

# el Salidor

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

VOL. XXVIII No. 24

Week of March 10 to March 16, 2005

Lubbock, TX USA

## Folkloricos y Mariachi Se Presentan en Lubbock



### Bush's Medicaid Cuts Seen as Severe on Hispanics

By Rosa Ramírez

Hispanic policy analysts and advocates have yet another major concern about President Bush's fiscal year 2006 budget proposals. His cuts in support for Medicaid and plan to "modernize" the program will shift the burden to states and could seriously reduce medical services provided to program enrollees, including Latino children, elderly and the disabled, they say.

Bush has proposed a \$60 billion budget cut over the next 10 years in federal Medicaid spending. The program, which operates on a \$300 billion-a-year budget, is jointly funded by federal and state governments. The federal government pays between 50% and 70% of the bill.

The advocates claim the proposed cuts will have "severe" effects on their community, with states possibly seeing more uninsured and underinsured Latinos, who already have the highest rate of uninsured among all U.S. ethnic groups.

Adrian Núñez, program manager for the California-based Latino Issues Forum, a public policy institute, projects that not only will the number of uninsured Hispanics grow, but service providers, many of whom are already cash-strapped, will have the added weight of filling the void.

"These major reductions in funding would shift a huge financial burden on states like California that are already facing deficits," he says. "The states are going to be less able to provide to those who are most in need."

Gabriela Lemus, policy analyst for the League of United Latin American Citizens, adds that because Latinos tend to rely on such programs for health insurance, "they will certainly feel the impact."

Medicaid is the third largest source of health insurance for individuals in the United States, after employer-based insurance and Medicare. More than 50 million persons are enrolled in the program.

Richard Brown, director of the University of California, Los Angeles Center for Health Policy Research, says that if

Congress adopts the Bush proposal, population groups and service benefits deemed "optional" by states will likely feel the cuts most.

They include those who do not meet income eligibility requirements but are medically needy and low-income. Twenty-nine percent of all individuals in Medicaid qualify under that group. Optional services include preventive care, hospice for the terminally ill, screening and mental health services, among others.

"It's not only damaging the health of those individuals but it is also potentially increasing the cost to Medicaid," Brown says. Cutting optional programs and services may not be cost-effective, but it may be "the only option states have."

Hayley Buchbinder, health policy analyst with The Tomás Rivera Policy Institute, says that individuals should pay attention in the next few weeks as Congress begins to contemplate on "where exactly they are going to cut."

Victoria Wachino, health policy director with the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, comments that if Congress approves the cuts people of color are "most likely to bear the brunt."

President Bush met with the National Governors Association in Washington to discuss Medicaid spending during a four-day conference which ended Feb. 28. The president did not provide specifics on his proposed Medicaid "modernization."

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt told members attending the conference, "While we don't agree on all the details, broad consensus has emerged on many of the most important issues."

Bush also proposed cutting prices Medicaid pays for prescription drugs and changing the rules for long-term care covered by the program. "What it will do is save some money by shutting down the loopholes and stopping the accounting gimmicks," White House press secretary Scott McClellan said during a press briefing.

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Schedule Friday  
Workshops - 9 am  
Competition - 1:30 pm  
Saturday - Workshops - 8 am  
Competition - 1:30 pm  
Showcase - 7:30 pm

### Recortes al Medicaid Considerados 'Graves' Para los Hispanos

Rosa Ramírez

Los defensores y analistas de la política hispana tienen otra preocupación principal en torno a las propuestas de Bush para el presupuesto del año fiscal 2006. Sus recortes en el apoyo a Medicaid y su plan para "modernizar" el programa trasladarán la responsabilidad a los estados y podrían reducir seriamente los servicios médicos que se proveen a los que participan en el programa, incluso a niños latinos, personas de la tercera edad y discapacitados, afirman.

Bush ha propuesto un recorte de \$60,000 millones en los gastos federales de Medicaid para el presupuesto de los próximos 10 años. El programa, que funciona con un presupuesto de \$300,000 millones al año, recibe fondos combinados de los gobiernos federales y estatales. El gobierno federal paga de 50% a 70% de la cuenta.

Los defensores alegan que los recortes propuestos tendrán efectos "graves" en su comunidad y que los estados probablemente verán más latinos sin seguros o con seguros insuficientes. Los latinos ya tienen la tasa más alta de personas sin asegurar de todos los grupos étnicos de Estados Unidos.

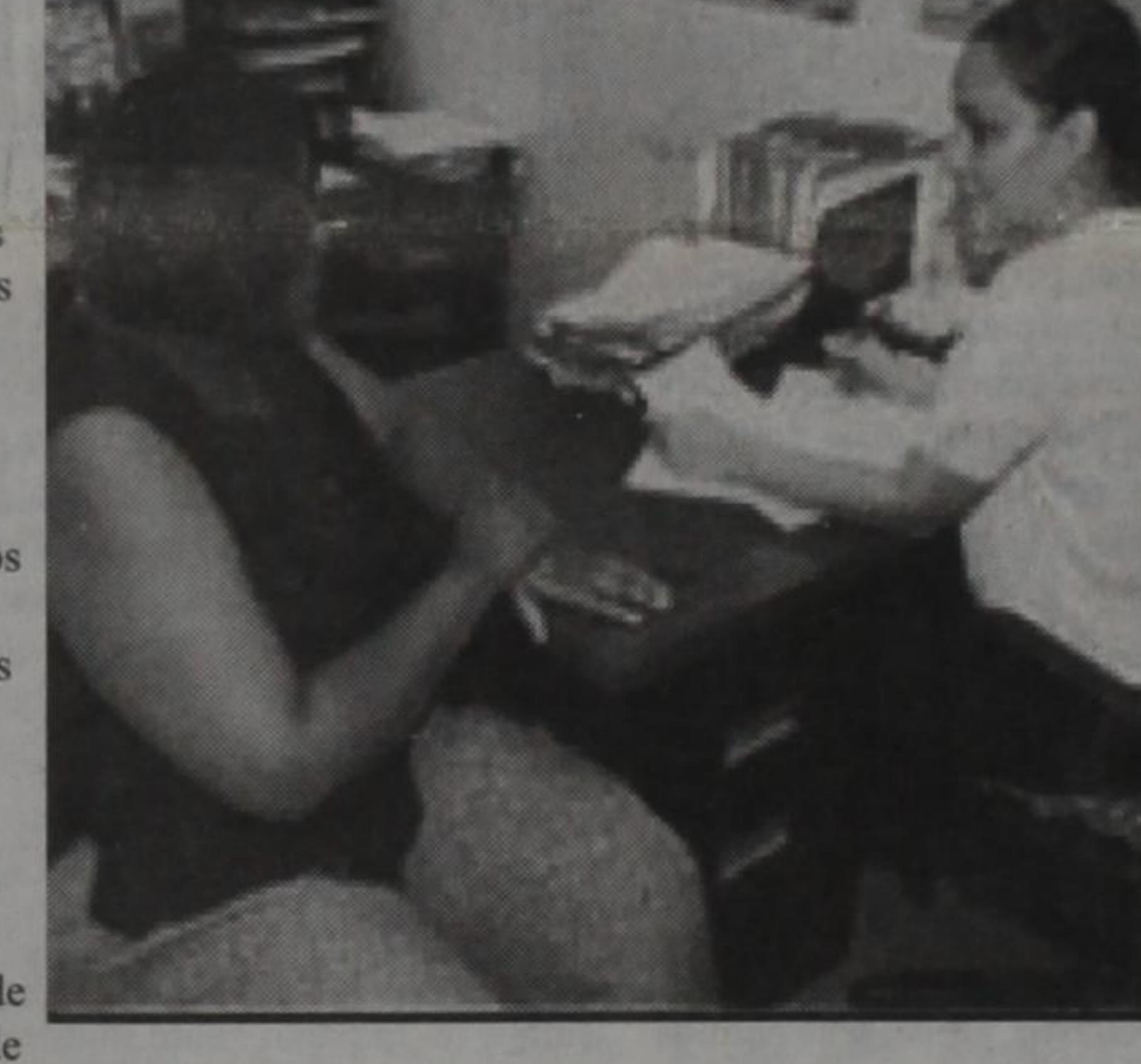
Adrián Núñez, administrador de programas para el Foro de Asuntos Latinos (LIF por sus siglas en inglés), un instituto de política pública con sede en California, proyecta que no sólo aumentará la cantidad de hispanos sin seguro, sino que los proveedores de servicios, muchos de los cuales ya tienen escasez de fondos, tendrán la carga adicional de llenar el vacío.

"Estas reducciones importantes en los fondos trasladarán una responsabilidad financiera enorme a estados como California que ya encaran déficits", afirma. "Los estados tendrán menos capacidad para ayudar a quienes tienen más necesidad".

Gabriela Lemus, una analista de política para la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC por sus siglas en inglés) añade que como los latinos tienden a depender de dichos programas para su seguro médico, "Definitivamente sentirán el impacto".

Medicaid es la tercera fuente más grande de seguro médico para las personas en los Estados Unidos, después del seguro médico a través del patrono y de Medicare. Más de 50 millones de personas se benefician de este programa.

(Sigue a la pagina 5)



## Alerta Turística Puede Perjudicar el Turismo de Primavera en México

Adam Saytanides

Cuando el Departamento de Estado emitió, a comienzos de año, una alerta turística para los residentes de Estados Unidos que viajan a la región fronteriza de México, desencadenó una disputa diplomática que todavía humea.

El revuelo no se debe exclusivamente al contenido de la alerta del 26 de enero. De hecho, la alerta está redactada en un lenguaje moderado, y apunta en el preámbulo que "la mayoría de los viajeros visitan la región sin contratiempos".

