

El Saltillo

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

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Week of January 13 through January 19, 2005

Lubbock, TX USA

Local LULAC Civil Rights Syposium

The status of Civil Rights in West Texas will be the main topic of discussion in a Civil Right Symposim to be held this weekend by the LULAC Chapter 263. The event is scheduled to start Friday at the Hale Center Hish School auditorium at 6 pm with welcoming remarks by LLAC National Director Hector Flores and presentation by Richard Sambrano of the Department of Justice and Edward Elizondo of the EEOC District Office.

The Syposium will continue on Saturday at the Holiday Inn Civic Center in Lubbock with activities starting at 9 am and continuing all day. A schedule of events is shown in full on page two of this edition of El Editor

HMW Online Unveils an Expanding Hispanic Market Information Section

HMW Online, the Hispanic Marketing Source, has upgraded its Market Profiles section and expanded its geo-demographic population and household data from 21 to 40 selected DMA's. HMW Online now provides the latest and most complete information including population, language, economics, origin and education. The information, prepared by Geoscape International, provides data for 1990 and 2000, and projections for 2005 and 2010.

"This is one more step towards making HMW Online the most complete data center in the U.S. Hispanic marketplace," said Arturo Villar, HMW's publisher. "By selecting Geoscape to bring the Hispanic Market DataStream, 2005 Series to our subscribers we are making access to HMW Online the true complement to our Monday newsletter, Hispanic Market Weekly."

The new data for HMW's 40 Market Profiles is organized and displayed to make it very easy to access, view and print, providing a more valuable tool for all interested in the Hispanic market.

"HMW subscribers now have a more complete and user-friendly online tool to tap the fast-growing multinational,

multicultural Hispanic market," said Cynthia Corzo, HMW's editor. "With the expanded market profiles we are giving them the market rankings for Hispanic population, percentage of Hispanics, Hispanic population growth from 1990 to 2005, foreign-born population and median income."

The expansion of HMW's market profiles, one of the most visited pages in http://www.hmwonline.com, gives HMW subscribers one more reason to use the website as a one-stop source of basic and cutting-edge information to advance their business. HMW users have immediate and direct access to the weekly newsletter and its eight-year archive of weekly breaking news, and to the most complete directories for Companies, Agencies and Media doing business in the Hispanic market, all updated weekly.

Also available at a click on the HMW site, are the Research Updates, the New Magazine Data page, and the archives containing the most recent Industry Snapshots, Breaking News during the week, Special Reports, Conversations with top Hispanic marketing leaders and the HMW Talent Mart.

"Advancing the understanding of our clients and business partners is fundamental to Geoscape's mission," explains Cesar Melgoza, Geoscape's CEO. "The Hispanic Market DataStream: 2005 Series, published within HMW Online will extent leading-edge data to market-leading organizations."

Measures to prevent death of immigrants tightened

Official volunteer rescue squads are strengthening efforts to prevent the deaths of immigrants on the California-Mexico border where blizzards, rains and landslides are registered.

The Border Patrol set off the alarm on a search and rescue team in a San Diego mountain area, while the Border Angels team coordinates efforts with the Mexican Beta team to bring relief to the area.

The director of the Angels, Enrique Morones, stated that "this weekend we are setting up the first emergency stations and the next we will be setting 4 to 50 stations" in corridors usually crossed by immigrants during winter.

Each station has blankets, winter clothing, raincoats and some of them include mud and snow shoes and "non-freezing sugary food like cakes", Morones

explained.

These "rescue stations" are located in the Tecate, Baja California area, facing the Mexican city of Tecate, with an elevation of more than 1,300 meters and an extended area covered by snow.

On the other hand, the Mexican Consulate started to issue press releases to alert immigrants about the region's conditions.

The latest consular warning stated the risk area goes from the Otay mountains, some 10 kms east San Diego to the La Rumorosa area.

Next to California, the snow covers the area from Alpine, four kms to northern

Mexico, where a series of fires devastated the area 14 months ago and left it risky to landslides.

according to a weather forecast of the United States Meteorological Service, storms will continue occasionally until March.



Bush says he will fight for immi- gration reform

President George W. Bush, in an interview published Wednesday by The Washington Times, said he will fight in his second term in office for his plan to extend temporary work visas to some eight million illegal immigrants in the United States.

"We've got people living in the shadows of our society, and we've got a border patrol that's overstressed because we've got people streaming across," Bush said. "The system has broken down. And I think by legalizing work, we take a lot of pressure off our borders."

Asked how he ranked immigration reform in his agenda -- he has already promised to reform the US pension and tax systems, Bush eight days from his inauguration ceremony said: "I think it's high. I think it's a big issue."

He expressed confidence in being able to persuade reticent lawmakers -- many of them belonging to his own Republican Party -- to go along with his proposal, recalling how he managed to convince lawmakers to cut taxes in his first year in office.

He denied viewpoints that his immigration reform was tantamount to extending US citizenship to people who did not deserve it.

"This is not a citizenship," he said. "I strongly oppose instant citizenship. I think all that would do is cause the problem to occur again. I believe that if they want to be a citizen, they need to get in line like the other people have done."

But he said that the current situation is a "bureaucratic nightmare" that must be solved.

"Look, whether or not you agree with the solution or not, we have a problem in America when you've got eight million undocumented workers here," he stressed. "A solution is not instantaneous citizenship. The solution is something more rational than that."

Bush must answer Hispanic voters on immigration reform

When President Bush swooped into South Florida two months ago desperately seeking support in a close re-election campaign, some of the most fervent response came from immigrants who shouted their support in

English and Spanish. Hispanic voters in particular flocked to the Republican president in surprising numbers, helping to seal his victory. Now immigrant communities eagerly await his plan to allow undocumented arrivals from their countries to live and work here legally.

Immigrant advocates who want Uncle Sam to open a path to permanent legal residence for the undocumented are looking to Bush and Florida Republicans in Congress to lead the way. Floridians, vital to Bush's re-election, could play a decisive role in an impassioned debate in Congress this year over immigration policy.

"I believe it is possible that will happen because politicians now are depending on Latino voters, especially in Florida," said Maria Nury Gomez, a Colombian-American who lives in Boca Raton, Fla., and works in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "It's a two-way street. We will definitely help a politician who is helping our issues as well. We are excited, and it's important for the politicians because it's important for us."

Yet counter-pressures are mounting from much of the public, reflected in Congress, which shows signs of increasing intolerance for illegal immigration and spotty enforcement. Many members believe the public is demanding more restrictive immigration laws and fewer privileges for the undocumented.

A powerful coalition in the House of Representatives is pushing hard for new restrictions, starting with a provision to ban states from issuing driver's licenses to those who cannot prove they are legal.

This confrontation will play out over the next few months, as many members press for an immigration crackdown while Bush fashions his proposal to create a foreign guest-worker program and many Democrats seek a broader amnesty for those living on the ragged edge of the law.

Bush made no reference to his immigration ideas when he rallied a boisterous crowd of Miami supporters in November, just two days before the election. Accompanied by Gov. Jeb Bush, the president courted the crowd with a mixture of English and Spanish while touting his usual themes of low taxes and national security, adding his hope for a free and democratic Cuba.



"Cuba libre!" Karl Rove, the president's master strategist, remarked when he climbed down from Air Force One in Miami, sounding the theme of that day.

Bush's immigration plans, which he touted in 2000 and the first few months of his presidency, almost disappeared in the aftermath of the 2001 attacks, when the nation became consumed with fending off foreign terrorists.

In recent months, however, Bush has renewed his outreach to Mexican President Vicente Fox, and the White House has revived hopes of establishing a guest-worker program to legalize the undocumented. Bush, who has yet to unveil a specific plan, has indicated he wants to limit this legal status to three years, subject to renewal.

"What you have is a donnybrook shaping up," said Frank Sharry, director of the National Immigration Forum, which generally favors legalization. "Democrats will insist on some way for undocumented residents to earn their way to permanent residence. Republicans are going to insist on a temporary worker program that is employer friendly. And some say they will only support it if it includes an enforcement component that actually works."

"Florida's immigrant community, its employers and unions and politicians, will be big factors in this debate. And if the Florida GOP engages - people like Jeb Bush and Lincoln Diaz-Balart - there's a much greater chance of getting something done."

Diaz-Balart, in fact, intends to do just that.

The Miami Republican, who refused to sign the party's "Contract with America" in 1994 because it called for elimination of welfare benefits to legal immigrants, promises "to get these ideas of the president's passed into law."

"This is a high priority for me," Diaz-Balart said in a recent interview. "My view is that these people, aside from being undocumented, are hardworking and law-abiding. They are doing jobs that Americans do not want, and they pay taxes. They should have the opportunity to retrieve their savings and go back and forth to their home countries."

(Contued on Page 5)

Mexico Bashers Outraged by Government Comic Book

By Ernesto Portillo Jr.

Making mincemeat of the Mexican government is easy.

It's a hobby for border dwellers — on both sides of the linea — to laugh and cry over the actions of out-of-touch Mexico City bureaucrats. We've witnessed too many gaffes and missteps to count.

So when critics howled over the Mexican government's newest blunder, I didn't wince. What's another dumb move, I figured.

The Mexican government is distributing 1.5 million comic books that advise what and what not to do when crossing the border — illegally.

Mexico bashers north of the border are having a conniption fit. The pocket-size comic book is proof of a Mexican conspiracy to invade the United States, critics suggest.

My first impulse was it's just Mexico City bungling it again. And I thought about piling on the Mexican government myself.

But then I did something I suspect the critics did not do. I read the guide.

What do you know?

The 32-page color, poorly drawn comic book is more than a step-by-step guide on how to cross the border illegally.

It's a common-sense advisory on how Mexican citizens should comport themselves when they are in this country, legally or not. The instructions are more mundane than sensational.

But that didn't stop the usual suspects.

