

# El Editor

"El Respeto al Derecho  
Ajeno es la Paz"  
Lic Benito Juarez

Casualties of  
War in Iraq  
2757  
as of Oct. 13  
2006

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## Comentarios

de Bidal Aguero

I wanted to share a letter that we received with all our readers from a "a citizen. The letter, printed below" says as follows:

*"Your paper will not be allowed at any local store. My associates make rounds every 3/4 days and will take all Hispanic papers and destroy (sic) them. Taxpayers cannot continue to allow school children to enter school and they cannot speak, read, or write English. The taxpayers cannot continue to pay the cost of health care, prisons, welfare, and others social services that taxpayers should have.*

*This country cannot continue to be a great country if we Americans continue to allow millions of poor, ignorant, no job skills non English speaking mexicans (sic) (sic) and Central americans (sic) in this Country. I must do my part in stopping the Balkanization of my Country.*

*A citizen*  
The letter was delivered to our office last week and clearly shows that racism is alive and well in Lubbock Texas. Although I was undecided on whether to print it or just blow it off another letter from a "kook", I opted to go ahead print it in order to get reaction from our readers.

It is not surprising that the writer refers to "associates". This shows that this is not one individual but a group of persons who have it in their minds that "Mexicans" are destroying "his" America or as my friend Abel Cruz put it "This is just confirmation of what I have always known; there is an element here in Lubbock that is being fueled to this kind of thing by the rhetoric about immigration, war on terror, border security, racist garbage that is distributed in the neighborhoods, etc. And sadly the powers that be in this city look the other way and prefer to pretend that this doesn't happen here. I can assure there are many others who share this idiots view."

We ask our friends to help us in patrolling our newspaper stands in stores and let us know of any persons picking up more than the normal one or two newspapers. We would also give notice to this "citizen" that his actions could be prosecuted under the first amendment!

*Your papa will not be allowed at my local store. My associates make rounds every 3/4 days and will take all Hispanic papers and destroy them.*

*Taxpayers cannot continue to allow school children to enter school and they cannot speak, read, or write English. The taxpayers cannot continue to pay the cost of health care, prisons, welfare, and others social services that taxpayers should have.*

*This country cannot continue to be a great country if we Americans continue to allow millions of poor, ignorant, no job skills non English speaking mexicans and Central americans in this Country. I must do my part in stopping the Balkanization of my Country.*

Arcton

Send us your comments to  
eleditor@sbcglobal.net

## Candidato Democrata Para Fiscal de Tejas David Van Os, Visita Lubbock

Abogado David Van Os de San Antonio y su esposa Rachel Barrios hablaron con un grupo de partidarios el viernes pasado frente del Courthouse de Lubbock. La parada era el 231 de una pretendida visita a todos los condados de Tejas, un logro nunca logrado por cualquier candidato en la historia del estado. Presento Van Os a la Sra. Doris Ruff, Administradora de Archivos del Condado, una declaración que iba cumplir con los requisitos del Artículo 4 de la Constitución Tejana que prohíben "cualquier especie de cuotas por transitar las carreteras y caminos" no autorizado. Fustigo al Gob. Rick Perry por haber regalado a una Compañía Española y la Henry Zachry Cial, de San Antonio los derechos de desenar y construir la primera parte de una autopista que conectaría Dallas con Waco, Austin, San Antonio y Laredo. Este robo de tierra para beneficiar una compañía extranjera sería la mas grande chantaje en la historia de Tejas.



Mas temprano durante la semana, visito Van Os y su esposa Rachel unos 10 ciudades como Dimmitt, Muleshoe, Crowell, Matador, Crosbyton y Floydada. Esta semana, tiene programada de visit unos 16 condados incluyendo entrega del documento del Record Publico a los Administradores de los Condados de Lynn, Dawson, Gaines, Andrews, Howard, Scurry, Borden, Garza, Kent, y Dickens.

Tambien, discutio el contenido de la Declaracion de Derechos de la Constitucion Actual de Tejas y la Primera de 1836 que prohibia ocupar cargos publicos cualquier clero religioso. Durante la epoca espanolay mejicano los gobiernos nacionales pagaron los sueldos y mantenian los edificios y propiedades del las iglesias, monasterios y conventos de la Iglesia Catolica y prohibian que ningun evangelico o judeo podia ocupar cualquier cargo publico.

Van Os termino observando que era ironia que el Fiscal Actual Greg Abbott, que esta discapacitado fisicamente y necesita el uso de una silla con ruedas, esta contra cumplir con los requisitos a Lei de Igualdad Para Discapacitados del Congreso Americano y que era funcionado como Abogado para los Grandes Monopolios Petroleros y banqueros del Estado.

Despues, Van Os y Rachel atendieron una recepcion para Delegados y Oficiales de Itodas partes de Tejas de la Liga de Ciudadanos Unidos Latinoamericanos (LULAC) en el Holiday Inn Downtown.

## 237 Latinos Spread in 34 State Legislatures, 84% Democrat

By VerÚnica Macías

Latino state legislators are experiencing significant growth and winning elections in non-traditional "Latino" regions. Thirty-four states now have at least one Latino representative in their statehouse.

Their number has increased from 156 in 1996 to 237 in 2006, according to the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials. Eighty-four percent of them are Democrats. They account for 3.2% of the nation's 7,382 state legislators.

Félix Ortiz, president of the Washington, D.C.-based National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators, says that in the past ten years the caucus's membership has doubled from 102 to 200 "as a result of Hispanics becoming more involved in the political process."

He observes, "Latino legislators are getting elected in Caucasian areas where there is an insignificant Hispanic population as low as three percent."

Of 29 state legislatures in California, only Senator Abel Maldonado and Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia are Republicans. In Texas, there's one Republican out of 37; New Mexico, three out of 44

In stark contrast, 17 of Florida's 19 Latino legislators are Republican.

Rosalind Gold, NALEO senior director of policy, research and advocacy, calls the increase of Latino state legislators significant in non-traditional states. Four hold seats in Maryland and in Kansas, three each in Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Rhode Island and Washington. "This is a sign of the Latino population's progress by its sheer numbers," says Gold.

Tim Hudson, a political science professor at Sacramento State University, stresses that while Latinos are attracting voters from other ethnic groups, "Latino issues are only put on the front burner by Latino legislators."

NALEO anticipates the election next month will bring "new opportunities for Latino progress, with potential gains in the U.S. House of Representatives and state legislatures."

States with traditionally large Latino populations such as Arizona, California, Florida, New Mexico, New York and

Texas all have at least 10 percent Latino representation.

With 44, New Mexico has the largest number.

Latino caucuses have been founded in Texas, New Mexico, Florida, Illinois and California. California's caucus, which began with five members in 1973, now has 27.

"Even if our numbers grow, we still have to build bridges," maintains Arizona state representative Steve Gallardo. "Antonio Villaraigosa became mayor of one of the nation's largest cities by reaching out to other communities."

Gallardo calls redistricting is a current problem in Arizona. Latinos are

"packed" to account for more than 70 percent of the population in some districts, he says, noting that there are plans to lower Latino representation in those districts to 60 percent to spread them out. Latinos comprise about one-third of the state's population.

NALEO's directory of Latino elected officials shows that Latino men continue to have a greater political at the state level than Latinas. Latinas comprise 33.3 percent of all Hispanic state senators, and 29.9% of Hispanic state representatives. The growth of Hispanic legislators presages what "Latino representation at a national level will look like" in the not-too-distant future, says Gold.

