ola de secuestros de extranjeros, incluyendo estadounidenses. Ayer se descubrieron los cuerpos de cuatro contratistas estadounidenses secuestrados en días atrás.

Asimismo, se produce en medio de las audiencias de la comisión especial bipartidista que investiga los ataques terroristas del 11 de septiembre de 2001 y donde se ha revelado la información que la administración poseía antes de perpetrarse los siniestros, sobre las intenciones de la red terrorista Al Qaida de Osama Ben Laden de atacar objetivos en territorio estadounidense.

Los Peligros del Esfuerzo Propio

Por Jorge Mariscal

El mismo día que Condoleezza Rice, consejera de seguridad nacional, defendió la política pública de la administración Bush ante la Comisión 9/11, el Teniente General Ricardo Sánchez les habló a los reporteros sobre la precaria situación en Irak.

Una afro-americana y un mexicano-americano, los dos provenientes de cunas humildes, tomaron el podio para defender las acciones de un grupo de blanquitos privilegiados quienes han demostrado tener serios problemas de credibilidad.

Condoleezza Rice nació en el 1954 en el sur estadounidense todavía sujeto a leyes racistas, las llamadas Jim Crow. Para ese entonces, Birmingham, Alabama estaba en medio de la revuelta de los derechos civiles y Rice recuerda que cuando era niña escuchó la explosión que les quitó las vidas a cuatro niñas inocentes en la 16th St. Baptist Church en 1963.

Su padre, un pastor religioso y su madre, maestra de música, le enseñaron que la única forma de vencer al racismo era superando en todo a los propios racistas.

Ella sobresalió en la escuela, se graduó de la Universidad de Denver como Phi Beta Kappa, y obtuvo su doctorado en estu-

Noisy Party Animals

from page two

noise in their home. The police swooped down and caught them open-mouthed at a birthday party, a baby shower and another time when the children were playing too loud outside.

You break the law, you do the time. That's the way such episodes usually end for Latino families.

The Carrillos' story, however, has a special ending. They sued the city. They claimed that they were singled out because they were Hispanic. As proof, they submitted evidence that while Latinos made up less than 20 percent of the town's residents, almost 80 percent of the noise busts -- 42 out of 55 -- made by Springdale police officers were of Hispanics.

My family owns a restaurant events unfold in an orderly fashion. Guests arrive, they eat, and after the cake is cut, they start leaving.

When complaints multiplied at our banquet room, I hired an expert to measure the noise level that seeped through the walls. After all, noise is a judgment call that takes place in an individual's eardrum.

The sound engineer postulated a hypothetical out-of-control Latino party -- around 100 decibels strong, or the equivalent to sitting 5 feet from a Dodger Stadium speaker. And, despite the chorus of imaginary *gritos*, the level by our measure didn't exceed city standards. But even with math and physics on our side, the city ordered us to turn the volume lower and to close by 10 p.m.

I'm making copies of the article about the Carrillos' \$12,000 revenge. The next time the noise cops try to break up my party, I'll hand them one and tell them that you can't police the human spirit.

2004, Hispanic Link News

dios internacionales en 1981. Inmediatamente, comenzó a enseñar en la Universidad de Stanford y subió rápidamente a la posición de directora.

Para los finales de los ochenta ya trabajaba en el Consejo de Seguridad Nacional de la administración del primer Bush y en múltiples juntas corporativas, incluyendo a Chevron.

Rick Sánchez se crió a dos millas de la frontera de México en la ciudad de Rio Grande en el condado Starr, Texas, el cual todavía sigue siendo el condado más pobre en todo Estados Unidos.

Hijo de madre soltera sin educación, una vez puso a Sánchez a recoger algodón todo un día, como ella lo había hecho anteriormente, para demostrarle el valor del trabajo duro y sacrificado. En el 1973, él desafió todos los obstáculos al graduarse de la Texas A&I University y posteriormente, ingresó en las fuerzas armadas, (ejército) donde rápidamente subió en los rangos.

La teoría del éxito logrado por esfuerzo propio plantea que cualquier individuo puede lograrlo en Estados Unidos. No importan los obstáculos y los techos de cristal para la gente pobre y de color, el individuo puede sobreponerse y llegar a ser lo que él o ella quiera ser.

El mejoramiento propio y la perseverancia le llevarán a donde usted quiera llegar. La promesa de "Horatio Alger" no conoce limitaciones de géneros, raza o posición económica.

Ahora, su esfuerzo propio ha colocado a Rice y Sánchez en el plano internacional.

Como otro prodigio del esfuerzo propio, Colin Powell, quien abiertamente presentó al mundo una serie de medias verdades y distorsiones en su discurso del año pasado en las Naciones Unidas, Rice también ha caído en varias "aserciones erróneas".

Ahora ella reclama que se equivocó cuando dijo que nadie esperaba que los terroristas secuestrarán aviones comerciales y los utilizaran como armas.

Por su parte, Sánchez estaba defendiendo el bloqueo a la ciudad iraquí de Faluya en la que centenares de civiles inocentes fueron masacrados por el

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Give Bonds his due as one of the greatest

That Barry Bonds had roared around Willie Mays in taking sole possession of third place on baseball's all-time homer list Tuesday night was evident before the disappearing baseball had reached splashdown in McCovey Cove.

Bonds crushed it, again, this time off of Milwaukee's Ben Ford, and the torch officially was passed. Your new home run leaderboard:

1. Henry Aaron, 755.
2. Babe Ruth, 714.
3. Barry Bonds, 661.
4. Willie Mays, 660.

Now Bonds takes aim at Ruth, and soon after that the great chase of Aaron will begin, and between now and then, a whole lot of people will use a whole lot of words trying to decipher what it all means.

With a federal investigation as a backdrop, the shadow of steroids and human growth hormones and whatever other garbage BALCO dished out casts a shadow over Bonds like that of a giant oak over a sapling.

Yet it is far too simple to dismiss Bonds' achievement as simply the work of Vitamin S (let alone the fact that he's vehemently denied it and, believe him or not, there so far is no proof otherwise).

Like nobody else during our time, Bonds had developed an acute batting eye and a remarkable sense of patience. Anabolic steroids and human growth hormones didn't help develop either of those traits.

Barry Bonds points to the sky after his heavenly blast.

Last season, Bonds led the majors with a .529 on-base percentage -- a whopping 71 points higher than Colorado's Todd Helton, who checked in second at .458. That 71-point gap between Bonds and Helton was more than the gap that separated the second through the 26th spots on the on-base percentage list.

Bonds also led the majors with an astounding .749 slugging percentage, an astonishing 82 points higher than St. Louis' Albert Pujols, who was second. That 82-point differential between first and second was greater than the gap between the second through 10th spots on the slugging percentage list.

