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Latinos Find Merit in Kerry Immigration Plan

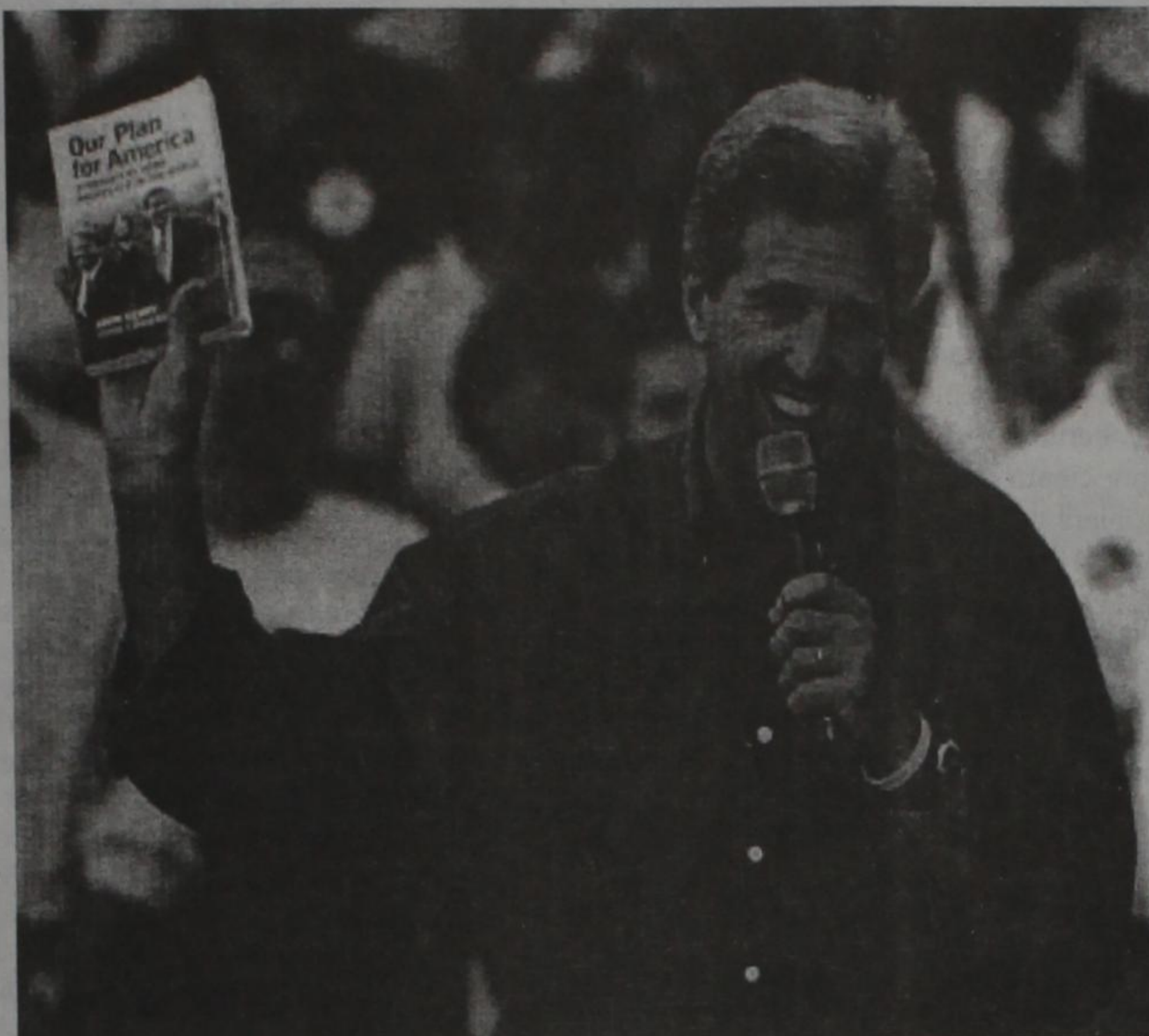
By John Trasviña

As never before in our nation's history, immigration affects every family, business and community. Sharp differences that have emerged between President Bush and Senator Kerry on immigration will shape Latino voter turnout and preference on Election Day.

Surveys already indicate that Senator Kerry's immigration proposals resonate deeply within the Latino community.

Labor Day used to kick off both the football season and the presidential general election. Now, for Latinos, the presidential race started in earnest with the ritual appearances of the major party nominees or their surrogates at the summer convenings of the National Council of La Raza, League of United Latin American Citizens, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund and the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, which unites with black, Asian American and Native American newsmen to stage the third UNITY: Journalists of Color convention this week.

Latinos are a rapt audience. When asked by the Pew Hispanic Center between April and June of this year,



72% of registered Latino voters stated they were following the campaigns "very or somewhat closely." A later survey, taken in July, showed 70% of Latinos rating their interest in the campaigns a "10" on a scale of 1 to 10. Gone are the days when a candidate uttering a few quaint Spanish phrases and using mariachis as props for photo-ops would constitute the whole enchilada of the Latino campaign effort.

Latinos prefer Senator Kerry over President Bush, 63% - 29%, according to a mid-July Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research survey of 1000 likely voters. By identical 48% - 29% margins, the survey found they choose Kerry over Bush on addressing Latino community concerns generally and on immigration specifically.

Senator Kerry's four-part immigration plan underscores the importance

of family reunification as a cornerstone of our legal immigration policies. It addresses the economic needs of businesses and communities that need jobs and workers. It also highlights the common security interests of North American nations, including those in the Caribbean, in keeping our borders and ports of entry closed to those who seek to do harm.

As president, John Kerry can lead the nation where George W. Bush has not.

To his credit, President Bush began his term with all the right gestures toward Mexico. He expressed personal affinity toward Mexico President Vicente Fox and made his first foreign mission as president to Fox's home.

In the Rose Garden in September, 2001, the two leaders promised an immigration accord. Then came Sept. 11 and the Administration began to view immigrants, including Mexican

immigrants and long-time non-citizen residents of the United States, as potential threats to the nation's security.

Placing the old Immigration and Naturalization Service into the department devoted to homeland security made it easier to ignore the labor, economic, community, social, educational and myriad other aspects of immigration law and policy and contributions of immigrants to our entire society.

This summer, the Bush Administration turned once again to immigration but offered only broad concepts. He failed to present specific legislation to Congress. In an attempt to fill that void, 63 Republican and Democratic senators, including John Kerry, put forward the AgJobs bill that grants legal status and some labor protections to farmworkers and a legal labor supply to the agricultural industry.

(Continued Page 5)

Los Latinos Hallan Merito en el Plan de Inmigración de Kerry

Por John Trasviña

Como nunca en nuestra historia nacional, la inmigración afecta a cada familia, empresa y comunidad. Las agudas diferencias que han surgido entre el presidente Bush y el senador Kerry respecto a la inmigración, formarán la representación latina y su preferencia entre los electores el día de los comicios en noviembre.

Las encuestas ya señalan que las propuestas de inmigración del senador Kerry tienen profunda resonancia entre la comunidad latina.

El Día del Trabajo en los Estados Unidos antes era el comienzo de la temporada del fútbol norteamericano y la elección general para presidente. Ahora, para los latinos, la campaña presidencial comenzó en serio con la apariencia ritual de los nominados por los grandes partidos o su representantes en las reuniones estivales del Concilio Nacional de La Raza, la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos, la Asociación Nacional de Funcionarios Latinos Elegidos y Nombrados y la Asociación Nacional de Periodistas Hispanos, que se une con los periodistas negros, asiático-americanos e indígenas norteamericanos en la tercera convención de UNITY: Periodistas de Color, esta semana en Washington, DC.

Los latinos somos un público cautivo. Cuando el Centro Hispano Pew realizó su encuesta de electores latinos entre abril y junio de este año, el 72% de los electores latinos registrados dijo que seguía las campañas "muy o algo de cerca". Una encuesta posterior, realizada en julio, señaló a 70% de los latinos con un índice de 10 como punto más alto de interés entre 1 a 10 en cuanto a las campañas.

Han desaparecido los días en los que los candidatos que murmuran unas cuantas palabritas en español, y usan de decoración a una banda de mariachis para las fotos cumplirían con toda la enchilada del esfuerzo por conseguir el voto latino.

Los latinos prefieren al senador Kerry sobre el presidente Bush, en un 63% a 29%, según una encuesta realizada por la organización de investigación Greenberg, Quinlan, Rosner, de 1000 personas probables a votar. Con márgenes idénticas de 40% a 29%, la encuesta encontró que prefieren a Kerry sobre Bush en cuanto al enfoque de las inquietudes de la comunidad latina en general, y en cuanto a la inmigración en particular.

El plan de cuatro partes del senador Kerry sobre la inmigración subraya la importancia de la reunificación de familias como piedra angular de nuestra política de inmigración legal. Se dirige a las necesidades económicas de las empresas y de las comunidades que necesitan empleos y trabajadores. También pone énfasis en los intereses de seguridad que comparten las naciones norteamericanas, incluyendo las del Caribe, en mantener cerrados nuestros puertos y fronteras de entrada contra los que quisieran hacernos daño.

Como presidente, John Kerry podrá llevar a la nación a donde George W. Bush no ha podido.

(Sigue en la pagina 5)

Historic Hispanic buying power this year

The buying power of Hispanics continues to grow, and like politicians on the campaign trail in search of votes, the country's largest corporations are courting this minority also.

A report from researchers Hispan Telligence, points out that between 1994 and 2004 Hispanic buying power in the United States grew at a high 7.5 per cent annually.

The number is a sizable one when it is compared to the 2.8 per cent annual growth rate of the country's entire population during the same time period.

This year, Hispanics' buying power will be 700 billion dollars, the highest in history, reflecting, among other things, their demographic growth as well.

"Certainly, we have a great interest in the country's Hispanic community, it's the highest growing market and we

don't want to be left behind," said Paul Guyardo, marketing director for K-Mart stores.

K-mart is geared towards low and middle-income consumers, but more and more companies or firms with a wide variety of products are pointing their guns in the direction of this Spanish-speaking market.

"We've had announcers that until now have not been traditional, and that is the best sign that the corporate world is finally acknowledging the potential," of this sector, pointed out a publicity director for Telemundo broadcasting chain.

