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Fox Steps Up Efforts to Legalize Mexicans and Guest Workers in U.S.

Mexico has stepped up its campaign to win legal status for some of the four million unauthorized Mexicans in the US. Juan Hernandez, director of the Office of Mexicans Living Abroad, said in an April 2002 speech that: "There are three to four million individuals here in the United States that are fueling the economy of this wonderful country, and in turn fueling the economy of the wonderful country of Mexico, and we need to dignify them."

Hernandez hinted that Mexico would be willing to help to control the border: "Let's create a program that is an intelligent program with an intelligent border, where individuals can come up here, those who are needed, and not those who are not needed."

The Mexican government reacted strongly against the March 2002 US Supreme Court decision that unauthorized workers who are wrongly fired for union organizing are not entitled to back pay for the time they are jobless after their illegal firing. The Court reasoned that, since they were not entitled to work in the US after they were fired, they cannot collect wages for the time they were jobless as a result of the employer's labor law violation. In effect, the court ruled that a worker's violation of immigration laws was more serious than an employer's violation of labor laws.

President Vicente Fox said he may ask the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to take up the issue: "The court ruling makes it all the more urgent to regularize the legal status of millions of (undocumented) workers (in the U.S.) who contribute to the prosperity of that nation." US worker advocates report widespread

confusion, but they say the bottom line is: "complain at your own peril," as employers interpret the ruling holding that undocumented workers do not have the same rights as US workers.

The Mexican government is planning to

construct two radio towers topped by strobe lights in Baja California and Sonora to act as beacons for lost and injured migrants. The towers will be visible for about six miles, and Mexican agents will check them every three hours to assist migrants. Since

2000, about 236 migrants have died in on both sides of the Baja California border.

The ID card issued by Mexican consulates in the US, the matricula consular, includes a digitized photograph, a magnetic band similar to the one on California driver's licenses, and a holographic image of the letters SRE (Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores). The card, which costs \$29, is available to applicants who present documentation such as a birth certificate to verify their identity, and allows consulates to hook up with Mexican national databases, such as voter registration records.

Progres. Mexico began Progres. a welfare program that ties payments to children going to school and getting health checks, in 1997, paying \$10 a month if children regularly attend school in third grade, and \$35 a month for girls in the ninth grade. Girls in secondary school are paid 15 percent more than are boys because girls have a higher dropout rate in Mexico. The payments are made to mothers.

In 2000, some 2.5 million rural families received benefits, about a ninth of all families in Mexico. The total cost was around \$1 billion, or 0.2 percent of gross domestic product; administrative costs are nine percent of total costs, and corruption is minimal.

An evaluation found that Progres. kept children in school. More than 90 percent of rural Mexican children attend primary school, but 45 percent drop out after the sixth grade, when students advance to secondary school. Progres. increased transitions to secondary school by nearly 20 percent, and adds an average two-thirds of a

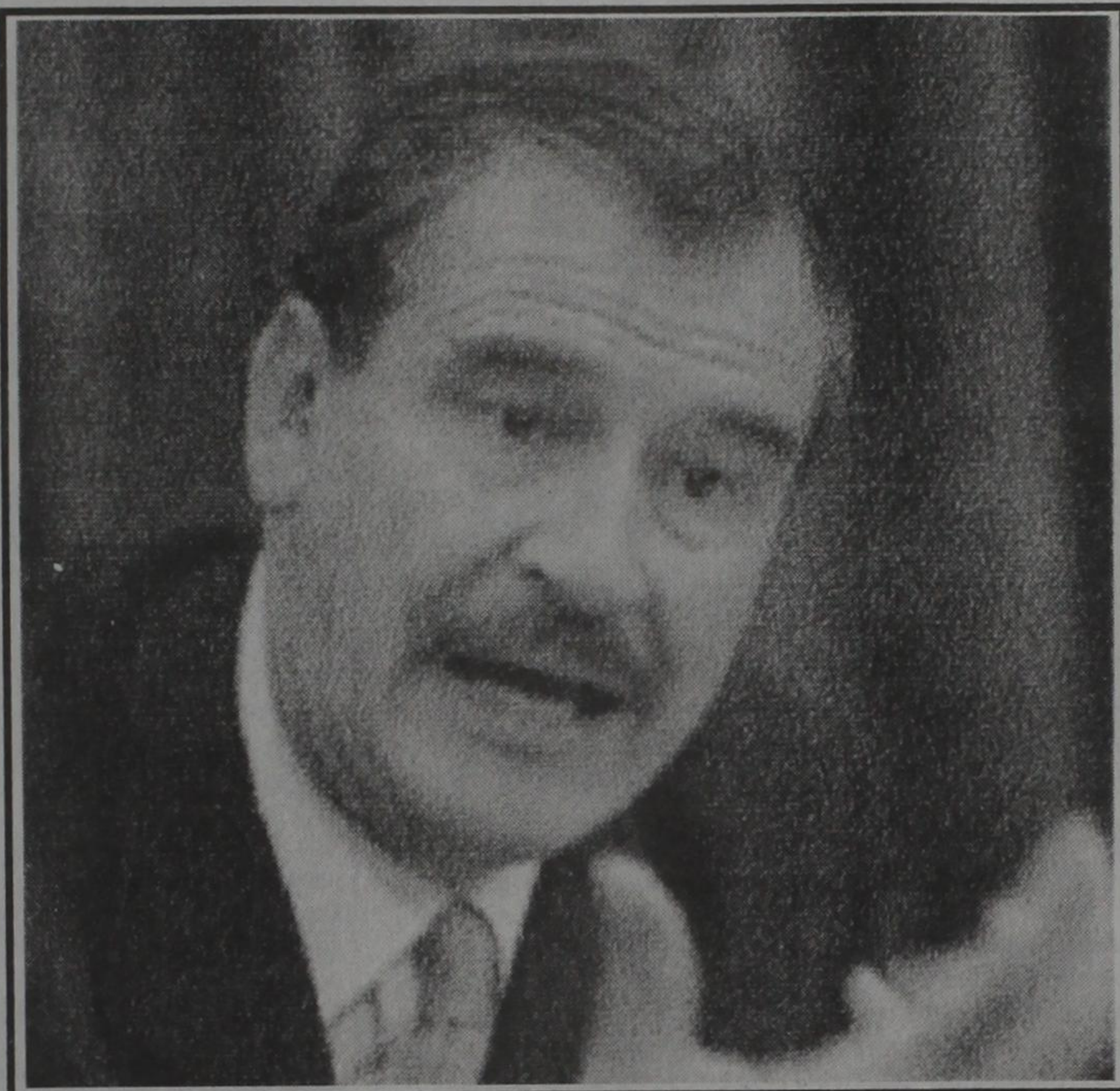
year of schooling. Child labor decreased as enrollment increased.

The Fox government recently changed Progres. name to Oportunidades, and is receiving a \$1 billion loan - the largest ever - from the Inter-American Development Bank to extend the program to urban areas.

Labor Situation in Mexico: Mexico climbed out of recession in the first quarter of 2002, with the economy growing 0.7 percent. Mexico's economy grew by about one percent in 2001, down from almost seven percent in 2000. Manufacturing jobs fell by 5.6 percent in February 2002, the 16th consecutive monthly reduction; the unemployment rate was 2.8 percent in March 2002.

Mexico's workforce is 40 million, of whom 15 million are registered with the Mexican Social Security Institute, or IMSS. Underemployment, which includes the unemployed and those in work but who are looking for additional or better jobs, was 4.4 percent in March 2002.

The number of industrial jobs in Mexico peaked in June 2000, and maquiladoras employed 1.2 million workers in June 2001. However, between June 2001 and March 2002, some 240,000 maquiladora jobs, 18 percent of the total, were lost as 350 maquiladoras shut and companies shifted simpler assembly line work to Central America or China, where wages are lower. Maquiladora wages rose nine percent in 2001. Mexico is likely to maintain its competitiveness in high-end manufacturing jobs, like electronics and heavy machinery, but will continue to lose low-end textile jobs



Bush Signs Border Security Law

The new law, which got overwhelming support from lawmakers responding to the Sept. 11 attacks, calls for increased immigration checks at ports of entry and a new database of suspected terrorists to be used to screen visa applicants.

All visas, passports and other travel documents issued to non-U.S. citizens would be required to contain information such as a thumb print or a retina scan that law-enforcement officials could use to verify the document-holder's identity.

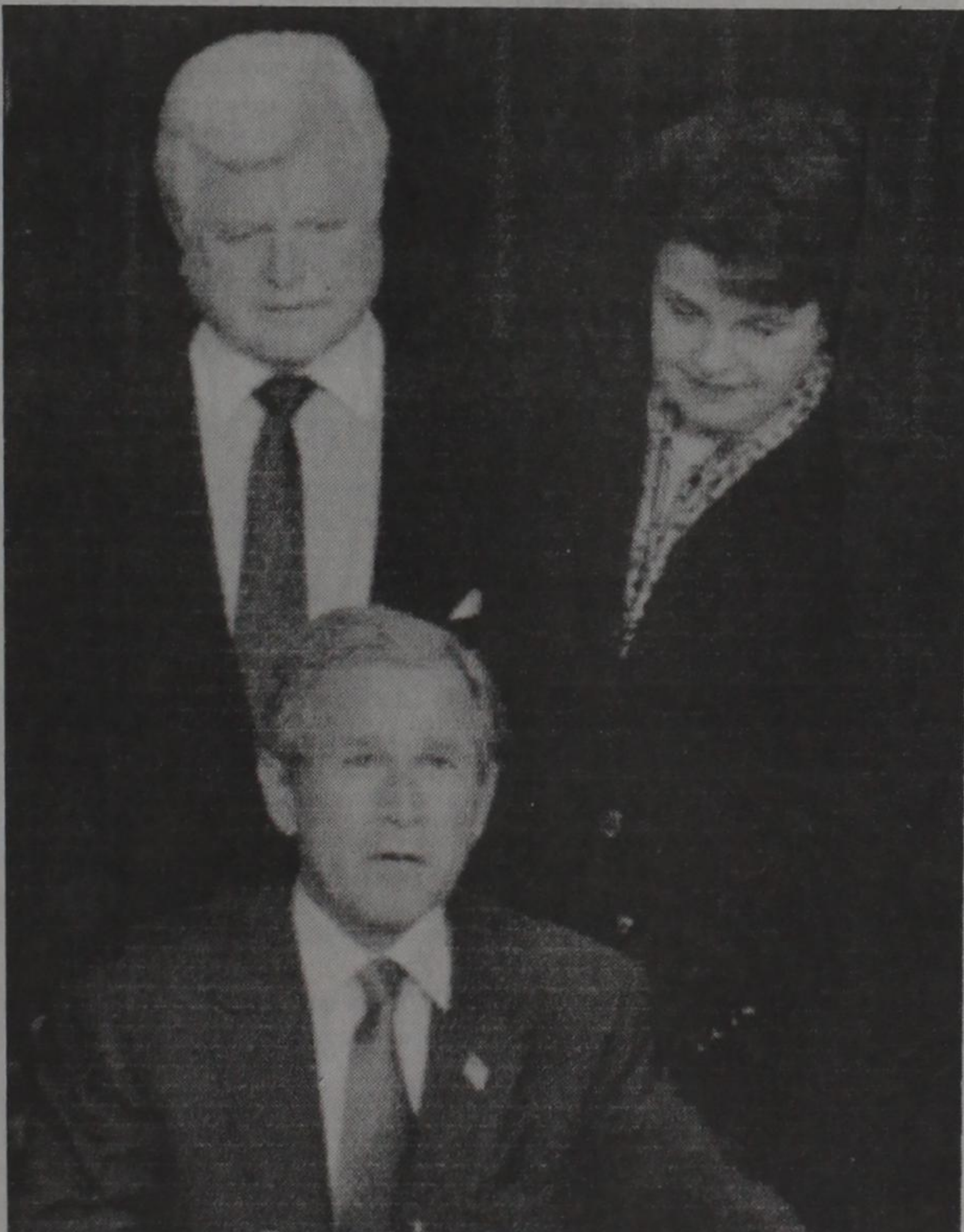
"America is not a fortress and we never want to be a fortress," Bush said at the signing ceremony.

