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Groups Lobby Congress on Failed Immigration Policy

By Paul Hortenstine

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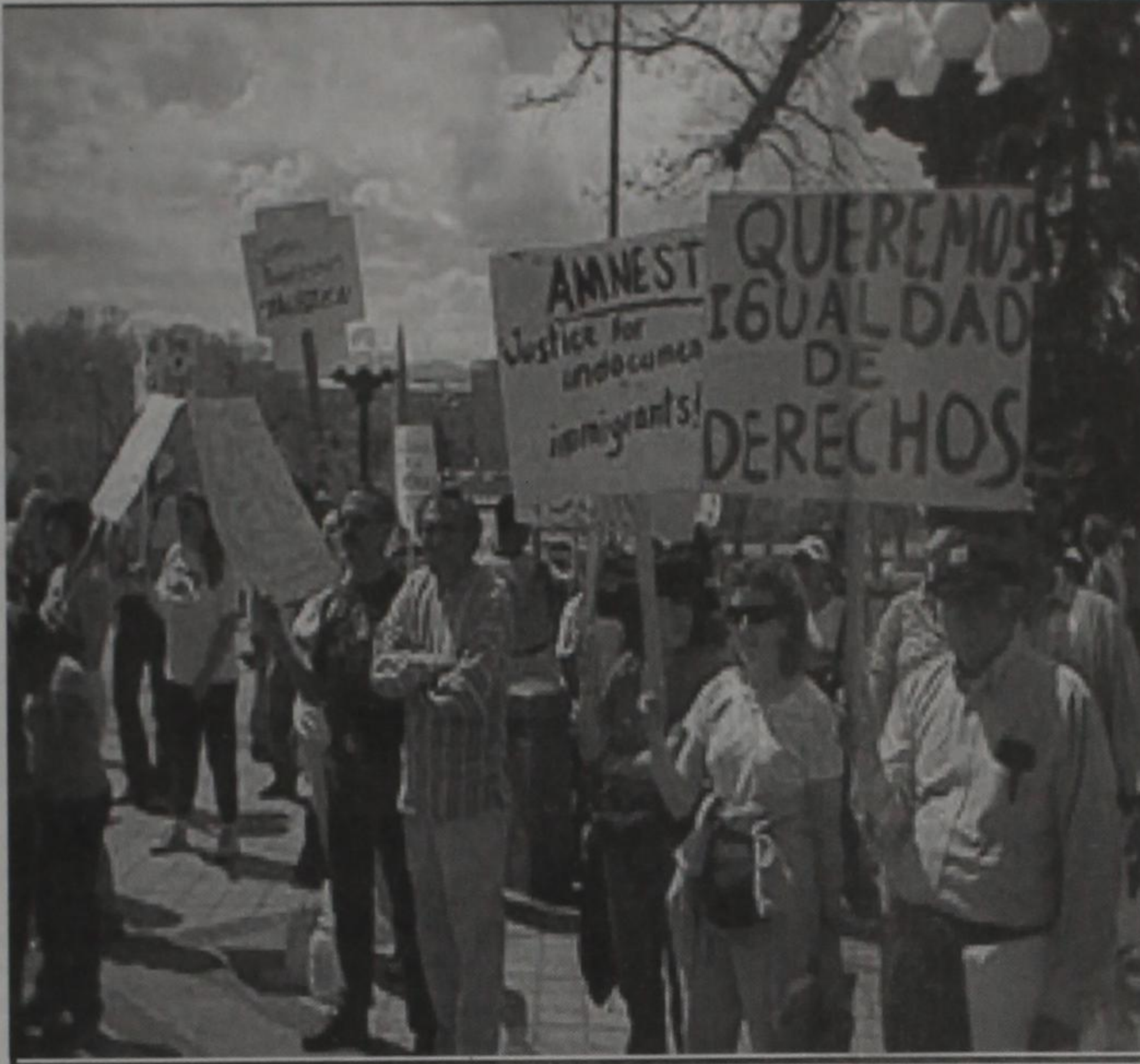
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rallies, live call-in radio shows, panel discussions, news conferences and meetings with members of Congress.

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He charged that border control groups advocate misguided policies that restrict workers but fail to improve national security. Criminals and terrorists most often come through legal ports of entry, not an open southern border, he pointed out.