## Bell Shines in Debate

Although many thought Friday night football would win out, Friday's gubernatorial debate had a million person audience and helped bring Chris Bell almost even with his better-known rivals and shifted the race into a two-man race between the Democrat and Republican Gov. Rick Perry.

breaking money coming in," Bell spokesman Jason Stanford said the day before the broadcast. "There are a lot of people at a lot of different levels looking [at Bell]." He quickly added: "And this isn't spin." Indeed, Houston trial lawyer John O'Quinn rewarded Bell with a \$1 million campaign contribution after the debate. And he's promised to either raise an additional \$4 million or dig it out of his own pocket. Also, former President Bill Clinton has committed to sing Bell's praises in an upcoming Texas stump, according to the campaign.

The Democrat's best-of-show response



"Bell rose in stature and was clearly the best informed," said Democratic strategist Kelly Fero, who had initially written off the governor's race as a lost cause. "He showed that, of the four, he deserves to be governor."

Nevertheless, even Perry's harshest critics agree that the governor won the debate, simply by not stumbling. How Perry and Bell both managed to outshine their more colorful competitors - funnyman Kinky Friedman and tough-talkin' Carole Keeton Strayhorn - is anyone's guess. But Friedman, dressed in his signature black hat and holding a cigar, landed only a zinger or two and later attributed his deer-in-the-headlights look to jangled nerves. And who could blame him? According to news reports, an estimated million people tuned in to watch what turned out to be a zippy, shallow game show of a debate studded with trivia questions.

Strayhorn, bedecked in a bright pink jacket, was surprisingly underwhelming, delivering the same sound bites and catchphrases she uses in her campaign speeches and TV ads. She also had the misfortune of drawing a tricky question - who is Mexico's president-elect? - and flubbing with a rambling nonresponse. The fellow's name is Felipe Calderón, who, as Strayhorn correctly pointed out, "won with a very narrow margin."

"Strayhorn was so obviously nervous, it was almost possible to forget that she has been doing this since Richard Nixon was in the White House," said Fero of the former Austin mayor, former Democrat, and ex-Republican. "And she failed to effectively land many punches on Perry, which is what she needs to do - and what Bell needs her to do."

Perry did exactly what he needed to do: He held his own in the one-hour show-down. What the audience didn't see was his refusal to meet with reporters for the traditional post-debate spin. Instead, he dispatched spokesman Robert Black to the press room to distribute a press release proclaiming Perry the victor in the four-way Dallas meetup. (Libertarian James Werner was not invited, sparking a lawsuit by him against Belo Inc., the media giant that sponsored the debate and had exclusive television-broadcast rights.)

Bell had the most to gain from the debate, and he did. "This is going to be a late-breaking campaign with a lot of late-

of the night came when asked what the term limit is for governor. "There is no term limit for Texas governor," Bell said, "and that's why people should be horrified." He was referring to Perry's recent musings about running for yet another term if he wins in November. "That's the best reason I can give to you tonight to vote for me."

## Latino health problems may grow center-store categories

Latino health problems may grow center-store categories Latinos who immigrate to the United States may escape problems in their homeland or find new opportunities here-but at what price?The longer Latinos live here and acculturate, the likelier they are to adopt an American diet and lifestyle that produces rampant obesity and diabetes. Not surprisingly, these conditions are surging as health problems among the 41 million Latino populace here-to a point where Type 2 diabetes is already 150 percent more prevalent than among whites, says the American Diabetes Association. "When they come to the U.S., they're young and healthy. In five years, their diet changes. We need to reverse this trend," says Liz Mintz, manager of the Latino Nutrition Coalition (LNC), a group formed by Oldways Preservation Trust (Boston, MA) a non-profit food issues think tank, which previously conceived the Mediterranean Diet Pyramid and the Whole Grains Council. Some ominous statistics from the California Department of Health Services drive her concern: only 38 percent of Latino adults consume the recommended amount of fruits and vegetables, and heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes account for nearly 60 percent of all deaths. And these, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: 29 percent of California Latino adults are obese, 30 percent engaged in no physical activity or exercise, outside their regular job, in the past month; and 57 percent of Latino 9th graders in the state failed an aerobic capacity test.LNC has created a 16-page passport size bilingual booklet titled Camino Magico (Magic Road) to urge a return to the traditional Latin American Diet. One million copies will be distributed to community influentials (churches, health centers, retailers) in Miami and parts of California and Texas by January/February 2007, and to New York and Chicago soon after.LNC predicts the effort will spur sales activity in these categories:

LNC predicts the effort will spur sales activity in these categories:

- frozen and canned vegetables
- soups
- soy milk
- tortillas, tamales, arepas and pandebono
- spices such as cumino, recaito and achiote as alternatives to salt
- rice
- beans, specifically black, red, pinto, chick peas and lentils
- cheeses such as campesino and casero
- fruit juices such as lulo, guanábana and maracuyá
- cereals particularly oatmeal as a beverage ingredient to make it healthier and more substantial (example: avena - made of milk, cinnamon and oatmeal)

To encourage free distribution of the booklets in stores with heavy Latino populations, LNC is offering retailers their chain logo on the cover, so customers will see them as a caring authority on healthful eating. LNC will also provide manufacturer sponsors in the booklets, as well as display racks, and will train retailers to host cooking demonstrations in-store. "We'll make it easy for people to buy everything they need to reproduce the meal. As we teach them healthier cooking and give them methods to cook, they'll eat less at fast-food restaurants, and retailers will gain," says Mintz.

## Perry, Bell are confident in Hispanics' support

Hispanic voters have long been a dependable part of the Democratic base in Texas.

But a recent Dallas Morning News poll shows that Hispanics prefer Republican Rick Perry over his challengers.

Mr. Perry not only outpolled independent candidates Carole Keeton Strayhorn and Kinky Friedman, but he had more Hispanic support than Democrat Chris Bell.

"His cornerstone issues reach to the Hispanic community," said Robert Black, a spokesman for Mr. Perry. The governor has touted job creation and, while presenting a tough image on border security, has been careful not to lash out at illegal immigrants.

Democrats are mindful of Mr. Perry's progress with Hispanic voters but said their nominee, Chris Bell, would ultimately bring them back to their base.

"Hispanic voters are like every other voter," said Democratic strategist Kelly Fero. "They don't know much about the Democratic candidate."

Mr. Fero said Mr. Bell and other candidates would have to shake things up to get the Hispanic vote.

"Bell faces the same choice the voters face," he said. "Stay the course and get much of the same, or choose a new direction and shake things up."

Mr. Perry's progress with Hispanic voters has been noticeable.

In his 1998 race for lieutenant governor against former Comptroller John Sharp, Mr. Perry got roughly 25 percent of the Hispanic vote in a race he narrowly won.

His opponent in the 2002 governor's race was a well-funded Hispanic businessman, Tony Sanchez, but Mr. Perry still took more than 30 percent of votes cast by Hispanics.

Dave Carney, Mr. Perry's chief political consultant, predicted the governor would get a robust 50 percent of the Hispanic vote in the November election.

Jason Stanford, Mr. Bell's campaign manager, scoffed at that.

"Hispanics are no different than other voters," he said. "You've got to do the normal outreach. That's what we're doing."

# CANDIDATE'S FORUM

## Democratic Lt. General nominee Maria Luisa Alvarado

"In early 2005, I found myself with one of two choices for what role I would play in the future of this place I call home, Texas. The easy choice was to let someone else with more money, experience, and connections take up the task of challenging elected officials that have forgotten that they are accountable to its citizens. I chose to seek the elected office for Lt. Governor.



The failures of our state government on funding issues related to education and healthcare have had a long history as evident from headline news over the years. Yet our state leaders try to disguise the facts with bold declarations of "promises made, promises kept." I've consulted with ordinary citizens throughout Texas. They want help and hope, not promises.