"But, on the other hand, we can do a better job of making our borders more secure," he said. "We ought to be rooting out smugglers and focusing on criminals. And, of course, stopping terrorists from coming into the country."

Bush conceded it was a monumental task: screening out would-be attackers without slowing down the roughly 500 million people, more than 11 million trucks, 51,000 foreign ships and 2.2 million rail cars that enter the country each year.

"No nation can be totally secure," Bush said.

The new law calls for the installation of scanners at points of entry that can recognize a travelers' unique physical traits, such as fingerprints.



El Presidente George Bush junto con los senadores demócratas Edward Kennedy y Dianne Feinstein quien observan al firmar el nuevo proyecto de ley que declara nuevas reglas tocante la inmigración.

Declarando que "necesitamos saber quiénes son nuestros visitantes," la nueva legislación ofrece nueva herradura para vigilar extrajeros antes de entrar a los Estados Unidos.

Experts Claim Census Woefully Underestimated 'New Latino' Growth

By Arlene Martinez

While by its own admission, the 2000 U.S. Census undercounted the nation's three major Hispanic groups, it failed even more dramatically in measuring growth among "New Latinos" it lost in an "Other Hispanics" cluster.

Several East Coast demographic and community experts who gathered on May 8 at Trinity College in Washington, D.C., to compare their independent research drew this conclusion.

Much of their discussion focused on findings of a study by the Lewis Mumford Center for Comparative Urban and Regional Research at the University of Albany. It analyzed data from the 1990 and 2000 Census, as well as the 1998-2000 Current Population Survey.

While the census estimated an overall 27 percent population growth from Central American countries in the decade of the 1990s, the Mumford study pegged it at 106 percent. Immigrants from South America increased by 98 percent, it found, not the 31 percent the census reported.

Most significantly, the U.S. population of persons with roots in the Dominican Republic rose from 537,000 to 1.12 million, the Mumford experts maintained, not from 520,000 to 765,000, as the census claimed. As with Mexicans, the most recent wave of Dominican immigrants occurred in the last decade.

The new figure makes Domini-

cans the fourth-largest U.S. Hispanic group, still well behind Mexicans and Puerto Ricans, but less than 200,000 behind Cubans.

"Undercounted often turns out to be underserved and underrepresented," said John Logan, director of the Lewis Mumford Center. "Decisions are made every year: who should be nominated to represent a community, how lines should be drawn. If they think they're representing a community smaller than it actually is, they can't possibly do their jobs properly."

The biggest flaw in the 2000 census questionnaire was the omission of "examples," the report noted. In addition to the major groups of Mexican, Puerto Rican and Cuban, respondents were asked to check another Hispanic category. But, unlike the 1990 questionnaire, no examples of other categories were given to orient them. So one of every six respondents - 17.3 percent -- were lumped into an "all other Hispanics" category.

The differences are telling: 6.2 million "other Hispanics," with no specific national origin, were counted in 2000, nearly double the 1990 total.

In its challenge to the census, the report cites the example of Salvadorans in California. In 1990, the bureau tallied 339,000 Salvadorans there but reported only 273,000 a decade later. And in Miami, 69,000 Nicaraguans were counted, down from 74,000 in 1990. The study

calls both figures "implausible."

Because of the undercounts in the Dominican group, the population missed out on roughly \$4 billion of funding in areas including education, Social Security and health care, claimed Rosita Romero, executive director of the New York-based Dominican Women's Development Center. Political opportunities have most likely also been missed, she said.

Max Castro, senior research associate at the University of Miami-based North-South Center, pointed out, "The importance of not having your own check-box is you're not seen as a significant group."

The ability to distinguish among the national-origin groups is crucial to understanding the Hispanic experience, says the report. It recommends that the Census Bureau utilize the wide range of data available to ensure a more accurate understanding of the U.S. Latino population.

The report, titled "Hispanic Populations and Their Residential Patterns in the Metropolis," is available free online at www.albany.edu/mumford/census/; or contact SUNY at Albany, 1400 Washington Ave., SS 388A, Albany, NY 12222. The phone number is: (518) 442-4652.

Como resultado de no contar el total del grupo de dominicanos, la población perdió aproximadamente \$4 mil millones en financiamiento para sectores como la educación, el Seguro Social y la salud, dice Rosita Romero, directora ejecutiva del Centro para el Desarrollo de la Mujer Dominicana, con base en Nueva York. Es probable que se haya perdido también oportunidades políticas, dijo.

Max Castro, principal asesor de investigación del Centro Norte-Sur basado en la Universidad de Miami, señaló que "El problema de que un grupo no tenga su propia categoría es que no se le percibe como un grupo significativo".

El poder distinguir entre los diferentes grupos nacionales es crucial a la comprensión de la experiencia hispana, dice el estudio. Recomendamos que la Oficina del Censo utilice la amplia gama de información que tiene a su disposición para asegurar una comprensión más clara de la población de latinos en los Estados Unidos.

Segun Expertos, El Censo Subestimo Por Mucho el Crecimiento 'Nuevo Latino'

Por Arlene Martinez

La misma oficina del censo 2000 estadounidense admite que no contó completamente los tres grupos hispanos más importantes, pero donde más falló fue en medir el crecimiento entre los 'nuevos latinos' que desaparecieron entre el grupo de "otros hispanos".

Llegaron a esta conclusión varios expertos en asuntos demográficos y comunitarios de la costa este que se reunieron en Trinity College en Washington, D.C., para comparar sus investigaciones independientes el 8 de mayo.

Se centró mucho de lo discutido en lo que halló un estudio hecho por el Lewis Mumford Center for Comparative Urban and Regional

Research de la Universidad de Albany, Nueva York. El estudio analiza información de los censos de 1990 y el 2000, además de la encuesta de 1998-2000 titulada Current Population Survey (encuesta sobre la población actual).

Mientras que la oficina del censo calculó un total de 27 por ciento del crecimiento de la población proveniente de países centroamericanos durante la década de los noventa, el estudio Mumford calculó que fuera de 106%. El número de inmigrantes sudamericanos incrementó en un 98 por ciento, según las cifras del estudio, mientras que el censo calculó que fuera 31 por ciento.

Lo más importante fue que la po-

blación estadounidense oriunda de la República Dominicana aumentó de 537,000 a 1.12 millones, mantienen los expertos del estudio Mumford, un desafío al cálculo de 520,000 a 765,000 declarado por el censo. Como con los mexicanos, la oleada más reciente de inmigrantes dominicanos ocurrió en la última década.

La nueva cifra convierte a los dominicanos en el cuarto grupo más grande de hispanos en Estados Unidos, todavía muchos menos que los mexicanos y los puertorriqueños, pero sólo unos 200,000 menos que los cubanos.

"Que no se cuente una población resulta muchas veces en que no sea servida ni representada", le dijo a

Hispanic Link el director del Centro Lewis Mumford, John Logan. "Se toman decisiones todos los años: a quién nombrar para representar una comunidad, cómo hacer delineamientos. Si creen representar a una comunidad más pequeña de lo que es en realidad, es imposible que cumplan adecuadamente con su función".

El defecto más grande del cuestionario del censo 2000 fue omitir los "ejemplos", señaló el estudio. Además de los grandes grupos de mexicanos, puertorriqueños y cubanos, los responsables debían marcar otra categoría de hispano, pero, a diferencia del cuestionario para el 1990, no había ejemplos de otras categorías que sirvieran de guía.

Entonces, uno de cada seis latinos que respondió al censo -- el 17.3 por ciento -- fue agrupado en la categoría "otros hispanos".

Son notables las diferencias: se contaron 6.2 millones de "otros hispanos" sin origen nacional específico en el 2000, casi el doble del total para 1990.

Para retar los números del censo, el estudio cita el ejemplo de los salvadoreños en California. En 1990, la oficina del censo calculó que había 339,000 salvadoreños en el estado, pero encontró sólo 273,000 una década más tarde. Y en Miami, se contó 69,000 nicaragenses, que habían sido 74,000 en 1990.

El estudio dice que las dos cifras son difíciles de creer.

Will Latino Backlash Upend Texas' Dream Team in November

Por Carlos Conde

When Henry Cisneros, perhaps the Hispanics' most influential public figure in Texas today, decided to campaign openly for African-American Ron Kirk against fellow Latino Víctor Morales in the recent Democratic senate runoff in U.S. Senate, all pretenses of an existing ethnic political brotherhood were erased.

Other high-profile Latino politicians joined Cisneros in campaigning against Morales. The Latino connection helped Kirk beat Morales handily and probably sent the latter into political oblivion.

Not that there ever was a rigid ethnic code. Politics is largely an inexact science. Its only protocol is doing whatever it takes to get elected or to remain politically viable. The rest is cosmetics. The "us-against-them" philosophy once had a strong currency among Latinos in political races, if only because back then, there were so few seeking a prominent public office.

Cisneros seems to have now buried that forever. He apparently was convinced Kirk, the former Dallas mayor, was better qualified to be senator than Morales. Where in the past such harborings may have been more guarded, Cisneros this time went beyond the usual endorsement by stumping with him in predominantly Latino areas and airing television commercials on his behalf

during the final days.

Cisneros wasn't the only prominent Latino to campaign against Morales. Texas' five Hispanic Democrats in Congress also ganged up on Morales, endorsing and campaigning for Kirk. In summary, they said Morales was a loser anyway, suggesting that the Latino vote could be better spent on a more qualified black candidate and in turn boosting Tony Sánchez's race for governor in November through, hopefully, African-American reciprocity.

Sánchez, knowing he's going to need all the help he can get from the Latino constituency but also eyeing African Americans as a much-needed swing vote, tactfully gave Kirk a last-minute endorsement. Rep. Charlie González, who replaced his late father, Henry B., in Congress, told Congress's Roll Call that papa Henry B.'s politics had always been more egalitarian than ethnic.

Maybe so, but as a reporter on Texas newspapers and in Washington, I remember an early Henry B. wrapping himself with the ethnic flag when the situation called for it. Latino politicians in Washington do so still.

Actually, Morales wasn't seen as unelectable as his Latino brothers depicted him. He may be just an ordinary schoolroom teacher, but he

proved he could strike the right chord with a lot of voters in a statewide race. In 1996, he beat a pack of candidates for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate and scared the wits out of current Senator Phil Gramm before finally winding up with 44 percent of the vote. Gramm spent \$14 million to beat Morales, who spent \$1 million. In this year's primary, Morales again ran a pauper's campaign compared to Kirk, who reported spending \$2.5 million as of March.

Now that Morales is history, the Democrats call the slate of Sánchez, Kirk and the white state comptroller, John Sharp, running for lieutenant governor, their "dream team." The Rev. Jessie Jackson would call it the "rainbow coalition." An aide to Republican gubernatorial candidate, John Cornyn, describes it as "a racial quota system."

A preliminary analysis by the Latino research group William C. Velásquez Institute found that 17.2 percent of Latino registered voters cast ballots in the Democratic primary. That's double the total Democratic turnout of 8.4 percent.

The Sánchez candidacy in the general election will no doubt galvanize a lot of Hispanic voters. Sánchez has touted his pride in his Latino ancestry. Many Latinos are

still sentimental about their origins, regardless of their value now in the political equation. African Americans usually generate about 10 percent of the voter turnout. Political experts say the Democrats' "dream team" needs at least 30 percent of the white vote. Put them all together and the Democrats can once again sing their party anthem, "Happy Days Are Here Again."

