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War in Iraq  
4,202  
as of Nov.  
27, 2008



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## Latinos Vow to Set Bar High for Obama, Congress

An analysis of the record numbers of Latinos who voted Nov. 4 indicates not only stronger support for President-elect Barack Obama than initially thought but



also that they intend to hold him and the Democratic Congress accountable for their campaign promises, a Latino official says.

Latino votes for Obama could have been higher than reflected in exit poll data, according to the analysis of the survey, released Friday. It found that 72 percent of Latino voters overall opted for Obama, while 25 percent chose Sen. John McCain, according to a news release announcing the results.

"The Democratic Party should heed the message of Latino voters in our survey," said Arturo Vargas, executive director of the NALEO Educational Fund, one of the co-sponsors of the survey. "With their strong support of President-elect Obama and his party come high expectations."

ImpreMedia, which bills itself as the nation's leading Hispanic news and information company, commissioned the survey in conjunction with the Latino Decisions polling firm and NALEO, an organization that fosters Latino participation in the political process.

The high turnout among Latinos solidifies them as a voting bloc, said Vargas, adding, "The survey also finds that naturalized immigrant voters and first time voters played a significant role in shaping the Latino vote."

Naturalized immigrants total nearly half of the total of Latino voters, the poll found, as 46 percent were born outside the United States or Puerto Rico. And one of every six was voting for the first time.

Just over two-thirds of the Latinos who voted Nov. 4 said restoring the economy is the most important issue for Obama and Congress to address, outpacing by far the importance of other issues, including the war in Iraq at 6 percent, immigration at 6 percent, and healthcare, at 4 percent.

Expectations also remain high for immigration reform, the poll found, with 41 percent saying it is very important and 27 percent, important, for the Obama administration to address it within its first year.

Nearly 70 percent of those surveyed expect the Latino community to see improvements under the Obama administration. Among immigrant voters, that expectation ran to 75 percent in the survey, which has an error margin of plus or minus 3.5 percent and is said to reflect Latinos nationwide.

As President-elect Barack Obama assesses the nation's priorities, assembles his Cabinet, and moves his administrative team into the White House Jan. 20, immigration-reform leaders plan to be among the first to sign his guest book.

They'll be at the White House gate on the day following the presidential inauguration parade, they promise.

"We are expecting thousands," says Lucero Beebe-Giudice, spokesperson for the D.C.-based grassroots organization Tenants & Workers United, which has joined with 29 other area groups as the National Capital Immigration Coalition to pressure the President-elect to make good on his campaign pledge to give comprehensive immigration reform "top priority" during his first year in office.

Under the banner, "A New Day for America, A New Hope for Our Communities," the NCIC and 270 more organizations nationwide, united by the Fair Immigration Reform Movement, are calling for a mobilization in front of the White House on Jan. 21. They represent immigrants from all of the world's continents

During a Nov. 12 news conference at the National Press Club, their leaders pointed to Latino and immigrant voters' overwhelming support for Obama, expressing optimism that the President-elect would not let their trust pass unrewarded. Two-thirds of the estimated 10.5 million Latino voters cast their ballots for the Illinois senator.

Referring to the unprecedented national pro-immigrant demonstrations across the nation in 2006 in

response to the draconian immigration bill authored by U.S. Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R.-Ind.) that was

750,000 and the one in Los Angeles variously between 500,000 and a million.

administration institute immigration reform."

Some press reports already suggest that immigration reform won't likely be an Obama first-year priority. Wrote Tom Barry in the political newsletter CounterPunch, "Obama's selection of Rahm Emanuel as his chief of staff signals that political pragmatism, not campaign promises to Latinos, may determine immigration policy in the new administration."

Emanuel, whom Obama plucked from Illinois' congressional delegation to run his White House operations, referred to immigration as a "losing issue" for

under consideration in the House of

Representatives at the time, FIRM member Angélica Salas, who is executive director of the Coalition for Humane

Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles, declared, "We marched in the millions, we voted in the millions, and immigrants demand real solutions."

Among its numerous punitive elements, Sensenbrenner's bill would have made all undocumented residents guilty of felonies just by virtue of their presence in the United States

Millions of persons in more than 100 cities and towns participated in the peaceful '06 protests. In what is now recorded as the largest such national demonstration in U.S. history, Chicago's crowd was estimated at

At this month's capital news con-



ference, Abdul Kamus, executive director of Washington's African Resource Center, warned, "There are about 5,500 taxi cab drivers in D.C. and we are working with Maryland and Virginia drivers as well. We are expecting tens of thousands of immigrants and supporters."

NCIC president Jessica Alvarez emphasized the immigrant community has fully embraced the spirit of hope and democracy. "We will remain active long after the election. Together, NCIC, FIRM and other allies pledge to help the new

Democrats earlier this year.

If Obama reneges on his pledge to Hispanics, the groups' leaders promise to remind him that immigration reform benefits the entire nation.

"We are asking for families to come out of the shadows [for] a path to legalization. We need to fix this broken immigration system," said Alvarez.

In the next two months, both coalitions will conduct a series of events designed to open dialogue between policymakers and the immigration-reform community.

## Fewer Mexicans leaving homeland



Mexican emigration has dropped 42 percent over the last two years, a government study released Thursday showed, confirming that America has become less appealing amid an economic downturn and stepped-up raids against illegal migrants.

About eight of every 1,000

Mexicans emigrated between February and May of this year, according to the survey conducted by the National Statistics and Geography Institute. That's a 42 percent drop from the same period in 2006.

In all of 2007, an estimated 814,000 Mexicans emigrated, compared to 1.2 million in

2006. The figure — which was reached through household surveys — includes all Mexicans who left the country, and did not break down legal and illegal migration.

A summary of the investigation did not delve into the reasons for the drop. But experts say America's economic troubles and tighter border security have deterred many Mexicans from risking the journey to the United States, a trip that often means long desert treks, dodging bandits and bribing corrupt police.

The vast majority of Mexican migrants go to the United States.

"No longer an American dream" The study did not offer statistics past May 2008. But experts expect the trend to continue amid the financial crisis that rattled markets worldwide in September.

"There is no longer an

American dream, at least for the moment with the economic situation," said Victor Clark, the director of the Tijuana-based Binational Center for Human Rights, which works with illegal migrants. "News of mass raids snowball through towns that send a lot of migrants. In small northern towns, the news is that there is no work for Mexicans in the United States."

There have long been indications that Mexican emigration has been falling dramatically. The U.S. Border Patrol has reported a 39 percent drop since 2005 in the capture of migrants trying to cross the frontier illegally.

And Mexicans are sending less money home, hurting Mexico's second-largest source of foreign income behind oil exports. Remittances fell 12 percent to \$1.9 billion in August, the biggest drop since record-keeping began 12 years

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## News Briefing On The Rise In Hate During And Since The Election

Calling it a "wake up call for America," four national civil rights organizations held a joint news conference on Monday, November 24 to denounce the recent wave of brutal hate crimes against communities of color. Just last week, Marcelo Lucero, a Suffolk County, Long Island man of Ecuadoran descent, was beaten to death by a group of teenagers simply for being Hispanic. "Thankfully, hate did not win this election, but it has not gone away either," said Janet Murguía, President and CEO of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR). "Suffolk County mirrors the experience of many communities in America where hate, fostered on a national scale, has found a new home." Representatives from NCLR, the National Urban League, the Asian American Justice Center, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the NAACP, the Anti-Defamation League, and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) will address the recent FBI report on the rise in hate crimes nationally, as well as a number of other incidents of hate during and since the election.

## New Post-Election Survey Provides In-Depth Analysis of Latino Vote

A new post-election analysis of record turnout among Latino voters shows strong support for President-elect Obama and Democrats, but also reveals high expectations in the Latino community. The survey, commissioned by ImpreMedia in conjunction with the NALEO Educational Fund and Latino Decisions polling firm, found a significant increase in turnout among registered Latinos. Ninety-two percent of registered Latinos surveyed in the poll said they voted in this election, compared to 81.5% in 2004, the percentage cited in the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. "The record turnout among Latinos solidifies this emerging electorate as an important voting bloc among U.S. voters," said Arturo Vargas, Executive Director of the NALEO Educational Fund. "The survey also finds that naturalized immigrant voters and first time voters played a significant role in shaping the Latino vote."

However, the Democratic Party should heed the message of Latino voters in our survey with their strong support of President-elect Obama and his party, come high expectations," Vargas concluded consistent with what I consider to be the overarching principle of public safety or erodes the integrity of the neighboring residential areas, I will propose changes to mitigate that concern."

ago, according to Mexico's central bank.

The statistics are part of the broader 2006-2008 National Survey of Occupation and Employment, which studied 120,000 households.

Going back home The study found no significant change in the number of Mexicans coming home. But the drop in emigration was so large that by the end of 2007, more Mexicans were returning home than leaving the country, the study said.

Some authorities believe Mexican will see a surge of returning migrants as the economy worsens in the United States. Mexico City's municipal government has predicted that up to 30,000 more immigrants than usual will return from the U.S. over the next few months. Other towns across Mexico are also preparing for an influx of returning migrants.