Minuteman Project co-founders Chris Simcox and Jim Gilchrist spoke at some of the events that promoted immigration restrictions. They called for a military presence at the U.S.-Mexico border and announced the planned expansion of their group's activities, conducted in Arizona throughout April, into other border states.

They appeared with Congressional Immigration Reform Caucus members, including chairman Tom Tancredo (Colo.), Virgil Goode (Va.), J. D. Hayworth (Ariz.) and Scott Garrett (N.J.) at an April 27 news conference.

The congressmen, all Republicans, praised the Minuteman Project for enforcing immigration laws that they charged the federal government has neglected. They also supported placing troops near the southern U.S. border.

Overcome by emotion, Gilchrist broke into tears as he thanked Tancredo for his support.

Afterwards, Goode explained to Hispanic Link, "My legislation (H.R. 277) would authorize but not mandate troops to supplement the Border Patrol." (Continued on Page 5)

Comentarios de Bidal Agüero



Kathy Couric, Matt Lauer, Al and Ann plus Regis and Kelly were all celebrating 5 de Mayo today.

Yesterday President Bush celebrated cinco de mayo on the wrong day by trying to pass an ID act that will punish thousands of Mexican Immigrants and condemn them to a second-class citizenry.

In Texas members of the House are also trying to pass ID legislation plus they are also trying to pass legislation that will once again put the needs of many to better fit the needs of the few and rich.

I guess it's kind of bad to be speaking of all these unfavorable actions by our heads of State when we are preparing to celebrate, but the truth is the truth. Many times I think that instead of going forward many are working to push back our progress that has been made by the sacrifices of those who have worked and fought to get us to get the little progress that now exists.

And don't get me wrong. We have made progress. As few as 5 years ago, who would have imagined that Kathy, Al and Ann would have been seen celebrating 5 de Mayo, mariachi and all in front of millions of TV viewers.

Of course the celebrations on TV were for all the wrong reasons. None of them mentioned the real reason for celebrating but rather featured mariachi and food. We can give thanks to 5th Avenue for the commercialization of 5 de Mayo but then who can complain that at least now the holiday is being recognized.

Commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez gives a good explanation of Cinco de Mayo and the reasons for really celebrating. We hope that all of our reader take a little time between cevezas and bites of fajitas to read and share the article with their children.

Whatever way you choose to celebrate Cinco de Mayo we hope that all of you enjoy this very cherished holiday in our heritage.

Many Hispanics are really upset that Texas Tech is going to take the picture of a cotton boll out of the University seal. It seems to me that they should be more upset because of the lack of diversity and number of Chicanos that are attending Tech.

We congratulate the Fiestas del Llano on the unofficial opening of the Hispanic Cultural Center.

The committee will share the building with the public today starting at 6 pm. For those of you that read this after the opening date, I know that there will be other opportunities to see the Center as the work progresses to open with all its grandeur in the near future.

Happy Mother's Day to all families in our reading audience.

Especially to my wife Olga and my daughter Zenaida.

Que este dia de las Madres sea feliz para todas las madresitas de Lubbock y el Oeste de Tejas.

Grupos Presionan al Congreso Sobre Francaso de la Politica Migratoria

By Paul Hortenstine

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Una posible "victoria para los grupos extremistas" hará que los indocumentados sigan manejando sin licencia y aseguro

Maribel Hastings

Grupos pro inmigrantes y defensores de los derechos civiles denunciaron que el proyecto REAL ID haya permanecido prácticamente intacto en la medida de gastos de Irak, Afganistán y las víctimas del tsunami, y advirtieron que todos los residentes, incluidos los ciudadanos, se verán afectados por la cláusula que exige que todos los solicitantes de licencias de conducir deben someter hasta cuatro documentos que comprueben su ciudadanía o su residencia legal.

El acuerdo, dijo a La Opinión Cecilia Muñoz, vicepresidenta del Consejo Nacional de la Raza (NCLR), "es una victoria para los grupos extremistas a las órdenes del propio presidente [George W. Bush], quien pidió a los legisladores que incorporaran la REAL ID al proyecto de gastos".

La medida creará, afirmaron, una pesadilla burocrática que, además de no evitar el terrorismo, si intensificará la discriminación en contra de los inmigrantes aunque estén legalmente en este país; hará que los indocumentados sigan manejando sin licencia y sin seguro vehicular y también afectará sin necesidad a los ciudadanos y residentes legales.