All these cheerful projections come with one caveat, however, particularly in the Latino column. In political parlance, it's called the backlash.

A lot of Democratic Latino voters backed Morales. They might just be plain mad about the shabby treatment Morales received from the Latino political leadership in Texas and, as a comeuppance, vote Republican or not vote at all.

They might not be that enthusiastic about voting for Kirk or even Sánchez, now that the Latino leaders have told them ethnicity isn't that important in politics anymore. However, be ready to heat up the tamales again, folks. Kirk and Sánchez and the usual Latino suspects are sure to come calling again, this time wrapped up in all the requisite ethnic colors. In case you're wondering, it's a game called politics.

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Does Mexico's "whole enchilada" idea have Mexican-American support?

By Patrick Osio, Jr.

Juan Hernandez, head of the office for Mexican immigrants in the United States, recently remarked that Mexico wants the "whole enchilada" - amnesty for those illegally in the United States; and noting the US needs at least 1.5 million foreign laborers every year that Mexico is the obvious country where such workers are available. The whole enchilada is amnesty and a guest worker program.

The 2000 Census estimated the presence of between 3.5 to 5.5 million Mexicans illegally in the US. Assume we agree on 4.5 million - does this mean that if they are given amnesty there will no longer be a need for any more Mexican laborers to enter the US? Or does it mean amnesty to the 4.5 million here, plus 1.5 million guest-workers each year? If we do it that way, when does the next group get amnesty? Do we wait until the 2010 Census to determine how many are here illegally and figure out how many annual laborers are needed, and start all over gain?

Mr. Hernandez also mentions that there are 23 million people in the US of Mexican origin, with the implication the group as a majority, will be supportive of Mexico's "whole enchilada" concept.

I think Mr. Hernandez may not understand the make up of US citizens of Mexican heritage. The original adult Mexican immigrants, no different than those from other countries, spent their life here referring to Mexico as "back home," but made their "new" home and new life here. Their native language was Spanish, and English, limited or fluent, their second language.

The children of those immigrants born in the US are no longer immigrants. Their reference to "back home" is their US place of birth and childhood. Succeeding generations no longer feel as part of Mexico, though retaining some or a lot of the inherited culture and language in varying degrees of fluency. They may feel Mexican, but as a culture - Latinos, Chicanos, Raza or by whatever name they choose to identify their roots. But the point is - not Mexican as in Mexican nationals. They owe and feel no allegiance or obligation to Mexico. At best what they care for or even love is - things Mexican - the people, the humor, food, soccer, boxing, music, fiestas, tequila and other such things associated with Mexico or its culture.

Mr. Hernandez has been traveling throughout the US meeting with numerous Mexican-American chambers and organizations. He is received warmly, and given moral and even active support for his quest to improve the lot of Mexican immigrants still citizens of Mexico. Hernandez has suggested Mexican-Americans invest in Mexico's economic development, which in turn will create jobs and better the situation. The idea is well received, and underway to some degree.

But Hernandez should understand that the first mandate of all those organizations is to their community here in the US. Yes, they support the idea that Mexican nationals apply and obtain driver's licenses with its mandate to carry liability insurance. They understand that children brought here illegally by their parents are not themselves illegal immigrants, but undocumented immigrants, so they are supportive of educational benefits for them. And they support allowing those children who know no other life than the one in the United States be allowed to apply for citizenship. And yes, they defend the legal, civil, and constitutional rights of all including those here illegally from Mexico.

However, on the "whole enchilada" ideas Mr. Hernandez is promoting, the questions still to be considered and debated are - is amnesty best for both Mexico and the US? Does the US need a guest-work program and if so how many? How will this affect Mexican-American employment? It was Mexican inability to create economic and equal opportunity for all its citizens that created the need to migrate. So what are Mexico's concrete plans to stop the need for continuing waves of illegal immigrants?

Because if Mr. Hernandez believes that US citizens of Mexican heritage will support ideas or programs not in the best interest of their native country - the US - he might find Mexican-Americans prefer burritos over enchiladas.

Patrick Osio, Jr. is Editor of HispanicVista.Com, and online publication.

COMMENTARY

Estrada a "high class" Latino is too classy to be appointed to the bench.

Letter from Rudy Acuna to Senator Kennedy
Senator Edward Kennedy senator@kennedy.senate.gov
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C.
Dear Senator Kennedy:
Re: Nomination of Miguel Estrada

I am of Mexican extraction, born in Los Angeles, and have been actively involved in the Mexican American and Latino communities for more than forty years. During this tenure I have worked for US Mexican representation while simultaneously focusing on education, working for years as a volunteer in preschool ventures. All the while I pursued my doctorate at night school receiving a Ph.D. in Latin American Studies from the University of Southern California. I give this introduction so you will know that I have been involved and have a stake in that community.

Over the years I have come to the conclusion that we made a tremendous error in pushing US Mexicans for appointed positions just based on the color of their skin. Here I am differentiating between elected and appointed positions because at least in the former instance there is a filtering process and people get the opportunity to know a person's record. With appointed positions that person reflects the ideology of the person appointing him or her, and the people who the appointee is supposed to represent have no say in the matter. In California during the Clinton Administration Samuel Paz was nominated to the federal bench but his name was withdrawn because of opposition from law enforcement groups who opposed him because he had been president of the local

American Civil Liberties Union and represented largely poor Latinos in police abuse cases. Paz was a popular choice and was a product of that community.

With Miguel Estrada, we have a person who is not from the Latino community who has not identified in any manner with that community. Estrada comes from a different class of Latinos who do not identify with the aspirations of most Latinos. I make an issue of this because we cannot afford to have people in high office who do not know our community but by virtue of the fact that they have a Spanish-surname will be considered spokespersons for US Latinos. Indeed, President Bush is making the appointment because he is a Latino and for him to say otherwise is hypocritical.

The tactic of the Bush administration is insidious. George Bush I appointed Clarence Thomas, hardly a Justice Marshall. George II is positioning himself to appoint Estrada, an upper class Latino who has no organic roots to Latinos overall. My life has been spent largely with one sector of the contested identity of those called Latinos, the US Mexican. While I do not believe that being of Mexican extraction is essential for the appointee, expecting him to know the issues of this community and the barriers they face to equality before the law is reasonable. Frankly, if Estrada were of Mexican extraction, had come to this country at the age of 17, and had similar class attitudes, I would not be supporting him.

It is intellectually dishonest to claim that Estrada represents Latinos, considering his privileged class position, and his lack of bonding with those who he is supposed to represent. It is hypocrisy and I urge you to oppose his nomination.

Sincerely,
/s/ Rodolfo F. Acuna, Ph.D.

California State University, Northridge

¿Desconcertara La Reacción Latina Al Equipo Ideal de Texas en Noviembre?

Por Carlos Conde

Cuando Henry Cisneros, posiblemente la figura pública hispana más influyente en Texas hoy día, decidió hacer campaña abiertamente por el candidato africano americano Ron Kirk y contra otro latino, Víctor Morales, durante la reciente elección de desempate demócrata por la plaza senatorial al congreso, todas las apariencias de una hermandad política étnica se borraron.

Otros políticos latinos de renombre se aliaron a Cisneros e hicieron campaña en contra de Morales. La conexión latina ayudó a Kirk a derrotar a Morales con facilidad y es probable que lo haya sepultado en el olvido político.

No se trata de que haya habido alguna vez un código étnico rígido. En general, la política es una ciencia inexacta. El único protocolo que respeta es el de lo que sirva para ser elegido o para mantenerse viable políticamente. El resto es accesorio. En algún momento, la filosofía de "nosotros contra ellos" tuvo entre latinos en contiendas políticas un valor alto, aunque fuera sólo porque entonces había tan pocos compitiendo por puestos públicos importantes.

Cisneros parece haber enterrado esa práctica para siempre. Parece haber estado convencido de que Kirk, el antiguo alcalde de Dallas, estaba mejor calificado para ser senador que Morales. Si bien en el pasado este tipo de opinión se hubiera disimulado, esta vez Cisneros fue más allá del respaldo acostumbrado y acompañó a su favorito en visitas a áreas predominantemente

latinas, y transmitió comerciales de televisión en favor del candidato durante los últimos días de campaña.

Cisneros no fue tampoco el único latino reconocido que hizo campaña contra Morales. Los cinco miembros congresionales demócratas latinos de Texas también se aliaron en contra de Morales, y respaldaron e hicieron campaña a favor de Kirk. En resumen, dijeron que Morales era el candidato perdedor de cualquier forma, y dieron a entender que el voto latino se podía utilizar mejor en un candidato negro mejor calificado y aumentar, a su vez, las probabilidades de ganar de Tony Sánchez en su carrera por la gobernación en noviembre, mediante la reciprocidad, se espera, de los africanos americanos.

Sánchez, como sabe que necesita toda la ayuda que pueda conseguir del electorado latino y, al mismo tiempo, que necesita votos africano americanos decisivos, respaldó con sutileza de última hora a Kirk.

El representante Charlie González, que reemplazó a su difunto padre, Henry B., en el Congreso, dijo al periódico del Congreso, Roll Call, que la política de su papá siempre fue mas igualitaria que étnica.

Quizás haya sido así, pero como reportero de periódicos tejanos y corresponsal en Washington, recuerdo a un Henry B. en sus comienzos, que se cobijaba bajo la manta étnica si la situación lo ameritaba. Los políticos latinos de Washington todavía lo hacen.

De hecho, a Morales no se le veía tan ilegible como sus pares lati-

nos lo pintaban. Puede que sea sólo un sencillo maestro pero demostró que podía resonar con muchos votantes en una contienda en la esfera estatal.

En 1996, superó a una manada de candidatos y obtuvo la nominación demócrata por el senado federal e hizo sudar al senador actual, Phil Gramm, antes de terminar con el 44 por ciento del voto. Gramm gastó \$14 millones para superar a Morales, que gastó \$1 millón. En las primarias de este año Morales volvió a dirigir una campaña de pobres en comparación con la de Kirk, que dijo haber gastado \$2.5 millones hasta marzo.

Ahora que Morales es historia, los demócratas llaman la combinación en la papeleta de Sánchez, Kirk y el contralor blanco John Sharp, que compite por vicegobernador, su "equipo ideal". El Reverendo Jesse Jackson lo llamaría la "coalición arcoiris". Un ayudante del candidato republicano para gobernador, John Cornyn, lo describe como un "sistema de cuota racial".

Un análisis preliminar del grupo de investigación latino William C. Velásquez Institute descubrió que 17.2 por ciento de los electores latinos inscritos votaron en la primaria demócrata. Eso constituye el doble de la participación demócrata general de 8.4 por ciento. La candidatura de Sánchez en la elección general sin duda motivará a participar a muchos votantes hispanos. Sánchez ha proclamado su orgullo por su descendencia latina. Muchos latinos todavía se emocionan por

At The Press Club, Learning from the Pros

By Kay Barbaro

Who's a Hispanic newsmaker? Name one. Name 10. Name 100. Is Raquel Welch on your list? She's not? Well, beat my burro with a broomstick. You just don't understand how news is manufactured in our nation's capital.

Raquel came to town this month to address the National Press Club in its 13th-floor ballroom as its big newsmaker of the week. The club invites heads of state, billionaires, notorious headline grabbers and the

like to appear before this country's elite capital press corps and any guests they bring along who are willing to shell out \$35 for a modest midday meal. The event is regularly carried and repeated several times on C-Span, so maybe you saw it.

The catch to being invited as a Press Club "newsmaker" is that a certain number of tickets must be sold or you don't qualify as newsworthy. Thus, lobby groups and

others with deep pockets can buy their fame, whereas poorer folks like some of my favorite Hispanic leaders don't fit the profile.

