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Who Speaks for Hispanics

By José de la Isla

HOUSTON - In their mad scramble to gain credibility from the increasingly important Latino vote, presidential candidates are already harvesting endorsements and forming "advisory" committees of prominent Hispanics.

So how is one candidate more in tune than another? What is authentic interest and what is entirely self-serving?

In fact, who sets the Latino agenda? The late Los Angeles Times columnist Frank del Olmo complained in 1987 about the efforts of then-San Antonio mayor Henry Cisneros who proposed a summit to prepare a national agenda for the 1988 presidential race. Del Olmo reasoned, it is simply not possible to combine the political interests of Mexican Americans, Cubans, Puerto Ricans and Central Americans. He even referenced

Today, the list would go beyond ethnicities to regions, income groups, education categories,

what he called "the myth of a Hispanic vote."

religion, citizenship status, and gender. Of course, there is no myth now but a

functioning reality about the importance of the Latino vote.

Yet, what exactly is the Latino perspective when so many "issues" are put on the table? With the possible exception of the deep-seated dismay with Congress's inaction on immigration and (so far) education, other matters can cut any which way.

True, Del Olmo was correct to object to a one-size-fits-all mentality. Yet, an agenda resulted in 1988, formulated by 50 leaders, of the National Hispanic Leadership Conference. It offered a buffet of 14 policy issue areas. In 1992, a similar bipartisan agenda was offered to George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

Even those who follow politics closely may be surprised to learn that this contemporary effort, while significant, was not unprecedented. Actually, the first such effort occurred in 1939. (Continued Page 2)

Los Angeles Archdiocese Settles Sex Abuse Claims for 660 Million

By Abel Cruz "Your life, I wish were like a VHS tape, we could put the tape in ... and delete these years of difficulty and misery."

Tith those words Los **VV** Angeles Archdiocese Cardinal Roger M. Mahoney repeated what he said to the victims of sexual abuse whom he met with to try



and gauge the feelings and pain which they have experienced during the many years they have lived with the memory of being abused by a priest.

In a case involving 508 individuals, Cardinal Mahoney announced last Saturday that the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, which he heads, has settled with claimants for \$660 million dol-

By Abel Cruz

lars. When added in with other monetary damages the Archdiocese has paid out to settle previous cases, the total comes to 774 million dollars; by far the largest monetary settlement ever of its kind.

This particular case had been going on for over 4 years, as both sides engaged in legal maneuvering in order to get an advantage over the other. In the end, Mahoney and his advisors decided it was better to

settle; but skeptics quickly pointed to the timing of the announcement.

They point to the fact that it comes right before Mahoney was scheduled to testify in the case, and say that that is proof that the Cardinal did not want to go through the embarrassment of testifying

and of revealing inside Archdiocese information.

In a story in the LA Times, David Clohessy, National Director of the Survivor's Network of Those Abused by Priests, is quoted as saying: "He avoided the No. 1 thing he fears, which is disclosing under oath how much he knew and how little he did about predatory priests."

The Los Angeles Archdiocese is the largest in the nation and had faced charges of sexual abuse by priests since the reports first became public about 10 years ago. This settlement should end all further litigation, but that is not for certain.

The settlement obligates the Archdiocese to provide internal files to a retired judge, who will determine what information becomes a matter of public record. Victims have long believed that the Archdiocese knew all along the extent of the abuse by priests but did nothing about it and in some cases tried to cover it up.

For his part, Cardinal Mahoney is quoted as saying: "I didn't know what to do next, "Everything I did, someone thought was wrong. When you're empty, the only way up is God. Once again, I apologize to anyone who has been offended, to anyone who has been abused. It should not have happened, and it should not happen ever again.

I apologize because I can't do what I wish I could. There is no way to go back and give them that innocence that was taken from them." Email: eleditor@sbcglobal.net

By Abel Cruz South Beach Nightclub. DeLeon, along arrogance and abuse of power." Writers note: In the June 7, 2007 ediwith the rest of the council voted in favor Gonzales says that when he and others of buying the building, and that seemed to be the ringing of the "opening bell" in this whole affair. Chris Gonzales, Armando Gonzales'

Gonzales Gives His Side of Recall Story; Says

Organization Will Continue Recall Effort

tion of El Editor; we wrote a story in which we presented Councilwoman Linda DeLeon's side of the recall story. We thought it fair to present the organizer's side of the story in this week's issue. The June 7 story can still be accessed online at www.eleditor.com

onths into the political clash which has transformed him from a private person to a public figure, he is still emotional about what he, his family, other organizers and volunteers have gone through.

Armando Gonzales quotes a poet by the name of Tino Villanueva, a writer from San Marcos, Texas who wrote: "Tu por si no otro"; which means "You if no one else". He sums up his reference to the poem this way: "This poetic line has given me the determination to follow through with the recall. I could not wait for someone else to make up their minds to start the recall. I felt that people were very dissatisfied but busy with life. There are times in life when you must act and do, and not wait for someone else to get things done."

To supporters of his political adversary, Councilwoman Linda DeLeon, Gonzales represents a misguided cause; one based on the pending closing of a nightclub.

But to the over 600 (based on the recount by City Secretary Becky Garza only 453 signatures were validated, but over 650 people initially signed the first petition) people who actually signed the petition to recall DeLeon from office; Gonzales and his group known as Recall 2007, represent their discontent with DeLeon's performance in office over the past 3 years.

After a long and complex effort to obtain the required amount of signatures to recall DeLeon, Gonzales and his group have decided to pursue the final outcome of the first petition effort through legal channels. He says the first one is over and he will now wait and see what the Department of Justice, who is reviewing information sent to them by Gonzales and the city, comes up with.

So this past Friday the 13th, the organizers of Recall 2007 initiated yet another petition effort to recall DeLeon.

This time, Gonzales says they are well aware of what the city is looking for and he is confident that they will obtain the 494 signatures needed to force a recall election. He points out that the whole process seems to be unfairly weighted in favor of the incumbent, but that he is willing to participate in the democratic process according to the guidelines set forth by the city. He says that Becky Garza has been professional in her interaction with the group; now he says, "It is up to the Justice Department to examine the processes used by the city and decide if anything was done wrong".

Supporters of Councilwoman Linda DeLeon have assigned Gonzales a "villain" status of sorts. But to the people who have signed the petition to recall the councilwoman, he perhaps is somewhat of a political activist hero.

If you saw him early on in television newscasts, in the first few days after the group organizing the recall effort against Lubbock City Councilwoman Linda De-Leon went public with their intentions, the first question that might have entered one's mind is: "Who is that man and why does he look so angry"?

If so, you along with many others saw longtime resident and Texas Tech graduate Armando Gonzales (Gonzales holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, English, and Spanish; and he holds a Master of Education in Secondary-Foreign Language Specialty which he obtained in 2006); a man who would play a major role in this city's latest and perhaps most bitter political battles; a battle which as of this writing has just gone into round two. And a battle some claim has divided this city's Hispanic

community more so now, than ever. When asked about the anger, he readily admits that he was in fact angry. But he also says that he isn't the only one, "there are a lot of people who are angry about how Linda DeLeon has represented them in District 1"

Gonzales is eager to get his side of the story out. He says he wants people to know just why he started the recall drive and wants to dispel some myths he says have been spread by DeLeon.

These days he is much calmer and less animated, although he says that for him the recall effort has at times been emotionally energizing and draining at the same time. He seems more relaxed as we conclude our last conversation after a series of email exchanges in which he opens up about the effort to recall Lubbock City Councilwoman Linda DeLeon; and the personal, financial, and emotional cost he has incurred.

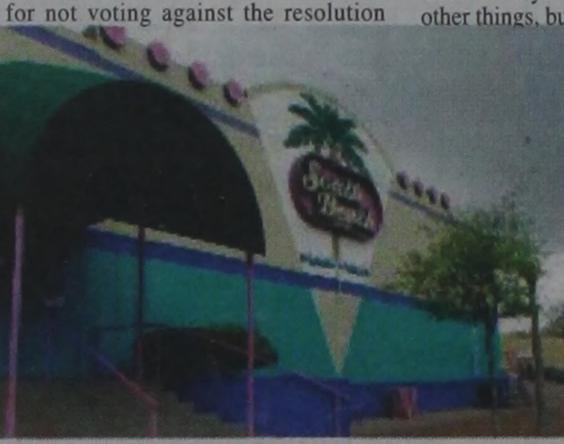
Gonzales says that he has spent close to \$1200.00 of his own money; and that the other costs associated with the recall effort cannot be measured. He says it has been a personal sacrifice for him and his wife Naida, but one that they are happy to make.

