

Congressional Battle On Braceros Imminent

By Patricia Guadalupe

Republican members in both chambers of Congress are expected shortly to sponsor legislation that would revive the so-called "bracero" program of 1942-1964, which brought large numbers of temporary foreign workers -- largely from Mexico -- to work in agricultural jobs.

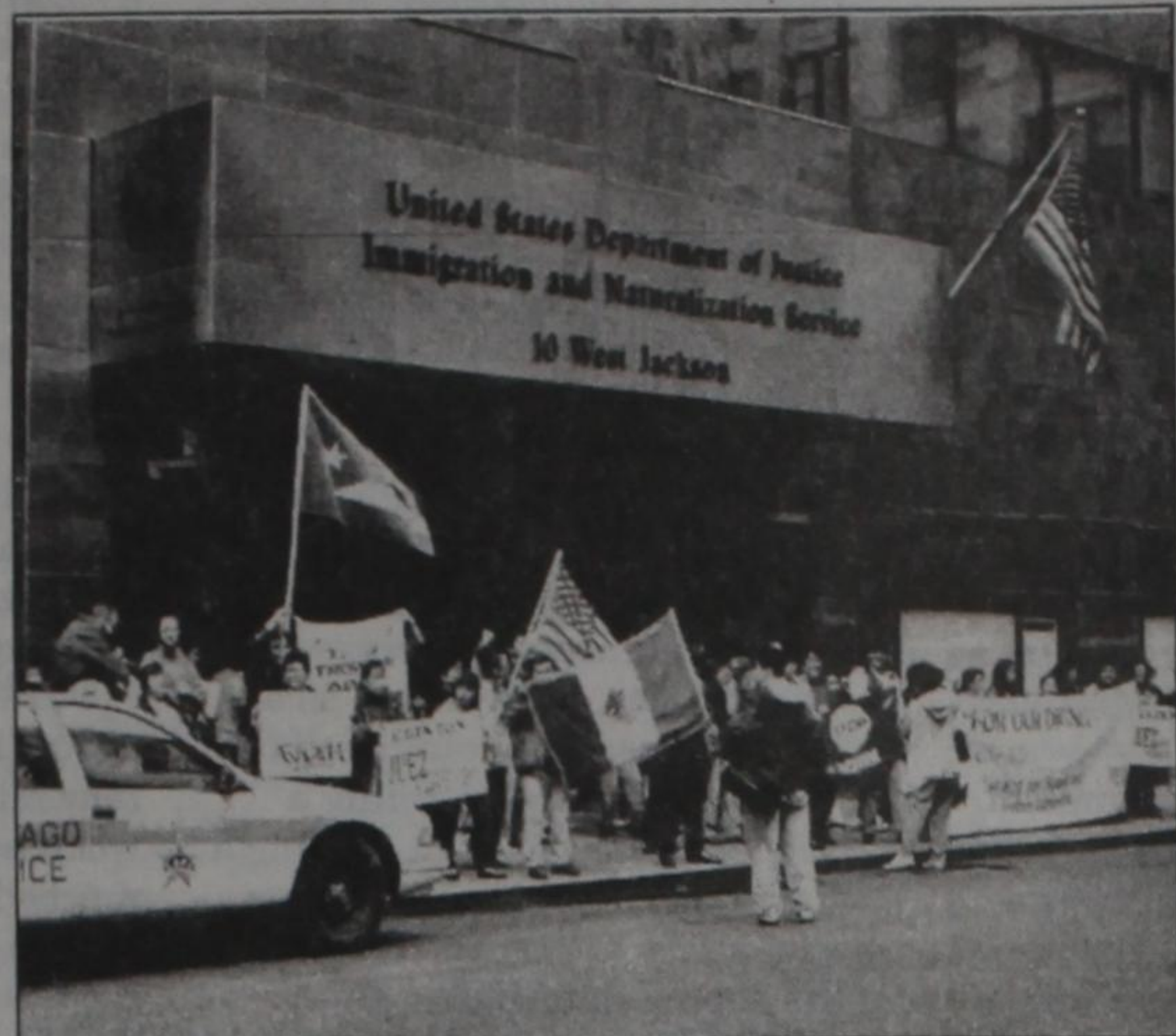
Both supporters and opponents of the legislation say its consideration is imminent.

A spokesperson for Sen. Bob Graham (R-Fla.), one of the principal members pushing for the proposal, has confirmed to Hispanic Link that the senator is "considering when to bring it up," adding that it could be within the next two weeks. Supporters in the House include California Republicans Richard Pombo and George Radanovich.

The move would re-introduce a bill very similar to one that last year passed both Houses as a last-minute amendment to a larger appropriations bill. The amendment was removed in final negotiations with the White House.

Like last year's bill, the current proposal would not require employers to search for workers in the United States before providing the jobs to foreign workers. It would end the requirement to provide housing and workers' compensation.

Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-Calif.) recently met with Graham to voice his opposition. "I told him we don't need another (bracero)



program. ... It would be very detrimental to U.S. workers. He told me he would be willing to talk more about our concerns."

A key difference between last year's bill and the Graham proposal is a provision under which workers would be able to apply for permanent residency if they demonstrate that they have worked in agriculture for at least 180 days in each of the last five years.

"I think (that provision) will make this bill more palatable to the Republicans who fear that the program would increase illegal immigration," says Sharon

Hughes, of the Washington, D.C.-based National Association of Agricultural Employers. "At least a third of all agricultural workers are already working with fraudulent documents. This would help put a stop to that and would help us with what we feel is a real shortage of farm labor in this country."

Farmworker activists flatly call the legislation unacceptable. A farmworker shortage, they contend, is nonexistent.

"What the growers don't want is to provide a decent wage or decent working conditions," says Bruce Goldstein, co-executive di-

rector of the Farmworkers Justice Fund in Washington, D.C. "There is already a guestworker program, but the growers don't want to use it."

Under the federal government's current H-2A program, employers who anticipate a labor shortage can obtain temporary visas for foreign workers. They must demonstrate that the wages provided to those workers would not "adversely affect" U.S. farmworkers in the area; i.e., the wages cannot be significantly lower than those paid to U.S. farmworkers.

Under H-2A, employers must provide adequate housing and workers' compensation or comparable insurance.

Only 12 states and Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico require that all agricultural workers be provided workers' compensation. "They (Republicans and growers) are trying to get around the law," said Goldstein.

Meanwhile, in Mexico, spokespersons for the government's National Rural Credit Bank, or Banrural, said Oct. 11 that they were unable to find the account that former braceros said held as much as \$150 million of their withheld wages.

During the bracero program, which ended in 1964, the U.S. Farm Security Administration deducted 10 percent from every guestworker's paycheck and placed the funds into accounts at Banrural's predecessor, the Banco Nacional de Crédito Agrícola, to provide the workers with a

savings fund on their return to Mexico.

The Mexican government says an initial investigation found the savings fund existed only until 1950 and that funds have

since been depleted. Groups of former braceros say that at least 20,000 workers and their families are entitled to share in the fund. The groups say they plan to take their case to Washington, D.C.

News Briefs

Bush Campaign Spreads The Word in Spanish to Attract Hispanics

Washington, - Texas Gov. and front-running Republican Party presidential hopeful George W. Bush launched a television advertising campaign in Spanish on Monday hoping to capture Hispanic voters.

In one Spanish-language TV spot, Bush appeals directly to Hispanic voters in Iowa, asking them to lend him their support in primary elections to be held there on January 24.

"Once again the light shines brightly on Iowa and, for the first time, it's shining on the Hispanic community," an ad directed at Iowa voters says.

"We also vote and George Bush believes all Iowa state residents should help elect him president. Nobody should refrain from voting," the ad continues.

Hispanics are the fastest growing minority group in the United States and, according to the latest figures, 10 million of the country's 30 million Hispanics will be eligible to vote in the November 2000 elections.

In his campaign spots, Bush - in the company of his wife and two smiling daughters - reminds voters that he is responsible for the two largest tax reductions in Texas state history.



Hispanics Lobby Congress to Pass Immigrant Amnesty Bills

By Maria Peña

Washington, - A year after Hurricane Mitch unleashed its fury upon Central America, Hispanic activists from around the United States traveled to Washington on Tuesday to pressure Congress to pass legislation that would grant amnesty before the end of the year to Central American immigrants illegally in the country.

After meeting with the White House National Security Council, the president of Honduran Unity, Jose Lagos, told EFE on Tuesday that the issue of an amnesty "remains alive" in Congress, which recesses in mid-November.

Honduran Unity as well as other Hispanic organizations in the country are asking for Congress to pass bills HR2722 and SB1592, legislation that will benefit about 250,000 Hondurans, Guatemalans, Salvadorans and Haitians who were not covered by NACARA, a 1996 immigration law.

While neither of the bills have yet come up for a vote, Lagos said he was optimistic about their chances for passage before the end of the year.

"We have received assurances from the Clinton administration that the amnesty bill remains a priority," Lagos said in a phone interview with this news agency.

The Honduran activist, who called the White House meeting "very positive," is scheduled to meet with officials at the U.S. State Department and also with several congressmen during the week.

On Thursday, Lagos is scheduled to meet with Sen. Connie Mack (Rep.-FL), a backer of NACARA, which granted permanent legal residency to Cubans and Nicaraguans who arrived in the United States before Dec. 1, 1995.

"We want to take advantage of our trip to Washington to deliver 2,000 signatures of citizens from Miami-Dade county citizens to Sen. Mack so he can support an amnesty for all Central Americans," Lagos said.

The Honduran Unity president said that the Senate version of the bill is supported by nine senators, all Democrats, and said that the main challenge is to persuade Republican lawmakers.