Because Raquel is Latina, Hispanic Link News Service publisher Charlie Erickson was invited to sit at the head table. It was a bit of surprise to him because, as a member of the club's speakers committee for the past year, he had suggested names of several Latinos whom he felt were visionaries or

had important things to say. The response was, "Who are they?"

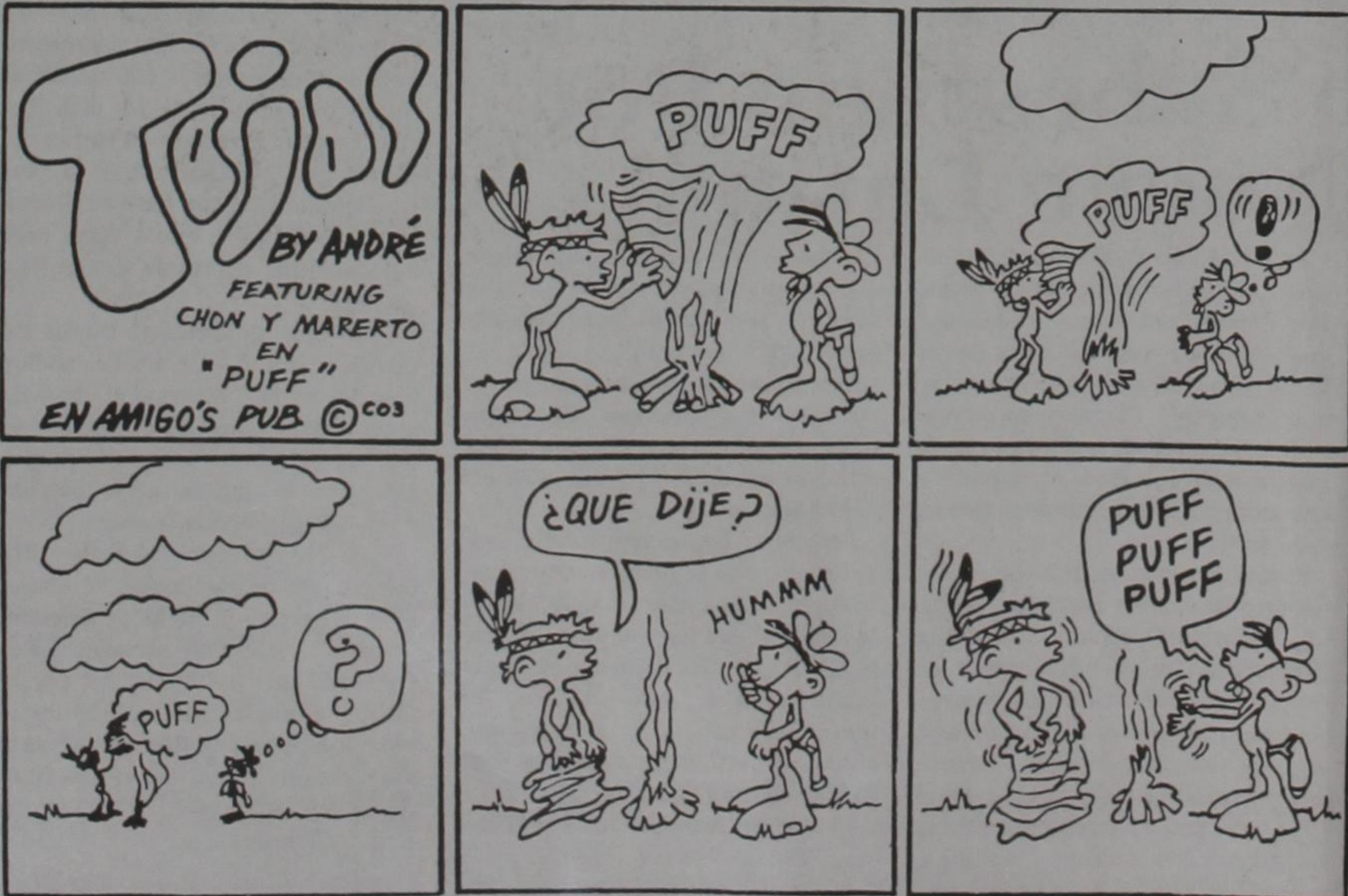
At his first committee meeting, Erickson deliberately omitted the name of Linda Chávez, who had just been dumped as George W. Bush's choice for secretary of labor. He was quickly educated by a couple of fellow committee members that she was the type of Hispanic they might approve. One who kept an undocumented maid.

Nonetheless, when he was told this month that Raquel -- "Citizen Raquel" she titled her presentation - was the newsmaker, he traded his guayabera for a coat and tie, and went dutifully to the head table. He took along a young Hispanic Link intern, Ron Edwards, so Ron could observe how, with probing questions, the journalist pros pry good stories out of public figures.

Raquel, whom Erickson remembered from his NBC days in the early 1960s as a Hollywood starlet sex symbol, first rewarded her audience by parading up and down the stage, inviting applause for her still-trim body. Then she talked about patriotism and how much she admired the president and his war on terrorism. She cried twice on cue as she described the bravery of our fighting men.

Finally, she got to what made her a Washington newsmaker: She was a skill for "American Family," the TV program that CBS gave to PBS because it wasn't a very good show.

continued on page 3



Prolongan El Valor De Los Viejos Pasaportes Fronterizos

El presidente George W. Bush firmó ayer la ley de seguridad, que aumenta la vigilancia en las fronteras y da una extensión de cinco meses para que los mexicanos con tarjetas fronterizas vencidas puedan entrar a Estados Unidos nuevamente.

En ese período los mexicanos con este documento tendrán que hacer una renovación para obtener las visas láser que ahora son requisito para entrar al país.

El congresista Solomon Ortiz, demócrata, que representa desde Corpus Christi hasta el Valle del Río Grande en el sur de Texas, enfatizó que se trata de un triunfo, pero aclaró que las micas (tarjetas) únicamente serán válidas hasta el 1 de octubre.

"Esperábamos una extensión de un año pero nos conformamos con cinco meses", explicó durante una entrevista desde Washington, D.C. "No se duerman... aprovechen esta oportunidad para sacar las visas láser nuevas, porque no habrá una segunda extensión. El proceso para sacar el nuevo documento tarda menos de 40 minutos".

Favor a la economía
Explicó que la ley no sólo beneficiará a los que cruzan la frontera sino a la economía de Estados Unidos. La ley será efectiva en unos cuantos días para darle al Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización (INS) tiempo para recibir las miles de personas que se esperan crucen las fronteras.

"Esto proporcionará un impulso a la economía, porque la gente podrá venir a comprar mandados, ropa, gasolina, a todas las fronteras con México", agregó el congresista. "Si en realidad quiere ver a sus familiares y comprar productos en Estados Unidos arregle sus visas láser ahora", dijo. "No espere hasta el final".

Francisco Arcaute, vocero del INS en Los Angeles, dijo que no podía hacer ningún comentario porque no tenía un documento oficial.

Por su parte, Javier Díaz de León, cónsul alterno del Consulado General de México en San Diego, beneficiará a un número significativo de mexicanos que viven en Tijuana y que por falta de tiempo no reno-

varon sus tarjetas de cruce fronterizo por las "visas láser".

"Estamos en espera de que las autoridades locales de inmigración nos den los pormenores de la ley para saber de qué manera vamos a colaborar en lo que se refiere a información a los connacionales", comentó Díaz de León.

La propuesta además aumentará el salario de los agentes y asignará fondos para que el Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización (INS) contrate 400 nuevos investigadores e inspectores.

Díaz dijo que esperan que ambas autoridades unan esfuerzos para detectar a los traficantes de personas y se ayude a prevenir más muertes en la frontera.

El Senado aprobó la propuesta un mes antes de que la Cámara de Representantes diera el visto bueno. Además de endurecer el control de visitantes extranjeros, la ley también requiere que el INS establezca un sistema de rastreo de los inmigrantes que entran al país con visas estudiantiles.

El sistema se encargará de asegurarse que los estudiantes se matriculen en las instituciones educativas donde estudiarán, y vigilará sus entradas y salidas. Varios de los presuntos responsables de los atentados del 11 de septiembre estaban en el país con visas estudiantiles, algunos de ellos sin jamás haber asistido a clases.

La ley también requiere que los pasaportes estadounidenses que se emitan a partir de 2003 sean a prueba de fraude, y exige que los visitantes de otros países presenten documentos que pueden ser leídos por los sistemas de escáner, incluidas las huellas dactilares.

"La legislación provee a las dependencias encargadas de mantener la seguridad en las fronteras --que incluyen el INS, la Patrulla Fronteriza, el Servicio de Aduana, el Departamento de Estado y la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones (FBI), entre otros-- con la estructura, la tecnología y los recursos necesarios para hacer el trabajo", dijo la senadora Dianne Feinstein, demócrata de California. "Ayuda a cerrar las brechas de seguridad que existen en las fronteras".

Carter Gives Cuba Critical Speech

It was not immediately clear if Carter's Tuesday night speech, broadcast across Cuba, would turn out to be more than a dramatic goodwill concession by Cuban President Fidel Castro toward the former American president who did more than any other to try to ease tensions between their two nations.

For many Cubans, it was the first time they had heard such a public airing of opinions that differ from their government's views. For some it caused discomfort, but many expressed optimism about Carter's hopeful words on improving relations.

"On the day that relations between our countries are normalized, Cuba should thank Carter," said Gisela Frances, a 36-year-old office worker. "He has planted an important little seed."

Castro, who had been shunned by current and former American presidents for four decades, welcomed Carter with a promise that he could meet anyone, say anything, and speak his mind over Cuba's state broadcast network.

Democracy, Carter told viewers in heavily accented Spanish, "is based on some simple premises: all citizens are born with the right to choose their own leaders, to define their own destiny, to speak freely, to organize political parties, trade unions and non-governmental groups and to have fair and open trials."

"Your constitution recognizes freedom of speech and association, but other laws deny these freedoms to those who disagree with the government," Carter added.

He balanced comments on Cuba's system with a call for the United States to end the embargo on U.S. trade and travel that for 40 years has failed in its expressed purpose of bringing change in Cuba.

Census:

More In U.S. Speak Spanish

Luis Espinoza started a Spanish-language newspaper in Jackson, Miss. Steve Morris learned some Spanish and hired a bilingual salesperson at his lumber products store in Santa Ana, Calif.

With the explosive growth of the Hispanic population over the 1990s came an increase in the number of U.S. residents speaking Spanish at home, according to 2000 census figures released so far for 13 states.

But the effects of that trend go far beyond what language is spoken in conversation around the family dinner table.

In places like Santa Ana in California - one of 10 states to receive more detailed data Tuesday - that means many city workers being required to know two languages, and businesses making changes to attract new clients.

Business from Hispanic customers spreads more by word-of-mouth than advertising, said Morris, manager at Austin Hardwoods in Santa Ana.

"Latino contractors mainly have Latino customers, but as they grow and become more successful, their customers will come from all over the map," Morris said. Three-quarters of Santa Ana's population is Hispanic.

Meanwhile, some communities in the Midwest and South that only started attracting large waves of



"Our two nations have been trapped in a destructive state of belligerence for 42 years, and it is time for us to change our relationship," he said.

"Because the United State is the most powerful nation, we should take the first step," Carter added, urging "unrestricted travel between the United States and Cuba," and an end to the U.S. embargo.

In a historic moment of domestic promotion for Cuba's dissident movement, Carter praised the Varela Project, which gathered 11,020 signatures to appeal — under Cuba's constitution — for a referendum on rights such as free speech, free assembly and freedom to create a business.

"When Cubans exercise this freedom to change laws peacefully by a direct vote, the world will see that Cubans, and not foreigners, will decide the future of this country," said Carter.

For many Cubans, it was the first

time they had heard of the Varela Project. Given an opportunity to comment, pro-government members of the audience attacked the project as a U.S. plot.