By any measurable standard, Bonds is one of the greatest players of all time. The biggest knock against his home-run prowess is that it has come in the age of smaller ballparks, harder baseballs, expansion pitching (for a few seasons) and

advanced equipment. You didn't see Aaron striding up to the plate with an elbow pad the size of Rhode Island to protect him.

Yet even within today's ever-widening parameters, nobody has come close to keeping up with Bonds' home-run pace.

You can certainly make a very solid case that Aaron and Mays had it tougher. Ballparks were bigger, they each played in an era of amazing pitching and they faced challenges that Bonds hasn't had to face -- taxing commercial travel rather than comfortable charter flights and blatant racism, to name two things that jump to mind immediately.

On the other hand, even though Aaron's chase of Ruth was highly publicized at the time, he didn't have a microphone or notepad sticking in his face every time he turned around. There was no ESPN, ESPN2, USA Today or Internet attempting to drain his every thought.

That Mays even hit 660 homers is remarkable given that he played in the vast cavern called Candlestick Park from 1960 through 1972. Compared to some of the old parks such as Candlestick and Ebbetts Field, to hear today's players complain about the pitcher-friendly dimensions of Seattle's Safeco Field and San Diego's new Petco Park is laughable.

Times change, and just as you cannot compare Ruth's era to the Dead Ball Era in which Ty Cobb played, it's next-to-impossible to compare Bonds to the Aaron-Mays generation, or to Ruth's.

What is unassailable is that Bonds today is doing things few other players -- in this generation or any other -- ever dreamt of. More than a few National League managers will tell you that no one player today is capable of changing a game the way Bonds is.

That alone makes him riveting. And until it is proven that Bonds broke federal laws by obtaining and ingesting illegal substances -- if it is proven -- Bonds' 661 (and counting) home runs are worth a whole lot more than a shrug of the shoulders and a sarcastic comment about today's watered down game.

And if you can't muster that, then at least take the opportunity, with Aaron creeping back toward the spotlight, to acknowledge that Hammerin' Hank never got the due he was owed, either.

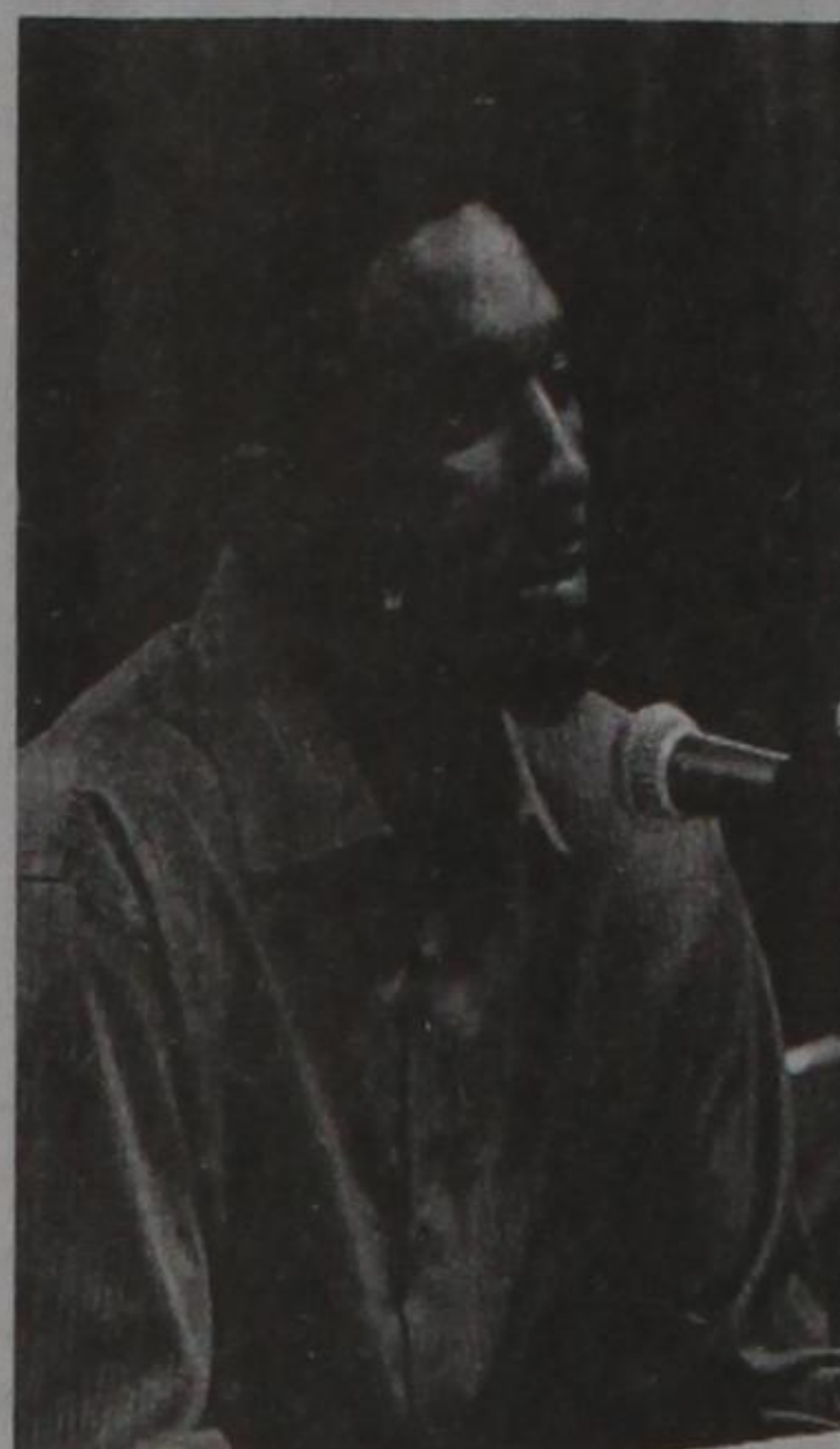
UConn's Gordon set to announce early entry in NBA Draft

Ben Gordon of NCAA champion Connecticut will skip his senior year to enter the NBA Draft, an athletic department source told the Associated Press on Wednesday.

The announcement by the star guard will come at an afternoon news conference on campus, said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Gordon averaged a team-leading 18.5 points for the Huskies, who beat Georgia Tech 82-73 for the national championship last week. He is projected as a top 10 pick in the draft.

Gordon, who played at Mount Vernon High School in New York, told the Journal



News of New York that he is ready to move on.

"It's time," Gordon told the newspaper in Wednesday's editions. "I had a great experience at UConn, but I'm ready for what's next. I knew this is what I wanted from the beginning of the season, so why wait?"

Gordon averaged 21.2 points during the six games of the NCAA Tournament.

Ben Gordon averaged 21.2 points in the NCAA Tournament while UConn rolled to the title.