Según el acuerdo entre los

representantes de ambas cámaras del Congreso, todos los solicitantes de licencias de conducir, quienes vayan a renovarlas o quienes deseen adquirir una tarjeta de identidad del estado, deben presentar hasta cuatro documentos que comprueben su identidad, que son ciudadanos y que residen legalmente en este país.

El proceso de probar la residencia legal o la ciudadanía es estándar en 41 estados, pero bajo la medida las exigencias serían mucho mayores. Los solicitantes deberán proveer certificados de nacimiento, identificaciones con foto, prueba del documento de Seguro Social, y un documento que muestre el nombre completo y la dirección del domicilio.

La medida da un plazo de tres años a los estados para que implementen el programa y prácticamente los obliga a hacerlo porque, si se niegan, las licencias de ese estado no podrán emplearse con fines federales como abordar un avión o ingresar a un tribunal.

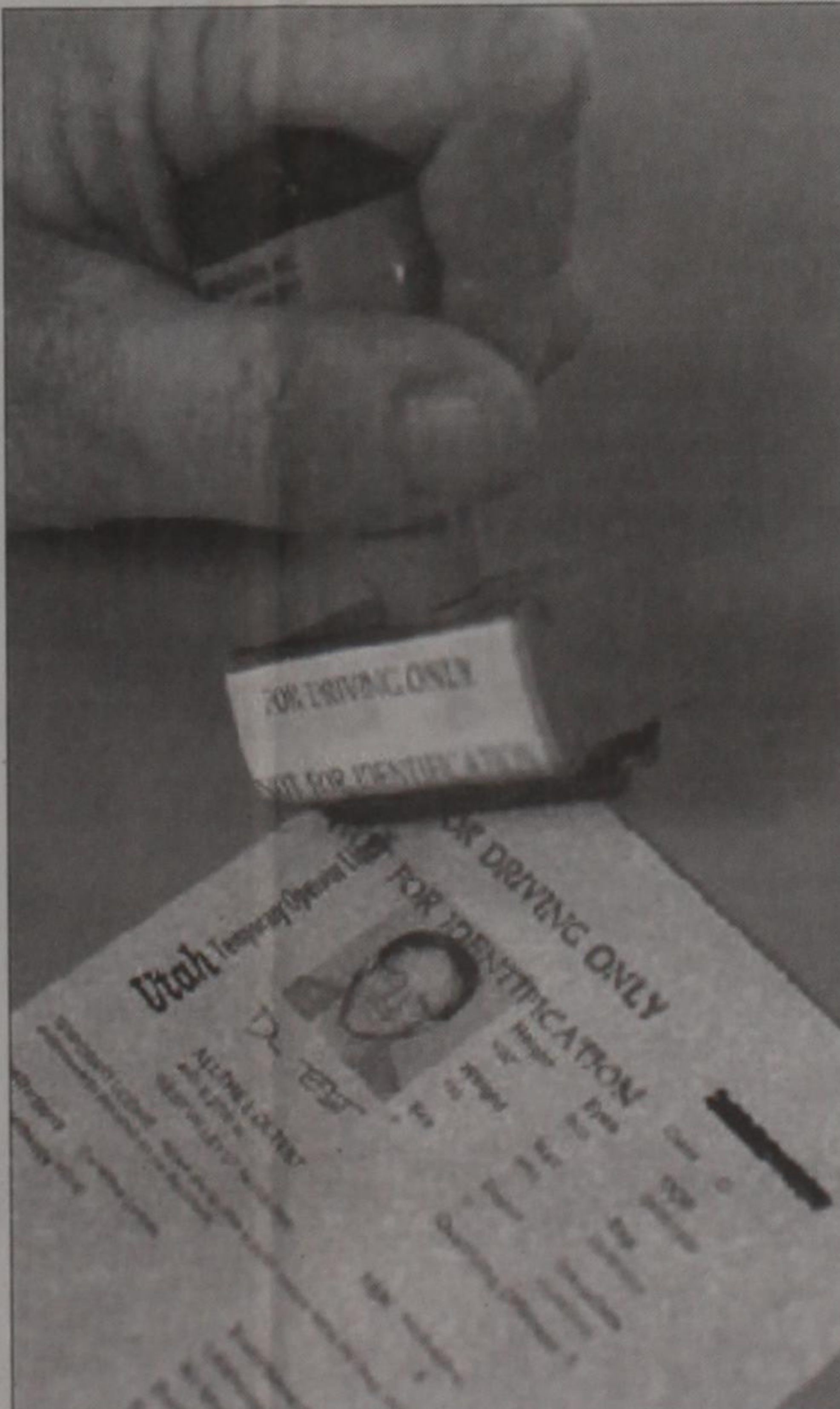
Los estados tienen la opción de conceder licencias a indocumentados pero éstas deben tener marcas, colores o diseños especiales para alertar a las autoridades de que no pueden emplearse con fines federales.