# Guest Commentary

## Hispanic representation on the Obama leadership team?

Editorial La Prensa San Diego  
President elect Barack Obama is going through the process of filling his high level Cabinet positions, positions that are being filled rapidly and to date no Hispanic representation. Does this surprise? Yes and no.

Yes, we are surprised that no Hispanic has been selected to serve in a high level Cabinet position, Hispanics did come out and vote in support of Obama and they did deliver in those battleground states: Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico and Florida targeted by the Obama camp. So Hispanics did deliver for Obama. Hispanics are the largest minority group, and if you are talking about change, how can you move forward with change and not include the Hispanic community!

Since the election we have heard of the importance of the Hispanic vote, with New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson leading this community and whose name was quickly bantered about as a possible selection for Secretary of State. Since those first few days we have heard Richardson's name less and less as Sen. Hillary Clinton has become the odds on favorite for this Cabinet position.

Should we be surprised that no Hispanics have been selected to date? No! As we had editorialized before the election the Hispanic community had not held Obama accountable. During the election Obama did not address Hispanic issues, immigration issues, nor has he traveled to Mexico to learn of

their issues. Obama did not speak of incorporating the Hispanic community into the power structure or the economic structure. On issues of importance to the Hispanic community Obama only spoke in generalities. So are we really surprised now that the election is over that Obama is still taking the Hispanic community for granted?

And the talk of the battleground states and the overwhelming Hispanic support from those states, they lost their luster with Obama's strong showing in Ohio and Illinois, and when you add in California this made those electoral votes in Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico icing on the cake and they didn't really play a crucial role.

Obama has shown a tendency to select long time supporters and advisors to his top positions who have demonstrated loyalty to Obama. Bill Richardson, who is Hispanic, came onto the Obama scene late into the game long after he abandoned his Presidential run. Richardson may have jumped on the bandwagon of the winning team but he didn't display much loyalty to the Clintons when it was President Bill Clinton who made Richardson the politician he is today.

Hispanics will eventually get appointed to sub-Cabinet positions and you will find more Hispanics being hired by the Federal government but as far as political power is concerned, Hispanics will be left outside looking in. Political power only comes to those who take it, it is never given.

## HNBA Congratulates President-Elect Barack Obama and Urges Appointment of Hispanics to the Federal Judiciary and Executive Branch

PRNewsWire News ReleasesPublished: 11/18/08 01:25 PM EST  
WASHINGTON, Nov. 18 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Last week, Ramona E. Romero, the HNBA National President, formally congratulated President-Elect Barack Obama and Vice President-Elect Joe Biden for their victory in the 2008 presidential election. In her letter, Ms. Romero noted that two-thirds of the Latino electorate joined President-Elect Obama's diverse base of supporters to contribute to his win on November 4th. The Latino vote was key in battleground states such as Florida, New Mexico, Colorado and Nevada. In fact, at least 10 million Latino voters cast ballots, an increase in participation of 32% from the 2004 Presidential Election.

"The power of the Latino vote was evident during this election," said Ms. Romero. She added that "we are both hopeful and confident that President-Elect Obama will select cabinet members and other advisors whose backgrounds reflect the rich diversity of our Country and of the voters who supported his candidacy." She concluded by stating that "the HNBA has called on the President-Elect to appoint more Hispanics to the federal bench, and urged him to make history yet again by nominating a Hispanic to fill the first U.S. Supreme Court vacancy that occurs during his term." No person of Latino origin has ever served on the U.S. Supreme Court.

A copy of the letter to President-Elect Obama is available at the HNBA website, [www.hnba.com](http://www.hnba.com).

The Hispanic National Bar Association is an incorporated, not-for-profit, national membership organization that represents the interests of the more than 100,000 attorneys, judges, law professors, legal assistants, and law students of Hispanic descent in the United States, its territories and Puerto Rico. For more information about the HNBA, please visit [www.hnba.com](http://www.hnba.com).

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## Another Reason to Give Thanks: Leaders in Both Parties Agree Immigration Reform is a Must Pass Priority

Washington, DC-In recent days, leaders from both sides of the aisle indicated that comprehensive immigration reform is a legislative priority for the 111th Congress. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid reassured the public that Congress will "move forward" and pass immigration reform legislation. Meanwhile, the renowned Republican strategist Karl Rove included immigration reform as part of a roadmap for the future survival of the GOP. "Republicans must find a way to support secure borders, a guest-worker program and comprehensive immigration reform that strengthens citizenship, grows our economy and keeps America a welcoming nation," said Rove.

In fact, the lessons from this month's election are stark. An analysis by America's Voice of 21 "battleground" races for House and Senate seats found that pro-immigration-reform candidates beat enforcement-only "hardliners" in 19 of the races. "Americans voters have shown they prefer fair and practical solutions over anti-immigrant rhetoric that sidesteps the real problem," said Angela Kelley, Director of the Immigration Policy Center. Now leaders must show that they got the wake up call. Reid and Rove know that the American people are counting on Washington to offer answers that strengthen and sustain all of America's workers, families and communities, native born and newcomer alike. Immigration reform is a part of the solution for a stronger America, and one that policy-makers have to get done and get done right."

For more information and background on these comments and more, visit [ImmigrationImpact.org](http://ImmigrationImpact.org).

## Hispanics Flex Political Muscle for Choice Obama Appointments

by Karen Branch-Brioso  
Hispanic advocacy groups are pressing hard to get President-elect Barack Obama to name unprecedented numbers of Hispanics to his administration.

Hispanics interested in working in the Obama administration will have a friendly face on the transition team to receive their resumes, starting Tuesday, when Tampa lawyer Frank Sanchez is expected to join.

Sanchez was Obama's Latin American advisor and a national Hispanic finance chair during the campaign. He also served in the Clinton administration as chief of staff to the White House's special envoy to the Americas and then as assistant secretary of transportation in charge of aviation and international affairs.

Sanchez's name has surfaced for a potential White House job as well, according to a Democratic operative on Capitol Hill familiar with the key players.

Sanchez, whose placement on the transition team had not formally been announced at the time this story was written, declined comment. But top Hispanic advocates say that he has accepted a place on the team that will help select those who will work in the Obama Administration.

He'll be coming to D.C. and he'll be on the transition staff, and so he'll be able to do a lot of the leg work," says Brent Wilkes, executive director of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

LULAC is one of 26 national Hispanic groups that will launch a Web site ([www.nationalhispanicleadership.org](http://www.nationalhispanicleadership.org)) later this week that will offer advice to Hispanics interested in administration jobs. Site managers will also accept resumes that they will forward to Obama's transition team.

Buoyed by an estimated 10 million Hispanic voters who overwhelmingly backed Obama in the Nov. 4 election, the organizations believe the historic turnout gives Hispanics their best shot at a larger share of appointments.

According to the Edison/Mitofsky exit polls, 67 percent of Hispanics voted for Obama, far more than the 53 percent that went for John Kerry in 2004. Kerry lost several key states with large Hispanic populations: Colorado, Florida, Nevada and New Mexico. Obama, who with the Democratic National Committee vowed to spend more than \$20 million on voter outreach and Spanish-language ads fall, won all four with significantly lopsided help from Hispanic voters.

Clarissa Martinez, immigration director of the National Council of La Raza says that: "Latino voters definitely helped (Obama) achieve the presidency. Our hope is, given the significant role that Latinos had on his campaign, that he will have a diverse administration that truly reflects the face of America."

Dr. Paul Light, a New York University professor who tracks presidential appointments, says he expects Obama will tap more Hispanics than prior administrations. Hispanics made up about 5 percent of Clinton's appointees and 8 percent of George W. Bush's appointments, he says.

"I think all of (Obama's) numbers will go up in terms of diversity," Light says. "I think he's deeply committed to it, across all groups."

Obama's vow to spend \$20 million on Hispanic outreach came after he met with Hillary Rodham Clinton and a number of her Hispanic supporters in her hard-fought primary against Obama. After Clinton conceded, Obama and former Denver mayor Federico Peo'a met at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington with her and her Hispanic fundraisers, strategists and congressional backers, according to media reports and those who say they attended the meeting.

At the meeting, advisors reminded Obama of the importance of targeting Hispanics in battleground states, says Raul Yzaguirre, who helped Washington attorney Jose Villareal arrange the meeting. They also stressed the importance of Hispanic appointments if he won.

"We indicated the standard had been set by both Republican and Democratic administrations of having at least two in the cabinet and everybody expected that to be the floor," says Yzaguirre, adding that the meeting helped clear the air and heal the wounds from the contentious primary battle.

Wilkes says LULAC is promoting Linda Chavez-Thompson, a former AFL-CIO vice president, as a Labor Secretary nominee. On Monday, the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda sent a letter to the transition team, urging Obama to nominate New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, a Mexican American, for secretary of state.

Richardson, like Peo'a, was a cabinet member in President Bill Clinton's administration. Richardson served as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and Energy Secretary under Clinton. Both endorsed Obama over Hillary Rodham Clinton's run for president.

Dr. Juliet V. Garcia, president of the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College, was added to Obama's transition team as an adviser on education. So was Dr. Espiridon Ali Borrego, director of public administration at the University of Texas-Pan American.