"I think I've answered all the questions," he said. "Now I want to go to the next level and see what I can do there. I know it's going to be a challenge but I've prepared

myself. I talked it over with Coach, and we're all on the same page."

UConn coach Jim Calhoun has said Gordon is ready for the NBA.

Gordon's teammate Emeka Okafor is also expected to skip his senior season. The All-American center will graduate early in May. He plans to hold a news conference later this week, the source said.

To be eligible for the June 24 draft, an underclassman must send a letter to the NBA by May 10. A player with eligibility remaining who has not signed with an agent must withdraw from draft consideration by June 17 to return to his college team.

Hammerin' Hank says public opinion will decide on Bonds' legacy

Hank Aaron's admiration for Barry Bonds won't be tarnished if it's proven that the San Francisco slugger used steroids, baseball's all-time home run king told The New York Times in a story for Wednesday's editions.

Aaron said he would "let the public judge for themselves," whether Bonds' records should be tainted.

"I'm just hoping and praying nothing comes up," Aaron told the newspaper. "I admire Barry Bonds. Steroids or no steroids, he would have had a Hall of Fame career."

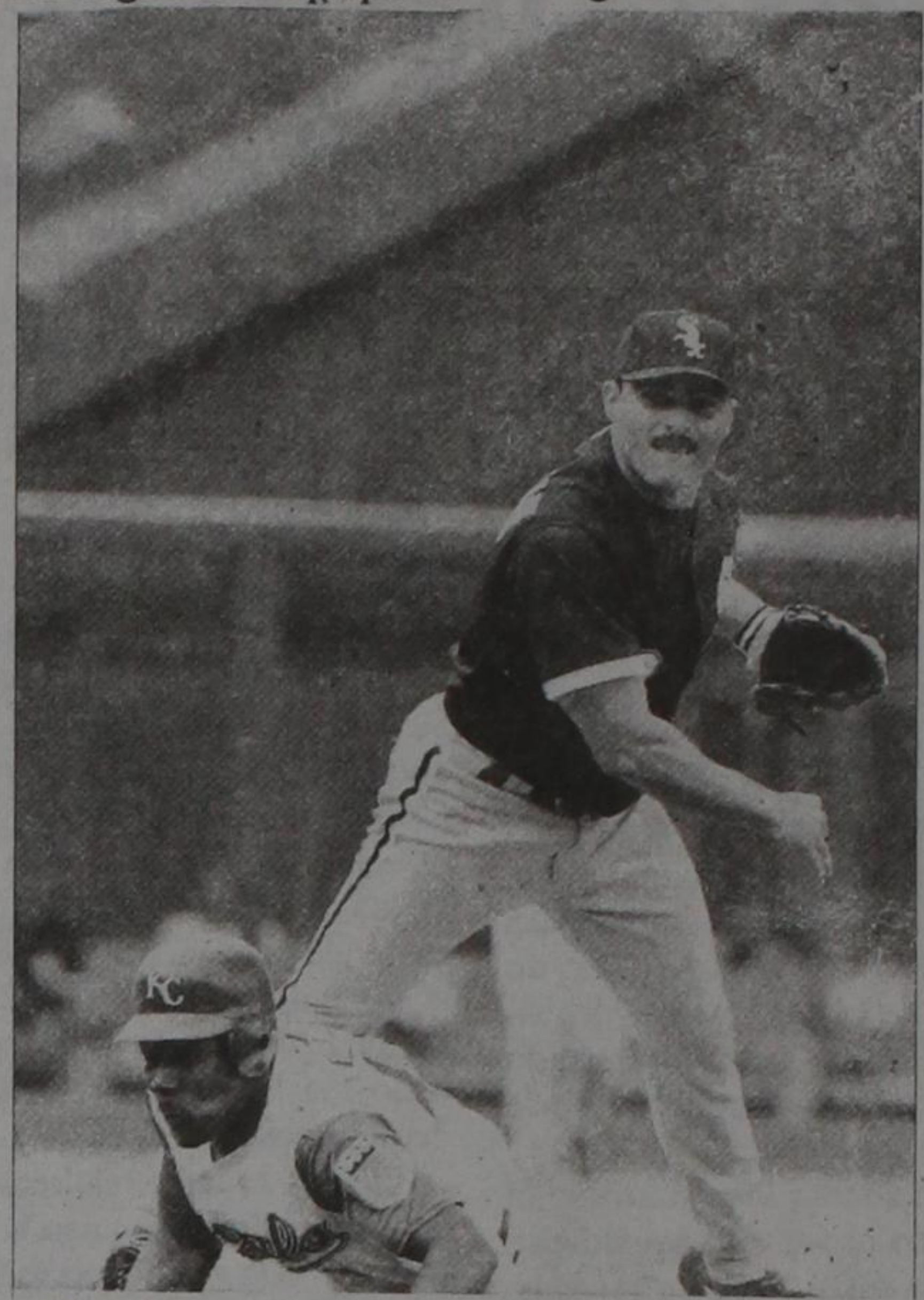
Aaron, who set the major-league record with his 715th homer 30 years ago Thursday, will be honored at the Braves' game that night.

Bonds is fourth on the career list with 659 home runs, one behind Willie Mays. After Aaron broke Babe Ruth's record, he went on to finish with 755 career homers.

"Barry Bonds has done everything -- hit home runs, steal bases, hit for average. He's practically carried his ballclub on his back," Aaron said.

If Aaron had to pick his favorite modern player, though, Bonds wouldn't be it.

"If you put all of today's best players in a room, my first choice would be Alex Rodriguez," Aaron told the newspaper. "He carries a little more weight in the locker room because everybody likes him, but Barry Bonds has been everything you want in a ballplayer."



White Sox shortstop Jose Valentin attempts to turn a double play as the Royals' Angel Berroa slides into second.

Summer Police Academy Holds Registration

Registration deadline for the South Plains College Basic Peace Officer Summer Academy has been extended to April 22.

A non-refundable \$50 application fee is required for a state and federal background check through the Texas Commis-

sion on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE).

The academy will meet 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday May 5-Aug. 13 in the SPC Law Enforcement-Petroleum Technology Building.

The course is open to per-

sons 21 and older who want to be peace officers in Texas.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, high school graduates or have the GED with 12 hours of approved college credit and must not have had a Class B or higher conviction in the last 10 years.

The course meets TCLEOSE requirements for the Texas peace officer licensing exam. Course topics include use of force, human relations, profes-

sionalism and ethics, fitness and wellness, strategies of defense, mechanics of arrest, criminal investigation and others.

Instructors are Larry Nichols, academy coordinator and SPC law enforcement personnel. Application packets are available in the SPC Law Enforcement-Petroleum Technology Building, Room 102.