Valla en San Diego

El acuerdo "suavizó" las cláusulas sobre asilo, pero si-guen siendo restrictivas.

También permaneció la cláusula que permite que se complete la construcción de un valla de tres millas y media en la frontera de San Diego y México y sigue permitiendo que el Secretario de Seguridad Inter-na pase por alto leyes, mayormente ambientales, para permitir la construcción de la verja. Se eliminó, em-pero, la cláusula que permitía que los concesion-arios de fianzas arrestasen a los inmigrantes. "Es la misma idea descabellada contemplada en el proyecto original que salió de la Cámara Baja", dijo a La Opinión Rob Brahava, asesor legal del Leadership Council on Civil Rights.

(sigue a la 5)



Lubbock Celebrats with Concert, Parade, Fun! Bush jokes at holding Cinco de Mayo party on 4th

President Bush joked about hosting the White House Cinco de Mayo party on Wednesday, May 4, saying, "Next year I'm going to have to work on my math." "The way I see it is mi casa es su casa (my house is your house)," Bush told guests, many of Mexican-American or Hispanic heritage, seated in the Rose Garden at tables decorated in bright pink, blue and green. "I always look forward to Cinco de Mayo especially because it gives me a chance to practice my Spanish," he said. "My only problem this year is I scheduled the dinner on cuatro de Mayo. Next year, I'm going to have to work on my math." Cinco de Mayo, the fifth of May, commemorates the 1862 Battle of Puebla in which Mexican troops defeated invading French forces. It is marked by celebrations in Mexico and the Mexican-American community. "The United States and Mexico are united by ties of family, faith in God and a deep love for freedom," Bush said. But there have been tensions between the two countries over Mexico's opposition to the Iraq war and stalled efforts to ease U.S. immigration rules to benefit Mexican workers. "Mexican-Americans are also strengthening our country with their patriotism and service. Thousands of Mexican-Americans have sacrificed in the armed services for our freedom," Bush said, adding 8,700 men and women born in Mexico were now in the U.S. military.

In Lubbock 5 de Mayo is being celebrated with a Quiceñera Concert of the celebration by Magic 93.7 to be held at the Ampitheater starting Thursday and continuing until Saturday.

Also on Thursday, Fiestas del Llano will celebrate with a Dinner to be held at the new Hispanic Cultural Center located on 3rd and University starting at 6 pm. A parade will be held through downtown Lubbock on Saturday starting at 10 am.

¡Feliz 5 de Mayo!

The Search Expands for Mexican Desaparecidos in the U.S.

By Marisa Treviño

Immigration continues to grow as a polarizing topic in U.S. communities.

Daily the media bring us fresh reports about the Minuteman Project and other protests against - to use the popular press term - the "invasion of aliens" along our southern border. Leaders of the civilian Minuteman Project militia just spent a week in Washington, D.C., hailing the success of their monthlong border enforcement efforts on Arizona's border with Mexico. They say they will expand their efforts to other states.

Anyone who watches the nightly news or scans daily headlines is told by "frustrated patriots" of the danger the invaders represent to our nation. During his Washington visit, Minuteman leader James Gilchrist became so upset by it all as the news cameras rolled that he broke into tears and fell into the comforting arms of Congressman Tom Tancredo.

Our tears would be better spent on another group affected by failure of the two neighboring nations to shape a mutually beneficial, politically acceptable solution to the binational immigration disgrace.

Because of political games being played by leaders of both countries, hundreds of thousands of economic refugees - with bloating numbers of women and teenagers - are kissing their families adios on a journey they pray will end their poverty, not their lives.

The lucky ones arrive and blend into the fabric of our society.

Too many others don't. They find themselves at the mercy of smugglers and others who exploit their vulnerability. Still others die along the way.

Then there are those who suffer a different horrible fate - they just disappear.

Nobody knows exactly how many fall into the category of "los desaparecidos" (the disappeared). Anecdotal evidence suggests there are thousands of them. The governments of both countries provide no official counts and for years have offered next to no help in tracing them.