Peo'a reportedly nominated Garcia, but declined to comment to Diverse.

"We're very pleased that that has happened, because, in essence, she is a CEO of a Hispanic-serving institution in an area of the country where Hispanics continue to struggle day in and day out for access and success in higher education," says Dr. Antonio Flores, president of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities.

Flores sent a letter to Obama Thursday, congratulating him on his win and recommending 14 Hispanic college or university leaders for potential cabinet- or sub-cabinet-level posts. Garcia was among them.

Often, those tapped for the transition team are seen as potential appointees themselves in a new administration. In addition to Peo'a, Garcia, Borrego and Sanchez, Obama's transition team includes several other Hispanics:

Former Securities and Exchange Commission Commissioner Roel Campos is on Obama's Transition Economic Advisory Board. So is Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. Both names have surfaced as potential appointees, with Campos for treasury or the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Villaraigosa rumored as a potential pick for secretary of transportation, according to the Capitol Hill staffer who wanted to remain anonymous.

Rosalind Gold, senior director of policy research and advocacy for the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, is generally advocating for more Hispanic posts. But the group is particularly interested in the leaders who will be tapped for a couple of key positions that affect its members' constituency.

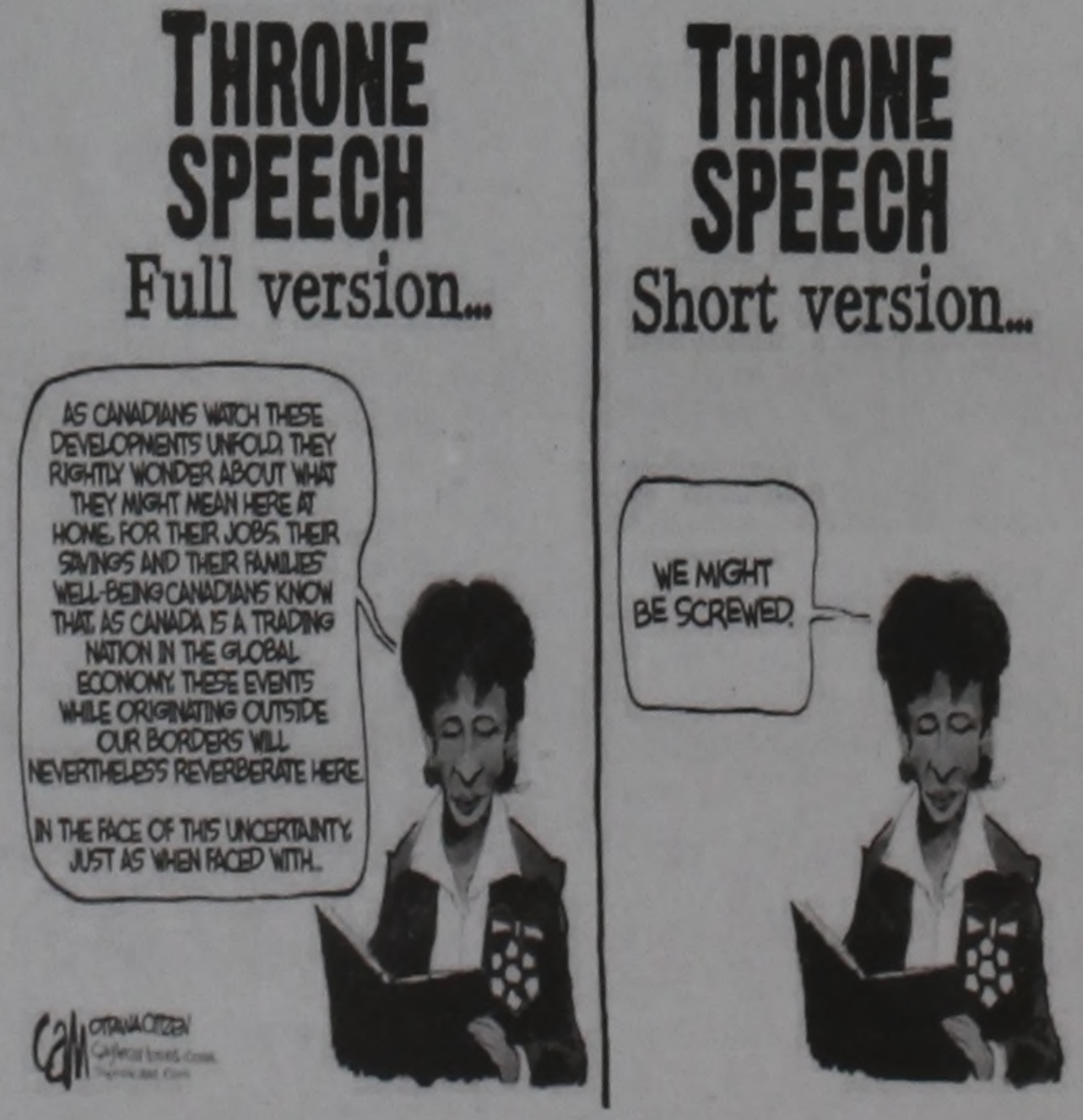
"For the positions of director of [U.S.] Citizenship and Immigration Services or the Census Bureau (director), we're going to be actively involved in making sure the right people get appointed to those positions," Gold says.

Among the names being floated as a potential director for USCIS is Mariano-Florentino Cuellar, a Stanford law professor and senior adviser to the under-secretary for enforcement in the Clinton administration.

Another former Clinton administration official, Sarita Brown, who currently presides over Excelencia in Education, an organization that promotes higher education for Hispanics, says she's not interested in a post this time around, but is very interested in seeing other Hispanics in posts that can promote educational success. Excelencia's vice president for policy and research, Deborah Santiago, has been mentioned as a potential appointee in the Department of Education, according to the Capitol Hill source.

Brown says she will be proactive, just like other Hispanic advocacy groups.

It's imperative for those of us who are active in Latino organizations and institutions to do what they can to bring talent and readiness to serve to (Obama's) attention," Brown says. "This is not a time to be invited. This is a time for people to step up and step out."



# "Freedom of Expression"

## An Open Forum Where Readers Express their Views and Opin-

## It's Time for Carl Isett to Go

By Charles Dunn

The number one priority of the local Democratic Party leadership should be to recruit a credible opponent to run against Carl Isett in 2010. Because of archaic state laws that limit salaries for members of the Texas Legislature to \$600 per month, and require full time attendance for 6 months during odd numbered years, the pool of applicants is limited, making recruiting a candidate difficult. In addition to the salary limitations, the prospective applicant must be well known in the community and have the financial resources to self fund his campaign, or at a minimum, the ability to raise at least \$200,000 to run a creditable race against an entrenched opponent. The task is daunting, but not impossible. What follows is my blueprint for defeating Carl Isett in 2010. The first step is to realize that Isett is vulnerable. Although his district is 40% Democratic, Isett is a neo-conservative who believes in shrinking that portion of the state government which benefits the middle class by voting to cut funding for education, raising college tuition and drastically limiting children's health care, all while voting to grow government for the wealthiest Texans in the form of special laws to protect insurance companies, legal exemptions for homebuilders who build defective homes and immunity for large corporations who ignore workplace safety and common sense environmental regulations. Isett also favors big government in the form of enacting laws that enforce his cultural views regarding abortion, school vouchers, immigration and tort reform. His values are not the values of the majority of voters in his district making him vulnerable in an issue based campaign.

In addition to being far too conservative for his district, Isett has ethical problems. Last week, the Texas Ethics Commission found Isett in violation of campaign reporting laws and fined him \$6,400 and ordered him to repay \$25,500 to his campaign. This is the second time Isett has been found guilty of campaign reporting violations by the Texas Ethics Commission. Ethics laws prohibit lawmakers from paying a spouse out of campaign funds. The rule was enacted to prevent lawmakers from using campaign funds to pay personal living expenses rather than using the funds for campaign purposes. Isett attempted to circumvent the law against direct payment by entering into a "post marital property division" which created a shell company owned by his wife as her separate property so that Isett could funnel campaign funds to her in return for "accounting" services. He raised \$80,000 in 2007 from Austin based special interest PACs and paid almost half of that money to his wife's company for "accounting services". His spin to the Avalanche-Journal is a classic case of a politician out of touch. He complained that the complaint was politically motivated, his violation was "unintentional" and that he was going to introduce legislation in the next session of the legislature to "clean up" the ethics laws. Politicians who are out of touch are ripe for defeat. But it won't be easy.

The Democratic Party Chair and other local officials in the party must begin now to recruit a quality candidate. The campaign against Isett must be in place no later than the spring of 2009 to allow plenty of time for fundraising and campaign organization. Pam Brink's leadership as County Chair will be judged by her ability to recruit a qualified and well funded opponent to run against Carl Isett.

Will she follow Sue Barrick and Johnnie Jones and wait until the filing deadline to run "warm bodies" who put their name on the ballot and do nothing else? Or will she become the leader the local Democrats desperately need and recruit a well qualified, well funded opponent? Stay tuned for the answer.