"This is not the action of a friendly neighbor," Colorado Republican Congressman Tom Tancredo told the New York Times. "What would the Mexican government say if we encouraged our citizens to violate Mexican law?"

Being a congressman and chairman of the Congressional Immigration Reform Caucus, Tancredo apparently can twist and distort the guide.

It doesn't encourage Mexicans to cross the border illegally. It repeatedly states that border crossers should enter the United States with proper documents.

But if Mexican citizens make the difficult and dangerous decision to cross illegally, the guide warns readers of real dangers crossing rivers, deserts and mountains. And it lists do's and don'ts if they are stopped by U.S. law enforcement officers.

"If you choose to cross the desert, make sure to cross during the hours when the heat is not intense," it states.

The guide, published in Spanish by Mexican Foreign Relations, contains directions similar to those U.S. residents hear at airports or receive from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Do not trust smugglers, do not take packages from strangers, do not leave children with strangers, do not cross with false papers, do not lie to U.S. immigration agents, do not resist arrest, do not carry guns or knives, do not attend loud parties.

It contains more "do not" than "do." Where's the encouragement?

What probably irks critics is the legal advice the booklet provides.

It lists basic human rights for Mexican citizens if detained or arrested. They can ask to speak to a Mexican government representative. They can request medical care and food and water. They do not have to sign documents in English. They should be accorded dignity regardless of their legal status.

Dam that Constitution. That would be ours, not Mexico's.

There's much to criticize Mexico about, however.

Its ruling class ignores the poor and powerless. The privileged elite are more concerned with the ups and downs of the stock exchange. And some people in government and business are corrupt.

But critics of the comic book should read it to the end.

This guide does not encourage Mexicans to cross into the United States without proper legal documents. Its purpose is to identify the migrants' risks and rights.

ALBERTO GONZALES Y EL ESCOLLO DE LA CARRERA GUBERNAMENTAL

Por Jorge Mariscal

Una de las grandes figuras de la historia mexicano-americana es Ernesto Galarza. Hijo de una familia inmigrante, trabajó para escapar la pobreza y las escuelas racistas de los albores del siglo XX, convirtiéndose en uno de un pequeño grupo de latinos que asistiera a la universidad y uno de los primeros latinos en los Estados Unidos en titularse con una maestría (de la Universidad de Stanford) y un doctorado (de la Universidad de Columbia).

No obstante, Galarza no se resguardó en la torre de marfil. De lo contrario, optó por servir a la comunidad en la que había nacido con su preparación académica. Se volvió un líder de la lucha por la oportunidad educativa y por los derechos de los trabajadores agrícolas migrantes. Escribió novelas y estudios académicos que surtieron un impacto directo sobre la legislación federal diseñada para proteger a las familias trabajadoras mexicano-americanas.

En 1972 se le pidió a Galarza imaginarse un futuro para latinos y latinas que para entonces habían empezado a matricularse en las universidades estadounidenses en mayores números gracias al movimiento chicano y el activismo militante de la juventud.

Vale la pena considerar los comentarios de Galarza ahora, en vista de la nominación de Alberto Gonzales al cargo de fiscal general de los Estados Unidos.

Dijo Galarza: "Estas personas deben regresar a la comunidad con la comprensión de que su conocimiento y capacitación superiores les dan, proporcionalmente, mayor responsabilidad, lo cual significa ayudar a la comunidad a comprender las situaciones en las que se encuentra y llevar a la comunidad información a la cual no tienen acceso".

A continuación describió los peligros del cuento de Horatio Alger para las minorías étnicas: "El mexicano que se transfiere a la sociedad urbana de los Estados Unidos se transfiere a una cultura en extremo complicada. La comunidad necesita de personas que saben manejarse en esta cultura, pero al aprender a manejarse en una cultura en extremo complicada, puedes caer fácilmente en la tentación de explotarla para tu propio bien y hacer de tu conocimiento una carrera. Este tipo de carrera es una de las tentaciones y escollos que enfrenta el estudiante graduado mexicano".

La biografía de Alberto Gonzales no difiere mucho de la de Ernesto Galarza. Nació entre la pobreza, ganó contra todo obstáculo al matricularse en la Universidad Rice y en la escuela de derecho de Harvard. George W. Bush se hizo amigo de Gonzales, quien se encontró elevado a posiciones de poder tanto en Texas como en Washington, D.C.

Las organizaciones hispanas tradicionales, tales como la Liga de Ciudadanos Unidos Latino Americanos (LULAC por sus siglas en inglés) y el Concilio Nacional de La Raza (NCLR) han elogiado el nombramiento de Gonzales como un avance para los derechos civiles latinos. El comunicado de prensa que emitió el NCLR llamó a Gonzales "un servidor público considerado, razonable, hombre de palabra".

Si bien podrá ser todo eso, Gonzales no alcanzó la meta que establecieron personas como Galarza. En vez de ayudarnos a comprender la crisis actual, Gonzales antecedió a su obligación de servir la causa de la justicia, la lealtad a sus jefes. En vez de aprovechar la audiencia de confirmación para ofrecer información que pudiera clarificar los orígenes de los escándalos de tortura, se puso evasivo.

Es claro que el juez Gonzales ha aprendido a ser exitoso en la cámara del poder — "hombre de palabra" quizás, pero también hombre sumiso a unos de los presidentes más reaccionarios de la historia de los Estados Unidos. Por lo visto Gonzales no pudo huir de lo que Galarza llamó el escollo de la carrera gubernamental.

Cuano los amigos que no son latinos preguntan por qué algunos de nosotros objetamos contra el término "hispano", luchamos por explicar su sentido. El hispano o la hispana se enorgullece de su etnicidad sin ser menos "auténtico" que cualquier otra persona de ascendencia mexicana. Sin embargo, el hispano opta por alinearse con el estamento, basando sus decisiones profesionales en lo que sus superiores quieren oír y sintiendo mayor apego a la aprobación de su jefe que al bien de la comunidad.

Entonces, recordemos a Ernesto Galarza por su compromiso con la justicia social. Y felicitemos a Alberto Gonzales, primer hispano en llegar a ser fiscal general de la nación.

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Los Anti-Mexicanos Escandalizados con la Guia del Migrante

Por Ernesto Portillo Jr.

Es fácil hacer picadillo del gobierno mexicano.

Es un pasatiempo para los que viven en la frontera — de ambos lados — reírse y llorar con las hazañas de los burócratas fuera de foco del D.F. Hemos sido testigos de tantas medidas de pata, tantos tropezones, que ni los podemos contar.

Por ende, cuando los críticos dieron grito en el cielo con el nuevo traspie del gobierno mexicano, ni pestañé. Y qué de otra mala movida, pensé.

El gobierno mexicano está distribuyendo 1.5 millones de tebeos que aconsejan qué hacer y qué no hacer al cruzar la frontera — ilegalmente.

Los críticos del norte de la frontera están con rabieta. El librito de bolsillo es prueba del complot mexicano por invadir los Estados Unidos, sugieren.

Mi primer impulso fue pensar que se trataba simplemente de la torpeza de siempre del D.F. Y se me ocurrió unirme al vocerío en contra del gobierno mexicano, también.

Pero entonces hice algo que sospecho no hicieron los críticos. Lei la guía.

¿Quién hubiera pensado?

El tebeo mal dibujado, de 32 páginas, es más que una guía paso por paso sobre cómo cruzar la frontera ilegalmente.

Es un aviso de sentido común sobre cómo los ciudadanos mexicanos deben comportarse cuando están en este país, legal o ilegalmente. Las instrucciones son más mundanas que sensacionales.

Lo cual no detuvo a los críticos de toda la vida.

"Aquello no es el comportamiento de un vecino amigo", le dijo al New York Times el congresista republicano por Colorado, Tom Tancredo. "¿Qué diría el gobierno mexicano si alentáramos a nuestros ciudadanos a violar la ley de México?"

Como congresista y director del Caucus Congresional pro Reforma de la Inmigración, Tancredo, por lo visto, puede tergiversar y distorsionar la guía.

La guía no alienta a que los mexicanos crucen ilegalmente la frontera. Repetidamente dice que los que cruzan deben entrar a los Estados Unidos con la documentación apropiada.

Pero si los ciudadanos mexicanos toman la decisión difícil y peligrosa de cruzar ilegalmente,

la guía advierte a los lectores de los verdaderos peligros que azotan a los que cruzan ríos, desiertos y montañas. También ofrece una lista de lo que deben hacer y no hacer si los detienen agentes de la ley estadounidense.

"Si cruzas por el desierto, procura caminar en horas en las que el calor no sea tan intenso", pone.

La guía, publicada en español por la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, contiene orientación similar a la que oyen los residentes estadounidenses en los aeropuertos o reciben del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional de los EEUU.

No fiarse de los contrabandistas, no aceptar paquetes de extraños, no dejar a los hijos con desconocidos, no cruzar con documentos falsos, no mentir a los agentes de puertas o garitas, no resistirse a la detención, no llevar pistolas ni cuchillos, evitar las fiestas ruidosas.

Tiene más del "qué no hacer" que del "qué hacer".

¿Eso cómo los alienta? Lo que probablemente hace

rabiara a los críticos es el consejo legal que provee el librito.

Tiene una lista de derechos humanos básicos para los ciudadanos mexicanos si se encuentran detenidos.

Pueden pedir hablar con un representante del gobierno mexicano. Puede pedir asesoría médica y comida y agua. No tienen que firmar documentos en inglés. Deben ser tratados con respeto y dignidad sin importar su calidad migratoria.

Malhaya esa Constitución. La nuestra, no la de México.

Queda mucho por criticarle a México, sin embargo.

Su clase dominante hace caso omiso del pobre sin acceso al poder. La cúpula privilegiada se preocupa más con los vaivenes de la Bolsa. Y algunos del gobierno y la empresa son corruptos.

No obstante, los críticos deben leer el tebeo cara a cara.