"It is crucial that President Clinton and congressmen consider the bill because Central Americans are getting one disaster after another. As U.S. citizens, we are going to keep a watch on the legislators and we will remember when the time comes to vote," he said.

It is estimated that more than six million people live and work in the United States illegally, including immigrants whose visas have expired.

Hurricane Mitch pummeled Central America from Oct. 26 to Nov. 2, 1998, causing nearly 11,000 deaths, leaving three million flood victims and economic losses valued at nine billion dollars.

U.S. Legislators Reaffirm Opposition of Naval Presence in Vieques

Washington, - A coalition of U.S. legislators and Puerto Rican groups voiced their opposition Tuesday to any objectives tying the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Vieques to Puerto Rico's political future.

Rep. Luis Gutierrez (Dem.-IL) decried attempts to entangle the solution to the conflict over military maneuvers in Vieques with the Puerto Rican colonial issue as "an attempt to divide Puerto Ricans."

All Puerto Rican public and private sectors support an end to the U.S. military presence in the Puerto Rican island municipality of Vieques after several bombs were unintentionally dropped on a Garcia naval station observatory, killing civilian David Sanes, last April.

Defense Secretary William Cohen is reviewing a proposal, submitted by a special committee, recommending the reinstatement of military exercises, and at the same time suggesting that the Navy leave Vieques within five years.

The proposal, made by the Pentagon's special committee, has been rejected by the Puerto Rican government and Hispanic legislators in the United States, among others.

President Bill Clinton has recently recognized Puerto Rico's political commonwealth status as the heart of the current debate on the maneuvers in Vieques, with a population of 9,300.

"The debate over the island's status is linked to all of this, but to offer resolving Puerto Rico's political status if bombing is allowed to resume is completely unacceptable," said Rep. Jose Serrano (Dem.-NY).

"The last bomb in Vieques was launched last April," added Serrano, urging Clinton to handle this controversy, "as an emergency" and not link it to the political future of Puerto Rico.

In an act Tuesday outside the Capitol, Democratic legislators Serrano, Gutierrez, Nydia Velazquez, Robert Menendez, Charles Rangel, Rod Blagojevich, Robert Brady, as well as Donna Christian Christensen, delegate for the Virgin Islands, asked Clinton to withdraw the Navy from the island of Vieques.

The legislators joined a delegation of representatives from the Puerto Rican Bar Association, the Caribbean Project for Peace and Justice, the Committee Pro Rescue and Development of Vieques, the Independence Party and the Hostosiano National Congress.

"The Navy's arrogance has united the Puerto Rican people with one voice saying: enough," said New York Democrat Rangel.

New Jersey legislator Robert Menendez, the fourth-highest ranking Democrat in the House of Representatives, said the Pentagon special committee accepted the Navy's position and did not hold an independent investigation to look for alternative testing sites.

If Clinton orders the reinstitution of the bombing in Vieques, "we will be there to protect the rights of the residents," said Velazquez, who like his colleagues Gutierrez and Serrano, is of Puerto Rican origin.

"El Respeto al
Derecho Ajeno
es La Paz."

"Respect for
the Rights of
Others Is Peace"

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El Día de los Muertos and a Lesson in Life and Death

By Victor Landa

The person who told me this long ago says he doesn't remember where he read it or heard it. Placing it in space and time somehow doesn't seem important. What matters is that it resonates in life the way a stone in a pond rings true in concentric circles.

"In our tradition," he said, "people die three deaths." The first death, he recounted, is when our bodies cease to function; when our hearts no longer beat of their own accord, when our gaze no longer has depth or weight, when the space we occupy slowly loses its meaning.

The second death comes when the body is lowered into the ground, returned to mother earth, out of sight.

The third death, the most definitive death, is when there is no one left alive to remember us.

To the casual observer, *el día de los muertos*, the Day of the Dead, is at best a quaint tradition of the Mexican people, with delicious sugar skulls and cemeteries littered with bright, beautiful flowers. At worst, it is pagan superstition, a remnant of ancient cults and days long past.

To the casual observer, death is the end game. But like the stone that causes ripples on the surface of the water and then sinks to become part of the pond, so death is as much a part of life as memory is to the living.

On Nov. 1, some of us will gather in the *campo santos*, the holy fields, to scrub down the tombstones, tidy the grass, decorate with flowers and sit and remember. Others will build altars to the memory of those passed; a picture, a favorite dish, a drink, a toy, a cigar. Stories will be told, evoking the memory of the *tio*, of the *abuelo*, of the son dead in the war. And with the stories our dead return to laugh with us, and cry with us, and dance with us. They spring forth from our memory, our sacred obligation to keep them alive, our sacred obligation to keep ourselves alive, because to live is to build memories, to remember and to be remembered.

Unlike Halloween, where death wears a mask and is lived

in the grotesque, the tradition of *el día de los muertos* does not see death as a monster. Death is not something you run from with plastic surgery, daily workouts and fad diets. Neither is death something taken lightly or ignored out of a fear of confronting oneself. *La muerte* is music and fireworks, food and flowers. The only way to celebrate death is to live with courage, just as the only way to cause ripples upon the soft water is to pierce it with a hard stone.

Día de los Muertos Meaning Explained

By John Rosales

We all need to escape from our personal realities once in awhile. That may explain why the Indo-Hispanic celebration of Days of the Dead is becoming increasingly popular in the United States.

The rituals offer an outlet. As they bring together elements of Catholicism and Aztec ritual they give me an annual breather unlike any other.

Between Oct. 27 and Nov. 2 each year, the living invite the spirits of dead relatives and others to return home again to eat *gallina en mole* (chicken in a dark, spice sauce) and *pan de muerto* (bread of the dead) and to drink a chocolate concoction with cinnamon and corn paste.

Part of the idea is to mock death, because, after all, there is no escaping it. When I lived briefly in Mexico, I was privileged to enter into the myth and festivities surrounding this ancient ceremony.

With the Spanish conquest in 1521, new mourning rituals were introduced into Mexico. Catholic funeral rites came to co-exist with the Aztec notion of the afterlife. Saints joined the hierarchy of Aztec gods. All Souls and All Saints Days merged with the Aztec harvest rites.

As such, the Days of the Dead begin on Oct. 27 when the spirits of those with no survivors are received by kind-hearted families with bread and jugs of water. The offerings are meager, but at least the orphaned souls find something.

On Oct. 28, those who instigated an accident, murder or other violent act are offered bread and water, place outside houses or in the corner of a church to keep them away, as they are unpardoned.

Bakeries and candy stores sell a high volume of edible skulls, crosses and cadavers on Oct. 29 and 30 in preparation for next day, All Hollows Eve. This is when the spirits of dead children return home.

In a variation on Halloween as celebrated in the United States, people dressed in masks dance from house to house, performing comic skits in exchange for treats. They represent mischievous ghosts who have not yet come home.

Or they assume the role of Death or the Devil, coming to deprive spirits from living again. They too can be bribed away with a treat.

By midday on Nov. 1 (All Saints Day), child spirits must be gone. Bells ring through the afternoon as the adults (called the faithful dead) begin to arrive. While the spirits of children are hosted only at home, adults can also be greeted at their graves. Families formally host the adult who died most recently, and through him or her other

El día de los muertos is a celebration of life. To know this is to contemplate another reality where we live to be well remembered, where we act to be well-evoked, where we love to be well-missed. In this sense each moment contains forever and each memory is constantly beginning.

And so we sweep the tombs of our dead and build altars to our loved ones because memories need a sacrament in which to be rooted; a simple act of caring, a noble act of life.

To the casual observer *el día de los muertos* is almost surreal, because the casual observer is merely interested in spectacle

ancestors are acknowledged. In some villages, people visit the homes of families who have lost a relative within the past year.

At sundown, families move to the graveyard for an all night vigil of communion with the dead. Tombs and gravestones have been scrubbed clean and painted. Candles are lit throughout the cemetery one of each lost soul. People will pray,



talk, eat and drink until sunrise. Some bring radios and TVs to pass the time. A priest might celebrate a Mass in the cemetery. In most cities, food stands are set up outside the grounds. At sunrise, people start to depart.

On Nov. 2 (All Souls Day), visitors continue to crowd the cemetery. Strolling musicians play favorite songs of the departed. By evening, the party is over, the ghosts return to the world of the dead. Only a few are reluctant to leave. These stubborn souls must be scared away by villagers wearing skull masks.

In the United States, the family altar is the most visible symbol of the Days of the Dead ritual. Sometimes during October, an altar is set up on a table with baby's breath flowers, fruit and drink. Each soul being honored is represented on the altar by a candle. A photograph of the deceased may be placed there along with the right brand of cigarette or symbols of other earthly pleasures. For the spirits of children, a favorite toy might be set out.

A path of marigold petals -- with their powerful scent -- is set out from the altar to the front door to help spirits find their home.

While those of us on earth are escaping into the world of the dead, those who are dead are taking much pleasure among the living. Irony isn't it?

(just as he or she understands death as happening only once). And this very well may be the point where cultural values diverge. Where one who throws a stone to the water is satisfied with the splash, the other will sit and consider the ripples.