"The evidence can be seen not only in the Hispanic press, but in the hiring of Hispanic or Latino personalities for television commercials in Spanish," said Micael Bolchalk owner of a public relations and publicity firm in Tucson, Arizona.

Demócratas activan 'pelotón de la verdad'

El Partido Demócrata puso en marcha ayer el "Pelotón de la verdad", una iniciativa para demostrar que el presidente George W. Bush, "dice una cosa y hace otra, no es una persona de palabra", señaló el congresista Ciro Rodríguez.

"Bush fue a México y dijo que se ocuparía de la inmigración, y no ha hecho nada", resaltó Rodríguez, de Texas. "Dijo que se ocuparía de la educación pero ha cortado los fondos para programas escolares que ayudaban a los hispanos".

"Bush prometió que América Latina sería una prioridad en su política exterior, y nunca más se ocupó del asunto", añadió Rodríguez, quien indicó que "en su último presupuesto, a la única región que se cortaron los fondos de asistencia fue a América Latina".

Rodríguez participó en una conferencia de prensa durante la cual el Partido Demócrata estrenó su "Pelotón de la verdad", dedicado a contrarrestar los ataques personales contra el candidato presidencial de su partido, el senador John Kerry.

"El 'Pelotón de la verdad' seguirá operando durante toda la campaña en tanto la campaña de Bush siga distorsionando la verdad sobre Kerry", afirmó el congresista Dick Gephardt (Missouri). "Este presidente no le dice toda la verdad al pueblo estadounidense".

El "Pelotón de la verdad" mostró a los periodistas un breve video de propaganda, que difundirá en los próximos días, en el cual se comparan las actividades de Bush y de Kerry desde la década de 1960 hasta el presente.

El general retirado de la Fuerza Aérea Merill McPeak, quien participó en la campaña electoral del ex candidato republicano Bob Dole y en la de George W. Bush, dijo que está "decepcionado" por la forma en que el actual gobierno "ha intentado engañar a la ciudadanía".

Explicó que él no cree que "el aumento del nivel de alerta por ataques terroristas anunciado estos días tenga motivos electorales".

"Pero el mero hecho de que haya quienes se preguntan si eso es posible es triste, indica que el gobierno de Bush ni siquiera puede responder a una amenaza de manera fiable", añadió.

McPeak dijo que, durante la campaña electoral de 2000, le atrajo la promesa de Bush de que su política exterior "estaría guiada por la humildad y la cooperación internacional", pero "lo que hemos visto es algo muy diferente".

Rodríguez, quien preside el grupo Hispano en la Cámara de Representantes, dijo que "Bush habló mucho de su programa educativo", pero esa iniciativa tiene una carencia de 27,000 millones de dólares en su financiación.

"El 27% de los estudiantes hispanos abandona las escuelas antes de completar los cursos", agregó. "Pero este gobierno ha combatido o eliminado los programas de actividades extraescolares que servían de apoyo a esos estudiantes".

Skip Barker, un abogado que sirvió con Kerry en la misma unidad naval durante la guerra de Vietnam, dijo que "esta nación tiene un pacto con sus ex combatientes, y es que cuidará de ellos porque ellos arriesgaron su vida".

"Pero Bush y miembros de su gobierno... han cerrado hospitales y clínicas que atendían a los ex combatientes, a quienes estuvieron en el servicio militar", sostuvo Barker. "Como nación, deberíamos estar avergonzados".

El congresista Elijah Cummings (Maryland) dijo que "durante el Gobierno de Bush se han perdido más de 1.3 millones de empleos netos, y 4 millones de personas han perdido su seguro médico".

"Los nuevos empleos creados no proveen cobertura médica y los sueldos son más bajos", añadió.



Comentarios

by Bidal Agüero

Un Poquito de Todo.....

Parents and residents of Hale Center are up in arms concerning some alleged mistreatment and discrimination toward students. According to reports some unusual punishment such as cleaning restrooms was given to students some of whom are undocumented. LULAC 263 is investigating the situation and working toward a solution. More on this as it progresses, but a meeting is scheduled with the City Council and School Board. For more information contact LULAC 263. Lulac meets every Thursday at 1304 Ave. Q

The Lubbock Arts Alliance is proud to join Fiesta Del Llano, Inc., the SPC Multicultural Services Office, the TTU Latino/Hispanic Faculty and Staff Assoc. and the TTU Office of Community and Multicultural Affairs in seeking area artists and poets to participate in the Alliance's first-ever artists and poets' gathering and art exhibit designed to celebrate the rich flavor of Hispanic/Latino culture prevalent throughout the South Plains Region.

The exhibit, Sabor Hispano, Palabras Y Arte, (Hispanic Flavor, Words and Art) will be on display from September 10th through September 30th in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month and in concert with the City's Annual Fiesta Del Llano Celebration at the offices of the Alliance located at 2109 Broadway.

Both professional and amateur artists and poets seeking to be a part of this historic event are encouraged to bring samples of their original works to the Arts Alliance Office. Selection will be based on the review panels determination of the artists or poets' interpretation of the Hispanic/Latino cultural experience. Paintings and other two-dimensional artwork should be framed or otherwise suitably packaged for gallery hanging and should be appropriate for a family audience. A photograph of the artist or poet should also accompany the works for possible inclusion in public relations information.

For more info, or to recommend a talented artist or a poet, contact the Arts Alliance at 744-ARTS.

Write Bidal at eleditor@llano.net

Cuerpo de Prensa de la Capital Blanco Hasta la Medula

Por Charlie Erickson

Washington, D.C., el centro de noticias más importante de toda la nación, queda vedado para los hispanos y otros periodistas de color.

Los resultados de la primera encuesta nunca de las agencias de prensa con oficinas en Washington, D.C., que ofrecen servicios a cientos de diarios por todo el país, indican que nueve de diez corresponsales en ellas son blancos. Del mismo color — declara la mayoría de los encuestados de otra raza — es la noticia que se cubre.

Sólo el 2.4 por ciento de los periodistas y editores con base en la capital es de ascendencia hispana, según la encuesta, que salió el 3 de agosto en una reunión de 7,000 periodistas durante la tercera convención de UNITY. Periodistas de Color en el palacio de congresos del centro de Washington, D.C.

No cuentan con ningún periodista ni editor hispano entre el personal que cubre las noticias de la capital los periódicos Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, USA Today y Chicago Tribune, cuyos números de personal son 46, 39, 26 y 17 respectivamente. Otros influyentes medios de prensa escrita como los diarios Dallas Morning News, Baltimore Sun, Boston Globe, Newsday, Washington Times y las cadenas como Copley y Scripps Howard, que cuentan con personal de entre 10 y 27 periodistas y editores, tampoco

cuentan con ninguna persona de color que cubra las noticias de la capital, con lo cual, la falta de color entre estas entidades sube de 11 a casi 250.

La encuesta la realizó la facultad de periodismo, Philip Merrill, de la Universidad de Maryland, y reportó que el 6.1 por ciento del personal de las salas de redacción de la capital es afro-americano, y el 1.9 por ciento es asiático. No se registró a un solo indígena norteamericano.

“No existe justificación alguna para que una empresa mediática no contrate a personas de color en su agencia con sede en Washington, D.C.”, fue la reacción del presidente de UNITY, Ernest Sotomayor, un editor con Newsday con base en Long Island, N.Y. “Es una especie de periodismo deshonesto porque es una decisión voluntaria excluir deliberadamente a empleados diversos, lo cual significa que la empresa mediática está satisfecha con ofrecer a sus lectores o público una perspectiva perjudicial de las noticias”.

El periódico The New York Times, con una agencia de 63 personas, cuenta con un hispano. De una planilla de 43, el Los Angeles Times cuenta con dos.

El ser asignado a esta cotizada ubicación “no depende de méritos

profesionales”, le dijo a Hispanic Link el director ejecutivo Julio Morán de la California Chicano News Media Association. “Depende de quién se lleva bien con quién”.

Los resultados de un cuestionario detallado que acompañó la encuesta que completaron 75 corresponsales de color en la capital mostraron que ni uno de los corresponsales le otorgó ni un “excelente” ni un “muy bien” a la cobertura de temas relacionados a la raza. “Medio” fue lo que marcó el 79 por ciento y “Malo” el 8 por ciento.

El setenta y cuatro por ciento indicó que sus colegas blancos del cuerpo de prensa “con poca frecuencia” o “nunca” buscan voces de grupos minoritarios para informar sus artículos que no tienen que ver con la raza.

El noventa por ciento dijo que la raza del periodista surtía un impacto sobre su cobertura, y el ochenta y cuatro por ciento concluyó que si hubiera paridad racial entre el personal reportero de la capital, habría cambios “significantes” o “algunos” sobre la cobertura de temas con relación a la raza.

Cuando dimitió frustrado Ricardo Chavira como corresponsal para el Departamento de Estado de Time Magazine hace 10 años, lamentó la falta de reporteros latinos en una columna para Hispanic Link News Service. “El cuerpo de la prensa en Washington, D.C., juega un rol extraordinariamente

grande en la formación de la opinión pública... y en la formación de nuestra perspectiva sobre el mundo”, escribió, agregando que, “La barrera al arcoiris en las salas de redacción de Washington, D.C., sencillamente es el racismo institucionalizado”.

Hoy, tras ser ejecutivo de las noticias y jefe de agencia noticiosa en la Ciudad de México para el Dallas Morning News durante varios años, dicta cursos de periodismo en la California State University en Fullerton. “Tengo los sentimientos encontrados sobre el asunto”, dice. “En los treinta años de mi carrera vi cómo declinaba el rubro. Los contadores se apoderaron de la sala de redacción”.

Otra ex-periodista anteriormente basada en Washington, D.C., Lydia Ramos, quien dejó su puesto de mucha influencia y exposición como productora de noticias para NBC-TV en el 2000, para convertirse en una de las destacadas educadoras de periodismo de la nación, con base en Los Angeles, contó que era la única de la agencia que podía hablar español. “Me alegro que finalmente alguien se pone a ver la situación”, dijo.

(Editor Charlie Erickson estableció Hispanic Link News Service en Washington, D.C. en 1980. Comuníquese con él por correo electrónico a: Charlie@HispanicLink.org)
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Capital Press Corps White to the Core

By Charlie Erickson

Washington, D.C., the nation's most important news center, is off-limits to Hispanics and other journalists of color.