As one of the largest states in the nation, Texas is not short on natural resources. As citizens of the state of Texas, we are not short on our state. In 2006, Texans can restore state government to its fundamental purpose of serving the people.

Maria Luisa is a native Texan born and raised in San Antonio. She is one of four daughters and eight sons born to Francisco and Bonifacia Alvarado. Her family's history of public service includes her father who served in the US Army during WWII during which time he was a POW and released. All eight of her brothers served in the military, of which four served concurrently in Vietnam. One younger sister served in the Texas Air National Guard. (In 2005, her youngest brother served in Uzbekistan in support of the current US war efforts in Iraq.)

After graduating from Memorial High School in May 1974, Maria Luisa awaited her date of entry into the US Air Force to begin a six-year enlistment of active duty. On November 11, 1974, she began her 6-week Basic Military Training after which she received orders to report to Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois for technical training in the field of aircraft maintenance. Upon completing this training in April 1975, Maria Luisa's first permanent duty assignment was to McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, Kansas. She was assigned to the 384th Air Refueling Wing as an assistant crew chief on a KC-135A Stratotanker aircraft. She was fully crew chief qualified before leaving McConnell Air Force Base in August 1977 when her duty assignment swap took her to Castle Air Force Base in Merced, California, 93rd Air Refueling Wing.

A government restored to the people will be as great as the people of this state."

# More Bush- Paid "JOURNALISTS"

by Jim Hightower  
There they go again. Yet another of George W's government agencies has been caught playing the underhanded game of "Rent-a-Journalist!"

You might remember last year when it was revealed that Armstrong Williams, a right-wing commentator and radio talk-show host, had been taking payola from the Bush government. Through a PR firm, the education department had funneled a couple hundred thousand of our tax dollars to Williams in exchange for him touting Bush's infamous "No Child Left Behind" program on his radio shows. You also might remember that, once the deal was exposed, George proclaimed that such payments were wrong, and, by golly, he would stop such shenanigans.

Now, however, we learn that Bush's Office of Cuba Broadcasting has also been running a corral of journalists since 2001. The Miami Herald reveals that 10 South Florida reporters and TV personalities have been receiving thousands of dollars in government funds to provide anti-Castro commentaries for this agency's broadcast's into Cuba.

Amazingly, a couple of the recipient reporters say that, since they normally oppose Castro, they see nothing wrong with cashing Bush's checks. Maybe they should go to class with a media ethics professor, who points out that, "it's all about credibility and independence. If you consider yourself a journalist, then it seems to me it's an obvious conflict of interest to take government dollars."

Maybe Bush & Company should take the professor's class as well. A spokesman for Bush's International Broadcasting Bureau, which oversees the anti-Castro division, says that while the bureau does background checks on the journalists it pays, it has no ethics code on proper journalistic behavior.

# BIGGER, DIFFERENT AND PRINCE CHARMING, TOO

By JosÈ de la Isla

Pew Hispanic Center director Robert Suro compared current Latino demographic trends to his teenage son. It is growing in many directions and "getting bigger and getting different at the same time."

Suro was addressing hundreds of participants attending the youth-focused Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute issues conference here earlier this month. Three days stoked with CHCI strategy sessions and fancy meals and enough laughs helped set a national Latino agenda.

Suro's analogy is an important description because it comes from data-driven observations. His audience of present and future Latino leaders needed data and context to guide it through this nation's political thicket. It delivered listeners in the direction they need to go, showed them what to look out for and how to shape their thinking. Analogies like that are important.

Just look at how reality was shaped by the 1890s' "melting pot," the 1950s' "minority" mindset, the 1970s' "salad bowl," the descriptive, "and the 1990s'" "sleeping giant" misnomer.

One little-known event stood out over others, influencing a lot of how we think today. It occurred in 1969 when a Latino planning group was trying to frame a national job-training approach for itinerant farm workers. Nothing like it before the "last yellow bus" strategy had been attempted. Prior to that time, the concept of "Hispanic" as a cohesive national body didn't exist. Latinos were thought of mostly as "farm workers," even though the majority lived in cities.

A vigorous debate took place. The concern was about how rural Mexican-American issues had become the centerpiece of anything "Hispanic." And how "West Side Story" characters had become stand-ins for all urban Latinos.

A particularly acrimonious meeting occurred at the Barbizon Terrace apartments in this city. Some invited community leaders of the day were engaged in heated, disparaging competition over who would get a government contract. That's when Sam Bell, Luis Cardona, Frank Espada, Rick Ontiveros, Macario RamÌrez, and MarÌa V-squez retired to the building's rooftop.

There, under dim light that softened the tension, the first known agreement was reached for a pan-Hispanic national effort. The rural, urban, ethnic, resident and refugee differences were overridden in favor of concerns about language, education and training, as well as

# Mas Grande, Distinto y Principe Azul, Ademas

JosÈ de la Isla

El director del Centro Hispano Pew, Robert Suro, comparó las tendencias actuales de demográficas de los latinos a su hijo adolescente - que crece en muchas direcciones y que se está haciendo "m's grande, y haciéndose m's distinto al mismo tiempo".

Suro se dirige a cientos de participantes de la conferencia de asuntos políticos auspiciado por el Instituto del Caucus de Congresistas Hispánicos (CHCI por sus siglas en inglés) en esta ciudad a comienzos de este mes. Los tres días a reventar con sesiones del CHCI sobre estrategias, cenas suntuosas y elegantes y risas que ayudaron a sentar base para la agenda latina a nivel nacional.

La analogía de Suro es una descripción importante por lo que deriva de observaciones fundamentadas en los datos. Su público de dirigentes latinos actuales y futuros requería de datos y contexto para guiarse entre matorral político de esta nación. Orientó a los participantes en la dirección correcta, les mostró qué hay que observar y cómo formular su pensamiento. Las analogías de esta índole son importantes.

Veamos sólo cómo se formó la realidad de los 1890 con el término "melting pot" (crisol), y la década de los cincuenta con la mentalidad de "minorías", los setenta con el término descriptivo del "plato de ensalada", y el malnombrado "gigante dormido" de los 1990.

Un evento de poco reconocimiento se destacó sobre todos los demás, influyendo en cómo pensamos hoy. Ocurrió en 1969 cuando un grupo de planificadores latino intentaba enmarcar un enfoque de capacitación laboral a nivel nacional para los campesinos itinerantes. Nada parecido se había intentado antes de la estrategia del "último autobús amarillo". Anterior a este momento, no existía el concepto de "hispano" como un cuerpo nacional cohesivo. Se pensaba mayormente en los latinos como "campesinos", aunque la mayoría viviera en ciudades.

Se realizó un debate energético. Lo que se debatía era cómo se había convertido los asuntos pertenecientes a la población mexicano-americana rural en el centro de cualquier tema

considerations about personal and government responsibility.

Since then, policy issues have served as the template for expressing community concerns.

At the CHCI conference's opening luncheon, U.S. Senator Chris Dodd of Connecticut reminisced how the next step happened. He participated in 1976 when House members Edward Roybal of California, Herman Badillo of New York, Baltasar Corrada de Puerto Rico, and Texans E. "Kika" de la Garza and Henry B. Gonzalez formed the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to monitor legislation and government activity.

Dodd, a Spanish-speaking legislator, had a special interest in Latino affairs since he served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic from 1966 to 1968.

Two years after the caucus was formed, the institute was created to develop and promote leaders.

Today, there are 28 Hispanic members of Congress. The institute's Edward R. Roybal Building for Latino Leadership was inaugurated as part of this month's conference events.

