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Carlos Gutierrez Named Commerce Secretary

US President George W. Bush on Monday nominated 51-year-old Carlos Gutierrez, the Cuban-born head of cereals giant Kellogg Co., as his

new commerce secretary. "He knows exactly what it takes to make American businesses grow and create jobs," Bush said.

citizen," Bush said at a joint news conference.

"When his family eventually settled in Mexico City, Carlos took his first job for Kellogg as a truck driver, delivering Frosted Flakes to local stores," the US leader said.

"Ten years after he started, he was running the Mexican business. And 15 years after that, he was running the entire company."

The president called on the Senate to confirm the nomination as quickly as possible.

Bush vowed to reform the "outdated" tax code so as to eliminate pointless paperwork while stimulating savings, investment and growth.

He promised to cut the burden of "junk lawsuits" on business.

The administration also would help more Americans, especially minorities and women, start small businesses, he said.

Bush renewed a commitment to free and fair trade.

"Carlos and I know that America's workers can compete with anybody in the world," he said. "We'll ensure that the American economy keeps creating jobs and remains dynamic and flexible far into the future."

Gutierrez said he backed Bush's policies. "I believe in your call for a vibrant, growing entrepreneurial society where everyone has the opportunity to experience the joy and the pride of ownership, where everyone can contribute and where everyone can benefit," he said.

"I have had the opportunity to live that American dream. So I know that the president's vision is noble, I know it's real and I know it's tangible," Gutierrez said.

Latino Latino Politca New-comers Get Some Inside Tips on Public Service

By Sonia Meléndez

Sixty first-term Latino elected officials have just returned home from the nation's capital with a new understanding and appreciation for their roles as public servants.

They are the fifth and largest group of graduates of the National Institute for Newly Elected Officials, a biennial conference hosted by the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund.

Among their number: 10 state legislators, 28 county and municipal officials, and 22 school board members.

Roughly reflecting the Hispanic spread in the U.S. population, they are evenly split between females and males. A high percentage are still in their 20s; the oldest is in her 50s.

Represented at the institute were 15 states. The largest contingent, 16, gained public office in California, followed by Texas, 15, and New Mexico, 10. Others are spread among such states as Illinois (3), Arizona, New Jersey, Kansas, Colorado and Connecticut, all with two, and Washington, Oklahoma, Indiana, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island, with one apiece.

The NALEO event, held at the Kellogg Conference Center on the Gallaudet University campus, was designed to empower and provide the elected newcomers with national insights on matters such as public finance, policy and ethics, and even how to deal with a persistent press.

The one-of-kind institute has become so competitive that it turned down almost as many new public officials as it admitted.

"All of our participants were elected because of their qualifications, ability and willingness to serve the public," says Arturo Vargas, NALEO Educational Fund execu-

tive director. "But even the best qualified have something to learn, and success comes to those who are willing to continue their education and sharpen their minds to adapt to the environment of an elective office."

At the non-partisan event, Democrat and Republican leaders at the highest levels addressed the group in separate luncheons.

Robert Menéndez (D-N.J.), chair of the House Democratic Caucus, stressed the importance of attending to the needs of all their diverse constituencies. But, he added, as elected Hispanic officials, they have the responsibility "to continue cultivating new leadership within our communities."

A noontime later, Rubén Barrales, director of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, challenged, "After the campaigning is over, it is time to get to work regardless of your party lines," saying he welcomed all their phone calls if they had an issue on question for the administration.

He even gave out his office phone number — (202) 456-2796 — with the teasing promise, "We will either answer your questions or dodge them."

Barrales emphasized three federally related issues the new officials need to address in their communities: Homeland Security regulations, immigration and education.

Arlington, Va., County board member J. Walter Tejada, a native of El Salvador, asked Barrales the status of the president's proposed guestworker program and was told that the president is still planning to move forward with his proposal. "It is not amnesty but it does allow people to fill jobs," Barrales said, speculating that the DREAM Act, to aid bright immigrant high school graduates whose parents lack papers, and the AgJOBS bill will likely be folded by Congress into one immigration reform package.

Budget for the national institute, which paid all participant expenses, was \$150,000. Some dozen sponsors pitched in to cover its costs. Among them were Altria, AT&T, State Farm Insurance and Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc..

For the first time, NALEO partnered with the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, inviting a trio of newly elected Asian Americans to join in its program, too.

Henry Perea, 27-year-old vice president of the Fresno, Calif., City Council, expressed a common reaction of participants: "Being here has been very helpful because one day you are a candidate, then the next day you're sworn in, making decisions without anyone showing you the ropes."

It's critical that you understand your role and authority as you go along, he said, crediting the intensive NALEO sessions with addressing that void.

**Pancho Clos is Coming to Town!
Dec. 19th
; Ya Viene Pancho Clos!**

Outgoing Commerce Secretary Donald Evans, a close friend of Bush for more than three decades, resigned November 9.

Bush said Gutierrez, who began with Kellogg Co. selling cereal out of a van in Mexico City and is now chairman and chief executive of the group, knew the world of business from the first rung of the ladder to the top.

"Carlos's family came to America from Cuba when he was a boy. He learned English from a bellhop in a Miami hotel and later became an American

Aumenta tasa de desempleo en EEUU, pero en nivel recuperable

El número de personas que solicitó beneficios por seguro de desempleo aumento marcadamente la semana pasada pero en conjunto el nivel de nuevos desempleados se mantiene dentro de un margen de recuperación del mercado laboral.

El Departamento del Trabajo informó el jueves que las nuevas solicitudes de beneficios por desempleo aumentaron en 25.000 a 349.000 durante la semana que concluyó el 27 de noviembre, que incluyó el feriado de Día de Acción de Gracias. Algunos analistas habían pronosticado un pequeño aumento de unos 7.000.

Los economistas privados y los analistas del Departamento del Trabajo dijeron que los reclamos de beneficios por desempleo en esta temporada y en otros feriados por lo general son más volátiles por lo que pueden variar más de semana a semana en parte debido a dificultades de ajuste de temporada.

Una cifra sin ajustes indicó que las nuevas solicitudes reflejaban una baja de más de 36.000.

El nivel de nuevas solicitudes de la semana pasada, 349.000, corresponde a un nivel de recuperación en el mercado laboral, señalaron.

Entretanto, el número de personas que siguen recibiendo beneficios por desempleo bajó en 20.000, a 2,72 millones, en la semana que concluyó el 20 de noviembre. Esa cifra es la más baja desde fines de abril del 2001.

Novatos en la Política Reciben Consejos Sobre Servicio Público

Por Sonia Meléndez

Sesenta funcionarios hispanos electos por primera vez, quienes se encontraban en la capital de la nación, acaban de regresar a su hogar con una nueva percepción y comprensión de los trabajos que realizarán como servidores públicos. Ellos conforman el quinto y más grande grupo de graduados del Instituto Nacional para Nuevos Funcionarios Electos, una conferencia bial que celebró la Asociación Nacional del Fondo Educativo de Funcionarios Electos y Designados Hispanos (NALEO, por sus siglas en inglés).

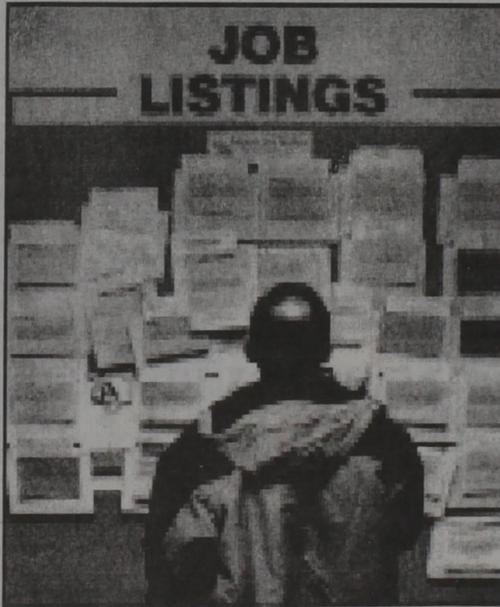
Entre ellos, había 10 legisladores estatales, 28 funcionarios de condados y municipios y 22 miembros de consejos escolares. Había exactamente la misma proporción de hombres y mujeres, lo que refleja aproximadamente la distribución de los hispanos en la población de Estados Unidos. Un porcentaje alto se encontraba entre las edades de los 20 y 30 años; la persona de más edad tenía 40 y tantos años.