A first-ever survey of Washington, D.C., news bureaus serving hundreds of daily papers throughout the country has found that nine out of ten correspondents reporting for them are white. So -- most surveyed non-white correspondents contend -- is the color of what's covered.

Only 2.4 percent of the capital-based bureaus' reporters and editors are Hispanic, found the survey, which was released Aug. 3 at a gathering of 7,000 journalists attending the third convention of UNITY. Journalists of Color at the D.C. Convention Center.

The Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, USA Today and Chicago Tribune, with capital news staffs of 46, 39, 26 and 17 respectively, count no Hispanics at all. The zeroes recorded by other influential major print media such as the Dallas Morning News, Baltimore Sun, Boston Globe, Newsday, Washington

Times, and such chains as Copley and Scripps Howard -- with staffs ranging from 10 to 27 -- brings the total brownout among those 11 entities to nearly 250.

Conducted by the University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism, the survey reported that 6.1 percent of the capital newspersons were black and 1.9 percent Asian. Not a single Native American was recorded.

“There is no justification for any media company to staff its bureau in Washington, D.C., without people of color,” reacted UNITY President Ernest Sotomayor, an editor with Newsday based on Long Island, N.Y. “It's dishonest journalism because it's a willful decision made to deliberately exclude diverse staff, and that means the media company is satisfied with providing its readers or audience a skewed view of the news.”

The New York Times, with a bureau of 63, has a single Hispanic aboard. The Los Angeles Time has just two on its staff of 43.

Who gets the plum capital assignments “isn't based on merit,” California Chicano News Media Association executive director Julio

Morán told Hispanic Link. “It's who's friendly with whom.”

Results of a detailed companion questionnaire filled out by 75 non-white correspondents in the capital showed not a single one giving the Washington press corps an “excellent” or “very good” grade on coverage of race-related issues. “Fair” grades were marked by 79 percent and “poor” by 8 percent.

Seventy-four percent said their white press corps colleagues “seldom” or “never” seek out minority voices for their stories that are not race-related.

Ninety percent said a journalist's race has impact on his or her coverage, and 84 percent concluded that if capital press corps staffing were brought to racial parity, there would be “significant” or “some” positive effect on coverage of race-related issues.

When a frustrated Ricardo Chavira quit as a Time magazine correspondent covering the State Department 10 years ago, he lamented the absence of Latino reporters in a Hispanic Link column. “The Washington press corps plays an inordinately large role in shaping public opinion... and shaping our

world view,” he wrote, adding, “The barrier to rainbow Washington newsrooms, plainly, is institutional racism.”

Now, after becoming a news executive and Mexico City bureau chief at the Dallas Morning News for several years, he teaches journalism at California State University-Fullerton. “I have mixed feelings about it,” he says. “In my 30-year career I saw the decline of the business. The bean counters got control of the newsroom.”

Another former Washington-based journalist, Lydia Ramos, who quit her high-profile job as an NBC-TV news producer in 2000 to become one of the nation's outstanding high school journalism educators in Los Angeles, recounted that she was the bureau's only Spanish-speaker. “I'm glad someone's finally taking a look,” she said.

(Publisher Charlie Erickson founded Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C. in 1980. He may be contacted by e-mail at Charlie@HispanicLink.org)
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An Open Letter to our Vice President

By Abel Cruz

Dear Vice President Cheney,

I couldn't help but notice that you were in town this past Monday. I mean, the local paper devoted more resources to your visit than they do to the normal news cycle here in this city. They even wrote an editorial welcoming you to Lubbock.

No sirree bob, no AP wire stories for your visit! In fact, it usually takes me a whole 5 minutes to read a Monday paper, this time it took me a whole 7 minutes. Perhaps you should visit more often?

And of course the television stations couldn't wait to get on the air so that their reporters could breathlessly detail how you were here on behalf of Congressman Randy. In fact, there was so much air time devoted to your visit that I think that they forgot about the weather. You see, for some reason, the weather here always dominates the airwaves. They are not more than two minutes into their newscast when they have to cut to the weather person so they can tell us that it's hot. I don't know about you, but hot air is hot air! How much can a person talk about it?

By the way, talking about hot air, how are your vocabulary lessons coming along. I heard your wife Lynn, had suggested you take some vocabulary lessons so that you could expand your linguistic horizons, so to speak. If you would like, I can get you together with some of my friends from the “barrio”, that means neighborhood in Spanish (since you have been too busy looking for the WMD's, I doubt that you have had time to take Spanish lessons lately) and I bet they can hook you up!

Seriously though; you might want to look into learning a little Spanish. I read the other day that there could be close to 8 million Hispanic voters casting their vote in this year's presidential election. Can you believe that? Boy, talk about a changing world. Kind of makes you wish that we had built that curtain on the Rio Grande that some in your party wanted to build a few years ago, huh?

Back to your visit though, I wish you hadn't left so quickly. By the way, let's say you were here for a total of 2 hours. Do you know how much it cost per minute for you to be here? I mean, I saw what seemed like every police officer that this city has, parked on the overpasses on Interstate 27 waiting for you to go by. And even DPS officers were parked in their nice cool vehicles on the highway leading to the airport. I mean, it must have cost a lot of money! And I only bring this up because the city council is always complaining that the city is strapped for cash. So if your visit was very expensive, who paid for it? Did Randy offer to help with the cost? Maybe you can ask your friends at Halliburton to sell more of that \$45 per case sodas to the soldiers in Iraq so that they can help us out?

By the way, did you read the editorial welcoming you to this city? Boy, talk about gushing. You should feel much honored that the editorial board took time to welcome you and write about your visit.

It wasn't the first time though. Just a few weeks back, they wrote about your use of the F word. But they said it was ok, since most of our youth do it. Well, just didn't want you to think that they don't write about you when you are not here. If you'd like I can see if I can find a copy and send it to you?

By the way, how is your daughter Mary? I mean I see everybody else's family with them, but you and your wife Lynn are always by yourselves. How come she hasn't joined you in your campaign visits like Jenna and Barbara join their dad? Did ya'll have a fight or something? Was it over gay marriages and your opposition to it? As director of vice presidential operations for your reelection campaign, I would think that she would join you in some of your appearances.

Oh well, I'm sure she'll come around. I'm sure that those family values that you and the President talk about will kick in any day now and she will see things your way.

What else did you do on your visit? Did your hosts take you to visit our newest business in East Lubbock? Boy, you would have been proud. In 25 plus years, there has been a Sonic, a Church's, a new United with bars on the windows, and now a new place called Williams Chicken opened there. In fact, the local editorial writers in the local paper are suggesting that businesses here in this city think about opening up new businesses there. I wonder why it took so long. I mean the East side has been there longer than you have been in politics. I guess that's what is meant by trickle down economics, huh?

Well I know you're busy and even though I have more to tell you, I know you want to get back to your friends at Halliburton. Isn't that the company you once ran? Boy, your friends at the Security and Exchange Commission sure took it easy on ya'll. Even though Halliburton secretly changed accounting practices back when you were the chief executive and they were able to inflate earnings by 46%, they were only fined 7.5 million dollars. Wow, I bet Martha Stewart wishes you had been her C.E.O. She probably wouldn't have had to even go to trial for her measly \$30,000 indiscretion.

In closing, good luck on finding those weapons, measure your words carefully, and give my best to Judge Antonin Scalia.

I have more to tell you, but I can wait, I'll tell you at the polls in November.

Best wishes!
©acruz2004

Email: acruzts@aol.com

Fahrenheit 911

By Alberto Pena

Fahrenheit 9/11 was not on my list of “Must See” movies, and it wouldn't have been if not for all the crying from Republican Conservative Radio and TV talking heads. The clamor of “Lies, Lies and more Lies” finally piqued my interest and broke my resolve. So, last week I paid the \$4.50 for the 3:00 p.m. matinee. The movie made me laugh and cry. It outraged, saddened, and disgusted me.

When I go to the movies, I go to be entertained. I do so with the clear idea that it is “Just a Movie.” I'm the old fashioned type who enjoys seeing the good guy get the girl and a serene sunset at the end. Movies are supposed to make you laugh, cry, outrage you and sadden you. Yes they are even supposed to disgust you. I do not go to movies to be persuaded to accept or reject any political agenda. But, when a movie

stirs your emotions as Fahrenheit 9/11 did for me, I'd have to say it's a pretty good show. That's entertainment.

There is no doubt in my mind that Michael Moore took certain editorial liberties but editorializing does not make a truth untrue. For example: It is true that President Bush was declared President by the US the Supreme Court. It is true that the Presidential limo was pelted with eggs on inauguration day (If Michael Moore had not shown this

incident in the movie, I would have never known about it). It is true that the President was on vacation 40% of the time the months prior to 9/11. It is true that the President did nothing when told that America was under attack and froze for 7 minutes when told that a second jet had been flown into the second tower of the World Trade Center. It is true that only one member of Congress has a son serving in Iraq. It is true that the Taliban was

welcomed in America although it was commonly known that they were harboring Osama bin Laden. It is true that the Osama Bin Laden's family was never questioned and allowed to fly safely out of the country soon after 9/11.

If I must draw some conclusion or offer an analysis or interpretation of the movie as my high school teacher always made me do, then I must say that it was Republican Conservative Radio and TV who are responsible for the historical box office success of the movie. My conclusion is that Fahrenheit 9/11 is less about “Lies, Lies and more Lies” and more about “Editorialized Truths” that “Rub, Rub, more Rub” Republican Conservative Radio and TV talking heads the wrong way.

The movie remains me of the “Mouse that Roared.” It would have been no more than a squeak if Republicans hadn't turned up the volume. Before I saw the movie, I wondered why the Republicans were so adamant in their protests and why they were discouraging people from seeing it. I no longer wonder. However, I do believe that the Republicans should be

grateful to Michael Moore. He added a new chapter to the Republican Strategy Book. The Chapter title should be “The Roaring Mouse is all Squeak and No Bite.”