To most observers, the effort to recall DeLeon started after the Lubbock City Council voted to purchase a nightclub located in the Depot District known as

son, has had a successful run with South Beach, generating yearly profits in the 6 figure category and turning the nightclub into one of the main entertainment venues in the depot District. South Beach clientele includes not only patrons who happen to be Hispanic, but Texas Tech students of all ethnicities and other diverse ethnic groups as well. Gonzales points to South Beach as a success story, an accomplishment in itself when considering that South Beach is the only Hispanic owned and operated business in the Depot District; up until now a high priced rent district which not very many Hispanic or minority business person(s) have been able to afford to open a business in.

Gonzales says that his son beat the odds after some initial opposition to South Beach from some people associated with the Depot District because they felt that a nightclub which caters to Hispanics was not the kind of business they wanted there.

But for Armando Gonzales; it is not about the club anymore. He says the issue goes way beyond the city buying the building which houses the nightclub and proposing to tear it down to build a visitor's center. He does blame DeLeon



and says that it is her responsibility to look out for her constituents, "a good representative would be very involved in the daily operations of all minority businesses, good minority businesses are essential to the economy of the district", says Gonzales.

He says that as Chris' father he cares for his son and his family and feels a responsibility to do whatever he can to help Chris. But he also says that that is not the sole reason the recall effort was

For Gonzales, it was the town hall meeting which had been called by De-Leon to discuss the North University Mercado. "The event that kick started the recall for me personally was the fake town hall meeting that Linda DeLeon held at Cavazos Junior High. When I stood up in the crowd and asked for permission to ask a question and she looked straight at me and denied me the opportunity to speak is when I decided that no one had the right to treat people in that manner", says Gonzales. He goes on to detail how DeLeon walked out of the auditorium followed by Mayor David Miller and Councilman Floyd Price. Gonzales says, "It was at that moment that I felt obligated to fight for a recall...It did not matter to them that people had questions. They marched off as if we were a bunch of nobodies. To me this is

in the community based organization, whose official name is East and North Lubbock Citizens Coalition for Progress, thought of DeLeon spending another 3 years on the council, they felt they had make a move to recall her. He says that DeLeon wants to create her own "kingdom" down at city hall; at least he says that's the impression she "gives to many, many people".

But the original recall effort was aimed not only at DeLeon, but at District 2 Councilman Floyd Price as well. When asked why Price was let off the hook, Gonzales says that "a meeting, arranged by mutual acquaintances, was held to talk things over and arrive at an understanding". He says that Price agreed to do several things in return for not being recalled.

Among them was that he would remain neutral in regards to the DeLeon recall, that he would hel

(continued on page 3)

p start a 2 year college on the east side; that he would help organizers start an oversight committee which will get involved when children in the LISD system are at risk of being sent to the Lubbock County Juvenile Justice Center and finally that Price and Mayor David Miller would work with the coalition to bring about economic development in the North and East sides of the city. Gonzales says that Price agreed to several other things, but did not wish to provide

details. He says that Price seems to be an "honorable man" and that he expects him to keep his word. Gonzales says DeLeon

has remained "silent" on many issues affecting District 1 residents. "District 1 needs someone who will represent them rigorously, not someone who votes along with the rest of the council just to get along, or maybe trade off votes in order to achieve her

own special agendas", says Gonzales. He cites examples of DeLeon's silence

on issues including "police misconduct" such as "overzealous use of Tasers, destruction of public property by a policeman; the arrest of the Chippendale performers; codes enforcement; and a general indifference"; all of which he says are "indicative" of DeLeon's "indifference for people in District 1". Gonzales blames DeLeon for the loss

of the bond money which had been approved by voters to be dedicated to District 1. But in all fairness to DeLeon, she told El Editor in a previous interview that while she did vote to move money from her District to be used for Challenger Park in Southwest Lubbock, a park she says in good conscious she couldn't vote against since it was designed for children with disabilities; she did not vote for the other ordinances and resolutions which resulted in most of the money being used for projects championed by former Mayor Pro Tem Tom Martin. And in fact, DeLeon engaged in very public displays of verbal exchanges with Martin during several council meetings when the bond money issue was being discussed.

One of the main points brought up by organizers is the subject of code enforcement. Gonzales says that the average salary for residents of District 1 (continued on page 3

Ricky Martinez; A Life Cut Short By Abel Cruz

One has to wonder just how much tragedy one family can endure. For the Martinez family, the past 10 years have been tragically marked by the deaths of 3 siblings; and now a fourth may prove to be the hardest one to overcome.

Former Grammy Award winner and 1996 West Texas Walk of Fame inductee, Ricky Martinez was taken to his final resting place on Wednesday, July 18, 2007. He was laid to rest at Lubbock's Peaceful Gardens Cemetery in Woodrow; a small town south of the Lubbock city limits.

Although Martinez was born in Sinton, Texas, he was considered one of Lubbock's own and the band publicly referred to themselves as Lubbock's Hometown Boys.

Martinez who was 48 years old had been seen as the catalyst and glue which held the group known as The Hometown Boys together. He largely had been responsible for the group's success and wide acclaim they have enjoyed for over a decade.

Prior to Martinez's sudden death which occurred shortly after midnight last Thursday, the 13th of July, the Martinez family had struggled to deal

with the loss of three brothers over a span of 10 years. First was Ramon Martinez Jr. who died in October 1997 at the age of 45. In early 1998, Joe who had suffered a heart attack in 1997 collapsed and died at a nightclub in Houston; Joe was 34. Then in August of 2002, 34 year old Jessie, the youngest band member, died in August from a brain aneurysm.

Now, Martinez family members are left to mourn the death of a fourth brother and band member.

Martinez's death represents a huge loss for fans of Tejano/Conjunto music not only from Lubbock and the surrounding area but from Texas, other parts of the country, and Mexico.

All day Wednesday and at precisely the hour in which Martinez would have been laid to rest; local Tejano radio station Magic 93.7 played nonstop Hometown Boys music with non-stop calls from listeners coming in to the station requesting their favorite Hometown Boy's song or wanting to

dedicate a song to Martinez's memory or a loved one. Also last Friday, two of the station's DJ's, Eddie Moreno and Jennifer "La Chismosa" set up a remote broadcast from a location in the city inviting listeners to stop by and sign a condolence book which would be presented to the family

Martinez is survived by his wife Nelda Martinez of Mathis, Texas; a daughter Rycca of Mathis; father Roman Martinez of Lubbock; a sister, Rosalinda Perea of Cedar Park, Texas; and brother Bobby who still lives here in Lubbock.

Preceding Ricky in death aside from his 3 brothers was his mother Maria Dolores Martinez Email: eleditor@sbcglobalk.net

News Briefs Supreme Court Rules, 5-4, Against

Using Race in Assigning Students to Schools

T1954, in a case known as Brown V Board of Educa-LI tion of Topeka, Kansas, the United States Supreme Court ruled that segregated schools were unconstitutional; and that school districts could use race when trying to achieve integration.

But on June 28, in the most recent ruling handed down by the High Court relating to the same topic, this one might have the effect of reversing the intent of the Brown case. Although the ruling is one of the most significant cases ruled on by the new Supreme Court, it received very little local attention in the local mainstream press.

In 1954, the ruling was hailed as a landmark decision, because up until then, school systems, mostly in the south had made no effort to integrate public schools. The Brown case provided the legal authority for proponents to force school districts to begin desegregating their school systems and provided minorities a legal avenue for relief which they could seek if they felt that their child was being discriminated against by not being allowed to attend a particular school.

For the past 50 plus years, some school systems have continued to use race as a factor in deciding which schools certain students will attend. The premise is that race can be used as one of the factors in order to achieve racial balance.

But the recent Supreme Court ruling condemned by National Hispanic organizations, like the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF), the John Roberts led Supreme Court ruled that it is unconstitutional for school districts to use race as a factor in deciding whether a student can or cannot attend a particular school.

The case involved the school districts of Louisville, Kentucky and Seattle, Washington; which had a policy of using race as a factor in granting a student's request to attend a particular school. For the most part, students would generally be allowed to attend the schools of their choice. But in the case where the transfer would create a racial imbalance in the school, the school systems retained their authority to deny a student's request for transfer.

