

El Editor

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Searching for Answers

Report by Texas Criminal Justice Coalition reveals Hispanics and blacks more likely to be “consent searched” than whites

By Abel Cruz

*A Review of Racial Profiling Facts in Texas; Part 1
What are consent searches?*

If you are a Hispanic driver in the city of Lubbock, and are stopped by a police officer for a routine traffic violation, you are twice as likely to be asked to consent to a search of your vehicle as you would be if you were white. And if you are black, you are 4 times as likely to be “consent searched” as whites; twice more likely than Hispanics.

In a recently released report by the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC) titled:

Searching for Consent: An Analysis of Racial Profiling Data in Texas, the report “revealed (that) disparities in consent search practices still occur by race, but variations among departments are often higher” and that “Consent searches in particular rarely uncover wrongdoing and are more likely to target minorities.”

Consent searches occur when a motorist who has been stopped by a law enforcement officer is asked for permission to search the

individual or their vehicle without having probable cause or “legal authority” to do so. According to the TCJC, in Texas this “means that if a driver pulled over for a traffic offense is asked for permission to be searched and refuses, the officer has the authority to arrest the motorist and search the vehicle upon impound”; although the report did not specifically address how many Texas motorists had been subject to their car being impounded for refusing to comply with a consent search request.

The report included only data that fit the definition of “consent searches”, no other types of searches were included in the report. The report revealed that minorities are asked more frequently to be consent searched: “approximately two thirds of Texas law enforcement agencies reported consent searching blacks or Latinos at higher rates than Anglos following a traffic stop”.

Motorists who are stopped on Texas highways are not legally bound to comply with a consent search request; although most motorists are unaware of their right to say no to a search of their vehicle; since only about 5% of Texas law enforcement agencies make it a point to inform motorists of their right to refuse to

comply. The report’s analyst were critical about this point and felt that there is a strong possibility that many motorists probably feel intimidated and comply with the officer; without questioning whether they have a right to refuse.

(continued on page 2)

COMMUNITY VOICES

Consent Searches: Readers Respond

Yes, it happened to my son’s best friend last month. He is seventeen and Hispanic. He was speeding, a few miles over the speed limit, between Lamesa and Tahoka. When he was stopped, the officer asked him where he was coming from and he said from a farewell party in Marfa, Texas for his cousin who had joined the Army.

The DPS officer asked him if he could search the vehicle and he clearly said no, not until he called his dad who owns the vehicle. The officer said he didn’t need his dad and just demanded that he step out of the car. He said, “Coming from Marfa was enough probable cause!” There were no drugs found.

Patricia Romo, Lubbock via email

There should be no reason for a search of my vehicle when there is no probable cause. Shame on an officer, for asking to search one’s vehicle, when he/she knows they do not have any legal authority. Not only is it an abuse of power, it fosters further distrust towards those who make an oath to protect citizens and uphold the law.

Diana S. Fabing, Lubbock, via Email

I have never been subjected to a consent search while I have lived in Lubbock. I have heard about this on the news only. I would be very upset if an officer wanted to search my vehicle without probable cause or legal authority.

I would like to stay on the list to find out what issues are facing Hispanics in Lubbock. I moved to the Lubbock area about 6 years ago and still don’t know much of what goes on here. I was amazed at how much prejudice there is in West Texas.

Minerva Alaniz, Lubbock, via Email

I have lived in Lubbock for 15 years. Between 1991 and 2006 I have been pulled over a few times by Lubbock Police, once for speeding (I received a warning), and once because my tail light was out. Neither time was my vehicle searched. Both officers were very nice to me.

After reading this week’s questions, I was simply amazed at the fact how easy it is for people to forget the reasons why Hispanics are profiled and selected for searches by the police. I am certain that the data from the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition also described how many Hispanics were involved in the illicit trafficking of drugs and usage of controlled substances. I am certain that the numbers of guilty drug dealing/drug using Hispanics parallel the numbers of “illegal” searches performed on Hispanics in their automobiles. This is a hard pill to swallow folks. Hispanics need to take responsibility for their actions. We allow drug dealers and users to live in our neighborhoods and now we pay the price of our complicity. Unfortunately, because of our enterprising brothers and sisters in the illegal drug trade, the innocent Hispanics are held liable for their sins. The reality is that most car searches take place late at night in questionable parts of town where drug activity is at its greatest and it so happens that many Hispanics that get searched happen to be in these locations or they eventually get searched because they were observed entering and leaving these questionable locations. This is called probable cause.

So, when a police officer searches a vehicle, it is never “illegal” unless there is no probable cause.

The 4th Amendment protects us from unlawful searches. An interesting case that dealt with this exact issue from 1990 called “State v. Jimeno” actually went to the Supreme Court. The most interesting thing about State v. Jimeno was that the arresting officer was Hispanic. Here is the information from this case: officer Trujillo witnessed Jimeno using his pager at a payphone in the middle of the night. After the conversation, officer Trujillo followed him to a house. Two men came out of the house with a package. This gave officer Trujillo probable cause to question the contents of the package; however his excuse for pulling Jimeno over was a traffic violation. After a search of the vehicle, officer Trujillo found a Kilo of cocaine.

What I found amazing about this case is that Jimeno actually had the nerve to fight for his innocence in the courts. Come on! The guy was caught red handed with a Kilo of blow and still had the nerve to say it wasn’t his???

The attitude of non-accountability is what is plaguing the Hispanic community. We want to pretend that the drug dealers have a right to live in our neighborhoods as long as no one gets hurt. Well, we are hurting now because our 4th Amendment rights are now being challenged due to probable cause on a gross scale. We are not dealing effectively with the cancer of illegal drugs and drug dealers within our communities. We make weak excuses to allow these morally corrupt parasites to live within our neighborhoods and interact with our very easily impressed young people. We have a problematic “us versus them” attitude with the law enforcement authorities. This must stop or else as our Hispanic population grows, so will the Hispanic population in prisons grow. If we are to receive respect, then we must respect law and order. If there are isolated cases of 4th Amendment violations, then let us litigate *together* against those who will try to steal our rights away.

The answer isn’t to run into a life of crime and hate just because Hispanics aren’t respected by law enforcement. We should be law abiding examples of the Lubbock community that shine as bright as the sun without spot or blemish. Only then will we begin to see less traffic stops, less discrimination in job searches, and better job opportunities for Hispanics. Also, we should encourage neighborhood watches that team up with the law enforcement authorities so that we can eliminate the degenerate gangs and drug cartels that infest our neighborhoods. Say no to drugs and tell cousin “Chui” who is selling drugs to go get his GED and get a real job.

Jerry Perez, Lubbock via Email

Editor’s Note: Readers wishing to comment on “Consent Searches” story may still do so. Comments will be published next week.

“Community Voices” would like to hear from you, the readers. You may remain anonymous, but El Editor reserves the right to edit all comments for offensive language, offensive or distasteful content, or personal attacks, and for space. Mail your comments to Community Voices, 1502 Ave M, Lubbock, 79401, or email your comments to acruetz@aol.com

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Viva Aztlan Festival to Explode This Weekend

by Amalia Agüero

When 300 kids yell Viva Aztlan those attending of the 11th annual Viva Aztlan Dance and Mariachi Festival will know that they are really saying that “our heritage lives!” For eleven years the Viva Aztlan Dance Festival has been flourishing Mexico’s traditions into the Lubbock community. The initial concept was to involve all of the area’s dance communities to present their talents in an exciting way while at the same time inviting dance groups from throughout the southwestern United States to also participate

The festival is a competition and workshops for both ballet folklórico and mariachi groups which will be held at the Civic Center Theatre March 10-11. As part of the eleventh year anniversary Viva Aztlan introduces a mariachi concert on Friday starting at 7:30 in the Civic Center Theater providing a taste of spicy Mexican ballads. The added bonus for participating Mariachi groups is being critiqued by a professional Mariachi group from Albuquerque, Mariachi Los Arieles during workshops that will be held starting Friday at 9 am and continuing throughout the day on Saturday.

During the Festival Mexican Folklórico dance groups coming from throughout West Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma will participate in workshops conducted by professional dance instructors. Between workshops, Folklórico groups will compete for awards during afternoon sessions on Friday and all day on Saturday.

The festival is open to the public and tickets can be purchased at the door for only \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for seniors and children..

The founder of Viva Aztlan, Bidal Aguero, is very excited about the eleventh annual anniversary because it brings back memories from 1994. Aguero states he envisioned a bigger future for the folklórico groups in Lubbock. “Ten years ago I saw a surge of folklórico groups being formed in Lubbock,” Aguero said, “I felt the only way these groups could expose themselves and enhance



their skills was to bring in other folklórico groups from other cities.” Since most folklórico groups in Lubbock did not have the money to bring master instructors from Mexico, Viva Aztlan created this opportunity.