Charles Dunn practices law in Lubbock, specializing in Medical Malpractice and Personal Injury. Website: [www.charlesdunn-law.com](http://www.charlesdunn-law.com)

## Red Raiders Going Bowling

By Ysidro Gutierrez

There are two things I really hate about TTU football – losing by 1 point or losing by 44 points. This whole week, everywhere I went in Lubbock, people were talking about the disaster that befell us on Saturday night at the hands of Oklahoma.

I'll be honest about my reaction to the trouncing. I actually held out Hope that we could come back in the 2nd Half. But about 1 nanosecond after the interception that came at the worst possible moment – I threw the T.V. remote control into the fireplace (A word of caution to readers, TV remotes don't burn well). My friend OA once asked me why I have 7 remote controls in my living room – Saturday night's slaughter and the fate of 1 of my 7 TV remotes is answer enough for OA.

Men and women handle losing in different ways. When men cry – the whites of the eyes turn Red Raider Red. Too bad men can't man-up to crying when TTU gets slammed 65 to 21. "My eyes are red because I've been out in the sun" or "I haven't had a beer since Saturday." Men are really bad liars.

Women are different. You can admire them when the whites of the eyes turn Red Raider Red from crying and unlike men – women don't mind admitting their sorrow. Actually women can't take the man route and lie about crying. Unlike men – women are open books when they cry – there is no way

to deny the tell tale mascara stains on their cheeks. In the absence of anything but the 65 to 21 slaughter of TTU, there is but one plausible Reason d'état for the mascara tracks on their cheeks.

If male and female TTU fans have any redeeming quality – it's their mutual disappointment at losing the one chance to be ranked #1 in the nation. So much for Great Expectations.

Red Raider fans shouldn't be so hard on themselves. After all, the Sooners scored 58 points in each of their past four games. We should have known it wasn't gonna be a cake-walk. Yes, Yes, it's hard losing when favored to win and racked higher than the team that delivered the coups de grace; but the season is not yet done. Texas Tech and Oklahoma, and Texas are all 10-1 overall, 6-1 in the conference and 1-1 against each other. Not bad eh?

Seems TTU is "Going Bowling." Yep, we are on track for the Cotton Bowl so say many experts or we could be invited to the Fiesta Bowl. If we are going bowling, I suppose we fans should hope it's the Cotton Bowl.

Regardless of what the future holds – let's all do our part. GUNS UP !!!!!!!

## El Editor

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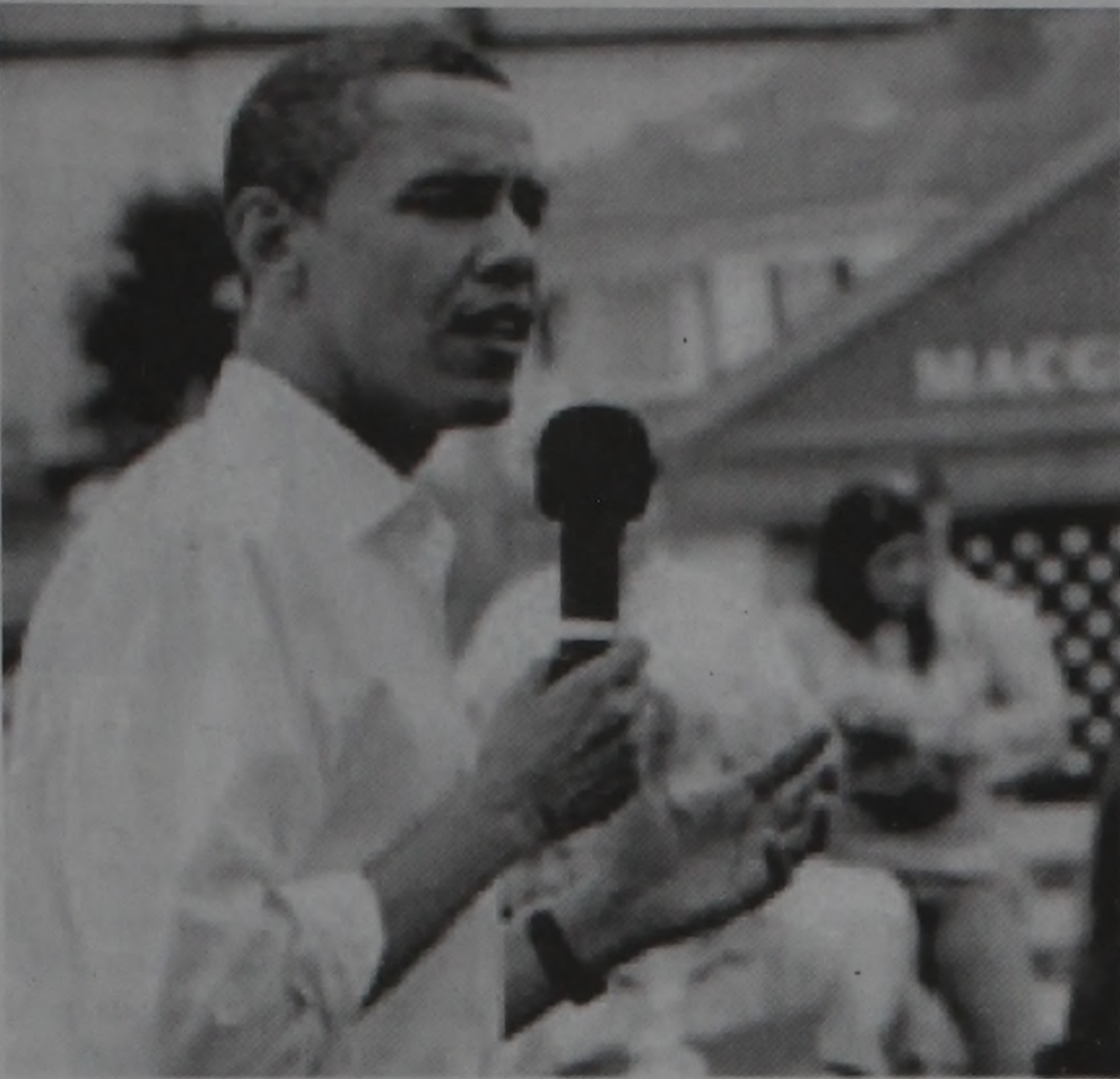
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# Obama Vows Quick Action on Economy



President-elect Barack Obama has signaled that he will pursue a far more ambitious plan of spending and tax cuts than anything he outlined on the campaign trail - a plan "big enough to deal with the huge problem we face," a top adviser said Sunday - setting the tone for a recovery effort that could absorb and define much of his term.

In the Democrats' weekly radio address, Obama said that he would direct his economic team to craft a two-year stimulus plan with the goal of saving or creating 2.5 million jobs.

"Our hope," David Axelrod, a senior adviser to Obama, said Sunday on Fox, "is that the new Congress begins work on this as soon as they take office in early January, because we don't have time to waste here."

With the economy likely to get worse before it gets better, Axelrod said, "We want to hit

the ground running on Jan. 20," the day of Obama's inauguration.

Obama said Saturday that he hoped to sign the stimulus package into law soon after taking office. He is coordinating efforts with Democratic leaders in Congress.

Advisers to Obama say they want to use the economic crisis as an opportunity to act on many of the issues he emphasized in his campaign, including cutting taxes for lower- and middle-class workers, addressing neglected public infrastructure projects like roads and schools, and creating "green jobs" through business incentives for energy alternatives and environmentally friendly technologies.

In light of the downturn, Obama is also said to be reconsidering a key campaign pledge: his proposal to repeal the Bush tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans. According to several

people familiar with the discussions, he might instead let those tax cuts expire as scheduled in 2011, effectively delaying any tax increase while he gives his stimulus plan a chance to work.

But Axelrod, asked about that on Fox, would not say clearly which way Obama is leaning.

"The news this week has only reinforced the fact that we are facing an economic crisis of historic proportions," Obama said in his address. "We now risk falling into a deflationary spiral that could increase our massive debt even further."

Obama's address, a video of which was made available on YouTube, was part of an effort to calm tumultuous financial markets roiled by the failure of an outgoing president and a lame-duck Congress to come up with a plan to boost the economy and restore investor confidence.

On Monday, Obama was planning to introduce his economic team, starting with his Treasury secretary, Timothy Geithner. Lawrence Summers, a former Treasury secretary, is to be director of the National Economic Council in the White House, the president's principal economic adviser, according to an Obama aide.

Summers has advocated a forceful government stimulus plan in recent newspaper columns, saying the federal government should be doing more, not less, in areas like health care, energy, education and tax relief.

Obama seemed to echo those thoughts in his radio address.

"We'll be working out the details in the weeks ahead, but

it will be a two-year, nationwide effort to jump-start job creation in America and lay the foundation for a strong and growing economy," Obama said.

"We'll put people back to work rebuilding our crumbling roads and bridges, modernizing schools that are failing our children, and building wind farms and solar panels, fuel-efficient cars and the alternative energy technologies that can free us from our dependence on foreign oil and keep our economy competitive in the years ahead." Obama's announcement came after market declines and the prospect of automakers and other storied companies near collapse last week had provoked growing criticism that he was sitting on the sidelines.