This particular case was initiated by parents of students who challenged the school policy saying that "classifying students by race violated the equal protection clause of the constitution"; in other words they charged the policy used by the school systems was unconstitutional.

The case had moved through the court system and lower courts had ruled in favor of the school systems until the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case; which they did in December of last year.

In a press release issued shortly after the decision, LULAC National President Rosa Rosales said that, "The five justices in the majority have turned their backs on the American dream of an integrated society." "The decision erodes the protections provided by the historic Brown v. Board of Education decision. more than 50 years ago."

Maria Salazar, LULAC Vice President for the Northwest added, "On behalf of our children, I find yesterday's court ruling discriminatory in nature." "The Supreme Court would like to believe, that, 53 years after Brown vs. Board of Education; students of color are receiving an equitable education in this

Dissenters contend that minorities have not come far enough in this country to rely solely on the good intentions of school districts and other social institutions. They point to the fact that racial imbalance still exists in some school districts around the country despite the Brown ruling 54 years ago.

Voting along with Chief Justice Roberts, were Justices Samuel Alito, Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy and Clarence Thomas.

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Wachholtz Charged in Pendleton Murder

On Tuesday the 17th, Lubbock resident Mitchell Wachholtz was indicted by a Lubbock County Grand Jury in the murder of 21 year old Chase Pendleton. Pendleton and one of his brothers and a companion

had entered a 7-11 convenience store on 34th street in central Lubbock. Video captured by the store's surveillance cameras show that Pendleton did not do anything to provoke Wachholtz. He is shown walking in front of Pendleton as he walks toward the entrance to the store.

the store; the next scene shows everyone in the store dropping to the floor for cover as Wachholtz is seen firing several shots at Pendleton.

Immediately afterwards, Wachholtz is seen leaving

Pendleton died at the scene and Wachholtz now awaits trial at the Lubbock County jail. Email: eleditor@sbcglobal.net

Nacional de Funcionarios Latinos Electos y

ees International Union (SEIU) y la We Are

America Alliance, ImpreMedia, Univisión,

y trescientas organizaciones regionales y

prestar atención a los más adelantados de

Street Journal concede que la movilización

podría tener influencia sobre la agenda y el

Por ende, ¿quién habla por los hispanos?

Los electores lo hacen, claro. Y por lo visto

los candidatos escuchan, pero sólo después

que una agenda latina enclenque les da un

[José de la Isla, autor de "The Rise of

con él a: joseisla3@yahoo.com. © 2007

Recall Group States Their

Hispanic Political Power" (Archer Books,

2003), redacta un comentario semanal para

Hispanic Link News Service. Comuniquese

is under \$22,000.00 per year. He points out that

many are senior citizens who live on a fixed in-

come. Yet he says DeLeon voted to place codes

enforcement under the authority of the Lubbock

Police Department. He says residents of District

I have been hurt by "codes enforcement storm

troopers" and says that "this is a good example of

Linda losing touch with the people who elected

Gonzales says that from the very beginning,

people were calling him to ask where they could

sign the petition. "When we first announced the

recall we had at least 28 people that called ready

to sign the petition", he says. But not everybody

wanted them to proceed with the petition to

Early on, Gonzales says that Lubbock County

Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez delivered a verbal

message from a local Lubbock Hispanic organiza-

tion, Hispanic Agenda, asking him to discontinue

the recall effort. He says Gutierrez informed him

that at a particular Hispanic Agenda meeting,

DeLeon had been "boasting" that she planned to

"tear down South Beach"; a claim DeLeon has

He says that by the time he heard from Hispanic

golpe con músculo en las urnas. Y con cada

los candidatos a la presidencia. El Wall

resultado de los comicios del 2008.

elección, escuchan mejor.

Side of Story

Continued from Front

recall.

previously denied.

Es esta clase de acción la que hace

locales en 15 estados.

Nombrados, el sindicato Service Employ-

EDITORIAL

ET US BELIEVE; LET US SUMMON THE POLITICAL WILL TO STAND UP TOGETHER AND SAY; "WE WILL FIGHT OUR OWN PO-LITICAL BATTLES".

The Supreme Court decision concerning the use of a person's race as a factor in deciding where a public school student goes to school should have come as no surprise. We already knew what the inevitable outcome would be. In fact we knew it last year even before Chief Justice John Roberts and Samuel Alito were sworn in.

For as much as Supreme Court nominees want to make people believe during confirmation hearings that they do not have an agenda; we know different; of course they have an agenda. If they didn't have a judicial view closely paralleling that of the nominator; in this case the President, they would not be nominated in the first place.

In this case both Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito are taking no time in dismantling the type of civil rights laws which have played an integral part in the educational formation of people of color who might otherwise not have been able to receive a quality equal education.

If your first reaction is to fret and wring your hands and wonder "what do we do now"? Don't!

We say don't because for once, people who believe that these type of laws are still necessary in the 21st century, and there are many, must also realize that the power to influence change is in all of us. If we can harness that power and amass the type of political capital that could have only been dreamt about before; then it is within us to bring about the necessary changes.

Perhaps Congress should be the target; after all it is only Congress which can pass laws to offset a Supreme Court ruling. It is called checks and balances.

At this point in our history, we have the numbers. We have the hearts and minds. We have the potential.

Now if the majority of us can just take a few steps into unknown territory, we can fully participate in the democratic process and influence political and social change.

The step of course is to take a look around and realize that if enough like minded people take a stand and just go out and vote, it can be done. It is not enough to just register; we must physically get out and cast our vote. It is time.

Let's make the next Presidential and Congressional election a test of our will and determination to succeed and fully participate in the political process.

The power to influence policy and change laws is within each and every one of us. At times it may not seem that way, but we are only powerless if we choose to be. It is time we stopped depending on others in the mainstream to defend and protect us. It is time each one of us stood up, and said, "I will go, send me".

In the past, we may have had to depend on others to fight our political battles for us. But why should we now. In the past, it was necessary, we were political neophytes and it has taken years to build ourselves up.

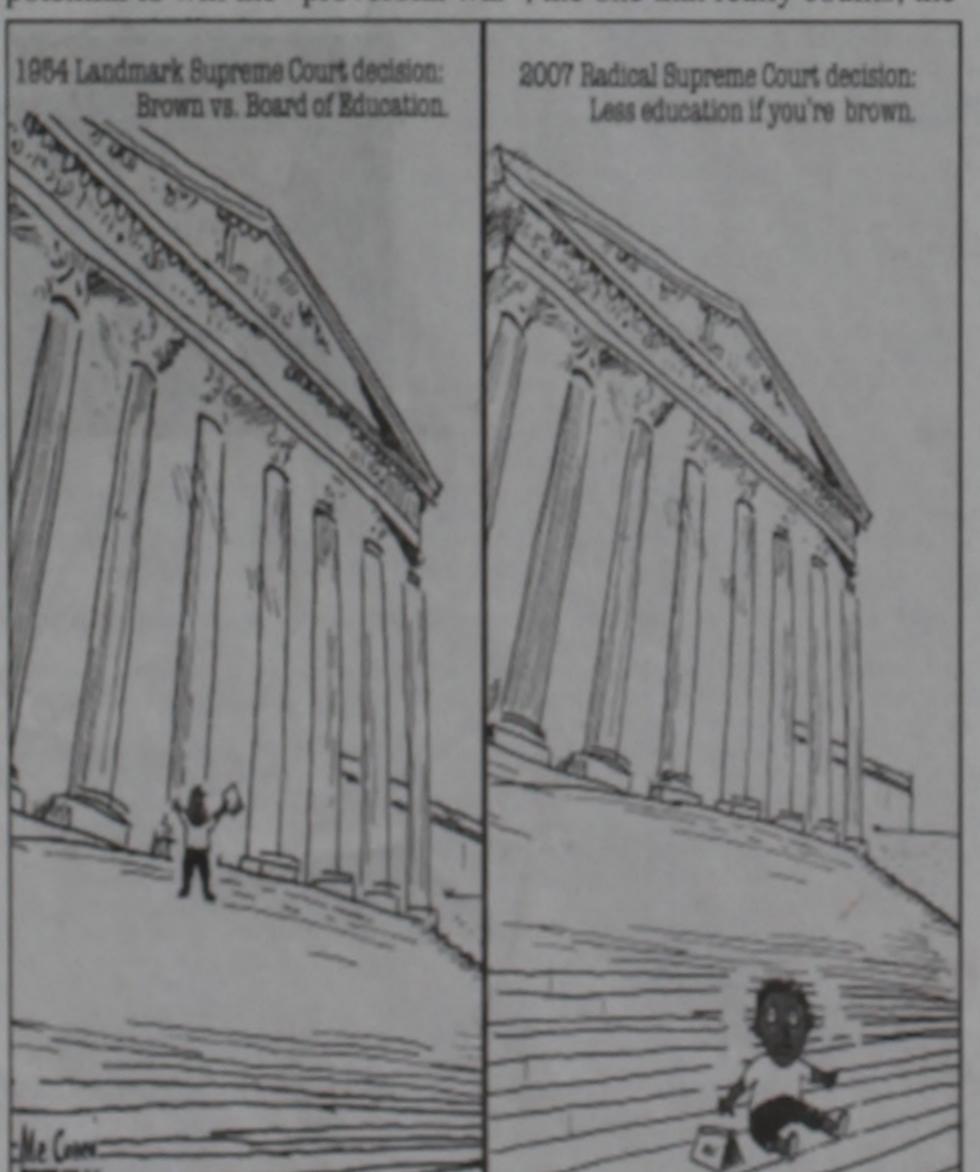
You hear all the commotion about the Hispanic/Latino vote being the difference maker coming from the mainstream; they believe it; why don't we? They believe we can influence election outcomes. They believe we can influence presidential elections; they believe we can influence political change. They believe the marches of 2006 influenced the ultimate unraveling of HR 4437; why don't we?