Aguero and his devoted committee members then asked folklórico groups across the United States to participate in the competition. To much of their surprise they have hosted groups from New Mexico, Colorado, Illinois, Mexico, and Texas. The first year of the competition was a great surprise to all the committee members because the kids evolved the word ‘competition’. The charisma they manufactured while performing was not to win a trophy, nor was it a manufactured entity. The charisma came from the naturalness of their soul.

Ballet Folklórico has a tradition that runs deep within Mexico’s culture. When a dance is taught to a group of dancers they will learn the steps, the movement, the grace and persona that is coupled with that particular dance. Since every song has a different meaning students also learn the origin of the song and also learn why costumes differ from song to song.

Upon asking Rick Castaneda, a dancer for Ballet Folklórico Aztlan in Lubbock, why he enjoys dancing folklórico he responded by stating, “I like to see groups of dancers coming together to learn about our heritage.” He continued by stating that the most enjoyable part of dancing is practicing. “We are all so close and we



laugh so much, it’s a great stress reliever.”

According to Zenaida Reyes, committee chair of Viva Aztlan, the festival has also become a close-knit collaboration of dancers, groups, and instructors. “It’s not about awards anymore. It’s a chance for groups to network and educate themselves.” Over 500 students participate in the competition and special workshops that are given by the master instructors each year.

Collaboration or not the festival is a competition and groups come to win. This year 16 groups will compete from categories ranging from Best Costumes to Best Overall Dance Troupe. On Friday, children’s groups will be featured starting at 1 pm and continuing until 5. A reception and dinner will continue at 7 pm. An added bonus this year will feature Lubbock top Mariachis for a special concert on Friday the 11th. On Saturday the adult and more advanced groups will take to the stage for their competition to be capped off by the Folklórico Showcase. Each year the Best Overall Dance Troupe from the previous year is invited to return to present a Showcase before the awards ceremony. Mexico 2000 from Dallas, TX will be featured in this year’s showcase on Saturday the 11th. “We are here to host a competition, but the greatest award is



the pride each group has in our heritage,” Aguero said. Que Viva Aztlan!

Viva Aztlan Dance Festival is funded in part by the Lubbock City Council as recommend by the Lubbock Arts Alliance. Additional help is also given by United Supermarket, Lubbock Avalanche-Journal and El Editor Newspaper. Information is available by calling 806-793-0099.

**Festival Results available on
eleditor.com beginning March 12**

Letter to the Editor



Sad News at Texas Tech

I learned today (March 6) that one of our beloved leaders in the Latino community and at Texas Tech will be leaving his role. This is sad news for Texas Tech given the millions that have flowed in from Washington, DC.

I have been informed that Beto Cardenas, Tech's director of federal relations, will be accepting a big high profile job in Washington, DC in a very prominent US Senate Office. Congratulations to him but what a loss for Texas Tech.

Note the attached chart I found on Texas Tech's website emphasizing my point.

http://www.texastech.edu/downloads/org/%20chart%20-%20System%203-1-06.doc

Tell me where another high level Latino will be in either System administration or another role that does not just do diversity or supervise janitors, maintenance and grounds of Texas Tech. The nearest people I now find are a board executive assistant and an EEO director. This is shameful!

As a Latino here in Lubbock I think our community needs to ask why Texas Tech is losing their lone high ranking Latino that reported directly to the Chancellor on this chart and what they intend to do about it.

Carlos Lopez, Lubbock via Email

Joven 'Veterano de Paz' Domestico Ruega Que No lo Corten

José Fulgencio Manzanares

Soy joven hispano de 24 años de Boise, Idaho, y acabo de completar los diez meses de mi término de servicio de AmeriCorps en el National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC -- cuerpo nacional comunitario de personas civiles), también conocido como el Cuerpo de Paz doméstico.

Antes de entrar al cuerpo, me sentía muy inquieto donde estaba. Necesitaba encontrar algo que me permitiera irme y acumular experiencias en la vida. AmeriCorps me dio precisamente eso.

Desde el año pasado he hecho cosas que sé por seguro no habría hecho nunca sin haber entrado en AmeriCorps. De principio, he viajado a cada estado del noreste del país. Antes, no había pasado más al este de Chicago. También tuve la oportunidad de visitar Alabama y Misisipi. Siempre he querido conocer lo más que pude de los Estados Unidos, y me dieron esa oportunidad.

Mis proyectos me pusieron en situaciones difíciles, tanto mental como físicamente. Hice de todo: desde limpieza urbana en Baltimore, Maryland, hasta investigación del índice del suicidio adolescente en Camden, Maine.

Mi equipo trabajó en una granja y yo trabajé en un programa de educación de verano en Brooklyn. Un día podía estar construyendo un campo de juegos en Filadelfia y al siguiente estaría haciendo mantenimiento de un campamento de verano en Plymouth, Massachusetts. Cuando el huracán Katrina devastó el sur, me enviaron a hacerme cargo de un albergue para más de 180 personas evacuadas.

Mi momento predilecto fue ser invitado a hablar de parte de AmeriCorps en la conferencia del Concilio Nacional de La Raza (NCLR) en el 2005 en Filadelfia. NCLR es la mayor organización hispana nacional y la primera voz hispana en Washington, D.C. He contribuido tanto al país por medio de AmeriCorps.

"Getting things done" (el completar las cosas) ya no es un lema para mí. Es un estilo de vida. Por fortuna no estuve solo en hacer todo esto. Participé en un equipo de 12 personas. Nos llamaban "Fire 3". El equipo comenzó como un grupo de extraños de todo el país en un mismo lugar.

Luego nos volvimos tan amigos que no dudo en llamarlos mi familia. Pasamos por tanto juntos. Nos reímos, lloramos, discutimos, jugamos, nos desmoronamos y nos alzamos juntos. Nos enseñamos mutuamente la paciencia, el trabajo en equipo y en mi caso, la comprensión cultural.

Al comienzo del año pasado me dijeron que me convertiría en otra persona cuando terminara el programa. Me costó todo mi esfuerzo no reírme.

Ahora creo que todo lo que he hecho con AmeriCorps ha afectado mi vida y quién soy de manera importante.

Quiero que más personas tengan esta experiencia. El programa es un conducto extraordinario para reunir a miles de jóvenes en servicio al país dentro de sus mismas fronteras. Se ha vuelto parte vital de este país.

Dicho todo esto, la organización de AmeriCorps recibió noticia que la administración federal piensa recortar \$50 millones de sus fondos del año fiscal 2007, lo cual incluye cerrar por completo el programa nacional, National Civilian Community Corps.

Las cientos de miles de personas que ha tocado el programa no quieren ver que esto pase. La mejor manera de oponernos al cierre es mediante la ayuda de los medios locales de comunicación, los gobiernos municipales y estatales, y simplemente el apoyo de ciudadanos interesados. Por favor, comuníquese con sus dirigentes municipales y estatales con cartas y correo electrónico. Sin el programa de AmeriCorps, ¿cómo podemos "cambiar el mundo"?

Gracias por su apoyo.

Young 'Veteran' of Domestic Peace Corps Pleads for its Survival

By José Fulgencio Manzanares.

I am a 24-year-old Hispanic male from Boise, Idaho, and I have just completed my 10-month term of service for AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, also known as the domestic Peace Corps.

Before I joined, I was getting very restless where I was. I needed to find something that would allow me to get away and experience life. AmeriCorps gave me just that.

Since last year I've done things I know for a fact I would never have never done without AmeriCorps. First off, I've been to every state in the northeast. Before, I had never been further east than Chicago. I also had the chance to visit Alabama and Mississippi. I've always wanted to see as much of the United States as possible, and I was given that chance.

My projects put me in situations that challenged me both mentally and physically. I did everything from inner-city cleanup in Baltimore, Md., to teen suicide research in Camden, Maine.

My team worked on a farm and I worked a summer education program in Brooklyn. One day I would be building a playground in Philadelphia and the next I would be doing summer camp maintenance in Plymouth, Mass. When Hurricane Katrina devastated the South, I was sent down and put in charge of a shelter for more than 180 evacuees.

The highlight for me was being asked to speak on behalf of AmeriCorps at the 2005 National Council of La Raza conference in Philadelphia. NCLR is the largest national constituency-based Hispanic organization and the leading voice in Washington, D.C., for the Hispanic community. I have done so much for this country through AmeriCorps.

"Getting things done" is no longer a slogan to me. It's a lifestyle. Fortunately, I was not alone in doing all of this. I was placed on a team of 12 people. We were called "Fire 3." This team started off being a group of strangers from all over the country staying in the same place.

Later we became so close that I don't hesitate to call them my family. We went through so much together. We laughed, cried, argued, played, broke down and rose up together. We taught each other patience, teamwork and in my situation, cultural understanding.

At the beginning of last year I was told I would be a different person when I was finished. It took everything in me not to laugh.

Now I believe everything I've done for AmeriCorps has affected my life and who I am significantly.

I want more people to experience this. This program is an extraordinary pipeline for thousands of young people to come together and serve this country within its borders. It has become a vital part of this country.