Esta guía no alienta a los mexicanos a cruzar la frontera para entrar a los Estados Unidos sin la documentación apropiada. Su propósito es identificar los riesgos que corre el migrante y también sus derechos.

Re-editado con permiso, 2005. Hispanic Link News Service.

Bury Me in México -- Easier Said Than Done

By Raymond Rodriguez

Almost every day we read about Mexican migrants trying to enter this country illegally who die in the desert. This past year, at least 600 of them perished in vain attempts to enter the United States and find a job to help support their families south of the border. Driven by poverty-bred desperation, men, women and children risk their lives.

There is another aspect of this migrant tide that goes virtually unnoticed, their return to the madre patria, motherland.

No, I am not talking about the yearly trips during the holiday season when relatives and friends

return to Mexico to celebrate with family members they left behind. Those are festive occasions illuminated with hugs, kisses and gifts. The reunions offer an opportunity to buttress any loosening ties and to share tales of adventure.

What I am referring to is the final pilgrimage made by many Mexicans who die in the United States. The journey is best summed up by the words of a corrido — folk song — that implores, "Beloved Mexico, if I should die far from you, let them say I am sleeping, and bring me back here."

The last request of many Mexicans, even after being absent from their native land for years, is to

be laid to rest in their hometown among family and friends.

That has been the case for decades. The elderly and infirm choose to return to Mexico to die. Even during the Great Depression, no matter how poor they were, they did not want to die in the United States. They feared our government would bury them in a paupers' field. The belief among the faithful was that if they were not buried in a sacred cemetery, their soul would be lost and fail to enter heaven. True believers were not willing to take that risk.

Today, the desire to be interred in Mexico still persists. Last year, from Los Angeles County alone, more than 100 Mexicans a month were shipped home for burial. This was done to honor the deceased's final request, often made upon his or her death bed. It places a strain on the family's meager budget, but it is a request that cannot be denied.

Unfortunately, some mortuaries take advantage of the family's grief. The entire process, from embalming to shipping the body home, is not cheap. In some instances, the amount can exceed several thousand dollars. A family can easily spend four or five thousand dollars to comply with their duty toward the deceased.

Often a collection must be taken up in the neighborhood to cover the costs.

Recognizing the tragic need, the Mexican government has established a fund to assist those totally bereft of means. An attempt has also been made to establish a basic fee that would

enable families to meet their financial obligation.

One problem still remains — reducing the time it takes to ship a body. This may range from one week to a month or more. Cargo space is often at a premium.

For the grieving family, the wait represents an interminable delay. The rituals of the night-long wake and the nine day novena must be solemnly observed. Body and soul must be treated with the respect and dignity.

In Mexico, burials normally take place a day or two after a person dies, and the novena will be recited following the burial. Having to wait a week or more to receive the body places an undue stress on the bereaved family.

The supplication "May his soul rest in peace" is heartfelt. One has to make sure that everything is done to assure the soul's entry into heaven.

And come Nov. 2, the Day of the Dead, families must prepare offerings with the departed's favorite foods, fruits, delicacies and drink so that the spirit may enjoy its yearly visit. For Mexicans, death is not the end. It is not to be feared. It is simply another aspect of life. This explains why it is so important to be interred among friends and relatives.)

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EL EDITOR Bigger and Better in 2005

LULAC CIVIL RIGHTS WORKSHOP for PARENTS/CITIZENS

Friday, January 14, 2005 Hale Center High School Auditorium Hale Center, Texas (Transportation will be available for all those needing it)
 6:00 PM Introductions - Diana Martinez - LULAC District 1 Director Welcoming Remarks - Hon. Hector Flores - LULAC National President
 6:15 PM Presentation on Civil Rights- School Discrimination and Police Harassment Richard Sambrano - Mediator - Community Relations Service US Department of Justice Edward Elizondo - EEOC District Office Outreach Manager
 7:00 PM Discussion and Questions - What To do, Plan of Action
 7:45 PM Closing Remarks - Diana Martinez
 9:00 PM Reception- Council 263 LULAC Hall, 1304 Avenue O Lubbock, Texas

LULAC SYPOSIUM ON CIVIL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES

Saturday, January 15, 2005 Holiday Inn -Civic Center Lubbock, Texas
 9:00 AM Welcome / Introductions: Diana Martinez - LULAC District 1 Director Lubbock City Official
 9:15 AM Presentation: Status of Civil Rights in West Texas, Panhandle and Texas Facilitator : Grace Garza PANEL: Jeff Blackburn - Amarillo. Lubbock Civil Rights Attorney Hon. Lena Levario - Former State Judge, Dallas Attorney at Law Domingo Garcia - Former State Legislator. National LULAC Civil Commission Chair Hon. Carlos Garcia de Alba - Mexican Consul General, Dallas
 10:20 AM Break
 10:30 AM Presentation: Discrimination in the Workplace and Available Remedies Facilitator: Ruben Albares PANEL: Edward Elizondo - EEOC District Office Outreach Manager Jaime Martinez - President , Texas Labor Councils for Latin American Advancement, San Antonio
 11:30 AM Break for Lunch (on your own, restaurant across the street will reserve a room for those that want to eat there)
 1:00 PM Presentation: Educational Interests Mediation Approach ala LULAC Manual Facilitator: Lee St. Dennis PANEL: Richard Sambrano - Mediator, community Relations Service U.S. Department of Justice Rosa Rosales - LULAC National Vice-President for the Southwest Coty Rodriguez Anderson - LULAC District 3 Director Irene Fabila - LULAC District 1 Deputy Director, Plainview City Council-woman
 2:30 PM Break
 2:45 PM Presentation: MADRES Facilitator: Chevo Morales PANEL: Sam Alvarado - MADRES Operations Director Justo Garcia - Presenter
 3:30 PM WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Questions and Answers, Brainstorming Session Participation of All Attendees
 4:45 PM Closing Remarks - Diana Martinez - LULAC District 1 Director
 5:00 PM End of Symposium
 6:00 PM Reception - Council 263 LULAC Hall 1304 Avenue O - Lubbock, Texas
 HOTEL Holiday Inn - Civic Center 801 Avenue Q - 806-763-1200 Lubbock, Texas

Léa El Editor Primero en eleditor.com

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Ricky Martin in Thailand on Mission to Help Tsunami Orphans

Puerto Rican pop star Ricky Martin met with Thai leaders Wednesday and pledged to do "everything and then more" to help children orphaned by the killer tsunami that struck the country's southwest coast.

Martin, who has lent his celebrity to help the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), said he would visit areas in Thailand devastated by the giant waves and make a donation to help Thai orphans through his foundation.

The Ricky Martin Foundation runs a project to help combat trafficking of humans, especially children.

Martin said he was awed by the destruction he saw in news reports from Asia and decided to come to the region.

"After looking at those images on television, it was impossible for me to stay at home with my arms crossed," said the superstar singer of such hits as "She Bangs" and "Livin' La Vida Loca".

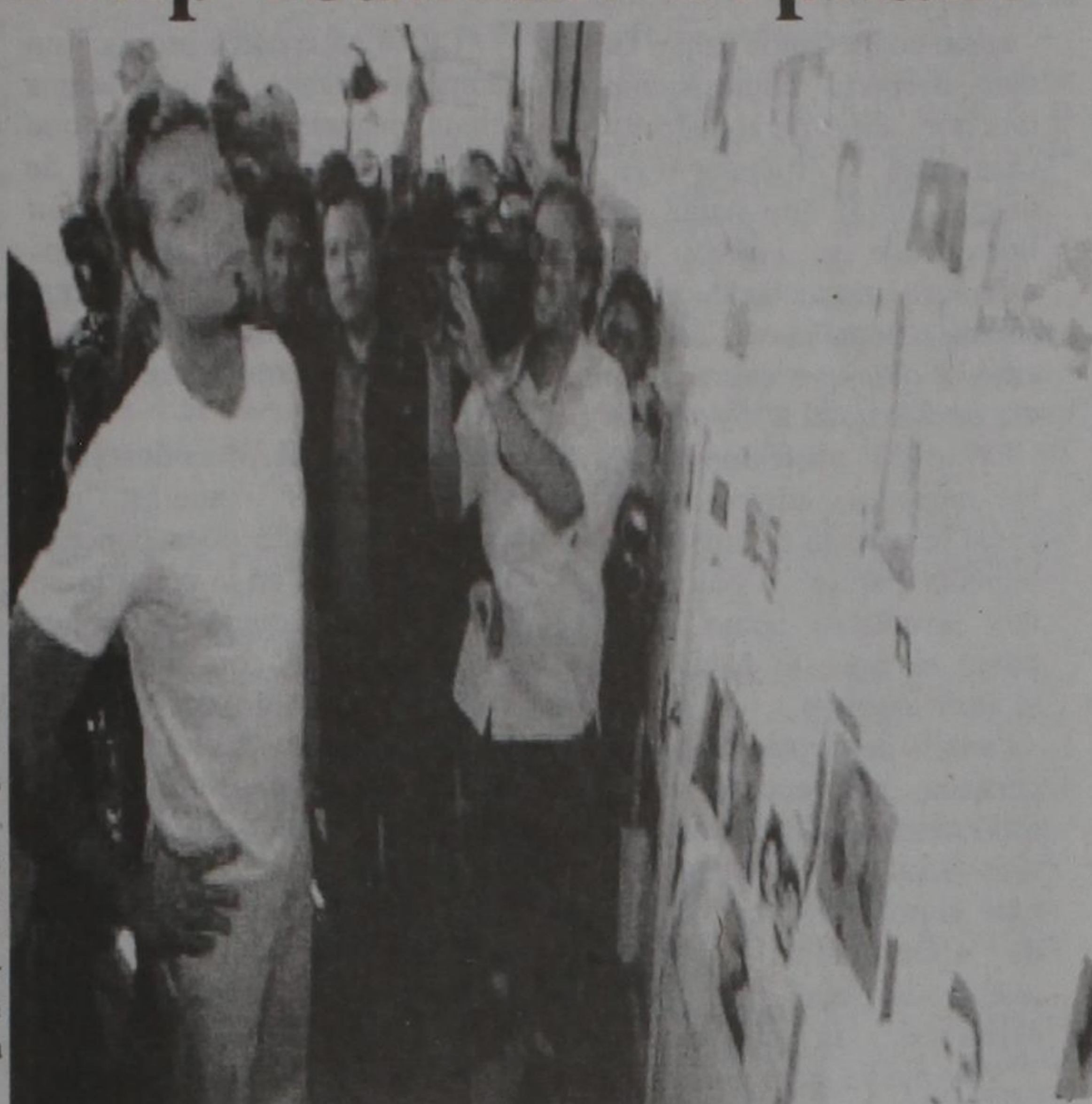
"My visit to Thailand is born out of love, born out of passion, and out of the need to do something," he told reporters after meeting with Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and Foreign Minister Surakiart Sathirathai.