Although advisers say they have not begun to fill in the details, Obama's proposal would go beyond the \$175 billion stimulus plan that he proposed in October. That included a \$3,000 tax credit to employers for each new hire above their current work force and billions

spending on infrastructure to create jobs. President George W. Bush has refused to consider a package so large, yet even some conservative economists have said \$300 billion is the minimum needed to help the economy.

"There are no quick or easy fixes to this crisis, which has been many years in the making," Obama said. "And it's likely to get worse before it gets better. But Jan. 20 is our chance to begin anew, with a new direction, new ideas and new reforms that will create jobs and fuel long-term economic growth."

Some Republicans might be won over should Obama decide not to repeal the Bush tax cuts for those making more than \$250,000. By simply letting the cuts expire after 2010, as the law provides, Obama would in effect delay the tax increase that high-income taxpayers would have faced in the next year or two under his original plan.

without the Democratic majorities in Congress having to take a vote on a tax increase.

Also, Obama is under far less pressure in the short term to raise revenues to help finance campaign promises because the seriousness of the economic crisis has brought bipartisan agreement that the government must do whatever it can to bring economic growth.

Nearly every spending program and tax cut that Obama proposed during the campaign could well end up in the stimulus package, advisers indicated.

Some economists welcomed Obama's plan, although they said it was difficult to assess without full details. The focus on creating and saving jobs made sense, they said, given the deterioration of the job market.

"The unemployment rate is soaring," possibly into the double digits, said Kenneth Rogoff, a Harvard economist.

Senator Harry Reid, the majority leader, said, "We will soon finally have a leader and partner in the White House who recognizes the urgency with which we must turn around our economy, and I look forward to working with him and the new Congress to do so."

Republicans in the next Congress could block a big stimulus package in the Senate, as Obama seemed to recognize.

"I know that passing this plan won't be easy," Obama said. "I will need and seek support from Republicans and Democrats, and I'll be welcome to ideas and suggestions from both sides of the aisle."

"But what is not negotiable," the president-elect added, "is the need for immediate action."



in aid to strapped states and cities.

Separately, Democratic leaders in Congress have been calling for a robust economic recovery initiative of up to \$300 billion, including large

That could have both economic and political benefits. Obama would not be open to the charge from Republicans, and other critics that he is raising taxes in a recession, which many believe is counterproductive.

By letting the tax cuts expire, Obama would get the benefit of higher revenues in 2011 and beyond to help finance his promised health care plans without having to propose raising taxes on the affluent, and

## ‘Alguien tiene que ayudarme’, clama la viuda de mexicano

"No tengo miedo por mí, sino por mis hijos, porque ellos tienen



sangre mexicana". Las palabras expresadas por Cristal Dillman, una estadounidense de 24 años de edad, víctima del intolerancia racial en su país, tienen como objetivo sensibilizar a las autoridades de México para que le permitan vivir legalmente aquí.

Sus ojos azules se contraen y su rubio rostro hace muecas para evitar el llanto cuando se pregunta cómo mantendrá a los dos hijos que procreó con su esposo Luis Eduardo Ramírez, un mexicano asesinado a golpes por cuatro jóvenes anglosajones el pasado 12 de julio en Shenandoah, Pennsylvania.

Desde ese día, Cristal clamó justicia, organizó marchas en las que levantó por los aires la bandera mexicana y buscó trabajo en esa pequeña localidad minera de apenas cinco mil habitantes, que la vio crecer y donde conoció a su difunto marido.

"Nadie me ha querido contratar porque dicen que no quieren problemas en sus negocios", comenta a La Opinión para explicar su decisión de venir a México y sobrevivir a lado de "su familia": su suegra, Elisa Zavala, quien radica en el poblado de Iramuco, en el sur del estado de Guanajuato.

"Es horrible lo que me pasa en Shenandoah: me gritan groserías en la calle, dicen que me van a dar empleo y me citan sólo para humillarme recordando lo que pasó. También recibo amenazas por computadora", denuncia la viuda.

"Lo peor fue cuando tocaron las ventanas de mi casa y le dijeron a mi hija que se fuera a 'su país'", precisa sorprendida.

Por ello se presentó ayer en

la Cámara de Diputados, en el marco de la II Jornada sobre Migración y Derechos Humanos, para exponer su caso y sensibilizar a las autoridades.

"Alguien tiene que ayudarme", dijo.

Ramírez Zavala, de 25 años de edad, emigró a Estados Unidos en 2002, apenas culminó sus estudios de preparatoria. Cosechó fresas y otros frutos y luego trabajó en una fábrica, donde se empleó hasta que la paliza propinada por seis adolescentes le quitó la vida.

La víctima caminaba acompañado de la hermana de Cristal, a quien encaminaba a casa, cuando los jóvenes gritaron insultos que el mexicano respondió antes de que le cayeran encima con bates de beisbol.

Murió el 14 de julio en el Centro Médico Geinsinger y después de 11 días el cuerpo fue repatriado para recibir sepultura en el panteón de la comunidad de Iramuco, municipio de Acámbaro.

Un mes después, el Senado mexicano exigió una aclaración de los hechos para proceder conforme a la Convención Internacional sobre la Eliminación de todas las Formas de Discriminación Racial.

En la Cámara Baja, el diputado José Jacques, de la Comisión de Población, Frontera y Asuntos Migratorios, comentó que apoyarán a la familia de Luis Eduardo.

"Vamos a ayudarla para que pueda estar legalmente y con opciones de poder sobrevivir con un trabajo en México, porque hemos visto que en Estados Unidos no puede estar", comentó.

De acuerdo con reportes de la policía estadounidense presentados al FBI, en los últimos cinco años aumentó un 40% el número de asesinatos contra latinoamericanos por motivos raciales.

Tan sólo en 2007 se registraron 830 muertes en 595 incidentes, el 60% del total de víctimas de este tipo.

Otro de los recientes asesinatos con corte racial ocurrió el pasado 8 de noviembre, en Nueva York, perpetrado también por un grupo de adolescentes en contra de Marcelo Lucero, un inmigrante ecuatoriano de 37 años, que llegó a Estados Unidos hace 16 años y trabajaba en una tintorería.

"Ha incrementado el miedo en las comunidades latinas por la ola antiinmigrante que se lanza desde radio, internet y televisión por las diversas clases políticas del país", comentó vía telefónica Gladis Limón, abogada del Fondo Mexicoamericano para la Defensa Legal y la Educación (MALDEF), quien lleva el caso de Luis Eduardo.

"Nos involucramos para que se haga justicia y así mandar el mensaje de que se está en una crisis de odio racial que afecta a todos los inmigrantes latinoamericanos, sean ciudadanos o no lo sean", agregó.

La abogada señaló que las autoridades restaron importancia al incidente, retrasaron las investigaciones y no documentaron los cargos; además, el jefe de la policía local culpó de los problemas en la localidad a la presencia de mexicanos, quienes representan actualmente casi 10% de la población.

Al principio no hubo arrestos; sin embargo, tras la intervención del FBI —debido a las presiones de diversas organizaciones— ahora cuatro jóvenes están en la cárcel y dos fueron deslindados de los hechos. La comunidad se dividió: los blancos, a favor de los jóvenes; el resto en contra.

El caso se volvió un emblema del complejo escenario para las minorías en Estados Unidos, consideran los analistas.

"Cristal es el estereotipo de la mujer norteamericana y es considerada una traidora por casarse con un mexicano y vive el rechazo de su comunidad, que ha dividido a su familia... esto es sintomático", concluye Camilo Pérez, coordinador del Centro Sobre Migración y Derechos Humanos de la Universidad de la Ciudad de México.

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# Olga Tañón lanza nuevo disco, 'Fuego en vivo'



Ni un desmayo durante una presentación en Venezuela detuvo los compromisos musicales de Olga Tañón, entre ellos una gira de conciertos en México con el pianista griego Yanni.

“Es el concierto Yanni Voices, y es un honor, porque sabiendo la calidad de artista y ser humano que es, es una gran oportunidad que me haya incluido”, comenta la cantante durante entrevista desde Houston, Texas.

Hace unos meses, Tañón escribió las letras de dos canciones para Yanni. Uno de los temas se titula "Viviré por ti" y el otro "Llama de amor".

Hacer un dúo con otros artistas famosos se está convirtiendo en una rutina para la cantante puertorriqueña, quien hace unos días unió su voz a la de Vicki Carr y Jenni Rivera para realizar una interpretación del tema “Cosas de la vida” en la entrega de los premios Grammy latinos.

“Quedé súper contenta de poder compartir con Jenni Rivera y muy honrada por la oportunidad de cantar con la señora Vicki Carr, que está cumpliendo 50 años de carrera y se ve espectacular”, agrega.

Para terminar su gira Evolución 2008, Olga y sus músicos darán un concierto en el área de Foxwoods, Connecticut en el MGM Grand Theater el próximo sábado 29 de noviembre.

“Espero pasarla bien y poner a bailar a todo el mundo. Ojalá que no haga mucho frío”, comenta la Mujer de Fuego.