El Editor

Halloween a Poor Substitute for El Día de Los Muertos

By FÉLIX ALFONSO PEÑA
My grandmother long ago went to her final rest on Halloween, a few hours before night fell. She could not abide the holiday.
Having raised five boys had something to do with her aversion, as they had doled out overly generous helpings of mischief in their early years, especially on Halloween.
“What would they do?” I would ask. Her blue eyes would darken, avoiding mine, and she would brush me off with, “Travesuras.”
I got similar evasion from my uncles. Only one of them ever told me anything specific, about running barefoot down dirt streets and shooting out the street lights with a homemade slingshot.
To my grandmother, Halloween was an incomprehensible gringo idea. She accepted other holidays, such as

Thanksgiving, which we began celebrating as a family when I was about ten years old (circa 1960). We did it up in standard “norteamericano” style, with “guajolote” and trimmings. One of my aunts, ever the culinary daredevil, even learned to make gravy, a secret that she took with her to the grave.
Still, although my grandmother was born and raised on the American side in Laredo, Texas, Halloween remained a vexing enigma. She could barely stomach trick-or-treating, appalled as she was by the similarity it bears to begging, a condition we associated with those so miserably poor and incapable of working that they were sustained only by that most corrosive of human emotions: pity.
But it was the malice of that evening that ultimately repelled her

the most. An uneducated woman who began working at the age of 12, she did not need to know that the tormenting of Jews and other marginalized people was a long-held Halloween tradition. She could see the mean-spirited destruction the traditions inspired in her own children, as well as the obnoxious pranks permitted — demanded — by the occasion and performed by disguised perpetrators.
Now my child dons a costume in preparation for trick-or-treating, and she decorates the house with cute caricatures of deathly creatures. Horror a la Hallmark, if you will.
Like my grandmother, I detest Halloween, and for many of the same reasons, including one which I do not think she ever fully realized. I became aware of it because I am struggling to inculcate my child with

some of the old-fashioned Mexican values that I consider essential, and Halloween is antithetical to them.
In Mexico, a unique celebration takes place after Halloween. On All Saints Day, November 1, Mexicans remember those family members who perished as infants or children, “angelitos” — ever a bittersweet term. On El Día de Los Muertos, they also remember the others in their families who have passed on.
Like so many things intensely Mexican, the events comprise a heady mix of laughter and tears, celebration and solemnity, deep respect and brazen mockery — and more. La Flaca, represented as a skeleton, appears in countless poses on cut-out crepe paper: riding a bicycle, mowing the lawn, driving a car, drinking a beer, etc. In homes, special altars are set up for the souls of the departed, including their favorite foods and drinks. Other traditional items include candies and pastries in the shape of skulls, skeletons and coffins.
At work, people write “calaveras,” poems that lampoon co-workers and

supervisors alike by fictionalizing an account of their entry into the after-life.
Gravesites are spruced up in preparation for the night, transformed by thousands of glowing candles. The living gather to spend the darkest hours communing with each other and the departed.
Against this spectacular ritual, Halloween is a pathetic gesture — I can see that now, and my grandmother must have felt it — a commercialized attempt to shadow-box with one's fears about the end of life, making a great show of death while ignoring grief.
Far better to teach my daughter about the Day of the Dead, so she can remember, as I do, one special time when we embraced our grief and reached out across the ultimate dividing line. Those days when we raced across cemeteries with fresh flowers and dissolved sugary skulls on our tongue, we accepted death by mocking it.
Félix Alfonso Peña is editor of the Spanish-language newspaper, “Hola, Berks,” published in Reading, Pennsylvania.

Marigolds, Altars and Other Día de los Muertos Traditions



Day of the dead
How to make your own altar
The Dead of the Dead altar is a prehispanic tradition that has lasted throughout the years. It has become an integrated part of the Catholic religion in Mexico. Every year it becomes a bigger and bigger event, with school classes, government employees and artists throughout Mexico competing for the most creative and interesting altar. Halloween is not a tradition in Mexico, and every year the Catholic church fights against the celebration and promotes the Day of the Dead Altars. November 1 (for dead little children - santos inocentes) and November 2 for adults.

What you need
The most important thing to put on your Day of the Dead altar is a photograph of the person to whom you are dedicating the altar.
The three tier altar is covered in “papel picado” - which is bright colored tissue paper with cut out designs. The paper can be either handmade or purchased. Three important colors are purple (for pain) white (for hope) and pink (for the celebration).
Candles are also placed all over the altar. Purple candles again are used to signify pain. On the top level of the altar, four candles need to be placed - signifying the four cardinal points. The light of the candle will illuminate the way for the

dead upon their return.
Three candy skulls are placed on the second level. These represent the Holy Trinity. On the center of the third level a large skull is placed - this represents the Giver of Life.
All bad spirits must be whisked away and leave a clear path for the dead soul by burning in a bracero, a small burner used to cook outside. Or you can use a sahumerio to burn copal or incense. A small cross of ash is made so that the ghost will expell all its guilt when it is stepped on.
The Day of the Dead bread, pan de muerto, should be accompanied by fruit and candy placed on the altar. Pan de Muerto is plain round sweet bread sprinkled with white sugar and a criss-crossed bone shape laid on top. You can also add the person's favorite food. A towel, soap and small bowl are put on the altar so that the returning ghost can wash their hands after their long trip. There is a pitcher of fresh water to quench their thirst and a bottle of liquor to remember the good times of their life. To decorate and leave a fragrance on the altar, the traditional cempasuchil flower is placed around the other figures. Cempasuchil comes from Nahuatl cempalxochitl, that means the flower with four hundred lives. The flower petals form a path for the spirits to bring them to their banquet.

Día de los Muertos
By LUZ DEL CASTILLO
“Solo venimos a sembrar, solo venimos a cortar flores...”
“We only come to sow, we only come to harvest flowers...”
— translation of a Nahuatl chant
By October, the orchards surrounding Lake Patzcuaro are speckled with thousands of orange marigolds known as La Flor del Muerto, the Flower of the Dead. Commonly called zempasúchil, the Nahuatl name for the blossom, the marigold is also called Apátsecua, based on a legend of the Purhépecha, the indigenous peoples of Michoacán, Mexico.
To the Purhépecha, the Apátsecua was the enemy and destroyer of Uhkumo, the Lord of the Dead and Underworld, whose symbol was a mole who lived in the subterranean tunnels of the earth and devoured the harvest. Apátsecua was a lion with a thick, golden mane like a marigold who fed on the moles, thus,

their battle came to symbolize the victorious battle between life and death.
Though the legend is much forgotten, the marigold is not. Its brilliance and distinctive fragrance fill cemeteries and homes throughout Mexico this season. During the first two days in November, the graveyards of the the Patzcuaro region become festive sacred grounds where the dead are honored and welcomed with flowers, special prayers and favorite foods of the deceased. Tradition has it that the spirits of the departed return to the earth to be with their families and to receive and give nourishment.
In the week prior to El Día de los Muertos, elaborate preparations begin. Graveyards and tombstones are tidied up. Bakers are busy making their “pan de muertos”, a sweet, skeleton-shaped pastry. And skulls made of sugar adorn special altars.
Most households take pride and pleasure in creating the elaborate altars para los muertos. To frame the altars, arches are created using marigolds,

burgundy velvet amaranth flowers, and palm leaves. Long-stemmed candles illuminate photos of the departed. Candy skulls and favorite dishes and drinks of the honored sit on brightly-colored crepe paper with cut-out elaborate designs.
Deceased infants and children are honored on November 1. On the night before, a carpet of marigold flower petals are spread out at the the door to receive them. Throughout the day, their gravesites are visited. Prayers are recited and pan de muertos is washed down with hot chocolate. Then, that night and well into the dawn of November 2, families and friends gather around the brilliantly adorned gravesites of adults who have passed on. Candles are burned though the night, and baskets of food and drink are brought for the departed and shared among the living. Children run from one gravesite to another singing prayers for those who have passed on.
Joy and mystery, tears and laughter make these colorful feast days a traditional celebration to be relived year after year.

Papel Picado: The Art of Mexican Cut Paper

In Mexico, papel picado (perforated paper), refers to the traditional art of decorative cut paper banners. Papel picado are usually cut with sharp fierritos (small chisels) from as many as fifty layers of colored tissue paper at a time. Designs may incorporate lattice-work, images of human and animal figures, flowers, and lettering.
Many papel picado are made especially for the Mexican festival of the Days of the Dead and include skeletal figures engaged in the everyday activities of the living. Other popular designs include the Virgin of Guadalupe and Christmas nativity scenes. Individual papel picado banners are strung together to create festive, colorful decorations for celebrations.
To make papel picado, a paper patron (pattern) is first drawn as a guide. The pattern is laid on top of fifty layers of tissue paper that are placed on top of a lead sheet. The pattern is cut out using a hammer and different sizes of chisels. Though tissue paper is still preferred by the villagers, artisans also use metallic papers and plastic for other markets.
Papel Picado in the Village of San Salvador Huixcolotla, Puebla, Mexico
San Salvador Huixcolotla, Puebla, is the village most noted in Mexico for the

art of paper-cutting both for local festivals and marketing in Mexico City and abroad. Paper cutting is a family tradition and spirits of rivalry between two families of artisans (the Vivancos and the Rojas) in the area maintain competition and pride in the folk craft.
Maurilio Rojas, an artisan from the village, described his work in 1989:
“Local commissions form a large part of my work, just as they did in earlier days. For village festivals, here and elsewhere, I show patron saints, the blessed Virgin, and heroes from history for las fiestas patrias (September 16, Independence Day). On the Day of San Salvador (the patron saint of the village), there is always a profusion of paper banners outside our church.”
“I also make banners for local families. I do christenings - babies with feeding bottles and doves - first communions, fifteenth birthdays and weddings. Houses look festive during celebrations, their yards festooned with paper banners.”
Cut Paper Traditions Around the World
Paper cutting has been a folk art around the world ever since paper was invented in 105 A.D. by Ts'ai Lun, an official in the court of Ho Ti, emperor of

Cathay, China. The humble nature of its origins and the anonymity of its practice has caused paper cutting to be ignored as an art form, though artists, artisans, and collectors are becoming increasingly aware of this valuable folk heritage. Worldwide traditions include German scherenschnitte, Polish wycinanki, Chinese hua yang, Japanese kirigami or mon-kiri, French silhouettes (named after Etienne de Silhouette, Controleur-General of France in 1757), and Matisse's painted paper cutouts.
Making Simple Paper Picado
Fold a rectangular piece of paper in half. In pencil, sketch one half of a design on one of the folded halves. Rulers may be used to divide the paper into grids or sections. Objects or designs must touch and connect to other areas of the paper as they form the positive shapes on the paper. Negative areas to be cut away may be shaded in pencil to aid in cutting.
Use scissors or a craft knife to carefully cut away negative areas of the design (cut over cardboard if using craft knives). Open slowly, flatten, and glue to a background paper. To create more complex designs, fold the paper more than once. Try using different kinds of paper: butcher paper, fadeless colored paper, origami paper, and colored tissue paper.