Castro offered only lukewarm applause as Carter finished his speech, but smiled as Carter expressed gratitude for the chance to speak.

In a sign that there were no hard feelings, Castro accompanied Carter in throwing out the first ball at Cuba's All-Star baseball game, and sat beside him for four innings — often chatting and gesturing in ways that suggested they were discussing baseball.

While many Cubans said they had listened to Carter's words, the reaction was muted — and circumspect — in the streets of Old Havana.

Unlike many other countries in Latin America, Cuba has no polling industry, so public reaction is nearly impossible to gauge.

Carter's speech "was excellent," said housewife Landolina Tenerero, 57. "He's the only one who has spoken correctly about things here." Asked if that could mean change, she said, "anything can happen here."

Francisco Cordero, a 37-year-old industrial worker, grinned as he said that Carter's speech was "very good." He said he agreed with Carter's call for better relations with the United States. Asked about the Varela project, he added, tersely, "The same."

Carter — who traveled here with official permission from the U.S. government, which licenses all American travel to Cuba — did not spare his own country, pointing to America's large prison population, inequalities in applying the death penalty, and the shortcomings of health care.

"Still, guaranteed civil liberties offer every citizen an opportunity to change these laws," he said.

from Latin America surged from 18 percent to about 42 percent.

In California, 12.4 million residents said they spoke a language other than English at home. Of that total, 65 percent spoke Spanish.

In Oregon, a smaller percentage of those speaking Spanish at home say they can also speak English "very well" - 46 percent in 2000, down from 56 percent a decade earlier.

Daniel Juarez runs Immigration Project, a Granite City, Ill.-based operation which helps new immigrants in southern Illinois gain citizenship. Many of his clients came

to work in the area plant and tree nurseries; others are migrant farm workers.

Over 1.2 million Illinois residents spoke Spanish at home, though nearly half of them lived in Chicago.

When it comes to services, Hispanics in the rural area he serves are still being neglected, said Juarez, an immigrant from Peru. "They struggle for services because (the population) is still growing," he said.

The figures may also stir more debate on the best way for U.S.

continued on page 5

Press Club

from page 2

Raquel has a recurring role in it.

Hispanic Link TV critic Antonio Mejias-Rentas, who defines "American Family" as a "lamer version" of another Latino TV entry, "Resurrection Boulevard," has made the comment that "Raquel Welch's passing as a Mexican American on the show is an embarrassing insult to dozens of good, unemployed Chicana actors."

Born to a Bolivian father named Tejada and U.S. mother, Raquel told the gathered press she was so proud of her Latin heritage that when she broke into films, she resisted Hollywood pressure for her to change her name. She kept "Raquel."

What happened to "Tejada" she didn't say.

Erickson hung in there through dessert and coffee. Aware of Raquel's very limited contact with the Latino community until her occasional "American Family" role, he responded to the request of emcee Jack Cushman, weekend editor of The New York Times' Washington bureau, for members of the audience to write questions on little cards for Raquel to field, and pass them forward.

Erickson scribbled: "What U.S. Hispanic organizations or leaders do you work with or relate to now, other than those connected with

'American Family'?" Sorting and reading card after card, Cushman recited the questions to Raquel.

Who are your favorite actors? (No Latino ones occurred to her.)

What movies have you liked in the last couple of years? (No Latino ones occurred to her.)

Tell us about your private ventures? (Longer, much, much longer, commercial on her beauty-product and wig business.)

What advice would you give single mothers who still want sex in their lives? (Honestly, that was the question. Raquel said something like be discrete and don't let the children watch.) Finally: Do you speak Spanish? (Not much, but I want to learn because I'm planning my first trip to Bolivia to visit my father's family.)

Apparently, the N.Y. Times' Cushman saw no news value to Erickson's question. He never asked it.

As for the meal, on the way back to the Link office, our young reporter Ron stopped off at Popeye's and ordered a three-piece chicken special, with rice and beans and a biscuit.

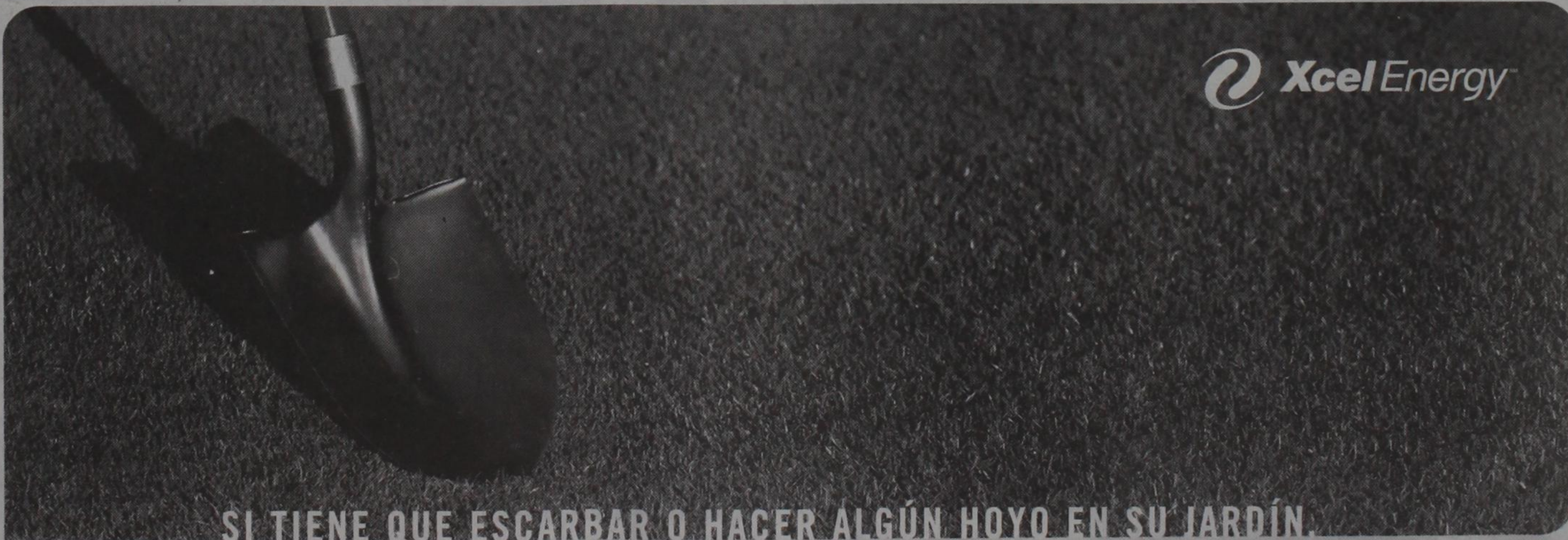
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President Pushes for Faith Programs in Welfare

Republicans were pushing tougher work rules and more money for marriage as debate over how to best aid the poor moved to the House floor.

As Congress works to renew its landmark 1996 welfare law, minority Democrats want more dollars for child care. They also want to give states the power to put more people into education and training in hopes of helping welfare recipients move up the job ladder.

Democrats were not likely to prevail in what shaped up to be a party-line issue in the House, where debate was beginning Wednesday. The Republican bill closely mirrors the plan put forth by President Bush. Votes in House committees were virtually all along party lines. Rather, liberals hoping to shape

the final outcome were turning their attention to the Senate, where moderates from both parties were working on compromise legislation likely to embrace some of what each party wants.

House Republicans were doing what they could to spotlight the debate, which they see as a political winner. Disputes aside, strategists reason that any debate serves to remind voters of their 1996 legislation that pushed work and helped to cut the welfare rolls by more than half. They're betting that voters won't pay much attention to the details of the debate and focus on the big picture.

"Six years into welfare reform, the verdict is in: The millions of people who have moved from welfare to work show that Republican

principles of promoting healthy families and independence profoundly benefit the poor," House Republicans say on their political Web site.

Republicans have made a few moves toward the Democratic position since Bush unveiled his plan. They added \$2 billion over five years for child care, where Bush had no new money. And they made the reduction of poverty an explicit goal of the welfare program, a symbolic move meant to signal that just leaving the rolls and remaining poor isn't good enough.

But serious differences remain. Among them:

Work requirements. Both sides agree that states should be required to put more welfare recipients into

constructive activities. But Republicans want to require 40 hours of work, including at least 24 in a regular job or a community service post.

Democrats — backed by many governors and state officials — say that would force states to create meaningless jobs to fill the quota. Instead, they want a 30-hour work week, and they want to let states count considerably more education and training programs toward meeting those hours.

"Our bill focuses on helping states reduce poverty and increase employment, rather than requiring them to follow a one-size-fits-all, Washington-knows-best approach," leading Democrats wrote in a letter to colleagues Tuesday.

Child care. Democrats want to add \$11 billion over five years for child care — money that pays for vouchers for parents to buy child care when they go to work. Current child care spending is just under \$5 billion a year.

Telemundo Introduces New Reality Shows, Novelas

Telemundo, the No. 2 U.S. Spanish-language broadcaster owned by NBC, on Tuesday unveiled a new fall schedule heavy with reality shows, and previewed a new slate of the telenovelas, or soap operas, that make up the heart of its programming.

On the heels of its popular reality show "Protagonistas de la Novela," which let viewers vote to decide which contestant would join the cast of a telenovela, Telemundo introduced "Protagonistas de la Musica," which lets viewers choose which of seven men and seven women will win a recording contract.

The network will also carry "El Conquistador del fin del Mundo," a reality adventure series, as well as a Spanish-language version of "Temptation Island (news - Y! TV)." NBC, a unit of General Electric Co, completed its \$1.98 billion purchase of Telemundo in April. The Spanish-language station, No. 2 behind market leader Univision Communications, said on Tuesday it would cooperate with NBC in its news and sports coverage, including a partnership between its news magazine "Sin Fronteras" and NBC's "Dateline."

Among the new telenovelas previewed by Telemundo Chief Executive Jim McNamara were "La Venganza," "Vale Todo" and the in-house produced "Poliladron," about a policewoman and thief who become romantically entwined.

The network will also carry a Spanish-language version of "The Wonderful World of Disney," the English-language of which appears on Walt Disney Co.'s ABC network.

Spanish-language media have fared relatively better than their English-speaking peers during the worst advertising slump in memory, reflecting the fast-growing Hispanic demographic. Experts said this year's "upfront" season, when networks sell the bulk of their advertising for the year, was a landmark for Spanish-language stations like Telemundo.

"Corporate advertisers are now very focused on the Hispanic market, so these upfronts will probably get a lot of attention," said Aida Levitan, co-chair and chief executive of Publicis Sanchez & Levitan, the Hispanic marketing and advertising agency that is a part of French ad group Publicis SA. "Census data reveals the tremendous importance of the Hispanic market for growing sales in the present and the future."

The boisterous Telemundo event in New York, which featured a surprise performance by salsa star Celia Cruz, was in stark contrast to more restrained upfronts earlier this week from ABC and NBC.

"The NBC upfront was well received," said Bob Wright, chairman and CEO of NBC and vice chairman of GE, dodging confetti and straining to be heard over a chorus of piercing whistles. "This is a lot more fun."

Bush Plays Politics With Sept. 11 Photo

Washington - Republican donors who pony up at least \$150 are being offered a bonus that has Democrats and campaign finance watchdogs accusing the party of politicizing a national tragedy: a photo of an airborne President George W. Bush coping with the immediate aftermath of the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

The shot, taken by White House photographer Eric Draper, depicts Bush in the midst of an intense telephone conversation with Vice President Dick Cheney as the president flies back on Air Force One to Washington on the day of the attacks.

It is one of three photos offered as a "limited edition series" to those who contribute \$150 or more to one of two Republican congressional campaign committees. The others are from Bush's inauguration and State of the Union speech.