For more information, contact SPC at 806-894-9611,

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For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager Paulo Peres. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fax 806-742-2241 or e-mail; paulo.peres@ttu.edu.

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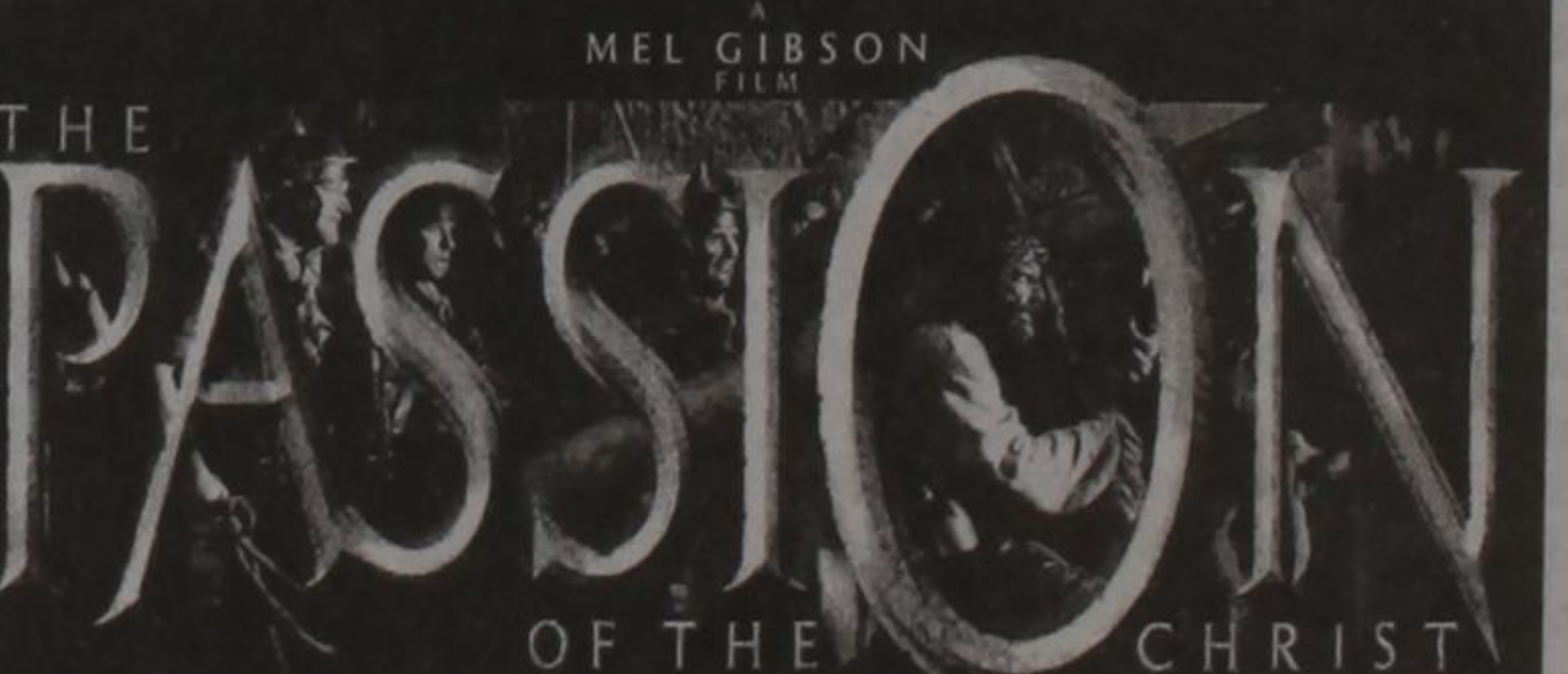
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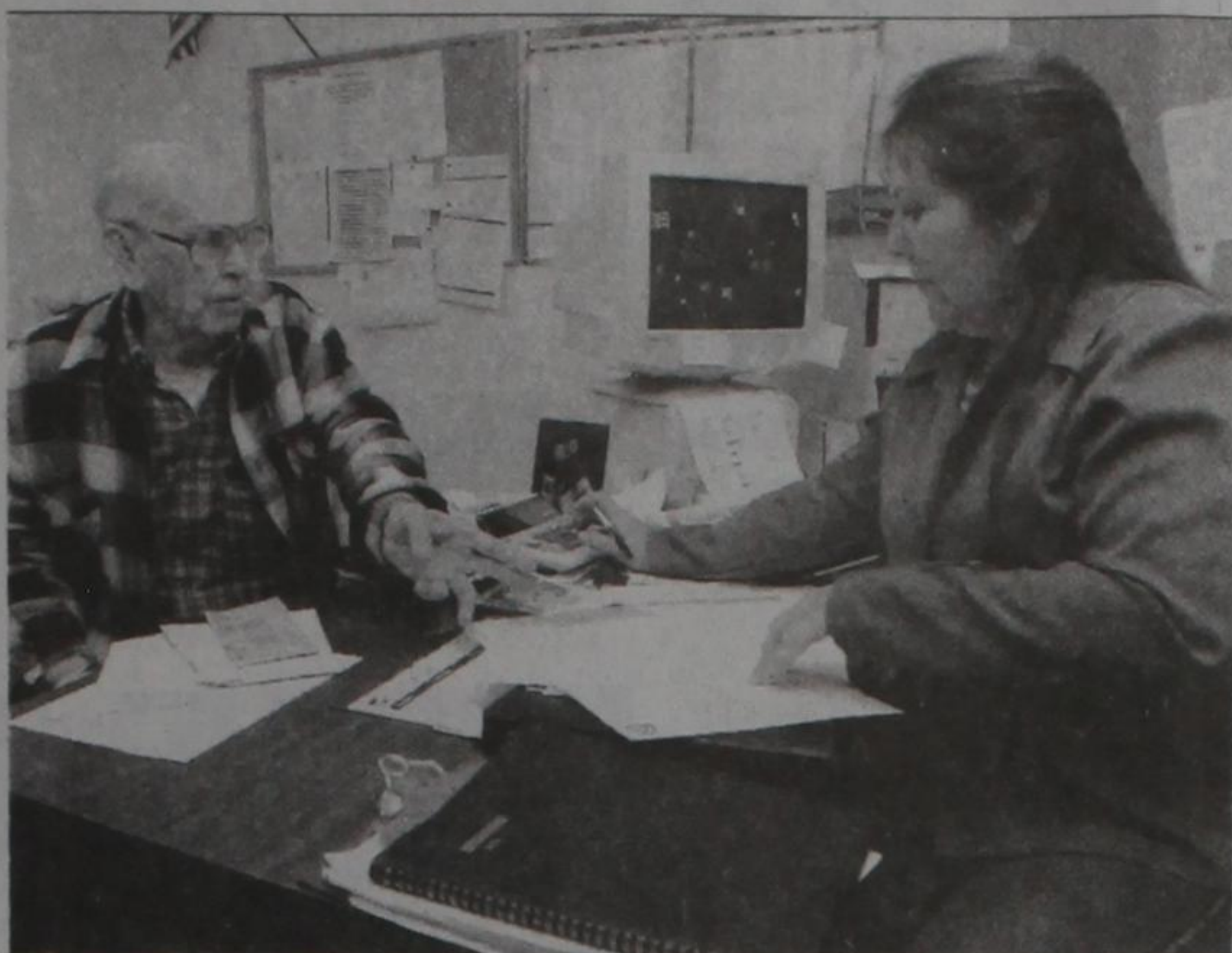
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Hispanic Unemployment Remains Stagnant Despite Small Gains on National Employment, Latinos Continue to Struggle