Había representación de 15 estados en la conferencia. El grupo más grande (de 16), ganó cargos públicos en California, seguido por Texas (15) y Nuevo México (10). Los otros están distribuidos en estados como Illinois, con tres representantes, Arizona, Nueva Jersey, Kansas, Colorado y Connecticut, con dos, y Washington, Oklahoma, Indiana, Virginia, Pennsylvania y Rhode Island, con uno.

El evento de NALEO, que se llevó a cabo en el Kellogg Conference Center en los predios de la Universidad de Gallaudet, se diseñó con el propósito de reforzar y proveer a los nuevos funcionarios una visión nacional sobre asuntos como finanzas públicas, política y ética e incluso, sobre cómo lidiar con la persistente prensa.

Esta conferencia, única en su clase, se ha vuelto tan competitiva que rechaza casi a la misma cantidad de funcionarios públicos que admite. Arturo Vargas, director ejecutivo del fondo educativo de NALEO, dice: "Todos nuestros participantes fueron elegidos por su preparación, habilidad y buena disposición para servir al público, pero incluso, los mejores preparados tienen algo que aprender. Son exitosos los que están dispuestos a continuar su educación y a agudizar su pensamiento para adaptarse al ambiente del cargo electoral."

En este evento independiente, varios líderes de alto rango, tanto del partido demócrata como del republicano, se dirigieron al grupo en sesiones de almuerzo separadas. Robert Menéndez (del distrito de Nueva Jersey), presidente del comité demócrata de la Cámara, enfatizó la importancia de atender las necesidades de cada una de las diversas poblaciones de electores, pero añadió que como funcionarios hispanos electos, tienen la responsabilidad de "continuar cultivando el liderazgo nuevo en nuestras comunidades". (Cont. Page 6)



Congreso y Fox en nuevo round

El presidente Vicente Fox devolvió el martes a la Cámara de Diputados el presupuesto del 2005 con 70 observaciones al proyecto aprobado por la oposición en espera de que lo modifiquen, aunque legisladores advirtieron que rechazarán las propuestas del Ejecutivo.

El gobierno decidió hacer cuatro observaciones generales y 66 particulares al plan de gastos debido a que detectó "grandes contradicciones así como serias inconsistencias tanto del orden económico como jurídico, que hacen inviable la ejecución del presupuesto tal y como se aprobó", dijo el secretario de Hacienda, Francisco Gil.

Agregó que entre las inconsistencias destacan la reducción del presupuesto al Poder Judicial y del gasto necesario para aumentar la recaudación y para pagar adeudos con proveedores.

La oposición también determinó que la administración pública federal debe disminuir su gasto de operación entre un mínimo de 19.5 por ciento y un máximo de 39.5 por ciento, "algo que no es factible sin descoyuntar su funcionamiento", señaló Gil.

Dijo que el gobierno detectó errores de cálculo, diferencias de cifras y duplicidad de asignaciones que afectarían el

funcionamiento cotidiano de la administración.

Para el secretario de Gobernación Santiago Creel, "la discusión sobre el presupuesto no es sólo por pesos y centavos,



es porque la Cámara de Diputados interfiere con las atribuciones y obligaciones del Poder Ejecutivo".

Una vez recibidas las observaciones, el documento tendría que ser presentado al pleno para votar si se acepta o no su análisis.

"Si se admite a discusión (el documento) pasará a una comisión para dictaminarse; si no, se tendrá por desechada... que creo que es lo que va a ocurrir", dijo el martes en W Radio Pablo Gómez, coordinador de los diputados del PRD.



Comentarios
by Bidal Agüero

Un poquito de Todo! Ya Viene Pancho Clos!
The American G.I. Forum's Pancho Clos project is scheduled for Dec. 19 at the Maggie Trejo Community Center. The Forum is asking for donations from any business that wants to help. Those interest can call Robert Narvaiz at 792-5037.

Pancho Clos will also make an appearance in the film "The Marvelous Santa Suit" soon to be shown on Telemundo. More on this as details finalize.

Pancho Clos shirt are also now available from El Editor Call 763-3841.

Another holiday note from the Hispanic Chamber who will hold it's annual Holiday event at the science Spectrum on Dec. 16. The event will also serve to honor outgoing commissioner Gilbert Flores. For more information call 806-762-5059.

I noticed that the City Council had sent its wish list to our representatives in Austin. I

noticed that the City Council had sent its wish list to our representatives in Austin. I wonder if any of the need of our community including reinstating the CHIP program to its fullest is included in that list. I really doubt it. This might be a good project for the now hardly noticeable Hispanic Agenda. Another thought might be for the Hispanic Agenda to get Hispanic organizations together and come up with our own wish list.

It's already December and almost the end of the year. As everyone says, How time flies! Soon 2005 will arrive and I haven't even start on my resolutions. Hopefully time will allow for me to come up with a list this year. Among them will be what we would like our City and County father to help us out with for the coming year. Our readers are invited to send in their to eleditor@llano.net



Can Hispanic Finally Assert Their Political Power?

By Julio Barreto

If Hispanics do become the major political force that most pundits believe they will soon be, the 2004 presidential election may be remembered as the break-out year.

Both parties spent considerable time, money and attention to courting the Hispanic vote, and each received a significant enough portion of it to feel optimistic about the future.

In reality, both still have lots of ground to cover.

The controversy surrounding conflicting Hispanic exit-poll figures in the presidential race obscures the real issue: neither party has a real hold on Hispanics.

Democrats point to data of the Southwest Voter Registration and Education Project which show that two-thirds of the Hispanic vote went to John Kerry, the same percentage as went to Al Gore in 2000. They present this as proof that they are the party most in tune with the issues of concern to Hispanics.

However, the fact the George Bush did not lose Hispanic votes from those posted in 2000 should be a boost to Republicans and a cause for concern to Democrats.

Why? Because at a time when most Hispanic advocates argue that this administration has established policies harmful to their community, it has secured a base to build upon

for the next election cycle.

It underscores the fact that Hispanics have not pigeon-holed themselves to a single party, as has the African-American community.

The key for Hispanic voters will be to leverage their numbers to secure policies and initiatives that provide true gain for the community. Democrats must be held to as high a level of accountability as Republicans.

Early reaction by Democratic leaders to Kerry's defeat seems to indicate that they are strategizing on how they can capture a portion of the white evangelical vote that was so crucial to this election.

While a portion of that message may play well within the evangelical Hispanic community, for the most part, it leaves people of color on the outside looking in unless a strong message of accountability is sent both parties.

Given the discrepancy in numbers between Republicans and Democrats in the House and Senate, it is unlikely that Democratic-sponsored initiatives will be successful this year. The Republican leadership seems to be adamant in pursuing an agenda that could prove hostile to a majority of Hispanics.

However, Democrats must not be allowed to use that as an excuse not to address Hispanic concerns. Democrats have been able to secure

the African-American vote time and time again without any real accountability for party failures.

Yes, Democrats do vote correctly on so-called "minority" issues, but look at the power structure within the Democratic Party. Look at the power structure within the inner circle of John Kerry's campaign. There were no people of color calling any significant shots for Democrats.

Their message: we want your vote but only so much of your input.

Republicans are also very white-heavy at the top. While they have fewer obstacles to overcome to win the Hispanic vote than they do to win over the African-American vote, they still have their own hurdles. They will lose Hispanic voters if anti-immigrant initiatives are placed on the ballot by Republican groups in California, Colorado and Georgia.

They just don't get it. The values that drove white evangelicals to the polls are the very values that immigrants bring to this country. Yet immigration could be the wedge issue that separates Republicans from Hispanics, just as the history of racism separates Republicans from African Americans.

Republicans must get real. Passing a Constitutional amendment to allow Arnold Schwarzenegger to run for president does not count as being immigrant friendly. Republicans must support an immigration reform policy that provides a realistic path to natu-

ralization and eventually citizenship for those already here.

Understandably, they fear losing a portion of their reactionary white voter base. However, they will gain long-term.

The GOP must also demonstrate, in a very real way, that its proposed path to the American Dream, i.e., riding the wave of free enterprise, works in poor communities.

Right now, free enterprise works in poor communities best if you are engaged in illegal activities. Hispanics are all too often trapped in areas with inferior school systems, high crime, inadequate housing and low-wage employment that offer little opportunity for advancement. Hispanics must see that policies which support the GOP philosophy work in a very real way to help families achieve social and economic success.

The 2006 and 2008 elections will go far in determining the extent to which Hispanics are a true and united political force, or whether they're just another group that can be manipulated by either party.

Because most today's Hispanic "leaders" are closely aligned with the Democratic Party, new leaders may need to emerge to ensure that the Hispanic vote is not held captive by either party.

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Finding Our Voice

By Abel Cruz

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

— Martin Luther King Jr.