Bigger and different every year, major conceptual and practical milestones are being reached. Even at the Reyes de Latino Comedy event - also part of the festivities - Bill Santiago had one of the best quips of the night. Listing the top ten advantages to being Latino, he cited "being able to date inter-racially within my own ethnic group."

That too is another milestone the rest of the country can learn from Latino social history.

At this year's concluding black-tie gala, attended by 2,000, some \$3.2 million was raised for CHCI fellowships, scholarships and internships in public policy affairs.

Among attending congressional members, lobbyists, movie stars, sports figures and media celebrities - United States royalty - was Prince Felipe de Borbón, Spain's crown prince of Asturias. "Spanish heritage has been here for centuries," he refreshed the crowd's collective memory, "and it is as American as any other influence."

It was a nice reminder that the national picture continues growing, not just more complex, but bigger and better. It must be true. Otherwise, why would royalty come to pay respect?

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sentla interEs particular por los asuntos latinos desde que habla servido en el Cuerpo de Paz como voluntario en la República Dominicana, de 1966 a 1968.

A los dos años de la formación del caucus, se creó el instituto para ayudar a desarrollar y promover a líderes latinos.

Hoy hay 28 miembros del Congreso hispanos. Este mes el edificio del instituto, que lleva el nombre Edward R. Roybal Building for Latino Leadership, se inauguró como parte de los eventos relacionados a la conferencia.

M's grande y distinto cada año, se van alcanzando los hitos importantes conceptuales y prácticos. Hasta en la velada de los Reyes de la Comedia Latina - también parte de las festividades - Bill Santiago salió con una de las mejores frases de la noche. Al hacer lista de las 10 mayores ventajas de ser latino, citó el "poder salir con alguien de otra raza dentro de mi propio grupo étnico".

He allí otro hito de la historia social latina del que puede aprender el resto del país.

Durante la gala de clausura de este año, a la cual asistieron 2.000 personas, se recaudó alrededor de \$3.2 millones para financiar becas y pasantías en temas de política pública del Instituto.

Entre los miembros de Congreso, cabilderos, estrellas de pantalla, figuras del deporte y celebridades de los medios que asistieron - la realeza estadounidense - se encontraba el Príncipe de Asturias, Felipe de Borbón, que recordó a los participantes que "La herencia española se ha encontrado aquí desde hace siglos, y es tan americana como cualquier otra influencia".

Fue un bonito recordatorio que el panorama nacional continúa creciendo, no sólo haciéndose más complejo, sino más grande y mejor. Tiene que ser verdad, de lo contrario, ¿por qué vendría hasta aquí a dar sus respetos la realeza?

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# "Going Fishing" on Election Day...

by Roger Quannah Settler El Indio

Perhaps the best thing Lubbock County voters can do on NOVEMBER 7 is to "go fishing" like the old-timers did...except that we should VOTE ABSENTEE first!

No, I didn't mean "Early Voting"...but true ABSENTEE voting by MAIL...that way, you can avoid the unreliable and QUESTIONABLE Electronic Voting Machines, where your vote can vanish at a hacker's whim. You would get a PAPER BALLOT, which is the ONLY SAFE and SURE way for your vote to be counted. Also, by "Going Fishing", you can register your protest against the new "Super Precincts" which are a SUPER SHAFT for Overton and the entire minority community.

Just contact the Elections Office at 13th and Avenue G any time before October 31...they have the forms for Absentee Balloting By Mail...and then plan a family journey for Election Day!! Perhaps a trip to Austin, where the parties are likely to rival Academy Awards night...with KINKY, GRANDMA, CHRIS BELL and GOVERNOR GOODHAIR all sponsoring victory bashes!

It is HIGH TIME to just say "No!" to the trend of no ballot verifications, lack of a paper trail for the electronic machines, the prohibition of campaigning by private grocery store election polls, the hiring of unqualified election workers by a personnel agency, the purchase of soon-to-be obsolete electronic machines, and all of the other "new ideas" pushed by

# COMMUNITY VOICES

This week's question asked: Nationally the majority of voters are saying that they no longer have confidence in the Republican Party because of the Foley/Congressional page debacle, failure of their Iraq war policy and other shortcomings. Yet here in Lubbock and West Texas voters seem to be steadfastly loyal to Republicans. What do you think is the reason?

Following are a few responses:

People have a hard time admitting when they are wrong. Name withheld on request via email  
They're in DENIAL that the Republican party is NOT PERFECT!!!! Their money is more important than young persons' life and integrity. Had a Democrat done what this PERVERT did, Foley is a predator, immediately the Republicans would have said, "You see we are the "Christian Party to belong and vote for".

"There is no Comparison the "adulterous woman not a young lady, went after what she wanted and they both got what each other was seeking, not to mention Ms. Lewinsky's book, TV, and interview deals, all for millions! And it sure hasn't hurt the almost "father, son", relationship between George Bush Sr. and President Clinton. Why because Monica and Bill are adults, making adult decisions. We may not agree or want to condone their actions, but we everyone I've talked to has said, "they are adults, they will suffer the consequence".

Ms. Omega via email  
"An eye for an eye will make the whole world blind"  
Mahatma Gandhi  
\*\*\*\*\*

Some of our readers sent in responses after our deadline to last week's question about Mayor Miller's unkept promises. Here is what they said:

I think that some times reality hits. I am glad that he is doing what is right to do the job. If it takes breaking a promise, so be it.

Sonny Garcia via email  
I haven't heard or kept up with anything Miller had said or failed to deliver but then again that wouldn't surprise me. During his campaign for Mayor I went to a rally held at a friend's house, so I kind of got to meet the fella. I told him that I would help with his election campaign against that redneck ex-chief of Police. I volunteered to post his signs and pass out bumper stickers to all the Barrio boys that I know in the Hood. After all, I had more time on my hands than money to give. I went that next weekend to his campaign headquarters to pick up some banners bumper stickers. He was not there but his campaign people were.

Pense there mi, pa' que venia aqui de lambiache tenendo mejores cosas que hacer en la casa. Como nada, por ejemplo y tambien pense "que bueno el no estava halli pero la gente de el si estaba." El caracter de ellos sobre de mi y mi ayuda no fue como el me lo mostro ami y los demas esa noche en el rally de la casa de aquel otro lambiache.

J. Abjar via email

Would it really matter if someone else got voted in? To this very day, I have yet seen any mayor or elected official keep their promises! We would have to do the same with the city council members our other representatives in office. Would it be just to get rid of just our mayor or the whole bunch? I suppose we could have the people we vote into office to sign their promises in "blood"! Would they even keep them then? It is really sad that this day and age there is so much greed involved and self gain that we do no longer have men of integrity who will know how to keep a "promise" or are a man of their "word". This is not to say there are "some" out there. The elected officials are not at fault if "we the people" do not unite together and hold each one accountable. When is the ballot being mailed out to every voter to vote the mayor or any other official out of office? How long would this process take to vote an elected official out of office? What about a signed petition? Has one been started? If not, then get one going and see how many signatures are required. And lets do it, not just talk about it!