La declaración también indica que, "la actividad criminal violenta, incluso los asesinatos y secuestros, ha aumentado en la región fronteriza del norte de México". Aunque la "abrumadora mayoría" de las víctimas han sido mexicanas, el Departamento de Estado advirtió que "los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos deben tener en cuenta los riesgos que presenta esta situación de deterioro en la seguridad".

Estas no son precisamente palabras de riña. Los narcotraficantes poderosos se enfrentan en una lucha territorial por las rutas de contrabando en la frontera. Nadie en México niega que la guerra entre bandas esté en aumento, en particular en el tramo entre Nuevo Laredo y Matamoros, la zona más disputada.

Resulta imposible pasar por alto el hecho de que se acribilla a balazos a media docena de matones con tatuajes en una mesa de un

dieron airados al día siguiente. El secretario de relaciones exteriores Luis Ernesto Derbez afirmó que la alerta estaba "fuera del alcance de la realidad". El ministro del interior Santiago Creel montó en cólera porque se había reunido menos de diez días antes con el secretario del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional Tom Ridge, quien no le había comentado nada sobre el asunto.

Creel respondió a su vez, con otra ofensa: "Los millones de dólares lavados no se están escondiendo debajo del colchón", en alusión

al poderoso vínculo simbiótico entre Wall Street y los cabecillas latinoamericanos de la droga.

Creel tiene un argumento válido. Pero las posturas asumidas por ambas partes ayudan muy poco al turista estadounidense a decidir si resulta seguro viajar a México.

El asunto más apremiante en relación a la seguridad pública en la frontera - para mexicanos y estadounidenses por igual - es hasta qué punto los grupos del crimen organizado han comprado a la policía mexicana.

Los salarios de los policías mexicanos son tan bajos y la influencia de los narcotraficantes es de tan largo alcance que ya resulta casi imposible determinar quiénes son los chicos buenos. En los medios de comunicación de la frontera se representa a la fuerza policial de Nuevo Laredo como una filial, propiedad absoluta de los carteles de droga de Sinaloa y del Golfo de México. Muchos agentes de la policía reciben dos cheques de paga, uno del gobierno y otro de los narcotraficantes.

(Sigue a la pagina 5)



## Comentarios

by Bidal Agüero



Maybe we should sue the bastards!

Representatives in Austin yesterday passed what has been said to be the most regressive tax bill in history. The bill that would finance our schools puts the cost of education on the backs of the poorest people in Texas and gives breaks to the richest Texans.

Of course what would we expect when Republicans (regardless of what my friend Blas says), who traditionally work for the rich and forget about the needs of the poor are running the State as a result of the illegal antics of one Tom DeLay.

According to reports only people that make over \$100,000 a year would get a tax break and the biggest tax burden would fall on the people who make less than \$22,833.

So what is happening? Are we not once again being discriminated against. Can we not take this to court and make things change. Nowadays that seems to be the only way that our people can get something accomplished. Of course some would say, "that's what you get for not voting." Maybe this is true but do our elected representative have no conscience. Do they really not care about the majority of the population who lives from day to day and deserve some type of attention.

Maybe we should sue the bastards!

Here in Lubbock we Carl Isett is leading the way in promoting this bill. He has been behind these type of bill that work against poor people since he was elected. If anyone needs to be targeted for defeat in the next election, Isett should be at the top of the list.

No one should miss out on activities at the Viva Aztlán Festival. It is not often that this type of live Hispanic family oriented talent is presented here and Lubbock and everyone should take their entire family to enjoy the fun and excitement! The Lubbock City Council as recommended by the Arts Alliance, Civic Lubbock Inc, Xcel, Coca Cola, the Lubbock AJ, El Editor, and all the others that contributed should be commended for their contributions to make this event possible. Our congratulations to Lubbock Centro Aztlán and the Ballet Folklórico Aztlán for their fine work!

Write your comments to Bidal to: eeditor@llano.net. We would love to hear from you on this topic or any other you feel needs attention!

# Our Despised Immigrants and Spear of Destiny

By Alejandro Pérez

Constantine, the new supernatural thriller starring Keanu Reeves, starts off in Mexico with two men picking through the scraps of a deserted, desert wasteland. While searching, one of the men - an otherwise unnamed "Scavenger," according to the credits, played by Jesse Ramirez - stumbles onto what viewers later find out is the much-coveted "Spear of Destiny."

Holding it in his hand, the Scavenger gains seemingly indestructible strength and a callous disregard for human life. And as he heads north toward Los Angeles, we view the path of destruction he leaves behind.

While his character plays only a minor, almost nonexistent role for the remainder of the film, his prominence in the opening scene and his importance in propelling the narrative forward suggest a greater significance connected not to this cinematic world of magic and mysticism but to contemporary, concrete attitudes and anxieties about immigration.

Art mirrors life. Shakespeare's *The Tempest* expressed 17th century attitudes about the mysterious continent and its Caliban-like inhabitants.

With his tattered clothes and rough, unkempt appearance, vaguely remi-

nent of Rafael Reséndez-Ramírez, the serial killer who transversed the Southwest along the rail lines until his capture five years back, the Scavenger embodies the worst of Anglo-America's stereotypes as he transforms into an unstoppable über-immigrant capable of crossing borders and creating a literal hell on earth.

According to legend, the Spear serves as a conduit, allowing all sorts of creepy things from beyond to enter our world.

We have been demonized before, scapegoated for failing economies, overcrowded schools and crime sprees; in Constantine we are the demons, an unwelcome legion chipping away at the margins of society.

In fact, the film's logic reflects that of right-wing nativist organizations like the Federation for American Immigration Reform, the Voices of Citizens Together, and American Patrol, what with their perennial calls to close off the border, as well as the more mainstream, though no less pernicious, policies set by the Bush administration when they relocated the INS under the Department of Homeland Security - a move that essentially equates immigration with terrorism - and the neoconservatives and well-healed liberals whose economic prosperity and way of life depends on low-wage immigrant labor to pick their crops, prepare their meals, care for their children.

On screen or off, metaphorical or real, the foreign, alien, non-white or undocumented

mented "other" - society's most defenseless members - poses a threat to this nation's illusionary belief in cultural plurality and benevolent intervention because of who we are and what we represent: a multiethnic, multiracial, multicultural América.

The shape of things to come?

Throughout areas like Southern Texas or urban California we already are the majority; meanwhile, nationwide we have become the "majority minority," numerically surpassing blacks. However, behind the demographic fanfare and marketing blitz our access to and representation in places of policy and power continues to lag far, far behind, with little indication that this will significantly change in the next few decades.

Despite the rhetoric about liberty and equality for all, for this nation's brown and black members, citizenship, by birth or naturalization, does not ensure the full rights and privileges of belonging.

Simply put, an ever-decreasing number of white elites will continue to wield greater and greater control over the institutions and ideologies that impact our lives.

Look at the Senate: Until the last election there had not been a black or Hispanic representative in decades. Now we have three - Barack

Obama, Ken Salazar and Mel Martinez - which may seem to suggest tremendous progress until we put things in perspective and question why the government, in this example, has been so resistant to change.

In Constantine's climax, Reeves' character confronts a motley crew of demons assembled about him. "You are in violation of the balance," he shouts. "Leave immediately or I will deport you!" He then proceeds to kick demon butt and send the delinquents back to their fiery, final resting place.

This is, after all, a movie. Back in the real world, however, solutions are never so simple because the problems are always more complex. What are the implications of deporting every undocumented person? What of the conditions that drive them north? Who prospers? Who benefits? Who else is targeted?

Do we have any other options, when the demons are deported and even the most kindly of extraterrestrials ends up returning home before the credits roll? We need a new paradigm, a new way of imagining alternatives, to the way things have been and the way things are. We've learned to live with white America; now, white Americans must learn to live with us.

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# Shades Of Pancho Villa

By Richard N. Baldwin T

In the colorful history of México there was a man, Francisco (Pancho) Villa, who was a major player in the Mexican revolution period between 1908 and 1917. One of the things he became famous for was crossing over the Texas border and robbing banks there to finance his revolutionary activities.

This upset both the Texans and the US federal government. So rather than declare war on México, the US appointed General John Joseph "Black Jack" Pershing to lead an effort to secure the border from Pancho Villa's excursions into Texas. The upshot of this was that Pershing finally caught Villa red handed and gave chase. When Villa crossed the border, Pershing followed under the "hot pursuit" rule that justified pursuit across jurisdictions as long as the offender remains in clear view wherever he is going. And that was the second invasion of the US into México that still bristles Mexicans.

Pershing never caught Villa, but there was quite a chase all over northern México. I had the opportunity to meet one of Pershing's soldiers, still on active duty at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in the 1960s. He was serving Pershing in the Army "Observation Corps" in the balloon brigade. They were using balloons tethered by ropes and went up, looked and pointed to where the foe was running.

Pershing went on later to become the one and only six-star general in US history (in World War I as "General of the Armies").

But now, something more modern catches my eye. As reported in the Dallas Morning News, the Mexican "Zetas" are extending their violence into Texas. If you remember, the Zetas are a highly trained former military group from the modern Mexican army formed to fight the drug cartels here in México. They were probably the best-trained unit in the Mexican army. The Juárez cartel simply "purchased" the unit with their endless financial resources and now they work as enforcers for the cartel, much to the embarrassment of the Mexican army.

Make no mistake, these guys are good. They are probably responsible for most of the over 130 drug related assassinations since the start of this year on the Mexican side of the border.

Authorities in Texas and the US have detected their presence in both Texas and as far north as Nashville and Atlanta. They have also tied a number of assassinations on the US side of the border to the Zetas and their hired locals.

These guys are smart and do much of their activity by hiring US street gang members to do their dirty work. As an investigator for the FBI says, "These guys are anything but wannabes, they're the real thing and a threat to law enforcement officers on both sides of the border".