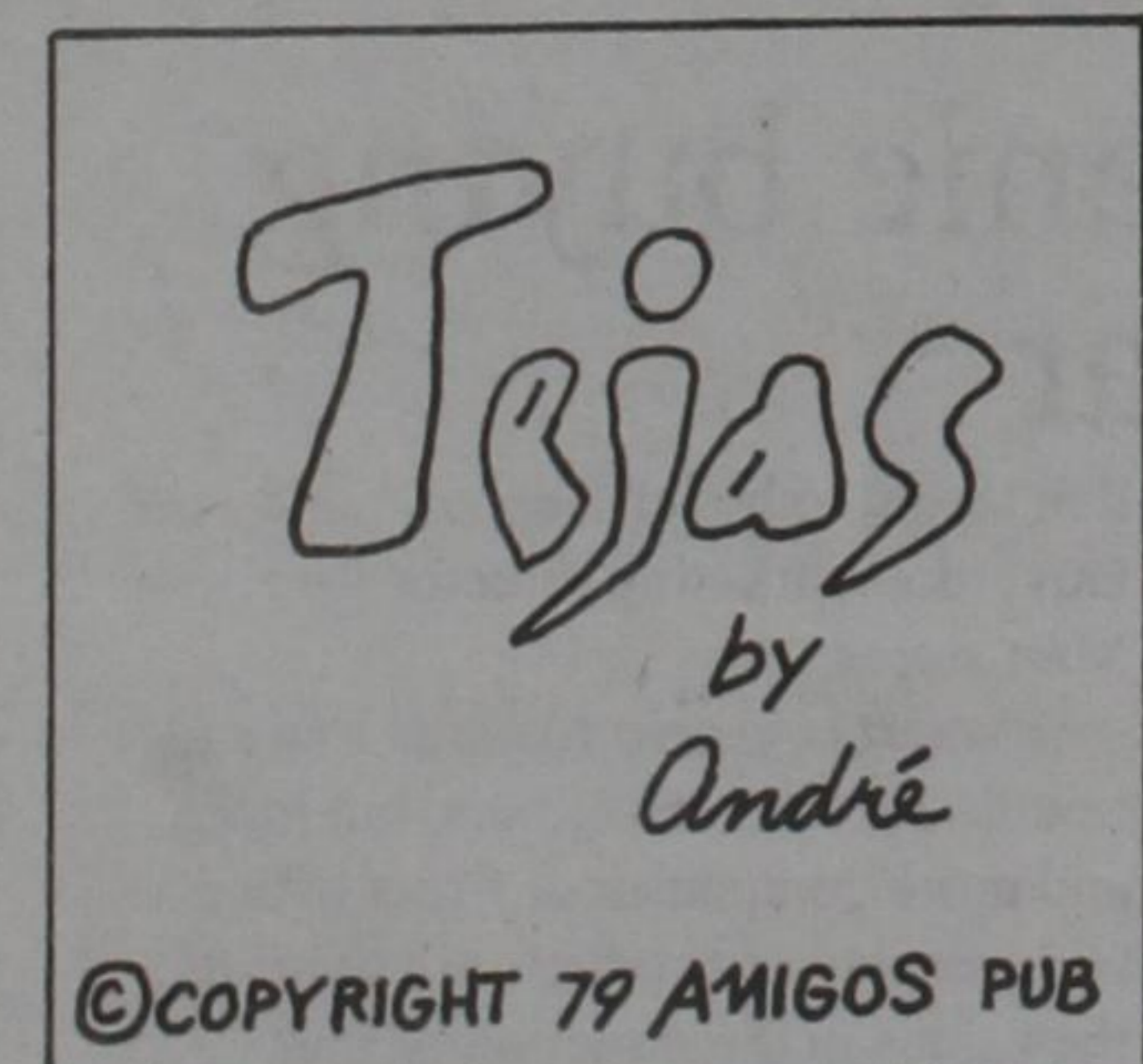
I give the movie 3-stars for its entertainment value. If you haven't seen it, go ahead have a good laugh on its detractors and cry with the American and Iraqi mothers over the death of their sons and when you see the dead Iraqi baby who committed no crime against America.

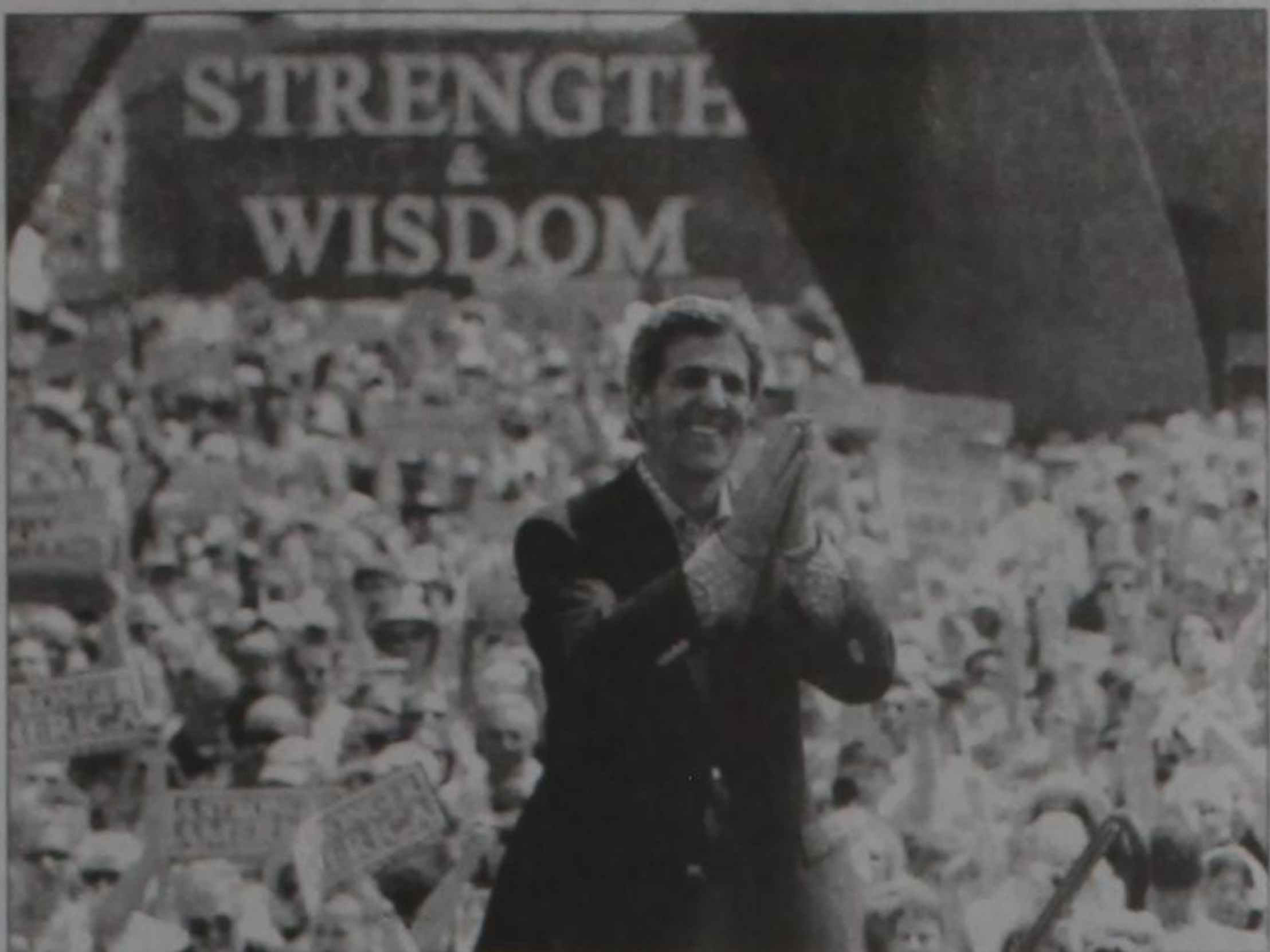
Siempre Léa El Editor Primero

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El Congreso Llena de Energia a los Democratras

Por Sonia Meléndez

La concurrencia en el Congreso Nacional Demócrata en Boston acabó siendo la más diversa nunca, en el que las personas de color representaron un poco más del 40 por ciento de los 4,353 delegados.

De éstas, una de cada nueve personas - el 11 por ciento - era hispana. Muchos latinos jugaron un papel central, y continuarán haciéndolo mientras progresa la campaña.

El gobernador de Nuevo México, Bill Richardson, el primer hispano nunca en liderar un congreso nacional de un partido político importante, dijo que piensa participar en la campaña, incluyendo el ayudar con el enlace voluntario a la comunidad latina.

"Con el mayor crecimiento en la comunidad vienen mayores responsabilidades. Debemos registrarlos para votar, debemos organizarnos, debemos votar, y debemos ganar. Nuestro voto es nuestra voz", dijo durante el

curso a los conferenciantes durante las horas pico de televisión, pero algunos delegados, incluyendo a la representante demócrata por California, Loretta Sánchez, se quejaron que el congreso duró lo suficiente para colocar a más hispanos en las horas pico de televisión.

"Tuvieron cuatro días, cuatro días! Hay tantos miembros de nuestra comunidad que pudieron haber estado allí arriba hablando no sólo a nuestra comunidad, sino a todo el país y el mundo, sin ir muy lejos", dijo. "Si quieren llegar a nuestra comunidad como alegan, entonces deben atraer a más gente para ayudar a inspirar a nuestra comunidad a ir y votar y educar al resto del país sobre quiénes somos y cuáles son nuestras inquietudes".

Richardson respondió a la crítica con decir, "Bueno, somos dos y un montón de latinos más que ofrecemos discursos y eso me parece bastante bien". Añadió que no sería un factor determi-

A Close Encounter with Immigration Politics

By Roberto Lovato

An adoring crowd of Latino Caucus members raucously greeted Teresa Heinz Kerry, wife of presidential hopeful John Kerry, at the Sheraton this morning. Fresh on the heels of her multi-lingual debut at the Democratic Convention the night previous, Heinz Kerry came prepared with a tried and true trope of Latino politics: immigration.

"I'm about 7/8ths Latin," said the Mozambique-born heiress to the responsive Caucus - many of whom could remember when the scions of Democratic and Republican politics wouldn't even direct radio messages their way. Clearly in command of these foot soldiers, Heinz Kerry took the immigrant pitch a step further. "Recently a columnist challenged me saying that I really wasn't an immigrant because I was not poor." To the political piZata of a columnist, she replied: "Never heard of refugees, people who flee from difficult circumstances? Never heard of waiting for two years for a visa as I did? Never heard of being single, alone, working in New York City as I did at 25 years old at a tough job far, far away from your parents in Africa?"