In fact some on the right believe it so much, they will use whatever means necessary to make sure that 12 million undocumented persons who have come to this country in search of the American Dream never obtain legal status so they never see the inside of an American voting booth.

Unfortunately we didn't believe it enough to organize the same type of marches during this last Senate debate on the immigration reform bill? Where were the voices then?

Let us believe; let us summon the political will and guts to stand up together and say; "together we will fight the political battles and win; in order not to be undone by them".

We may lose a few skirmishes along the way, but we have the potential to win the "proverbial war"; the one that really counts; the



¿Quien Habla Por los Hispanos?

José de la Isla

entro del corre-corre por asegurarse la credibilidad ante el cada vez más importante voto latino, los candidatos a la presidencia ya van cosechando respaldo político y formando comités de "asesoría" conformados por prominentes hispanos.

Entonces, ¿cómo se determina si un candidato está a tono más que otro? ¿Cómo se reconoce lo que es verdadero interés y lo que es enteramente egocéntrico?

Para todo esto, ¿quién determina la agenda de los latinos en los EE.UU?

El difunto columnista del Los Angeles Times, Frank del Olmo, en 1987 se quejó sobre los esfuerzos del entonces alcalde de San Antonio, Henry Cisneros, quien propusiera entablar una cumbre para prepara una agenda nacional para la campaña presidencial de 1988. Razonó del Olmo que sencillamente es imposible combinar los intereses políticos de los mexicanoamericanos, cubanos, puertorriqueños y centroamericanos. Hizo referencia, incluso, a lo que él denominaba "el mito de un voto

Hoy la lista se extendería más allá de lo étnico para incluir las regiones, grupos económicos, categorías educacionales, religión, ciudadanía, y género.

Lo que es claro ahora es que hoy no hay un mito sino una realidad en operación en cuanto a la importancia del voto latino.

No obstante, ¿qué es, precisamente, la perspectiva latina, cuando hay tantos "asuntos" por traer a la mesa? Con la posible excepción de la profunda tristeza ocasionada por la falta de acción de parte del Congreso sobre el tema de la inmigración, y (hasta el momento) la educación, los demás asuntos pueden sesgar de uno u otro

Es cierto que del Olmo no erraba en oponerse a una mentalidad de una-tallapara todos, pero en 1988 50 dirigentes latinos, de la National Hispanic Leadership Conference, formularon una agenda. La agenda ofrecía un panorama de 14 sectores de temas políticos. En 1992, se les ofreció a George H.W. Bush y a Bill Clinton una

agenda bipartita similar.

podrán sorprenderse al saber que este esno vino sin precedentes. En realidad, el primer esfuerzo ocurrió en 1939.

En su libro, próximo a salir, titulado "The Search for a Civic Voice: California Latino Politics", Kenneth C. Burt documenta brillantemente el Primer Congreso Nacional de los Pueblos Mexicano- e Hispano-Americanos de los Estados Unidos (conocido como El Congreso). Los representantes al Congreso llegaron de Arizona, California, Colorado, Nuevo México, Montana y

Los valores que se expresaron en esa primera reunión, que tuvo lugar en Los Angeles, siguen tan firmes hoy como entonces. Eduardo Quevedo, el entonces director, hablaba de promover la unidad dentro de la comunidad hispana con luchar contra la desigualdad. El movimiento formaría alianzas con otras organizaciones progresistas. Su agenda se dirigía a iniciativas a nivel de estado y acción a nivel federal. Tenía una perspectiva transnacional, mostrando que los presidentes Franklin D. Roosevelt y Lázaro Cárdenas compartían responsabilidades en temas de inmigración

El Congreso representaba el ideal

Lo que más se aplica a nuestra situación hoy es que representaba la participación cívica - la extensión del derecho al voto eliminando las prácticas de discriminación, y haciendo esfuerzos de base para animar a votar.

No se realizó el movimiento nacional que se proyectaba en 1939. No obstante, su espíritu ha perdurado durante siete décadas. Ahora, una nueva iniciativa - ya sejo Nacional de La Raza, la Asociación

One side says that he did; his side says that he has no recollection.

Potential Presidential Candidate Fred Thompson Lobbied for Abortion Rights Group?

But these are the types of skeletons which can haunt a political candidate's campaign; especially one who has based a majority of his appeal by speaking out against Roe v Wade; the ruling by the United States Supreme Court which upheld a woman's right to choose.

Although not an official candidate yet, former Tennessee Senator Fred Thompson has been busy denying that he once lobbied for the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association; an association whose interests include providing counseling at abortion clinics.

According to a story which first appeared in the Los Angeles Times, in 1991 Thompson agreed to lobby then President George H. W. Bush in order to get his administration to relax or withdraw a rule that barred organizations like the one which hired Thompson from counseling clients at abortion clinics which received federal funding

A Thompson spokesman denied that the former Senator had ever lobbied for the group. But according to the Times story, the group's board meeting minutes from a 1991 meeting refer to them having hired Thompson as a lobbyist. The Times obtained a copy of the minutes, which say in part that: "Judy [DeSarno] reported that the association had hired Fred Thompson Esq. as counsel to aid us in discussions with the administration".

According to DeSarno, Thompson briefed her on his progress at several different times, including at lunches at Washington, DC restaurants. She told The Times that Thompson reported to her that he had held several conversations with then White

House Chief of Staff John Sununu. On the other side of the controversy, Mark Corallo, spokesperson for Thompson was quoted as saying that "Fred Thompson did not lobby for this group, period. He added that there are no documents to prove it and that Thompson has no recollection

of him doing work for the group. But just because Mr. Thompson says he has no recollection; it doesn't necessarily

mean it never happened.

A former colleague of Thompson's who worked at the lobbying and law firm where Thompson worked, confirmed that he had recommended Thompson to the group. Former Representative Michael D. Barnes, a Democrat from Maryland, was quoted in the Times story as saying, it is "absolutely bizarre for Thompson to deny

that he lobbied against the abortion counseling rule", We'll have to wait and see what impact, if any, this revelation has on his campaign when he does finally announce his intention to seek

And with each election, their hearing

(José de la Isla, author of "The Rise of

Hispanic Political Power" (Archer Books, 2003)

Read El Editor - The

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address. All opinions and letters to the editor quast

contain the writer's name, address and phone number

but name can be withheld at the writer's request.

Address and telephone number will not be published.

Olga Riojas Aguero

Contributing Columnist

- Abel Cruz

Business Manager -

Publisher Bidal Aguero

writes a weekly commentary for Hispanic Link

News Service. E-mail joseisla3@yahoo.com

Who Speaks for Hispanics

(from Page One)

In his forthcoming book, "The Search for a Civic Voice: California Latino Politics," Kenneth C. Burt brilliantly documents the First National Congress of the Mexican and Spanish-American Peoples of the United States (known as El Congreso). Representatives to it came from Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Montana and New York.