When asked about the level of his contribution, he said: "Everything and then more," adding that he would like to help build orphanages or schools.

Martin said he was most concerned for the thousands of children in Indian Ocean countries hit by the disaster, where humanitarian organizations say orphans are threatened by gangs of unscrupulous traffickers.

Surakiart said 323 Thai children lost one or both parents in the tsunami.

Few cases of child trafficking have been confirmed so far, but the tragedy affected the part of the world most at risk from networks eager to exploit children



for criminal ends, UNICEF has said.

"Unfortunately, in moments like this, our society is completely vulnerable, and some criminals, the traffickers, take advantage," Martin said.

"It is really sad that this is happening," he added. "I needed to be here to say this has to stop."

Martin met orphans at the Thai Red Cross Society in Bangkok and was to leave Thursday for Phuket island, where he will tour beach areas devastated by the tsunami, the foreign ministry said.

The Grammy-award winner will Friday visit Thai orphans at a temple in Phang Nga province and Yan Yao temple, the center of Thailand's forensic identification effort, before heading back to Bangkok.

Martin insisted his presence in southern Thailand would not be a hindrance to professionals on the ground.

"I have a very powerful tool, and that's music," he said.

"I am here to add value to what the government of Thailand is doing."

Surakiart praised Martin's "enormous compassion" and said his presence in disaster zones would be welcome as was that of several other dignitaries.

"There has been an outpouring of hearts, an outpouring of generosity that has no political boundaries," the minister said.

Martin said he was eager to visit other hard-hit countries in the region when his schedule allowed.

Rock star Sting was also in Bangkok on Wednesday to perform a concert that was scheduled before the tsunami hit.

The founder of the power rock trio the Police planned to donate 20,000 dollars to tsunami victims, while the concert organizers aimed to give another 50,000 dollars, newspapers here reported.

The Indian Ocean tsunami hit six provinces in southwest Thailand and killed more than 5,300 people in the country. AFP

Behind the Scenes Look at 'Spanglish'

by NALIP Member/Spanglish' Exec. Producer: Christy Haubegger

I'm a NALIP member and Executive Producer of Spanglish. We received many very positive reviews including Ebert & Roper and Pete Travers of Rolling Stone. I think it's important for NALIP members to know more about this film.

Answers to the questions I have been asked repeatedly as I've traveled and spoken around the country supporting last weekend's opening of Spanglish:

What is it about?
The movie is a dramatic comedy and tells the story of Flor (Paz Vega), a Latina who comes to the United States in search of a better life for herself and her daughter, Cristina. They end up spending the summer under one roof with a wealthy, eccentric family played by Adam Sandler, Téa Leoni and Cloris Leachman. The title Spanglish is a metaphor for the collision of languages and cultures that takes place in the house and the film. The story is narrated by Cristina through her college application to Princeton. When the application asks about her "most influential person," Cristina says, "Let me tell you about my mother..." and the story begins.

Why Latinos Should See It
Opening Weekend (December 17-19) or soon thereafter?

1. Opening weekend is crucial for movies. If a film doesn't do well opening weekend, it gets dropped from theaters quickly and disappears. In the case of Spanglish, it opens Friday, December 17th, just seven days after blockbuster Ocean's 12, five days before Meet the Fockers and on the SAME DAY as Jim Carrey in Lemony Snicket, Scorsese's The Aviator and Flight of the Phoenix. All this means is that it will be extremely difficult to survive and not be crushed at the box office by the huge movies on all sides.

2. It's a good movie. Ebert and Roper gave it "two thumbs up." USA Today and the Washington Post gave great reviews. However, Latinos seem to get even more out of the movie than other people do. From emailed comments from Latinos who saw early screenings in Los Angeles, New York and Miami:

"It was so amazing to see an authentic Latina character represented in the way that your film did. Thank you so much for the hard work that you put in to make Flor as real as my mother and wife... I went into this film last night expecting a good story, but I was totally unprepared for what happened to me: I was so emotionally moved."

"What is so great is that Spanglish is a great human story that happens to have Latino characters. The fact that such a poignant story can also be hilariously funny is wonderful."

"I think the film captures what so many of us have lived-in public and private- and I think that it's a beautiful affirmation for many, many women in our community... Thank you so much for telling our stories and for reminding us, through this movie, that our women are incredible."

3. We fought for the studio to make what is likely their largest investment ever in Hispanic media, from online sites like MiGente.com and Terra.com to networks such as Univision and Telemundo to print (from Latina

to La Opinion).
4. Hollywood knows that we go to movies more often than other Americans, but is not convinced we care about seeing Latino characters, our lives and experiences reflected on screen. They have researched and found that we prefer to see action and horror movies, for which we tend to show up in droves. So regardless of how Spanglish does overall, if Latinos do not show up, it will be used unfairly as an excuse not to make other movies about us.

Who's Behind It:
The writer/director is James L. Brooks, the Oscar-winning writer/director of Terms of Endearment, Broadcast News and As Good As It Gets and co-creator of The Simpsons. I met Jim a few years after founding Latina magazine. I helped him research and develop the Latino characters in Spanglish and story over the last four years and eventually became Executive Producer on the film. The studio is Sony/Columbia Pictures.

Thanks for your time and attention.

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Luis Miguel new record's not too innovative

After his "Romances" series, the latest ranchero album by Luis Miguel entitled "Mexico en la piel" turns out to be the "same old song and dance", that seems to work out fine with his audience, said the local press.

"Mexico en la piel" is a record that "will please those into Mexican traditional music. It should work fine with the record industry's current situation", said the local newspaper El Vocero.

The journal stated "Luis Miguel has chosen a nice selection of tracks that shows a wide angle of Mexican music, as well as top level musical support".

"In spite of being a ranchero record with mariachis, the album has a romantic touch similar to what Luis Miguel did in his "Romances"?"

It is certain that he has the voice to sing rancheras with force and conviction, though if we look at ranchera music as a sample of vocal force, Luis Miguel still has much of a crooner in his intonation, added.

"The obligated question here is if Luis Miguel is going to take as starting point his nationalism, patriotism or love of the music of his country to begin another series of ranchero music records".

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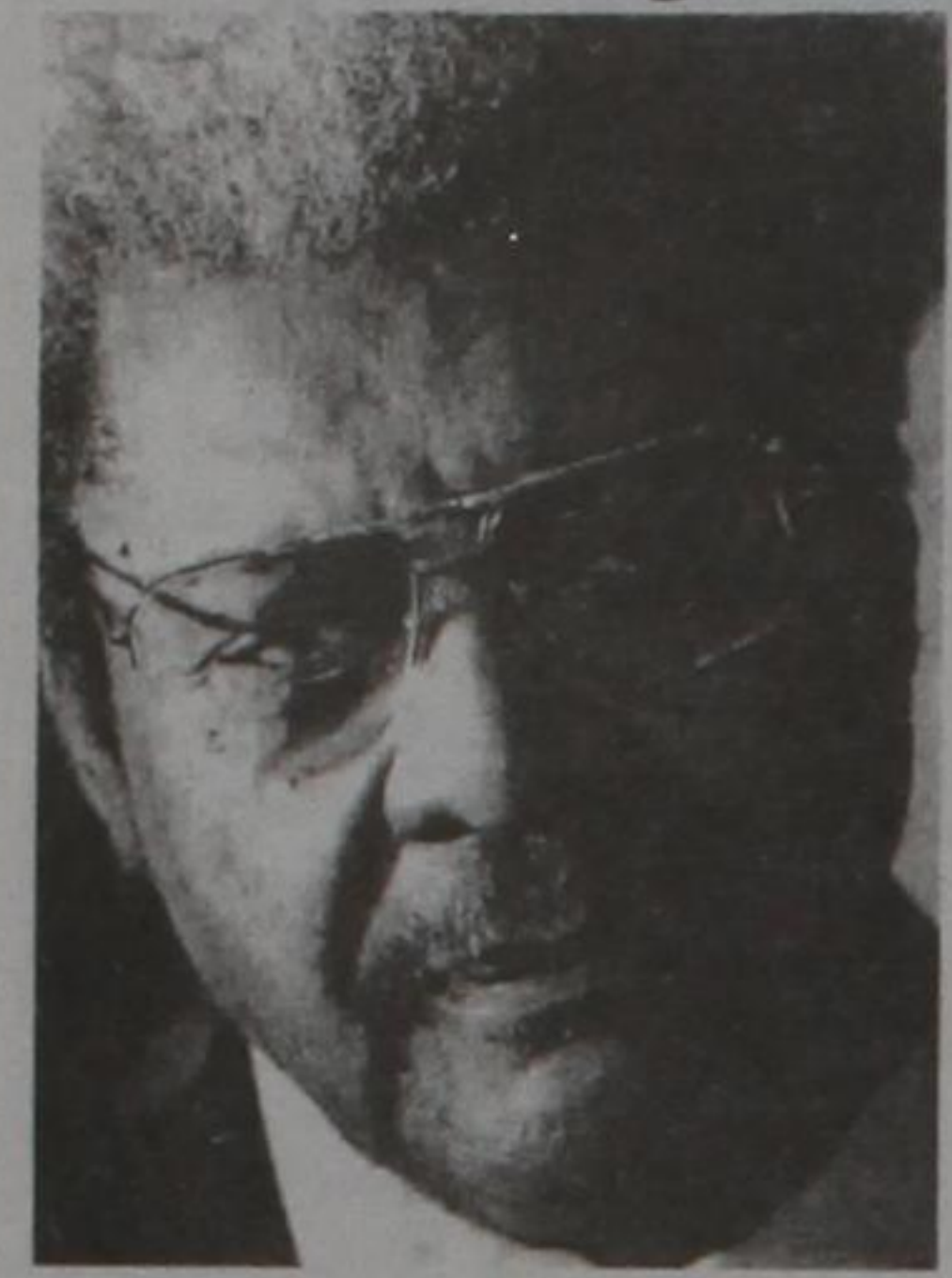
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Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
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Boxing promoter Don King filed a defamation suit Wednesday claiming he was portrayed in a false light in an ESPN SportsCentury segment aired last May, and his attorney said King is entitled to damages of more than \$2.5 billion.