The Hispanic unemployment rate remained alarmingly high last month at 7.4 percent, according to a government report released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Latino unemployment rate is 28 percent higher than when President Bush took office - and is significantly higher than the national average, which went up to 5.7 percent in March.

"Since the beginning of the Bush Administration, 2.6 million private-sector jobs have been lost," Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi said. "Despite some welcome increases in job creation, the fact remains that the unemployment rate increased this month to 5.7 percent -- well above the level of 4.2 percent when President Bush took office. This is a monumental failure. It's time for the Administration to work with Democrats to pass a highway bill, create incentives for small businesses and manufacturing firms to grow, and create



jobs." "Particularly troubling is that the African American unemployment rose to 10.2 percent, and Hispanic unemployment is still very high at 7.4 percent," Pelosi added. "We have a long way to go to bring good news to the 8.4 million Americans who are currently unemployed."

As unemployment continues to make it harder for Latino workers to provide for their families, House Republicans refused again today to extend unemployment insurance. From late December through the end of March, an estimated 1.1 million jobless workers have exhausted their regular unemployment benefits without receiving additional aid. This has a devastating effect on the 1.4 million unemployed Latinos who are still looking for work. This is the largest number of "exhaustees" in over 30 years, and this figure will only continue to grow as 80,000 jobless workers exhaust their regular benefits each week. Democrats in the House and Senate are working to extend the unemployment insurance program.

"We need sustained job growth to undo the last three years of decline under the Bush economic plan," said Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez, Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC). "The Hispanic and Black communities, the hard-

est hit by the recession, haven't received any of the benefits from the Bush economic plan. The Hispanic community is the largest minority in America; it benefits everyone to have our community employed and actively contributing to our economy."

The average length of unemployment is at the highest level in 20 years. In March, 2 million people had been unemployed for over six months, the highest level in 10 years and about three times the number at the beginning of the Bush Administration.

"Today's report may seem like welcome news, but for the millions of Latino families who have been left out in the cold, it is not," Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (D-CA) said. "While the Republicans are claiming victory, the sad fact is that the unemployment rate continues to rise and Latino families continue to struggle under Bush's failed economic policies."

Instead of passing a fair, fast acting, and fiscally responsible tax cut for working families, Republicans passed a new round of tax cuts for those who do not need them. They voted against extending unemployment benefits for three million Americans. And they refused to consider a Democratic highway proposal that would have created an additional 1.8 million jobs nationwide.

Bilingual Latina Girls Magazine Celebrates 1st Anniversary & Launch of Teen Version

Reacting to the lack of media geared towards Latina girls in the United States, students at the University of Texas at Austin founded Latinitas, a bilingual online magazine (www.latinitasmagazine.org) for Latina pre-teens.

Latinitas, for girls ages 9-14, celebrated its one year anniversary of publication on March 15, by launching a sister version of the magazine, Teen Latinitas, (www.latinitasmagazine.org/teens.html) for teens and young women ages 15-20.

The Hispanic population in the United States is currently the largest minority, a third of which are under age 18. In fact, one in five teens in the United States (20 percent) is of Hispanic descent and though those numbers only grow larger, such statistics are not reflected in media; less than a handful of publications exist for Latino youth at all.

"It's rare I see myself represented in the media," says Latinitas editor and web master Alicia Rascon, born in Mexico and raised in El Paso, Texas. "When we are, the image is often watered-down to one Latina amalgam or often, stereotyped to a frustrating degree. This magazine is an effort to counter that, at an early point in these girls' lives."

The initial aim of Latinitas was to fill a class requirement in a University of Texas Latino media studies class. But, Ms. Rascon and classmate Laura Donnelly, along with the help of many contributors, translators, consultants and photographers continued to develop Latinitas into a publication staffed by volunteers. Featuring six sections including Fun Stuff, HERstory, Latina Beat, Real Life, Your View and 411, Latinitas magazine covers sports to quinceneras; getting into college to dealing with confrontation at school. Sections like "Your View" create an online forum where Hispanic girls can submit artwork, poetry and fiction. "HERstory" offers profiles on adult Latinas achieving in business, the arts, politics, sports and entertainment. Teen Latinitas will host the same subject headings, but will address more mature is-

sues faced by Latina girls, and most importantly will also feature a toggle button to switch back and forth to Spanish text.

A truly innovative aspect of the magazine is the integral role that Latina pre-teens and teens play in the development of content, a collaborative effort of adults and youth. Junior reporters act as an editorial advisory group helping Latinitas staff make editorial decisions, affecting the direction of the magazine. Furthermore, Latinitas offers aspiring Latina journalists the opportunity to express themselves by publishing their work. Latinitas college editorial interns mentor and tutor our junior reporters guiding them in development of story ideas, conducting interviews, researching stories, writing articles, and editing content. Latinitas is currently accepting applications for Latina high-school students who seek hands-on journalism experience with a growing magazine.

On her experience with Latinitas, Karina Vasquez Torres, 12, says "I definitely like when we make our own newspapers, I feel like I could become an editor or it can help me if I want to be an author or something."

Latinitas co-editor Laura Donnelly explains, "We feel like the only way to strengthen the Latina voice in media is to provide a forum and instruction to cultivate Latina journalists. It was great to hear my peers in journalism school pledge they would cover minority opinion, use minority sources and be inclusive in news coverage. But, the reality of a newsroom is you do what your editor requests and if that editor isn't empathic for Hispanic issues, or more importantly, part of that community,

the coverage may never happen," says Donnelly.

There is a particular urgency regarding Latina girls. Statistics for this population can be bleak. According to the National Health Institute, they are placed at the highest risk amongst their African American, Asian, Caucasian, Native American and Pacific Islander peers for teenage pregnancy, drug abuse, obesity and a drop in grades and confidence on the cusp of entering high school.

As a counter, Latinitas magazine aims to foster positive self-images, while encouraging Latina youth to accept and appreciate themselves through entertaining, inspiring, and culturally relevant content. In addition, Latinitas is a forum for building a sense of community where girls can communicate with others like themselves.