La artista, de 41 años, lanzará el 9 de diciembre su nueva producción, que se titula "Fuego en vivo". Fue grabada en varios escenarios durante el comienzo de su gira.

“Es el álbum esperado, porque soy muy fanática de los álbumes en vivo”, relata.

“El primero que hice fue ya casi diez años atrás en The House of Blues, por el que gané mi primer Grammy precisamente. Y después de todos esos años, tengo la oportunidad de nuevo de hacer un disco en vivo y estoy bien emocionada porque recorre 20 años de carrera de esta servidora. Va a ser con dos tomos de discos y una que otra canción inédita”, expresa.

Con otra gira en puertas para este nuevo trabajo, Tañón y su esposo Billy Denizard se concentran en el trabajo de la logística del escenario.

Mientras tanto, en su casa de Orlando, Florida, un equipo de niñas y familiares se encargan del cuidado de sus tres hijos, Gabriella Marie, de 12 años (de su matrimonio con el beisbolista

# Afirma Intocable que en México les ha ido "de maravilla"


El grupo Intocable dijo que en Estados Unidos sí les afectó la recesión económica, pero que en México les ha ido "de maravilla", y además anunciaron que con sus conciertos del 5 y 6 de diciembre en esta ciudad cerrarán su gira de 2008. El grupo originario de Zapata, Texas, se reunió este jueves con la prensa para hablar del cierre de año y los planes de la agrupación para 2009.

"Este año México nos ha dado muchísimo a nosotros, relativamente nos ha ido muy bien", señaló el vocalista Ricky Muñoz y agregó que en la Unión Americana ya han tenido una baja notable de asistencia en sus conciertos. "La crisis ha afectado muchísimo a todos, la cosa es no rajarnos", exclamó el cantante, y destacó que pese a los problemas financieros sus discos registraron altas ventas este año. Dijo que en México la historia es muy distinta, pues los conciertos de Intocable están siempre llenos, lo cual esperan repetir el 5 y 6 de diciembre cuando se presenten en la Arena Monterrey. "Estamos muy contentos de volver a la Arena Monterrey, más que una presentación esto va a ser una gran fiesta", dijo Muñoz, y agregó que terminarán su actividad artística el 17 de diciembre en una posada navideña en Hidalgo, Texas, con la presencia de Ramón Ayala.

Los integrantes de Intocable comentaron que pasarán la noche de Navidad con sus familias, por quinta ocasión, tras 14 años de trayectoria artística. Entre sus planes para 2009 está racionar los recursos para trabajar en las giras, como el uso de menos autobuses, bajar costos operativos, entre otros. "Si ahorita traemos dos o tres autobuses para ir a los conciertos, en 2009 probablemente sólo vamos a usar uno", expresó René Martínez, otro de los líderes del grupo.


En las primeras semanas del próximo año, Intocable se dará un breve descanso y luego se definirán las ciudades mexicanas donde habrá conciertos, agregó. Martínez expresó que recientemente lanzaron el segundo sencillo titulado "Llévame en tu viaje", de su más reciente producción discográfica "2C". Dijo que por el momento no están trabajando un nuevo material, porque primero se van a enfocar en el lanzamiento del resto de las canciones de "2C", en el transcurso de 2009.





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# Teen star Selena Gómez looks beyond Disney

The voice of 10th grader Selena Gómez multiplies itself in the current box-office blockbuster "Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who," starring Jim Carrey and Steve Carell.

The animation movie features a big hearted elephant that protects a microscopic community of ants (the Whos) from his neighbors.

Carell plays the "Mayor of Whoville," and Gómez is the voice of his daughters — 90 of them.

"I voiced all of them," says Gómez, 15, a Texas native who is of Mexican and Italian heritage.

"I had to change up my voice to do higher voices, and then bring it down to do lower voices. All of the Mayor's daughters look different, so I play many different characters."

The adaptation of Dr. Seuss' 1954 book scored \$45 million last weekend, the biggest opening of the year.

"I had never done animation, so I thought it would be cool to try something different," she says.

But Gómez didn't get to meet her on-screen dad Carell because they recorded separately.

"It was kind of a bummer!" she says. "But at the same time, it was cool. I can see him and say 'Hey, I played your daughter!'"

Gómez, who also stars on Disney's hit TV show "Wizards of Waverly Place," says she is a Dr. Seuss fan.

"I remember reading his books like crazy with my grandmother when I was younger," she says.

At her tender age, Gómez isn't content with short-lived teen stardom — she wants to be taken seriously as an enduring actress.

Recently, she turned down the chance to star opposite Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens in the third installment of the monster-hit "High School Musical," to pursue more "serious" projects.

"High School Musical 3" is cute, and I think it would be a great opportunity for someone else," Gómez says.

"But I passed on it because I didn't want to do it. I plan to take other roles in acting that are challenging for me. After Disney, I want to be taken seriously as an actress for many years."

Gómez will also star in "Another Cinderella Story," opening April 4th.

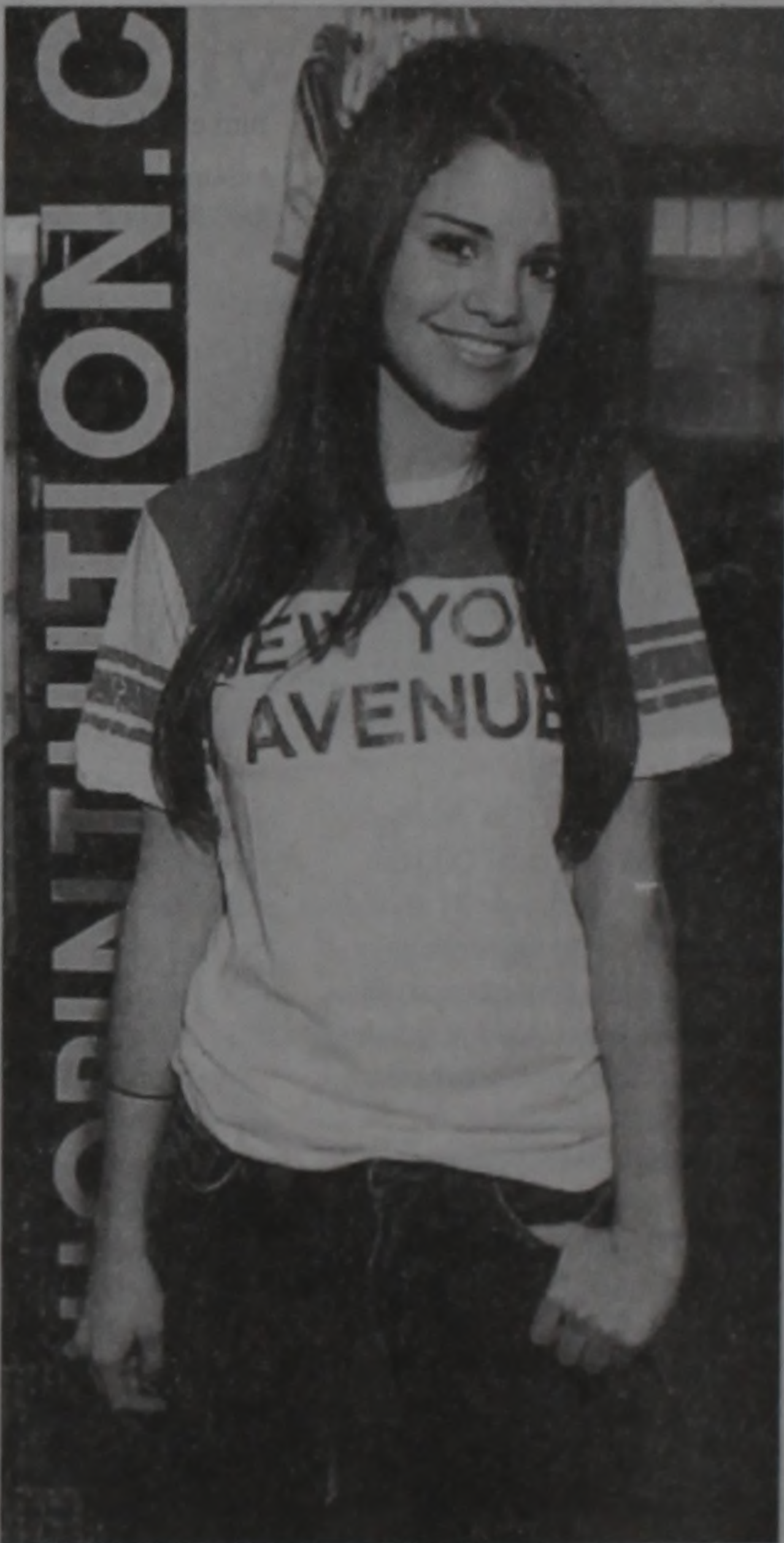
"It is not the sequel to the first one with Hilary Duff," she says, referring to 2004's "A Cinderella Story."

In this new "Cinderella" installment, she plays the hip hop and tango dancer Mary Santiago.

"At a ball, I meet a guy and we fall in love during a dance. Instead of dropping my glass slipper, I drop my MP3 player," she advances.

Gómez is also continuing her work on "Wizards of Waverly Place."