The lawsuit says the program accused King of being "a snake oil salesman, a shameless huckster and worse," claimed the flamboyant promoter underpaid Muhammad Ali by \$1.2 million and claimed King -- convicted in a 1967 beating death and acquitted in another killing in 1954 -- "killed not once, but twice."

Most of the material in the pro-

gram had been printed or broadcast earlier about King, who has spent much of his career in court, but he said he had just had enough.

"I just felt that this was the straw that broke the camel's back and I can't take it anymore, and I'm going to fight back," King said at a news conference. "I seek justice."

King, wearing a garish American flag tie and two flag lapel pins, then quietly stepped back and let lawyer Willie Gary answer questions.

Gary called the SportsCentury segment "a story designed to orchestrate and create an impression that is not there," and said the network had refused to retract parts of the program that offended King.

The suit, filed in state court in Broward County, Fla., names ESPN and its parent company, Walt Disney Co., among the defendants. Also named are Disney-owned ABC Cable Networks, which actually controls ESPN, and Advocate Communications, a Florida-based cable and satellite system.

Don King is the center of attention with news of the \$2.5 billion lawsuit he filed for defamation.

(AP) "We have not seen a copy of the lawsuit, so we are not in a position to comment on it," said Mike Soltys, ESPN's vice president of communications. "However, SportsCentury is a Peabody- and Emmy-award winning series of more than 250 biographies that is widely respected for its journalistic quality and integrity."

The suit also says SportsCentury accused King of threatening to break the legs of heavyweight Larry Holmes and of cheating boxer Meldrick Taylor out of \$1 million from a fight and then threatening to have Taylor killed.

"It was slanted to show Don in the worst way. It was one-sided from day one," Gary said. "Don is a strong man, but he has been hurt by this."

King has represented fighters from Ali to Mike Tyson, and has been sued by several of them -- including a \$100 million lawsuit filed against him by Tyson. King paid \$7.5 million to former middleweight champion Terry Norris in late 2003 to settle a suit. King sued former heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis for libel.

King also has beaten federal charges, including tax evasion and fraud. He served nearly four years in prison for the 1967 beating death of a man who owed him money. In 1954, he killed a man who was robbing a numbers house he operated in Cleveland, but it was ruled self-defense.

Big Unit Starts with Apology at Introductory Press Conference

Still a little stunned by all the attention, Randy Johnson stood up, stretched out his 6-foot-10 inch frame and pulled on those famous pinstripes.

As dozens of cameras clicked away in a stuffy room packed with reporters, the Big Unit then made his first pitch as a member of the New York Yankees: an apology.

Johnson opened Tuesday's news conference by talking about his confrontation on a Manhattan sidewalk with a television cameraman on the way to his physical the previous day.

"It was unprofessional and, obviously, I feel very foolish today, at such a great moment in my career, that I would have to sit before all of you, or stand before all you, and apologize for my actions," Johnson said.

He said he had seen the video and felt "terrible" and "embarrassed."

"Come to one of the biggest media markets, one of the winningest franchises in the history of any sport, and that's the way I

enter? I'm sorry, I don't know how many more times I can say that," he added. "I hope I can move on and can get another chance to prove that I'm worth coming here."

Randy Johnson will wear No. 41, leaving 51 to longtime Yankees center fielder Bernie Williams. (Getty Images) All he has to do is deliver the championship owner George Steinbrenner demands.

In a trade in the works for more than a month and agreed to Dec. 30, the Yankees sent pitchers Javier Vazquez and Brad Halsey, catcher Dione Navarro and \$9 million to the Arizona Diamondbacks for Johnson.

The five-time Cy Young Award winner got a \$32 million, two-year contract extension that runs through 2007, and the deal was finally completed when he ached his medical tests Monday. The 41-year-old left-hander even astounded New York's team doctor because his elbow and shoulder were still in such good shape.

The biggest concern about Johnson is his creaky right knee,

which lands on the slope of the mound every time he throws a pitch. He took gel injections last season to keep pitching (he made 35 starts), but this year he thinks the knee, which he says does have cartilage, will feel better because he doesn't have to run or swing a bat in the American League.

So, with the Yankees in dire need of a dominant ace to counter Curt Schilling and the rival Boston Red Sox, Johnson could wind up being the biggest thing in the Bronx south of the zoo. He might even start against Schilling, his old Arizona sidekick, in the season opener on April 3.

"I just want to win so bad. That's all I've ever wanted to do," he said. "I'm not scared of any challenge."

The Yankees know that firsthand, one reason they pursued him so vigorously for the past six months. Johnson is 5-0 with a 1.65 ERA against New York in the postseason, leading Seattle to a first-round victory in 1995 and Arizona to a World Series title in 2001.

La Carga de la Fatiga

Hace cuatro años Julián Guzmán despertó como siempre, una hora antes de abandonar su casa para el trabajo. Era el mismo ritual que había repetido desde su ingreso como calculista estructural en una sólida compañía de construcción. Sólo que ese particular día no fue igual a los demás.

El joven profesional sentía los músculos adoloridos y la cama le parecía un imán que le impedía pararse y mucho menos levantarse como resorte, como siempre lo había hecho al abrir los ojos.

Dentro de su acogedor lecho pensaba, sorprendido y sobre todo preocupado por su repentino debilitamiento, que sería casi imposible hacer la rutina de abdominales y levantamiento de pesas que acostumbraba todas las mañanas.

"Por media hora estuve pensando si ese día podría ir a trabajar", comenta el ingeniero residente en Los Angeles.

"Mi esposa, alarmada, entró en la recámara para preguntarme qué me pasaba. Con trabajos me zafé de mi cómoda posición y empecé a moverme con lentitud, aturrido, pero más con un estupor que iba en aumento, al igual que mi debilitamiento físico. Ese malestar manifestado en el comienzo repentino de mi enfermedad me ha acompañado desde entonces. Tomó mucho tiempo a los doctores emitir el diagnóstico del Síndrome de Fatiga Crónica (CFS), un mal del que ni siquiera sabía que existía".

Después de varios estudios y consultas médicas durante meses, Guzmán consultó a un especialista que detectó su mal, neurastenia como en años anteriores fue conocido, o fatiga crónica como se le denomina en la actualidad.

"Mi paciente iba de mal en peor y al año perdió el trabajo y en otros meses firmó el acta de divorcio", comenta el doctor Ricardo di Sarli, con práctica profesional en Pomona.

"Afortunadamente, Guzmán pudo obtener una jubilación temprana debido a su condición y a la opinión de varios especialistas médicos que se reunieron para estudiar el caso. Ahora lleva un tratamiento médico para sentirse mejor y poder desarrollar algunos trabajos particulares".

El doctor Di Sarli comenta que la fatiga crónica es un mal que se manifiesta de manera abrupta, y la mayoría de los especialistas la considera como una infección provocada por un virus.

"La fatiga crónica provoca un número elevado de anticuerpos en el organismo, se sabe que las glándulas suprarrenales de estos enfermos trabajan a un nivel muy bajo y el virus provoca una infección crónica que se traduce en desganado y debilidad en el paciente", dice el profesional.

La fatiga se manifiesta de muy diversas maneras; por ejemplo, permite poca concentración mental en la mayoría de los casos, así como afecciones de la garganta, con dolores de cabeza y aumento de temperatura del cuerpo por las tardes, pero sobre todo ese mal se relaciona con estados depresivos, explica Di Sarli.

"La mayoría de las personas que padecen del síndrome de fatiga crónica tiene trastornos psiquiátricos y sólo responde favorablemente con antidepresivos o antiinflamatorios", añade el doctor.

"Aparte de eso, deben cuidar su dieta y evitar las frituras y el chocolate. El café les viene bien porque los reanima y el ejercicio los favorece al aumentar el metabolismo, entonces existe más actividad. Cuando esta enfermedad se conocía como neurastenia se la relacionaba con personas decaídas que no tenían fuerzas para ninguna actividad y cuyo mal humor era otra de las características. Los pacientes se sienten cansados aunque hayan estado en la cama por más de ocho horas".

Guzmán añade que suelen terminar solos por su aguda depresión y su mal carácter.

Otros puntos de vista

Aunque la mayoría de los doctores coincide en que el origen de la fatiga se debe a un problema viral, otros especialistas afirman que todavía se desconoce qué papel desempeña un virus en relación con el CFS. Se han encontrado otros factores presentes, como disfunciones del sistema inmunitario, problemas neuropsicológicos o la misma contaminación ambiental.