Weeks and months can pass before a family is even aware that their loved ones are missing. When a birthday, anniversary or holiday goes by without a phone call or letter, the heartache and desperation

settle in on those families with no resources and no one to turn to for help.

Finally acknowledging the inhumanity of it all, Mexico is joining forces with a forensic DNA professor at Baylor University to catalog the unidentified dead ones.

Texans Socorro and José Luis Perales express equal concern about those who might still be alive. After putting in eight-hour shifts at their day jobs, the couple heads over to a back room at a Dallas neighborhood center to start their hardest work of the day: finding the missing loved ones of families who live in San Miguel de Allende, a town north of Mexico City.

The couple has answered the call of the San Miguel's 30-year-old mayor,

Luis Alberto Villarreal Garcia, who decided to help end the desperation

of many families who live in his town. He opened an office - la Oficina del Migrante Sanmiguelense - to track its missing family members. Already others from towns around San Miguel have come to add names of their vanished loved ones.

The Texas couple use their

cell phones, online databases and any information provided by the families back home to track those who may have reached their area.

When all else fails, they pack their list of names and short stack of photos and wait for the buses that arrive daily from the border. As each person gets off the bus, the husband and wife ask the passengers, one by one, whether they know any one of the listed missing.

Socorro, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Zacatecas, Mexico, says it is the heartache parents feel not knowing what happened to their children that gives her the energy to volunteer the long hours.

So far, she and her husband have assisted in locating 66 desaparecidos. Some, they confirmed, died along the way. Others, for a multitude of reasons, just lost contact.

When I read how this couple treks to local bus stations with their lists, I asked myself if I could in some way assist. Beginning this month, people can visit

www.latalista.com to browse the list of families grieving for their beloved desaparecidos. It's a mission others can join in, too.

Hispurgatory or Innocent Hispanic Students Trapped Between Heaven and Hell in the U.S.

By Bill Dahl

From a purely historical standpoint, the plight of undocumented Hispanic immigrants residing in the U.S. can be accurately characterized by the term Hispurgatory: A moment in U.S. history when the resident, undocumented Latino immigrant population is caught in a state of legal limbo. Their standard of living is typically well below the official poverty level. Their daily existence is one of endurance and survival. They are motivated by the hope that their service to this country as upstanding, creative, contributing, law abiding residents will be rewarded someday with legitimate, official acceptance by the government of the Promised Land.

For these Latinos, the hope for citizenship in the U.S. is heaven. Visions of better jobs, education, healthcare, housing, protections against discrimination, racism, the ability to be all one can be, to contribute to the United States economy and culture on an equal footing...these are the elements of their hope. The country they departed was, at least, economically oppressive. If the prospects for a better life for their families in their country of origin was without hope, then, that is hell.

Hope led them here. Hope keeps them here. They hope that we will awaken from our self-righteous indignation and accept them formally into this, the Promised Land. Until then, they remain among us, their lives suspended precariously between heaven and hell, in a state of Hispurgatory.

Getting In

I don't know about you, but I've always wanted to speak to somebody who has actually lived in either heaven or hell. I haven't met either yet (although I've met people in both categories that, in my opinion, belong in one or the other). However, I have met a vast number of people who presently reside in Hispurgatory. Let me tell you about one.

Juan (not his real name) lives in Santa Ana, CA. He came to the U.S. when he was 8 years old along with his 3 year old sister in 1991. He can remember the squalor they lived in the Saravia Michoacan region of Mexico, some two hours inland from Guadalajara. The family inhabited a one-room shack. The windows were just uncovered holes in the wall. The room had a dirt floor.

There was no plumbing. Juan's mom stayed home to care for the 5 children. Dad worked from sun up to sundown. The family would wait for dad to get home at night so they could eat dinner together. Most nights, dinner consisted of one tortilla each. Juan recalls the nights, too numerous to count, that his father gave his tortilla to his baby sister who crawled onto dad's lap at suppertime.

Juan's mother and father have been married for 30 years. His father entered the U.S. 28 years ago, living with his older brother in Santa Ana, working as a landscaper. Dad sent money to the family in Mexico every month from the U.S. Mom would visit dad in the U.S. once a year or so and shortly thereafter, would give birth to a new child in Mexico.