Inminente Batalla Congressional Sobre Los “Braceros”

Por Patricia Guadalupe
Se espera que los miembros republicanos de ambas cámaras del Congreso auspicien dentro de poco la legislación que reviviría el llamado programa de los braceros de entre 1942 y 1964, que trajo a una gran cantidad de trabajadores temporeros extranjeros -- en gran medida procedentes de México -- para trabajar en empleos agrícolas.
Tanto los partidarios como los opositores de este proyecto de legislación dicen que la consideración del mismo es inminente.
Un portavoz del Senador Bob Graham (republicano por la Florida), uno de los miembros principales que impulsan a la propuesta, ha confirmado a Hispanic Link que el Senador

“está considerando la oportunidad de presentarlo,” agregando que eso podría ser dentro de las dos semanas próximas. Los partidarios de dicha propuesta en la Cámara incluyen a los republicanos Richard Pombo y George Radanovich.
La misma volvería a presentar un proyecto de ley muy semejante al que fué aprobado el año pasado en ambas cámaras como enmienda de último minuto a un proyecto mayor de asignaciones económicas. La enmienda fué eliminada en las negociaciones finales con la Casa Blanca.
Como el proyecto de ley del año pasado, la propuesta actual no exigiría que los patronos buscaran trabajadores en los Estados Unidos antes de dar los empleos a

los trabajadores extranjeros. También pondría fin al requisito de dar vivienda y compensación a los trabajadores.
El Representante Xavier Becerra (demócrata por California) se reunió con Graham hace poco a fin de expresarle su oposición. “Le dije que no necesitábamos otro programa de braceros. ... Eso sería muy perjudicial para los trabajadores estadounidenses. El me dijo que estaría dispuesto a hablar más sobre nuestras preocupaciones.”
Una diferencia principal entre el proyecto de ley del año pasado y la propuesta de Graham es una disposición según la cual los trabajadores podrían solicitar la residencia permanente si demuestran que han trabajado en la ag-

ricultura por lo menos durante 180 días en cada uno de los cinco años anteriores.
“Creo que esa disposición hará que este proyecto de ley sea más aceptable para los republicanos, quienes temen que el programa aumentaría la inmigración ilegal,” dice Sharon Hughes, de la Asociación Nacional de Empleadores Agrícolas (NAAE en inglés), con sede en Washington, D.C. “Por lo menos una tercera parte de todos los trabajadores agrícolas ya están trabajando con documentos falsos. Esto ayudaría a detener esa práctica y nos ayudaría con lo que creemos que es una verdadera escasez de mano de obra agrícola en este país.”
Los activistas partidarios de los trabajadores agrícolas califi-

can llanamente al proyecto de legislación de inaceptable. Ellos argumentan que no existe una escasez de trabajadores agrícolas.
“Lo que los cultivadores no quieren es pagar jornales decentes ni ofrecer circunstancias de trabajo decentes,” dice Bruce Goldstein, co-director ejecutivo del Fondo de Justicia para los Trabajadores Agrícolas (FJJF en inglés), en Washington, D.C. “Ya hay un programa de “trabajadores invitados,” pero los cultivadores no quieren usarlo.”
Según el actual programa H-2A del gobierno federal, los empleadores que anticipen una escasez de mano de obra pueden obtener visas temporales para trabajadores extranjeros. Ellos deben probar que los jornales

que se paguen a esos trabajadores “no afectarán adversamente” a los trabajadores agrícolas estadounidenses de la zona; por ejemplo, los jornales no pueden ser considerablemente inferiores que los que se paguen a los trabajadores agrícolas estadounidenses.
Según el programa H-2A, los empleadores deben suministrar viviendas y compensación a los trabajadores, o bien un seguro comparable. Sólo 12 estados, Washington, D.C. y Puerto Rico exigen que a todos los trabajadores se les dé compensación por accidentes. “Ellos (los republicanos y los cultivadores) están tratando de circunvalar la ley,” dijo Goldstein.

Continued Page 3

Vieques May Soon Become a Household Name

By Juan González

When this year began, few U.S. residents outside the military had ever heard of Vieques, a tiny inhabited island off the coast of Puerto Rico, even though the U.S. Navy and our allies have used it for live bombing practice for the past 50 years.

But that is rapidly changing. A Senate hearing last week over the Vieques bombings erupted in an unusually bitter exchange. North Carolina's powerful Republican Sen. Strom Thurmond stormed out, and Puerto Rico's feisty governor, Pedro Rosselló, defiantly declared that Puerto Ricans would not permit any more Navy bombing on the island. Rosselló further stunned the members of the Armed Services Committee by warning the august panel, "Don't push it!"

A Puerto Rican governor had never spoken to Congress that way.

If Rosselló, a conservative pro-statehood governor, used strong words, he was only mirroring how Puerto Ricans feel about Vieques, and how out of touch Congress is with the sentiment of Puerto Rico's 3.8 million people.

Ignorance in this country over Puerto Rico is not surprising. Anything that happens there gets routinely ignored by our national press -- except when the occasional hurricane bedevils the tourist trade. But even network television news finally woke up this week to the gathering crisis that Vieques represents.

Simply put, Puerto Rico and the Navy are hurtling toward a December showdown that could lead to thousands of arrests for civil disobedience, to a whole U.S. territory in open rebellion against the federal government and to Vieques becoming a major issue in next year's presidential campaign.

Puerto Ricans are fed up with being treated as colonials by the federal government. The Navy's bombing of Vieques, an island inhabited by 9,300 people, has emerged as the most flagrant example of the second-class citizenship Puerto Ricans endure.

The Navy claims that national security and the combat-readiness of the U.S. military are being hurt because our troops have been unable to conduct live-fire practice on Vieques since April, when protesters started camping out on the Vieques practice range. The range is the only one in the Atlantic Ocean, and the Navy says it is irreplaceable.

The Puerto Rican government and most religious, civic and political organizations on the island insist the target practice end.

Even the way the issue has been framed in this country inflames Puerto Rican passions. Republicans in Congress and some press reports have suggested the only reason President Clinton is considering an end to

the bombing is to curry favor with New York's large Puerto Rican community for his wife Hillary's expected Senate run next year, as if the facts of themselves, did not warrant immediate action.

But there's no real disagreement on Vieques among New York politicians. New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Hillary's likely Republican opponent, followed the first lady's lead last week in calling for the Navy to get out.

And then there is Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the man both of them hope to succeed. Like New York's other senator, Charles Schumer, Moynihan opposes the Navy's presence. In a letter to the president last July, he wrote:

"I was a gunnery officer a half-century and more back, and sailed those waters. I remember even then wondering how on Earth we could be shelling an inhabited island. ... Put out buoys in the South Atlantic, and shell, bomb the ocean to bits. But not American territory inhabited by American citizens."

During the Senate hearing, Navy officials said the USS Eisenhower and its battle group are scheduled for training in Vieques in early December and that the Navy must have use of the island by then. A presidential panel is suggesting removing the Navy in five years, but the panel adds that if the Navy can't find a suitable replacement, it should stay. Clinton has the last word and could go along with the recommendation.

In Puerto Rico, five years is not good enough. Everybody there knows that if George W. Bush gets elected president next year, the promises of a Democratic president mean nothing.

That's why scores of Puerto Rican mayors, legislators, bishops and civic leaders, and thousands of ordinary people are threatening to step up their civil disobedience if the Navy tries to resume bombing.

Governor Rosselló told the Senate last week he will do nothing to arrest any protesters. The federal government will have to do the job itself, he added.

Not since George Wallace defied the federal government over integration has a governor been so defiant.

But Wallace was defending second-class citizenship in his state; Rosselló is opposing it in Puerto Rico.

Whatever happens, residents on the U.S. mainland are about to learn more about Puerto Rico and about colonialism in the next few months than they have in the last hundred years.

It's about time. (Juan González is a columnist with the New York Daily News.)

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El gobierno mexicano dice que una investigación inicial halló que el fondo de ahorros existió sólo hasta 1950, y que los fondos se han agotado desde entonces. Grupos de ex-braceros dicen que por lo menos 20,000 trabajadores y sus familias tienen derecho a participar en el fondo. Los grupos dicen que proponen llevar su caso a Washington, D.C.

(Patricia Guadalupe es la editora de Hispanic Link Weekly Report en Washington, D.C. Es posible comunicarse con ella por el teléfono 202-234-0280, o por el indicativo zapoteco(AT SIGN)aol.com)

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El Editor News

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Tech vs. Oklahoma State -- Let's Not Think About It

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Oct. 30 Missouri 1:00 p.m.

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Vieques Pudiera Pronto Convertirse En Un Lugar Familiar

Por Juan González

A principios de este año, pocos residentes de los Estados Unidos fuera del servicio militar habían oído alguna vez sobre la isla municipal de Vieques, un pequeño lugar al sureste de Puerto Rico, aún cuando la Marina de los Estados Unidos y nuestros aliados la han usado para prácticas de bombardeo y otras maniobras militares durante los últimos 50 años.