Norma Moore via email

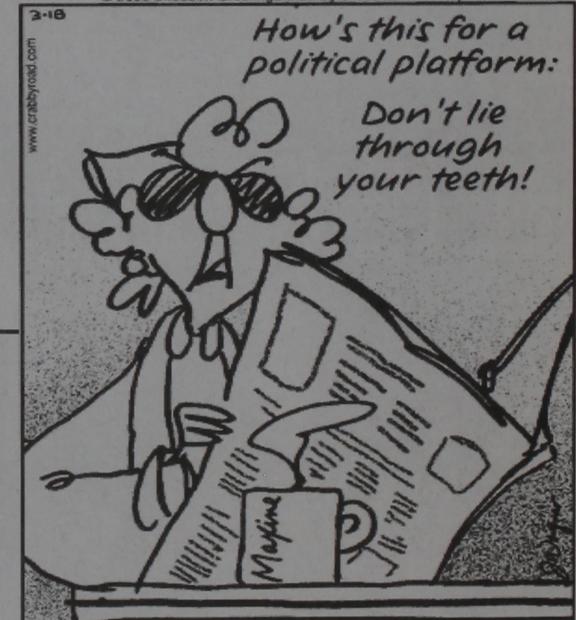
BAGHDAD, Oct. 10 — A team of American and Iraqi public health researchers has estimated that 600,000 civilians have died in violence across Iraq since the 2003 American invasion, the highest estimate ever for the toll of the war here.

The figure breaks down to about 15,000 violent deaths a month, a number that is quadruple the one for July given by Iraqi government hospitals and the morgue in Baghdad and published last month in a United Nations report in Iraq. That month was the highest for Iraqi civilian deaths since the American invasion.

But it is an estimate and not a precise count, and researchers acknowledged a margin of error that ranged from 426,369 to 793,663 deaths.

It is the second study by researchers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. It uses samples of casualties from

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Dorothy Kennedy and her globetrotting staff at the Elections Office.

This is a nice fantasy...but know that the much-maligned PAPER BALLOTS are making a resurgence all over the country. Yes, they called some of us "nuts" for proposing a return to Paper Ballots here in Lubbock a few months ago, but now New Mexico is going back to paper, a Colorado court made a ruling about electronic voting machine security, Indiana is considering some reforms, and many other places are realizing that we hastily RUSHED into purchasing expensive electronic machines with hard-earned taxpayer funds too early...and now the chickens are coming home to roost!

I predict that the November elections this year could easily become another DEBACLE ala 2000...the year of the "hanging chads"...except this year, it'll be "hacked E-screens"!

After disgruntled candidates and voters discover that RECOUNTS are impossible on Electronic machines without paper trails...the kind Lubbock County rushed into buying, on bad advice...things will hit the proverbial fan, so to speak. Your vote may or may not be counted, and no one can realistically guarantee that. Only Paper Ballots can be counted and recounted safely and surely, and the clamor for their return is going to grow deafening!

Both KINKY and One Tough Grandma were in Lubbock this week...STRAYHORN talked to the Avalanche-Journal, and KINKY was cheered by a huge crowd at Texas Tech.

WOULDN'T IT BE NICE if we awakened on the day after the Election with a brand-new Governor?????

## "Rhythms Del Mundo" Cuba Released through Hip-O Records/Universal Music Enterprises

On November 14, Hip-O Records/Universal Music Enterprises will release "Rhythms Del Mundo," an exciting collaborative album, which fuses the hot Afro-Cuban sounds of The Buena Vista Social Club with tracks from today's biggest artists such as U2, Coldplay, Sting, Jack Johnson and Maroon 5 as well as some of the buzziest bands, including The Arctic Monkeys, Franz Ferdinand, The Kaiser Chiefs and many others. It also features the amazing vocals from famed Cuban vocalists, Omara Portuondo, and the last ever recording of the much beloved Ibrahim Ferrer. The album is in aid of Artists Project Earth (APE), which lends support for natural disaster relief and climate change awareness. Universal Music Enterprises will donate a portion of its proceeds from sales of the album in the United States to the Music Rising campaign, an instrument replacement fund for musicians of the Gulf Coast.

"Rhythms Del Mundo" is an

electrifying album that fuses music of different cultures and comes up with a melting pot of rare sounds. Arranged by Demitrio Muniz, the main recording sessions took place in Havana at Abdala Studios from April 2005 to June 2006. While the majority of the vocals remain the same, The Buena Vista Social Club took the original orchestration from each song and created something utterly unique casting their trademark mastery over each track. Their noted and exceptional musicianship seduced even the notoriously protective Arctic Monkeys into handing over their track. As a rule, the band has never licensed their music for compilation albums, but were so enamored with the result that they were happy for it to be included on the album. As well as The Arctic Monkeys' track "Dancing Shoes," "Rhythms Del Mundo" includes reworked tracks such as "Clocks" by Coldplay, "Better Together" by Jack Johnson, "She Will be Loved" by Maroon 5, "High

and Dry" by Radiohead and others.

"Rhythms Del Mundo" also includes music by famed Cuban singers Omara Portuondo and the last vocal recording of Afro-Cuban bolero singer, Ibrahim Ferrer, who died tragically in 2005. The other Cuban musicians from The Buena Vista Social Club who perform on this album are as follows: Barbarito Torres, Amandito Valdes, Virgilio Valdes, Angel Terri Domech, Manuel 'Guajiro' Mirabal, Orlando Lopez 'Cachaibo' and Demitrio Muniz.

Kenny Young, producer and Founder/Trustee of APE, explains how the project emerged: "The project was sparked off by the devastating Tsunami of Xmas 2005. The idea came in to do a project with The Buena Vista Social Club to fuse their Latin sounds with Western artists and their familiar popular songs. The project evolved when more environmental disasters struck -- the Asian Earthquakes and Hurricane Katrina. But the big picture

was climate change. You can call these natural disasters but after all the research and scientific data, we know that we're at least partly to blame for some of these disasters. Global warming is now in the news daily. If we don't act in the time frame our experts give us, our grandchildren will curse us eternally."

The artists on this album fully support the record as a show of commitment to the music and to the cause that it endorses. Thom Yorke comments, "We need a law, we need to have the Government put climate change in its place. If you leave industry to sort it out on a voluntary basis that's never going to happen. So everybody if they've got any concerns about climate change has to register that concern with their Government officials because it's the only way to go."

The packaging for the album is carbon neutral.

"Rhythms Del Mundo" is released on November 14, 2006 through Hip-O Records/Universal.

## Gloria Estefan has new children's book

Gloria Estefan's latest children's book, featuring her beloved bulldog Noelle in a tale about teamwork and helping others, is set for release Tuesday.

The book, "Noelle's Treasure Tale," is the second in a series about the singer's pet. It is being released in English and Spanish and includes a CD with the song "See with Your Heart."

Estefan, 49, a mother of two and five-time Grammy winner, said the book is aimed at children ages 4-8 and tells the story of a bulldog who goes on a treasure hunt and finds friendship while on a family vacation in Florida.

The Cuba native said the idea for the series came from watching her dog, one of nine she owns, fit in the rest of the pack.

"I thought it would be



lovely to use Noelle as an example to teach the importance of being who you are," Estefan told The Associated Press.

"For me it's important to inspire children in a positive way, and at times they understand more messages through entertainment than when one is talking to them directly," she said. AP

## After failing to make weight, Corrales loses decision to Casamayor

Diego Corrales couldn't beat Joel Casamayor or the scales.

Casamayor won the WBC lightweight title Saturday night with a split decision win over Corrales, who was forced to give up the belt a day earlier when he failed to make the 135-pound weight limit.

In a fight that almost didn't happen because Corrales couldn't make the weight, Casamayor scored the cleaner punches and more of them to win both the vacated title and the rubber match between the two fighters.

Casamayor won 116-111 on one scorecard and 115-112 on a second. A third judge had Corrales ahead 114-113. The Associated Press had Casamayor winning 116-112.

"I know I won," Casamayor said. "But I was a little concerned when it went to the cards."

Corrales, who said he hadn't eaten for four days before weighing in at 139 pounds at Friday's weigh-in, started slow and never seemed to really find his range against the former Cuban Olympic champion.