Latinitas readers and contributors needn't be Latina says Donnelly and Rascon.

"I am not Latina, just fascinated with Latino culture, something ubiquitous growing up in the Northeast," says Donnelly. "I also grew up looking at youth magazines, not identifying with the images. Though I'm white -- none of the girls had frizzy, curly hair like me; my face or experience just wasn't there. Latinitas and Teen Latinitas celebrates diversity, something all girls can benefit from."

Adds Rascon, "We also want Latinitas to stand apart from mainstream magazines which often teach girls to look outside themselves for validation. There are Latina women's magazines out there who have paved the way for us, but we feel like the same context needs to be created regarding the complexities of being a young Latina."

Bush Signs Bill Booting Small Business Loans

President George W. Bush signed legislation Monday that will increase loan authority for the U.S. Small Business Administration's flagship 7(a) loan program by more than \$3 billion. The 30 percent increase in small business loans for the current year will allow the SBA to lift a three-month-old cap of \$750,000 on 7(a) loans and drop restrictions on piggyback loans.

"The President's action today will allow the SBA and small businesses the opportunity to get down to the business of financing growth and creating jobs for the U.S. economy," said SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto. "I believe we can expect another record-breaking year for the SBA's flagship 7(a) loan program, and another historic year for America's small businesses."

The new law increases the 7(a) program's lending authority for this year to \$12.5 billion, allowing the program to reach up to 90,000 small businesses in fiscal year 2004, creating or retaining up to 500,000 jobs for hard-working Americans.

The legislation also allows the SBA to immediately remove the \$750,000 cap on 7(a) loans, returning it to its previous \$2 million level. The bill also raises the maximum on SBA Express loans to \$2 million and allows the SBA to raise the maximum guaranty on loans up to \$2 million to 75 percent. Piggyback loans will once again be allowed.

The legislation reauthorizes the 504 loan program and sets authorization levels for the Small Business Investment Company program through the end of the fiscal year. The bill also guarantees that the SBA's Small Disadvantaged Business and Preferred Surety Bond programs will remain in continual service through the end of the June 4, 2004.

El Editor

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Public Notice

This statutory notice is to announce the formation of the People's Liquor Coalition, Roger Settler, Director. The office address of said Coalition is: 2120 Broadway, Lubbock, Texas 79401-2913. Telephone: (806) 747-1230; rqssettler@aol.com.

This purpose of this Coalition is to circulate Local Option Liquor Petitions for the legal sale of beer and wine in Justice Precinct Number Three of Lubbock County, Texas. The abovementioned petitions shall be submitted to the Lubbock County Office of Elections, Dorothy Kennedy, Elections Administrator, 1308 Avenue G, Lubbock, Texas 79401; (806) 775-1339; dkennedy@co.lubbock.tx.us.

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Thalía launches magazine bearing her name

Once again, Mexican singer Thalía proves that she is a successful woman as she takes one more step in her consolidated artistic career when, disregarding superstition, she launches the magazine that bears her name on Tuesday the 13th.

Already used to being one of the Latinas who has made a name for herself in the United States and having appeared on the covers of major magazines, today, Thalía begins a new facet in her life, first she made famous the children's and youngsters' group

"Timbiriche", a short time later she stood out as an actress with her role on "Quinceañera" going on to her "Marias" trilogy.

A short time later she struck out as a solo performer displaying her artistic talents, adding to her voice the cadence

of her hip movements (recall the opening for her "Maria Mercedes" series) time and her drive to excel have taken her to the peak of what she has been able to consolidate in her career up to now.

A short time later she again turned heads, as the precious young woman married an "impresario", Tommy Mottola nonetheless, then president of Sony Music, one of the most prestigious firms in the artistic world.

Today Thalía has demonstrated that she not only does well as an actress and a singer, but also in launching an entertainment magazine that she does not just own and direct, but she joins as a reporter and interviewer; thus, in 'Thalía's' first edition, the magazine features an interview she did with her colleague, the no less controversial, Jennifer López.

According to the media, the magazine is currently on sale across the union, including

Puerto Rico and Hawaii; the date for its launching in Mexico, her native country, has not yet been announced.

Thalía's newest project will be published on a monthly basis and according to the vice-president of American Media (in charge of the magazine's marketing), Stuart Zakim, the May and June issues are ready. She expects the 100,000 first edition to be followed with a larger number in upcoming months depending on its success.

Banderas considera a México como su segunda patria

Madrid, España, 31 de marzo, 2004 (Notimex) - El actor español Antonio Banderas afirmó que México es casi como su "segunda patria", después de haber filmado seis películas en ese país y confirmar que rodará otra cinta en territorio mexicano.

Al término de la presentación, en la capital española de la cinta de Christopher Hampton "Imagining Argentina", Banderas declaró a Notimex que su experiencia profesional en México ha sido siempre "fantástica".

El reconocido actor se trasladará pronto a México para rodar la secuencia de la película "La máscara del Zorro", también bajo las órdenes de Martín Campbell.

Banderas tiene previsto residir en el país americano, junto con su familia, los cinco meses que durará el rodaje en los que trabajará con la bella actriz Catherine Zeta-Jones.