Pero eso está cambiando rápidamente.

Una audiencia la semana pasada en el senado federal sobre los bombardeos de Vieques resultó en un intercambio inusualmente amargo. El poderoso senador Strom Thurmond, republicano por Carolina del Sur, abandonó el salón en plena audiencia y el gobernador de Puerto Rico, Pedro Rosselló, declaró desafiante que los puertorriqueños no permitirían más bombardeos de la marina en la isla. Rosselló asombró adicionalmente a los miembros del comité de las Fuerzas Armadas al advertir al grupo: "¡No nos empujen!"

Un gobernador puertorriqueño nunca le había hablado al Congreso de ese modo.

Si Rosselló, un gobernador conservador partidario de la estadidad, usó palabras enérgicas, estaba sólo reflejando el modo de sentir de los puertorriqueños sobre Vieques, y de qué modo el Congreso está desafinado en cuanto a la manera de pensar de los 3,800,000 habitantes de Puerto Rico.

La ignorancia en este país sobre Puerto Rico no es sorprendente. Cualquier cosa que ocurra allá se pasa por alto de costumbre por parte de nuestra prensa nacional -- excepto cuando el ocasional huracán afecta a la industria del turismo. Pero aún las noticias de las redes televisivas despertaron por último en esta semana a la creciente crisis que representa Vieques.

Dicho sencillamente, Puerto Rico y la Marina están precipitándose hacia un enfrentamiento en diciembre, que podría llevar a millares de arrestos por desobe-

diencia civil, a un territorio entero de los Estados Unidos en rebelión abierta contra el gobierno federal, y a que Vieques se convirtiera en un asunto de mayor importancia en la campaña presidencial del año próximo.

Los puertorriqueños están hartos con que el gobierno federal les trate como habitantes de una colonia. El bombardeo de Vieques, una isla de 9,300 habitantes ha surgido como el ejemplo más flagrante de la ciudadanía de segunda clase que sufren los puertorriqueños.

La Marina alega que la seguridad nacional y la preparación para el combate de las fuerzas armadas de los Estados Unidos están siendo perjudicadas debido a que nuestras tropas no han podido efectuar prácticas con municiones "vivas" en Vieques desde el pasado abril, cuando los manifestantes empezaron a acampar donde la Marina practica. Esta zona de maniobras es la única en el océano atlántico, y la Marina que es insustituible.

El gobierno de Puerto Rico y la mayoría de las organizaciones religiosas, cívicas y políticas de la isla insisten en que terminen de inmediato estas prácticas.

Hasta el modo de que el asunto ha sido enmarcado en este país inflama la opinión pública en Puerto Rico. Los congresistas republicanos y algunos informes de prensa han sugerido que la única razón por la cual el Presidente Clinton está considerando poner fin a los bombardeos es para conseguir votos dentro de comunidad puertorriqueña de Nueva York para la esperada campaña senatorial de su esposa Hillary el año que viene, como si los hechos, por ellos mismos, no justificaran una acción inmediata.

Pero no hay verdadero desacuerdo sobre Vieques entre los políticos de Nueva York. El alcalde Giuliani, probable contrincante republicano de Hillary, siguió el ejemplo de la primera dama la semana pasada al pedir que la Marina se vaya de Vieques.

Y después vino el senador

Daniel Patrick Moynihan, el hombre a quien ambos esperan sustituir. Como el otro senador por Nueva York, Charles Schumer, Moynihan se opone a la presencia de la Marina. En una carta dirigida al presidente el pasado julio, él escribió:

"Yo fui oficial de artillería hace algo más de medio siglo, y navegué por esas cosas. Recuerdo entonces haberme preguntado cómo podríamos estar bombardeando a una isla habitada. ... Pongan boyas en el suratlántico y bombardeen al océano hasta convertirlo en pedacitos. Pero no a un territorio estadounidense habitado por ciudadanos de Estados Unidos."

Durante la audiencia del Senado, los oficiales de la Marina dijeron que el portavoz Eisenhower y su grupo de combate están programados para capacitación en Vieques a principios de diciembre, y que la Marina debe tener el uso de la isla para entonces. Una comisión presidencial recomendó que la Marina se retire de Vieques en cinco años, pero también dijo que si la Marina no encuentra otro lugar en ese tiempo, debería permanecer en la isla. Clinton tiene la última palabra, y podría seguir esa recomendación.

En Puerto Rico, cinco años no está bien. Todo el mundo sabe

que, si George W. Bush resulta electo para presidente el año próximo, las promesas de un presidente demócrata no significan nada.

Esa es la razón de que veintenas de alcaldes, legisladores, obispos y líderes cívicos de Puerto Rico, así como millares de personas comunes y corrientes, están amenazando con aumentar actos de desobediencia civil si la Marina trata de reanudar los bombardeos.

El gobernador Rosselló dijo al Senado la semana pasada que él no hará nada para arrestar a los manifestantes. El gobierno federal tendrá que hacerlo, añadió.

Desde que George Wallace desafió al gobierno federal en los años 50 por no querer integrar las escuelas de su estado, ningún gobernador ha sido tan desafiador.

Pero Wallace estaba defendiendo a la ciudadanía de segunda clase en su estado; Rosselló está oponiéndose a ella en Puerto Rico.

Pase lo que pase, los residentes de los Estados Unidos están a punto de aprender más sobre Puerto Rico y acerca del colonialismo en los próximos meses que lo que hayan aprendido en los últimos cien años.

Ya era hora. (Juan González es columnista del New York Daily News.)

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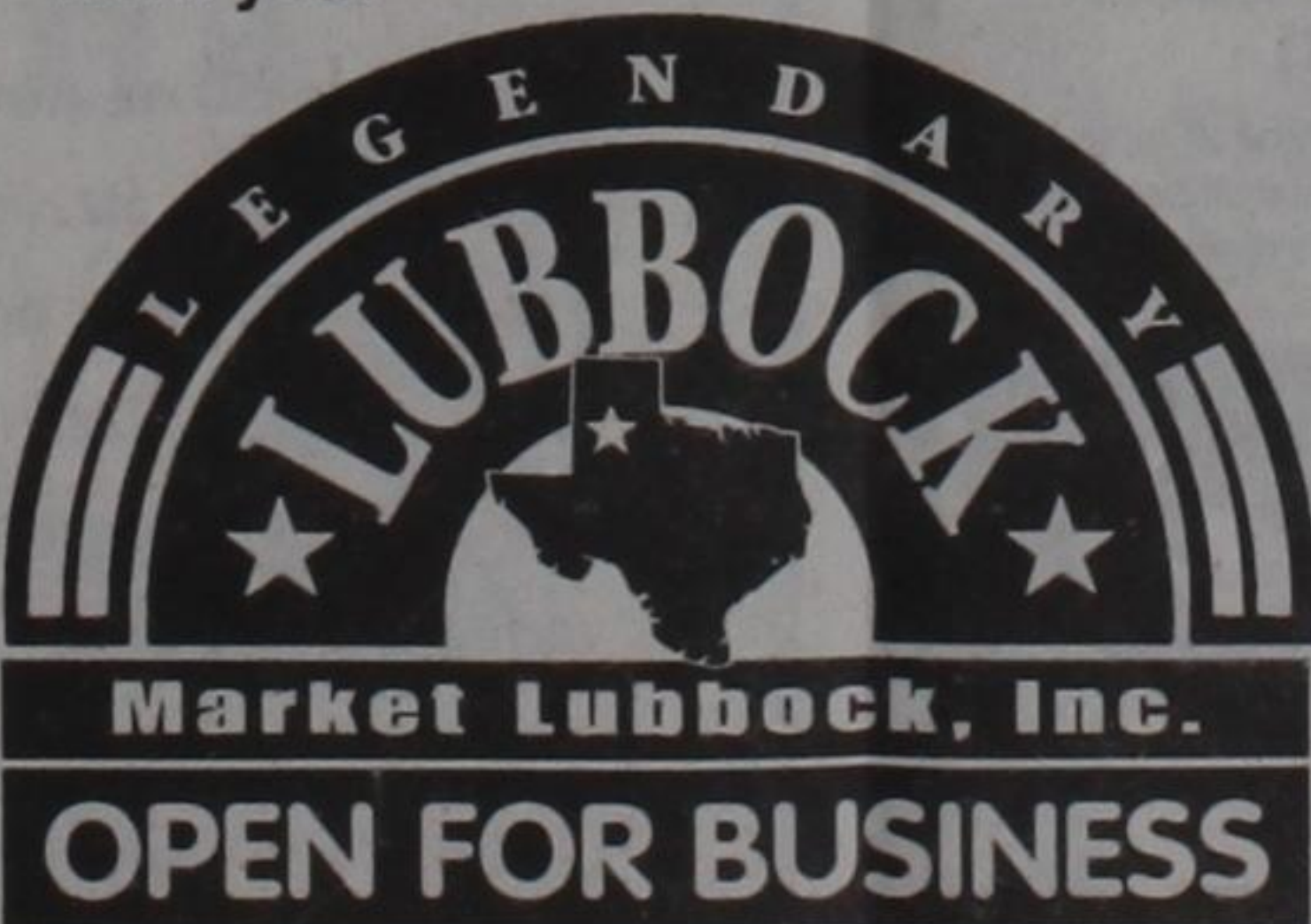
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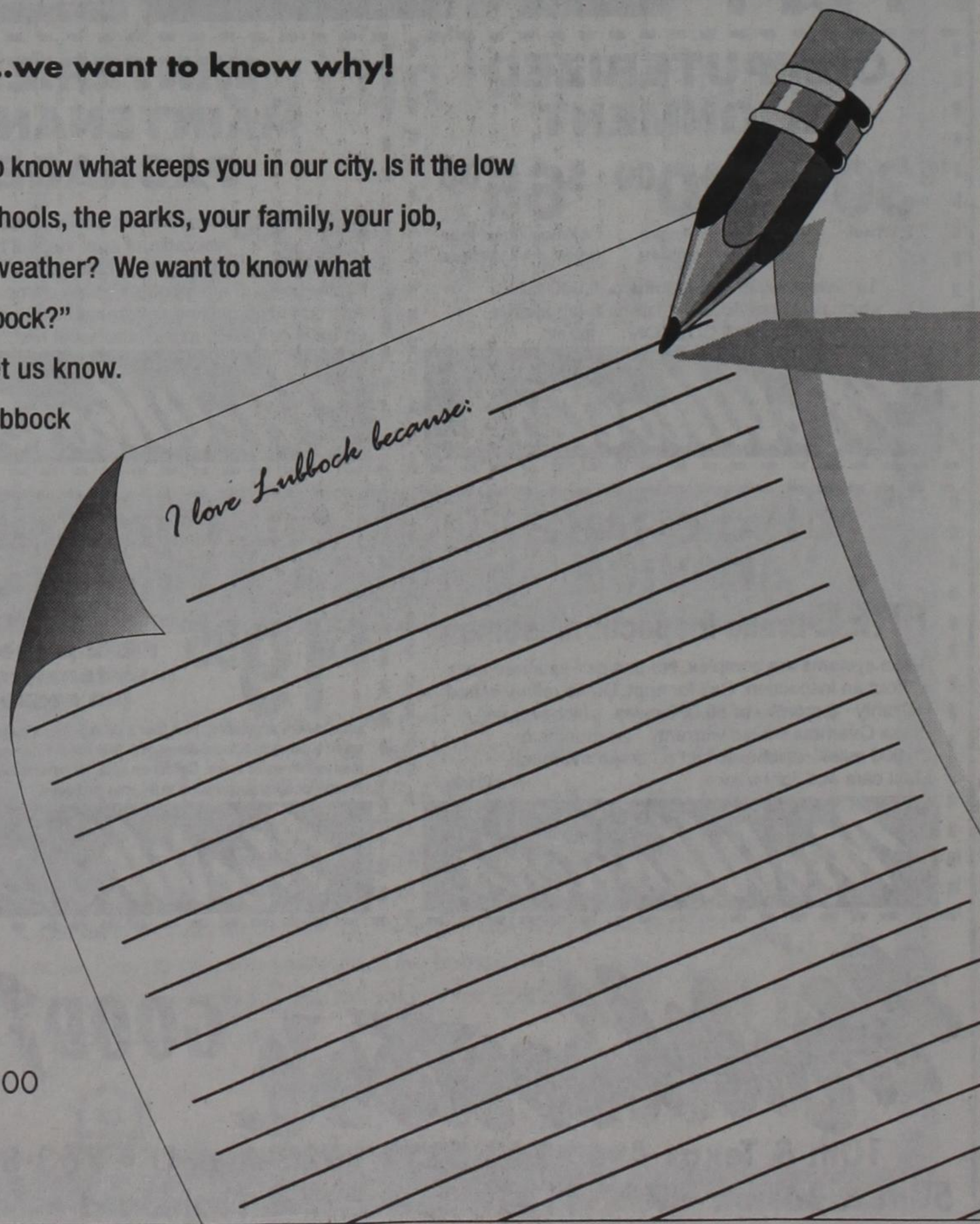
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The Harmon NFL Forecast: Week 8