The Juárez cartel is becoming the major operator in the drug business from the South into the US drug market. With this consolidation, the organization is becoming more powerful than either the Mexican or US governments in this violent business. This should give pause to the US to see what their citizens' drug habit is financing. To drug cartels the border means nothing. To them this is nothing more than multi national business.

In the meantime, México is also fighting a new gang threat from the south called the Maras. Interestingly enough, the Maras had their beginning in the Los Angeles area and were deported back to their homelands in Central America. They are active in the human smuggling trade from Central America through México into the US. Their trademark is violence, with a capital "V". There are also theories that there are ties between them and the drug business. One of their trademarks is to board freight trains carrying illegals from the South and demand money for passage. Those who do not pay are simply thrown under the wheels of the moving trains. What they do to women will not be discussed here, but there is a growing number of train wheel survivors missing limbs in Mexican hospitals now.

Now the latest thing to surface is that the Maras are threatening reprisal in Arizona against the US "Minuteman" border vigilantes.

What is needed, of course, is even better cooperation between the US and México. It concerns both of us. The alternative to real national cooperation is to let the border get completely out of control. And that is grim for both countries.

Richard N. Baldwin T. lives in Tlalnepantla, Edo de México. Email at: R1041643422@aol.com

# Nuestros Inmigrantes Detestados y la Lanza del Destino

Alejandro Pérez

La nueva película thriller, Constantine, con Keanu Reeves de protagonista principal, abre en México con dos hombres hurgando entre los desechos de un desierto yermo. Mientras hurga, uno de los dos - un "ave de rapiña" sin nombre representado por el actor Jesse Ramirez, según los créditos - se topa con lo que más adelante los videntes se enterarán es la muy cotizada "lanza del destino".

Lanza en mano, el ave adquiere una fuerza aparentemente indestructible y un frío desdén hacia la vida humana. Y en la medida que se dirige al norte, hacia la ciudad de Los Angeles, somos testigos de la destrucción que deja por el camino.

Si bien el personaje tiene un papel menor, casi inexistente, para lo que corre de la película, la prominencia que tiene en la escena inicial y la importancia que carga en la promoción de la narrativa sugieren un significado mayor que se vincula no con este mundo cinematográfico de la magia y el misticismo, sino con las actitudes y las ansias contemporáneas y concretas, sobre la inmigración.

El arte es reflejo de la vida. La tempestad, de Shakespeare, expresó actitudes del siglo XVII hacia el continente misterioso y sus habitantes tipo Calibán.

Con la ropa en trizas y apariencia áspera, desordenada, de manera levemente parecida a Rafael Reséndez-Ramírez, el asesino en serie que atravesó el suroeste por

las vías del tren hasta que lo capturaron hace cinco años, el ave de rapiña incorpora lo peor de los estereotipos anglo-americanos al transformarse en un überinmigrante imposible de detener, capaz de cruzar fronteras y crear un verdadero infierno sobre la tierra.

Siguiendo la leyenda, la lanza sirve como conducto, permitiendo entrar a nuestro mundo todo tipo de elementos espantosos.

Ya anteriormente nos han demonizado, hecho chivos expiatorios para la economía en quiebra, escuelas hacinadas, y crímenes seriales; en Constantine somos los demonios, una legión rechazada que roe las márgenes de la sociedad.

De hecho, la lógica de la película refleja la de las organizaciones nativistas de derecha como la Federation for American Immigration Reform, la Voices of Citizens Together, y la American Patrol, con sus convocatorias perennes para el cierre de la frontera, así como las que son más de la tendencia general, aunque nada menos perniciosas, como las políticas establecidas por la administración de Bush al transferir el Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización al Departamento de Seguridad Nacional - movida que esencialmente equipará la inmigración con el terrorismo - y los neo-conservadores y los liberales pudentes cuya prosperidad económica y estilo de vida dependen de la mano de obra barata, inmigrante, para cosechar el cultivo, preparar su comida y cuidar a sus hijos.

Sólo hay que ver el Senado: hasta la última elección no había servido

desconocido, el otro no blanco o indocumentado -- los miembros más indefensos de la sociedad - es una amenaza a la creencia ilusoria de esta nación en la pluralidad cultural e intervención benévola por ser quiénes somos y lo que representamos: una América multirracial, multiracial, multilingüe.

¿Cómo será el futuro?

Por zonas como el sur de Texas o la California urbana, ya somos la mayoría; mientras tanto, a nivel nacional nos hemos vuelto la "minoría mayoritaria", sobreponiendo en número a los negros. No obstante, tras los bombardeos y plátanos demográficos y el arrastre de marketing, nuestro acceso y representación en los lugares donde se establece política y donde está el poder están muy a la zaga, sin mucho indicio que nade cambie en las próximas décadas.

A pesar de la retórica sobre la libertad y la igualdad para todos, para los miembros marrones y negros de la nación, la ciudadanía, por nacimiento o naturalización, no asegura un complemento entero de derechos y los privilegios de pertenecer.

De manera sencilla, un número en auge de élites blancas continuarán siendo dueños del control, cada vez mayor, sobre las instituciones e ideologías que surten un impacto sobre nuestras vidas.

Sólo hay que ver el Senado: hasta la última elección no había servido

en él ningún negro ni hispano por décadas. Ahora tenemos a tres - Barack Obama, Ken Salazar y Mel Martínez - lo que parecería ser un progreso tremendo hasta que ponemos las cosas en perspectiva y cuestionamos al gobierno sobre por qué, en este caso, ha sido tan resistente al cambio.

Durante el clímax de la película Constantine, el personaje de Reeves se enfrenta con un revoltijo de demonios. "Están violando el equilibrio", les grita. "Vayanse de inmediato o los deporto!" Y procede con darles tunda a los demonios y mandar a los delincuentes de vuelta a su descanso infernal.

Después de todo, es una película. En el mundo real, sin embargo, las soluciones nunca resultan ser tan simples por lo que los problemas siempre son más complejos. ¿Cuáles serían las implicaciones de deportar a toda persona indocumentada? ¿Qué hay de las condiciones que los impellen al norte? ¿Quién prospera? ¿Quién se beneficia? ¿A quién más tienen en sus vidas?

Acaso tenemos otras opciones, cuando a los demonios los deportan y hasta el más amable de los extraterrestres se vuelve a casa antes de pasar los créditos?

Nos hace falta un paradigma nuevo, una manera nueva de imaginar las alternativas, a diferencia de las cosas como han estado y son. Hemos aprendido a vivir con la América blanca; ahora los americanos blancos tienen que aprender a vivir con nosotros.

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# The Fight Against Illegal Immigration Divides America

By Guillemette Faure

Some eleven thousand guards patrol the length of the country's border with Mexico, a true sieve. George W. Bush's plan, studied this year in Congress, seriously divides the Republicans. Talk about immigration in Washington does not follow the usual fracture lines of the political parties: Democrats are torn between humanitarian arguments and those of Labor Unions; Republicans are divided between pro-business lobbies that want the cheap labor and the Republican base that fears a "Hispanicization" of the country.

At the fall of day, Robin Hoover's truck advances along the little road that goes from Tucson to Altar in Mexico. "At this moment, there," he says sweeping a hand over the desert valley lying between two saw-toothed mountain ranges, "there are certainly at least a thousand of them." The truck passes border patrol vehicles. The desert is still cool in February; it's the high season for illegals. Between the bushes and cholla cactus,

sometimes you run across abandoned water jerricans or a ribbon around a tree signaling a rendezvous point with a coyote.

Robin Hoover stops a little further along to fill the big tanks he's installed along the illegals' route with water. A humanitarian gesture to some, complicity in illegal activity for others. More than 200 people were found dead last year along Arizona's border with Mexico. In the offices of Human Borders, the organization he heads, Robin Hoover has posted the "map of the dead" from previous years. Little colored dots indicate the cause of death for the bodies found south of Tucson. Most are red (heat) or yellow (cause unknown).

Robin Hoover is also pastor of the First Christian Church of Tucson. In the church's parking lot, some of his parishioners' cars still sport "John Kerry" stickers from last November. In his office, when Robin Hoover talks about President George W. Bush, "certainly not my president," he uses language that one has trouble imagining coming out of the mouth of a man of the Church. Nonetheless, he has also posted a sentence on his

door: "We want our border patrols to apprehend con men, thieves, drug traffickers, and terrorists, not good-hearted people who come here to work." It is signed George W. Bush: he spoke the words at a press conference last December.

"It doesn't matter that I disagree with all his policies. On immigration, he's one of the few who have understood it all," he says about the American president. He hails his last proposal: putting in place a program of temporary visas given to illegal immigrants who can prove they have work.

"The one I'm angry with," continues this convinced Democrat, "is Bill Clinton." In 1994, the president launched "Operation Gatekeeper," reinforcing the resources of the border patrol. Ten years later, in spite of 11,000 guards patrolling the Southern border of the United States, illegal immigration has not declined. However, it has moved to the more porous spots, including the desert that separates Arizona from Mexico. Last year, close to 600,000 illegal immigrants were arrested along this section, four times more than in 1994, and more than in the three other states bordering Mexico (Texas, New Mexico, California) combined.

In everyone's opinion, it's this explosion that is responsible for the success of "Proposition 200," a proposed law put forward for referendum last November that imposes proof of legal residence in the United States in order to receive social benefits or to vote and that threatens officials who would close their eyes to its

application with prison terms. Easily approved (56%), "Prop 200," with its constitutionality attacked, cannot yet be applied.

"A bad solution to a real problem," deems Chuck Blanchard, a lawyer coordinator for the "no" campaign. "The impact of the explosion of illegal immigration on life in Arizona, from schools and hospitals all the way to crime, cannot be denied." Even over 40% of Hispanics approved the proposition. "Something had to be done," explains Jenny, 54 years old, with Mexican grandparents and family still living on the other side of the border, who acknowledges that it was a "protest vote." Nothing surprising about that to Chuck Blanchard: "It's the Hispanics who live here who suffer the worst consequences of the traffic in illegals, especially the rise in the crime rate."