The controversy erupted on the day Bush spoke at a party fundraiser expected to rake in \$30 million, a record for a national-party fund-raising event. The congressional committees offering the photos hold their dinner on June 19.

Bush's aggressive fund-raising schedule is generating millions for Republican candidates.

White House and Republican spokesmen defended the use of the Sept. 11 photo for fund-raising

purposes. "These pictures represent the president at work for the country," said White House spokesman Ari Fleischer. "I think the Democrats are having a very difficult time coming to grips with the fact that this is a very popular president."

Democrats, however, denounced the use of the photo as "grotesque." Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-Manhattan), whose district includes the World Trade Center site, accused Republicans of seeking to "profit from pain." National party chairman Terry McAuliffe called the move "incredibly disrespectful to the families" of those who died in the attacks.

"We know it's the Republicans' strategy to use the war for political gain, but I would hope that even the most cynical partisan operative would have covered at the notion of exploiting the Sept. 11 tragedy in this way," McAuliffe said.

McAuliffe may not be the Democrats' most credible messenger on this issue, given his role as the chief fund-raiser for President Bill Clinton's 1996 re-election campaign. That effort triggered criticism over its systematic marketing of access to Clinton and the White House through coffees and sleepovers for big donors.

But McAuliffe's criticism was echoed by some of the same ethical

watchdog groups that had pilloried his 1996 handiwork. While vastly different in scale, they said, the Republicans' use of the photo raised many of the same questions.

"It's in the same realm," said Steven Weiss of the Center for Responsive Politics, which scrutinizes political fund-raising. "It's not apples-to-apples. But what Bush has consistently accused Clinton of doing is abusing the office of the president for fund-raising purposes. And this [the photo] is certainly a step down that road."

The Republican mailing describes the photos as "specially commissioned, individually numbered and matted."

The mailing includes a letter from Cheney blending Bush's war leadership with politics. It calls the dinner a chance "to honor President Bush for his courageous leadership during this historic time" and to support the administration's effort to win control of Congress.

Fleischer said the White House was "generally aware" that the fund-raising appeal would include photos of Bush but was not specifically told that one of the photos would be from Sept. 11. Fleischer said the photo was released free by the White House to the news media and later turned over to a commercial vendor whom the party committee paid for the rights.

Immigrants. Republicans want to continue to bar legal immigrants from welfare, food stamps, disability and Medicaid programs for their first five years in the country. Democrats want to lift the ban on welfare payments and modify it for other programs.

The GOP bill also includes \$200 million to go to state experiments promoting marriage. The program is designed to draw another \$100 million in state matching money. And it continues the \$50 million-a-year program promoting sexual abstinence, despite Democratic complaints that it's unrealistic to expect that all teens will abstain and therefore birth control should be taught too.

Republicans did marginally scale back an experimental program that would allow states to merge programs that serve the poor together and skirt a host of federal rules in the process.

At the same time, they revived a proposal the GOP was once forced to abandon: allowing states to replace the food stamp program with state-designed programs, their own creations. Under the plan, up to five states could write their own eligibility rules, benefits levels and work requirements.

House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., said Tuesday this would "let thousands of struggling families fend for themselves."

Viva The Sopranos

"Kingpin," a "Sopranos" knockoff and easily NBC's most buzzworthy show, won't debut until at least next winter, but already has tongues wagging.

NBC is describing the six-episode, "limited run" drama as a gritty, realistic drama that spotlights the U.S. government's war against a brutal, family-run narcotics cartel run by a charismatic boss played by Yancy Arias ("The Time Machine").

On paper, the show appears to be a cross between "The Sopranos" and "Traffic," the Oscar-winning, Steven Soderbergh film about Mexican drug trafficking.

NBC officials acknowledge that picking up "Kingpin" - which is expected to include some unsubtitled Spanish in order to attract more Latino viewers - is related to the smash success of HBO's mob opera, "The Sopranos."

The most striking similarity between the two is how the lead characters of both shows are so unconventional - sympathetic bad guys.

"The success of 'The Sopranos' obviously gives us more confidence that people are willing to look at areas and shows that haven't been explored on television, that aren't cop shows or doctor shows," NBC entertainment chief Jeff Zucker said

Ever since "The Sopranos" debuted in 1999, broadcasters have been scrambling to find a way to reproduce the show's buzz at the network level.

But they've had little success because at least part of "The Sopranos" appeal is its obscenity laced, sexually explicit and violence-laced storylines - made impossible on broadcast TV by FCC rules which prohibit such things on public airwaves.


The announcement that "Kingpin" will be on NBC's schedule sometime next season comes exactly one year after NBC president Bob Wright sent a letter to NBC execs and officials at other TV studios and production companies asking for their reactions to "The Sopranos."

The letter appeared to reflect the increasing concern within the TV industry that network broadcasters are at a disadvantage when competing against cable channels because of the tight regulations on sex and violence.

With it, Wright included a controversial episode of "The Sopranos" that featured sex scenes and the beating to death of a prostitute to illustrate the point that networks can't include such content.

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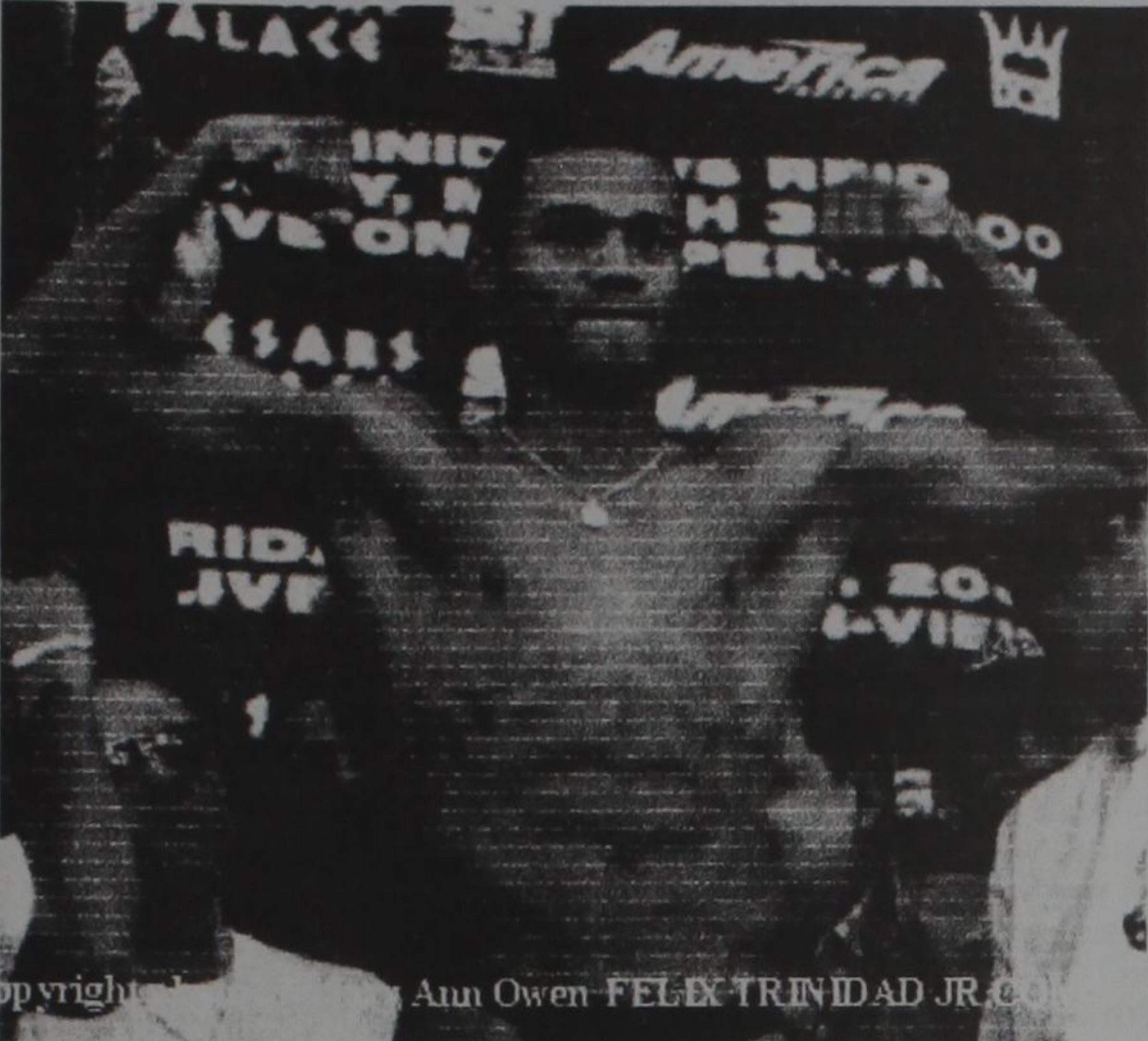
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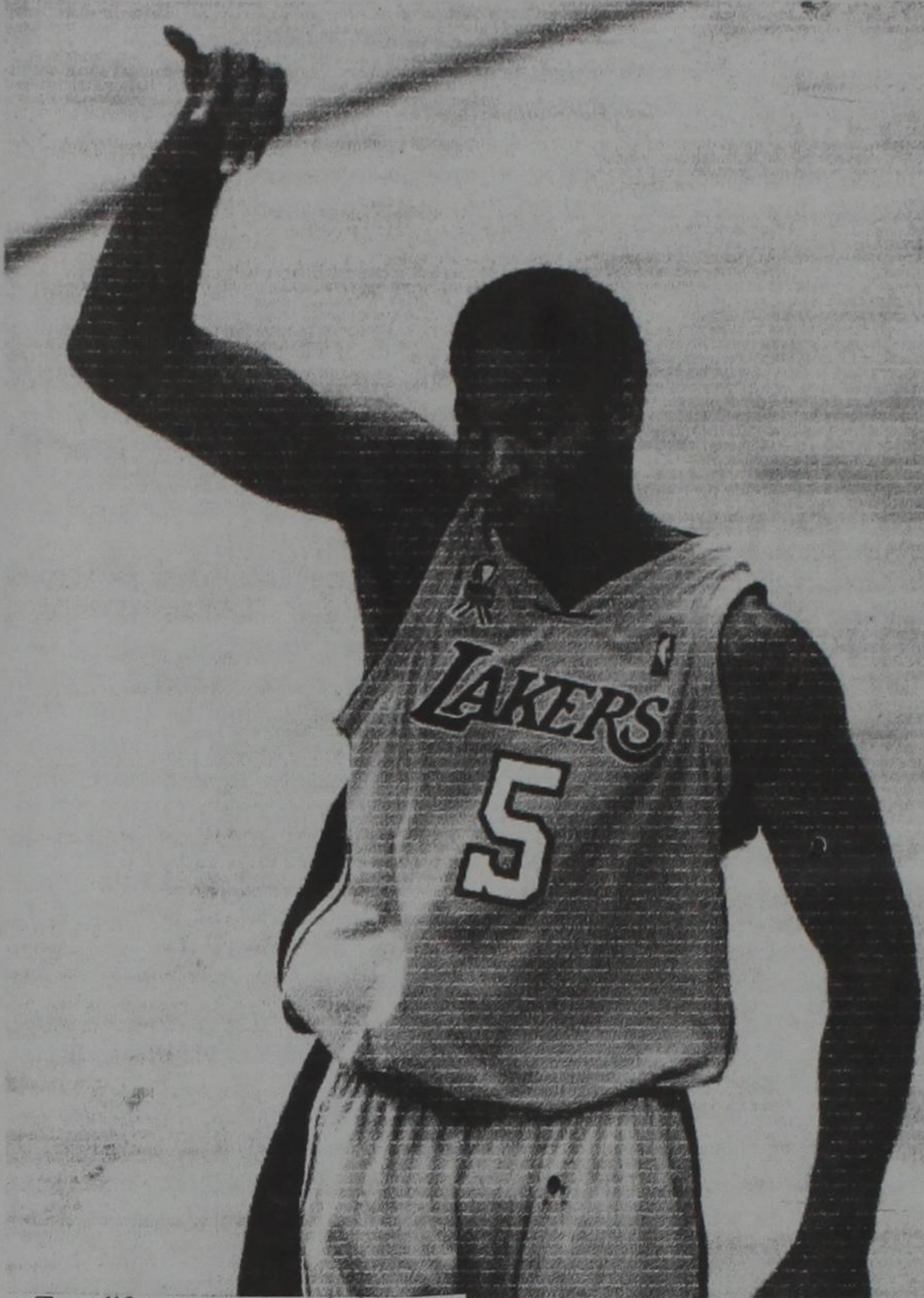
Trinidad Has Mind Set on Hopkins