Ser o no ser

Si usted ha identificado alguno o varios síntomas arriba señalados, no se alarme y crea que es ese su caso, mejor investigue sobre el mal y pregunte a su doctor.

En principio, no pase por el alto visitar el sitio de internet de la Asociación Americana del Síndrome de Fatiga Crónica y Disfunción Inmunológica (Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome Association of America, o CFIDS), la organización no lucrativa

más importante en la lucha para tratar ese mal.

La CFIDS ha registrado casi a un millón de adultos que sufren del CFS, un mal caracterizado por una fatiga que incapacita a los enfermos para llevar una vida normal.

Los estudios enfocados en el CFS han rebasado una década, pero aun así se desconoce su origen, ni siquiera existe una prueba exacta para obtener un diagnóstico definitivo y los tratamientos son principalmente paliativos.

La organización indica algunos síntomas que podrían ser contundentes para la identificación de la enfermedad. Aclaran que ese mal se presenta no sólo como un cansancio crónico, sino que conlleva otros síntomas de debilitamiento del cuerpo, como:

- Incapacidad de desarrollar varias actividades diarias
- Memoria deficiente
- Poca concentración
- Síntomas de gripe, como dolores en articulaciones y músculos
- No se experimenta un sueño reparador
- Dolor de cabeza y garganta
- Depresión

Tratamientos
Además de los antidepresivos sugeridos por el doctor Di Sarli, la CFIDS sugiere la consejería de un psicólogo o psiquiatra, terapias para el sueño y masajes, entre otros.

Otros tratamientos que pueden dar buen resultado son las terapias alternativas, como la acupuntura, el tai chi y suplementos de hierbas, sugiere la CFIDS, que también recomienda cambiar el estilo de vida, de dieta, la rutina de ejercicios dependiendo el nivel de energía y sugiere la asistencia de profesionales en nutrición, terapia ocupacional, salud mental y terapia del sueño.

La CFIDS provee información sobre diagnósticos y una prueba para los lectores que no saben si padecen o no del síndrome de fatiga crónica.

Vamos a adelantarle la primera pregunta para averiguar si padece de esa enfermedad:

¿Se ha sentido mal en general por tres meses o más tiempo?

Si usted contesta que no, la prueba termina ahí, si contesta que sí deberá continuar con el cuestionario.

La CFIDS dispone de varios folletos gratuitos, uno en español, con explicaciones básicas de la enfermedad.

Para más información, consulte en la internet la página de la CFIDS: www.cfids.org.

Dietas sin grasa mejores a plazo

Las Vegas - Personas que no desean recuperar los kilos que perdieron mediante una dieta tendrán más éxito ingiriendo alimentos magros en grasas, en lugar de intentar reducir el contenido de carbohidratos, sugirió una nueva investigación.

Un estudio presentado el lunes en una reunión de más de 2,000 expertos en obesidad determinó que no interesa qué tipo de dieta siguen las personas para perder peso. Lo que importa es cómo hacer para no recuperar el peso.

Una dieta baja en grasas "continúa siendo el elemento principal" de un éxito a largo plazo, dijo Suzanne Phelan, una

psicóloga de la Facultad de Medicina de la universidad Brown, que encabezó el estudio.

Muchos están perdiendo su entusiasmo por dietas al estilo de la Atkins.

Más de la mitad de los estadounidenses que han intentado una dieta baja en carbohidratos la han abandonado, según una reciente encuesta de la firma de investigación de mercado InsightExpress.

El nuevo estudio, efectuado por el Registro Nacional de Control del Peso, involucró a 2,700 voluntarios. El registro intenta determinar el secreto del éxito de personas que han perdido al me-

nos 30 libras (14 kilos) y han logrado conservar su nuevo peso al menos durante un año.

El registro fue iniciado hace una década por médicos de la universidad de Colorado, en Denver, de la universidad de Pittsburgh, y de la universidad de Brown en Providence, R.I.

Los médicos compararon las dietas de aquellos que ingresaron al registro entre 1995 y el 2003. El promedio de edad fue de 47 años, la mayoría eran mujeres, y la media de pérdida de peso inicial fue de 72 libras (33 kilos).

Todos los voluntarios dijeron que su consumo diario era de 1,400 calorías, pero la porción que provenía de la grasa subió, de 24 por ciento en 1995 a más del 29 por ciento en el 2003, en tanto se redujo la parte de los carbohidratos, del 56 por ciento al 49 por ciento.

La cifra de las personas que mantuvieron dietas bajas en carbohidratos (menos de 90 gramos al día) subió del 6 por ciento al 17 por ciento durante el mismo período.


Aquellos que aumentaron el contenido de grasas durante el año luego de su inicial pérdida de peso fueron los que recuperaron más kilos. Eso significó que consumieron menos carbohidratos. "Sólo una minoría de exitosos perdedores de peso consumen dietas bajas en carbohidratos", señaló el informe.

Colette Heimowitz, una experta en nutrición y vocera de la organización de la dieta Atkins, dijo que el estudio consideró que 90 gramos era una baja dosis de carbohidratos, en tanto Atkins recomienda 60 gramos para perder peso, y entre 60 y 120 gramos para mantenerlo.

Añadió que para muchas personas que hacen dieta, no es suficiente "con bajos niveles de carbohidratos". También hay que reemplazar los carbohidratos con más proteína que grasas, indicó.



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'Que me Entierren en Mexico':

Del Dicho al Hecho Hay Mucho Trecho

Por Raymond Rodriguez

A diario, casi, leemos sobre los migrantes mexicanos que intentan ingresar a este pais ilegalmente...

que implora, "Mexico lindo y querido, si muero lejos de ti, que digan que estoy dormido y que me traigan aqui"

El último deseo de muchos mexicanos, asi hayan estado ausentes de su tierra natal durante muchos años, es alcanzar su descanso final en su pueblo...

Ese ha sido el caso durante décadas. Los ancianos y los enfermos optan por regresar a México a morir.

Hay otro aspecto de esta marcada migrante que pasa casi desapercibido - su vuelta a la madre patria.

No hablo de los viajes anuales durante las fiestas de navidad cuando vuelven a México los parientes y amigos para celebrar con la familia que dejaron atrás.

A lo que yo me refiero es al último peregrinaje que hacen muchos mexicanos que mueren en los Estados Unidos.

Muchas veces se hace una colecta en el barrio para cubrir los costos.

En reconocimiento de la necesidad trágica, el gobierno mexicano ha establecido un fondo para ayudar a los que se encuentran sin recurso alguno.

limitado de la familia, pero es una petición imposible de negar.

Por desgracia, algunos mortuorios toman ventaja del duelo de la familia. El proceso entero, desde la preparación del cadáver...

Queda todavía un problema más: el tiempo que toma el transporte de un cadáver.

En reconocimiento de la necesidad trágica, el gobierno mexicano ha establecido un fondo para ayudar a los que se encuentran sin recurso alguno.

Queda todavía un problema más: el tiempo que toma el transporte de un cadáver.

Para la familia en duelo, esta espera representa una demora sin fin. Los ritos del velorio y la novena deben observarse solemnemente.

En México los entierros normalmente ocurren en un día o dos de la muerte de la persona...

La súplica, "que en paz descanse" se siente de todo corazón. Uno debe asegurarse que se haga todo para que el alma ingrese al cielo.

Y, llegado el 2 de noviembre, el día de los muertos, las familias deben preparar ofrendas con la comida favorita del fallecido...

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Rumsfeld Descarta la 'Opción Salvador'

El secretario de Defensa de EU, Donald Rumsfeld, calificó ayer de "disparates" los presuntos planes de utilizar escuadrones de la muerte contra los rebeldes en Irak...

"Suena muchísimo como un disparate... nada de eso sucede (en Irak)", dijo Rumsfeld, al rechazar un artículo que publicó el domingo en la internet la revista Newsweek sobre la presunta "opción Salvador".

Según la revista, el Pentágono estudia la posibilidad de enviar a Irak comandos especiales que entrenarían a las fuerzas iraquíes para asesinar o secuestrar a los rebeldes...

La operación que presuntamente estudia el Pentágono ha sido bautizada como "la opción Salvador", porque sería parecida a la estrategia secreta desarrollada a principios de la década de 1980 bajo la presidencia de Ronald Reagan...

La revista no aclaró si se trata de una "política de asesinatos" u operaciones de secuestros y capturas selectivas.

Oficiales militares estadounidenses citados por la revista precisaron que esos comandos especiales podrían operar del otro lado de la frontera iraquí, en Siria, y que sus objetivos, los insurgentes suníes y sus simpatizantes, se enviarían a lugares secretos para someterlos a interrogatorios.

Rumsfeld, quien admitió que no ha leído el mencionado artículo, enfatizó no obstante que "en primer lugar, el Pentágono no

hace esas cosas descritas" en los informes posteriores a la publicación del artículo.

"En segundo lugar, el objetivo de capacitar a los iraquíes para que puedan hacer lo necesario para proveer seguridad en su país, y esto no involucra el tipo de cosas" descritas por Newsweek, añadió Rumsfeld.

Al insistir en que la idea es pura ficción, Rumsfeld señaló que "alguien ha estado leyendo muchas novelas de espionaje y dio rienda suelta a la imaginación", y agregó que el plan de usar escuadrones de la muerte "suena muchísimo como un disparate".

Ante la insistencia de los periodistas para que aclarase el asunto, el titular del Departamento de Defensa dijo categóricamente que "las fuerzas especiales de Estados Unidos no están entrando a Siria" en busca de insurgentes.

A la pregunta de si ésta es una posibilidad futura que contempla el Pentágono, Rumsfeld eludió responder claramente y emitió otra interrogante: "¿por qué tendría que hablar sobre esto?"

La divulgación del presunto plan para desmilitarizar la "opción Salvador" suscitó la repulsa de diversos grupos liberales, entre ellos el American Progress Action Fund, que tachó de "censurables" las operaciones clandestinas autorizadas por el gobierno de Reagan para aplastar a los rebeldes en El Salvador.