The first time Juan met his father in-person, he was 8 years old. Mom and dad decided that they wanted their children to have a better future by obtaining an education in the U.S. Dad had returned to Mexico with U.S. birth certificates from Juan's uncle's two children that matched the ages for Juan and his 3 year old sister. Juan distinctly recalls the horrific screams and crying from his other brothers and sisters when they realized they would have to remain with mom in Mexico, rather than accompanying dad, Juan and his baby sister back to the U.S. Dad and mom promised the family that they would all be together in the U.S. within two years. It took four.

The coyotes had raised their prices to U.S. \$1,500.00 per person and it took the family two extra years to save the ransom.

Today, Juan is 22 years old. He remembers holding his father's hand as they walked through U.S. customs in Tijuana when he was 8. He recalls his mother carrying his three-year old sister in her arms in front of him. This sister is 17 now. Nobody ever asked Juan or his sister to consent to this action.

They were too young to argue with mom or dad. Juan lives with his parents and three sisters in an apartment in Santa Ana. Their rent is \$950 per month. Mom continues to care for the children. His dad still works in landscaping where he brings home \$320 per week (weather permitting...do the math). They have moved only once within Santa Ana since arriving in the U.S.

The motivation to move occurred when Juan's brother was shot four times while standing on the balcony of their apartment, in a random, drive-by shooting. Juan's father missed filing for citizenship prior to the 1986 cut-off. Dad has a work-permit today, sponsored by his employer. They don't have any medical insurance. Juan's 5-year old sister has suffered from heart problems requiring 2 major surgeries. She needs another one but they just don't have the money.

The Awakening - Liberty and Justice For All

Juan completed all his education in the Santa Ana school district. He is the first person in his family ever to graduate from high school. During high school, Juan received numerous academic awards as the top student in his class in Spanish, Planning and Computer Graphic Design and an award for perfect high school attendance. (Noteworthy as the drop-out rate for Latinos in Santa Ana high schools is about 50%). He graduated from high school with honors. He graduated early.

He has never been arrested and doesn't have a fake Driver's license, social security card or birth certificate. He takes the bus everywhere he needs to go. He has never driven a car. He has made money distributing flyers, doing odd jobs and babysitting for neighbors and doing some filing a few hours a week at a law office.

It was reciting the pledge of allegiance one morning for the umpteenth time in high school that Juan realized that something was wrong. "When I said, 'with liberty and justice for all,' it dawned on me; all my efforts in school might be for nothing if something doesn't happen to change my situation. I became confused, angry and depressed. Liberty and justice were for some." Shortly after this awakening, Juan was unable to join his classmates on a field trip to Ensenada. He couldn't join a friend and his family on a vacation trip to another state by airplane. He couldn't take the test to get a permit to drive. He couldn't get a real job like many of his high school classmates. He was in Hispurgatory.

This spring, Juan will receive his Bachelor's degree from a four-year university in southern California. Most of the financial support he received for college was donated by a local church, as he does not qualify for federally funded student financial aid programs. Once again, he is graduating with honors. Juan wants to be an elementary school teacher. He completed his student teaching with first graders in a local elementary school. "It's what I was created to do," he says. He recently tried to sign-up to take the California teachers exam. They wouldn't let him. He doesn't have a social security number.

Now What?

"I want my younger sisters to continue to see me as a role-model." Juan's 17 year-old sister has a 3.8 GPA and is ready to graduate from high school. She faces the same challenges as Juan. "I need to be here for her; to encourage her to press on in the face of the hopelessness and confusion of it all. My biggest fears are that I won't be able to teach here in the U.S.,

I won't get the opportunity for citizenship here and that I will be deported. The U.S. Government should allow people like me and my sister to become citizens. We've earned. They should allow us to serve in the U.S. military too. I wish Latino celebrities like Jennifer Lopez, Arte Moreno (owner of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim major league baseball team), Ricki Martin, Dahlia and Alex Rodriguez (New York Yankees) would get together and advocate for the resolution of all this. I would, if I were in their position. This is my country." Juan is considering the continuing his education, obtaining his Master's degree. He doesn't know who would help him out financially. His life, his future are suspended in a state of legal limbo. This is Hispurgatory.

So What?

There are millions of Juan's in the United States today. As I read my Bible, it is the plight of the Juan's of the world where the rubber of good news of the Gospel must meet the road. As theologian Thomas Merton wrote, "We must never overlook the fact that the message of the Bible is above all a message preached to the poor, the burdened, the oppressed, the underprivileged."