By the end of her dramatic delivery, some were near tears, as she concluded: "You do not have to this country shackled - or poor - to know what immigrant life is." The quiet before the storm of applause signaled that the audience was hers.

After dedicating most of my professional adult life to securing legal status for Salvadorans and Guatemalans - including members of my own family who fled war and extreme poverty - I too trembled to hear Heinz-Kerry's story. Like most in the audience, I carry the immigrant



tropes in my emotional DNA. Many, if not most of the other speakers, including people many of us worked with (and worked for in the case former HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros who I got to know when he was head of Univision) to secure protected status for Central Americans, also shared immigrant interests. Hillary Clinton ("Wasn't it great to have a future first lady speaking fluent Spanish? And won't it be great when we have a President and first Lady who understand that in order for America to lead the world you cannot turn your back on your friends in Latin America?") and Michael Dukakis ("My parents are immigrants." "My grandson is named 'Pedro Antonio Dukakis'").

While I stood entranced by all the Latino and anglo elected officials stirring my subconscious with their appeals to the immigrant parent within, legendary United Farm Workers co-founder and friend Dolores Huerta whispered to me: "I heard they just killed the AG jobs bill!" The reliably forthright Dolores' reference to a House bill that would

accelerate legalization among agricultural workers startled me back into journalist mode.

Suddenly I started noticing that, while the immigrant stories were quite moving, not a single speaker said anything about the AG jobs bill or the DREAM Act (proposal to help 65,000 undocumented high school graduates become citizens if they complete college); none of the speakers mentioned the recent immigration raids and detention of hundreds in Los Angeles, (my home town), and other cities including Houston; there was no mention of the South Asians and Latinos I interviewed AROUND THE COUNTRY in the course of documenting cases of beatings with baseball bats, fire-bombed homes and other hate crimes targeting immigrants since politicians of both parties - including some of the speakers at the Caucus event - were ratcheting up the post 9/11 "defend America against its enemies" rhetoric.

Although some specifics about issues like education, housing and jobs did flow over the roaring crowd like a wave at a ballgame, immigration issues re-

mained under the radar at this Caucus meeting, in the shadow of the DNC platform.

"The Democrats do support the DREAM Act and the AG jobs proposal -- but you have to search hard to find it in the platform. Support for immigrants is only on the Spanish DNC website - not the English," observes Ali Noorani, head of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Coalition which is advocating for DREAM Act-like legislation in his state.

At a press conference titled "Where is the Vision?" he adds, "Nearly every speaker at the DNC this week says 'we are a nation of immigrants.' And I expect nearly every speaker at the RNC will also say 'we are a nation of immigrants.' He then asks, 'These days, what does 'a nation of immigrants' mean?' and answers with specifics not mentioned at the Sheraton. "It means the abuse of immigrant workers; it means no access to higher education; it means detention and deportation; it means NO PATH TO CITIZENSHIP."

Echoing Noorani's statements was eighteen-year old Angela Perez, who is not yet a legal resident and wants to continue her accomplished success in school, "I want my chance," she says, sharing stories about immigrant friends locked in legal limbo and parents trapped in low income jobs and living in crowded stress factories with roofs. "I think our politicians -- including Latinos -- should be more aware of immigration issues. We've had too much talk and not enough action." Asked if she thought a Democratic President would speak the 'legalization' word, she responded, "Only if we keep pressuring them."

Feeling Angela's determination, I conclude that it might make a difference whether or not the person stirring my subconscious with their appeals to the immigrant parent is poor like my parents were.



discurso a los participantes del congreso.

Otros latinos importantes dijeron que están comprometidos con diseminar la información a la comunidad que la papeleta Kerry-Edwards es de beneficio a los hispanos.

"Tenemos que trabajar para educar a la comunidad sobre la importancia de votar, porque si no lo hacemos nosotros mismos, no vamos a contar (a la hora de la elección)" indicó el representante demócrata por Arizona, Ed Pastor. Pastor es representante en el Congreso de los Estados Unidos uno de los estados llamados "de batalla" en los que se supone los electores van a determinar quién gana la Casa Blanca en noviembre. Los hispanos son el 25% de la población de Arizona.

Incluso los delegados hispanos jóvenes dijeron que se inspiraban con la papeleta Kerry/Edwards y lo que llaman su tremendo miedo de otros cuatro años con Bush. Juraron dedicarse sin descanso para asegurar que otros jóvenes latinos, quienes, como su contraparte, no votan en grandes números, y se presenten en noviembre a las urnas.

"Muchos de nosotros no participamos por lo que sentimos que no se nos hace caso, que nuestro voto no surte ningún impacto y que no hay esperanza. Pero este sentimiento no podría estar más lejos de lo que en verdad ocurre este año", le dijo a Hispanic Link Ricardo Hernández, de 23 años, activista comunitario quien forma parte de la delegación de Arizona. "Vimos lo que pasó en el 2000 cuando no votamos, y ahora (bajo Bush) hemos sufrido, nuestras familias han sufrido, y nosotros (los jóvenes) vamos a pagar los platos rotos de las políticas fracasadas económicas de Bush. Necesitamos esperanza, esperanza para un futuro mejor. Kerry nos ofrece mucha esperanza".

El congreso acarrió con un poco de controversia de parte de los latinos que dijeron que los organizadores no incluyeron a suficientes latinos en posiciones prominentes de discurso.

Dos latinos conocidos, Richardson y el representante demócrata por Nuevo Jersey, Robert Menéndez, dieron dis-

nante para la comunidad hispana de cualquier forma. "Me parece que esta papeleta es muy buena para los latinos. El senador Kerry tiene un buen plan de inmigración, un buen plan para empleos".

Kerry dijo que si lo eligen presidente, en los primeros 100 días de su administración pondría en marcha una gran reforma de la política migratoria y crearía un plan para eliminar los recortes de impuestos para los ricos del presidente Bush para dedicar esos fondos a programas económicos que llevarían a la creación de nuevos empleos.

"Los latinos tienen el mayor índice de desempleo de todos los grupos", dijo vice presidenta del sindicato nacional AFL-CIO, Linda Chávez-Thompson, quien asesora la coordinación de una campaña de registro de electores

en la comunidad inmigrante latina. "La comunidad latina más que nadie necesita una voz en Washington. No la tenemos con George W. Bush, y confío que con Kerry, Bush cambiará de trabajo en noviembre y que nosotros tendremos mucho que ver con eso".