Kathy McKee rejoices. A militant for "Proposition 200," who had founded Protect Arizona Now, she's now launching Protect America Now to encourage other states to follow the voices in favor of toughening up. Elsewhere, as in Colorado or Utah, groups try to have similar laws voted in. "We have to recall our troops who are deployed around the world and post them on the two borders," she explains very seriously. She would like to see "50,000 soldiers on the Mexican border and 50,000 on the Canadian border." The traitors in her eyes: the American government, which "rolls out the red carpet for illegals." If "Proposition 200" was approved by a majority in Arizona, not one of its Senators or Representatives in the state's delegation to Congress supported it. "Unquestionably because they

gained nine points between the presidential elections of 2000 and 2004 among this traditionally Democratic population.

"If there's anything I've understood as far as immigration is concerned, it's that you can tell me where someone lives and what their party affiliation is, but I can't deduce his position on immigration from that," summarizes Pastor Robin Hoover.

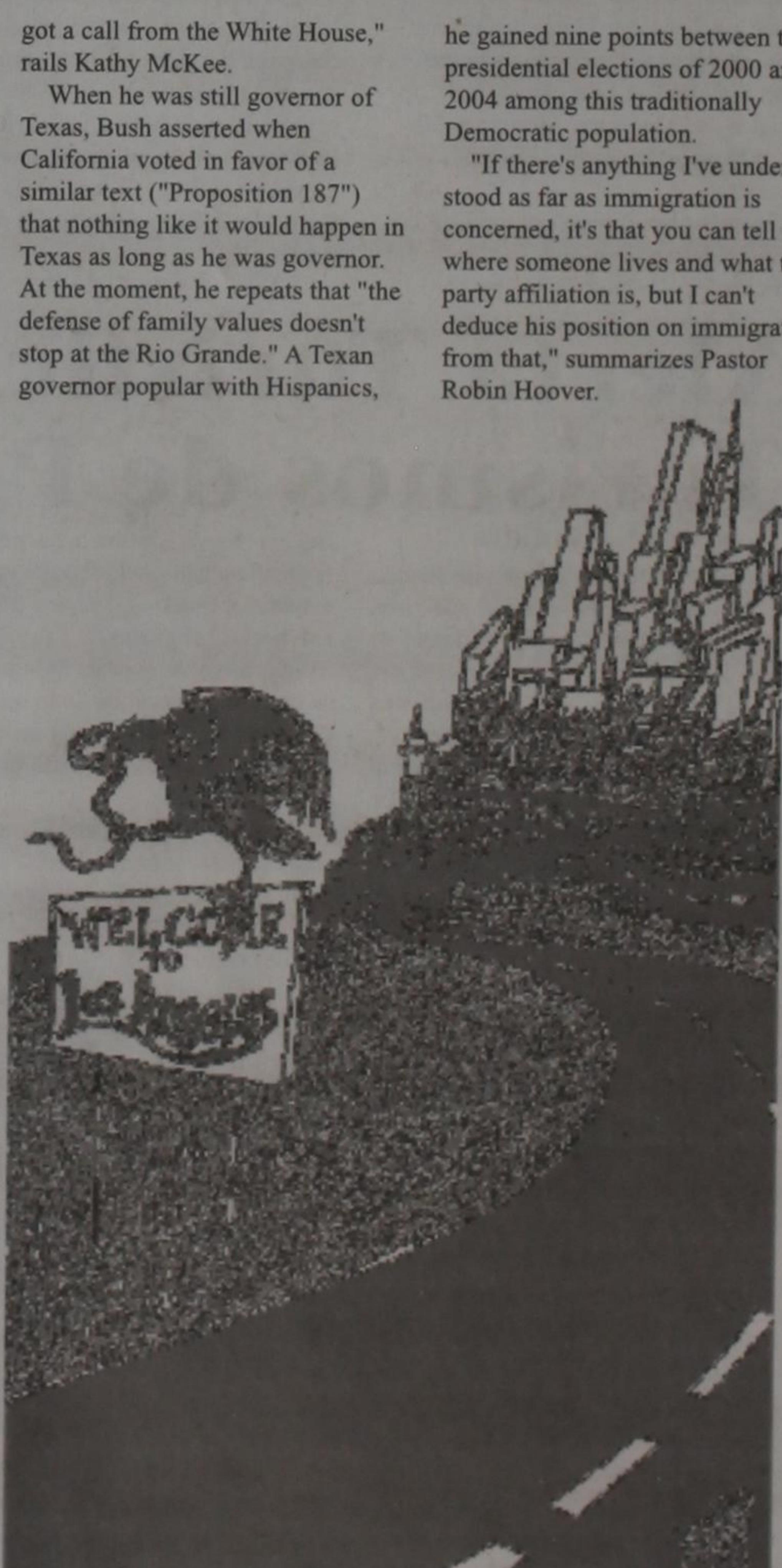
# El Editor Newspaper

is published every Thursday by Amigo Publications in Lubbock, Texas at 1502 Ave. M, 79401. Our telephone number is 806-763-3841. El Editor is a member of the National Association of Hispanic Publications and the Texas Association of Hispanic Newspapers, El Editor is audited by Community Papers Verification Service. Rates available on request. Our fax number is 806-741-1110 and our e-mail is editor@llano.net

Editor Publisher - Bidal Agüero

Business Manager - Olga Riojas Agüero

Circulation/Distribution - Gilbert Acuña



# Joy for Pope's Fresh Appearance at Hospital Window

Pope John Paul II made a brief appearance at his hospital window Wednesday, blessing a cheering crowd of pilgrims on the day he would normally hold his weekly general audience at the Vatican.

The Pope, who looked alert and in reasonably good form, remained at the window for around two minutes, repeatedly blessing the crowd under his 10th floor window at Rome's Gemelli hospital, where he was hospitalized on February 24 with breathing problems.

Cheers rose and groups of faithful applauded as John Paul II, dressed in violet vestments and sitting in an armchair, made his appearance behind a closed window, several times raising his right hand.

In footage from inside his room, seen on television, his left hand, resting on the armchair could be seen shaking, a sign of his Parkinson's disease.

An aide opened the window next to his, presumably to allow him to hear the cheers and chants.

"I wanted to see his hands and I saw them; I'm so happy," said Darlene Marquez, who was just married to husband Christofer, standing on the parking lot outside the Gemelli.

Stanley Davids, a Jerusalem rabbi belonging to the World Union for Progressive Jews, said he was in Rome to express his sympathy with the 84-year-old head of the Roman Catholic Church.

"We came here in support of the



Pope because we have a long history of good relations with the Catholic Church," he said.

Among other groups singing and dancing in front of the hospital were 80 children from two schools near the northern city of Milan and about 40 Polish pilgrims keen to see a sign from the 10th-floor papal hospital suit.

The Vatican was to issue a fresh update on John Paul's health on Thursday. Earlier medical bulletins said he was recovering well.

John Paul II who is suffering from Parkinson's disease, a neuro-

logical disorder, was operated on the night of his admission to the Gemelli to insert a tube in his windpipe which has eased breathing after he came down with a bout of the flu.

He has since started speech and breathing therapy.

John Paul II last made a much awaited appearance Sunday, waving to about 300 hymn-singing pilgrims below and making the sign of the cross.

Shortly before, in a message read out by an aide to several thousand pilgrims and tourists

in St Peter's Square, the Pope had thanked Jews and Muslims for their prayers for his recovery.

A parish priest in southern Italy meanwhile published an open letter to John Paul II asking him to resign "for the love of the Church and God".

"Your illness, your relapse but above all the exaggerated insistence of the mass media (...) lead me to express what a silent group would maybe want to tell you," said Giorgio Rigoni of the small Calabrian town of Petrona.

"Many are wondering if someone is taking you where you don't want to go."

Rigoni said a personality cult around John Paul II was "causing panic in a large part of the Church at the sole idea that you could no longer be around."

"We are forgetting that the Holy Spirit is the helmsmen of the boat and not the pope."

Vatican officials have repeatedly dismissed speculation that John Paul II's speech difficulty could force him to resign as leader of the Roman Catholic Church despite his general frail health.

During a trip to Poland in 2002 the Pope himself signalled he did not intend to step down but would serve until death.

A half dozen popes have renounced their ministry in the history of the Roman Catholic Church, but the latest dates to the 13th century and Celestine V.

John Paul II Pope has reigned more than 26 years, one of the longest pontificates in history.

# Culture Keeps Hispanic Youth from Sex-Study

Hispanic teenagers in the United States who use Spanish as their primary language are likely to become sexually active later than those who have learned English, keeping them at less risk for disease and related problems, a study said on Monday.

The finding underscores the protective effect that holding on to a culture can have, researchers said, and may indicate a failing in sex education for Hispanic youngsters who are becoming absorbed into U.S. culture.

The report from the University of Arizona looked at more than 7,200 Hispanic and white children in the 7th through 12th grades.

It found that in general Hispanic youths were likely to have experienced sexual intercourse before whites, but the picture was more complicated when language differences among Hispanics were taken into consideration.

English-speaking Hispanic youngsters were the most likely to have engaged in sexual intercourse, followed by whites, and then Spanish-speaking Hispanic youths.

"Public health professionals should understand that language differences might be indicative of broader cultural differences, even within an ethnic group," said the report published in the Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine.

"Simply translating sexuality

education materials does not create sensitive programs," it said. "Today there is a lack of culturally sensitive sexuality education materials appropriate to the Spanish-speaking adolescents in the southwestern United States."

The authors said it was critical to do more research to develop "more healthy sexual development in this population."