For those living in Hispurgatory in the United States today, they are people occupying space where there seems to be no room. As Merton says: "Into this world, this demented inn, in which there is absolutely no room for Him at all, Christ has come uninvited. But because He cannot be at home in it, because He is out of place in it, and yet He must be in it. His place is with those others for whom there is no room. His place is with those who do not belong, who are rejected by power because they are regarded as weak, those who are discredited, who are denied the status of persons, tortured, or exterminated. With those for whom there is no room, Christ is present in this world."

Yes, we do have a moral crisis in the United States today. Part of this crisis is caused and perpetuated by those who claim the name of Christ, sit on the sidelines, and shout at the Juan's in this country. "The moral crisis that we are facing in this country is crying out for spiritual leadership. It offers evangelicals the opportunity to put our faith to work-to roll up our sleeves and become players instead of sitting on the sidelines." iii

"It is time that we demand more of ourselves as Christians. We are the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, and if the world is going to see, feel, and touch him, it will have to be through us." iv It's time that the Christian community repents, takes the leadership role and opens the door to the cell of those imprisoned within Hispurgatory in the United States.

Let them in America! It's God's grace we are shutting out.

About the Author: Bill Dahl, a contributing columnist to El Editor and is a freelance writer and social justice advocate and activist. Contact Bill at: wsdahl@pacbell.net or see his website at www.justjesus.us Bill is published in several professional publications, magazines, websites, newspapers and newsletters. He has been an on-air guest on FOX radio in Los Angeles, CA. He is the author of five manuscripts, presently under consideration for publication.

Se Extiende la Busqueda de Mexicanos Desaparecidos en los Estados Unidos

Marisa Treviño

El tema de la inmigración continúa creciendo como un asunto que polariza a las comunidades de los Estados Unidos.

A diario, los medios de comunicación nos traen nuevos informes del Proyecto Minuteman (milicianos -- en referencia a la guerra de la independencia de los EEUU - 'hombres minuto' traducido literalmente al español) y de otras protestas en contra de - para usar el término popular de la prensa - la "invasión de extranjeros" a lo largo de nuestra región fronteriza del sur. Los líderes de la milicia civil, el Proyecto Minuteman, acaban de pasar una semana en Washington, D.C. proclamando el éxito de la aplicación de su proyecto, de un mes de duración, en la zona fronteriza entre Arizona y México. Prometieron extender su iniciativa a otros estados.

Cualquiera que vea el noticiero de la noche o que repase los titulares de los diarios recibirá el mensaje de los "patriotas frustrados" sobre el peligro que los invasores representan para nuestra nación. La semana pasada James Gilchrist, el líder de los Minuteman, se mostró tan preocupado ante las cámaras de televisión que rompió a llorar y se abrazó al congresista Tom Tancredo, simpatizante de su causa.

Sería preferible que derramáramos nuestras lágrimas por otro grupo afectado por el fracaso de las dos naciones vecinas

para dar forma a una solución, políticamente aceptable y provechosa para ambas partes, que permita resolver la desgracia de ambas naciones.

Debido a los juegos políticos de los líderes de ambas naciones, cientos de miles de refugiados por su situación económica - incluso números cada vez mayores de mujeres y adolescentes - se despiden de sus familias para iniciar una travesía que ruegan ponga fin a su pobreza.

Los afortunados llegarán y se integrarán a la estructura de nuestra sociedad.

Muchos de ellos, demasiados, no logran su propósito. Se encuentran a merced de los contrabandistas y de otras personas que explotan su vulnerabilidad. Otros pierden sus vidas en el camino.

Y entonces están los que sufren una suerte diferente y terrible. Los que simplemente desaparecen.

Nadie sabe con exactitud cuántas personas caen dentro de la categoría de los desaparecidos. La prueba anecdótica sugiere que son miles. Los gobiernos de ambos países no proporcionan cifras oficiales y durante años casi no han ofrecido ayuda para rastrear a estas personas.

Pueden pasar semanas y meses antes de que una familia se dé cuenta de que sus seres queridos han desaparecido. Cuando no reciben una llamada telefónica o una carta con motivo de un cumpleaños, aniversario o día

feriado, la angustia y la desesperación se apoderan de sus familias, quienes no cuentan con recursos económicos para buscarlos ni tienen a quién acudir para que los ayude.

Por fin, al reconocer lo inhumano de esta situación, México está aunando esfuerzos con un profesor de ADN (DNA por sus siglas en inglés) forense de la Universidad de Baylor para hacer un catálogo de los muertos sin identificar.