The show centers on the Russos, a family in New York City who own a restaurant and, as it happens, have wizard powers.



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# Suspended Pacman rejoins Cowboys for practice

Suspended cornerback Pacman Jones was back at work with the Dallas Cowboys on Monday, going to meetings and a practice even though he can't suit up until Dec. 7 against Pittsburgh.

Jones is allowed to do everything but play in the next game – Thursday against Seattle – as he works his way back from his latest suspension, a six-game penalty for violating the league's player conduct policy. He previously was suspended for the entire 2007 season and coach Wade Phillips said Monday it's reasonable to believe another slip-up would get him permanently banned from the NFL.

"We've got to hope, for his sake really, that he has cleared all that up," Phillips said. "All the pressure is on him, really, to do the right thing."

Jones did not come into the locker room during the 45 minutes it was open to reporters. A team meeting followed, then an extended walkthrough that was closed to media.

By being around the team this week, Jones can start getting back into football shape. He also can start repairing whatever damage his absence might've caused in the locker room.

"He got to prove some things, obviously, but he's going to be welcome here," said linebacker Greg Ellis, a co-captain and the defense's elder statesman. "Time

is the only thing that's going to make this better – and good time, keeping your nose clean, doing the right things, making the right decisions, being in the right places at the right time and not at the wrong places at the wrong time. ...

"He can't let us down in the aspect of off-the-field issues. If he gives up a play here, that happens in football. But when you're doing things that take you away from your teammates because you're not keeping it together off the field, those are the kinds of things you can control most of the times."

Fellow cornerback Terence Newman said Jones is a good teammate.

"He hangs out with everybody," Newman said. "His track record isn't the best as far as him getting into trouble, but if you get to know the guy you find out he is a really good dude."

Jones started the first six games, breaking up enough passes that he still leads the club in that category. He also was the main punt returner. The Cowboys went 4-2 with him, and are 3-2 without him.

They've won the last two games for their first winning streak since September, with the defense playing well in both games. Adding Jones for the final month should make them

even better as they fight for a wild-card berth.

"I think he fits fine," Phillips said. "He made a lot of plays for us when he played. Having not played for a year, I thought he really came along pretty well."

Phillips said coaches will wait until next week to determine Jones' role. With Newman playing through a groin injury and rookie Mike Jenkins missing the upcoming game with a hamstring problem, there's no point in deciding where to slot Jones until he's able to play.

Jones will no longer be provided with a team-hired bodyguard. The Cowboys tried that already, and the personal protector is the guy Jones wound up scuffling with during a party at a downtown hotel Oct. 7. He played the following Sunday, then was suspended indefinitely Oct. 14.

Jones spent much of his time away in an alcohol rehabilitation program. Commissioner Roger Goodell said he spoke to "clinical experts" before setting Jones'

punishment at six games. The league hasn't outlined the terms of his return, except to say he must stay out of trouble.

"He's running out of chances," Newman said. "We will try and do our best to see that nothing happens. We have to do our part and keep him out of trouble."

Ellis warned against having high hopes about Jones, although it's not because he doesn't trust his teammate.

"He's a highly talented player so people have a tendency to say, 'OK, well, because he's that talented of a player, we're going to place everything on him,'" Ellis said. "We can't just depend on an absent guy who is coming back to change the whole complexion of the football team."



# Holyfield wants to be undisputed champion again

Evander Holyfield is returning to the ring at age 46, setting his sights on becoming undisputed heavyweight champion again.

Holyfield will fight 7-foot WBA champion Nikolai Valuev next month. A victory will make him the oldest man to claim a world heavyweight title and the first to win it five times.

"My goal is to be undisputed champion not just to win one title," Holyfield said at a news conference Tuesday at the Hallenstadion, where the fight will take place on Dec. 20.

"I think people make too much about age," he said. "I haven't fought in a year but I will be ready."

Holyfield underwent five hours of medical tests in Germany on Monday to show he was ready for the physical challenge of facing the Russian champion, who is likely

with bigger purses waiting for unification fights.

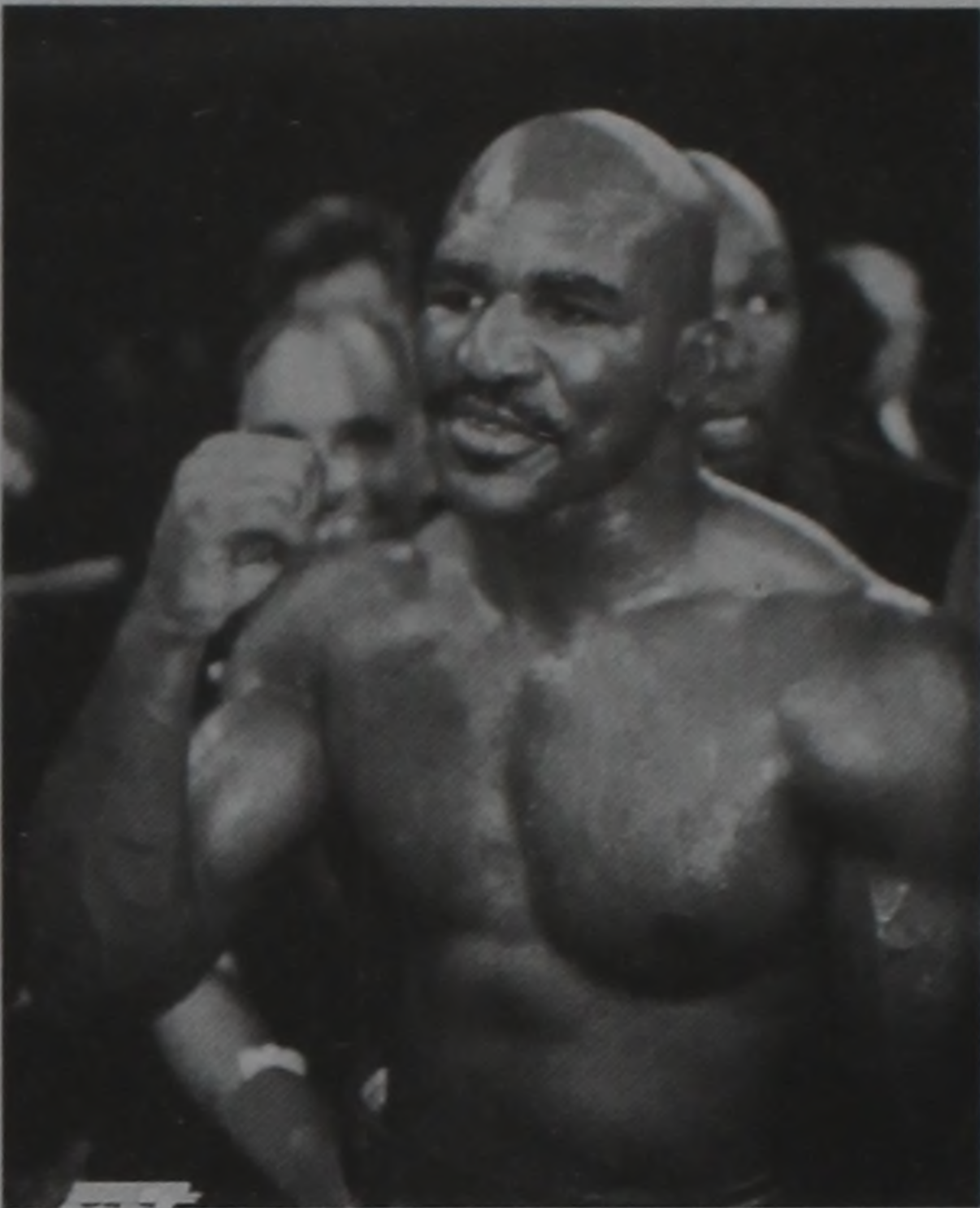
"It is not much for him to fight for the championship," Sanders said. "You can make \$10 million for the next fight."

Holyfield has the potential in the next five years to match his career earnings of \$200 million, the manager said.

Sanders added: "And he's going to keep it this time. I'm going to see to that."

The Klitschko brothers currently hold four other versions of the heavyweight title. The 37-year-old Vitali has the WBC belt, while 32-year-old Wladimir holds the IBF, WBO and IBO versions.

The 35-year-old Valuev described Holyfield as a legend and said he watched his fights 10 years ago, and dreamed of one day meeting him in the ring.



# Michael Vick pleads guilty paving way for possible return to NFL

It was a far different scene than the one that played out on professional football fields around the country prior to the 2007 season, when defensive backs and linebackers rarely contained the fleet of foot Falcons quarterback.

Tuesday, Michael Vick arrived at Surry County (Va.) Circuit Courthouse in Sussex at approximately 6:40 a.m., wearing gray prison garb and shackles around his ankles and wrists. The 28-year-old disgraced NFL player pleaded guilty to a state dogfighting charge and had another charge dropped in accordance with his plea on federal dogfighting charges. He received a three-year suspended sentence.

"I want to apologize to the court, my family, and to all the kids who looked up to me as a role model," Vick told Circuit Judge Samuel E. Campbell. Vick's mother Brenda Boddie, brother Marcus Vick and fiancée Kijafa Frink were in the courthouse for the hearing.