### Red Raiders report:

## Strategy and Personnel

**THIS WEEK'S GAME:** Texas Tech at Colorado, Oct. 14 - A loss for the winless Buffaloes would extend their school-record skid to 11 games, but a trip to Boulder might not be easy for Texas Tech. The Red Raiders have never won at Colorado, which has suffered four single-digit defeats and held four opponents to fewer than 21 points. The Buffs' struggles have come mostly on offense, where they rank 115th nationally in passing, 109th in scoring and 108th overall.

**PLAYERS TO WATCH**  
QB Graham Harrell - Ranks third nationally in total offense and has thrown 18 touchdown passes with only four interceptions. Two of the picks, however, were returned for touchdowns in the Oct. 7 loss to Missouri.

WR Robert Johnson - Of his league-high 45 receptions, six have produced touchdowns. Johnson has 12 games with at least five catches, not bad for a converted quarterback.

RB Shannon Woods - Enjoyed a productive night against Missouri, gaining 95 yards on 12 carries while also grabbing 11 passes for 74 yards.

**ROSTER REPORT**  
T Glenn January did not play in the second half of the Missouri loss because of an illness. His absence required Louis Vasquez to move to left tackle, while backup Ofa Mohetau was inserted at left guard.

Coach Mike Leach said he wasn't bothered by Texas Tech fans who booed his team after it fell behind by 24

points in the first half of the Missouri game, yet Leach did manage a slight jab. "If anything, it's comforting to me that we're in the presence of a few people that are so superior at what they do that maybe some of it will rub off on me and Graham (Harrell)."

Could this finally be the year when Texas Tech coach Mike Leach alternates quarterbacks and provides some intrigue into who gets the start?

Doubtful. After inserting backup Chris Todd for one series against Missouri after Graham Harrell struggled in the first half, Leach issued an advisory not to look for any significant shuffling.

"The solution to things isn't you just uproot stuff," he said. "You don't work on something and then just

change course because you continued on page 4

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## US, Mexico must agree on development aid



U.S. demographic experts are steadfastly searching for a solution to the undocumented immigration controversy which will benefit both Mexico and the United States. They believe the solution lies in developmental aid enabling Mexican workers to find gainful employment in their

own country. Otherwise, they project illegal immigration will continue without major changes for at least another 10 to 15 years.

Lindsay Lowell is the director of Political Studies of the Institute for the Study of International Migration at the University of Georgetown.

She has identified developmental aid to Mexico as being essential to any program that will successfully address immigration.

"Developmental aid to Mexico is needed. It's something that isn't on the table but it should be if we want Mexico to be our partner," she astutely observes.

Lowell also stated that a temporary work program which offers Mexicans the opportunity to return to their country during the off season is necessary in sectors such as agriculture and construction.

Jeffrey Passel is a demographer at Pew Center. He specializes in studying migration from Mexico to the United States and thinks that undocumented immigration patterns will continue without much significant change for 10 to 15 years.

"We anticipate that the undocumented migration will continue, although perhaps not in the current high volume. It will depend on the growth of the economy of the United States," he indicates.

The number of immigrant workers fluctuates with the job supply. Figures at the Pew Center show a reduction in undocumented migration from Mexico to the United States in 2000 due to an apparent decrease in U.S. employment opportunities, followed by a rise in 2004.

In the forum of the Center for Strategic and International Studies specialists indicated that focusing exclusively on law enforcement will never resolve the issue.

It requires, they noted, a combination of (developmental) assistance with a temporary work plan which induces migrants to return to Mexico, as well as legal compliance on the border and inside the U.S.

The subject of developmental aid was included in the original migratory proposal of Mexico in 2001. The incoming Mexican administration concurs with this plan.

## Camine Contra el Cáncer

Desde 1993, "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" (Dando Pasos o Progreso en Contra del Cáncer) ha sido el evento más importante de la Sociedad Americana Contra el Cáncer tanto para reunir fondos como para traer atención a la batalla contra el cáncer del seno. Durante estos años, tres millones de caminantes han reunido más de \$194 millones para esta causa.

Esta caminata no competitiva se llevará a cabo el 15 de octubre y tiene como misión atacar el cáncer en cuatro frentes: investigación, educación, promoción del tema y servicios al paciente. Es por eso que Generations +/Northern Manhattan Health

Network, como parte de la Corporación de Salud y Hospitales de la Ciudad de Nueva York (HHC, siglas en inglés) se unen a la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer en este evento. Esta asociación ha resultado en programas y servicios en pro de los pacientes.

Con los fondos que se han levantado a través de "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" se han realizado mayores investigaciones, obtenido más detecciones tempranas, más tratamientos y acceso a servicios de cuidado de salud.

Según las estadísticas de la Sociedad Americana del Cáncer se estima que habrán unos 212,920 nuevos casos de

cáncer del seno en el 2006, de éstos se estima que unas 41,430 personas morirán como consecuencia del mismo; 40,970 mujeres y 460 hombres. En Nueva York se estima que habrán 2,770 casos nuevos.

El cáncer del seno o senos es el segundo tipo que más muertes causa entre las mujeres (el cáncer en los pulmones es el primero). Gracias a la detección temprana a través de exámenes, mamografías, aumento en la concientización de este problema y mejores tratamientos, la tasa de muerte a causa del cáncer del seno ha ido disminuyendo en un promedio de 2.3 % por año desde el 1990.

## Retirement less kind to Hispanics than Anglos

When they were younger, Santiago "Jimmy" Castro and his wife, Yolanda, believed life boiled down to two choices.

A: Live for today.

B: Put money away for the future.

The retired welder, electrician and aircraft mechanic and his wife, a retired Bexar County clerk, went with A. Now they're wondering if they made the right choice.

"I told my husband, 'You know what, we should have put some extra money aside,'" Yolanda Castro, 62, said at the couple's South Side home.

(William Luther/Express-News)

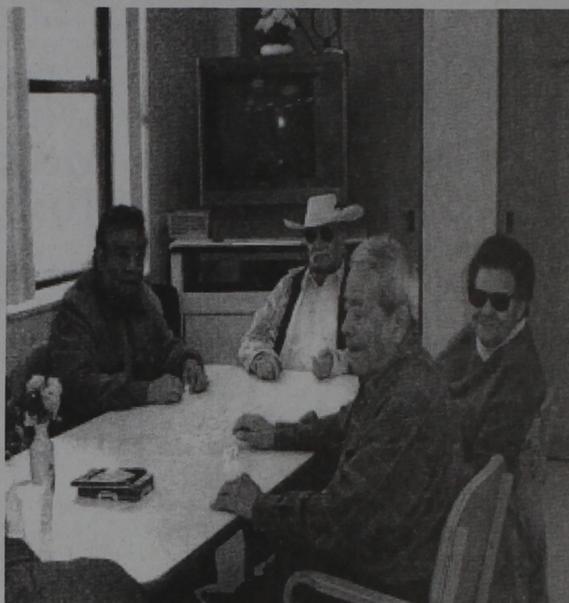
Jimmy and Yolanda Castro aren't living nearly as well as they were before retirement, but they're content.

The Castros raised two boys while living well. They ate at restaurants, enjoyed nightclubs and travel and owned horses and a boat. That all came to a halt, however, once retirement reality set in.

Forced to leave his job at

Kelly AFB when his department closed in 1995, 60-year-old Jimmy, as he is known

would have been eligible for had he been able to work until he was 55. He won't be



to family and friends, did contract work for six years before finally calling it quits. He collects an \$800 monthly pension check, substantially less than the \$1,500 he

eligible to collect an estimated \$183 monthly Social Security check until he is 62.