****Atlanta 17, Carolina 16**
The Falcons swept the Panthers for the first time in their four-season series in 1998, 19-14 and 51-23. Carolina now has the more consistent offense but won't beat Atlanta without defense.

Buffalo 23, **Baltimore 10
Both of these teams have solid defenses, but the Bills are exceptional against the run-which will spell trouble for the Ravens' one-dimensional, ground-based offense. A first-time matchup.

Dallas 24, **Indianapolis 21
This should be close, because the Colts have as good a passing game as any team in the AFC and the Cowboys' secondary is struggling. Indy beat Dallas 25-24 the last time they met, in '96.

****Detroit 21, Tampa Bay 19**
Last year, for the third time in four seasons, the Lions beat the Buccaneers twice, 27-6 and 28-25. Still, this is nearly an impossible pick; T.B.'s defense could take control of the game.

Jacksonville 30, **Cincinnati 12
The Bengals can run against the Jaguars' less-than-stellar defensive line, but that's all they can do. Jacksonville is gunning for a second straight sweep after 24-11 and 34-17 wins in '98.

****Kansas City 26, San Diego 13**
Four weeks ago the juiceless Chargers netted only 132 yards against the Chiefs but picked off Elvis Grbac four times and came from behind to beat K.C. 21-14.

Miami 22, **Oakland 15
Intercepting six Donald Hollas passes and sacking him eight times, the Dolphins whipped the Raiders last year, 27-17. Oakland is helpless against good passing, so guess what Miami will do.

Minnesota 20, **Denver 17
Despite all the bad news for these teams, they have their strengths: The Vikings live by the pass, and the secondary is the Broncos' bright spot. Three years ago Denver beat Minnesota 21-17.

New England 19, **Arizona 14
Another battle that should be closer than it looks, because the Patriots move the ball by throwing it and the Cardinals are tops against the pass. N.E. won last in this series, 31-0 in '96.

****New Orleans 13, Cleveland 9**
We keep looking for signs of progress in the Browns' stats but not finding them, so we have to reach for facts like this: Cleveland has won more games in N.O. (five) than it's lost (two).

N.Y. Giants 14, **Philadelphia 10
In what Giants linebacker Jessie Armstead called "The Loser Bowl," N.Y. overcame five turnovers to limp past the Eagles in

Nobody Seems To Be Talking About Getting Rid of Spike Now

Following demoralizing losses to North Texas and Oklahoma State earlier this season, trouble seemed to be brewing for Texas Tech coach Spike Dykes. Now, after two consecutive wins for the first time this season, the Red Raiders are in the bowl hunt and tied for first place in the Big 12 South.

And if the Raiders can beat slumping Missouri this week and Week Four, 16-15. The Giants defense, at least, is worth watching.

****Tennessee 27, St. Louis 23**
Who would've thought that picking a contender over the Rams would mean picking an upset? St. Louis has done everything right, but the Titans will win with pass defense. They last met in '93.

****Washington 32, Chicago 28**
The Redskins have won five in a row over the Bears since '89, most recently 31-8 in '97. If Washington had a defense this would be a one-sided affair; instead it may turn on who scores last.

(Monday) **Green Bay 29, Seattle 16
This series has been tight-the Packers, who won last three years ago, lead it by only 4-3. For the Seahawks to even it, though, they need to find ways to slow the powerhouse G.B. offense.

Open date: N.Y. Jets, Pittsburgh, San Francisco
** Denotes Home Team

protect the home field the following week against Iowa State, they could find themselves playing for the South Division lead against Texas on Nov. 13 in Austin.

Perhaps now it's Texas Tech -- and not angry Red Raider fans -- which is starting to turn up the heat.

"Really, about all that matters is what you do this week," Dykes said the day after his team handed Baylor a 35-7 loss in Waco. "We've won three of the last four in the conference. That's the good part of it. We've got a tough road ahead of us, but at least we're percolating pretty good."

Tech moved into a two-way tie with Texas atop the South Division standings last Saturday night by scoring 21 unanswered points to turn a surprisingly close game against Baylor into a rout.

Tech's special teams helped key the victory over Baylor, as junior John Norman returned a punt 80 yards for a touchdown and Dorian Pitts blocked a punt by Baylor's Kyle Atteberry to set up another score. Tech's Jonathan Hawkins also recovered a "pooch kick" at the Baylor 34.

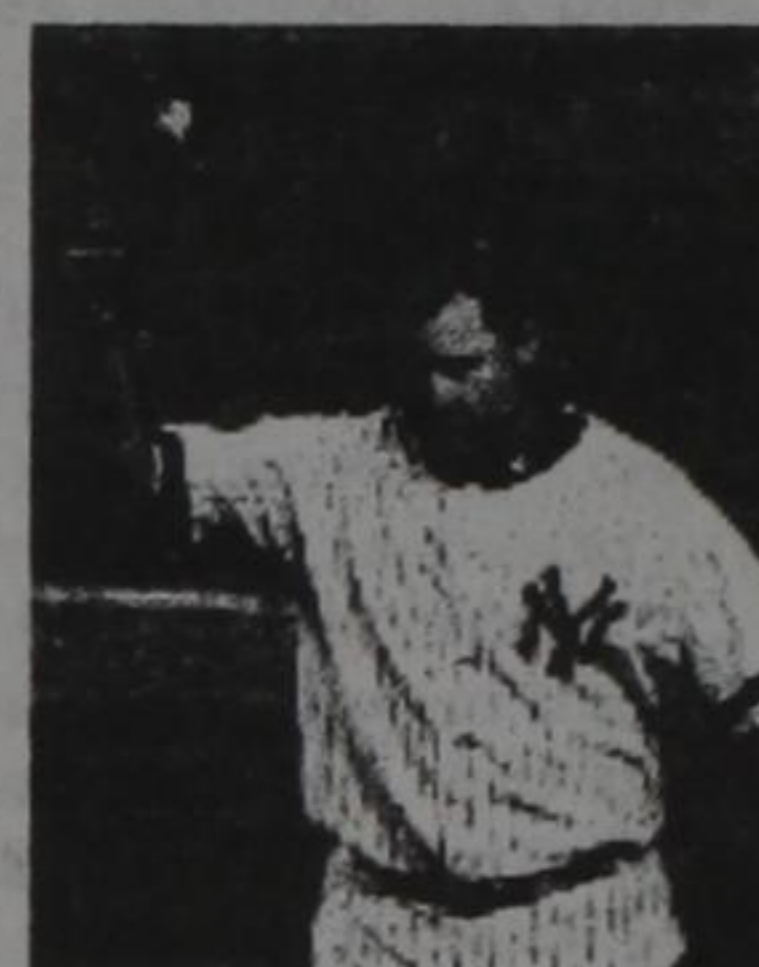
The key to the moderate win-

Yankees Win World Series

Roger Clemens had waited too long not to savor every moment of this glorious night.