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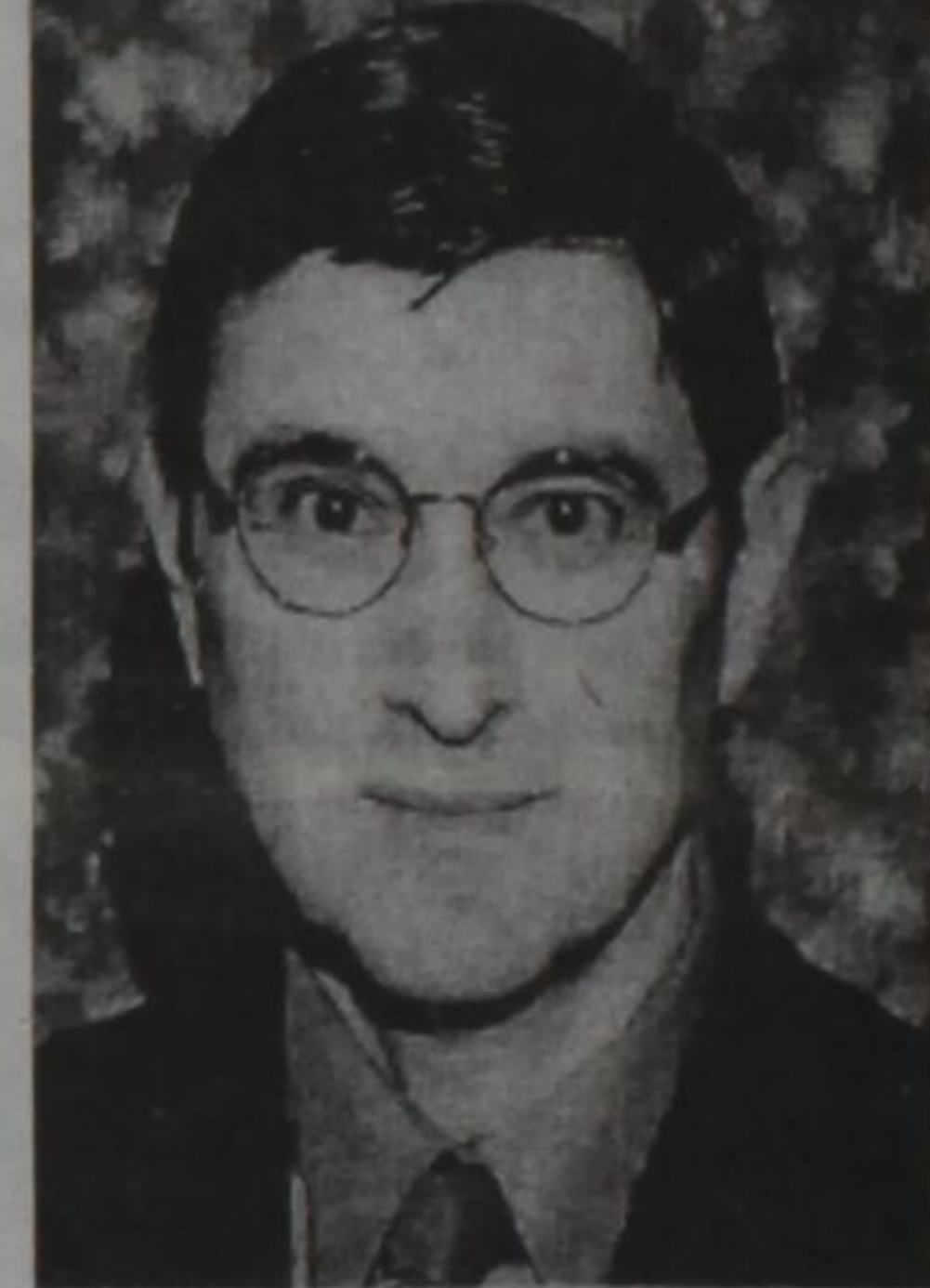
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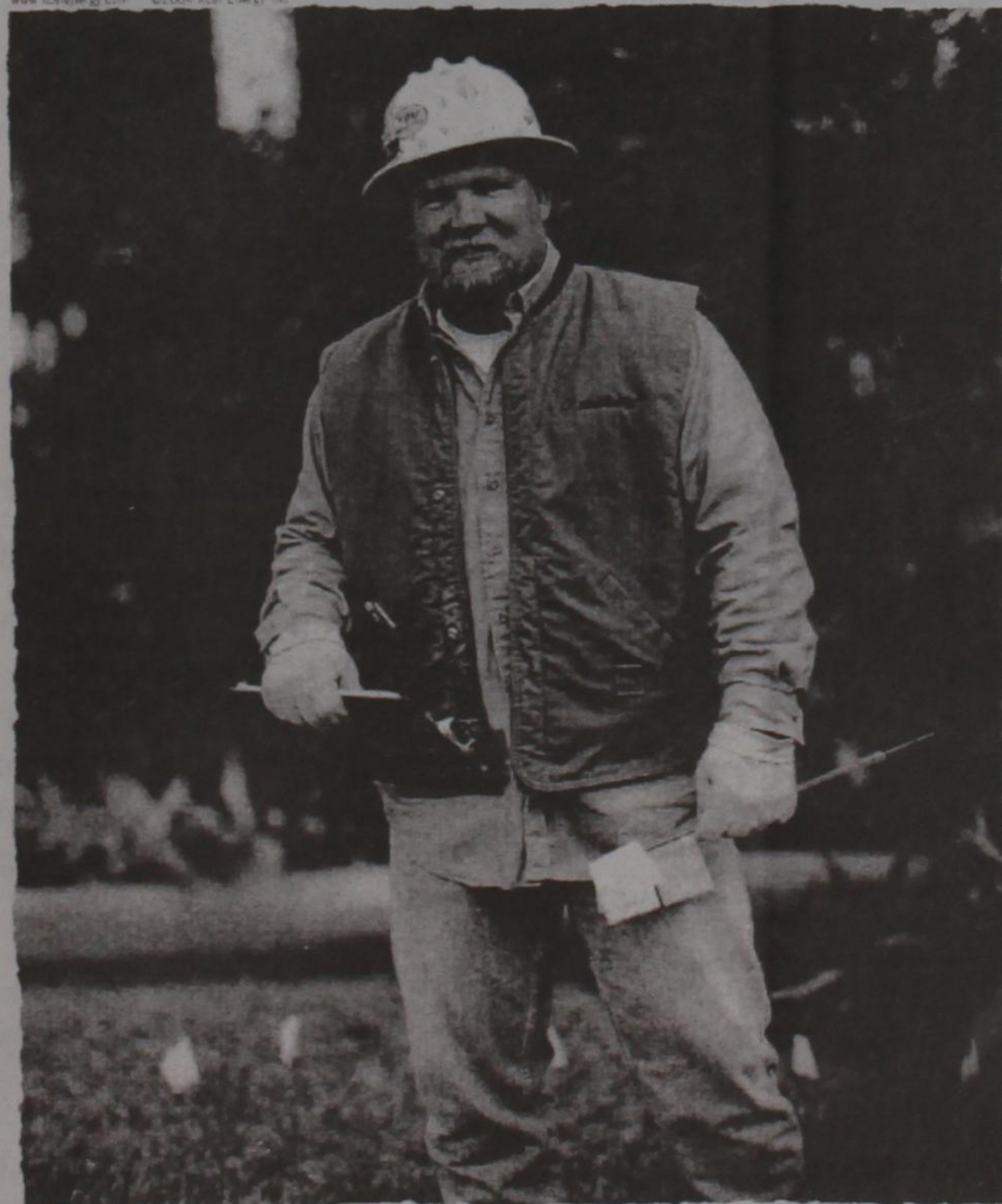
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**AL Roundup:
Struggling
Rangers get
third win in
10 games**

Mark Teixeira and Kevin Mench homered, and Eric Young hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the seventh inning to lead the Texas Rangers over the Detroit Tigers 5-4 on Tuesday night.

Young went 3-for-5 for the struggling Rangers, who won for just the third time in 10 games.

Frank Francisco (3-1) pitched 1 1/3 perfect innings in relief of Kenny Rogers, who failed in an attempt to become the American League's second 14-game winner. Francisco Cordero pitched a perfect ninth for his 32nd save in 34 tries.

With the game tied at 4 in the seventh, Gary Matthews Jr. led off with a double, took third on Rod Barajas' sacrifice bunt and came home with the go-ahead run on Young's single to right off Nate Robertson (9-6).

The Rangers led 4-1 with Rogers pitching well, but Ivan Rodriguez drew a one-out walk and took third on Dmitri Young's double. Carlos Guillen's RBI single brought the Tigers within two, and after Rondell White walked to load the bases, Marcus Thames singled to tie it.

Mavs get G Terry in four-player swap with Hawks

A good portion of this summer in the NBA has been spent waiting for the Dallas Mavericks to continue reshaping their roster.

Sources confirm they took one more step by agreeing to deal Antoine Walker, Tony Delk and a first-round pick to the Atlanta Hawks for Alan Henderson and Jason Terry. The deal will not be announced until Wednesday because the NBA offices were closed Tuesday.

The ramifications are palpable. By giving up nearly \$15 million in contracts with Henderson and Terry, it allowed the Hawks to absorb the more than \$14 million of Walker and \$3 million of Delk, yet retain enough room to sign free agent center Erick Dampier.

Sources continue to insist the Hawks aren't as interested in Dampier as they are in turning him over to the Memphis Grizzlies and acquiring Bonzi Wells and, hoping, for Stromile Swift, whom the Grizzlies have been reluctant to trade.

Acquiring Terry removes some of the pressure on the Mavericks, who exposed themselves at point guard when Steve Nash left as a free agent to Phoenix. The Mavs had already dealt Antawn Jamison to Washington for Christian Laettner, Jerry Stackhouse and a first-round pick they turned into Wisconsin point guard Devin

Harris. Although most people are very high on Harris, he doesn't figure to be ready for the responsibility of competing at the top of the Midwest Division, and Terry -- although real a combo-guard like Delk or better -- should relieve some of the anxiety in Dallas.

Jason Terry could be the Mavs link to acquiring Jason Kidd from the Nets.

Furthermore, Terry also gives them a young guard whom they can move along to the New Jersey Nets if they eventually decide to make a major bid to obtain Jason Kidd. Kidd has made it apparent that he wants out, now that the Nets have lost Kenyon Martin, Kerry Kittles and Rodney Rogers in moves that dramatically reduced the salary structure with no starters signed in return.

But with more than \$90 million left on his contract and micro-surgery on his left knee on July 1 that could keep him out until the first of the year, not even the ultimate maverick Mark Cuban will gamble on that until they see how he responds.

After having witnessed that similar surgery ruin nearly the entire 2003-04 season for Chris Webber, Jamal Mashburn and Allan Houston, such an enormous investment in Kidd -- particularly since he will be 32 in March -- remains tenuous.

Completing this deal is only the start of a busy summer for Mavs president Donnie Nelson, though. In a smaller deal last week they shipped forward Danny Fortson to Seattle for cen-

ter Calvin Booth, who along with Stackhouse and Tariq Abdul-Wahad, take up an absurd amount of salary cap space. Over the next three years, they will cost at least \$63 million, so you can count on team Nelson continuing to hammer the phones to alleviate this log jam.

Shots from the perimeter

In an attempt for insurance of Mashburn, the New Orleans Hornets signed Rodney Rogers Tuesday to a free agent contract. Rogers will be reunited with coach Byron Scott, who was his coach for the 2002-03 season with the Nets. The 6-7, 255-pound Rogers averaged 7.8 points and 4.4 rebounds last season. Now 33, he has averaged 11.2 points and 4.5 rebounds in his career.

The Washington Wizards suffered disturbing news Monday when it was discovered that their star young forward, Kwame Brown, broke a bone in his right foot playing ball with his buddies in Georgia last week.

Although the Wizards remain optimistic he will be ready for training camp, this is just another setback for the first overall pick of the 2001 draft and a team that is constantly coping with injuries to their top players.

**Conade Predicts
3 to 7 Medals for
Mexico in Athens**



More than 59 million pesos were earmarked to cover 146 international and national preparatory meets; 42 Olympic classifying competitions; 119 international and national training camps; besides holding national selection and pedagogical tests.

Sports uniforms cost 561 thousand pesos, athletic equipment nearly two million pesos; and fees for trainers, their aids, and other members of the multi-disciplinary group, more than 20 million pesos.

As to the managers of the delegation, seven are delegates and 12 methodologists, while for Sydney 2000 the respective numbers were 21 and 20, leaving more room for personnel to actually support the athletes.

About the bonuses for medals, González Sesma explained that the amounts mentioned will be shared between the athlete and her/his trainer or working team.

This amount is separate from one offered by the Harp Helú Foundation, which is 1.5 million for the gold medalists; 750 thousand for silver; and 500 thousand for bronze.

The Conade predicted today that the 114 Mexican athletes participating at the Athens 2004 Olympics would win between three and seven medals, announcing an added bonus of one million pesos for gold medal winners, 750 thousand for silver medalists, and 500 thousand for bronze medalists.

The vice-chairman for quality of the National Commission for Physical Culture and Sports (Conade), Rodrigo González, was in charge of announcing this diagnosis, which only foresees possible medal-winners in five sports.

These disciplines are track and field and diving with a minimum of one and a maximum of two medals; meanwhile in taekwondo, cycling, and box there is really only an opportunity at one medal.

The Mexican delegation will register 91 participants at Athens 2004, of those 70 are predicted to hold 24 top level positions in their respective competitions, 43 among the top 16, and 18 to go on to the finals.

Based on the results at the Sydney 2000 Games, where athletes competed in 88 tests, 48 of them placed among the 24 top places, 33 among the 16, 16 were finalists, and six won medals.

The medals winners were: weightlifter Soraya Jiménez, gold; diver Fernando Platas, silver; marathoner Noé Hernández, silver; boxer Christian Bejarano, speed-walker Joel Sánchez, and taekwondo fighter Victor Estrada, all bronze.