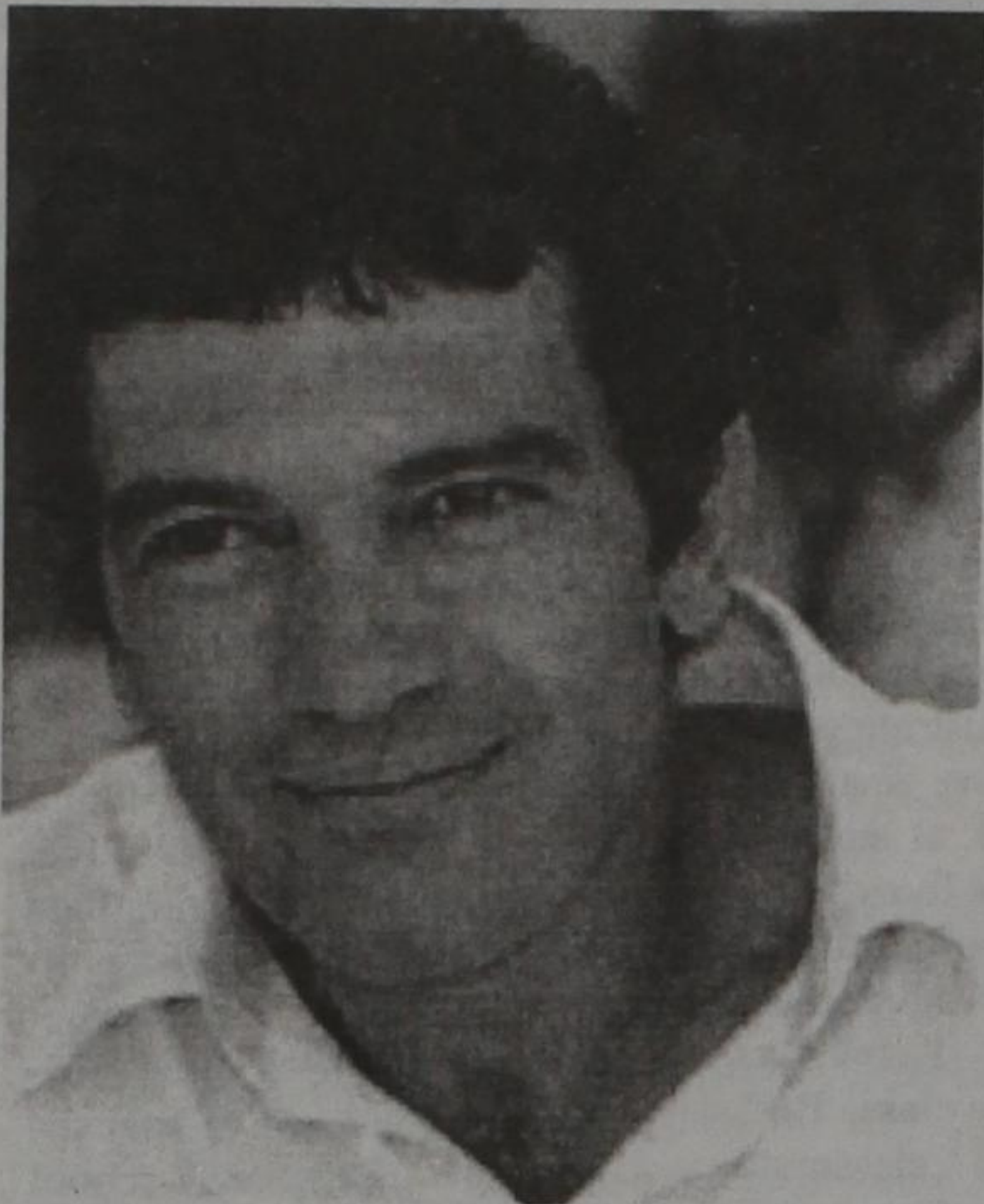
En la actualidad el artista, protagonista de filmes como "La casa de los espíritus", promociona "Imagining Argentina" en España, junto a la actriz británica Emma Thompson ("Lo que queda del día", "Sentido y Sensibilidad"), y el actor mexicano Kuno Becker.

La cinta de Hampton narra el drama de los desaparecidos durante el régimen militar argentino a través de la historia de un director de teatro de Buenos Aires (Antonio Banderas) que, a raíz del secuestro de su mujer y su hija, descubre que es vidente.

La película, que tras su estreno en España será

proyectada en Estados Unidos y Latinoamérica, fue presentada durante el Festival Internacional de Cine de Venecia, donde recibió una dura crítica por parte de la prensa especializada.

El filme "intenta dar voz a las víctimas del régimen militar argentino es una historia viva



en una Argentina donde no se han cerrado las heridas", pero una historia que se repite en otros muchos lugares del mundo, afirmó Banderas.

Lo que más conmovió al actor fueron los testimonios de las víctimas, de los propios familiares, de las Madres de Plaza de Mayo y, sobre todo, ser capaz de "adivinar en sus ojos la esperanza, no ya de encontrar a sus hijos, sino a sus nietos", dijo.

"El cine no puede cambiar el mundo, pero cada película es como un granito de arena para generar una opinión pública

sobre algo desconocido por muchos y evitar que sigan ocurriendo cosas como éstas", manifestó.

El actor defendió la película al asegurar que no tiene un enfoque tan frívolo como se ha dicho, a pesar de que aparezca el tema de los poderes

paranormales, y afirmó que las propias Madres de Plaza de Mayo avalaron el guión y formaron parte del proyecto.

"Cuando la población es atacada, recurre a las instituciones, pero cuando son las instituciones las que atacan, sólo queda un vacío tremendo. No había dónde acudir y eso es lo que cuenta la película, que la gente acudía a donde fuera", relató el actor.

También Thompson defendió el filme que para ella es un "intento por dar voz a los oprimidos, a los torturados y a los desaparecidos el arte es una forma de mostrar el horror, para que no se olvide", señaló la reconocida actriz británica.

"La única forma de enfrentarse a la tortura y a la violencia es a través de la imaginación. Si no se habla de ellos es como si les hiciéramos volver a perder la voz a los desaparecidos, otra vez", afirmó Thompson. NOTIMEX

Elvis Crespo ready to launch "Saboréalo"

Famous Puerto Rican merengue singer Elvis Crespo stated he is ready to present to his followers his most recent recording titled "Saboréalo", a reflection of the way he enjoys life after having overcome his emotional crisis.

"I'm savoring this moment in my life, it is the best in a long time," said the singer of "Suavemente", who will launch as the first single "Hora Enamorada", a song from the album he will put on the market upcoming May 4.

In an interview for the local daily Primera Hora, the artist said, "I'm really bold presenting something new, but the fact that I have become famous for running around does not mean that I have to feel awkward about my story, people also know I'm romantic."

"I grew up in a world of romantic, pleasant songs," added Crespo, who admits, "I was a womanizer, but I have grown in my life. It doesn't mean that I'm going to stop being charming or making mistakes, I have a wonderful woman beside me whom I don't want to lose," he said.

Crespo is thrilled about his reconciliation with his wife Ana Ceruto, the mother of 12-year-old Elvis Francisco, following several conflicts between them because of the singer's alleged infidelity and his having had three children outside of marriage.



Teatro En Español

Una obra de teatro mexicana se presenta en Texas Tech.