In an editorial in the same issue commenting on the study, researchers at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee said there is a growing body of literature showing that "less acculturation consistently is associated with better health," even though immigrants are often poor and lack health insurance and regular medical care.

Research has found that less acculturation in Latino children and their parents is associated with lower infant death rates, fewer low birth weight problems, a healthier diet, better immunization rates, a lower prevalence of asthma and allergies, less adolescent sexual activity and less drug use, the editorial said.

"This list includes some of the most important public health issues of our time," it added. "The discovery of a single unifying intervention that could reduce or prevent some or all of these conditions would be hailed as one of the great accomplishments of modern medicine," the editorial concluded.

## Gonzales quiere garantizar un futuro mejor para los latinos

El secretario de Justicia, Alberto Gonzales, dijo anoche que la fuerza y el progreso de la comunidad latina no se basa únicamente en sus cifras sino en garantizar que ese grupo haga realidad todo su potencial de liderazgo y ése es, agregó, uno de los mayores retos que enfrenta esta nación. No hacerlo, dijo Gonzales, es "negarle la promesa de Estados Unidos a una nueva generación de hispanos".

En 2003 se anunció con gran fanfarria que los hispanos se habían convertido en el principal grupo minoritario en Estados Unidos. Algunos de mis amigos hispanos encontraron solaz en esta noticia, pero yo vi un reto aún mayor. Si permitimos que las drogas y la criminalidad hagan estragos en nuestras comunidades; si de manera injusta denegamos la protección de nuestra nación a extranjeros respetuosos de la ley que buscan asilo; si fracasamos en preparar a nuestros hijos para competir en la economía global, no conseguiremos el potencial de liderazgo de nuestra comunidad. Peor aún, le habremos negado la promesa de Estados Unidos a una nueva generación de hispanos", sostuvo el funcionario.

Despite Fox's resolve, there's still an ample supply of underlings and desperate youth pushing to reach the top of the drug dealing heap, and the violence and volume of the drug traffic has continued apace.

The Mexican government is no doubt petrified that the border advisory, which expires on April 25, will scare off spring breakers from spending their vacation in cheesy gringo-tourist meccas like Puerto Vallarta or Cancún. Tourism pulled in \$10.8 billion for the Mexican economy in 2004. Nearly half of foreign visitors were to the border zone. So the

Fox administration's hypersensitivity is understandable. It cannot afford its image as a family travel destination to be tarnished, even if it is somewhat of a narco-state.

For the typical U.S. traveler, there is little to worry about. Most of the border violence is directly related to drug trafficking. And in beach resort destinations like Puerto Vallarta, crooks know that if they hurt a foreign tourist, local politicians (who are heavily invested in the tourism industry themselves) are likely to string them up by their thumbs.

So if you're just going to Ciudad Juárez for the day to pick up some cheap pharmaceuticals and throw down a few Coronas, the risk of being caught in a mafia crossfire is probably not much greater than in rough neighborhoods where gangs are active in Houston, Miami, or L.A. Now more than ever, make sure that you don't leave your common sense at the border.

(c) 2005 Hispanic Link News Service

"En el transcurso de los años, La

mas de esos crímenes, y para mejorar la administración de nuestras leyes de inmigración, trabajamos para dar a cada estadounidense una oportunidad justa de lograr el sueño americano... Yo he vivido el sueño americano.

Muchos de ustedes han vivido el sueño americano. Y nuestros pensamientos y nuestras oraciones deben estar con aquellos que no lo han vivido", afirmó Gonzales.

Los críticos de Gonzales afirman que, como asesor legal de Bush, la interpretación del ahora secretario de Justicia sobre lo que es tortura facilitó el maltrato dado a los prisioneros en Irak y Afganistán y, a los sospechosos de terrorismo detenidos en la Base Naval de Guantánamo, Cuba.

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Respuesta: línea 6, palabra 5.

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Respuesta: línea 6, palabra 5.

# Los Tigres le Cantan a los Inmigrantes

Los hispanos en Estados Unidos son para el popular grupo Los Tigres del Norte "sus hermanos", con quienes se solidarizan no sólo por su dolor, sino también por su fortaleza para cruzar la frontera dejando en México a sus familias.

Jorge Hernández, líder del grupo, señaló que gran parte de sus canciones son dedicadas "a los que se van y a los que se quedan": para los que se van a Estados Unidos en busca del sueño americano y para los que se quedan en espera de que la persona amada haya cruzado la frontera como ilegal, buscando una esperanza para los suyos.

Claro ejemplo de ello es su corrido titulado José Pérez León, que incluyeron en su disco Pacto de sangre, que narra la trágica odisea de un mexicano que cruza ilegalmente la frontera en busca de una vida mejor para su familia.

Con ese disco, Los Tigres del Norte reafirmaron su "pacto de sangre" con los inmigrantes, lo cual les resulta más que natural, pues ellos también lo son, desde que, hace ya varios años decidieron establecerse San José, California.

"Nosotros cantamos estas canciones dedicadas a nuestros hermanos que viven en Estados Unidos como una forma de sumarnos a su dolor, de expresar nuestro sentir con respecto a estas historias que por desgracia se repiten constantemente", indicó el vocalista.

Hernández, también acordeonista, formuló la declaración este fin de semana en una rueda de prensa tras su presentación en el municipio mexicano de Ecatepec, vecino a la capital del país.

Hace unos años, los integrantes del quinteto crearon la Fundación Los Tigres del Norte, con sede en el Centro de Estudios e Investigación Chicanos (CSRIC) de UCLA, para la conservación y defensa de la herencia mexicana en Estados Unidos. La fundación donó cien mil dólares para un proyecto de digitalización de la llamada Colección Frontera —Colección Strachowitz de la Fundación Arhoolie de Grabaciones de Mexicanos y México Americanos— que abarca unas 30 mil interpretaciones desde principio del siglo XX hasta la década del 90.

Hernández puntualizó la gran importancia que tiene para ellos la comunidad latina en Estados Unidos, pues señaló que no sólo



los mexicanos son sus seguidores, sino todos los hispanos que se encuentran del lado estadounidense del Río Bravo.

Compuesta por los hermanos Jorge, Hernán, Eduardo y Luis y su primo Oscar, esta banda, una de las más queridas por los mexicanos, anda de pueblo en pueblo en papel de "juglares modernos", contando la realidad mexicana a través de sus corridos, que son de los preferidos de los mexicanos.

En estos 30 años de trayectoria, Los Tigres del Norte han ocupado un lugar preponderante en la historia de México, por sus "narcocorridos" y por ser uno de los primeros grupos mexicanos, que al igual que la Banda El Recodo, ha llegado a todos los continentes difundiendo el folklore de su país.

En estas tres décadas "hemos

## Bush defiende plan para Medio Oriente

Las tropas y los servicios de inteligencia sirios deben retirarse de Líbano, afirmó ayer el presidente estadounidense, George W. Bush, quien estimó que la estrategia de promoción de la democracia en Medio Oriente es la mejor respuesta para enfrentar el terrorismo.

"Todas las fuerzas militares y de inteligencia de Siria deberán retirarse [de Líbano] antes de las elecciones" de mayo próximo "a fin de que esa votación sea libre y justa", declaró Bush en un discurso en Washington.

"La comunidad internacional, incluida Rusia, Alemania, Francia, Arabia Saudita y Estados Unidos, han presentado una alternativa a Siria: poner fin a su ocupación de Líbano después de 30 años o se aislará aún más del mundo", advirtió.

El mandatario no hizo mención a las importantes manifestaciones que se desarrollaban en ese continúa en la página 5

vivido, hemos sido testigos de muchas cosas; de cuando iniciamos a la fecha, ha habido cambios en la sociedad, desde su lenguaje hasta su comportamiento, y nosotros tenemos que tener en cuenta todo eso cuando grabamos un disco, porque tenemos que evolucionar también", señaló Jorge Hernández.

Por otra parte, el mayor de Los Tigres indicó que están por lanzar

su nuevo álbum, Directo al corazón, el cual saldrá al mercado el 29 de marzo y cuyo primer sencillo, La sorpresa, se ha colocado en los primeros lugares de Estados Unidos y de México.

Esta banda, originaria de Sinaloa, tiene gran convocatoria en México, pues ha logrado reunir hasta 120 mil personas en terrenos abiertos para su presentación.

## Proposal Gatti-Mayweather bout Canceled

A proposed bout between WBC super lightweight boxing champion Arturo Gatti and undefeated challenger Floyd Mayweather Jr. has been canceled.

Donald Tremblay, a spokesman for Gatti's promoter, Main Events Inc., said Mayweather missed a Friday deadline to sign a contract agreeing to fight Gatti on June 11 in Atlantic City, N.J.

Main Events will find another boxer to face Gatti on that date, Tremblay said.

"This fight was supposed to be announced on Jan. 29 and it got postponed because of Mayweather's legal problems," Tremblay said. "Arturo waited for those problems to be solved, and after those problems were solved, he expected the contract to be signed and it wasn't signed."

Mayweather (33-0, 22 knockouts) and his promoter, Top Rank Inc., apparently couldn't agree on how much money he would be guaranteed for the fight, Tremblay said.

"I don't have time for that," Gatti (39-6, 29 knockouts) said in a statement issued by Main Events. "It's his problem if he's having problems with his promoter."

A telephone message seeking comment was left Monday at Las Vegas-based Top Rank.

Mayweather was fined and ordered to perform community service in a Grand Rapids courtroom on Feb. 23, but avoided a possible three-month jail sentence after pleading no contest earlier in the month to a charge of misdemeanor assault and battery.

A no-contest plea is not an admission of guilt but is treated as such for sentencing purposes.

The charge stemmed from a Dec. 18, 2003, bar fight that injured a bouncer. The bouncer told police that Mayweather kicked him while he was down on the ground, after another man broke a bottle over the bouncer's head.