With all of this being said, the AmeriCorps organization got word that our nation's administration is planning to cut \$50 million of its FY2007 funding. This includes the total shutdown of the National Civilian Community Corps program.

The hundreds of thousands of people who have been touched by this program do not want this to happen. Help from our local media, city and state governments and just plain concerned citizens is the best way to oppose this.

Please contact your city and state leaders with letters and emails. Without AmeriCorps, how can we "change the world"?

Thank you for your consideration.

(José Fulgencio Manzanares now works at a shelter for homeless and runaway teens in Boise, Idaho. He may be reached by e-mail at mrmanzy@hotmail.com. Here is the link detailing the planned cutting of \$50 million from AmeriCorps and the shutting down of NCCC: http://www.nationalservice.gov/about/newsroom/statements_detail.asp?tbl_pr_id=248.

EL EDITOR

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Report reveals Hispanics and blacks more likely to be "consent searched" than whites

from front page

State law requires agencies to report: 16% of agencies did not report required data

Since 2001, state law has required Texas law enforcement agencies report statistics detailing the racial makeup of individuals who are stopped and searched in their respective jurisdiction; a requirement met by the LPD. But for whatever reason, the law did not create a central repository, or central data warehouse for the reports nor any system or institution for analyzing the collected data.

But for the past 3 years, the TCJC has filled that role on a statewide level. Together with help from other organizations such as; the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas

(ACLU of Texas), Texas State Conference of branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (Texas NAACP), and League of United Latin American Citizens of Texas (Texas LULAC) they have analyzed data and conducted studies of the data submitted by reporting agencies. "Specifically we have analyzed how much more likely Blacks and Latinos are to be stopped or searched than Anglos. In this study, we have chosen to concentrate on consent search data only, thereby eliminating from the analysis searches outside of an officer's discretion. We are focusing only on situations in which the officer opted to conduct a search of his or her own volition rather than situations in which the officer was duty-bound to do so (e.g., in instances of probable cause or cases where the individual was arrested or had an outstanding warrant)" according to the report.

The TCJC sent open records request to 233 departments issuing 3,000 or more traffic citations in the year 2004. Responses were received from 229 agencies, with 28 departments providing unusable data. The city of Lubbock police department provided data that was analyzed by the TCJC.

On the other hand, Lubbock County law enforcement data was not included in the report since the number of county traffic stops did not meet the 3,000 stops criteria.

Who is more likely to be "consent searched"?

The analysis revealed that consent searches vary widely from one department to another. While some police departments continue to search Hispanics at a higher rate than whites, other departments have increased the overall amount of consent searches, in comparison to other areas of the state; regardless of race.

In 2004, 30%, or 103,705 out of a total of 348,741, of all searches conducted at Texas traffic stops, resulted in drivers being asked to consent to their vehicle being searched. In the majority of cases, searches resulted in no contraband or anything illegal being found.

According to the TCJC, Hispanics and blacks represented the most frequent targets of consent searches when stopped during traffic stops. Not unlike previous years, 2004 data revealed that 2 out of 3 police departments reported "consent searching Blacks and Latinos more frequently than Anglos, as was the case with the LPD. 71% of agencies consent searched Blacks more frequently than Anglos and 62% of agencies consent searched Latinos more frequently than Anglos".

Statewide, 2.3% of all drivers stopped were subjected to consent searches during traffic stops; although in some cities that number was

considerably higher, with the Amarillo Police Department averaging 9.4%; or 4 times the statewide average. By contrast, numbers provided by the LPD revealed that the number of drivers asked to be consent searched were a relatively low .3% of total stops. When compared to the other agencies included in the report, Lubbock numbers came out on the low end; with only 9 agencies reporting a lower percentage.

The Midland and Odessa data painted an equally unequal picture, as did Amarillo's with 3.5% of Latino traffic stops resulting in consent searches in Midland; where Hispanics are 5 times more likely to be consent searched than in Odessa. Drivers in Odessa fared a little better with .7 % of Hispanic drivers being asked to consent to searches while only .4% of white traffic stops resulted in consent searches. Which could be indicative of a higher police racial tolerance level in Odessa since the Hispanic population is 41% while Midland's is 29% according to the 2000 U S Census.

Data from the Midland and Odessa Police Departments also shows that both agencies consent search blacks more "than 3 times" as frequently as Anglos during traffic stops. Both agencies also consent search Latinos "almost twice as frequently" as Anglos.

LPD Data

Data provided to the coalition by the Lubbock Police Department revealed the following:

Percentage of those stopped who were consent searched				
Agency	Anglos	Blacks	Latinos	State Agency Average
Lubbock PD	0.2%	0.8%	0.4%	0.3%

In this instance, .3 % of the total number of all traffic stops resulted in consent searches. Hispanics were twice as likely as Anglos to be asked to consent to a search, while blacks were 4 times more likely. What is interesting to note is that while blacks represent 12% of the total population, they represent a much larger number of consent searches; a disproportionate number when compared to the percentage of searches.

Hispanics on the other hand, are twice as likely to be consent searched, although they do not represent twice the population, percentage wise, of whites: Hispanics comprise approximately 28% of the city's population, according to the 2000 U S Census.

Another statistic revealed that Hispanics were 1.9 times more likely than whites to be consent searched in 2004; while blacks were 3 times as likely as whites to be subjected to consent searches.

Are "consent searches" necessary?

The problems associated with consent searches are many; with the downside outweighing the good. In most cases, consent searches do not yield any illegal contraband or illegal activity. Law enforcement officers also seem to be tied up with an ineffective and inefficient use of their time.

According to the report, "A three-month study by the University of North Texas

found that 94% of drivers in a five-city area consented to searches requested by police without any probable cause"; which seems to indicate that the officers were tied up significantly more with searches that resulted in their finding no illegal contraband.

In 2004, after the Austin Police Department (APD) began requiring "written consent" prior to vehicle searches, consent searches declined by

Comic Justice

By Abel Cruz

Will Rogers once said, "I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts."

With that in mind, this week I give way to this country's late night comics. Perhaps they can figure out what's going on in our world today; because I sure can't.

Enjoy!

"According to a new CBS news poll Dick Cheney's approval rating has dropped to a record low 18; not percent;18 people." — Jay Leno

Earlier today at the White House, President Bush met with Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. There was an awkward moment when Bush asked 'How long until the new season of The Sopranos?'" —Conan O'Brien

On Wednesday President Bush will fly to India. See, last week he met with American workers. This week he will go to India and visit their old jobs." —Jay Leno

"Mardi Gras is going on in New Orleans. Actually it's scaled down quite a bit. Now when you throw a bead, women only flash one boob." —Jay Leno

Tomorrow is Fat Tuesday, and of course, this being America, it will be followed by Even Fatter Wednesday, Obese Thursday and Fat-Ass Friday." —Jay Leno

The president has arranged for al Qaeda to guard our ports. This is part of his new plan to fight them here so we don't have to fight them there." —Bill Maher

"Bush is not backing down. He says if this deal doesn't go through, it's going to be a slap in the face to the Arabs, which is amazingly ironic because we have four guys in Guantánamo Bay whose specific job is to slap Arabs in the face." —Bill Maher

The news from Iraq is apparently so bad that today Bush asked Cheney to go hunting again." —Bill Maher

President Bush is now saying that he was not aware that we signed a deal to give these Arabs countries control of our eastern seaports. In fact, today President Bush began tapping his own phone so he can find out what's going on in the White House." —Jay Leno

Dick Cheney is currently vacationing in Wyoming this week. I understand today he shot an elk. He also shot two Shriners, a Jaycee and a Moose." —Jay Leno

"We're turning our ports over to the Arabs. We can't even turn Iraq over to the Arabs. ... This is like putting Bill Clinton in charge at a Hooters, it's not a good idea." —Jay Leno

"When he (Bush) was in India he saw a woman with the red dot on her head. He thought she had been hunting with Cheney." —Bill Maher

"At least in India he was greeted by thousands of people waving American flags. They were on fire." —Bill Maher

"President Bush got off the plane in Pakistan and said, 'Pakistan is a force for freedom in the Arab world.' Only problem there is Pakistan is not free and they're not Arab. ... Earlier in the week he referred to the people of India as Native Americans." —Bill Maher

Compiled from various sources Email: acruzts@aol.com

Reports of Luis Miguel's Scandal with Argentinean Model

A Miami TV show revealed that Luis Miguel's girlfriend, Aracely Arambula, found him in a compromising situation with the Argentinean model Luciana Salazar.

This week, the Spanish magazine "Interviú" highlighted that Luis Miguel and Arambula's relationship was broken after the Argentinean model came into the light. It also stated that the Mexican actress does not want to make a romantic trio out of her life.

Releasing pictures of Luis Miguel and both women, the magazine stated that Salazar has a body made for the scandal (through surgery and silicone), but that she is the most famous woman in Latin America at the time.