Felix Trinidad was talking about his next opponent shortly after knocking out French journeyman Hacine Cherifi. "If my next fight is with (Bernard) Hopkins, I assure you that I'm going to make him pay for everything he did and said," Trinidad said, after stopping Cherifi in the fourth round Saturday night of a non-title fight in his hometown. Hopkins handed Trinidad, 29, his

first loss in a middleweight title unification fight on Sept. 29. Adding to Trinidad's ire, Hopkins twice threw the Puerto Rican flag to the floor during the promotion for that bout. He said that he is willing to give Trinidad a rematch. "I want Hopkins," the former middleweight champion said Saturday. "I will chop his neck. Tito Trinidad is back." Trinidad (41-1) backed his words with an impressive performance in front of thousands of his fans. He dominated Cherifi from the first round, knocking him down in the third, and finally dispatching him in the fourth with a right and a powerful left hook to the jaw. Don King, Trinidad's promoter, also wants a fight with Hopkins, but there might be other plans. "There could be a change if Don King wants me to fight Oscar De La Hoya, but I want Hopkins," Trinidad said. "I'm not saying I don't want De La Hoya, because I do. But I want Hopkins first." De La Hoya, who absorbed his first loss in a 1999 fight with Trinidad, is scheduled to fight Fernando Vargas, another Trinidad victim, and has expressed interest in fighting the Puerto Rican again. Trinidad has held the welterweight, super welterweight and middleweight crowns.

Los Lakers Reaccionan y Eliminan a Las Espuelas



Ante la virtual ausencia de Kobe Bryant, quien en el segundo cuarto seguía con dos unidades, el delantero Rick Fox respondió con 10 y también entregó seis asistencias para acortar el marcador a 35-30. Parecía que una embestida local estaba a punto de llegar, pero en ese momento los visitantes anotaron seis puntos y no tuvieron respuesta, para alejarse de nuevo a 41-30. Las Espuelas, a sabiendas de que no había mañana, no regalaban ni un segundo ni un centímetro en la duela. Al regreso del descanso, los Lakers tejieron una embestida de 14-6 para conseguir su primera ventaja del encuentro, 53-51, que fue engañosa porque tuvieron que pasar más de cinco minutos para que volvieran a anotar. El ritmo de los angelinos era un sube y baja inexplicable, pues en ocasiones parecían listos para liquidar a sus rivales, y en otras lucían frágiles ante Duncan. Kobe Bryant comenzó a mejorar en el tercer período, y para el cuarto ya estaba imparable. El partido seguía muy cerrado (66-65) y Duncan llegó a 29 unidades. El chico maravilla estaba convertido en el arma más grande de los de casa, dejó atrás su mala actuación de la primera mitad y volvió a convertirse en la pesadilla de San Antonio. El encuentro se definiría con 4:47 minutos por jugar en el cuarto de la prórroga, cuando Tim Duncan cometió su quinta falta, y por miedo a cometer la sexta disminuyó su agresividad, algo que los laguneros supieron aprovechar para poner broche a la serie y empezar a pensar en Sacramento. En el otro partido de anoche, Boston venció 90-81 a Detroit para clasificarse a la final de la Conferencia del Este.

Tan diferentes como el día y la noche. Así fueron ayer las dos caras que los Lakers de Los Angeles mostraron en su victoria sobre las Espuelas de San Antonio, por marcador final de 93-87. De esa manera, la quinteta local gana la serie 4-1 y avanza a la final de la Conferencia del Oeste, donde enfrentará a los Reyes de Sacramento a partir de este sábado. Kobe Bryant volvió en la segunda mitad para remediar su actuación al marcar 17 puntos en los últimos 24 minutos, y terminará con 26 unidades y ocho rebotes en el encuentro. Shaquille O'Neal acabó con 21 puntos y 11 rebotes, mientras Rick Fox tuvo un gran encuentro al marcar 17 puntos, con siete asistencias. Las Espuelas salieron a jugar con un ritmo intenso durante los primeros 12 minutos, y con tres triples y una clavada de Tim Duncan se fueron arriba 11-6, en tanto los dueños de casa luchaban por encontrar su ritmo de juego. Era claro que Shaquille seguía sufriendo de sus tobillos. Al inicio del primer cuarto, el gigante de ébano hizo muy poco esfuerzo para recoger rebotes ante la marca del centro David Robinson. El delantero rival Tim Duncan estaba implacable, pues pronto el Jugador Más Valioso de la NBA aportó 14 puntos para la causa visitante.

La Ceremonia de los Premios ALMA

El Consejo Nacional de la Raza (NCLR) se vestirá de gala este sábado para presentar la séptima entrega de los premios ALMA, que reconocen el logro artístico y la mejora de la imagen hispana en Estados Unidos. El presentador de la ceremonia será el actor Paul Rodríguez, que pondrá el toque cómico al evento anual.



Este año, la alfombra roja del Shrine Auditorium dará la bienvenida a las más destacadas celebridades latinas del mundo de la música, el cine y la televisión. El español Antonio Banderas y el comediante John Leguizamo recibirán máximos honores durante la noche. Banderas obtendrá el premio Anthony Quinn, mientras que Leguizamo será galardonado como Artista del Año durante la celebración, que será transmitida en diferido el sábado 1 de junio a las 8:00 p.m. por la cadena ABC. Esta es la única ceremonia en horario de máxima audiencia de tema exclusivamente latino que se transmite por la televisión anglosajona. Nuevos y veteranos La gala reunirá a la crema y nata latina, así como a artistas nuevos y veteranos de Hollywood que día a día intentan poner en alto el nombre de los hispanos en este país. Al estrado llegarán, en calidad de presentadores, conocidos actores tanto de la pantalla chica como de

la grande. Tal es el caso de Benjamin Bratt, Matt Cedeño, Howie D., Michael DeLorenzo, Héctor Elizondo, Jay Hernández, Esaí Morales, Edward James Olmos, Raquel Welch, Elizabeth Peña, Tony Plana y Rita Moreno. Por si eso fuera poco, el escenario se llenará de colorido con las actuaciones especiales de Nelly Furtado, Juanes, Freddy Fender, Paulina Rubio, Marc Anthony, La Ley, Ozomatli y A.B. Quintanilla y Los Kumbia Kings. La lista de asistentes es larga. Otras personalidades que se darán cita para aplaudir a sus colegas son Jay Hernández, Nicholas González, Laura Elena Harring, Jacqueline Obradors, Wilmer Valderrama y Marisa Tomei, entre otros. Los premios ALMA fueron creados en 1995 por el Consejo Nacional de La Raza para promover una acertada, precisa y balanceada representación de los latinos en los diferentes medios de comunicación. tion and poverty. Census 2000 figures released last year came from questions asked of all households. Other states to get data Tuesday were Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Alaska, Hawaii and Montana. Data for Nevada, Mississippi and Washington were released last week. Frank Moreno runs a supermarket in Calexico, Calif. that sits a block from the U.S.-Mexico border crossing. About nine of 10 Calexico residents speak Spanish at home.

Ante el impacto de los latinos en el cine, la música y la televisión, el NCLR intenta proveer una respuesta directa al estereotipo negativo de los hispanos en la industria del entretenimiento. Durante el año, el Comité de Calificación y Normas del NCLR para los premios ALMA mantiene archivos sobre críticas y descripciones de actuaciones con temas latinos para sus diferentes categorías, incluyendo actuación, dirección, guión, música y producción. De ahí se determinan los participantes y ganadores del prestigioso galardón. El NCLR fue fundado en 1968 para mejorar las oportunidades de los hispanoamericanos en Estados Unidos. Actualmente representa y ayuda a más de 275 afiliaciones locales, organizaciones comunitarias y programas que proveen servicios sociales, educativos, de alojamiento y de inmigración a más de cuatro millones de latinos en varios estados del país.

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EL EDITOR

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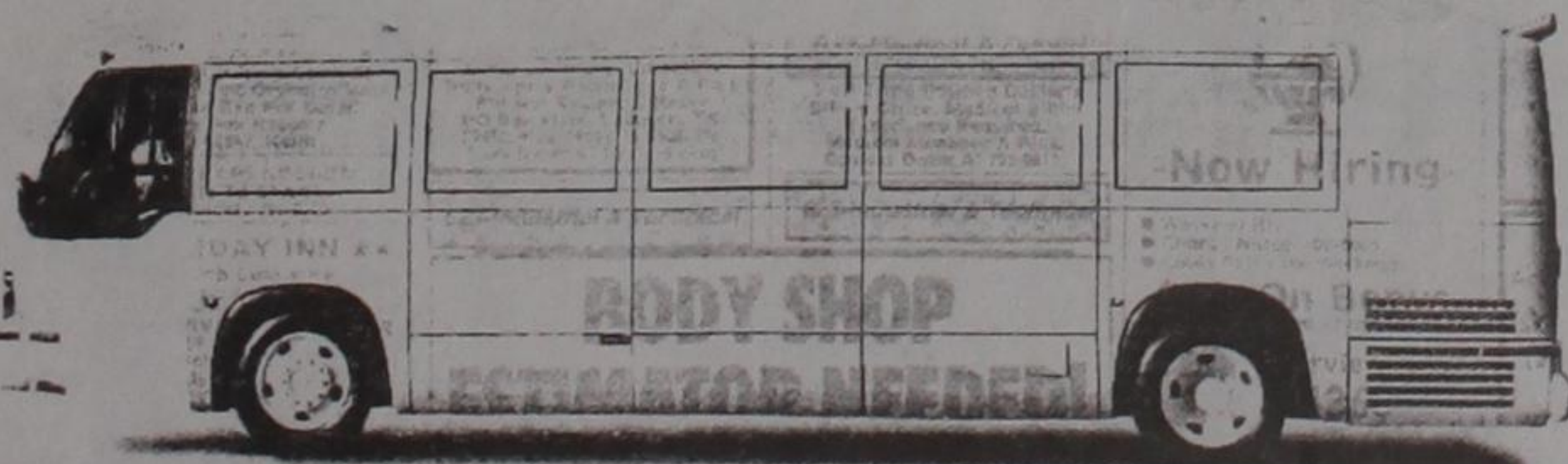
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NEWS @ 10PM

Aprendiendo De Los Expertos En El Club Nacional De La Prensa

Por Kay Bárbaro

¿Qué hispanos son destacados en las primeras planas?

Mencione uno. Mencione diez. Mencione cien.

¿Aparece Raquel Welch en su lista?

¿No aparece? Pues usted no entiende cómo se producen las noticias en la capital de nuestra nación.

Raquel vino este mes a la sala de galas del National Press Club (club de la prensa nacional) en el décimo tercer piso del edificio que lo alberga para dirigirse a tan austera audiencia como su persona reconocida de la semana. El club invita a jefes de estado, multimillonarios, notorios acaparadores de titulares, y gente por el estilo, a aparecer frente a la élite del cuerpo de prensa capitalino nacional y cualquier invitado que esté dispuesto a sacar \$35 por un almuerzo modesto. C-SPAN cubre el evento regularmente y lo transmite varias veces, así que quizás usted lo vio.