The bouncer sued Mayweather and the lawsuit was settled out of court shortly before the boxer's sentencing.

Mayweather grew up in Grand Rapids but now lives and trains in Las Vegas. He is a former WBC super featherweight and lightweight champion who has moved up to the 140-pound weight class.

## Armstrong says Paris 'deserves' 2012 Summer Games

Lance Armstrong threw his support behind Paris' bid for the 2012 Olympics on Wednesday, the same day International Olympic Committee members started assessing the city's bid for the games.

In an interview with the Associated Press, the six-time Tour de France winner acknowledged he is torn between the competing Paris and New York bids, but said the French capital deserves to be picked.

Paris would be "outstanding," said Armstrong, who hails from Austin, Texas. New York also merits support given "everything they went through the last four, five years," he said, referring to the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks. But he added: "If they don't win in 2012, they could win in 2016."

Moscow, Madrid and London also are competing. The Olympic host will be decided in a vote by the full IOC in Singapore on July 6.

French officials showed the 13-member IOC panel their plans for 2012, including presentations about the sites that would be used and the plans to build a \$2.52 billion Olympic village on an old railway yard in northern Paris.

Mayor Bertrand Delanoë, sports minister Jean-François Lamour, bid director Philippe Baudillon and others took part in the meeting at the hotel where the IOC panel is staying. Inspectors arrived Tuesday for a four-day tour of the city considered the favorite to stage the Summer Games.

Lamour spoke of creating a "new sporting infrastructure" for Paris. He highlighted plans to hold swimming and diving at an aquatic center near the Stade de France in the gritty northern suburb of Saint-Denis.

The IOC inspectors also were shown plans for a proposed Su-

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perdome to host gymnastics near Porte de la Chapelle, another somewhat run-down area of northern Paris. Yet to be built, the 25,000-seat arena would be used for basketball, handball volleyball and music concerts after the games.

Paris has been under the Olympic spell. The 2012 logo adorns the facades of the National Assembly and City Hall; lights in the colors of the logo are projected at night from the bridges of the Seine; and, metros and buses have been decorated with Olympic bid slogans.

Armstrong said Paris was "arguably the best candidate" for the 2008 Olympics, which went to Beijing instead.

"To be fair, I think that Paris deserves the Olympics," he said before starting Wednesday's stage of the Paris-Nice race.

Armstrong has a soft spot for Paris. For six straight years he has ridden onto the famed Champs-Elysées as winner of the Tour de France. But as an American, he has feelings for New York, too.

"You've put me in a hard place, but I think Paris should be an outstanding city. But I also think that in some points New York deserves to have something as special as the Olympics," he said.

**16th Annual Mayors' Beans & Cornbread Luncheon**

Hospice of Lubbock's 16th Annual Mayors' Beans and Cornbread Luncheon is set for Friday, April 1, 2005 at the Lubbock Municipal Civic Center from 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (come & go). Tickets for the Mayors' Beans & Cornbread Luncheon are \$10 and may be purchased on the day of the event at the door or in advance at Hospice of Lubbock located at 1102 Slide Rd., #3 in the Redbud Center. Live entertainment will be provided by Don Caldwell with stars from the Cactus Theatre! There will also be a silent auction and door prizes. Now in its 16th year, the Mayors' Beans & Cornbread Luncheon has become a tradition in the Lubbock community with over 2,000 people attending yearly.

Mayor Marc McDougal will be joined by several mayors from other South Plains communities served by Hospice of Lubbock. Business and civic leaders and volunteers well known in the community also contribute by serving as members of the Mayors' 100. Acting as honorary co-hosts with the mayors, they perform such duties as serving tea and bussing tables.

The Mayors' Beans & Cornbread Luncheon benefits Hospice of Lubbock and supports non-funded (charity) and under-funded hospice patients, programs and services. As the regions' only non-profit hospice organization, Hospice of Lubbock is committed to the highest quality of compassionate care and support for the terminally ill and their loved ones regardless of their ability to pay. Funds raised by the Mayors' Beans & Cornbread Luncheon help support the services and programs provided by Hospice of Lubbock. While Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance covers most hospice services provided, some patients have no funding source.

Hospice of Lubbock's promise to the communities that are served (Lubbock and 18 surrounding counties) is that no one will be turned away in need of hospice care, regardless of their funding status.

Since admitting the first patient in 1987, Hospice of Lubbock has served over 4,000 patients and families in this area. It also continues to provide bereavement programs for adults and children to the families of hospice patients, as well as to the public, at no charge.

Hospice care and support is provided through an interdisciplinary team comprised of the patient's physician, nurses, social workers, chaplains, certified nurse's aides and hospice-trained volunteers. This team approach enables Hospice to meet the patient's physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs. Referrals to Hospice of Lubbock may be made by anyone, but most often come from physicians, families and friends.

Not only is the Mayors' Beans & Cornbread Luncheon a fun time for all who attend, it also offers a unique opportunity to contribute to the needs of persons in Lubbock and surrounding communities who are facing a terminal illness. For more information about the Mayors' Beans & Cornbread Luncheon or Hospice of Lubbock, please call 795-2751.

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# La ONU denuncia la discriminación de la mujer en el mundo

La ONU denunció ayer la discriminación de la mujer en la mayor parte del mundo y exhortó a los gobernantes a rechazar cualquier pretexto fundado en la religión, la costumbre o la tradición para mantener la desigualdad.

Con motivo del Día Internacional de la Mujer, la Alta Comisionada de la ONU para los Derechos Humanos, Louise Arbour, manifestó en Ginebra que, a pesar de importantes progresos en la protección de los derechos de la mujer, persiste la discriminación en prácticamente todos los países.

La violencia contra las mujeres es ampliamente tolerada en el hogar y las comunidades y la violación es cada vez más utilizada como arma de guerra, agregó.

Los Estados "deben tomar las medidas apropiadas para modificar los patrones sociales y culturales que discriminan a la mujer" y rechazar cualquier intento de invocar "las costumbres, tradiciones o la religión" para mantener esa situación.

Unida a la pobreza, la discriminación castiga sin piedad a la mayoría de las niñas y adolescentes en gran parte de Asia. En la India y Bangladesh, más de 28 millones de niñas trabajan para subsistir.

Sobre el tema de la pobreza, el presidente del Parlamento Europeo (PE), Josep Borrell, denunció la pobreza y la discriminación que sufren las mujeres, signos alarmantes de "feminización de la pobreza", ya que las mujeres perciben como media un 16% menos de salario en comparación a sus colegas varones.

En un discurso ante la Cámara europea, Borrell resaltó que, a pesar de que hace 90 años se conmemora este día, "millones de mujeres siguen siendo víctimas de discriminación por razón de sexo" y "víctimas de abusos de toda clase, en tiempos de paz como en tiempos de guerra".

Según la organización Oxfam International, sólo en la India cada seis horas una mujer casada es asesinada o forzada a suicidarse por su propio marido.

La presidenta del gobernante Partido del Congreso de la India, Sonia Gandhi, preconizó que se reserve un tercio de los escaños para mujeres en todos los cuerpos legislativos de la unión.

Un pequeño paso darán también las autoridades de China al legislar para definir y penalizar el acoso sexual cuando, en los próximos meses, reformen la Ley de Protección de Derechos e Intereses de Mujeres.

## Duarte y Fox acuedan impulsar adhesión de México a Mercosur

El presidente de Paraguay, Nicanor Duarte, y su colega mexicano Vicente Fox acordaron ayer impulsar la adhesión de México como miembro asociado del Mercosur.

En un encuentro privado en la residencia presidencial de Los Pinos, los mandatarios también convinieron en avanzar hacia la firma de un acuerdo bilateral en materia de sanidad animal que abra las puertas a las exportaciones agropecuarias de Paraguay en el país.

Duarte calificó el acuerdo de sanidad como un tema "crucial" para el gobierno paraguayo pues permitiría "en el futuro inmediato vender carne, probablemente la mejor carne del mundo, a México".

El mandatario paraguayo, en visita de Estado al país por dos días, consideró que la presencia de México en el Mercosur "será de gran utilidad para el equilibrio y para el crecimiento compartido que necesitamos".

Dijo que Paraguay respalda "la participación de México como país, no solamente observador, sino como un asociado permanente del Mercosur", integrado por Argentina, Brasil, Paraguay y Uruguay.