"She was in the spotlight back in 2003 in one of the most amazing TV moments, during the MTV Latin America Awards, where she arrived ready to cause a commotion and make people talk by wearing a small dress that left almost nothing to the imagination," the magazine stated.

The magazine also stated that the Argentinean model has not accepted, nor denied an affair with the Mexican singer, who is 10 years older than she.

She has just said that "I have a good friendship relationship with Luis Miguel, and what had happened or not, that is private," "Interviú" stated.

Also, Luciana Salazar stated that she was not in Mexico. However, she added that "I'm really careful with the things related to intimacy."

The magazine stated that, according to the Miami TV show "Escandalo TV," the problem came



up when actress Aracely Arambula, who has a stable relationship with the singer, decided to surprised him a few weeks ago.

"She was unexpectedly in the singer's house and found him with the Argentinean model, which set an end to the romance that began on April 2005, right after Luis Miguel had ended his relationship with American singer Mariah Carey."

It said that many Argentinean media have accused the model of using Luis Miguel and Arambula's apparent break up to win popularity, since Luciana's reign for the Viña del Mar festival was over in February.

It stated that Luciana began her artistic career from her TV appearance in the Argentinean TV show "Poné a Francella." This opportunity came thanks to the fact that she is the niece of singer Palito Ortega.

"It was then when she met the Mexican singer, during a presentation in Argentina."

The magazine stated that a year after that, the Miami TV station reported an encounter between Luciana and Luis Miguel in a room at the Sheraton Hotel in Buenos Aires, and stated that the singer did not let the maid with the food cart to come into the room.

Un Nuevo Aire Para la Casa

La primavera está ya casi a la vuelta de la esquina. Dentro de poco, las temperaturas comenzarán a subir y las horas de sol serán más largas. El retoño de la naturaleza crea un ambiente de alegría, color y renovación.

Muchas personas aprovechan esta temporada para redecorar cada rincón de su casa con colores vivos y luminosos; textiles vaporosos y ligeros y productos que les obsequia la misma naturaleza.

Silvina Cassaro, diseñadora de interiores, explica que para la decoración no se necesita gastar mucho dinero. Simplemente, se requiere un poco de gusto e imaginación.

"La clave está en transportar el brillo y la alegría de la primavera a cada ambiente de la casa: sala, comedor, cocina, baño, recámaras, jardines y patios", asegura Cassaro, originaria de Argentina y titulada de la Escuela de Diseño de Interiores de Newport Beach.

Antes de comenzar con el proyecto de decoración, Cassaro recomienda primero limpiar cada rincón de la casa. Es decir, organizar las cosas que se tienen fuera de lugar o en desorden, seleccionar aquellas que realmente se necesitan y donar las que sobran o ya no se usan.

Una vez que se tengan todos los espacios organizados, se inicia el cambio.

En la sala y el comedor

Lo primero que hay que hacer, explica la diseñadora, es retirar las alfombras y los tapetes pesados. "De inmediato tendremos un ambiente mucho más liviano y amplio".

Luego se prosigue con la modificación de sofás, sillas anexas, cortinas y cojines (o almohadones).

"Las tiendas locales de accesorios para el hogar venden una variedad de forros para sofás y sillas, elaborados con telas de colores fuertes y vivos que podemos usar para alegrar la decoración de la casa", señala Cassaro. "Sin embargo, si no queremos hacer esa inversión, bastará sólo con cambiar los cojines por unos que vengan forrados con una tela de un tono primaveral o estampada con flores".

Otro proyecto poco costoso, dice, es cambiar los marcos de los cuadros y las fotografías familiares que se tengan sobre chimeneas, repisas, mesas de centro o auxiliares. "Los marcos de color blanco, azul turquesa o de algún color tierra, un póster de un paisaje primaveral o las mismas fotos que les hemos tomado a nuestros hijos en un jardín o la playa darán al ambiente una sensación de alegría y disfrute de la naturaleza".

Si se desea algo mucho más drástico y notorio, Cassaro recomienda pintar las paredes del lugar con un color alegre: beige luminoso, durazno, amarillo, mostaza y terracota, entre otros. "Pintar resulta más fácil que empapelar y no es costoso".

Los adornos juegan también un papel importante en la decoración de la temporada. Por ejemplo, explica la entrevistada, podemos poner jarrones con flores mixtas o bandejas con frutas frescas (como limones, manzanas verdes o naranjas). "La idea es traer varios elementos naturales que tengamos en nuestro jardín o patio al interior de la casa".



nos invita a disfrutar más de las zonas de nuestra casa que están al aire libre. Cassaro aconseja adecuar estas áreas con plantas de la temporada que, generalmente, son de colores intensos y emiten aromas muy agradables.

Las sillas, mesas de patio y otro mobiliario de uso exterior pueden aprovecharse también para vivificar aún más la energía de renovación de la primavera.

Dato curioso

En algunos países, como Estados Unidos y Canadá, durante la primavera la gente sigue el popular rito de la limpieza primaveral, en la que limpian sus clósets de la ropa que no usan y la venden en las llamadas "ventas de garaje" o de primavera (Spring garage sale).

The Community Resources Center offers Health-Related Education to Community

The Staff at The Community Resource Center at Covenant Health System believes patient education is an important factor in obtaining excellent health. The Community Resource Center is located at the corner of Louisville and 21st Street, 6th floor, west parking garage.

Educational programs, support group information, research support and accessto Krameson-Demand and healthnet are also provided through The Community Resource Center. The service is also accessible through computer access for internet based education and research. This service is free to all patients, family members and community and is available Monday through Friday 1 am - 4 pm.

"We believe patient education is one of the keys to patient recovery and good health," said Terrie Krueger, The Community Resource Center coordinator. "That is why we established the Community Resource Center."

For more information call (806) 725-0633.

Shakira Releases Video for Hips Don't Lie

Next Thursday, Colombian singer Shakira will have the worldwide premier of her latest video, "Hips don't lie." Rapper Wycleaf Jean features in this song. Sony-BMG, her record company, stated that the video was shot in Los Angeles, California, directed by Sophie Muller, who has worked with Gwen Stefani and Coldplay.

The video will be released on March 9 through TRL and the MTV website.

According to spokespeople for the artist, the song "transforms the hip hop and reggaeton air." Has

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Call 793-3321 for application

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Are you or a loved one affected by heart health issues? Covenant Heart Institute invites you to join us for our "Heart Matters" breakfast club. This is a great opportunity to share your thoughts, feelings and experiences with others who are dealing with matters of the heart. The Heart Matters breakfast club is open to the public and free of charge. Refreshments will be provided. See you there!

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According to Hopkins, weight won't be the hardest part

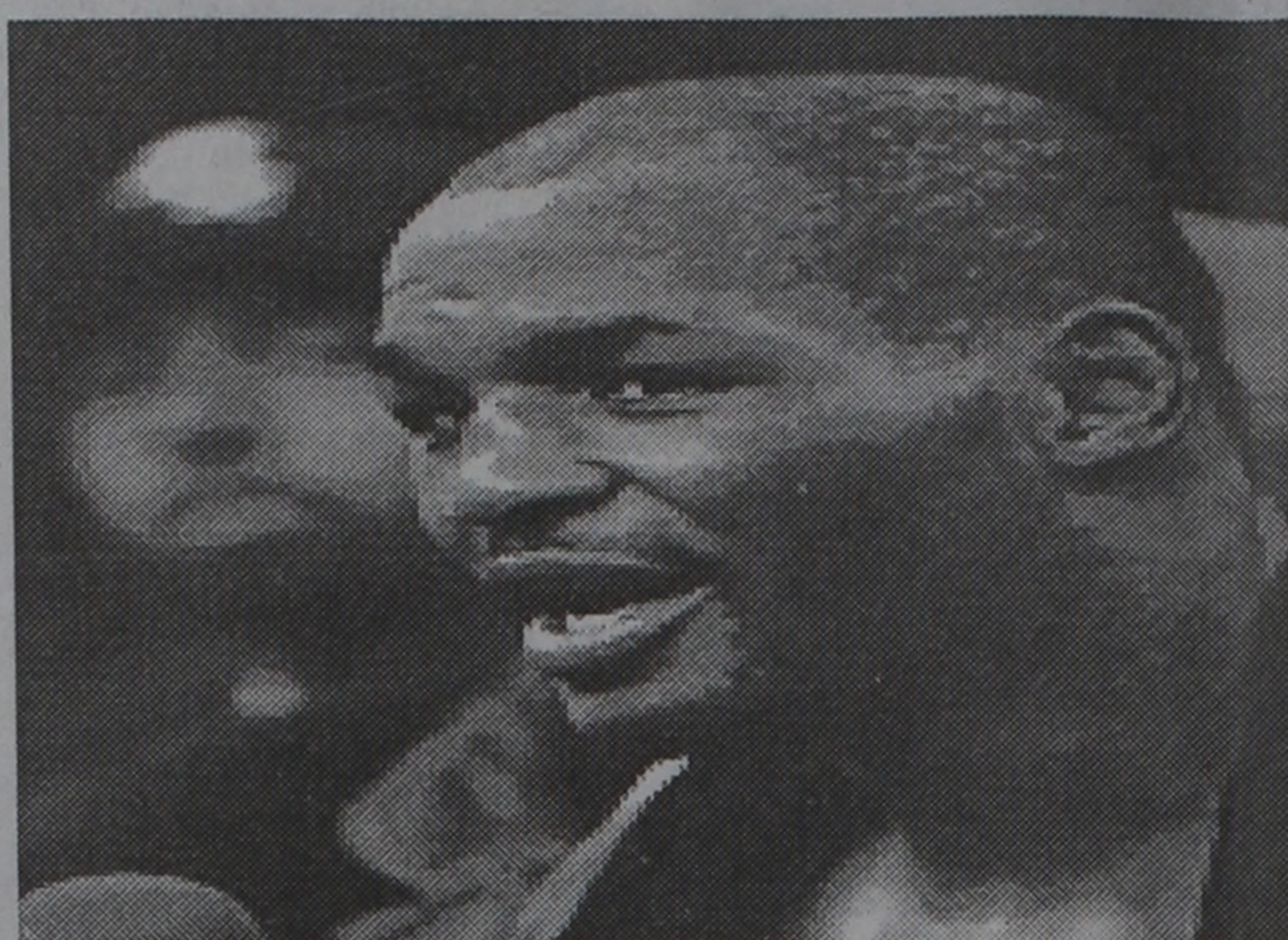
Bigger does not always mean better. In a pugilistic sense, Jack Dempsey slew Jess Willard, which begat Max Baer's beatdown of Primo Carnera and Roy Jones Jr.'s dismantling of John Ruiz. Hard to say just yet which little fellow will take down massive Russian Nicolay Valuev, but you know that is destined to happen. Valuev is as big as a tree and about as mobile, and the woods are full of would-be lumberjacks.