With the final out of the

World Series, he bolted for the mound and, flanked by two of his sons, grabbed manager Joe Torre in a bear hug and found it hard to let go. Then, while his New York Yankees teammates were still dousing each other with champagne, Clemens sprinted back out to the field, climbed on the dugout roof and ran up and down, slapping every outstretched hand in the front row. The Rocket could rest.



Roger Clemens gives a performance expected of him -- and New York fans show their appreciation. (AP)

ning streak, however, can mostly be attributed to Tech's defense, particularly the secondary. Baylor quarterback Jermaine Alford was just 7 of 22 for 67 yards against the Red Raiders. An interception and 47-yard return by Kevin Curtis set up a touchdown in the second quarter and Anthony Malbrough's fourth-quarter pick set up another TD.

In the preceding game, Colorado quarterback Mike Moschetti entered with a 64 percent completion rate and almost 1,400 yards passing. But Moschetti struggled against the Red Raiders until the second half of a 31-10 Tech victory.

"I think the key, really, in the last two weeks is the fact we've played so well in the secondary," Dykes said. "The completion average (allowed) the last two weeks has not been very good considering the fact Moschetti was (64) percent coming into our ball game and Jermaine Alford has been a thorn in our side forever."

Alford threw for 225 yards on the Raiders last year in a 31-29 loss. This time, neither he nor the rest of the Baylor offense could get going, finishing with 225 total yards.

The ring is his. Clemens pitched the New York Yankees to their second straight World Series sweep, shutting down the Atlanta Braves 4-1 Wednesday night and ending his quest for the one and only prize that eluded him. "This must be what it's like to be a Yankee," Clemens said. "This is what everybody said it was all about." With raucous fans waving yellow, plastic brooms all over the ballpark and Clemens bouncing around on the mound, the Yankees won their record 25th championship. Game 4 marked New York's 12th Series victory a row, matching the mark set by its Murderers' Row teams. Clemens waited his entire career for this moment and, at last, commanded the October stage. Showing the form that earned him five Cy Young Awards and 247 wins in 16 seasons, Clemens shut out Atlanta into the eighth to outduel John Smoltz. Brought to the Bronx this spring from Toronto in a trade for David Wells that many Yankees fans disliked, Clemens walked off the mound to rousing cheers, tipping his cap and holding both hands high to acknowledge the ovation.

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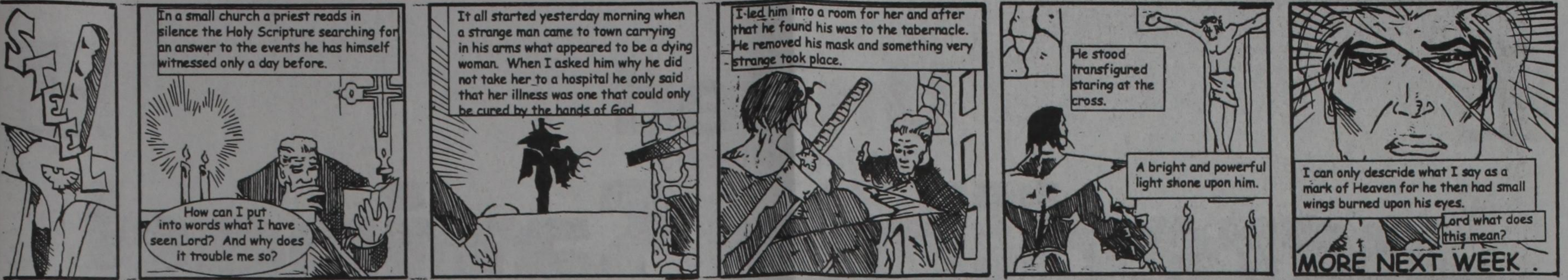
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El próximo 30 de noviembre de 1999, tres juegos instantáneos de la Lotería de Texas se van: *Break the Bank*, *Sizzlin' 7's* y *Diamonds in the Rough*. Tienes hasta el 28 de mayo del año 2000, para reclamar cualquier boleto ganador. Se puede ganar hasta \$30,000 jugando *Break the Bank*, hasta \$700 jugando *Sizzlin' 7's*, y hasta \$4,000 jugando *Diamonds in the Rough*. No olvides que puedes reclamar cualquier premio de hasta \$599 en cualquier tienda que venda boletos de la Lotería de Texas. Los premios de \$600 o más se pueden reclamar en uno de nuestros 24 centros de reclamo de la Lotería de Texas (Texas Lottery Claim Centers) o reclama tu premio por correo. Para cualquier pregunta, sólo comunícate a la línea de servicio al cliente de la Lotería de Texas llamando al 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).





Gloria Estefan y QUEPASA.Com Proveen Ordenadores a los Latinos

Nueva York, - Facilitar el acceso de los latinos a las nuevas tecnologías de la comunicación y dotarles de herramientas tan poderosas como internet es el objetivo de una iniciativa conjunta de la cantante y actriz Gloria Estefan y el portal en español "QuePasa.com", que se presentó hoy en Nueva York.

Organizaciones y centros que trabajan en favor de la comunidad hispana en distintas ciudades de EEUU recibirán ordenadores totalmente equipados y con acceso a la red cibernética para enseñar a niños, jóvenes y mayores las posibilidades que ofrecen estas avanzadas tecnologías y lo útiles que pueden ser para mejorar su futuro.

"Me siento como si volviera a la escuela", comentó Gloria Estefan al llegar a una de las aulas del centro Casita Maria Corsi, en pleno Harlem hispano, en la que colgaban dibujos infantiles de las paredes y las mesas habían sido retiradas para dar cabida a los numerosos periodistas y cámaras de televisión que asistieron al acto.

"Me siento muy feliz de ver lo mucho que ha crecido este centro y orgullosa de participar con QuePasa.com en esta iniciativa que ayudará a la comunidad hispana a acceder a tecnologías que son caras y a utilizar el Internet", declaró Estefan.

La "estrella" hispana de la canción explicó que durante la gira que realizará el próximo año, con el patrocinio de QuePasa.com y en la que actuará en más de 20 ciudades estadounidenses, entregarán más ordenadores a escuelas y centros que trabajan con la comunidad hispana en distintos estados con importante presencia de latinos.

"Unido a la gira, que comenzará en enero en Miami, estaremos celebrando la Herencia Hispana y haciendo un esfuerzo para fortalecer la comunidad hispana a través de internet. Trabajaremos con comunidades locales sin ánimo de lucro para ayudar a los latinos a ser parte de la comunidad cibernética", declaró Gary Trujillo, presidente de QuePasa.com.

Esta compañía con sede en Phoenix (Arizona), fundada en 1998, es el primero portal en la red para el mercado hispano de los EEUU y provee información y contenido interactivo, tanto en español como en inglés.

En los últimos seis meses ha tenido un crecimiento mensual del 133 por ciento en el número de visitas a sus páginas y en mayo contaba con 4.600.000 visitantes, según datos de la empresa.

Gary Trujillo subrayó el espectacular crecimiento de la comunidad hispana, que con unos 30 millones de personas representa ya el 11 por ciento de la población estadounidense y todas las proyecciones demográficas indican que será la primera minoría de EEUU para el año 2005.

"Los hispanos en EEUU adquieren hoy ordenadores en un porcentaje que dobla el de otros consumidores estadounidenses y utilizan cada vez más internet como instrumento para la educación y el progreso. Hay unos 3 millones de hogares hispanos con acceso a internet y en el 2005 se calcula que será más del doble y representará el 15 por ciento de los hogares hispanos en EEUU", resaltó Trujillo.

Gloria Estefan, que es uno de los inversores de QuePasa.com, destacó lo importante que puede ser para los latinos de cualquier edad acceder a internet y puso su propia experiencia personal como ejemplo.

"Cuando estoy de viaje, con actuaciones, me facilita mucho el estar en contacto con mi familia. Mi madre utiliza internet desde hace unos meses y me ha mostrado como puede ayudar a las personas de edad a combatir la soledad. Y a mi hijo de 4 años le encanta enseñarme cosas que va descubriendo en la red", comentó.

Lejos de cualquier protocolo, sin apenas maquillaje y vestida de forma casual, la cantante y actriz atendió con suma simpatía y paciencia a los numerosos fotógrafos y cámaras de televisión que trataban de obtener una instantánea suya junto a un grupo de niños de la escuela pública 171 que asistieron al acto y que no paraban de abrazarla como si la conocieran de toda la vida.

A una pregunta de EFE sobre la responsabilidad de muchos artistas latinos como ella, que han triunfado en EEUU y son un modelo a imitar por las jóvenes generaciones de hispanos, Estefan contestó que era consciente de esa responsabilidad.