I don't know the context from which this quote comes, but I can imagine Dr. King saying it in an effort to inspire people of the Civil Rights movement era to take some kind of action or stance during the struggles of the 1960's.

I'll be the first to admit that keeping quiet about things that happen around you is the easiest thing to do; especially when making your voice heard would be unpopular.

But sometimes, remaining silent about one thing starts you on the path to losing your voice completely. That seems to me to be the greater danger.

For instance, a couple of events that have taken place in this city over the past few weeks illustrate this point.

When some residents from the Tech Terrace community were fed up with loud parties, and people trying to "water their lawns" late at night, they got together and decided to make some noise of their own. One person wrote a letter to Councilman Gary Boren and presto, before you know it, television coverage shows a meeting being held for the residents with every single council person along with the mayor present; along with the chief of police and other city staff.

In this case, one voice made itself heard and got some action. I suspect that it was also because this is an area of town that traditionally votes, contributes to political campaigns, and has what a lot of other groups don't have; a political voice.

On the other hand, what happens when another group of residents who have generally not had a political voice, and who traditionally remain silent have a problem?

According to local news reports, at the corner of Parkway Drive and Guava in East Lubbock, there is a pit that is being used as a dumping ground. The dump is right next to a residential area and is just a short distance from a local public school. The dump is full of trash and probably material that has become contaminated over the years. According to news reports, residents have been complaining for over 20 years about this situation.

Twenty years!

And what do we see on the evening news, Councilman Floyd Price on the phone trying to find out who owns that particular property. I applaud Mr. Price's efforts, but where are the city personnel that are responsible for these illegal sites? Where is the concern from the rest of the city council and the mayor over this situation? What has been done, if anything, over the past 20 years to correct this situation? Let me answer that: absolutely nothing!

And that is precisely what you get when your silence has been louder than your political voice...absolutely nothing!
(c)acruz2004 Email: acruzsc@aol.com

¿Pueden los Hispanos Hacer Valer Su Poder Político Finalmente?

Por Julio Barreto

Si los hispanos realmente se convierten en la mayor fuerza política que la mayoría de los expertos creen que pronto serán, la elección presidencial del 2004 puede ser recordada como el año del estallido.

Ambos partidos pasaron una cantidad considerable de tiempo, dinero y atención para tratar de conseguir el voto hispano, y cada uno recibió una porción bastante significativa de votos para sentirse optimista sobre el futuro.

La realidad es que ambos aun tienen mucho terreno por cubrir.

La controversia que rodea las figuras conflictivas de encuestas de salida hispanas en la carrera por la presidencia oculta el asunto verdadero: ningún partido tiene un verdadero control sobre los hispanos.

Los demócratas señalan datos del Proyecto de Inscripción de Votantes y Educación del Suroeste (Southwest Voter Registration and Education Project) que muestran que dos terceras partes del voto hispano fueron para John Kerry, el mismo porcentaje que fue para Al Gore en el 2000. Presentan esto como prueba de que son el partido más en sintonía con los asuntos que preocupan a los hispanos.

Sin embargo, el hecho de que George Bush no perdió votos hispanos de los que ganó en el 2000 debe ser un estímulo para los republicanos y un motivo de preocupación para los demócratas.

¿Por qué? Porque en un momento en el que la mayoría de los defensores de los hispanos sostiene que esta administración ha establecido políticas perjudiciales a su comunidad, ha asegurado una base

con la cual comenzar en el próximo ciclo electoral.

Subraya el hecho de que los hispanos no se han encasillado en un solo partido, como lo ha hecho la comunidad afro-americana.

La clave para los votantes hispanos será apalancar sus números para asegurar políticas e iniciativas que provean una verdadera ganancia para la comunidad. A los demócratas se les debe exigir el mismo alto nivel de responsabilidad que a los republicanos.

La temprana reacción de los líderes demócratas a la derrota de Kerry parece indicar que están planeando una estrategia sobre cómo pueden capturar una parte del voto de los evangélicos blancos que fue tan crucial para esta elección.

Mientras que una parte de ese mensaje puede sonar bien dentro de la comunidad evangélica hispana, deja, en gran parte, a las personas de color afuera a menos que se mande un fuerte mensaje de responsabilidad a ambos partidos.

Dada la discrepancia en números entre republicanos y demócratas en la Cámara y el Senado, es poco probable que las iniciativas patrocinadas por los demócratas tengan éxito este año. El liderazgo republicano parece ser firme en seguir una agenda que puede ser hostil para una mayoría de hispanos.

Sin embargo, no se les debe permitir a los demócratas usar eso como una excusa para no atender las preocupaciones de los hispanos. Los demócratas han sido capaces de asegurar el voto afro-americano una

y otra vez sin asumir responsabilidad real alguna por los fracasos del partido.

Si, los demócratas sí votan correctamente en los llamados asuntos "minoritarios", pero hay que mirar la estructura de poder dentro del partido demócrata. Hay que considerar la estructura de poder dentro del círculo interno de la campaña de John Kerry. No hubo personas de color tomando decisiones importantes por los demócratas.

Su mensaje: queremos tu voto pero sólo un poco de tu aportación.

Los republicanos también tienen a muchos blancos en sus altas posiciones. Mientras que tienen menos obstáculos que vencer para ganar el voto hispano que los que tienen para ganar el voto afro-americano, aun tienen sus propios obstáculos. Perderán votantes hispanos si los grupos republicanos en California, Colorado y Georgia colocan en las urnas iniciativas anti-inmigrantes.

Simplemente no lo entienden. Los valores que llevarán a los evangélicos blancos a las urnas son los mismos valores que los inmigrantes traen a este país. Todavía la inmigración puede ser el asunto que abra una brecha entre los republicanos y los hispanos, precisamente como la historia del racismo separa a los republicanos de los afro-americanos.

Los republicanos deben ser realistas. Aprobar una enmienda constitucional que le permita a Arnold Schwarzenegger postularse para presidente no cuenta como algo a favor de los inmigrantes. Los republicanos deben apoyar una política de reforma migratoria que provea un proceso realista a la naturalización y finalmente a la

ciudadanía para los que ya están aquí.

Justificadamente, tienen miedo de perder parte de su base reaccionaria de votantes blancos.

Sin embargo, ganarán a largo plazo.

El partido republicano también tiene que demostrar, de una manera muy realista, que su camino propuesto al sueño americano, es decir, viajar en la ola de la libre empresa, funciona en comunidades pobres.

Ahora mismo, la libre empresa funciona mejor en las comunidades pobres si se dedican a actividades ilícitas. Los hispanos están atrapados, a menudo, en áreas con sistemas escolares inferiores, mucha criminalidad, viviendas inadecuadas y empleos donde ganan un salario bajo que ofrecen poca oportunidad para mejorar. Los hispanos deben ver que las políticas que apoyan la filosofía de trabajo del partido republicano funcionan de una manera muy realista para ayudar a las familias a conseguir el éxito social y económico.

Las elecciones del 2006 y el 2008 irán lejos para determinar el grado al que los hispanos son una fuerza política verdadera y unida, o si sólo son otro grupo que puede ser manipulado por cualquiera de los partidos.

Por lo que la mayoría de los "líderes" hispanos de hoy en día están estrechamente alineados con el partido demócrata, nuevos líderes tendrán que surgir para asegurar que el voto hispano no sea prisionero de ningún partido.

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Schwarzenegger Slaps Fox in Japan

By Patrick Osio, Jr

Have you ever been in a crowded ballroom when your ear hears the distinctive sound of a face been slapped? You turn towards the sound and see a guy holding his hand to his cheek where a very pretty young lady has just delivered the smack — as in one everybody goes — ooh. Well, Mexico just got that slap by none other than our own California "Terminator." The ballroom was Japan and the slap was Gov. Schwarzenegger saying that using his own money he will reopen a California trade office in Japan. And the sound was heard in the international trade community all the way to Mexico City as it was President Vicente Fox holding his hand up to his cheek.

We all know that Japan is a richer country than Mexico. We all know that they are the second largest economy in the world. We all know that they are California's number one foreign investment source. And we all know that their cars outsell our cars, as do their televisions, as do their play stations, as do most of the consumer electronic products. But surely Schwarzenegger knows that Mexico buys more products from California than does Japan — or he should know. He must also surely know that Mexico is next door to us — which I know he does know as he has said he loves Mexico — he has spent family vacations there. Gov. Schwarzenegger was on a trade mission to Japan promoting California products. But get this — mainly agricultural and wine products. Here again, we all know that California's \$27 billion ag industry is the state's largest revenue sector. And though we cringe at the thought and not speak of

it publicly, we also all know that it is largely due to Mexican nationals both the legal residents and undocumented workers that are the backbone of California's agricultural success. Japan buys over \$1 billion dollars worth of Mexican-worker-California-produced agricultural products, and the Governor wants them to buy more.