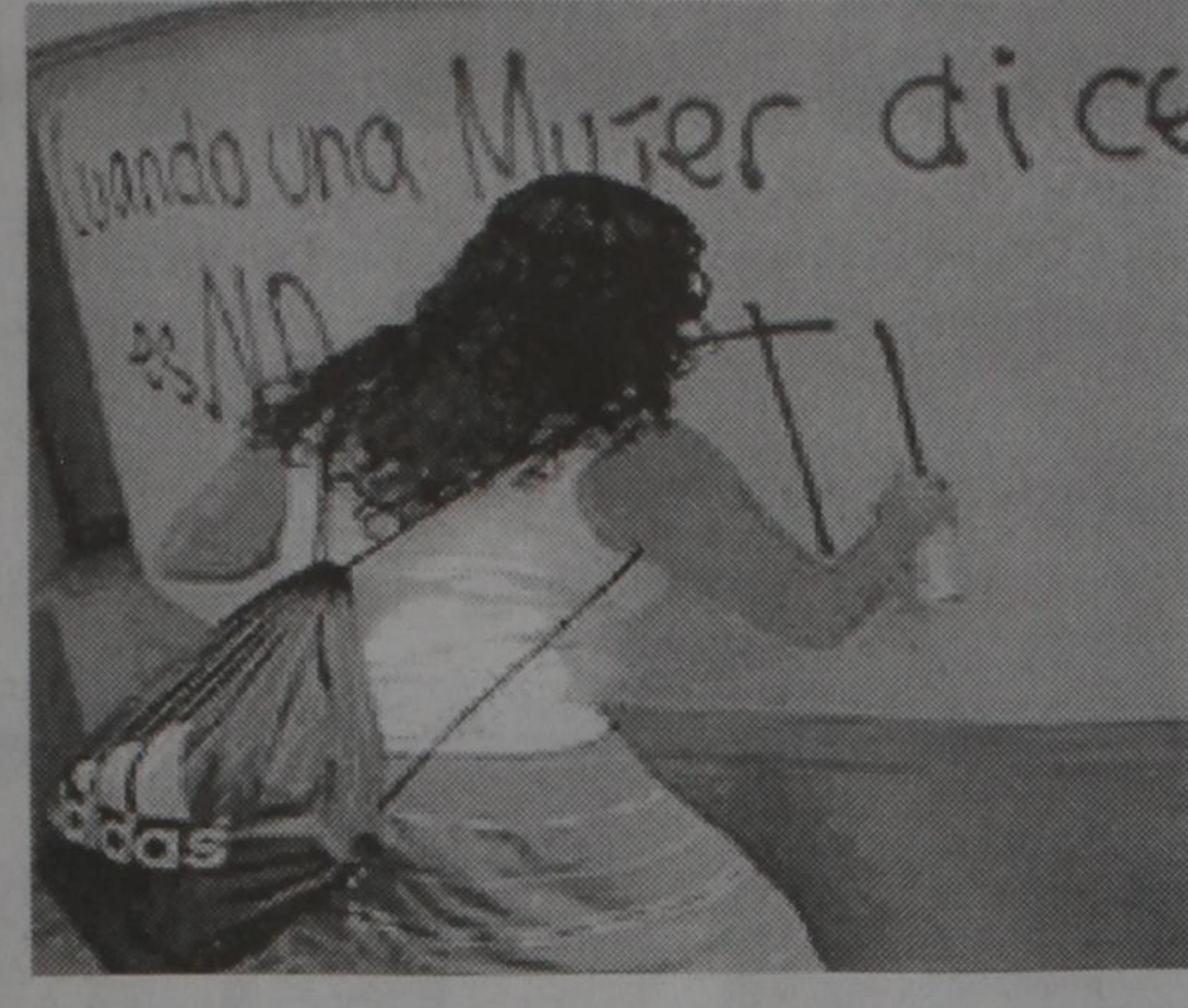
Fox dijo por su parte que el hecho de que Paraguay tenga la presidencia pro tempore del blo-

## Viene de la pagina 4

momento en Libano convocadas por los partidos pro sirios. "Nos alegramos siempre del desarrollo de manifestaciones pacíficas y también de las que llevan a cabo los libaneses", había indicado al respecto su vocero Scott McClellan antes del discurso de Bush.

Bush lanzó asimismo una advertencia a Damasco y Teherán, vinculados recientemente a un ataque suicida realizado en Tel Aviv por extremistas apostados en Siria. "Ha llegado el momento para Siria e Irán de dejar de usar la muerte como herramienta de política y cortar todo apoyo al terrorismo", dijo el presidente estadounidense, que además previno a Teherán por sus ambiciones nucleares.

"Hoy, Gran Bretaña, Francia y Alemania están involucradas en complicadas negociaciones con Irán que apuntan a detener su programa de armas nucleares. Queremos que nuestros aliados tengan éxito porque compartimos la visión de que una adquisición por Irán de armas nucleares podría desestabilizar [la



Mujer de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA).

La relatora especial, Susan Villarán, reiteró su compromiso de promover el avance de los derechos de las mujeres y la equidad de género en la región, utilizando para ello los instrumentos del sistema interamericano de derechos humanos y advirtió de que todavía se afrontan "grandes desafíos" en el continente.

En un comunicado, la relatora, que depende de la Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos (CIDH), informó de estadísticas que muestran que entre el 20% y 50% de las mujeres americanas han sido víctimas de violencia por parte de su pareja.

El Día de la Mujer, dijo, cobra particular relevancia porque se cumple el décimo aniversario de la adopción de la Plataforma de Acción de Pekín y de la entrada en vigor de la Convención Interamericana para Prevenir, Sanear y Erradicar la Violencia contra la Mujer.

Villarán recalcó que, en estos 10 años, hubo importantes avances en la defensa de los derechos de la mujer y que la mayoría de países de la OEA ratificaron la citada convención.

En la Unión Europea hay situaciones aún dispares tras la última ampliación y especialmente en el ámbito laboral, ya que los salarios femeninos mínimos son un 16% inferiores a los masculinos.

La UE se ha fijado como reto que en 2010 el 60% de las mujeres tengan un empleo, frente al 51%.

Por otro lado, delegados de 130 países y seis mil representantes de organizaciones de mujeres y de derechos humanos participan de la segunda semana de una re-

unión para evaluar el progreso en la implementación la plataforma para la igualdad de los sexos adoptada en la conferencia de la ONU sobre el tema en Beijing en 1995.

En un panel dedicado a marcar el Día Internacional de la Mujer, Rachel Mayanja, la principal asesora del secretario general de la ONU, Kofi Annan, para asuntos femeninos, advirtió que "la tarea que nos espera no va a ser menos difícil que lo que ha sido en los últimos decenios".

Nafis Sadik, asesor especial de Annan en la lucha contra el sida y ex jefe del Fondo de Población de la ONU, dijo que los gobiernos se gastan más de 900,000 millones de dólares en el sector militar mientras que los países más ricos del mundo se gastan menos de 70,000 millones en ayuda al desarrollo —y solamente 3,000 millones de esa cifra van a parar a programas de igualdad de la mujer—.

“¿Qué contribuye más a la seguridad, los 3,000 millones de dólares invertidos en la igualdad de la mujer o los 900,000 millones de dólares gastados en armamento?”, preguntó Sadik. “Es hora de que los líderes políticos dejen de hablar de paz y realmente comiencen a invertir en la paz”.

Por su lado, el presidente de la Comisión Europea, José Manuel Durao Barroso, anunció ayer en el Parlamento Europeo la creación del Instituto de Igualdad entre Hombres y Mujeres, que comenzará su actividad en 2007.

El Instituto comenzará sus actividades en 2007, en una sede todavía por decidir, pero muy probablemente en alguno de los 10 nuevos países de la UE, con una dotación financiera de 52.7 millones de euros para el periodo 2007 a 2013.

La violencia contra la mujer o violencia doméstica, uno de los más graves problemas de discriminación en los países europeos, fue abordada en España mediante una Ley Integral sobre la Violencia de Género aprobada en 2004, que ampara a la mujer maltratada y endurece las penas para los maltratadores.



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## Alerta Turística Puede Perjudicar el Turismo de Primavera en México

viene de la primera página

Muchos más preocupante - aunque en realidad no resulte ninguna sorpresa - es el reciente arresto del asistente principal de viajes del presidente Vicente Fox, el cual, supuestamente mantenía a los jefes del cartel al corriente de los preparativos de viaje de Fox. El presidente Fox ha prometido, en repetidas ocasiones, librarse "la madre de todas las batallas" en contra de todos los carteles, y bajo su supervisión, se ha arrestado a más cabecillas del cartel que en los gobiernos de los presidentes anteriores.

A pesar de la determinación de Fox, todavía existe una gran cantidad de subalternos y de jóvenes desesperados que luchan por llegar al topo del negocio de drogas mientras que la violencia y el volumen del tráfico de drogas continúan a paso acelerado. Sin duda, el gobierno mexicano está consternado por el temor de que la alerta turística, que vence el 25 de abril, espante a los turistas que pasan sus vacaciones de primavera en las ciudades más violentas del turismo gringo como Puerto Vallarta o Cancún. El turismo le dejó \$10.8 mil millones a la economía mexicana en el 2004. Casi la mitad de las visitas realizadas por extranjeros fueron a la zona fronteriza. Por lo tanto, la hipersensibilidad del gobierno de Fox en relación a este asunto es comprensible. No se puede dar el lujo de que la imagen de México como destino turístico para la familia, se empañe, aunque sea algo así como un narco-estado.

El viajero estadounidense típico tiene poco de qué preocuparse. La mayor parte de la violencia en la frontera está relacionada directamente con el tráfico de drogas. Y en los centros turísticos de playa, como Puerto Vallarta, los delincuentes saben que si le hacen daño a un turista extranjero, los políticos locales (quienes tienen importantes inversiones en la industria del turismo) podrían ensartarlos por sus pulgares.

Así que si usted viaja a Ciudad Juárez por un día a buscar algunos medicamentos baratos y a beberse unas cuantas Coronas, el riesgo de encontrarse en medio de un fuego cruzado de masivos probablemente no sea mayor que en vecindarios violentos de Houston, Miami o Los Ángeles, en los cuales las pandillas están activas. Ahora, más que nunca, asegúrese de que no deje su sentido común en la frontera.

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## Recortes al Medicaid

viene de la primera página

Richard Brown, director del Centro de Investigación de Políticas para la Salud (CHPR por sus siglas en inglés) de Los Angeles, de la Universidad de California, afirma que si el Congreso aprueba la propuesta de Bush, los grupos de la población como los beneficiarios de servicios considerados "opcionales" por los estados posiblemente sufran más el impacto de los recortes.

Ellos incluyen a las personas que no cumplen con los requisitos de ingresos para ser elegibles, pero que necesitan los servicios médicos y tienen bajos ingresos. Veintinueve por ciento de todas las personas en Medicaid se encuentran en ese grupo. Los servicios opcionales incluyen el cuidado preventivo, los hospicios para los enfermos terminales, las pruebas de detección y los servicios de salud mental, entre otros.

"No sólo perjudica la salud de esos individuos, sino que aumenta potencialmente el costo a Medicaid", afirma Brown. La eliminación de programas y servicios opcionales no será efectiva, en términos de los costos, pero puede ser "la única opción que tengan los estados".