The basic values expressed in the first meeting, held in Los Angeles, stand up to this day. Eduardo Quevedo, its presiding chairman, talked about promoting unity within the Hispanic community by combating inequality. The movement would form alliances with other progressive organizations. Its agenda was directed at state-level initiatives and federal action. It had a transnational perspective, showing presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Lázaro Cárdenas's shared responsibilities in matters of immigration and progress.

El Congreso stood for democratic rule in those pre-World War II days, when some prominent state and national leaders flirted with fascism and others rationalized for Stalinist Russia.

And most applicable today, they stood for civic participation - extending voting rights by eliminating discriminatory practices, and engaging in outreach to turn out the vote.

The national mobilization foreseen in 1939 was not carried out. But its spirit has persisted over the seven decades. Now, a new initiative - ya es hora, now's the time - involves the National Council of La Raza, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, the Service Employees International Union SEIU and the We Are America Alliance, ImpreMedia, Univisión, and 300 regional and local organizations in 15 states.

This is the kind of action that makes presidential frontrunners perk up. The Wall Street Journal concedes the mobilization "could influence the agenda and outcome of the 2008 election."

So, who speaks for Hispanics? The voters do, of course. And it seems candidates listen, but only after a scrappy Latino agenda packs a brawny wallop at the polls.

Hasta los que siguen de cerca la política fuerzo contemporáneo, si bien importante,

Nueva York.

y progreso.

democrático en aquella época antes de la segunda guerra mundial, cuando algunos dirigentes importantes estatales y nacionales coqueteaban con el fascismo, mientras que otros razonaban sobre la Rusia stalinista.

es hora - incluye la participación del Con-

Agenda, organizers had already obtained 274 signatures. He says, "It would have been a betrayal to those people to stop the recall". He continues, "We informed the Commissioner that Hispanic Agenda had never sought us out for anything, that we would not betray the signers and that Linda DeLeon had been vindictive, contentious, and arrogant besides trying to put us in jail". Gonzales was referring to DeLeon's comment early on the process in which said that she would look into pressing charges against the group for comments they had made about her.

Besides he asks rhetorically, "where was the Hispanic Agenda when the elderly couple froze to death (in east Lubbock), where are they on the issue of codes enforcement"? He adds, "Where was the Hispanic Agenda when a concerted effort was being made by the city to close a Hispanic business"? He closes with this: "As far as I'm concerned, there is no true Hispanic agenda, the only agenda here is the one that Linda DeLeon follows for her own arrogance and abuse of power".

Asked if they would be willing to meet with DeLeon now, his response is short and curt; "absolutely not". Pressed as to why, he reiterates that he would be betraying the hundreds of people who have already signed the petition.

Gonzales also addressed the charge by DeLeon that people have been misled into signing the first petition. He says not so; "The most important thing that we told our volunteers is that they need not try to convince people to sign our petition. This was not a sales job". He says volunteers were given guidance and explicitly told to point out to potential signers that it was a petition to recall DeLeon. He says that as to the complaint that some people were intimidated into signing; that assertion by DeLeon is false. He states that he told volunteers that "If people do not want to sign, excuse yourself, thank them and go on your way"

On the other hand he says, Father Martin Pina, the parish Priest at San Jose Catholic Church; the church DeLeon attends, has injected himself in the political process and has publicly stated his support for DeLeon; "and that is not right". He feels that the Priest did so at DeLeon's insistence and that only served the purpose of injecting religion into the matter. He says he met with Pina in an effort to explain his side of the issue; "Father Pina listened" he said, "but he did not acknowledge that he had said anything publicly in front of the congregation". Gonzales says they both agreed to discuss the issue further but that he has not met

with Pina since. El Editor was able to confirm that at least 2 other persons were approached by Pina in private and urged to support DeLeon.

He says that they did run into "one or two people who would not sign because of Rina's support", but he says it did not "slow the gathering of the signatures". He says that Pina's public show of support also could be seen as a form of intimidation or undue influence; since people have great respect for their parish priest and might be hesitant to sign even if they agree that DeLeon should be recalled. But he says he too is a Catholic and that he relies on his Faith to guide him also.

Nevertheless, he says the group will press on. And for Gonzales and his group of volunteers and supporters, the clock started ticking again last Friday; they have 30 days to obtain the 494 signatures needed to force a recall election in

Gonzales says he and his organizers are happy to let the democratic process play out and "we'll see who wins".

Email: acruztsc@aol.com

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OP-ED - Opinions - Discussions - Viewpoints - OP-ED

500 BOARDS REMAINS MINUSCULE

By Salome Eguizabal

espite steady rises in population and economic spending power, Hispanics remain strap-hangers on the boards of most major U.S. corporations. Nobody's rushing to offer them seats.

A fresh 68-page study conducted by the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility reveals that 71 percent of Fortune 500 companies still don't have a single Latino or Latina on their corporate boards. Only 25 of those companies have two or more Hispanic board members.

Hispanics represent 14.2 percent of the U.S. population, with an

estimated purchasing power of \$863.1 billion.

However, they held only 3.1 percent (172 of 5,437) of all Fortune 500 company board seats in 2006. This represents a 26 percent increase from 2003, when only 1.9 percent of these seats were occupied by Hispanics. But, observes HACR president Carlos Orta, "At current growth rates, it would take more than 100 years for us to achieve real parity."

Hispanic women are far less represented, occupying only 0.8 percent of all Fortune 500 seats in 2006. The study also indicated an increase in Latina representation: with 31 holding seats compared to 21 two years earlier.

"But the trend is not moving as fast as one would hope," Orta says.

Jackie Rojas-Quiñones, president of a Florida-based accounting firm and Hispanic Chamber of Commerce board member, observes that while their absence is still a reality,

"We women do whatever it takes to get the job done, and people

are starting to take notice." Orta stresses, "Corporate America hasn't yet woken up to the fact that Latinos are the fastest-growing population with great purchasing power. The closer the companies are to the top 500, the more likely they are to get it and have Latinos on their boards and

as executives.' Boards with multiple Latino members are rare. Only two Fortune 500 companies — Eastman Kodak Company and the Kimberly-Clark Corporation — had three or more.

McDonald's, Target, Nordstrom and Wal-Mart were among the 48 companies that have had at least one Hispanic on their boards for 10 or more years.

"If a company is interested in reaching the Latino market, it makes corporate sense to hire people who understand that specific demographic and have the cultural sensitivity necessary to target that segment," said Orta.

The report offered several suggestions, such as increased research, advocacy, networking and educational efforts to raise the number of Hispanics on the boards.

HACR, a non-profit group that promotes Hispanic participation in Corporate America, has been conducting the survey since 1993 The group's report is available at www.hacr.org.

(Salome Eguizebal is a reporter with the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report. Reach her care of editor@hispanicliink.com)© 2007

PRESENCIA HISPANA EN LAS JUNTAS DE LAS EMPRESAS DE LA LISTA DE FORTUNE 500 SIGUE SIENDO MÍNIMA

Salomé Eguizabal

A pesar del continuo aumento de la población y del poder adquisitivo, los hispanos no dejan de ser más que simples pasajeros de a pie en las juntas directivas de la mayor parte de las corporaciones más importantes de los Estados Unidos. Y nadie se apresura en ofrecerles un asiento.

Un nuevo estudio de 68 páginas que realizó la Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility (HACR) revela que el 71 por ciento de las empresas Fortune 500 aún siguen sin tener ni un latino ni una latina como parte de sus juntas empresariales. Sólo el 25 por ciento de las empresas tienen a dos o más miembros de la junta hispanos.

Los hispanos representan el 14.2 por ciento de la población de los Estados Unidos, con un poder adquisitivo que se calcula ser de \$863,1 mil millones.

No obstante, ocupaban sólo el 3,1 por ciento (172 de 5.437) de los puestos en las juntas empresariales de todas las empresas de la lista Fortune 500 en el 2006. Esta cifra representa un incremento de 26 puntos porcentuales desde el 2003, cuando sólo el 1,9 por ciento de aquellos puestos los ocupaban hispanos. Pero, observa Carlos Orta, presidente de HACR, "Con los índices de crecimiento actuales, llevaría más de 100 años alcanzar la verdadera paridad".