Estos grupos destacaron que el apoyo financiero de EU a "fuerzas nacionalistas", entre las que se incluía a escuadrones de la muerte, según Newsweek, condujo a la muerte de miles de "civiles inocentes".

Baja la percepción que capitalinos tienen de su alcalde

La percepción que los habitantes de Ciudad de México tienen de su alcalde, el izquierdista Andrés Manuel López Obrador, bajó en 2004 con respecto del año precedente, según una encuesta difundida ayer.

El sondeo de la firma privada Consulta Mitofsky encontró que el 50.4% de los capitalinos destacó en diciembre pasado la honradez del alcalde, frente al 65.7% que subrayó esa cualidad en el mismo mes de 2003.

López Obrador, del Partido de la Revolución Democrática (PRD,

izquierda), aparece puntero en casi todas las encuestas de intención de voto con miras a las elecciones presidenciales de 2006.

Según el sondeo, el 57.1% de los capitalinos destacó la experiencia para gobernar de López Obrador, en comparación con el 68.7% que elogiaba ese atributo en diciembre de 2003.

El 55.5% consideró que el alcalde es tolerante con quienes lo critican, frente al 70.9% que destacaba ese aspecto de su personalidad política hace un año.

Otro aspecto que bajó fue el de

la sinceridad, pues el 52% de los consultados en diciembre estimó que López Obrador tiene esa cualidad, frente al 67.3% de los encuestados en 2003, señaló Consulta Mitofsky.

También bajó la percepción que se tiene de su capacidad para dirigir al gobierno capitalino —de 69.8% en 2003 a 53% en diciembre pasado— y de su aptitud para resolver los problemas (del 63.4 al 53%).

López Obrador, acusado de populista por sus detractores, también registró una disminución

en lo que se refiere a su "preocupación por los pobres", del 72.7% en diciembre de 2003 a 62% en el último sondeo, y de "cercanía con la gente" (de 78.6 a 64.3%).

No obstante, el aspecto de "cercanía con la gente" permanece como el principal atributo de López Obrador, según Consulta Mitofsky, que afirmó haber encuestado, entre el 1 y el 3 de diciembre pasado, a 400 ciudadanos en viviendas particulares de Ciudad de México.

La muestra tiene un error de más/menos 5%.

"Nadie esperaba en diciembre pasado que los ciudadanos del Distrito Federal mejorarán la opinión que tienen de sus autoridades en todos los niveles, (pues) 2004 fue un año plagado de escándalos, pleitos, ataques, descalificaciones y muchas otras cosas que minan la confianza y generan desaprobación", explicó Consulta Mitofsky.

López Obrador se ha visto salpicado desde marzo de 2004 por un escándalo de presunta corrupción, tras difundirse un video que mostraba a uno de sus aliados políticos, el ex diputado local René Bejarano, recibiendo dinero de un empresario acusado de cometer fraude contra el ayuntamiento y lavar dinero.

Bush Must Answer Hispanic Voters on Immigration Reform

Along with Rove and some other Republicans, he also sees an opportunity to bring large numbers of Hispanic voters into the GOP fold to help form a permanent majority party.

"For Hispanics to focus on what they agree on with Republicans - for that path to take its course - the Republican Party should not push them away by creating a perception of being anti-immigration," Diaz-Balart said.

Freshman Sen. Mel Martinez, a Cuban-American from Florida, takes a somewhat more cautious approach, but he, like many Republicans, supports a limited guest-worker program, not a general amnesty.

Some members hope to roll all these measures into one big compromise bill. Chances of reaching a consensus are considered slim, but most members seem to agree that something must be done to overhaul the nation's immigration laws.

"There is an urgency to do something. The status quo is not good enough. It's not working," said Rep. Mark Foley, R-Palm Beach Gardens, a deputy House whip. "I applaud the president for wading into a tough issue, and I hope people at least will listen to his proposal as a means to decide some of this."

"It's untenable to think we can continue on, blissfully assuming the problem will go away."

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Bush, the former governor of Texas, and his brother, Jeb, lead a faction of Republicans who have cultivated Hispanic support and taken a sympathetic view of immigrant concerns.

About two-thirds of Hispanic voters nationwide have voted for Democrats in past presidential elections, but last year exit polls indicated that Bush gathered 44 percent of the Hispanic vote, 9 percent more than he received in 2000.

Undoubtedly, immigrant voters are a growing force. The foreign-born population has swelled to more than 33 million, about 11.5 percent of the U.S. population. Of this total, the Census Bureau estimates that 8 million to 9 million are undocumented.

This growing population creates a tempting political target. But it has also inspired a backlash, prompting many members of Congress to say the time has come to restrict rather than reward those who arrive illegally.

"The tide has turned in our favor," said Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., chairman of the Congressional Immigration Reform Caucus, which demands tougher enforcement and opposes any form of amnesty.

The first immigration issue likely to come before Congress this year probably will be Tancredo's attempt to prevent people from obtaining drivers' licenses unless they can prove they are legal residents.

He and a growing number of Republicans tried to inject this and other restrictions into an intelligence-overhaul bill last year. They allowed the bill to pass only after Bush agreed in writing and House Speaker Den-

Advertisement for the movie 'House of Flying Daggers' featuring a Golden Globe Award nominee. It includes showtimes for Tinseltown and Cinemark theaters.

Advertisement for 'Family Reunions' featuring t-shirts and caps for as little as \$5.00. Includes a phone number: 763-3841.

Advertisement for Montelongo's Restaurant located at 3021 Clovis Road. It promotes Mexican food and provides a phone number: 762-3068.

2004 NFL Playoff Schedule diagram showing the progression from Wild Card Weekend to the AFC and NFC Championship Games, and finally to Super Bowl XXXIX in Jacksonville, Florida.

Advertisement for NFL Network: Live in Jacksonville! It details the live coverage of Super Bowl XXXIX, including press conferences and the Super Bowl week coverage.

Alberto Gonzales & the Pitfall of Careerism

By Jorge Mariscal

One of the great figures of Mexican-American history is Ernesto Galarza. The son of an immigrant family who worked his way out of poverty and racist schools in the early twentieth century, he became one of a small group of Latinos to attend college and one of the first Latinos to earn a master's degree (Stanford) and a Ph.D. (Columbia).

But Galarza did not disappear into the ivory tower. Instead he chose to use his education to serve the community that had produced him. He became a leader in the struggle for educational opportunity and for the rights of migrant farmworkers. He wrote novels and scholarly studies that had a direct impact on federal legislation designed to protect Mexican-American working families.

In 1972, Galarza was asked to imagine the future for Latinos and Latinas who by that time had begun to enter U.S. colleges at a

higher rate because of the Chicano movement and militant youth activism.

Galarza's remarks are worth considering in light of the nomination of Alberto Gonzales for U.S. Attorney General.

Galarza said: "These people must go back into the community understanding that their superior knowledge and training puts a proportionately higher responsibility on them, which means helping the community to understand the situations that it finds itself in and to bring to the community information that is not available to them."

And then he described the dangers of the Horatio Alger story for ethnic minorities: "The Mexican moving into American urban society is moving into an extremely complicated culture. The community needs people who know their way around in it, but if you learn your way around a complicated culture you can easily be tempted to exploit it on your own behalf and to make a career out of it. Ca-



reerism is one of the temptations and pitfalls that face the Mexican graduate student."

The biography of Alberto Gonzales is not much different than that of Ernesto Galarza. Born poor, he beat the odds by making it to Rice University and Harvard Law School. Befriended by George W. Bush, Gonzales found himself elevated to positions of power in both Texas and Washington, D.C.

Traditional Hispanic organizations such as the League of Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and the National Council for La Raza (NCLR) have hailed the nomination of Gonzales as an advance for Latino civil rights. NCLR's press release called Gonzales "a thoughtful, reasonable public servant, a man of his word."

While he may be all of these things, Gonzales has failed to meet the standard set by people like Galarza. Rather than helping us to understand the current crisis, Gonzales put loyalty to his bosses above his obligation to serve the cause of justice. Instead of using his confirmation hearing to provide information that could clarify the origins of the torture scandals, he was evasive and shift.

Clearly Judge Gonzales has learned how to succeed in the halls of power — a "man of his word" perhaps, but also a yes-man

for one of the most reactionary presidents in U.S. history. Apparently Gonzales could not escape what Galarza called the pitfall of careerism.

When non-Latino friends ask why some of us object to the term "Hispanic," we struggle to explain its meanings. The Hispanic is proud of his or her ethnic background and is no less "authentic" than any other person of Mexican descent. But the Hispanic chooses to align himself with the status quo, basing professional decisions on what those above him want to hear and caring more about his boss's approval than the common good.

So let us remember Ernesto Galarza for his commitment to social justice. And let us congratulate Alberto Gonzales — the nation's first Hispanic Attorney General.

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Estacado News

From Page 3

wide competition for eight consecutive years. These students compete in a plethora of subject areas; such as Astronomy, Mythology, Public Speaking, Math and Economics. As a result, they have earned the respect of their competitors as a top contender in all UIL competitions. This year's qualifying state meet will be in Odessa, TX on January 29, 2005.

This past school year presented new challenges for our junior level students in that they all had to pass the state standardized test, TAKS, to earn a high school diploma. As a result of this mandate and the hard work of our juniors, Estacado experienced the following vast increase in each respective subject content area which are comparable to all exit level test scores throughout the district:

ELA (English Language Arts) +48% increase to 83% passing MATH +34% increase to

71% passing SOCIAL STUDIES +32% increase to 97% passing SCIENCE +34% increase to 70% passing

As we continue to build upon the aforementioned success, this year Estacado had the privilege of producing the school's second commended national scholar in Destiny McAuley. This honor is designated for the national academic elite.