Conade destined 83 million 131 thousand 902 pesos to train 304 athletes out of which 114 got their tickets to Athens.

**Analizan
Desarrollo del
Alzheimer en busca
de una cura**

Alimentación, estilo de vida y medicamentos son algunas de las pistas exploradas para comprender y prevenir la enfermedad de Alzheimer y lograr un día curar a los pacientes que sufren esta enfermedad, una forma de demencia que afecta a cerca del 2% de los países desarrollados.

"Incluso si los medicamentos pueden temporalmente mejorar la memoria, no hay actualmente ningún tratamiento que permita frenar o revertir el proceso inexorable de la degeneración de las neuronas", explicó Mark Mattson, en un artículo publicado en la revista científica Nature con fecha del jueves.

Pero los "progresos rápidos" en la comprensión de las alteraciones celulares y moleculares responsables de la muerte de las neuronas "podrán pronto permitir la puesta en marcha de estrategias preventivas y terapéuticas eficaces", agregó el médico Mattson (Nacional Institute on Aging, Baltimore, Estados Unidos).

Casi 100 años después de su primera descripción en 1906 por el médico alemán Alois Alzheimer, esta enfermedad neurodegenerativa afecta a unas 600.000 personas en Francia, con 135.000 nuevos casos cada año, y alrededor de 4 millones de personas en Estados Unidos donde el número de enfermos podría aumentar a 14 millones en 2050.

La incidencia de la enfermedad que produce la pérdida de la memoria, un declive de las funciones cerebrales, modificación de la personalidad y que padecen sobre todo las personas mayores, podría triplicarse durante los próximos 50 años, subrayó Mark Mattson.

Las regiones del cerebro implicadas en el proceso de aprendizaje y de memoria sufren una reducción de su tamaño en los enfermos de Alzheimer luego de la muerte de las neuronas. Esto sucede porque se acumulan en estas zonas del cerebro depósitos anormales o placas de proteínas beta-amiloideas.

Se identificaron algunas mutaciones genéticas que predisponen a la enfermedad, especialmente en el cromosoma 14 cuya falla sería la responsable de una forma precoz de este mal mucho antes de los 60 años.

También se mencionaron algunos factores medioambientales: alimentación rica en calorías y en materia grasa y un estilo de vida sedentario podría aumentar el riesgo de sufrir esta forma de demencia, sin que se haya probado una relación de causa y efecto.

El ejercicio físico, la estimulación de la actividad cerebral, las restricciones calóricas, los aportes de vitaminas B, C y E están presentes como eventuales medios para reducir los riesgos. Entre las sustancias capaces de prevenir y neutralizar la enfermedad se cita al cobre y el hierro en exceso, medicamentos anticolésterol, antiinflamatorios como la aspirina y antioxidantes.

Los investigadores también plantean la posibilidad de producir una reacción inmunitaria con medicamentos que imiten la acción de una vacuna.

Todos estos estudios podrían permitir encontrar medicamentos a base de "pequeñas moléculas" que inhiban la acción del BACE1 con el fin de reducir la producción del amiloide y si es posible "el progreso de la demencia asociada a la enfermedad de Alzheimer", concluyeron los investigadores.

**El
Editor**

Stenholm Campaigns in Lubbock



As the campaign for the redrawn New 9TH Congressional District unfolds, Stenholm predicts that voters are going to see a consistent trail of political celebrities in West Texas trying to boost the perception of Charlie Stenholm's opposition.

"Randy Neugebauer has already been seen with the Vice President at a campaign event, and in a television commercial with a U.S. Senator and there will be a lot more of explained campaign manager Jeff Benson.

"Randy Neugebauer is a congressional rookie and is being propped up by a lot of people who are speaking for him, while Charlie Stenholm has been fighting for the values of our West Texas families for more than two decades."

Congressman Stenholm's conservative independence continues to be validated in this campaign by endorsements from organizations such as BIPAC, the American business and industry political committee that usually supports Republicans. The Congressman also receives the financial and volunteer support of independent and Republican voters throughout the New 19th, including a growing group known as "Republicans for Stenholm."

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Llevan a Texas en el Corazón



Aunque no nacieron en el bastión de la música tejana, los integrantes de Los Texmaniacs aprendieron a amarla desde pequeños.

Durante toda su vida, Michael Guerra escuchó a su padre interpretar la música tejana. El acordeón, que comenzó a tocar desde niño en el grupo que tenía su familia, sonaba distinto al de otros grupos de música norteña que había en el este de Los Angeles. Guerra quizá no se daba cuenta de la diferencia, pero —para su fortuna— otros sí.

En varios de los conciertos que dio Flaco Jiménez —toda una

institución de la música tejana y maestro del acordeón— en Los Angeles, Michael Guerra y su familia actuaron como teloneros. Jiménez vio el talento en Guerra y lo invitó a irse al bastión de los intérpretes de la música tejana.

Guerra no tuteó, y en cuanto terminó la secundaria cambió su residencia a Austin, la capital de Texas, donde conoció a muchos otros músicos que le tendieron la mano. De esa forma, este artista que tenía apenas 18 años, logró colarse en bandas de renombre como la del cantante de música country Rick Treviño. De

ahí en adelante, su nombre fue cada vez más familiar en el ambiente y su talento reconocido.

En ese tiempo, conoció a Max Baca, un intérprete de bajo sexto que tocaba en la banda de Flaco Jiménez. Ambos, mientras trabajaban con grandes artistas, decidieron llevar a cabo un proyecto lateral en 2001, pero que más tarde se convirtió en su prioridad cuando los comenzaron a contratar en lugares importantes. Se trata del grupo Los Texmaniacs, una banda que interpreta música con el estilo de conjunto norteño —un estilo tejano que no es lo mismo que música norteña, según explica Guerra— con unas pequeñas dosis de rock y otros sonidos latinos.

"El ritmo es diferente, es la principal diferencia... Los conjuntos norteños tienen una pauta más rápida, y además nosotros cantamos en inglés y en español, y los grupos de música norteña no", dice. Los instrumentos son los mismos, aunque puede haber algunas variantes.

La idea de incluir temas en los dos idiomas tiene un propósito: llegar a una audiencia más amplia; por un lado a los latinos que les gusta la música tejana, y por otra, a los anglosajones que, de acuerdo con Guerra, les encanta la música country.

Por eso su disco, que salió a la venta esta semana y que presentarán en el Skirball Cultural Center el jueves, tiene temas en ambas lenguas. A Tex-Mex Groove tiene en su mayoría covers, pero lo más interesante es que incluye colaboraciones de grandes maestros como el mismo Jiménez, miembros de Los Lobos, integrantes de los Texas Tornados y otros importantes músicos que con su participación quisieron dar un empujón a la carrera de Los Texmaniacs.

Después de la presentación en esta ciudad, regresan a Texas para

promocionar el CD en las principales ciudades y luego viajan a otros estados. La producción estuvo a cargo de su propio sello discográfico y están en pláticas para venderlo a través de importantes distribuidores. Sin embargo, Guerra reconoce que Los Angeles no es una plaza fácil para los cantantes de música tejana.

"Aunque hay mucho mexicano, a la mayoría le gusta la música de México, la de bandas de allá, pero tiene que ser un poco más abierta de mente para otros estilos. La gente y los programadores nos tienen que dar una oportunidad para que nos conozcan", insiste.

En Texas han tenido mucho éxito y se debe a que a la gente le ha gustado la variedad de música que interpretan.

En el concierto estarán acompañados de Speedy Villanueva en el bajo y Lorenzo Martínez en la percusión.

Guerra tiene 22 años y Baca 35. Esta unión de dos talentos es lo que hace al grupo original, que no se pareciera a ninguno. Baca también tiene de qué presumir. Además de con el Flaco Jiménez, fue parte de Aztex y los Super Seven. Es hijo de Max Baca, un legendario acordeonista de Nuevo México que lo enseñó a tocar el acordeón; Max Baca hijo aprendió después a tocar la guitarra, la percusión y el bajo sexto. A los nueve años ya tocaba en la banda de su padre. Como Guerra, se fue a vivir a Texas para seguir su carrera como músico.

Ahora ambos viven en San Antonio, y uno de los más felices con Los Texmaniacs es el padre de Guerra, quien nunca pudo verse como un músico establecido.

"Desde los 12 años tocaba en el grupo de mi papá, y ese estilo que me diferenció lo guardé en el corazón desde entonces".



Juanes to be receive tribute in Medellín

Juanes, Colombian singer-songwriter, the author of hits like "A Dios le pido" and "Fotografía" will be honored at the traditional Feria de las Flores de Medellín in recognition of his trajectory, informed organizers yesterday.

"During the Feria de las Flores it is customary to honor the artists from Medellín who have been outstanding internationally as is the case with Juanes," said journalist Andrea Ramirez, spokesperson for the concert's organizers.

She pointed out, "It is the time to honor this talented Antioqueño (native of Antioquia) winner of several Grammys for his musical production 'Un día normal'."

For the tribute to the creator of "Fijate bien" there will be special guests like the Argentine duo Los Visconti, who will also present concerts this Wednesday and Thursday.

Juanes is a native of the northwestern Colombian city of Medellín, where he began his musical career, a career that has turned him into one of the young artists following the international footsteps of Shakira and Carlos

Vives. Juanes, born Juan Esteban Aristizábal Vásquez August 9, 1972 in Medellín, began showing interest in music since he was seven, and he has been influenced by such disparate sources as Los Visconti, the tangos of Carlos Gardel, and the rock of Led Zeppelin.

Following the success of "Un día normal", the singer-songwriter from Colombia dedicated himself completely to the studio recording of his most recent musical production, "Mi sangre", a collection of 12 original songs that will be out for sale upcoming October.

The tribute to Juanes will take place during the Feria de las Flores, the main popular festival celebrated in Medellín since 1950 between the 2 and the 7 of August of each year, which is characterized for featuring flowers.

Since 1957 the traditional parade of the "silleteros" - unique around the world - includes farm workers exhibiting flower arrangements competing in categories like traditional, monumental, emblematic, and commercial.

Latinos Hallan Merito en el Plan de Inmigración de Kerry

viene de la primera pagina

Como punto conciliador, el presidente Bush hizo todos los gestos correctos al comenzar su término hacia México. Expresó una afinidad personal por el presidente Vicente Fox e hizo su primera misión extranjera como presidente al rancho de Fox.