Of course, the original catch-weight bout pitted a wispy lad named David and his slingshot against the mighty Goliath, the mere sight of whom caused entire armies to cower in fear. But succeeding generations of underdogs have girded themselves for battle with the knowledge that a stout heart and well-placed stone sometimes can win the day against a larger-than-life foe.

Bernard Hopkins refuses to accept losing two decisions to Jermain Taylor. (Getty Images)

Bernard "The Executioner" Hopkins has spent nearly his entire professional existence as a middleweight, and a lean one at that. While many of his challengers struggled to pare down to the division's 160-pound limit, B-Hop always seemed to come in a pound or two under, his washboard abs as taut as a tightrope.

Now, it seems, the 41-year-old Philadelphian -- who always has had the self-discipline to ignore those distracting hunger pangs -- is finally ready for his just deserts. Hopkins (46-4-1, 32 KOs) will end his 18-year ring career on June 10 against light heavyweight standout Antonio Tarver (24-3, 18 KOs) in Atlantic City Boardwalk



Hall, and already people are saying he's much too small, much too old and much too power-deficient to hang long with the best 175-pounder in the world, a two-time conqueror of Jones and a southpaw to boot.

But Hopkins, who still refuses to accept the verdict of the judges in his two narrow points losses to Jermain Taylor, said he doesn't plan to dramatically bulk up for his final bout against a man whose walking-around weight is in the low 200s. In fact, Hopkins is hoping that the size difference between himself and Tarver at the opening bell is just as obvious as everyone seems to think it will be.

"I hope he enters the ring at 300 pounds," said Hopkins said, who has been juggling his physical preparations for Tarver while enjoying his duties as president of Golden Boy East, an adjunct of Golden Boy Promotions. "I hope he eats and drinks everything he

can put his hands on after the weigh-in.

"Tarver's biggest mistake is that he's going to try to fight me big. Well, I'm going to fight him small. But I'm not going to be running around the ring, scared like a little mouse.

"I'm going to make sure this guy works every second. Every second, every round, every minute, I'm going to make his lazy ass work. I'm going to be in his chest and take away those long arms.

"I want Tarver to think he can just steamroll me like I'm some little rag doll. But when he realizes, somewhere around the seventh, eighth and ninth rounds, that he can't hit me, that I've been beating him to the punch all night, when he feels his eyes swelling up, you're going to see the giant roar in frustration."

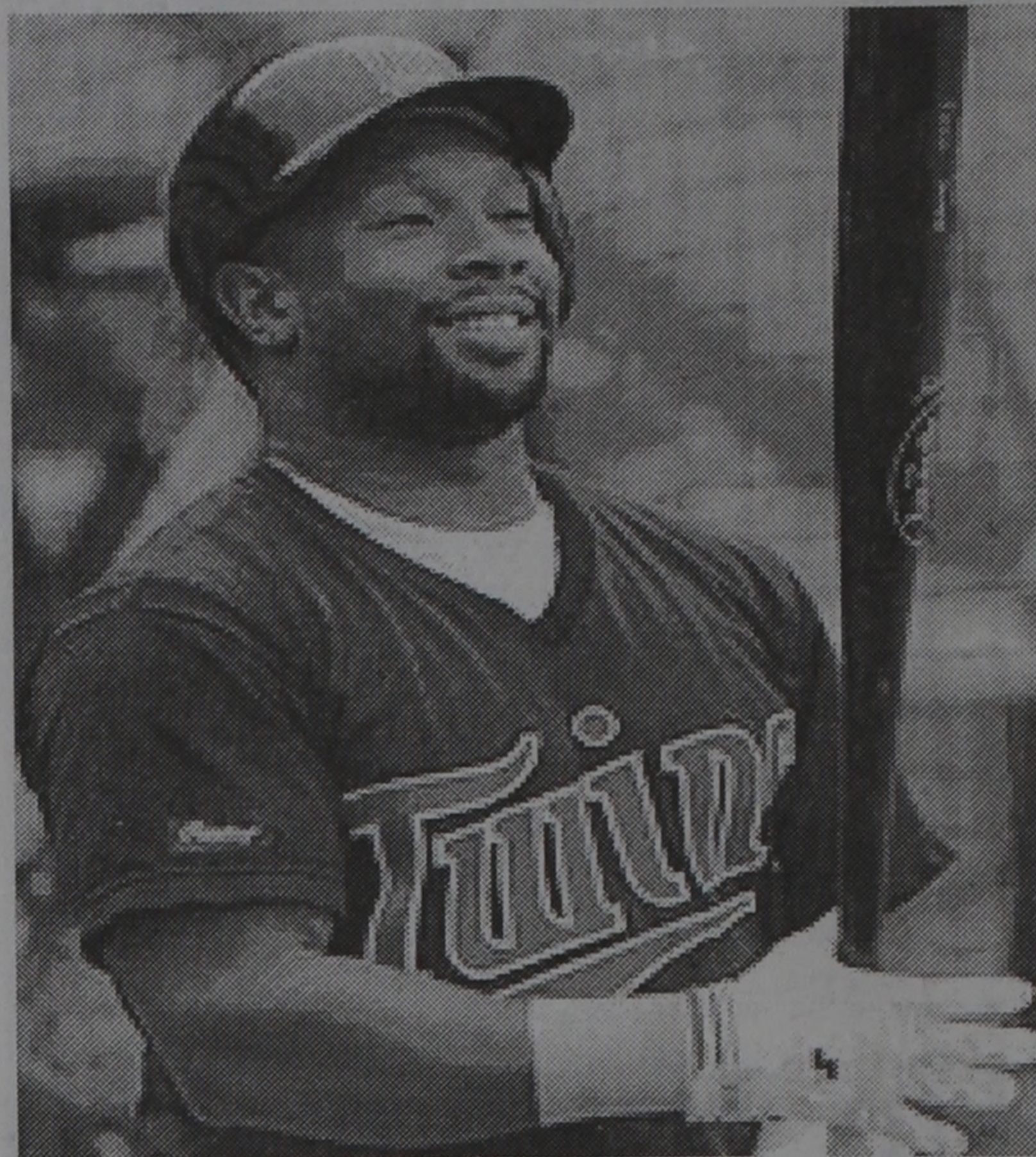
Had things gone according to plan, Hopkins' long-awaited farewell, as a light heavyweight,

would not have come against Tarver but against Jones, who out-pointed him for the vacant IBF middleweight title way back in 1993. The two preening, proud men have spoken of a rematch ever since, but the bout never came off as their colossal egos got in the way of determining a division of the financial pie which would satisfy each.

It seemed impractical to pair them in any case, Jones having moved up to super middleweight, light heavyweight and heavy-weight, while Hopkins remained at middleweight long enough to obliterate the late Carlos Monzon's division record of 14 successful defenses. Until his disputed split-decision loss to Taylor on July 16, Hopkins had run off 20 defenses over a 10-year reign, guaranteeing himself first-ballot induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame five years after he hangs up his gloves.