El dilema de ser invitado por el Club como una persona reconocida es que se tienen que vender un número de taquillas o no se puede cualificar como digno de noticia. Por ende, los cabilderos y otros pueden comprar su fama, mientras la gente menos rica, como algunos de mis líderes hispanos favoritos, no caen dentro del perfil.

Ya que Raquel es latina, el editor del Hispanic Link News Service, Charlie Ericksen fue invitado a sentarse en la mesa principal. Le sorprendió la selección porque, como miembro del comité del club que selecciona los invitados a hablar durante el último año, él ha sugerido muchos nombres de latinos que él considera visionarios o quienes tenían cosas importantes que decir. La respuesta fue siempre ¿quiénes son?

En su primera reunión de comité, Ericksen omitió a propósito el nombre de Linda Chávez, que acababa de ser eliminada como nominada de George W. Bush para Secretaria del Trabajo. Un par de miembros compañeros del comité le educaron rápidamente que ella era el tipo de hispano que podrían aprobar. Alguien que mantuviera una ayudante de casa indocumentada.

Sin embargo, cuando se le informó este mes que Raquel -- la "ciudadana Raquel" fue el nombre que ella misma le puso a su presentación -- sería la persona recono-

cida del mes, intercambió su guayabera por un saco y una corbata y asistió como debía a la mesa principal.

Trajo con él al aprendiz interno del Link, Ron Edwards, para que Ron pudiera observar cómo los expertos periodistas destilan buenas historias de figuras públicas a través de preguntas incisivas.

Raquel, a quien Ericksen recordaba de sus años en la cadena de televisión NBC al comienzo de la década del 1960 como una seudoes-trella y símbolo sexual hollywoodense, comenzó por recompensar a su público modelando en el escenario, provocando aplausos por su aún esbelta figura.

Luego habló sobre el patriotismo y sobre cuánto admiraba al presidente y su guerra contra el terrorismo. Lloró dos veces en los lugares adecuados mientras describía la valentía de nuestros hombres en guerra.

Finalmente, llegó a lo que la hizo una persona reconocida en Washington: ha sido un señuelo de "American Family" (familia americana), el programa de televisión que CBS le cedió a PBS porque no era un programa muy bueno. Raquel tiene un papel recurrente en el programa.

El crítico de televisión del Hispanic Link, Antonio Mejías-Rentas, quien define "American Family" como una versión menos in-

teresa de otro programa de televisión latino, "Resurrection Boulevard", ha comentado que "el que Raquel Welch haga de una mexicana americana en el programa es un insulto vergonzoso para docenas de buenas actrices chicanas desempleadas".

De padre boliviano de apellido Tejada y madre americana, Raquel dijo a la prensa reunida que estaba tan orgullosa de su herencia que, al comenzar su carrera en las películas, resistió la presión de Hollywood de cambiarse el nombre. Se quedó con su "Raquel".

No explicó nada sobre qué le pasó al "Tejada."

Ericksen resistió y esperó la llegada del café y el postre. Consciente de que Raquel ha tenido muy poco contacto con la comunidad latina antes de su papel ocasional de "American Family", respondió al pedido del maestro de ceremonias, Jack Cushman, editor de edición de fin de semana de la oficina de Washington del New York Times, de que miembros del público hicieran preguntas en tarjetas y las hicieran llegar hasta donde él.

Ericksen escribió: ¿Con qué organizaciones o líderes hispanos estadounidenses colabora o se relaciona ahora, aparte de aquellas conectadas a "American Family"?

Escogiendo y leyendo tarjeta tras tarjeta, Cushman recitó las pregun-

tas a Raquel. ¿Cuáles son sus actores favoritos? (No se le ocurrió ninguno latino).

¿Qué películas le han gustado en los últimos dos años? (No se le ocurrió ninguna latina).

¿Qué hace su esposo? (Lanzó un largo comercial sobre su esposo, el dueño de restaurantes Richard Palmer, recitando las ciudades y los estados en que tiene negocios de pizza exitosos).

Cuéntenos sobre sus intereses privados (Un comercial más largo, mucho, mucho más largo sobre su negocio de belleza y de pelucas).

¿Qué consejos les daría a las madres solteras que todavía quieran sexo en su vida? (De verdad, esa fue la pregunta. Raquel dijo algo sobre ser discreta y no permitir que los niños observen).

Finalmente, ¿Habla español? (No mucho, pero quiero aprender porque estoy planificando mi primera visita a Bolivia a visitar la familia de mi papá.)

Aparentemente, el reportero del New York Times, Cushman, no encontró ninguna validez a la pregunta de Ericksen. Nunca la hizo. Respecto a la comida, en su camino de vuelta a la oficina del Link, nuestro joven reportero, Ron, se detuvo en un Popeye's y ordenó un especial de tres pedazos de pollo, con arroz, frijoles y un panecito.

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Hispanic Agents File Federal Lawsuit

Hispanic agents of the Customs Service filed suit in federal court Friday alleging that the agency discriminated against them in hiring, promotion, training and assignments.

The suit was filed on behalf of more than 400 current and former agents, who contend that over the past 28 years they have been denied promotions, gotten unpopular assignments and received inadequate training, said their attorney, David Shaffer.

Customs spokesman Dean Boyd said the agency hasn't seen the lawsuit and declined to comment.

Shaffer said the agents are seeking changes to Customs' personnel policies and procedures. They also want to be awarded compensatory damages and back pay. A total figure for monetary compensation was not specified.

The lawsuit said the agency practices the Hispanic agents complained about had been put into effect "through a good old boy network to the exclusion of Hispanic special agents."

Customs, part of the Treasury Department, is responsible for making sure that drugs, nuclear, biological and chemical weapons don't get smuggled into the United States. The agency polices the nation's entry points at airports, seaports and on land.

Shaffer and his colleague, attorney Ronald Schmidt, are involved in other discrimination cases against the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Secret Service. Those cases were brought by black agents.

Shaffer is representing black ATF agents who contend that the ATF hasn't overhauled its hiring and promotion policies as promised in a 1996 settlement. The government disputes the contention.

Under the court-approved settlement, ATF had four years to make extensive changes to its personnel system. The settlement also provided for \$4.7 million to black agents in compensatory damages and back pay and \$1.2 million for attorneys' fees.

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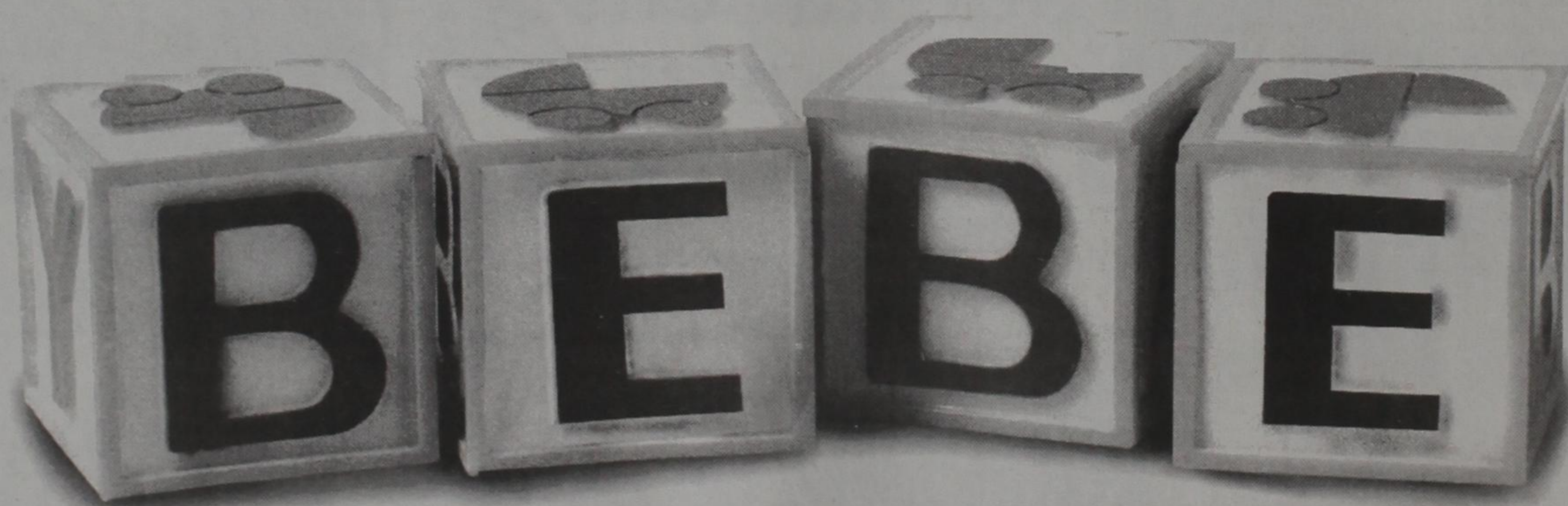
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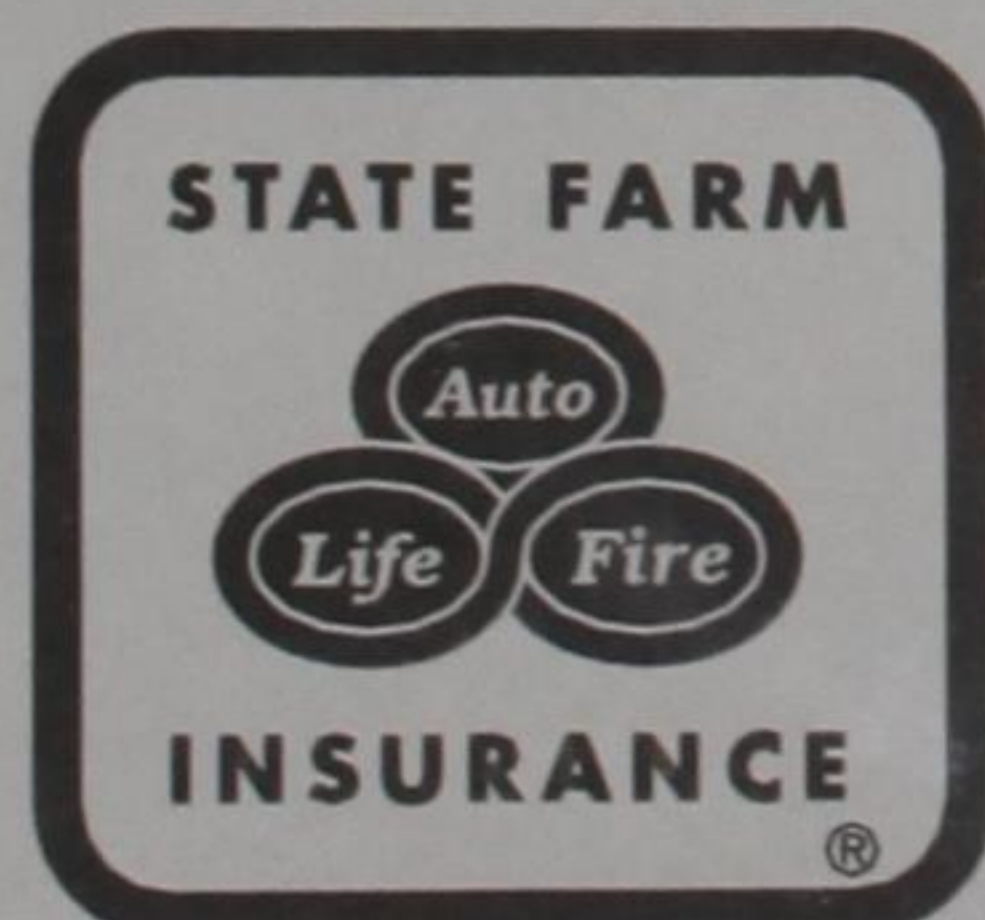
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