The couple relies on Yolanda's \$1,750 from Social Security. continued on page 6

### Red Raider Report: from page 3

have a little adversity. I mean, you've got to fight through some stuff."

Like losing in Lubbock. The 38-21 defeat to Missouri ended an 11-game home winning streak for the Red Raiders and raised some serious questions concerning Tech's status as an elite Big 12 team.

And with the high-powered aerial attack that's so important to the Red Raiders' success, any questions are first directed at the quarterback position.

So far, Harrell has proven as inconsistent as one might expect for a redshirt sophomore starting for the first time. He engineered two late comebacks at UTEP and Texas A&M, but only steered the offense to three points in a loss at TCU and gave up two interception returns for

touchdowns in digging a 24-0 hole against Missouri.

One reason to ask about the possible promotion of Todd was his relief work against the Tigers. In the second-quarter drive he commanded, Todd completed 5 of 6 passes for 59 yards.

But Leach has long been a proponent of settling on one quarterback, which he did during the preseason, then allowing that thrower develop. Still, Leach offered praise for Todd when discussing the situation.

"One of the biggest things," he said, "is Graham's a little more polished about checking and stuff like that. But Chris threw it really well. Chris went out there and turned the whole tempo around."

This is an issue that will not die if Harrell does not quit throwing costly picks.

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# Texas Voters Registration Increase at Deadline



DALLAS -- For Diana Flores, her grassroots effort over the summer to get more people registered to vote in the upcoming election had high and low points.

On one hand, nearly all those approached who were not registered were eager to do so. On the other, one event at Dallas City Hall specifically to register voters turned out a disappointing 44 people.

The push for new voters ended Tuesday with the deadline for voter registration. As of last week, Texas had about 85,000 more registered voters this year than last, and that number is likely to grow once a final count is provided after the deadline.

The Nov. 7 election features a race for governor with Republican incumbent Rick Perry facing three major challengers: Carole Keeton Strayhorn, the state comptroller and independent candidate; Kinky Friedman, an author, musician and humorist, also running as an independent; and Democrat Chris Bell.

Besides choosing a governor, Texans will vote on other statewide elected officials and numerous legislative and local office holders.

The voter registration coordinator for Bexar County said Tuesday that the staff has been working overtime the last couple of days to process the registrations.

"It's picked up, but not as much as it's been in a presidential election," said Cindy Duarte, who added that phones are constantly ringing with people asking about registration.

The secretary of state's office said there are about 13 million registered voters in Texas, up by about 312,000 since 2002, the last time the state elected a governor. The 2006 figures are as of late last week.

Of that total, 2.7 million have Hispanic surnames, an increase of about 560,000, since 2002, when 2.2 million were registered to vote. Of the 85,000 additional voters this year, about 77,800 were people with Hispanic surnames.

Flores was one of the organizers of the group MegaVoto, which formed this summer in the Dallas area to capitalize on the activism following immigration marches in the spring that attracted hundreds of

thousands across the nation. She estimates that since July, the group formed to register Hispanic voters and boost voter turnout has registered about 1,000.

About 16.6 million of Texas' 22 million population are of voting age. That means 78 percent of the state's population that is eligible to vote is registered, said Scott Haywood, a spokesman for Secretary of State Roger Williams.

There are about 8 million Hispanics in Texas, but of those only 3.4 million are eligible to vote, according to the Pew Hispanic Center. Experts note that a portion of the Hispanic population is not eligible to vote because of lack of citizenship or being under age 18.

The Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, a nonpartisan voter registration group that focuses on increasing Latino voter participation, has registered about 8,000 voters across the state so far this year, said Alberto E. Ruiz, Texas field organizer for the group, which is affiliated with the San Antonio-based William C. Velasquez Institute.

"We're always taken aback by how many people say 'Wow, no one's come out to register us,'" Ruiz said. "I think that the marches definitely gave some motivation to Latinos to become more civilly involved."

Like the Southwest Voter Registration Education

# Army: Troops to stay in Iraq until 2010

The U.S. Army has plans to keep the current level of soldiers in

Iraq through 2010, the top Army officer said Wednesday, a later date than Bush administration or

Pentagon officials have mentioned thus far.

The Army chief of staff, Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, cautioned against reading too much into the planning, saying troops levels could be adjusted to actual conditions in Iraq. He said it is easier to hold back forces scheduled to go there than to prepare and deploy units at the last minute.

"This is not a prediction that things are going poorly or better," Schoomaker told reporters. "It's just that I have to have enough ammo in the magazine that I can continue to shoot as long as they want us to shoot."

Even so, his comments were the latest acknowledgment by Pentagon officials that a significant withdrawal of troops from Iraq is not likely in the immediate future.

Currently there are 141,000 troops in Iraq, including 120,000 Army soldiers. Those soldiers are divided among 15 Army combat brigades plus other support

Project, the League of Women Voters of Texas was focusing its efforts on young voters.

"It seems like the youth are starting to show a little more interest than in prior elections," said Raul Salazar, executive administrator with the nonpartisan voter education organization.

The governor's race may be attracting young voters' attention, he said.

But Lydia Camarillo, vice president of the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, said that the elections don't seem to be generating much interest, with the governor's race particularly lackluster.

## Have A Nice Day

El Editor



Schoomaker's comments come less than four weeks before congressional elections, in which the unpopular war in Iraq and the Bush administration's policies there are a major campaign issue.

Last month, the top U.S. commander in the Middle East, Gen. John Abizaid, said the military would likely increase the current force levels through next spring.

In recent months the Army has shown signs of strain, as Pentagon officials have had to extend the Iraq deployments of two brigades in order to bolster security in Baghdad and allow units

heading into the country to have at least one year at home before redeploying.

Schoomaker said he has received no new guidance from commanders in Iraq as to when the U.S. will be able to begin reducing the number of troops there. Last year officials had hoped to be down to about 100,000 by the end of this year, but escalating violence and sectarian tensions have prompted military leaders to increase forces.

He also said the Army will have to rely on the National Guard and Reserves to maintain the current level of deployments. When asked about concerns that reserve units are struggling to get the training and equipment they need before going back to Iraq, Schoomaker said that no troops would be sent into war without needed resources.

In separate remarks to reporters, Gen. Richard Cody, the Army vice chief of staff, said soldiers need more than 12 months between deployments to Iraq so they can do a full range of combat training and complete the

kinds of educational programs that enable the Army to grow a fully mature officer corps.

"We need to reset the sergeants and send them to schools, the lieutenants and captains and send them off, so that we don't erode and become an Army that only can fight a counterinsurgency," Cody said. He added that

North Korea's announced nuclear test "reminds us all that we may not just be in a counterinsurgency fight and we have to have full-spectrum capability."

Schoomaker spoke as the U.S. military death toll in Iraq rose to at least 2,750 since the war's start in March 2003. On Wednesday, the U.S. command said three U.S. Marines and two soldiers were killed in fighting there.

In another indication of the burden the Army expects to bear, Schoomaker said he believes the Army will need \$138.8 billion in 2008, nearly \$40 billion more than its planned expenditures for the 2007 budget year, which began Oct. 1. Schoomaker's proposed figure is nearly \$25 billion more than the initial amount discussed by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

Schoomaker said the Army needs the money to modernize the force, continue needed research and development programs, and keep enough combat brigades in the field, while allowing adequate time for training and restoring equipment between deployments.

The Bush administration is likely to release its 2008 budget in February.

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# El Editor

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# Retirement less kind to Hispanics

from page four

Security and her county pension.

The Castros are healthy, held good jobs, and are better off than their parents were in retirement.