Mucho menos representadas están las mujeres hispanas, quienes ocupaban sólo el 0,8 por ciento de todos los puestos de empresas Fortune 500 en el 2006. El estudio indicó también que hubo un aumento en la representación de latinas: 31 de ellas ocupan puestos en comparación con 21 hace dos años.

"Pero la tendencia no avanza con la velocidad que quisiéramos", dice Orta.

Jackie Rojas-Quiñones, presidenta de una empresa de contaduría en Florida, y miembro de la junta de la Cámara de Comercio Hispana, observa que si bien su ausencia continua siendo una realidad, "Nosotras las mujeres haremos todo lo posible por completar el trabajo, y la gente empieza a prestar atención".

Enfatiza Orta, "El sector empresarial de los EE.UU. no ha despertado aún al hecho que los latinos son la población de mayor crecimiento que tiene mucho poder adquisitivo. Lo más próximas están las empresas a las primeras 500, lo más probable es que entiendan esto y tengan a latinos como miembros de su junta y como ejecutivos empresariales".

Son raras las juntas que tienen varios miembros latinos. Sólo dos empresas Fortune 500 - Eastman Kodak Company y la Kimberly-Clark Corporation - tuvieron a tres o más.

McDonald's, Target, Nordstrom y Wal-Mart estaban entre las 48 empresas que han tenido a por lo menos un hispano en su junta directiva durante diez años o más.

"Si a una empresa le interesa llegar al mercado latino, tiene sentido económico que contrate a personas que comprenden ese sector demográfico en particular, y que tienen la sensibilidad cultural que se necesita para llegar a ese segmento", explica Orta.

El informe ofreció varias sugerencias, tales como mayor investigación, abogacía, hacer conexiones, y esfuerzos de educación para aumentar el número de hispanos en las juntas.

HACR, un grupo sin fines de lucro que promociona la participación hispana en el sector empresarial de los EE.UU., ha realizado la misma encuesta desde 1993. Se encuentra el informe de HACR en www.hacr.org.

(Salomé Eguizabal es reportera de Hispanic Link Weekly Report. Comuníquese con ella a: editor!hispaniclink.org). © 2007

Léa El Editor En el Internet www.eleditor.com

On the Internet -www. eleditor.com

HISPANIC PRESENCE ON FORTUNE LETTERS TO THE Editor

Come on, now, Victor, you

know you yourself don't have

to name any group if you're

writing broadly in support of

a campaign that already has a

Don't get me wrong: I

ALWAYS supported Victor

when he was on the council,

from start to finish, and thought

he had the most incisive ideas

since Marvin McClarty in the

without warning. In my article

1950's. I was flabbergasted

when he suddenly resigned

I was just commenting that I

think his involvement in this

particular controversy was a

If all this keeps up, we'll

have an entire council full of

McDougal clones, with His-

panic former leaders fighting

each other somewhere in the

background. Is that what we

anyone, hey have you all ever

heard of the word "desafío" -

Linda organizers. Let's have

a head to head council race in

confident that if the anti-Linda

on the types of appeals they've

made so far, then regardless of

who believe in unity will beat

them at the polls in a way that

they will know they've been

Chico James, Lubbock via

of our community to be an equal part of this

was a threat. You cannot have a truly strong

Hispanic community take drastic measures to

make you see that we are part of this city. So

"thanks" for making sure our leaders don't

And Ms. DeLeon, thanks for your non-

Name witheld at writer's request

support of Mr. Moralez!

keep up their work of making us a part of

Hispanic leader. But maybe it is time the

Maybe he was doing too good of a job and

tactic, it's a promise.

who our candidate is those of us

That's not a threat, nor a scare

people run a campaign based

district one. I am absolutely

challenge. I challenge you anti-

As to "trying to scare"

of anyone on the council

racist tint to it.

mistake.

want?

Send Mail to: eleditor@sbcglobal.net or P.O. Box 11250, Lubbock, TX, 79408

James Answers Victor Hernandez's Letter

Dear Bidal,

I would like to briefly answer Victor's letter about my commentary on unity.

First, I did not attack anybody in the commentary. I said Victor, Roger and the Gonzales' are engaging in a political campaign that I think is mistaken. I said I thought it was mistaken because it splits Hispanics from Anglos in a council district in which in high turnout years the voting strength of the two groups is about the same.

The latest articles in El Editor on the Hernandez/Settler/Gonzales controversy show very clearly the nature of the campaign. The quote in Abel's article about how Linda "votes with Anglos" is an example. Another part of the article quotes someone as saying that Linda's votes should be different depending on whether her father were born in Mexico or not. What's up with that? He WAS, by the way, born in Mexico.

This line of thinking IS racist. It means, if you were born in England, or your ancestors were, then you cannot possibly find common cause with someone born in Mexico, or whose ancestors were. If that is not racist, then I don't know what is.

Victor defends himself against my criticism by saying in his letter to district one people that he never once mentioned the word Hispanic.

Reader Critical of Morales Not Being Re-appointed to Civic Lubbock not mean that they will truly represent the Subject: Hispanic Community Hispanic community and fight for the right

city.

beaten.

email

Dear Editor

Once again, you our city "leaders" have stopped the advancement of the Hispanic community and make sure it stays in its place, You have gotten rid of one of our top leaders, Chevo Moralez by removing him from Civic Lubbock.

Before Mr. Moralez was appointed to the board, no Hispanic organization or event had ever received any of the grants that Civic Lubbock gives out. It was only through his efforts that these monies were distributed fairly. Before Mr. Moralez was appointed no Hispanic was in the Walk of Fame. It was him going to the community and doing research and then fighting an uphill battle to get Hispanic inducted.

It was Mr. Moralez who went into the community and recruited Hispanic dances, weddings, events etc to use the Civic Center which meant more revenue for the city. It was Mr. Moralez's idea for Civic Lubbock to purchase and distribute hockey tickets to students which allowed Hispanic students to attend hockey games which they probably never would have. It was Mr. Moralez's idea and efforts that got Fiestas and the Hispanic Chamber to participate with the Music Festival and other events and really make a city wide celebration.

When Mr. Eddie Dixon refused to do any work for the city because he felt Lubbock had never recognized him, it was Mr. Moralez through their friendship that convinced Mr. Dixon to do some art for the city of Lubbock.

It was the lobbying efforts of Mr. Moralez to have an Hispanic, Freddy Chavez hired in one of very, very few administrative positions in the city. So as you can see while working to do the things Civic Lubbock does, Mr. Moralez worked hard to make sure the Hispanic community was represented and part of this city. It was not like he was not

doing his job and fulfilling his duties .. There were other Hispanics (2-3) on the board before but all were content to just be there and do what they were told. None had the desire, courage and determination to stand up and make sure the Hispanic community was included. Just because you have a person with a Spanish name does

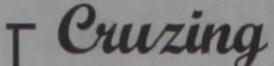
Fair Elections Now Posted by Jim Hightower

We have yet to cast a single vote in the 2008 elections - but winners are already being picked.

Unfortunately, you're probably not one of the pickers, because this is an exclusive, anti-democratic process controlled by corporate executives, lobbyists, and rich people who make high-dollar campaign contributions. Less than one percent of the American people participate in this "wealth primary," yet they have a greater say in our political choices than the other 99 percent of us. Indeed, candidates spend most of their political time dialing for dollars and schmoozing with the rich, rather than discussing issues and talking to the folks.

Well, say those elites who benefit from this plutocratic system, the Supreme Court has ruled that giving a ton of campaign funds is an exercise in "free" speech, so there's nothing anyone can do to stop this money corruption of our politics and government.

Not so fast, slick. Senators Dick Durbin, Arlen Spector, and a hardy group of democracy fighters have come up with a way that frees the system from dependence on special-interest money. Called the "Fair Elections Now Act," S.1285 sets up an alternative election fund for candidates who voluntarily agree not to take private-interest money.



A story in the Dallas Morning News says that a Dallas "on-duty" officer was Tasered with his own police taser after stopping at his home to use the restroom; while on his way to investigate a burglary.

Apparently the officer was in no hurry to get to the scene of the burglary since he let a woman into his home while he was there to ahem, relieve himself. According to the officer, the woman picked up the Taser while he was in the restroom and shot him with it when he came out of the restroom and told her to drop it.

Yeah right! The cop was probably trying to impress her with his Taser since he could not impress her with anything else and it accidentally went off...

What is it with cops? In the Jacob Opperman case, you remember the one where the LPD officer was driving around drunk in northwest Lubbock on 4 tire rims, the cops told LPD Chief Claude Jones that they had let the air out of the tires of Opperman's police cruiser because they did not want him driving drunk. Worst part is the Chief believed them!