It was the latest step in the scandal that brought down one of the league's top talents, and comes almost a year after Vick was sentenced to 23 months in federal prison for his role in "Bad Newz Kennels," the dogfighting operation that Vick and several

associates carried out on Vick's rural Moonlight Road property in Surry County.

Vick is scheduled to be released from a Leavenworth, Kan. federal facility July 20, 2009, but today's development could make him eligible for early release as it resolves his outstanding legal issues. If early release is granted, Vick would serve part of remaining sentence in a halfway house.

"My understanding is, if you've got other charges when you're in the federal system, that kind of acts as a hold on you. You can't move up in status, you can't move to any other facilities. You're basically in limbo," said William Frick, a former prosecutor with the South Carolina State Attorney General's office, who won a conviction for David Tant on dogfighting charges four years ago in South Carolina. Tant is serving a 40-

year sentence on state charges.

New, gruesome details about Vick's operation emerged Friday when The Department of Agriculture released a 17-page investigative report on the case. As recently as mid-April 2007, Vick and two associates, Purnell Peace and Quanis Phillips, executed at least six dogs by hanging and drowning. The report also stated that Vick placed family pet dogs in the ring and "thought it was funny to watch pit bull dogs belonging to Bad Newz Kennels injure or kill the other dogs."

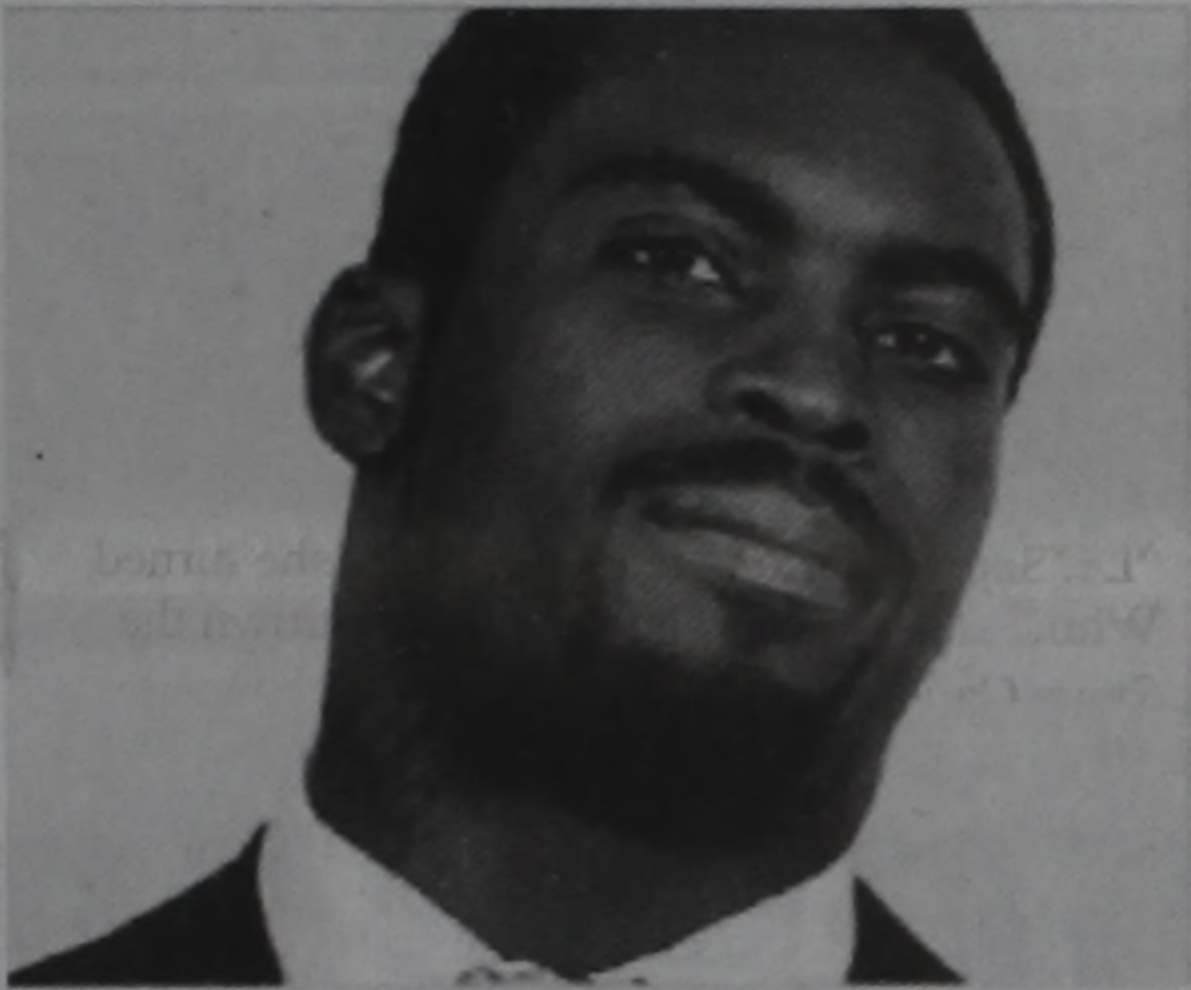
According to the USDA report, the Surry County Sheriff's Office had knowledge of an illegal

dogfighting operation as early as 2004 and the Virginia State Police received information about "Bad Newz Kennels" from a confidential informant in November 2005. The USDA and Surry County Sheriff's Deputy discussed a joint investigation in October 2006, but a key source in the probe died of a drug overdose in January 2007.

Later that year, authorities from the USDA and Virginia State Police executed a search warrant of Vick's property and uncovered the dogfighting operation. Two months later, Vick pleaded guilty and was sentenced in December.

"The federal prosecutor likely had that information (in the USDA report) and I guess they decided whatever they were going with was going to be enough. In Vick's case, it was perfectly appropriate according to federal guidelines," said Frick of the original federal sentence.

"The details (the USDA) talks about, quite frankly, are not all that unusual in animal fighting cases. You hear plenty of times of animals being picked off the street and being used as bait dogs. Unfortunately that's where a lot of family pets end up."



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# VENENO FASTPITCH SOFTBALL CLUB



Veneno Fastpitch Softball Club would like to say thank you to all the support that they have received throughout the year and would like to wish everyone a Blessed Thanksgiving Season.

Photo taken during Carlsbad New Mexico tournament that was held this past weekend. Veneno was proud to represent the Hub City (Lubbock, Texas) during the Show Spirit event at the early stage of the weekend tournament. Team sponsor El Editor would like to thank you, the parents and girls that participated in the team throughout the year. Special thanks to team owner Marisol Agüero with help of parents (Bidal & Olga Agüero) and coaches Daniel Perez and Noel Carrillo for all their dedication and support for the team.

Thank you Lubbock and Go Raiders!!!

# Por una vida más sana

¿Quiere disminuir los riesgos de padecer de diabetes tipo 2 y de enfermedades del corazón? La pérdida de unas cuantas libras puede marcar una gran diferencia. Un estudio conocido como Programa para la Prevención de la Diabetes reveló que la pérdida del 5 al 10 % del peso corporal puede evitar o retrasar la aparición de enfermedades como la diabetes tipo 2. En el caso de una persona que pesa 180 libras, el 5 % equivale a sólo nueve.

Actualmente, en Estados Unidos una de cada cinco personas padece de diabetes, mientras que las enfermedades cardíacas son la principal causa de muerte. La pérdida de peso disminuye los riesgos en varias formas, y los expertos en salud afirman que existe un factor clave para bajar de peso: ir haciéndolo lentamente. La mayoría tiene éxito haciendo un pequeño cambio cada vez. Gradualmente, esos pequeños cambios totalizan una enorme diferencia.

En lo que respecta a perder peso, hay dos puntos vitales en los que debemos enfocarnos: comer alimentos sanos y hacer ejercicios. Pero el consumo de alimentos sanos no quiere decir que debamos someternos a una dieta, ni siquiera renunciar al pastel de chocolate (al menos, no completamente).

"Lo más importante es consumir más vegetales, granos enteros y frutas diariamente", afirma el Dr. Jamy Ard, del Departamento de Ciencias de la Nutrición de la Universidad de Alabama en Birmingham. "Estos alimentos con alto contenido de fibra proporcionan nutrientes para combatir las enfermedades, y mantienen por más tiempo la sensación de llenura, por lo que seremos menos propensos a ingerir alimentos con gran cantidad de calorías".

A continuación, algunos consejos para una pérdida de peso saludable:

- » Concéntrase en el lado positivo. En vez de pensar en lo que no debe comer, concéntrase en los alimentos que más debe ingerir, como vegetales, granos enteros y frutas. Probablemente se dará cuenta de que si se llena con estas meriendas sanas, no le quedará demasiado espacio para la "comida chatarra". Si usa esta estrategia, podrá comer más, pero incorporará menos calorías a su organismo, o sea, la receta básica para una pérdida de peso efectiva.
- » Actividad física. No tiene que prepararse como si fuera a correr en un maratón para beneficiarse con la actividad física. La incorporación de un poco de actividad a su día mejorará su salud. La clave es comenzar



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