Hayley Buchbinder, analista de políticas de salud del Instituto de Política Tomás Rivera (TRPI por sus siglas en inglés), indica que, en las próximas semanas, las personas deben estar atentas cuando el Congreso comience a considerar "con exactitud, dónde van a recortar".

El secretario del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de los Estados Unidos Mike Leavitt dijo a los miembros que asistieron a la conferencia que, "Aunque no estamos de acuerdo en todos los detalles, se ha logrado un amplio consenso en muchos de los asuntos más importantes".

Bush también propuso bajar los precios que Medicaid paga por los medicamentos recetados y cambiar las reglas para el cuidado a largo plazo cubierto por el programa. "El resultado de estos cambios será ahorrar algún dinero al cerrar las lagunas jurídicas y detener los artificios de contabilidad", dijo el secretario de prensa de la Casa Blanca Scott McClellan durante una sesión informativa de prensa.

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# Show Presentará los Mejores Ballets de Aztlan

La idea en el 1993 cuando se empeso la celebración del Festival Viva Aztlan fue detraer a Lubbock miembros del Ballet Mexicano para aprender mejor los bailes de México y darle a los jóvenes quien participan una educación apropiada. Con la ayuda de el Consejo de la Ciudad de Lubbock varios negocios incluyendo Civic Lubbock Inc, Coca Cola, Xcel, El Editor y el Lubbock Avalanche Journal esto se ha cumplido con traer los mejores maestros del Ballet a Lubbock para conducir talleres y clases para los estudiantes.

Este año 15 grupos folklóricos participaran en el Festivál y presentarán al público lo mejor en su repertorio para tratar de ganarse el título de ser el mejor ballet del Festival cuando terminará el Festivál con presentara los premios el Sabado por la noche.

El publico es invitado a participar a las actividades empesando el Viernes y continuando hasta el Sabado por la noche. Aquí en esta pagina de El Editor presentamos el horario al igual de lotos fotos de aglunos de los Ballets quien participaran. ¡No falte a las actividades!



Ballet Folklorico Aztlan de Lubbock



Folklorico Maria Isabel de El Paso



Paisano Ballet Folklorico de Terlingua,



Ballet Folklorico Paloma Libre de Lorenzo



Adultos de Nuestra Herencia de Lubbock



Niños del Ballet Nuestra Herencia de Lubbock

## Program Schedule

**Friday's Schedule - March 11, 2005**

Registration	9:00 a.m.	Civic Center Theatre Lobby
Children's Workshop	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Civic Center Theatre Jesus Chacon Campeche or Aguascalientes
Mariachi Workshop	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Civic Center Rooms
Lunch (On your own)	12:00 Noon to 1:30 p.m.	
Children's Workshop	1:30 to 3:30 p.m.	Civic Center Theatre Jaime Guerrero Nuevo Leon
Mariachi Workshop	1:30 to 3:30 p.m.	Civic Center Rooms
Children's Competition	4:00 to 4:20 p.m. 4:25 to 4:45 p.m. 4:50 to 5:10 p.m. 5:15 to 5:35 p.m.	Ballet Folklorico Paloma Libre - Lorenzo, TX Ballet Folklorico Guadalupano - Muleshoe, TX Folklorico de Guadalupe - Snyder, TX Ballet Folklorico de Maria Isabel - El Paso, TX
Dinner (On your own)	5:35 to 7:00 p.m.	
Children's Competition	7:00 to 7:20 p.m. 7:25 to 7:45 p.m. 7:50 to 8:10 p.m.	Ballet Folklorico Nuestra Herencia - Lubbock, TX Grupo Folklorico Rio Bravo - El Paso, TX Ballet Folklorico Aztlan - Lubbock, TX
Scholarship Competition	8:15 to 8:30 p.m.	Civic Center Theatre
Mixer	8:30 to 10:00	Holiday Inn - Civic Center

**Saturday's Schedule - March 12, 2005**

Adult's Workshop	8:30 to 10:30 a.m.	Civic Center Theatre
Ramiro Loera	Queretaro & Guerrero	
Mariachi Workshop	8:00 to 10:00 a.m.	Civic Center Rooms 108 - 111
Director's Seminar	10:45 to 11:45 a.m.	Room - 112
Presented by the three Judges		
Mariachi Workshop	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Civic Center Rooms 108 - 111
Lunch (On your own)	12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.	
Mariachi Workshop	1:30 - 3:00 p.m. (If needed)	Civic Center Rooms 108 - 111
Adult's Competition	1:30 - 1:55 p.m. 2:00 - 2:25 p.m. 2:30 - 2:55 p.m. 3:00 - 3:25 p.m. 3:30 - 3:55 p.m. 4:00 - 4:25 p.m. 4:30 - 4:55 p.m. 5:00 - 5:25 p.m. 5:30 - 5:55 p.m.	Ballet Folklorico Paloma Libre - Lorenzo, TX Star Dance Academy - Hobbs, NM Folklorico de Guadalupe - Snyder, TX Ballet Folklorico Nuestra Herencia - Lubbock, TX Paisano Folklorico Dancers - Terlingua, TX Ballet Folklorico Aztlan - Lubbock, TX Alma Folklorica de Oklahoma - Guymon, OK Mexico 2000 Ballet Folklorico - Dallas, TX Santa Maria H S Ballet Folklorico - Nipomo, CA
Dinner	6:00 - 7:30	Provided by Viva Aztlan Festival Location: TBA
Showcase	7:30 - 9:00 p.m.	Civic Center Theatre
Special Performance by Guest Group		Ballet Folklorico Paso del Norte - El Paso, TX
Awards Ceremony	9:15 - 10:00 p.m.	Civic Center Theatre



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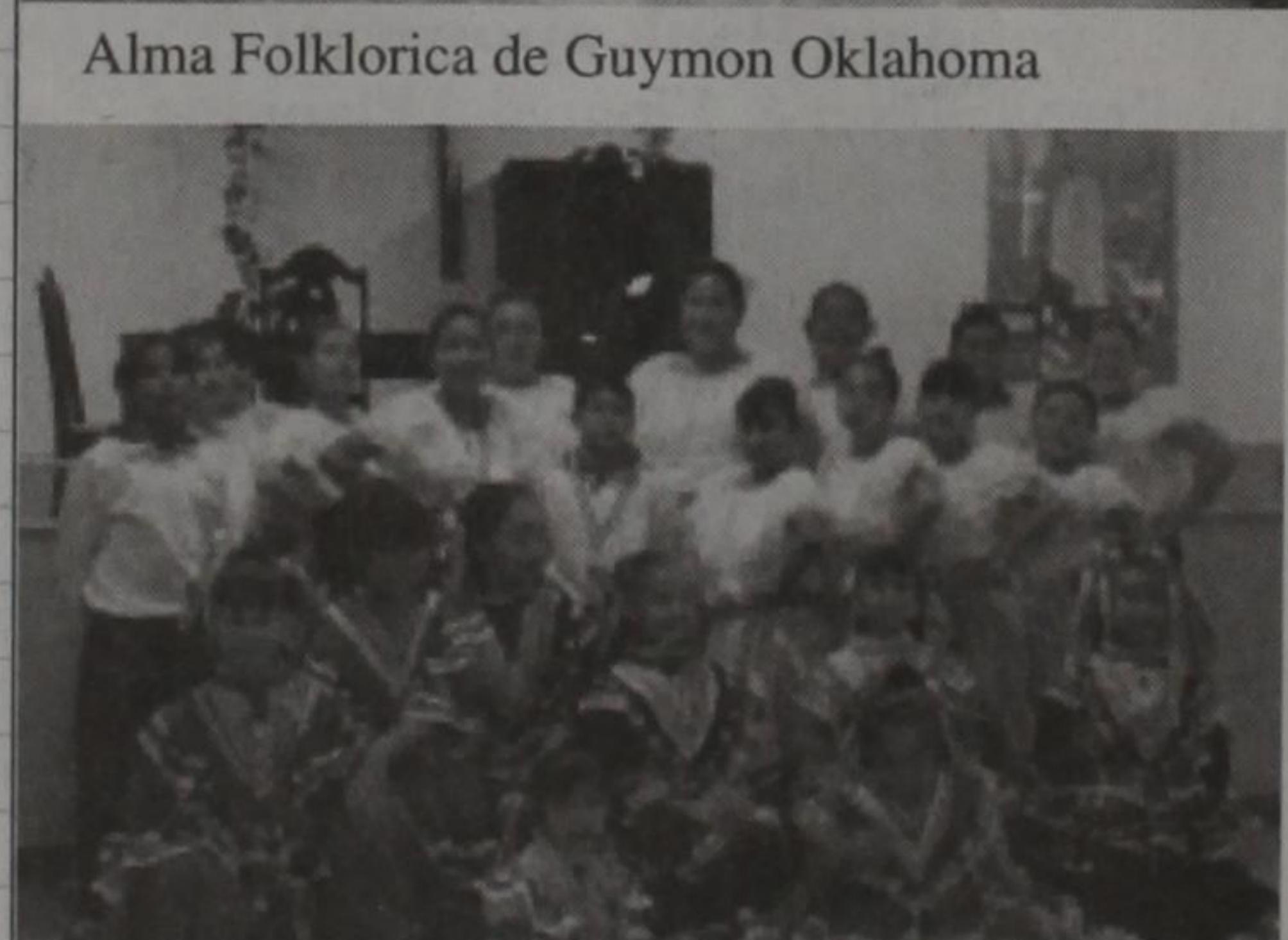
Ballet Folklorico Guadalupe de Snyder



Alma Folklorica de Guymon Oklahoma



Gupo Folklorico Guadalupano de Mulshoe



Niños del Ballet Folklorico Aztlan de Lubbock



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No Falte Todos Bienvenidos