One side says that he did; his side says that he has no recollection.

Potential Presidential Candidate Fred Thompson Lobbied for Abortion Rights Group?

But these are the types of skeletons which can haunt a political candidate's campaign; especially one who has based a majority of his appeal by speaking out against Roe v Wade; the ruling by the United States Supreme Court which upheld a woman's right to choose.

Although not an official candidate yet, former Tennessee Senator Fred Thompson has been busy denying that he once lobbied for the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association; an association whose interests include providing counseling at abortion clinics.

According to a story which first appeared in the Los Angeles Times, in 1991 Thompson agreed to lobby then President George H. W. Bush in order to get his administration to relax or withdraw a rule that barred organizations like the one which hired Thompson from counseling clients at abortion clinics which received federal funding

A Thompson spokesman denied that the former Senator had ever lobbied for the group. But according to the Times story, the group's board meeting minutes from a 1991 meeting refer to them having hired Thompson as a lobbyist. The Times obtained a copy of the minutes, which say in part that: "Judy [DeSarno] reported that the association had hired Fred Thompson Esq. as counsel to aid us in discussions with the administration".

According to DeSarno, Thompson briefed her on his progress at several different times, including at lunches at Washington, DC restaurants. She told The Times that Thompson reported to her that he had held several conversations with then White House Chief of Staff John Sununu.

On the other side of the controversy, Mark Corallo, spokesperson for Thompson was quoted as saying that "Fred Thompson did not lobby for this group, period. He added that there are no documents to prove it and that Thompson has no recollection of him doing work for the group.

But just because Mr. Thompson says he has no recollection; it doesn't necessarily mean it never happened.

A former colleague of Thompson's who worked at the lobbying and law firm where Thompson worked, confirmed that he had recommended Thompson to the group. Former Representative Michael D. Barnes, a Democrat from Maryland, was quoted in the Times story as saying, it is "absolutely bizarre for Thompson to deny that he lobbied against the abortion counseling rule",

We'll have to wait and see what impact, if any, this revelation has on his campaign when he does finally announce his intention to seek



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SPC's new dean of **Arts and Sciences**



LEVELLAND - Yancy Nunez has been named the new dean of Arts and Sciences at South Plains College. He joined the faculty on July 1.

The Carlsbad, N.M.-native grew up in Odessa and graduated in 1980 from Odessa High School. Nunez went on to graduate with a bachelor's degree and master's degree in mathematics from Texas Tech University, in 1988 and 1993, respectively.

Prior to joining the faculty at SPC, Nunez was the director of Academic Center for Excellence at Sul Ross State University for five years. He also worked as the chairman of the department of mathematics and engineering at Odessa College for nine years.

Atencion Ciudadano Mejicano

Consulado Mejicano estara en Lubbock Sabado 28 de Julio, 2007 de 7:00 a.m. hasta 7:00 p.m. En la escuela Estacado High School Esquina de las calles MLK y Itasca. Servicios: Matricula, Pasaporte, y mucho mas Estos seran utiles si se realiza la reforma migratoria. Marque el 214-252-9250 ext: 125 Para mas informacion - Lizbeth Sauceda

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Que Pasa?

Local family receives help from Lubbock Elks Lodge



Nancy Edge and Jerry Swanson of the Lubbock Elks Lodge present Albert and Sarah Rodriguez with a check for \$1000 to help them start rebuild after a devastating house fire took all of their possessions. The Lodge raised the money by hosting a benefit dinner for the family.

Tony R. Thornton, President and CEO and the **Board of Directors of Planned Parenthood** Association of Lubbock, Inc.

Cordially invite you to join us for this year's Annual Fundraising Event 6:00 to 8:00 pm The evening of Friday, August 17th, 2007 The Lubbock Club Ballroom 1500 Broadway 14th Floor Please join us to share in the presentation of our plans for expansion, designed to further the Mission of Planned Parenthood RSVP requested by Friday, August 10th, 2007 Please bring a guest Tony. Thornton@ppfa.org Or call (806) 795-7123 X 16

READ ONLINE @ WWW. **ELEDITOR.**

Bill Richardson, the Democratic presidential contender with the heavyweight resume -- former congressman, U.N. ambassador, energy secretary and now governor of New Mexico - is wrapping up his six-point plan for a Richardson presidency

when he suggests that his audience is skeptical of his chance to win. Despite his credentials -- negotiating with despots, balancing a

state budget, pursuing global diplomacy, pushing green technology as energy secretary -- Richardson has been overshadowed in early debates and polls by rivals with better name recognition and vastly more money.

'I know you're saying, 'Gov. Richardson, we've met him, good guy, good-looking guy, too, good credentials," Richardson says to a small but receptive crowd at a backyard party. 'But then you're saying, 'Can he win?' I know you're thinking it. You read the polls."

Such is the plight of the underdog. Even as he seeks to position himself as the candidate with the most experience, Richardson has to persuade skeptics to take his candidacy seriously.

"This should be a race about who's got the best plan for this country, who's got the credentials to lead this country," Richardson says. Several in the audience nod. "Not who's the biggest rock star or who has the most money or the most political legacies."

PERSONAL TOUCH Lacking big bucks, Richardson politicks voter by voter. The gregarious governor actually holds the Guinness world record

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for hand-shaking. He's counting on strong showings, though not necessarily the top spot, in early voting states to catapult him into the top tier.

Richardson Struggling to

Stay in Race Despite Strong

As he lumbered along a New Hampshire parade route during the Fourth of July holiday week, one woman pressed him on global warming. Richardson, who tells his audiences he would expect Americans to "sacrifice" to ensure energy independence, stopped to share his ideas. Behind him, the parade backed up.

"They almost threw me out," Richardson later joked.

On the trail, Richardson presents a detailed recitation of what he would do as president, including pulling all U.S. forces out of Iraq within six months of taking office -- before taking question after question. He offers his thoughts on energy conservation, the importance of arts in schools and immigration -- not shying away from his support for earned legalization.

"I'm at 10 percent [in the polls], I gotta move up here," Richardson quips at the house party. He agrees to take one more question as his handlers nudge him to wrap it up, but he fields nearly a halfdozen more.

Voters say he comes off as a regular guy.

Though Richardson relishes the personal touch, he's surprisingly stingy with personal details on the trail.

He mentions briefly -- and only in the context of explaining his love for Mickey Mantle -- that he grew up in Mexico City. His father was a white non-Hispanic banker; his mother is Mexican. In an interview, he said he's not interested in campaigning as the first Hispanic candidate.

'PROUD TO BE HISPANIC' "I'm trying to convey that I'm a mainstream American governor who's very proud to be Hispanic," Richardson said. "I don't try to be a wedge candidate. I've never wanted to be categorized as a

compete with everybody. "I'm asking voters to base their choice on competence, on record, on vision for the country," he said.

professional Hispanic. I want to

With every close, Richardson acknowledges skepticism about his winning. His poll numbers are up in New Hampshire and Iowa, but he jokes that he started out "below the margin of error."

He gets serious only when he closes, telling voters that Americans elect governors as president, not senators.

And he suggests that New Hampshire voters have a special affection for the unanointed.

"You're first; you have a special responsibility," Richardson says to about 100 Democrats in Stoddard.

EL EDITOR COM The Public is Invited to Come

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Oct 19-21

State USSSA

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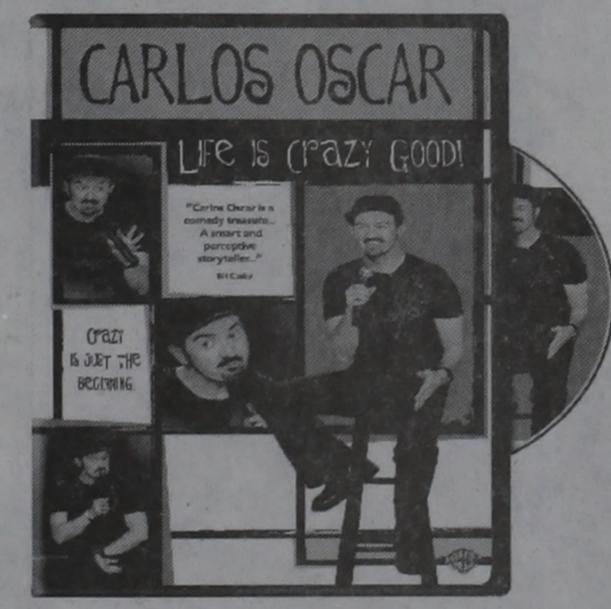
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PBS Documentary Adds Material After Hispanic Outcry

Pressure from Latino groups to include their perspective in "The War," the upcoming 15-hour documentary series by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, has succeeded in adding their stories to the presentation. But Burns said the changes won't alter the narrative that has already been constructed.