After his own fall from grace -- three consecutive losses, including two by knockout -- Jones apparently was ready for a reality check, at least enough of one that he and Hopkins could finally agree to terms. It would be a 50-50 split for their aging legends-in-concert bash, a bit late, perhaps, but still enough of an attraction that HBO executives saw it as a pay-per-view event.

Reports that Jones-Hopkins II was imminent, however, did not fan the flames of public interest into a raging conflagration, and then Jones decided that his end of the deal needed to increase. No surprise there; even in decline Jones always figures he deserves the lion's share of every pile of cash.



Charismatic Puckett's life story deserved a better ending

to choose the right path.

The tragedy of Kirby Puckett is not that his life ended so swiftly -- even more suddenly than his career.

It is that, in tumbling from icon to mud flap more quickly than it takes to execute a home-run trot, Puckett lived his final years in self-imposed exile, far removed from the love he once soaked in daily, never having taken the steps to mend the damage.

The Kirby Puckett story never did take a turn for the better once glaucoma forced him from the dugout. He had one more moment in the baseball sun, five years later, when he deservedly was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Otherwise, as events came and went like the seasons, one stacked upon another until the shadows totally obscured the halo that once shone so brightly.

He split with his wife, Tonya, in 2002 after she heard him talking intimately with another woman on a telephone extension and learned of his alleged affairs. The divorce became final while other stories emerged -- legal matters, such as a woman who asked for protection from Puckett while maintaining in court documents that she had an 18-year relationship with him and that he shoved her in his Twin Cities condominium.

He was accused by yet another woman of dragging her into a restroom and groping her in a Twin Cities restaurant. That resulted in a nine-day jury trial. Puckett was found not guilty of assault charges and criminal sexual conduct, but the innocence couldn't come close to hiding the humiliation.

I can still see Kirby Puckett on that July day in 1996, in the tiny room in the bowels of the Metrodome, a baseball god bravely looking square into the reflection of his own diamond mortality. The gauze patch covering his right eye, the sunglasses, the retirement announcement ... and the tears.

Kirby Puckett had the rare gift to reach everybody. Oh, the tears. It was the saddest news conference I've ever covered, still, to this day. And do you know what? Those tears didn't flow from Puckett. They came from everybody else.

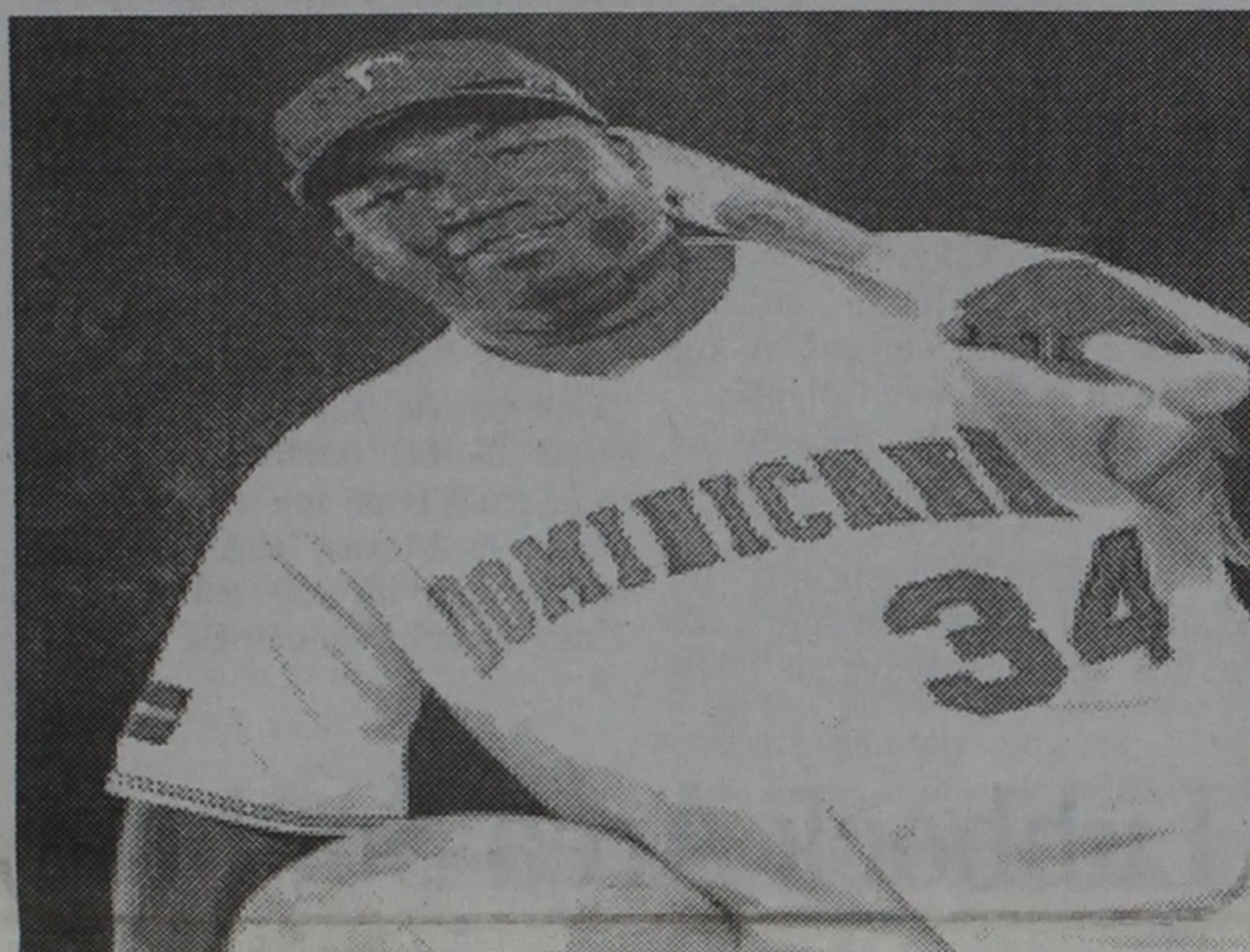
They came from his Twins teammates, who had filed into the room en masse before one of the saddest regular-season games they would ever play at the Dome. They came from his manager, Tom Kelly, one of baseball's leathery, old-school tough guys. They came from hardened reporters, who had a seat at the edge of one of the greatest magic carpet rides in baseball history.

Puck, meanwhile, did his best to hold everybody together.

"I can't say thank you enough to everybody who prayed for me," Puckett told the masses that day. "I want to tell all the little kids that just because I can't see out of my right eye, that doesn't mean God doesn't answer prayers."

"He answers them. I can see out of my left eye. I'm still alive." I read those words tonight, so touching, so eloquent -- and I wish there was a way to fill the emptiness.

I wish we could push the replay button and go back. Back to when laughter was far better medicine than anything that came by prescription. Back to when the road forked and there still was a chance



Latin teams show their capacity against the Major Leagues

The squads from the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Venezuela offered a hint of Latin power which makes them favorites for the World Classic, by beating preliminary teams from the Major Leagues at exhibition games.

Puerto Rico easily defeated yesterday the New York Mets by 6-1 and confirmed their intentions of arriving in their best shape to the

Classic.

Dominican, which plays at the D Group, located in Orlando (Florida), will have among its rivals another favorite: Venezuela, with which they open up this Tuesday. Australia and Italy will also serve as the weak teams.

The U.S. opens against Mexico this Tuesday for the B Group, where Canada and South Africa are also located.

Read ELEDITOR Always!

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Saturday

April 1, 2006

Schedule of Events

- 1:00 p.m. Gathering for the People's Honor March
- 1:30 p.m. People's Honor March begins on the West Parking lot at Cavazos' Junior High at 210 N. University.
- 2:30 p.m. Commemoration featuring a program by Richard E. Chavez, brother of the late Cesar E. Chavez will be held at Northwest Little League Ballparks
- 3:30 p.m. Presentation of the 2006 "Spirit of Cesar Chavez" Award Entertainment, followed by refreshments.



With Special Guest Richard E. Chavez

A founding member of the United Farm Workers of America, and brother of the late Cesar E. Chavez.

In case of inclement weather activities will be held in the Cavazos Junior High Auditorium. For additional information please call (806) 797-7233, or email to cesarchavezlubbock@cox.net

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Upcoming Parks & Recreation Spring Break Camps

Spring Break Camp and Athletic Fitness Camp at Maxey Community Center

Two camps to choose from! During Spring Break Camp, children will have the opportunity to make crafts, play games, and take a field trip. During the Athletic Fitness Camp, youth will enjoy a week full of sports, exercise and a field trip! Parents must provide a sack lunch for their children. Register at Maxey Community Center, 30th and Oxford in Maxey Park, Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. - Noon

and 1:00 - 8:00 p.m., and on Saturday from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact Joe Licht at 767-3796.