Mexico overtook both Japan and Canada as California's leading trading partner in 1999 and has held that position since. In 1999, Mexico purchases were slightly over \$1 billion above those of Japan's and Canada's but the gap has grown to \$5 billion over Japan's \$11 billion purchases and over \$6 billion above Canada's \$10 billion purchases. In 2003, Mexico purchased from California over \$16 billion with over 30 percent of that being computers and electronic products. Mexico accounted for 17.4 percent of California's total trade as compared to Japan's 12 percent in 2003.

In July 2003, this column decried the foolishness of Gov. Davis shutting down the state's 12 trade offices in foreign countries. Closings included offices in Mexico and Japan. He was effectively closing the state's sales offices. Competitors would move in and slowly begin picking away at California's business. And it is coming to pass.

Mexico is also the U.S. number one trading partner, buying over \$81.4 billion through September 2004 to Japan's \$40.4 billion — a two to one ratio. In fact Mexico is either the number one or ranks in the top 5 trading partners with all but four states in the union. And, Texas that does have trade offices in Mexico is eating California alive

— in 2003, Texas' exports to Mexico were \$41.5 billion — a whopping \$25 billion more than California's.

Schwarzenegger has also announced he will be visiting European countries promoting California and its products next year plus there is also a big push to increase trade with China that buys around \$5 billion Mexican-worker-California-produced agricultural products. The Mexico versus China with California (and the US) trade is even more lopsided in favor of Mexico than it is with Japan.

So why is our number one trading partner treated with such disdain and outright disrespect?

Indications are the problem is that when it comes to Mexico all issues the good and the bad are rolled into one, and the problem issues trump. The issue of illegal immigration and those associated such as driver's licenses for the undocumented, even the Mexican Matricula Consular (Mexican official ID) become obstacles in discussions on the positive aspects such as trade.

In fairness to Schwarzenegger it was Vicente Fox who canceled his scheduled trip to California as he stated the national budget was in the middle of heated debate in Congress and he had to stay close to the game. It is widely believed the real reason for the cancellation was that he wanted to discuss the driver's license issue with Schwarzenegger and had already been told there would be no change. So Fox didn't want to return to Mexico with one more failure. Whatever the case, when it comes to trade and US purchases other states are moving in and they love the idea that California takes such little interest and so shoddily treats its best customer because it represents opportunity for them.

Léa El Editor
Primero
Para
Anuncios
Llame al
763-3841

El Editor
Newspaper

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- Bidal Aguero
Business Manager - Olga Riojas
Aguero - Circulations - Gilbert Acuña
Copy Editor - Amalia Agüero -
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Cartas al Editor



Dear Bidal

It seems like every time you liberals complain about how unfair the current administration is, the truth comes out that counters everything you just said. The problem is, you always ignore the facts and continue to spread your misinformation (putting it very nicely). Here's what I read in today's news that counters your most recent article. One, the unemployment in Lubbock has dropped below 3%, a trend that is being repeated nation wide. The economy is booming after what we have experienced in the last two years and while we're in the middle of a world war with terrorists, or as the Anarchists and American haters call, "misunderstood heroes" of world freedom. Also in today's news, the largest percent of drop outs in Texas are — "Chicanos". Now, can you put together a clear thought and guess why our people end up with the, how did you phrase it, worst jobs? I'd like to hear how this is the fault of the current administration. Could it be that Chicano parents see no value in education and don't put the same priority to their children's education as they do going to "el baile" or al "a la linea" (Pinkies)?

I've known you a long time and I had always hoped that some day you would use your gifts and your paper to fight our people's apathy and total disregard towards the actions that cause to get the lousy jobs and remain unprepared to compete in today's economy. You need to stop blaming the "system" and declare war on the real problems that have kept our people from sharing the wealth that this great country has to offer. The government doesn't have to give us a damn thing because everything we need is free. What keeps our children from getting a high school education? Every year, agencies such as Learn and others go out begging for Chicanos to apply for scholarships. Many go unclaimed and are eventually lost. Why? Go to the barrio and ask our people why they don't aspire to move out of the barrio mentality? I left the barrio. Not because I was ashamed, but because the influences that my children would be exposed to would have them adopting and accepting the attitudes that permeate our barrios with our children growing up expecting government handouts to make it till the end of the month. My wife and I are both Tech graduates and all three of my children work in the medical field and one will start medical school in January. From childhood we instilled the value of a good education and to aspire to advance in their field.

You can be a gift to our people. Use your gifts to inspire our people to better themselves. The Democrats offer no solutions, just promises. They have been promising us solutions for over 40 years! George W. Bush and the Republicans don't promise to give us any handouts. They promise to give us an opportunity. Isn't that all we need? We're no longer shut out like you and we in the 60's. School counselors no longer refer us to a military or blue collar job. Those days are over, but when I read your commentaries I feel as if I'm reliving the 60s all over again. We're no longer tied to cotton fields or "la limpia". We have real choices and real opportunities. If we fail to enjoy the fruits that this great country has to offer, we have no one to blame but ourselves.

As I tell my "Chicanitos" in my 8th grade class, there's a bright future out there for all of you. There will be obstacles you must overcome, but life will be full of obstacles. My heart breaks when I call the parents of my Chicano students and the typical answer I usually get is this litany of excuses: "What do you want me to do?" "He/she just doesn't like school" "You're the teacher, do something". My "favorite" was when I talked to a mother and she proudly told me, "Why should my daughter learn to do this research you want her to do? I didn't do it and I dropped out school in the 10 grade and I'm doing fine in life." When I asked her what she did, she said she work in a laundry. And you ask why Chicanos are trapped to low paying jobs?

My wife worked 31 years as an educator and I'll retire soon from a local secondary school. I've committed my life to educating both children and many Chicano parents. I have a lot of hope for the future. Every year I see a growing number of Hispanic teachers and administrators. We put up with long hours, low pay, increasing stress (I prepare student for the TAKS test) and we have to take all the abuse that minority parents dish out. Chicano parents ignore us when we insist that they pay closer attention to their children's education and Anglo parents turn up the heat when their children don't achieve the level of success they expect from their own.

How about a campaign for increasing Chicano success education? It all starts at home. I was the only one to graduate from high and from university. My children have achieved goals that most of my relatives every hoped to achieve and my grandchildren learned to read and write before the age of three. They're on their way. It has to start somewhere. I've dedicated my life to turn this generation around. The excuses are over. We're in charge of our future. We need to stop depending on government handouts or blaming others for our failures. Now, let's convert the unconverted! Let's spread the good news for a change.

A Chicano Reader

Write to Bidal at eleditor@llano.net

Castro Excarcela al poeta Raúl Rivero

Con los ojos enrojecidos por el cansancio y visiblemente emocionado, el poeta y disidente Raúl Rivero gozó ayer sus primeras horas fuera de la cárcel sin saber si abandonará o no la isla. "No tengo un plan todavía para el futuro", dijo Rivero pocos minutos después de llegar a su casa en un barrio capitalino, sobre las 9:00 de la mañana.

Rivero, de 59 años de edad, tiene su vida momentáneamente en un "compás de espera", luego de casi 21 meses de prisión, aunque las autoridades le sugirieron no emigrar. "Nunca querría irme de Cuba. Pienso que voy a observar si puedo hacer periodismo normalmente, como estaba haciendo", agregó. Antes de ser detenido, Rivero colaboraba con medios de fuera de la isla y coordinaba una agencia de prensa no gubernamental.

Fue el quinto opositor enviado a casa en dos días, poco después de un traslado masivo de presos desde otras cárceles hacia la capital el fin de semana y un acercamiento diplomático entre Cuba y España. Madrid impulsó un diálogo con la isla, sancionada por la Unión Europea (UE) por los encarcelamientos del 2003, mientras demandó un gesto de flexibilidad a La Habana.

Además del escritor, fue dejado en libertad el martes Osvaldo Alfonso Valdés, de 40 años de edad y quien había sido condenado a 18 de cárcel en abril de 2003, junto al poeta y otros 73 opositores cubanos, era presidente del Partido Liberal Democrático en el momento de su detención.

Oscar Espinosa Chepe, Marcelo López y Margarito Broche fueron excarcelados el lunes, y otros siete reos fueron liberados entre mayo y julio. Todos ellos, además de Rivero y Valdés, estaban entre los 75 disidentes sentenciados en 2003 por acusaciones de colaborar con Washington para socavar al gobierno cubano.