"There's been a kind of hot political battle, and we tried to rise above it and respond as best we could," Burns said of the controversy.

"We included it," Burns said of approximately 28 minutes of new material, "at the end of three of the episodes."

Those clips will be included at the ends of the first, fifth and sixth episodes, before closing credits but after Burns' original cut of the film.

"It doesn't alter the vision of the film that we made and completed a year and a half ago," he said, referring to the period the work was assembled. "But it also adds stories."



Those stories include a Native American perspective and other viewpoints as well.

Burns said the additional material is done in the same style as the rest of "The War." He noted that he was up against a tight deadline - "The War" launches Sept. 23, 17 years after his epic "Civil War" began.

"It's as far as we can go," he said.

"I think we've found the right balance, had the right compromise, that permitted us not to alter our original vision and version of the film," he said, "and, at the same time, honor what was legitimate about the concerns about a group of people who, for 500 years, have had their story untold in American history."

PBS president Paula Kerger said she applauded Burns for reaching an agreement with the network and the Latino groups.

Burns said it was "our obligation to listen, and to hear" from Hispanic groups that were protest-

"It was, of course, painful to us on one level that people would misinterpret what the film was about," he added. "But we didn't have the luxury of abstracting this.

"These people," he said, referring to World War II veterans, "are dying - 1,500 a day is now the statistic."

Kerger denied she had been less than supportive of Burns when changes were demanded. "I have stood by Ken, and the story he wants to bring before the American public," she said.

One more skirmish regarding "The War" still remains: the question of possibly offensive language, included in fewer than a handful of spots in the documentary. The references explain wartime acronyms like "fubar" and "snafu." (In both cases, the F stands for the F-word.) On that issue, Kerger said she'd let local PBS stations decide whether to air edited or unedited versions.

José Feliciano: sin vista, sin complejos

El puertorriqueño José Feliciano, quien tras 10 años de ausencia lleva su música en directo a las ciudades españolas de Barcelona y Madrid, ha señalado que "un ciego no vive en la oscuridad y nota muchos de los complejos que hay en el mundo, entre ellos el racismo".

Feliciano ofrecerá hoy martes en la sala Luz de Gas de Barcelona, el 18 de julio en la discoteca Joy Eslava de Madrid y el 28 de julio en la Plaza de Toros de Estepona (Málaga), tres únicos conciertos promocionales en España de su disco José Feliciano y amigos.

En el concierto barcelonés cantará precisamente Un ciego no vive en la oscuridad, un tema compuesto para su madre, la mujer que le enseñó a ser independiente.

En esa canción dice: Cuando me levanto siento el calor del sol y cuando vuelvo al campo siento su verdor, a mí como a ti me da la claridad, un ciego no vive en la oscuridad.

Feliciano asegura en una entrevista que las personas con capacidad de ver "tienen muchos complejos".

"Yo noto, por ejemplo, que la gente que tiene vista tiene mucho racismo; lo noto porque lo viví sobre mí y sobre otras personas cuando llegué a Estados Unidos al no ser anglosajón, sino puertorriqueño", recalcó.

Por eso el cantante, compositor y virtuoso guitarrista dice que, si fuera verdad "eso de que los ojos son la ventana del alma, no habría racismo".

Feliciano interpretará en España algunos de los 18 temas de la edición especial de José Feliciano y amigos, disco grabado a partir de un concierto en homenaje a su carrera.

El disco contiene duetos del artista con artistas amigos suyos, entre ellos el también puertorriqueño Marc Anthony, con quien canta Oye guitarra mía.

El disco fue una idea de la pro-

ductora venezolana Siente Music y contiene temas exclusivos que Feliciano interpreta con Ana Ga-

briel, como Para decir adiós. También interpreta en el disco Que nadie sepa mi sufrir, con Alicia Villarreal, y Tengo que decirte

algo, con Gloria Estefan. Feliciano también canta boleros y salsa con intérpretes masculinos como Lupillo Rivera, en Un mundo raro; Paso la vida pensando, con Ramón Ayala; Por ella, con Luciano Pereira; Lamento borincano, con Luis Fonsi; Si tuviera que elegir, con Ricardo Montaner, y Cosas del amor, con Rudy Pérez.



Asimismo, en el disco se ha incluido la recordada Qué será, con el piano de Raúl di Blasio, y varios temas de Armando Manzanero, entre ellos Contigo aprendí.

El artista grabó hace tres años un dúo con la tonadillera española Isabel Pantoja y ahora le gustaría cantar con David Bisbal, "buen cantante joven".

"Y con Julio Iglesias claro, buena gente, y amigo mío desde hace mucho tiempo", agrega.

También le habría gustado hacer un dúo de guitarra con el músico español Andrés Segovia, ya imposible —"desgraciadamente ya no está con nosotros"—, y no descarta otro con Paco de Lucía, señaló el considerado mejor guitarrista pop durante cinco años consecutivos por la revista Guitar Player.

Con 40 Discos de Oro y Platino a su haber, Feliciano cree que "la música latina va muy bien, está progresando, se están usando muchos ritmos, no solamente latinos sino también americanos; se están mezclando".

Fans aman a Maná

El grupo mexicano Maná congregó a más de 1.6 millones de asistentes en la primera etapa de su gira Amar es combatir por México, Estados Unidos, España, Centro y Sudamérica, informó esta semana su compañía discográfica.

De acuerdo con Warner Music, los mexicanos lograron su más reciente éxito en España, país que recorrieron durante tres semanas y cuyos shows fueron vistos por más de 400 mil seguidores.

Para el concierto final de esta etapa, realizado el jueves en Tenerife, desde hace varias semanas se vendieron más de 50 mil boletos. Fher, Alex, Juan y Sergio, integrantes de Maná, descansarán un mes y en septiembre arrancarán la segunda etapa en Estados Unidos.

"A la par de demostrar el éxito que tienen, Maná también marcó un precedente en ventas al convertirse en el grupo internacional que más boletos

vende en España, superando a artistas de la talla de los Rolling Stones", aseguró la disquera.

Voceros de la empresa agregaron que "es así como desde su arranque de la gira Amar es combatir Maná ha reunido a más de 1.6 millones de personas solamente en Estados Unidos, España, México, Centro y Sudamérica".

Subrayaron que los intérpretes de Rayando el sol, Vivir sin aire y Te lloré un río, además "rompieron récords como el único grupo latino en llenar dos noches el Madison Square Garden de Nueva York y agotar en horas los boletos para conciertos en Los Ángeles, Houston y Miami".

La gira puso fin a cuatro años de ausencia de los escenarios y según han dichos sus integrantes en varias ocasiones "es la más espectacular que hemos hecho".

Maná comenzó en los 80 con el nombre Sombrero Verde,

haciendo versiones de temas de The Beatles, Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin y The Police, y con el tiempo empezaron a hacer sus propios temas en español. En 1986 tomaron el nombre

Maná, no en alusión al signifi-

cado bíblico sino a una palabra

polinesia que significa "en-

ergía positiva". Firmaron con

Polygram y sacaron su primer álbum, Maná, que en poco tiempo se convirtió en parte crucial del movimiento "Rock en tu idioma".

Desde entonces han permanecido juntos, llevando su música por el mundo, y han creado la Fundación Selva Negra que aporta recursos a la causa ecológica.

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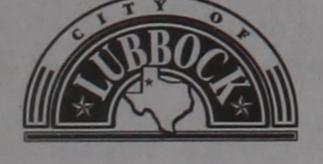
The Lubbock International Airport hereby announces its fiscal year 2008 goal of 9.37% for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise airport construction projects.

The proposed goals and goal setting methodology is available for inspection between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday beginning July 16th and ending August 15th in the Office of the City Purchasing Manager, 1625 13th Street, Lubbock, Texas.

The Airport will accept comments on the DBE goals for 45 days beginning July 16th and ending August 30th. Comments can be sent to either of the following:

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