Renewing Green Cards

"Two INS officials from the Federal Immigration and Naturalization office (INS) from Dall will renew "Green Cards"/ Permanent Residency Cards that have expired or will expire before January 1, 2000. They will be at the Catholic Family Service, Inc. office in Lubbock between November 15-19th. Please call Catholic Family Service, Inc., for an appointment with an INS to renew your card at 806-741-0409

Clerical Specialist III

Texas Tech University Police Services

Texas Tech University's Police Services is seeking applications for a Clerical Specialist III. Requires completion of High School. Typing 45 wmp and three years clerical experience. Position is security sensitive and requires extensive pre-qualification, available for review at Drane Hall and a complete background investigation, conducted only after qualification. Applicants should be proficient with business office programs (Word, Excel, etc), multi-line telephone, and police communication devices. Duties include complex clerical work that is specialized and/or technical in nature. Experience in Uniform Crime Reporting is beneficial. Contact the Texas Tech University Personnel Office, Room 143, Drane Hall. (806) 742-3851. EEO/AA/ADA Employer. Req. #173

Police Officer Cadet

Texas Tech University Police Department

Texas Tech University's Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer Cadet. Applications forms and a complete list of qualifications can be obtained from the Texas Tech University Personnel Office, Room 143, Drane Hall, 15th and University Avenue.

Must meet commissioning standards for Texas Peace Officers as mandated by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education and selections standards for the Texas Tech Police Department.

Must have thirty (30) semester college hours from an accredited college or university, or fifteen (15) college hours and one year continuous employment with the Texas Tech Police Department.

Successful applicants will be assigned to attend a twenty (20) week police training academy in Austin, Texas (salary and benefits paid during training). Continued employment with Texas Tech Police Department is contingent on successful completion of the police academy (academic, physical agility, and firearms standards) and achieving a passing score on the Texas Peace Officer Licensing Exam within guidelines for testing as established by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education.

Beginning salary for this position is \$2,344 per month and includes a comprehensive benefit package. (Complete listing of benefits can be obtained in the Personnel Office of Texas Tech University). For further information, contact the Texas Tech University Personnel Office, Room 143, Drane Hall (806) 742-3851. This position closes November 5, 1999.

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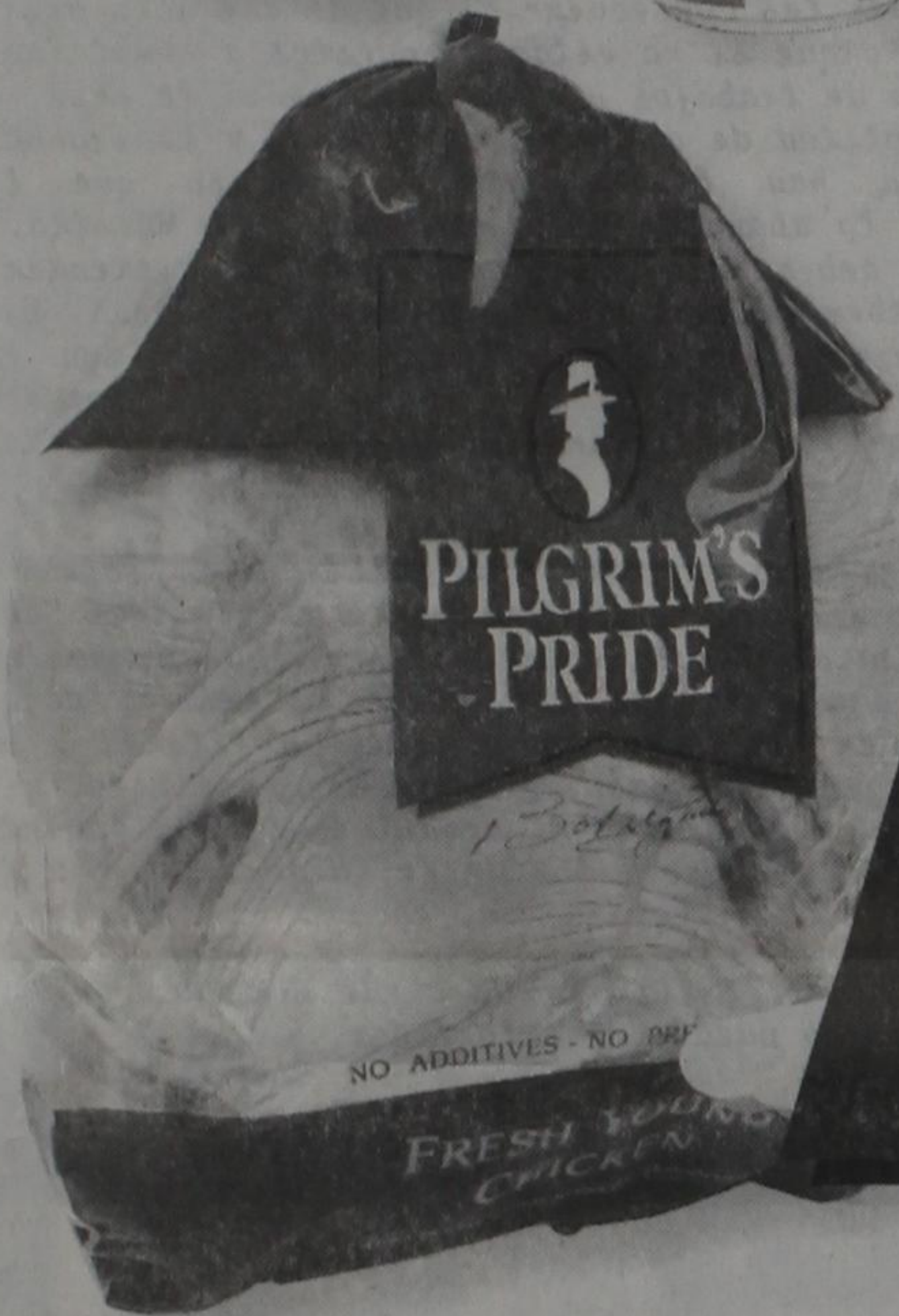
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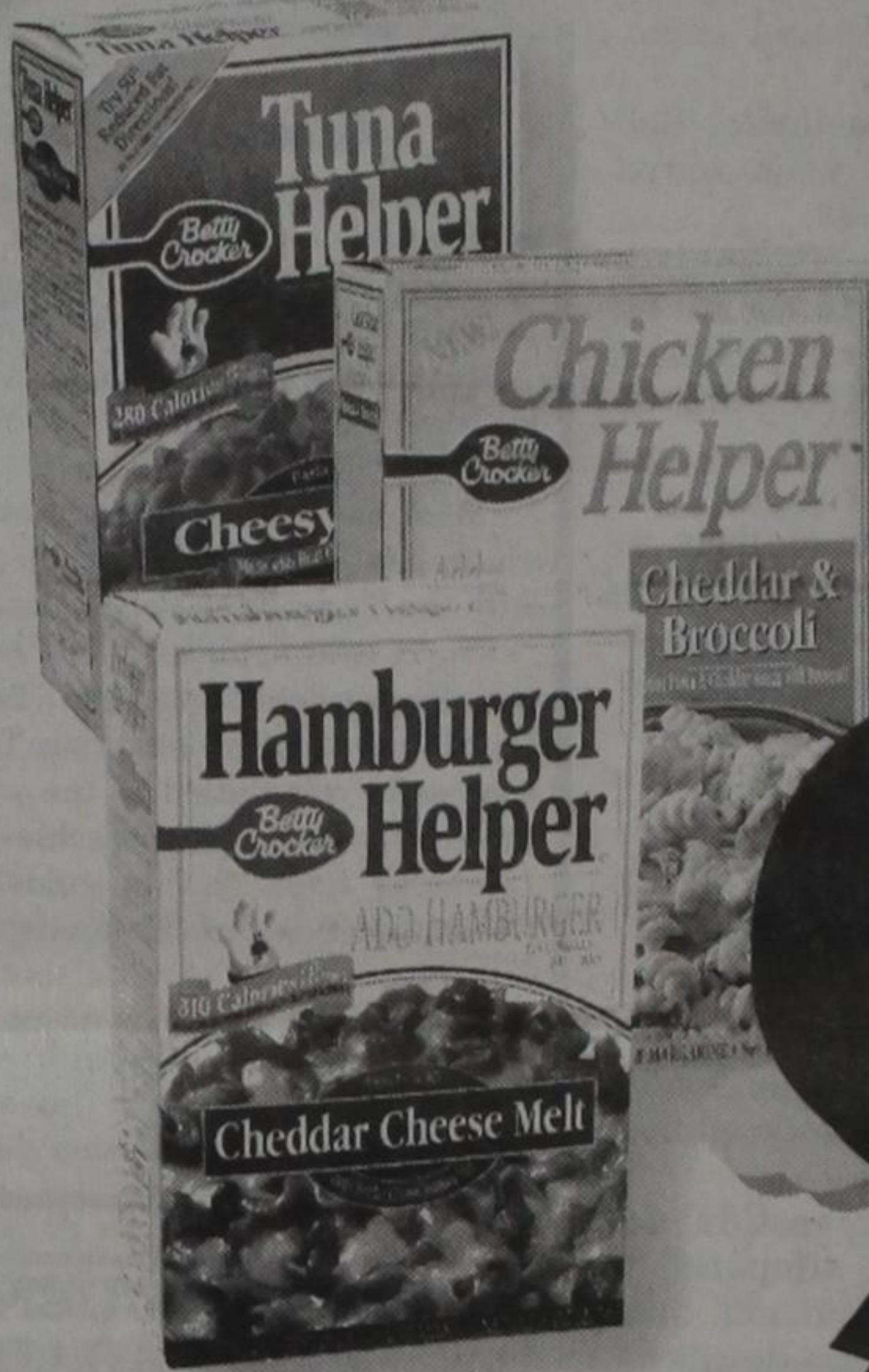
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