"Me otorgaron una licencia extrapenal sin condiciones", explicó Rivero, quien parecía haber adelgazado. La figura jurídica, la misma aplicada en todas las excarcelaciones, permite al reo ir a su hogar para recibir tratamiento médico.

Según el examen médico realizado antes de salir de la prisión, dijo el poeta, su salud en general está bien aunque tiene enfisema pulmonar y quistes en un riñón. En su modesto apartamento del barrio de Centro Habana, Rivero ofreció una primera conferencia

en la que afirmó ser partidario del diálogo y no de la confrontación para lograr avances políticos en la isla.

"Yo aconsejaría el diálogo. Yo siempre he creído en el diálogo. Me parece, como ciudadano, que los diálogos son mejores que las presiones", precisó. Anunció además su intención de continuar escribiendo y ejerciendo el periodismo dentro de Cuba, en la medida en que pueda hacerlo libremente. "Yo nunca he querido irme de aquí", dijo.

Agregó que salía del presidio "sin furia, sin una posición beligerante, sino constructiva. No tengo odios o por lo menos grandes odios". Las liberaciones "son un gesto del gobierno para reducir un poco las tensiones", consideró el reconocido intelectual, quien considera que las detenciones le ocasionaron al gobierno isleño muchas críticas internacionales.

Rivero, quien fue corresponsal de la agencia oficial Prensa Latina y escribió libros premiados por las autoridades de la isla (Papel de hombre y Poesía pública entre otros) rompió con el gobierno a partir de la década pasada. Alfonso, el otro liberado el martes, fue el único disidente en admitir durante ante el tribunal que habría sido manipulado por Estados Unidos, mientras los otros presos se declararon inocentes.

Mientras, en España las autoridades expresaron su complacencia. "Las liberaciones son una buena noticia", dijo el canciller ibérico Miguel Angel Moratinos. "La decisión del gobierno español es seguir trabajando, con sus socios de la UE, con el objetivo de conseguir la normalización de la interlocución diplomática de todos los Estados miembros con Cuba", explicó el funcionario.

El escritor atribuyó su liberación a las presiones internacionales y, en especial, a las gestiones del gobierno español, al que dijo estar "eternamente agradecido". A su juicio, este proceso demuestra que los gestos duros "nunca funcionan bien con las autoridades cubanas". "Pienso que ha sido inteligente la gestión de los políticos españoles en general y ha sido más útil que posiciones cerradas que lo que hacen es crispas la situación", afirmó.

REACCIONES
La oposición interna cubana relacionó las liberaciones con los intentos del gobierno por respaldar la política española e insistió en demandar la libera-

ción de todos los presos políticos. "Raúl es la perla de la corona, pero quedan más en las cárceles, y el gobierno cubano todos estos años ha regalado de alguna manera presos políticos a gobiernos extranjeros", dijo el opositor Elizardo Sánchez.

Pero Sánchez también denunció que muchos de los presos, como Rivero, fueron reagrupados en La Habana hace unos días, están volviendo a sus cárceles. El presidente del gobierno español, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, expresó su "satisfacción"

y "felicidad" por la liberación de Rivero, aunque atribuyó a una "casualidad" la coincidencia con sus intentos de que la UE flexibilice su relación con Cuba.

La comunidad internacional saludó las liberaciones, pero pidió más al régimen comunista

cubano. "Lo encuentro muy alentador, pero no hay que olvidar que había 75 prisioneros políticos y que hemos pedido la liberación de los 75", declaró el ministro holandés de Exteriores y actual presidente del Consejo de la UE, Bernard Bot.

¿Que Pasa?

Affordable Housing Expo: Be Home for Christmas

The City of Lubbock Community Development Department, the Lubbock Housing Finance Corporation and the North and East Lubbock Community Development Corporation will host an Open House Expo for seven new homes on December 3-5.

Open House hours are: 2 to 6 p.m. Friday, December 3; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, December 4; and 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, December 5.

The starting point for the Open House Expo and the location where Santa will be is 2404 E. 30th St., Kelly Properties. Other homes in Expo are: 2406 E. 30th St., Lee's Home Improvements; 2437 E. 28th St., Kelly Properties; 2907 Beech Ave., Key Construction Co.; 1707 E. 29th St., Lubbock Legacy Homes; 103 Vernon Ave., McGuire Builder's Inc.; and 2216 2nd Place, Leivas Custom Homes

House prices begin at \$72,000. The City of Lubbock is offering up to \$18,000 worth of assistance to eligible homebuyers of these seven homes. Bring the kids out to see Santa Claus on Friday and Saturday, and register for free decorated Christmas Trees to be given away.

Lenders will be available on Saturday to pre-qualify interested parties for mortgage loans.

Lubbock Regional MHMR Center Helps Families Have a Brighter Holiday Season

Lubbock Regional MHMR Center provides critical services to over 9,500 people annually, many of whom will not be able to enjoy the holiday season without assistance from the citizens of our community.

Every year, Lubbock Regional MHMR Center engages in a Holiday Season Project, the primary focus of which is providing food boxes to families and small gifts for children. Last year businesses, agencies, schools and individual community members enabled over 200 families to have a brighter holiday season! With your help, at least that many families can be helped this year.

Donations to the Holiday Season Project of any size or type are always appreciated. Past experience says cash donations, new toys, clothes, school supplies and hygiene products are most needed and greatly appreciated. Contributors can adopt one person or a family or can make general donations.

All donations to Lubbock Regional MHMR Center are tax deductible and are used exclusively for the benefit of the people we serve.

For more information or to make a donation: Contact: JoAnne Harwood, Holiday Season Project Coordinator Lubbock Regional MHMR Center 806.773.7857 Email: jharwood@lrl.mhmr.state.tx.us

Copper Rawlings hosts Holiday Crafts Bazaar

Holiday shoppers can avoid the crowds and look for unique gifts in a relaxed surrounding on Saturday, December 4, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. as Copper Rawlings Community Center hosts the 3rd annual Holiday Crafts Bazaar.

Participants from surrounding neighborhoods and the community will offer gifts and Christmas crafts for sale that include: wood crafts, ornaments, dolls, stationary, hand-beaded jewelry, candles, wall hangings, and center pieces. Shoppers can also enjoy refreshments from the Center's kitchen including hot dogs, chilidogs, Frito pie, pickles, and popcorn, as

well as hot cocoa and soft drinks, all at very affordable prices.

For the first time, Santa will be on hand for photographs with your child priced reasonably at \$3 each or \$5 for two pictures. In addition, there will be opportunities to win door prizes.

The Copper-Rawlings Community Center is located at 213 40th Street (Avenue B and 40th Street). Be sure to visit with City staff about ongoing activities for seniors, adults and youth, Kid's Café and facility rental opportunities.

Toys for Tots comes to the Buddy Holly Center

The Buddy Holly Center, in collaboration with the United States Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots Drive, ask you to help make a child's holiday a little brighter this year.

Beginning December 1 through 22 drop off a new, unwrapped toy donation at the Buddy Holly Center and receive free admission to the Buddy Holly Gallery. All toys will be given to local children in need this holiday season.

The goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver a message of hope, through a shiny new toy, which will build self-esteem and, in turn, motivate needy children to grow into responsible, productive citizens and community leaders.

Toys for Tots began in 1947 when Major Bill Hendricks, USMCR and a group of Marine Reservists in Los Angeles collected and distributed deliver the doll to an organization, which would give it to a needy child at Christmas. When Bill determined that no agency existed, Diane told Bill that he should start one. He did. The 1947 campaign was so successful that the Marine Corps adopted Toys for Tots in 1948 and expanded it into a nationwide campaign.

The 2003 Toys for Tots campaign was the most successful campaign in the 56-year history of the Program. Marines distributed 15 million toys to 6.5 million needy children. Over the 56 years of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, Marines have distributed more than 313 million toys to 151 million children.

The Buddy Holly Center is proud to help in this year's Toy Drive. Make the holidays happy for those in need. For more information on this event, please contact the staff at the Buddy Holly Center at 767-2686 or visit it online at www.buddyhollycenter.org.

Upcoming events at the Public Library Dec. 2-8

The Mahon Library, 1306 9th Street, presents "South of the Border Films" this December. On Wednesday, December 8, starting at 6:10 p.m., we will show "Santo and the Blue Demon vs. Dracula and the Wolfman." Watch the good and noble El Santo, professional wrestler and crime fighter, team up with his best buddy the Blue Demon to battle the newly risen Dracula and his sidekick, Rufus Rex the werewolf! This film is in Spanish with English subtitles. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call 775-2835.