En el jardín de las rosas, de la Casa Blanca, en septiembre del 2001, los dos dirigentes prometieron forjar un acuerdo sobre la inmigración. A continuación llegó el 11 de septiembre, y la administración de Bush comenzó a ver a los inmigrantes, incluyendo a los inmigrantes mexicanos y los residentes no-ciudadanos con muchos años en los Estados Unidos, como posibles amenazas a la seguridad nacional.

Al poner el antiguo Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización dentro del departamento dedicado a la seguridad nacional permitió obviar con más facilidad los aspectos de la ley y las políticas de inmigración, al igual que las contribuciones de los inmigrantes a la sociedad entera, como la mano de obra, las contribuciones económicas, comunitarias, sociales y educativas, entre miles más.

Este verano, la administración de Bush se volcó, de nuevo, hacia la inmigración, pero para ofrecer sólo conceptos amplios. No presentó legislación específica al Congreso. Al querer llenar ese vacío, 63 senadores republicanos y demócratas, incluyendo a John Kerry, avanzaron el proyecto de ley llamado AgJobs que otorga estado legal y algunas protecciones laborales a los trabajadores agrícolas y a su vez, una oferta legal de mano de obra a la industria de la agricultura.

Este verano la administración de Bush se opuso a la consideración de tal proyecto en el Senado de los Estados Unidos a pesar del apoyo abrumador con el que contaba.

Como presidente, John Kerry puede hacer más al enfocar los temas de inmigración de manera comprensiva. Ha prometido firmar el proyecto AgJobs y el de DREAM, otro proyecto bipartita atacado en el Congreso.

El acta DREAM le dará un camino hacia la legalización a

aquellos estudiantes que llegaron con sus padres inmigrantes al país de muy pequeños y quienes se han desempeñado bien en la escuela, contribuido a sus comunidades y quienes se merecen la oportunidad de quedarse en los Estados Unidos.

Haciendo caso omiso del enfoque "lanzarse solo" del presidente Bush que caracteriza a mucho de la política extranjera actual, John Kerry podrá reunir a otras naciones, desde las Américas y más allá, para reducir la desesperación económica que impulsa a las personas a cruzar las fronteras ilegalmente.

La variedad de enfoques que ofrece el senador Kerry incluye el de la legalización ganada para aquellas personas que han entrado a los Estados Unidos ilegalmente o quienes se quedaron más allá del tiempo otorgado por sus visas, pero que han trabajado y vivido aquí durante más de cinco años, además de normas de mayor alcance para la fuerza trabajadora y mayores medidas de acatamiento a la ley para reducir el atractivo de contratar la mano de obra ilegal, un proceso de ciudadanía modernizada que incluya más clases de inglés y educación cívica, y nuevas protecciones contra el contrabando de inmigrantes y la entrada ilegal.

Por ya mucho tiempo el tema de la inmigración ha sido uno que a los políticos se les ha aconsejado evitar enfocar.

Para el bien de la nación, ya no se puede obviar.

Al ofrecer salvaguardas de cumplimiento de la ley apropiadas junto con oportunidades para los trabajadores y sus familias, una administración de Kerry podrá formular políticas de inmigración que tengan resonancia con los valores que esta nación comparte.

Los electores latinos, como todo elector, tienen una opción clara entre los candidatos a presidente. El nuevo presidente hará una diferencia crítica en cuanto a nuestra orientación como nación sobre la inmigración.

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Latinos Find Merit in Kerry Immigration Plan

from front page

This summer, the Bush Administration opposed consideration of that plan in the U.S. Senate despite the overwhelming support for it.

As president, John Kerry can better address immigration issues on a comprehensive basis. He has pledged to sign immediately the AgJobs bill and the DREAM Act, another bipartisan bill now tied up in Congress.

The DREAM Act will provide an avenue for legal immigration status for students who were brought to this country by their parents and have done well in school, contributed to their communities and deserve to remain in the United States.

Eschewing President Bush's "go-it-alone" approach that characterizes much of current foreign policy, John Kerry can bring other nations, from the Americas and beyond, together to reduce the economic desperation that drives people across borders illegally.

The panoply of approaches offered by Senator Kerry includes earned legalization for people who entered the United States illegally or overstayed their visas but have lived and worked here for at least five years, higher labor standards and stronger enforcement to reduce the attractiveness of illegal labor, a modernized naturalization process

with more English and civics classes, and new protections against immigrant smuggling and illegal entries.

For too long, immigration has been a "third rail" issue that elected officials are advised to ignore.

In the nation's interest, it must not be ignored.

Offering proper law enforcement safeguards coupled with opportunities for workers and families, a Kerry Administration can craft immigration policies that resonate with the nation's shared values.

Latino voters, and all voters, have a clear choice on the next president. That president will make a critical difference on where we go as a nation on immigration.

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MORE ENTERTAINMENT

Convention Energizes Latino Democrats



Vives says new album "takes revenge on life"

Colombian singer Carlos Vives, interpreter of the hit "La gota fría", assured the Colombian press that at 43 he is "doing just fine" and he added that his new album "El rock de mi pueblo" will "take revenge on life".

In an interview for Credencial magazine of which parts were published this Monday by the daily El Tiempo Internet portal, Vives stated that he will never leave his roots in vallenatos and denied he had gone through a crisis when he turned 40.

In this new album, "Yes, there is revenge, but it's taken by life, without any intention on my part. Since we founded "La Provincia" and we recorded our first album of classic melodies, we knew that we would appear as vallenato rockers, or at least, that's what we'd be seen like here."

Vives recalled, "Many people asked me why the vallenato if what I liked was rock, and I simply answered, 'It's that vallenato is my rock.'"

The Colombian interpreter will present his new album next August 31 in the U.S. city of Mi-

ami, staging his return to the music arena after a long creative process that kept him away from the media for some time.

He said that the clue for finding a fusion of rhythms such as rock and tropical music like the vallenato is in realizing "that what we know as rock, with its scintillating, star-studded sky, was born basically from the folklore of very humble people in the south of the United States."

In the end it is understanding that the cumbia is our blues and the best image of our cultural diversity thus understanding those who insistently tell us that the cumbia is the mother," he explained.

Vives ruled out that this new album means he is abandoning the vallenato, he stressed, "never" My work and my reason for being as an artist depends 100 per cent on that fount."

Born August 7, 1961 in the northern Caribbean port of Santa Marta, the singer denied besides that he had suffered a crisis when he turned 40, asking, "Forty, which forty? What crisis? I just matured!"

By Sonia Meléndez
The Democratic National Convention in Boston wrapped up as the most diverse ever, with people of color representing slightly more than 40 percent of the 4,353 delegates.

Of those, one in nine -- 11 percent -- was Hispanic. Many played key roles and will continue to do so as the campaign progresses.

Gov. Bill Richardson of New Mexico, the first-ever Hispanic chair of a national convention for either major political party, said that he intends to participate in the campaign, including assisting with voter outreach into the Latino community.

"With greater growth in the community come greater responsibilities. We have to register to vote, we have to organize, we have to vote, we have to win. Our vote is our voice," he said during a speech to conventioners.

Other prominent Latinos said they are committed to getting the word out to the community that the Kerry-Edwards ticket is beneficial for Hispanics.

"We have to work to educate the community on the impor-



tance of voting, because if we ourselves don't do it, we don't count," said U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor (D-Ariz.). Pastor represents in Congress one of the so-called battleground states where voters are expected to determine who wins the White House in November. Hispanics comprise 25% of Arizona's population.

Even young Hispanic delegates said they found inspiration in the Kerry/Edwards ticket and what they called their huge fear of another four years of Bush. They vowed to work tirelessly to ensure that young Latinos, who, like other youth do not vote in

large numbers, turn out this November.

"A lot of us don't participate because we feel that we don't have a real say, that our vote doesn't matter and that there's no hope. But that couldn't be further from the truth this year," Ricardo Hernández, 23, a community activist who was part of the Arizona delegation, told Hispanic Link. "We saw what happened in 2000 when we didn't vote, and now (under Bush) we have suffered, our families have suffered, and we (young people) are going to pay the price for Bush's failed economic policies. We need hope, hope for the future. Kerry offers us real hope."

The convention brought a bit of controversy for some Latinos who said that organizers did not include enough Latinos in prominent speaking roles.

Two well-known Latinos, Richardson and Rep. Robert Menéndez (D-N.J.), spoke to convention attendees during the higher-audience hours of prime-time television, but some delegates, including Rep. Loretta Sánchez (D-Calif.), complained that the convention lasted long enough to place more Hispanic speakers during the peak viewing hours.

"They had four days, four days! There are many members of our community who could have been up there speaking not only to our community, but to the rest of the country and the world, for that matter," she said. "If they want to reach our community like they say they do, then they need to bring more people to help inspire our community to go out and vote and to educate the rest of the country about who we are and what our issues are."

Richardson responded to the criticism, saying, "Well, there are two of us and a lot of other Latino speakers and I think that is pretty good." He added that it wouldn't be a deciding factor for the Hispanic community anyway. "I think this is a very good (ticket) for Latinos. Senator Kerry has a good immigration plan, a good jobs plan."

Kerry has said that if elected president, within the first 100 days he would undertake a massive overhaul of immigration policy and would create a plan to eliminate President Bush's tax cuts for the rich and earmark those monies to economic programs that would help create new jobs.

Latinos have a much higher unemployment rate than whites, pointed out AFL-CIO vice president Linda Chávez-Thompson who is helping to coordinate a Latino voter registration campaign in the Latino immigrant community. "The Latino community more than anyone else needs a voice in Washington. We don't have that with George W. Bush, and I'm confident that with Kerry, Bush will change jobs in November and we will have a big part in that."

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Family members of Sargent Felipe Mora, Jr. are going on with Welcome Home Celebrations! He is schedule to arrive here this coming weekend. In photo is Sargent Mora with his five year old son Dillon. Also Mora's wife has been in the Navy for over three years.

Mora was in Iraq Freedom for over 15 months. He plans to enjoy every moment with his family members.

On behalf of El Editor newspapers we welcome Sargent Felipe Mora, Jr. and are very grateful for his contribution to his country.

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