Ages 6 -12, \$70 per child ~ March 13-17, 2006 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Spring Break Camp at Mae Simmons Community Center

Activities will include arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor games/sports, computer classes and more. Register Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Mae Simmons Community Center, E. 23rd and Oak Ave. Lunch and morning and afternoon snacks will be provided by the center. For more information, contact Olivia Solis, 767-2705.

Ages 5 -12, \$35 per child ~ March 13-17, 2006 7:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Spring Break Camp at Maggie Trejo Supercenter

Activities per child will include arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor games/sports, computer classes and more. Register Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Lunch and morning and afternoon snacks will be provided by the center. For more information, contact Olivia Solis, 767-2705.

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SPRING FLING 2006!

Come join the gang at the Garden and Arts Center at 44th and University for a week full of discovery in the arts. Young artists will explore the fundamentals of art through painting, clay, mosaic tiles, and much more. Enrollment limited to 24 children. Parents must provide a sack lunch for their children. Pre-register MWF 9 am-5pm, TTh 9 am-9 pm & Sat 9 am-Noon. For more information contact the Garden & Arts Center 767-3724.

Ages 6-12, \$60 per week for half day, \$100 per week for full day. \$15.00 charge for early drop off/late pick-up.

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Un Rayito de Luz

por Sofia T. Martinez

Por revelación de Dios, en Cristo Jesús, sabemos que no es la nada lo que nos espera al final del camino, sino un destino glorioso...o tortuoso. (Jn 14, 1-4). Sn Agustín nos dice que todos, desde el momento en que existimos tenemos un lugar en el reino de los cielos, esa es la voluntad de Dios (1. Tim. 2, 4), pero como sabemos, nuestro buen Dios no quiso crear titeres que se movieran al antojo de su voluntad, sino seres libres, capaces de responder con autonomía y profunda conciencia; y por ese precioso don podemos abrazar el destino glorioso de los bienaventurados y la eterna felicidad de los condenados.

Cielo e infierno no son lugares ubicados en el espacio y en el tiempo, son estados de vida sobre natural que asumimos o escogemos por propia decisión. Numerosos artistas nos pintan el cielo como un lugar entre las nubes, los moradores viven en medio de ellas y tocan instrumentos melodiosos, mientras en forma casi estática contemplan la gloria de dios. De igual modo, damos forma demaciado terrenal al infierno: cuevas oscuras en las profundidades de la tierra, llenas de fuego; cazos de aceite hirviendo por doquier y pequeños demonios torturando a los desgraciados.

Pero, quizá es más fácil, o útil lo que la teología actual nos enseña guiada por el espíritu santo a través del magisterio de la iglesia. Dice que el cielo no es un lugar físico, según dice la escritura: "Lo que ni ojo vio, ni oído oyó, ni al corazón del hombre llegó, lo que Dios preparó a los que le aman". (1 Cor 2.9); es comunión de amor, dicha sin fin, participación de la vida trinitaria: "El cielo es el fin último y la realización de las aspiraciones más profundas del hombre, el estado supremo y definitivo de dicha". (Cat. 1.c. 1024). Así también, el infierno es "estado de autoexclusión definitiva de la comunión con Dios y con los santos" (Cat. 1.c. 1033). es decir, una actitud de permanente rechazo hacia Dios y sus criaturas. La pena mayor consiste en la separación eterna de Dios en quien únicamente puede tener el ser humano la vida y la felicidad para las que ha sido creado y a las que aspira.

Por eso, si vivir el Cielo es "estar con Cristo," y vivir el infierno es "estar ausente de Cristo" es en esta vida donde comienza la decisión que durará por toda la eternidad.

desde aquí vivimos nuestro cielo o nuestro infierno. Continuará

Local Martial Artist Shares with Lubbock Community

When Robert Sotelo Garcia started taking Taekwondo lessons, he was an eight year old student at Hardwick Elementary. Thirty two years later, Grandmaster Garcia, the son of Augustina Flores Armendariz, has attained an 8th Degree Black Belt in Taekwondo and a 6th Degree Black Belt in Japanese Jujitsu.

Grandmaster Garcia has dedicated his life to training in and sharing his Martial Arts expertise with anyone wishing to learn. He has spent over 25 years teaching in art, acknowledging that the Martial Arts are for everyone regardless of age or social background. Garcia spends his day moving from class to class citing, "I am the luckiest man to get to do a job that I love, day in and day out."

He can be found teaching at Guadalupe/Parkway Neighborhood Center, 405 North MLK, at All Saints Episcopal School, and at Ballet Lubbock.

A Lubbock native, Grandmaster Garcia has the total support of his family. One of his sisters Leticia Tijerina, a Master 5th Degree Black Belt and three time State champion, has also spent many years training and

teaching the Martial Arts.

Joshua, Garcia's stepson will follow his father's example and became a State Champion at the age of seven and has attained his 4th Degree Black Belt.

Grandmaster Garcia has achieved two state titles, a National title, and a World title. He remarks, "becoming a champion isn't nearly as impressive as seeing a student become a champion." He recently took 13 students to the West Texas Taekwondo Championship in Snyder and proudly brought thirteen 2006 West Texas Champions home to Lubbock.

Grandmaster Garcia's students honor and admire him and his tenacity at helping them achieve mastery at learning their forms and techniques. He often cites the importance of studying hard, eating healthy foods, participating in regular exercise, and setting high but realistic goals for themselves. Straight "A" students proudly bring him their report cards knowing that he will reinforce their pride and reward them for their academic excellence.

Garcia has a history of long time Lubbock residents.



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HCF Launched Its 2 Million Dollar Scholarships for Hispanic Outstanding College Students

The Hispanic College Fund (HCF) launched its 13th annual search to provide 2 million dollars in scholarships to more than 700 outstanding Hispanic college students across America. HCF is looking for the next generation of engineers, business executives, scientists, and health professionals with the drive to become leaders of America's professional workforce.

Scholarships are awarded to students demonstrating academic merit and financial need. Students can apply online at <http://www.hispanicfund.org>. The application deadline is April 15, 2006. Awards will be given for the 2006-2007 academic year and can amount anywhere from \$500 - \$10,000. The HCF Scholarship Program is open to all students with a minimum 3.0 GPA majoring in studies related to business, finance, engineering and the sciences. Other HCF scholarship programs such as the Sallie Mae First in My Family Program and the ALPFA Scholarship Program have more specific criteria.

HCF Scholars will also become members of a network of community leaders and corporate sponsors who are committed to diversifying the executive workforce. This fall, HCF scholars will be able take advantage of HCF Connections, an online alumni network sponsored by MasterCard International which will offer mentorship opportunities, professional resources, job postings and other resources.

"We award students more than just a scholarship," said Fernando Barrueta, President & CEO of HCF. "The first step is to help our young people graduate, but we can't lose sight of the importance of building towards a productive career. Using our close relationship to our sponsors and other Hispanic organizations, we maintain a bountiful network of influential and dedicated mentors. Through programs like HCF Connections and the HYP Leadership & Development Program HCF scholars are better prepared and have a variety of career options as they enter the job market."

HCF scholars will compete through an essay contest to participate in the HYP Leadership & Development Program. The thirty winners will receive an all-

expense-paid trip, traveling on Southwest Airlines to Washington, DC, to participate in the three-day program featuring career workshops, corporate tours, cultural activities, and a mentorship luncheon where they are paired with some of the most influential people in Washington. The program culminates in the Hispanic College Fund's 13th Annual Scholarship Awards Gala where the scholars are honored for their academic achievements in front of an audience of corporate executives, entrepreneurs, members of Congress and community leaders.

"From the networking session to the Gala, all the activities were opportunities for growth," said Pedro Perez, an HCF scholar sponsored by Ford Motor Company. "I did not realize the scope of the influence the Hispanic College Fund has on so many. I have to say the event inspired me to make a difference."

The 2006 HCF Scholarship Program is funded by The Sallie Mae Fund; Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA); Denny's; Sodexo; MasterCard International; ICI Education Foundation; General Dynamics; Computer Packages; Hanley Wood, LLC; Starwood Hotels; Telemundo - Channel 64; Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation; Eastman Kodak; M&T Bank and Provident Bank.

The Hispanic College Fund (HCF) is a private non-profit organization dedicated to developing the next generation of Hispanic professionals in America. The HCF mission is to provide Hispanic students with the vision, resources, and mentorship needed to attain successful careers and become community leaders. Since its founding in 1993, HCF has supported the education of over 3,000 financially disadvantaged Hispanic students seeking careers in business, science, engineering and technology with over \$6 million in grants.

Through programs like the HCF Scholarship Program, Hispanic Youth Symposium, Latinos on the Fast Track (LOFT), HCF Connections and the HYP Leadership & Development Program, HCF is enriching lives and building bridges for our future Hispanic leaders.

Hispanic Estimated to Become 300 Millionth US Inhabitant

The United States census Office estimates the number of inhabitants in the country will reach the 300 million in October and specialists consider this reference number will go to a Hispanic baby or an immigrant.