Hispanic Agenda Meeting

Greetings everyone!
The following is the agenda for the month of December. Note that this will be held at the city Hall at 2nd floor conference room at 5:30 pm on Monday, Dec. 6. This will be hosted by the City Councilwoman, Linda DeLeon. Please feel free to bring cookies, snacks to kick off the Holiday season. The agenda consists of Dr. Alfonso Sanchez-Educational Program; County Commissioner Elect - Ysidro Gutierrez and updates and announcements. Everyone welcome!

United Supermarkets



Sanderson Farms

Split Fryer Breast

99¢ lb.



HY•TOP Granulated Sugar 4 lb. - Limit 2, Thereafter Regular Retail HY•TOP or United Powdered or Brown Sugar 2 lb.

99¢



HY•TOP or United Apple Juice or Apple Cider 64 oz.

99¢



Washington New Crop Yukon Gold or Red Potatoes Size A

3 \$1 lbs.



United or HY•TOP Tomatoes Selected Varieties 14.5 oz.

3 \$1 for 1



Hormel Chili No Beans Regular or Hot 19 oz.

99¢

Prices effective December 3 - 9, 2004

Prices also available at MARKET STREET locations.

Health Initiative Commended for Saving and Improving Lives

Univision Communications Inc. (NYSE: UVN), the leading Spanish-language media company in the United States, announced the one-year anniversary of "¡Salud es Vida... Entérate!" (Lead a healthy life...Get the facts!). This integrated cross-platform health education initiative is aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles, encouraging illness prevention, and providing motivational encouragement for early detection and aggressive management of key health conditions in order to address the significant disparities in health afflictions and health care faced by Latinos of all ages in the U.S. today.

"We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of '¡Entérate!', and we are eager to continue to develop new programs with our partner organizations as we build on our outreach to U.S. Hispanics and the health care providers who serve them," said Ivelisse Estrada, Senior Vice President of Corporate and Community Relations, Univision Communications Inc. "Univision is deeply committed to helping improve the health of our community members and address the current health concerns of our dedicated audience."

"I applaud Univision on the anniversary of their 'Salud es Vida...Entérate' campaign," said Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis CA-32, Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus' Health Task Force. "By providing accurate, easy to understand health

information and connecting people with local health resources, Univision is helping Latino families lead healthier lives." Congresswoman Solis entered a commendation of Univision and the Entérate campaign on the Congressional Record on the campaign's first anniversary.

In just one year, "Salud es Vida... ¡Entérate!" health initiative has received numerous national and local accolades, including a commendation from the Pan American Health Organization for its health promotion and disease prevention efforts, the American Heart Association's Communication Award for its support and commitment to the fight against cardiovascular disease, and the National Hispanic Dental Association's President's Award for outstanding service to the community. In addition, the American Heart Association presented Univision 23 WLTV in Miami with the Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Communications and Univision 34 KMEX in Los Angeles with the 2004 C. Everett Koop Media Award.

Television Specials
As part of this initiative, Univision Television Group produces quarterly specials dealing with important health issues affecting the U.S. Latino community.

Most recently, on November 27, 2004, Univision aired "Diabetes...Su Guía de Prevención" (Diabetes...Your Guide to Prevention), a half-hour special

about diabetes, its complications, and methods to control and prevent the disease. Latinos are disproportionately affected by diabetes, with two million Latinos nationwide suffering from this disease. This number is rapidly growing, especially among younger Latinos. Over the last year, other television specials have focused on living a healthy lifestyle, disease prevention, heart disease, cancer detection and prevention, and organ donation.

In addition to the special programming, Univision also produces and airs regular Public Service Announcements (PSAs) featuring Univision Network talent. Many of Univision's talent participate in PSAs for health issues that have directly affected them or their loved ones. For example, celebrity host Don Francisco is featured in a PSA about diabetes, a disease that he lives with every day. And news anchor Teresa Rodriguez is featured in a heart disease PSA, an issue that has become very important to her after she lost her husband to a heart attack in 2002. Ms. Rodriguez has also become the Spanish language spokesperson for the "Go Red for Women" Campaign of the American Heart Association.

Radio and Online
Univision Radio not only airs Entérate's PSAs and vignettes, but also complements the health initiative with "El Consultorio de la Dra. Aliza," a national one-

hour radio talk show that educates and informs listeners about health issues affecting Latinos. The show's host, Dra. Aliza Lifshitz, is a practicing physician in Los Angeles and author of Mamá Sana, Bebé Sano. In addition, radio stations across the country have joined with the local Univision television stations to participate in various community events.

Univision Online's Entérate

home page features monthly topics on various diseases and offers users local resources as well as monthly chats and forums about a variety of health issues.

Community Outreach
As part of Entérate's community outreach, Univision stations across the country have partnered with non-profit organizations such as the Kaiser Family Foundation, National Alliance for Hispanic Health, American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association,

American Cancer Society, American Red Cross and the March of Dimes, to inform the Hispanic community about local health services and promote awareness of health issues and prevention (see full list below). In addition to airing special news and public affairs programming dedicated to providing enhanced health-related information, many local stations have participated in health fairs, blood drives and fund-raising activities, among many other community events.

Arena management bans two fans from Pistons' home

Two men were banned from events at The Palace at Auburn Hills for what the Detroit Pistons say is their involvement in last month's NBA brawl.

John Green and Charlic Haddad were sent letters informing them of the ban, which also includes events at DTE Energy Music Theatre in Clarkston, Pistons spokesman Matt Dobek said Wednesday. The Clarkston site is another holding of the Palace Sports and Entertainment organization.

Apart from Pistons games, the Palace hosts figure skating competitions and concerts. The DTE Energy Music Theatre holds concerts.

Green, of Oakland County's West Bloomfield Township, is accused of lobbing a cup at Indiana Pacers forward Ron Artest on Nov. 19, sparking the brawl. Haddad, of Burt, ran onto the court that night, Dobek said.

"They're completely picking on the little guy," Shawn Smith, Green's lawyer, said Wednesday.

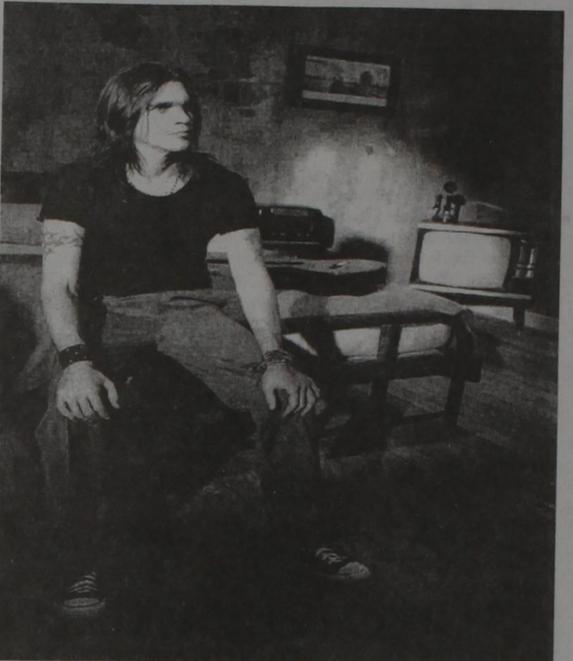
The brawl spilled into the stands and led to three Indiana players being suspended for 25 or more games, including a season-long ban for Artest.

There is no telephone listing for Haddad.

No criminal charges have been filed in the brawl. Oakland County prosecutor David Gorceya said Tuesday police must finish their investigation first.

"It is obvious from the multitude of videotapes that numerous Pacer players and fans are implicated in criminal wrongdoing," Gorceya said in a statement. "To issue charges in haste and before a thorough investigation is completed would be irresponsible and a dereliction of our duties."

Gorceya had told the Detroit News that Pacers players will be charged, but declined to specify the players or charges.



Colombian singer Juanes on Christmas Special

Colombian singer-songwriter Juanes is still reaping success and popularity, after becoming the image for a soft drink firm he will now be appearing in the Christmas special for ABC broadcaster.

Juanes will record the Christmas special along with Ashanti, Mariah Carey, and Winona Ryder, announced a spokesperson here.

The author of songs like "Nada valgo sin tu amor" and "Fotografía" has just turned down an offer to work alongside actress Jennifer López because

the "Newyorican" could outshine him and he wants to open up the field on his own.

In addition to selling a large number of albums of his most recent production, "Mi sangre", Juanes has recently won Spain's Ondas Award for Best Latino Artist.