Furthermore, this year two of our Estacado students, Kendra Williams and Zahkiya Green, received \$25,000 academic scholarships funded by Michael and Susan Dell. These students were selected based on academic excellence, individual determination to succeed, and their resilience to overcome obstacles.

In closing, Estacado High School has been awarded the Gold Performance Acknowledgment or GPA award from the Texas Education Agency. This award and recognition is based upon the high number of recent graduates that have graduated on the more rigorous recommended high school diploma plan.

Bush Defiende su Plan de Pensiones

El presidente de EU, George W. Bush, defendió ayer una reforma urgente del sistema de pensiones que implica su privatización parcial pero sin incrementar el impuesto sobre el salario para compensar la futura reducción de cotizaciones.

"Creo que podemos resolver el problema sin incrementar los impuestos", declaró el presidente en un acto celebrado ayer con expertos del sector y con ciudadanos de a pie de distintas generaciones, bajo el título de "Conversación sobre la reforma de la Seguridad Social".

Bush tiene previsto presentar en febrero o marzo un proyecto de ley para esta reforma, que afronta la oposición del Partido Demócrata y parte de los legisladores republicanos, que preferirían aumentar la financiación al actual sistema de pensiones públicas.

Tras explicar los cambios que ha habido en la sociedad desde que en 1937 se creó la seguridad social pública en EU, Bush reiteró que es necesario hacer ajustes cuanto antes para garantizar su sostenibilidad. Cada vez, dijo,

son más los jubilados que reciben sus prestaciones y menos los trabajadores que pagan cotizaciones al sistema.

Si en los años de 1950 había 16 trabajadores por cada beneficiario, hoy en día la proporción es de 3 a 1 y "relativamente rápido" será de 2 trabajadores por cada pensionista, explicó. A esto hay que añadir el descenso de la natalidad y los efectos del aumento de la esperanza de vida, es decir, que los jubilados de ahora cobran sus pensiones durante mucho más tiempo que los de hace años.

Si no se hace nada al respecto, dijo Bush, en el 2018 la cantidad que paga la Seguridad Social en pensiones será superior a la que recibe en cotizaciones y esto "significa que o hay que subir los impuestos o reducir los beneficios".

Más claro todavía, Bush pronosticó que cuando los trabajadores que ahora tienen unos 25 años se retiren "el sistema estará en bancarrota". El presidente precisó, no obstante, que está desafiando trabajar con el Congreso para evitar esa situación y aseguró que nada va a cambiar para los jubilados que ahora están recibiendo su pensión.

Los cambios afectarán a las generaciones más jóvenes para las que el Gobierno defiende la opción, si lo desean, de sumarse a un fondo privado de pensiones, es decir, de invertir en la bolsa de valores una parte de sus cotizaciones a la Seguridad Social. "Me encanta promover la propiedad privada", aseguró el presidente.

El acto de ayer con representantes de distintas generaciones en torno a la reforma de las pensiones, forma parte de la gran campaña mediática lanzada por la administración y por grupos privados afines, para convencer a los ciudadanos y al Congreso de la necesidad de ponerla en marcha.

Además de Bush, el vicepresidente Dick Cheney y el secretario del Tesoro, John Snow, tienen previsto ofrecer sendos discursos en defensa de esta iniciativa, a los que seguirán otro tipo de eventos protagonizados por altos funcionarios del gobierno y expertos.

EEOC Launches Spanish-Language Website

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has unveiled a Spanish-language version of its website, aiming to enhance its services to the Hispanic community, the nation's largest and fastest growing ethnic group.

"This new website will make key information about employment rights and responsibilities more easily accessible to Spanish speakers and people with limited English proficiency," says EEOC Chair Cari M. Dominguez. "Having quick and easy online access to EEOC resources in Spanish will better serve the public as our nation's workplaces become increasingly more diverse."

The Spanish-language website, which has been in development for the past year, is designed to mirror the EEOC's website and include many of the agency's most sought after information materials.

The website is located at www.eeoc.gov/es/.

Separate sealed bids will be received for Architectural Service for a Multifamily Housing Development

Sealed bid packages will be available at Lubbock Housing Authority, 1708 Avenue G, Lubbock, Texas on Monday, January 10, 2005 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Architects are encouraged to attend a pre-proposal conference on Wednesday, January 19, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. in the Training Room at 1708 Avenue G. The deadline for bid submission is Wednesday, January 26, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. The Lubbock Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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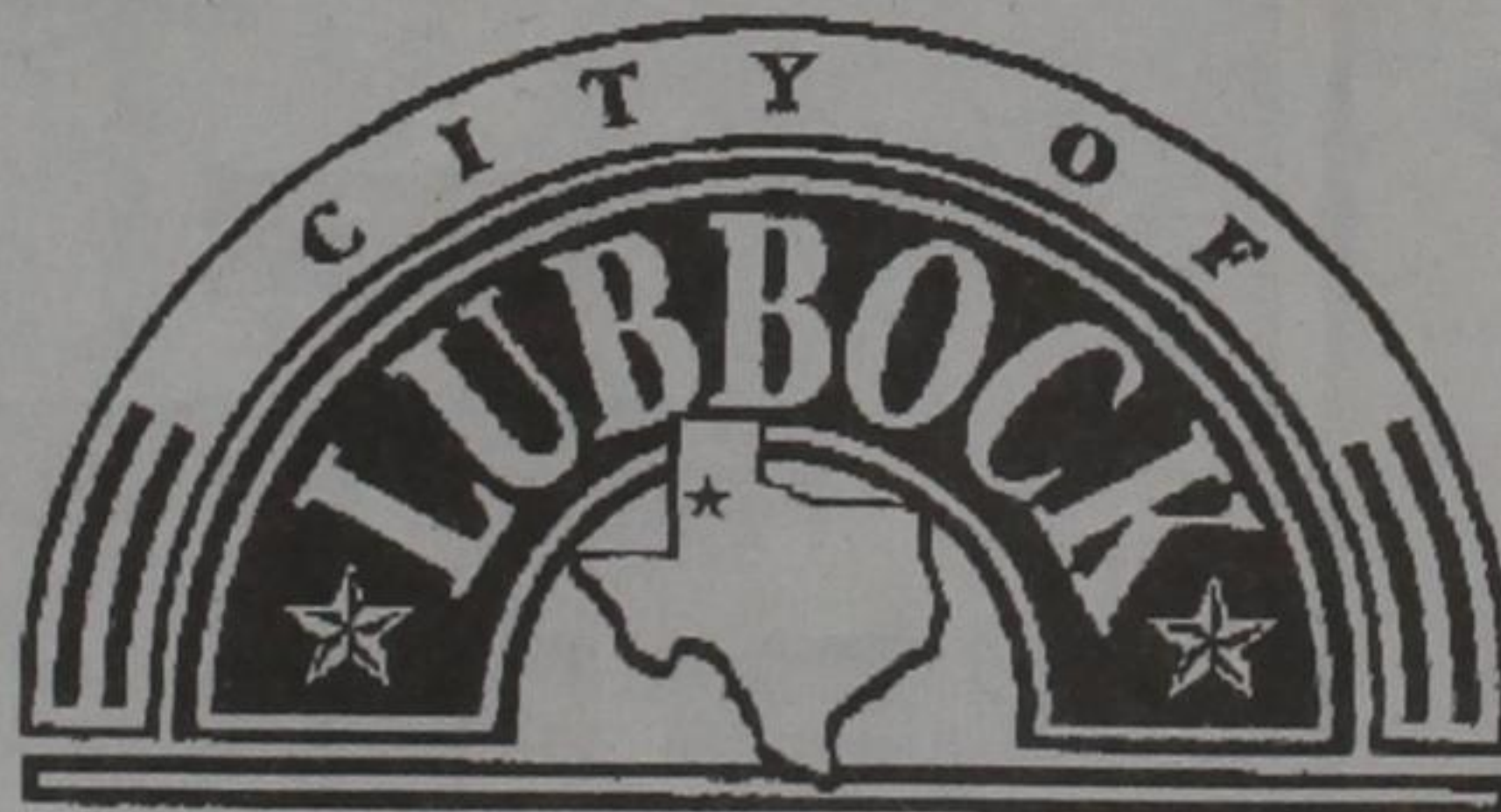
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Probationary Police Officer

SALARY RANGE: CSP - \$ 18.02 Hourly
\$ 37,473.28 Annually
CLOSING DATE: March 25, 2005
REPORTS TO: Police Department

The City of Lubbock, TX (population 199,000) will be accepting applications for Police Officer positions on January 10, 2005 through March 25, 2005 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Applications may be picked up at two locations: the Human Resources Department AT 1625 13TH STREET, IN ROOM 104, Monday - Friday. Or, at the front desk of the Lubbock Police Department, 1015 9th Street, Monday - Friday after 5:00 PM, and all day weekends. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO MEMORIZE FOR THIS EXAM. The test consists of Mathematics, Reading Comprehension and Grammar.** Applicants must be 21 years of age; and not have reached his/her 36th birthday at the time of entrance into the Police Academy, unless the applicant has five (5) years prior police or military experience, in which case the applicant must not have reached his/her 45th birthday at the time of entrance into the Police Academy. The Police Entrance Exam will be given on Saturday, April 2, 2005 at Frenship High School located at 82nd and FM 179 in Wolfforth, TX at 8:00 AM. All applicants should plan to arrive at 7:30 AM. For more information please call 775-2311 or 1-800-621-0793.

The City of Lubbock is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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16,000 sf addition to National Ranching
Heritage Center headquarters

The Texas Tech University System
Lubbock, Texas
Project No.00-45

The RFQ and further information can be obtained by accessing the
Texas Marketplace
www.marketplace.state.tx.us
GSC Class Item No. 914-00
Agency No. 768

For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager Robert Cameron. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fax 806-742-2241 or e-mail: robertcameron@ttu.edu.

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