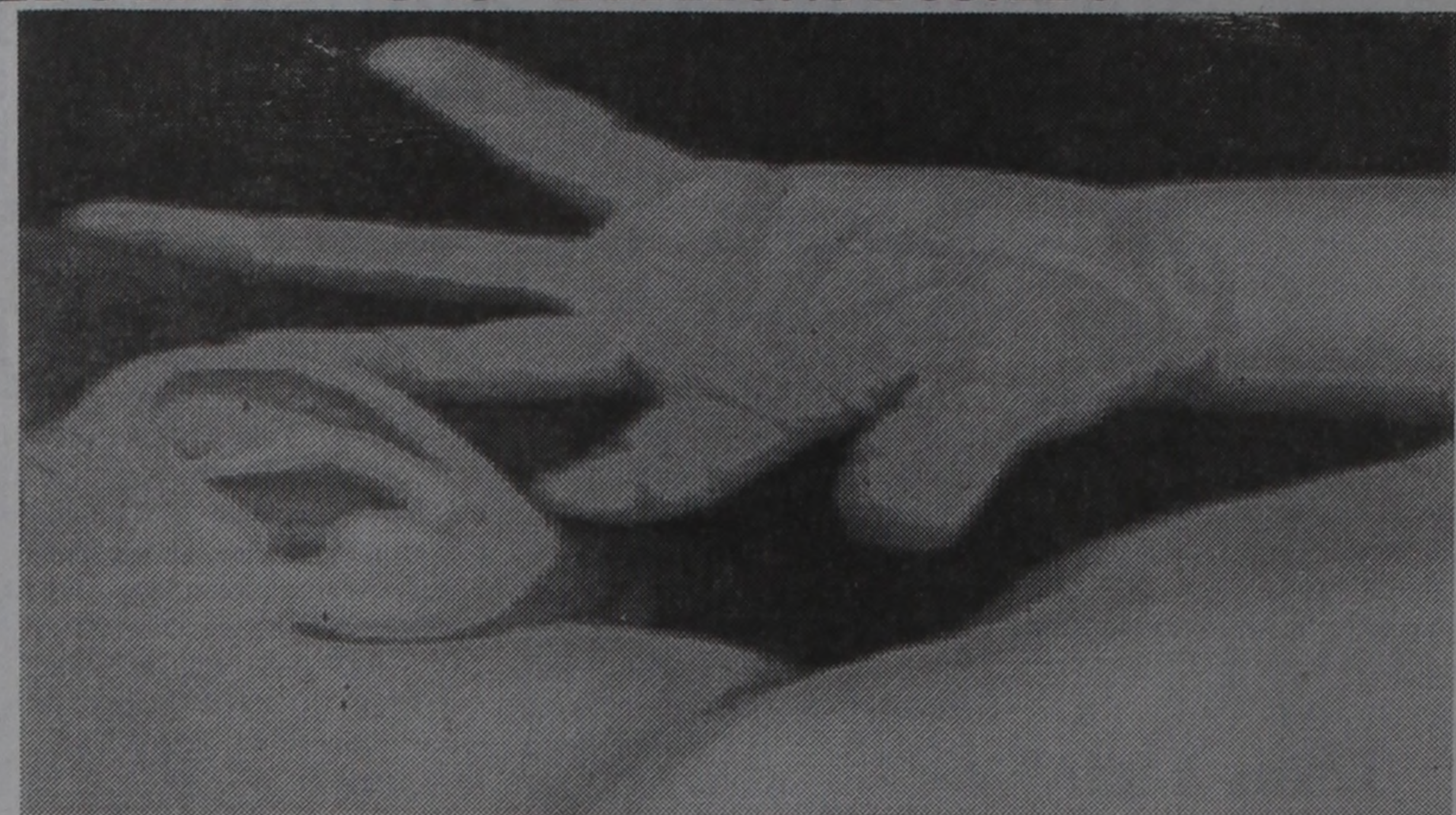
Hispanics hold the highest birth rate in the US and sum up almost half of the annual growth of the population. This is why demographers estimate a baby from this ethnic group may become the 300 millionth inhabitant of the USA.

According to official numbers from the Census Office, up to this Tuesday, the population of the United States summed up 298 million and 157 thousand people.

The office considers a baby is born in this country every eight seconds, someone dies every twelve seconds and an immigrant arrives in the nation every 28 seconds; therefore, a new person is added to the nation every 13 seconds.

If the pace remains stable, the 300 million inhabitants will be reached by next October after the monthly adjustments estimating the rise of baby births during summer, Katrina Wengert, chief demographer of the Census Office Population Watch, explained.

The population watch estimated minute by minute the number of inhabitants in the country trying to be as accurate as possible taking into consideration all the variables. The watch will dictate the moment the 300 millionth inhabitant is born or has arrived in the country.



This symbolic mark may go to an immigrant who might access the nation by airplane or through the illegally border. Some eleven thousand children are born every day in the US.

"The 300 millionth baby will have Mexican parents and will be born at the Los Angeles county. His/her parents will speak Spanish at home and his/her siblings will be bilingual", as stated by William Frey, demographer of the Population Studies of the University of Michigan.

The 300 millionth baby will be the symbol of the multi-ethnic demography of the United States in the Twenty First Century, urban

and sub-urban that will leak into the cities that have opened their gates to immigrants like Los Angeles, Dallas or New York", Frey explained.

Even when most of Americans are Anglo-Saxon-rooted, Hispanic mothers hold a higher birth rate and no other state has a higher birth rate than California, where most of the newborn babies are Hispanic-rooted.

In 2004, the name José was the fourth most popular to Christen new born babies in the nation just after Daniel, Anthony and Andrew.

Demographers think it is more likely for the 300 millionth inhabitant to be a boy. The nation

has more boys than girls.

They also forecast the or she will live 85 to 90 years in average in a country that will have more inhabitants now with some 80 people per square mile in average.

Demographers warn that by the time the 300 millionth person be an adult, many cities now considered as small and nice to live in will not be so.

The estimates of the Census Office consider that the 400 million inhabitants will be reached by 2050.

By then, US Hispanics will be a majority with a 50.1% and Spanish and English will be the two languages spoken at homes and electronic and printed media.

Idalou City Council to Dedicate 2006 to Colon Cancer Prevention & Awareness

IDALOU, TX- Mayor Jack Bush and the Idalou City Council will formally dedicate 2006 to colon cancer prevention and detection on Monday, March 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Idalou City Hall.

The Mayor, City Council, the American Cancer Society and Lubbock Colon Cancer Prevention Task Force have joined efforts to eliminate colon cancer as a cause of illness and death in our community.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer mortality in the United States. This year, an estimated 147,000 men and women will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 57,000 will result in death if something is not done.

Over 90% of colon cancers can be prevented from occurring and most deaths can be avoided if the best currently available technol-

ogy is consistently used for screening through the Idalou community.

Because the risk of colon cancer increases with age, the American Cancer Society recommends that all men and women of normal health begin preventive screening for colon cancer at the age of 50. Those with a family history of cancer or polyps are at an increased risk and may need to start screening earlier.

This cancer produces no symptoms in its early stage when it is curable, therefore one has to look for it in those who are at the risk for it.

The Mayor and Councilmen encourage Idalou citizens to take the initiative to discuss the necessary screening for colon cancer with their health care providers.

For more information regarding colon cancer prevention, contact

Robin Gardner at the American Cancer Society at 792-7128 or by Robin.Gardner@cancer.org or con-

tact Davor Vugrin, MD, Project Director, at 793-0988 or by e-mail at Davor.Vugrin@ttuhsc.edu

Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. The Camp is by Invitation Only. Boys and Girls ages 10-19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jaison. Players from 50 states and 18 foreign countries attended the 2005 camp. College Basketball Scholarships are possible

for players selected to the All-American Team. Camp locations include: Commerce, TX, Prescott, AZ, Thousand Oaks, CA, Sterling, CO, Bridgeport, CT, Babson Park, FL, Gainesville, GA, Champaign, IL, North Manchester, IN, Towson, MD, Ypsilanti, MI, glassboro, NJ, Schenectady, NY, Hickory, NC, Lebanon, TN, Blacksburg, VA, Lyndonville, VT, and Beloit, WI. For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873 anytime.

Enjoy the Culture of México Celebrámos la Cultura de México Festival Viva Aztlán

Friday - Mariachi Concert 7:30 pm



Folklorico and Mariachi Workshops all day Friday
and Saturday open to all students\$5

Saturday - Folklorico Showcase featuring Dallas 2000 - 7:30 pm



All Events at Lubbock Civic Center Theater

This program made possible by grants from the Lubbock City Council as recommended by the Lubbock Arts Alliance, the Texas Commission on the Arts, United Super Markets, University Medical Center, the Lubbock Avalanche Journal, El Editor Newspaper.

¡No Vaya a Faltar - Traiga toda la Familia! Don't Miss This - Bring the Whole Family!