The star from Medellín will begin a promotional tour with his third production in Spain upcoming January 28, but first, on December 20, he will perform in Bogotá at an event destined to honor soldiers wounded in combat.

Barrera gets decision over Morales in wild slugfest



Marco Antonio Barrera and Erik Morales put on a classic the first time they fought four years ago. They matched it again in their third fight Saturday night, only this time the result was different.

Barrera won a majority decision to take the WBC 130-pound title in a wild slugfest that was every bit the equal of the battle the two fought in 2000 that many declared the fight of the year.

After 12 rounds of almost non-stop action, Barrera held two fingers in the air to signify his second win in a row over Morales, who stared in disbelief as the decision was read.

"I did this fight to show all boxing fans that this is what boxing is all about," Barrera said.

The fight between the two Mexican warriors was their third in four years - with Morales winning the first and Barrera the

second. Like the first fight, this one was in doubt until the scorecards were read before a wildly enthusiastic crowd that filled the MGM Grand hotel arena.

Barrera was favored 115-113 on one card and 115-114 on a second. The third judge had it 114-114.

Marco Antonio Barrera celebrates after retaining his WBC belt. (Getty Images) The Associated Press also had the fight even, 114-114.

"My body didn't respond to what I wanted it to do," Morales said. "I don't know why."

Before a loud crowd that seemed split between the two fighters, Morales and Barrera gave them all something to cheer for in a fight that began at a furious pace and rarely slackened.

It was reminiscent of their first fight in 2000 in which the two boxers traded more than 1,500 punches before Morales won a split decision. They did the same thing Saturday night, but this time it was Barrera on top, just as he was in their first rematch two years ago.

Manage Your Diabetes

Through our "Let's Do Diabetes Care Together" Program

Our experienced, certified educators will give you the tools you need to manage your diabetes in partnership with your physician.

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- Participants receive 8 free visits to the LifeStyle Centre

In addition to our Program, we also have a Monthly Support Group.

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Magic Morning Team



Jennifer "Chismosa" Martinez

Tony T. Samarripa



Numero Uno Tejano Hit Station

Estéreo Latino 97.3

La Maquina Musical

'Happy' Julia Roberts recovering after giving birth to twins

Hollywood's beloved "Pretty Woman" Julia Roberts was "happy" and resting Monday after delivering the greatest performance of her life: giving birth to twins following a turbulent pregnancy.

The Oscar-winning superstar brought a boy and a girl into the world on Sunday after spending nearly a month in bed following a dramatic health scare that saw her shuttling between hospital and her Los Angeles home.

"She gave birth very early on Sunday morning, and she had been on bed rest since late October," said Jess Cagle, a senior editor for People magazine, which got the scoop on the Oscar-winning actress's double feature.

"She is rested and happy and hoping to go home in the next few days," he told CBS television's "The Early Show."

The 37-year-old superstar and her cameraman husband of two years, Danny Moder, have named their twins - who were born more than a month early - Phinnaeus Walter Moder and Hazel Patricia Moder.

Roberts was taken to hospital on October 23 and placed on a foetal monitor after she began having early contractions more than two months before her January due date.

But Roberts told USA Today in an interview last week that despite the scare, her pregnancy had not come complete with some of the more common miseries expectant mothers face.

"Never got sick," she said. "I've heard horror stories about people who have a sip of water and then throw up for four hours. But I come from hardy stock. I'm Southern," she told the paper.

Roberts' publicist Marcy Engelman refused to comment on the star's latest role as a mother, one which she took on just days before the release of her two latest movies, "Ocean's 12" and "Closer," which premieres Friday.

Mike Nichols's drama "Closer" already has Tinseltown tongues wagging about a possible second Oscar statuette for Roberts, who shot to international stardom with 1990's "Pretty Woman."

The film, which tells the story of a tangled series of romances between four people, also stars Natalie Portman and British stars



Jude Law and Clive Owen. Adventure flick "Ocean's Twelve," which opens December 10 in North America, is a sequel to the 2001 remake "Ocean's Eleven."

Despite being confined to bed by her pregnancy, Roberts has continued promoting both films from her Los Angeles hospital room.

"I think that last Monday or Tuesday, after doing some phone interviews from her hospital bed, she was actually able to go home for the rest of the pregnancy," Cagle told CBS.

"And then the little twins were just ready to come out, so she went back to the hospital over the weekend."

Moder and Roberts, who won the best actress Oscar for her role as a crusading US lawyer in the 2000 film "Erin Brockovich," had reportedly been trying for some time to start a family.

The movie star married Moder at a surprise ceremony at their hideaway home in the western

U.S. state of New Mexico in July 2002.

Roberts was previously married to singer Lyle Lovett, with whom she walked down the aisle in 1993. That union lasted only 21 months.

Roberts shot to worldwide fame after playing a lovable prostitute opposite Richard Gere in "Pretty Woman," a role for which she was nominated for a best actress Academy Award.

She also won a best supporting actress nod for her role in 1989's "Steel Magnolias."

The actress, known for her luminous smile, also starred in such hits as the romantic comedy "Notting Hill" opposite Hugh Grant and appeared in last year's 1950s period drama "Mona Lisa Smile."

She also appears in the star-studded film "Ocean's Twelve" -- which hits theaters in the United States December 10 -- alongside George Clooney, Brad Pitt and Catherine Zeta-Jones.

60 Hispanos Novatos en la Política reciben consejos sobre el servicio publico

De la pagina una

Poco después del mediodía, el director de la Oficina de Asuntos Intergubernamentales de la Casa Blanca, Rubén Barrales, lanzó un reto a los participantes: "tras haber terminado la campaña, es hora de comenzar a trabajar sin importar la línea partidista a la que se pertenezca", mientras les decía que recibiría todas sus llamadas cuando tengan un asunto que discutir con la administración. Incluso, dio el número de teléfono de su oficina, (202) 456-2796, junto con una promesa irónica: "Contestaremos sus preguntas o las esquivaremos".

Barrales enfatizó tres asuntos que se relacionan el aspecto federal que los nuevos funcionarios necesitan tratar en sus comunidades: los reglamentos del Departamento de Seguridad Nacional, la inmigración y la educación.

El salvadoreño J. Walter Tejada, miembro del Consejo del Condado de Arlington, preguntó a Barrales sobre el progreso del programa para trabajadores extranjeros que propuso el presidente. Se le indicó que el presidente aun está planeando continuar con su propuesta. "No es una amnistía, pero si permite llenar las vacantes de empleo", dijo Barrales e hizo especulaciones sobre la posibilidad de que el Congreso incorpore la Ley DREAM, que ayudaría a los estudiantes talentosos graduados de secundaria cuyos padres son indocumentados, y el proyecto Ag JOBS en un solo paquete de reformas de inmigración.

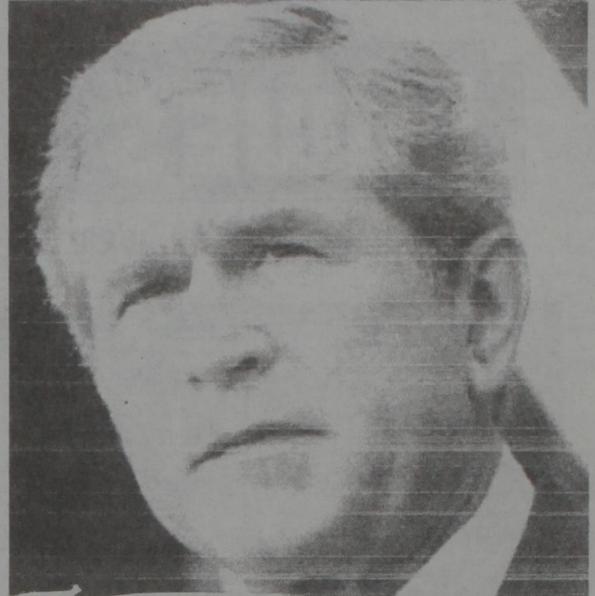
El presupuesto para la conferencia nacional, que corrió con todos los gastos de los participantes, fue de \$150,000. Unos doce patrocinadores ayudaron a cubrir los gastos, entre los que se encontraban Altria, AT&T, State Farm Insurance y Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.

Es la primera vez que NALEO se asocia con el Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies y que invita también a unirse a su programa a tres asiático-americanos recién electos.

Henry Perea (de 27 años), vicepresidente del ayuntamiento de Fresno, California, expresó la reacción común de los participantes: "Estar aquí ha sido muy útil porque un día eres candidato, al otro día prestas juramento y tomas decisiones sin que nadie te diga cómo funciona todo". Es de importancia fundamental comprender tu función y autoridad a lo largo del camino, añadió reconociendo el mérito de las sesiones intensivas de NALEO que trataron esas dudas.