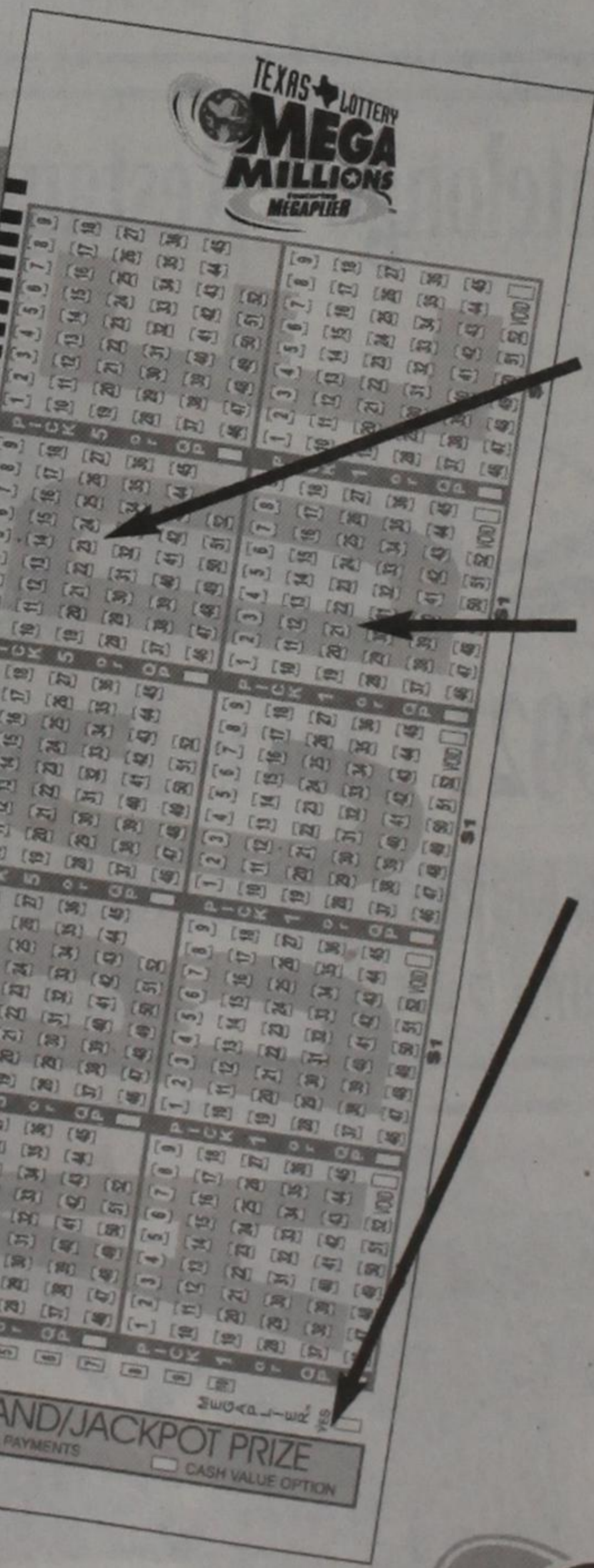
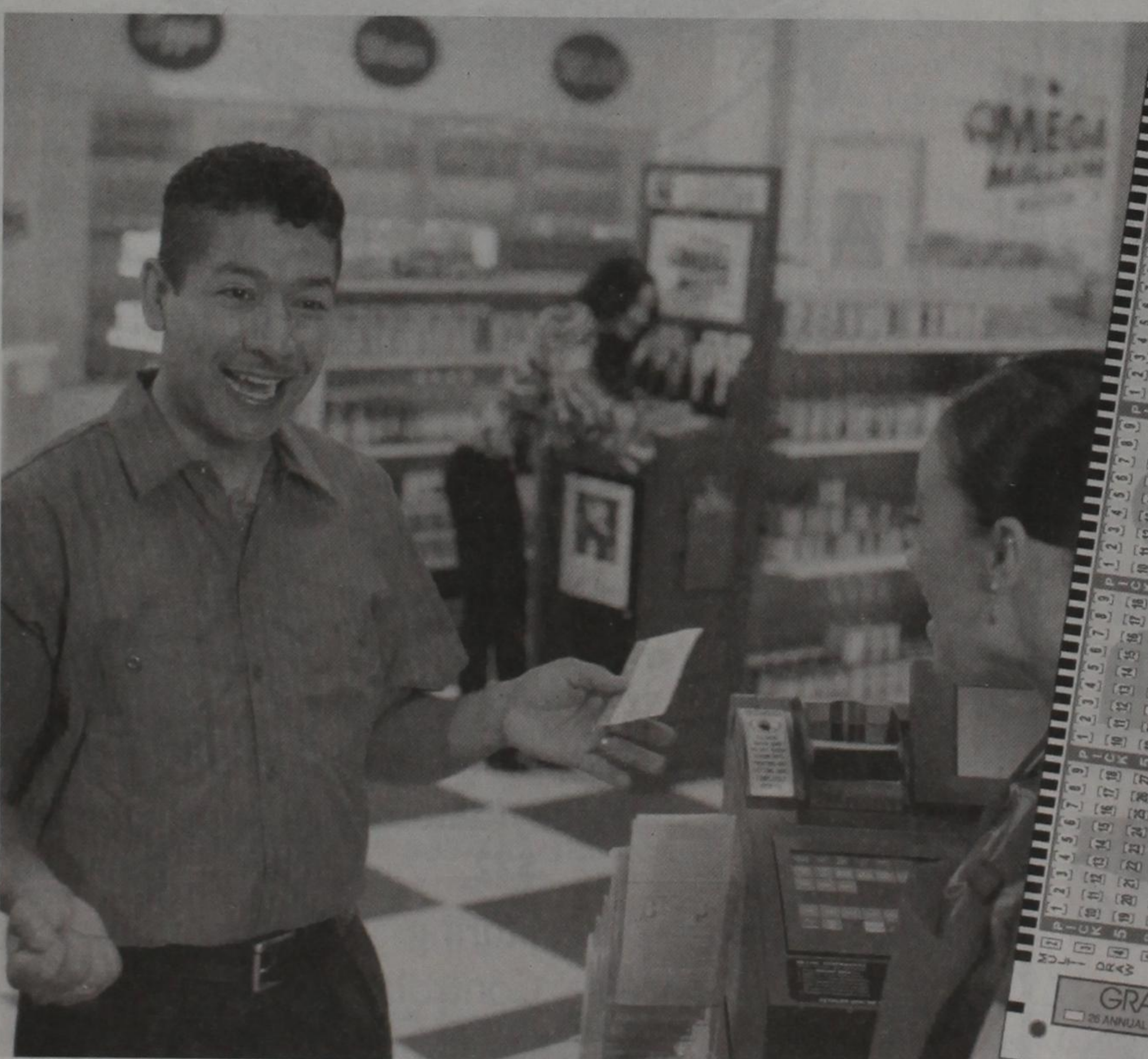
Un grupo de estudiantes del Departamento de Lenguas Clásicas y Modernas y Literatura de Texas Tech presentará la obra de teatro *Las Máquinas de Coser*, de la dramaturga mexicana Estela Leñero. Las funciones serán en el teatro de la escuela intermedia Cavazos (210 North University), los días viernes 23 y sábado 24 de abril a las 7 de la noche.

El grupo de actores está compuesto por estudiantes graduados y subgraduados de español, quienes además de actuar participan en todas las áreas de la producción.

La obra se presenta en español y la entrada es gratis. Para más información, puede comunicarse con el Dr. Cabrera al teléfono (806) 797-6793 o por correo electrónico: EduardoCabrea@ttu.edu



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