They are also Hispanic, and statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau and two national surveys from the AARP, the nation's largest senior citizen organization, make it clear that preparing for retirement, a daunting task by any measure, is especially difficult for Hispanic baby boomers. They are part of a bulge of people — 77.5 million according to the census — born between 1946 and 1964 who are at or approaching retirement age.

With the number of older Hispanics expected to nearly triple in 25 years, the implications of so many people in precarious financial shape are worrisome.

Adult children, for example, are expected to feel the brunt of taking care of their parents primarily because it is customary to do so.

"It is part of the Hispanic culture to respect and take care of their elderly family members," said Rafael Ayuso, spokesman for the Austin chapter of the AARP. "It's not often you see children put their parents in re-

tirement homes or get kicked out on the streets."

Hispanics' challenges

On average, Hispanics in the U.S. are less likely to graduate from college than Anglos, an immediate disadvantage when it comes to earning power. In San Antonio, the median household income for Hispanics ages 45 to 54 was \$39,998, according to the 2000 U.S. Census, compared with \$60,772 for Anglos.

The income difference is even greater for older people, the same census found. The median household income in San Antonio for Hispanics ages 55 to 64 was \$32,800 and \$55,476 for Anglos in the same age group.

Nationwide, Hispanics 65 and older have a poverty rate more than double that of Anglos, according to the Pew Hispanic Center.

Hispanics are less likely to sock money away in savings accounts, or to invest in mutual funds, stocks and 401(k) plans.

They are more likely than Anglos to enter retirement with worries about serious health problems and with the expectation that they will need to depend on others for support, according to the

AARP.

Those who work in the service industry: construction workers, gardeners and maids, for example, are living paycheck to paycheck, with no savings.

"With jobs like that, you can get fired anytime, and there's no health benefits, no pension, so they have no security," said Ed Codina, director of research, policy and planning at the Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas Inc. "People like them, retirement is out of the question."

Though they are living modestly, the Castros know that, if they'd saved, they might not be staring at a half-done remodeling project in their dining room or driving a 1996 Ford pickup that regularly breaks down.

The horses are gone, the boat sold, the travels a distant memory. And the boys are on their own.

"The only time we get to go out and eat is when our sons take us out," Yolanda said. "But we're not complaining."

The 2006 AARP national survey showed that Hispanics, like Anglos, are swimming in consumer debt. Thirty-nine percent of those

surveyed had credit card debt, for instance, and 26 percent perceived their debt as a major problem.

Consumer debt seems to be gobbling everyone up, regardless of ethnicity, said Phillip Howardy, a certified financial adviser in San Antonio.

"I'll have baby boomers come to me who live in \$600,000 homes and are way into debt, and tell me they need advice to help get them out," said Howardy, 56, who owns the Retirement Wealth Coach on Fredericksburg Road.

Like their Anglo counterparts, Hispanics who are educated and professional, who have been careful about consumer debt and who hold stable jobs with retirement plans have a better chance of retiring well, according to the data.

Born and raised in Texas, the Castros, despite their worries, are ahead of many others, according to the AARP surveys. Both have a high school education, and Jimmy has 15 college hours.

They would be classified as "English-dominant" in the AARP surveys, meaning English is their preferred language. That makes them

better off than their "Spanish-dominant" peers, whose retirement picture is decidedly gloomier.

"It seems it's particularly tough for Spanish-dominant

speakers to feel comfortable about their retirement options," said Ayuso, the AARP spokesman. "Hispanics have to overcome certain barriers."

## Democratic Candidate Van Os Speaks to Crowd at Lubbock Courthouse and Visits LULAC Meeting

David Van Os, Democratic Candidate addressed a small crowd of supporters Friday afternoon from 3:45-4:45 p.m. as part of his grassroots campaign to meet with the public at all 254 County Courthouses in Texas. He delivered an Affidavit for Public Record to County Clerk Doris Ruff that he would enforce the provisions of Article 4 of the Texas Constitution that prohibit "any species of toll not authorized by law." Governor Rick Perry has given a Spanish Construction Company and Henry Zachry Corporation of San Antonio the rights to design and build the first stretch of a Trans Texas Corridor from Dallas to Waco-Austin-San Antonio and Laredo. This land grab, using the state's power of "eminent domain" would be the biggest "land grab" in Texas history.

His stop in Lubbock was the 231st stop on his visit to all Texas Counties. Earlier in the week he had visited some ten Panhandle and West Texas cities such as Dimmitt, Muleshoe, Crowell, Matador, Crosbyton, and Floydada. This week he was scheduled to visit 16 counties including stops in Lynn, Dawson, Gaines, Andrews, Howard, Scurry, Borden, Garza, Kent, Haskell, Knox, King and Dickens Counties. He discussed with supporters and passersby the contents of the Texas Bill of Rights about separation of Church and State and noted that the Founding Fathers of Texas in 1836 had prohibited clergymen from holding public office. The prohibition of a "religious test of office" found in the 1787 U. S. Constitution and separation of Church and State was a consequence of the financial support of the Mexican Government of Catholic Clergy and a requirement that all public officials had to be Catholics. He noted that incumbent Greg Abbott, who is wheel-chair bound, refuses to uphold provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and that he was acting like a Corporation Oil for the Big Oil Companies and other Monopolies in Texas.

After the courthouse stop, Van Os and his wife Rachel Barrios de Van Os, visited with District Delegates and State Officers of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) attending a quarterly Board Meeting at the Holiday Inn Downtown.

## Gobieron de EU busca reducir violencia en escuelas

El presidente George W. Bush, al tiempo que lamentó una "increíblemente triste" ola de tiroteos en escuelas, también desafió a la nación a convertir su remordimiento en la aplicación de intensas medidas para garantizar la seguridad de los niños.

"Lamento que tengamos esta reunión", dijo Bush en una conferencia sobre seguridad escolar organizada por la Casa Blanca. "Aunque sé cuán importante es que la tengamos".

Bush convocó a los expertos para una junta en los suburbios de Maryland, luego de los tiroteos en escuelas de los estados de Wisconsin,

Colorado y Pennsylvania.

En discusiones con miembros de su gabinete, los oradores dijeron que la mejor respuesta es lo básico: hacer que los padres, dirigentes de escuelas, estudiantes y la policía trabajen juntos.

"Todos nosotros en este país queremos que nuestras aulas sean plácidos lugares de enseñanza —lugares donde no sólo se enseñen las habilidades básicas para convertirse en ciudadanos productivos— sino que se les enseñe a relacionarse los unos con los otros", dijo Bush, sentado al lado de panelistas frente a un estandarte de

seguridad escolar.

"Nuestra primera línea de prevención es realmente tener buen sentido común", dijo Delbert Elliot, director del centro para el Estudio y Prevención de la Violencia en Boulder, Colorado. Dijo que las escuelas deberían animar a los niños a denunciar actos violentos de compañeros que gusten de alardear de ellos.

"La comunicación es muy importante", dijo George Sugai, profesor de educación en la Universidad de Connecticut. "Los padres no van a involucrarse en las escuelas si van a tener que pasar a través de un detector de metales si tienen que

pasar a través de varias instancias para tener contacto con maestros".

Craig Scott, sobreviviente de la masacre en la secundaria Columbine en 1999, la peor tragedia de su tipo en Estados Unidos, relató cómo se escondió bajo una mesa en la biblioteca de la escuela aquel día en que estudiantes armados mataron a 13 personas. Una de ellas era su hermana Raquel.

Ahora él se dedica a dar conferencias en escuelas en su nombre, animando a que los estudiantes escojan el camino de la compasión y no el de la violencia.

**DOMINGO, 15 DE OCTUBRE 2006**

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