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Bush Promueve Plan en Canadá



El primer ministro de Canadá, Paul Martin, y el presidente de Estados Unidos, George W. Bush, procuraron ayer cerrar las disputas bilaterales y lanzaron un plan de trabajo conjunto en seguridad y lucha antiterrorista.

En una conferencia de prensa conjunta, Martin recalco que los dos países continuarán su cooperación en la lucha contra el terrorismo y la proliferación de armas de destrucción masiva. Bush, quien ayer celebró su primera visita oficial a Canadá, defendió su política exterior —el rasgo más impopular de EU en el vecino país— y recalco que "teníamos que defender nuestro país".

Además, el Presidente subrayó el trabajo conjunto de Canadá y EU en la pacificación y democratización de Afganistán y en la misión de la ONU en Haití. Refiriéndose a las elecciones de Afganistán, Bush afirmó que "la gente en esa parte del mundo ha demostrado el poder de la libertad para superar grandes desafíos", para a continuación agradecer a Martin por su ayuda en la reconstrucción del país. "Afganistán está a un mundo de distancia de su reciente pasado de pesadilla", recalco Bush.

"También estamos junto al

valiente pueblo de Irak que se prepara para celebrar elecciones el 30 de enero. Nuestras dos naciones tienen un interés vital en liberar el país y construir una sociedad libre y democrática", añadió el presidente estadounidense.

Bush se refirió a continuación a la situación en Ucrania y revoló que esta mañana habló por teléfono con el presidente de Polonia, Aleksander Kwasniewski, quien viajará a Kiev para intentar mediar en la crisis que se vive en el país tras las elecciones presidenciales.

Por su parte, Martin recordó que la esencia de la democracia son "elecciones libres y transparentes". El presidente estadounidense también se refirió a la crisis nuclear con Irán, y aunque calificó de "positivo" el acuerdo alcanzado entre el régimen de Teherán y varios países europeos para la congelación de determinadas actividades nucleares, Bush añadió que "no es el paso final". "El mundo estaría mejor si Irán no cuenta con un arma nuclear", dijo Bush.

Protesta. Un grupo de manifestantes logra derribar una barricada de la policía durante una protesta contra el presidente George W. Bush en Ottawa.

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New Hispanic format for NY?

Underscoring the continuing growth of Hispanic radio, giant Clear Channel has broken out a format it calls "Hurban," targeting young Hispanics whose families immigrated to the U.S. two or three generations ago.

The format is being tested on KLOL in Houston, and if it succeeds, Clear Channel says it could expand to four or five other cities by year-end.

The company previously announced it will soon switch at least 15-20 of its 1,200 stations to some type of Hispanic format.

Nothing has been officially said about New York yet, but rumors have already been circulating that if any Clear Channel station here starts to look tired, that would provide an opening for the company to jump in and try to get a piece of this area's large and growing Hispanic market.

Clear Channel owns WLTW (106.7 FM), WAXQ (104.3 FM), WHTZ (100.3 FM), WWPR (105.1 FM) and WKTU (103.5 FM). None is thought to be in trouble, but this past summer, Clear Channel hired a senior vice president of Hispanic radio (a new position) with considerable New York experience: Alfredo Alonso, who helped build Hispanic powerhouse WSKQ (97.9 FM).

The "Hurban" format targets listeners ages 18 to 34 with an uptempo blend whose core artists now include Pitbull, Daddy Yankee, Akwid, Shakira and Juanes.

The format is aimed at bilingual listeners who, unlike their parents or grandparents, do not identify culture by language.

They like hip hop, but Clear Channel is betting they like it best when it's mixed with other uptempo, rhythmic music. In Houston, the deejays speak in "Spanglish," a combination of Spanish and English with more emphasis on English than is heard on, for instance, WSKQ.

AIR AUCTION: The Achievement in Radio Awards (AIR) organization is raising money for the March of Dimes with auctions on a dozen stations from now through Dec. 13.

The stations are WPLJ, WWPR, WHUD, WKTU, WABC, WEPN, WQHT, WRKS, WHTZ, WLIB, WAXQ and WLTW.

Auction items include tickets, autographed books, pictures and CDs and a few unusual items, like joining WQHT afternoon host Angie Martinez during one

of her airshifts.

The eighth annual New York AIR Awards themselves will be held next spring, and two honorees have been announced. Dan Ingram, the famous WABC, WXRK and WCBS-FM deejay, will be given a Lifetime Achievement Award, and Jim Ryan, program director of WLTW (106.7 FM), will receive the Broadcast Leadership Award. Ryan is also vice president of adult contemporary programming for 130 Clear Channel sta-

tions around the country.

AROUND THE DIAL: "Everything Goes," 6:30 p.m. on WNYE (91.5 FM), features improvisational comedy sketches tomorrow through Friday from Brooklyn College Radio's "Monday Morning Magazine."... The famous "Hawaii Calls" radio program, which ran 40 years before ending in 1975, will be recalled tonight at Carnegie Hall with a concert of Hawaiian music.

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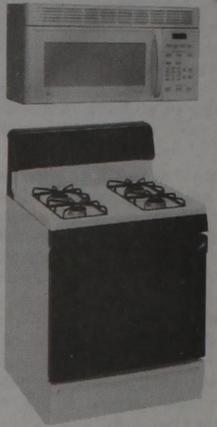
\$298
 Horno microondas de 1.6 cu. ft. para empotrar sobre la cocina (JVM1650SH) #73795

\$658
 Cocina eléctrica de superficie lisa en acero inoxidable
 •Horno de 5.0 cu. ft. de capacidad con autolimpieza •Dos quemadores de 6", uno de 8" y uno dual de 6" y 9" (JB710SHSS) #134341



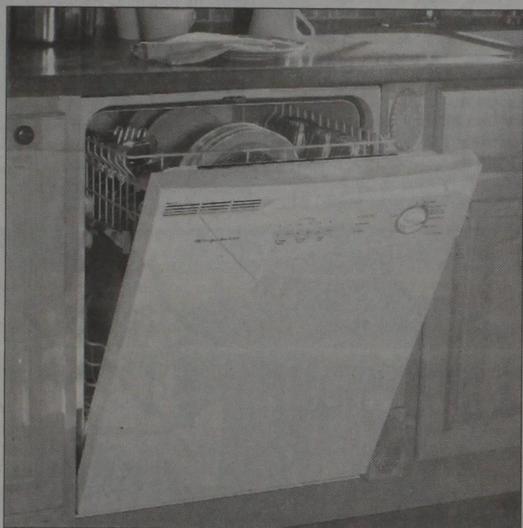
\$298
 Horno microondas de 1.5 cu. ft. en acero inoxidable para empotrar sobre la cocina (MH1150SMS) #21329

\$598
 Cocina eléctrica de superficie lisa en acero inoxidable
 •Horno de 4.65 cu. ft. con autolimpieza •Dos quemadores de 6" y dos de 9" (RF368LXPS) #48356



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 •Horno de 4.8 cu. ft. de capacidad •Cuatro quemadores sellados de 9,500 BTU •Reloj y temporizador electrónicos #169837



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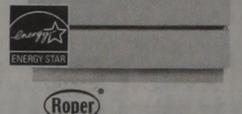
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 •Opción de saneo •Comienzo retardado de 2/4/6 horas •Sistema de lavado de alta presión, alto flujo (MDBTT59AWW) #211841



\$297
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 •Parrillas ajustables para más flexibilidad de carga •Comienzo retardado de 4 horas •Filtro autolimpiante •Controles electrónicos (DU945PWPQ) #28433



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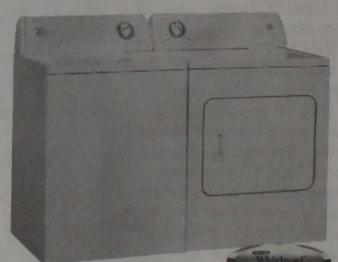
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\$257
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 Secadora eléctrica de capacidad extra grande de 4 ciclos
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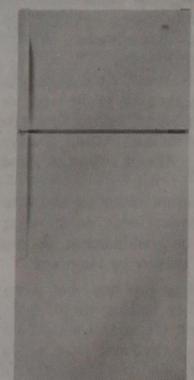
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 Refrigerador de 22.0 cu. ft.
 •Tres repisas de vidrio ajustables •Compartimentos ajustables en la puerta con capacidad para galón •Gavetas transparentes para vegetales (RS22AQXMQ) #76119



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 Refrigerador de 24.9 cu. ft.
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