Los tejanos Socorro y José Luis Perales expresan la misma preocupación por los que podrían encontrarse vivos. Después de trabajar turnos de ocho horas en sus trabajos diarios, la pareja se dirige al cuarto trasero de un centro comunal para iniciar el trabajo más arduo del día: encontrar a los seres queridos desaparecidos de familias que viven en San Miguel de Allende, al norte de la Ciudad de México.

La pareja ha respondido al llamado de Luis Alberto Villarreal Garcia, el alcalde de 30 años de edad de San Miguel, quien decidió ayudar a poner fin a la desesperación de muchas familias que viven en su pueblo. Inauguró una oficina - la Oficina del Migrante Sanmiguelense - para rastrear a los familiares desaparecidos de estas familias. Ya han llegado personas de pueblos cercanos a San Miguel para añadir los nombres de sus seres queridos desaparecidos.

La pareja de Texas usa su

teléfono celular, su base de datos y cualquier información proporcionada por las familias para rastrear a las personas que puedan haber llegado hasta su área.

Cuando todo lo demás es inútil, se dirigen, con la lista de nombres y el pequeño paquete de fotos, a los autobuses que llegan diariamente desde la zona fronteriza. A medida que cada persona baja del autobús, el matrimonio pregunta a los pasajeros, uno por uno, si conocen a alguno de los desaparecidos de la lista.

Socorro, una ciudadana estadounidense naturalizada, proveniente de Zacatecas, México, dice que el pesar de los padres que desconocen el paradero de sus hijos le infunde la energía necesaria para trabajar largas horas.

Hasta el presente, ella y su esposo han ayudado a localizar a 66 desaparecidos. Algunos, confirman, murieron durante el trayecto. Otros, por una gran cantidad de razones, simplemente han perdido el contacto.

Cuando leí cómo esta pareja viaja con sus listas a las estaciones de autobuses de la zona fronteriza, me pregunté de qué manera podría ayudarlos. Desde principios de este mes, las personas pueden visitar la dirección de internet www.latalista.com/sanmiguel para ojear la lista de familias que lloran a sus seres queridos desaparecidos. Es una misión en la cual otras personas pueden participar también.

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EL EDITOR

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Gilbert Acuña
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My Immigrant Governor

By Edward Barrios Acevedo

He arrived to these United States of America relatively penniless, speaking little English, and dreaming big dreams.

No, I'm not talking about the young Mexican whom Minute-man border patrolers made pose with a humiliating sloganed T-shirt in the Arizona desert.

I'm talking about my California governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, who last month urged the U.S. government to "close the border" to immigrants and, a couple weeks later, praised the Min-

uteman civilian militia - which President Bush himself has denounced with the comment, "I'm against vigilantes" - for doing a "terrific job."

"It is just unfair to have all those people coming across and have the border open the way it is," my immigrant governor commented.

The scenario parallels the crusade of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, who sought to end affirmative action - the very same concept that propelled him to his seat on the high court.

Yet, there he was, the Termina-

tor, blurring out in broken English his demand that something be done about "those people" coming across the border.

Schwarzenegger, who emigrated at age 21 from Austria, later blamed his command of his adopted English language for a misunderstanding about what he really meant when he said, "Close the border." He went on to say that he loves to vacation in Mexico and has filmed four movies there.

Wow, that's great!

Even with his German accent, my immigrant governor has enjoyed 37 years of huge success expressing his views in English as an actor, a businessman and a politician.

His bullying, nativist nature, not his failure to understand his own words, is responsible for his spoken message.

To avoid any future misunderstandings, my immigrant governor might consider taking an ESL (English as a Second Language) class. Then again, that may be hard to do in California since his stated intention is to block any funding increase for such courses to meet the growing demand by immigrants who want to assimilate.

Although Schwarzenegger did not have to cross the scorching Arizona desert in 1968 when he arrived here from Austria, he came with the same dreams as today's immigrants.

He didn't come to sponge off our amazing welfare system or free health care at any one of our wonderful county hospitals. No, my immigrant governor came for something much greater: the opportunity to reach his full potential.

Barring a constitutional amendment that would allow him to run for president, he may already have reached it as governor of the most populous state in the strongest country in the world. He is living the American dream.

For those who reside outside of the Golden State, let me describe the aggressive agenda my immigrant governor laid out for California this year.

It included developing a new method to establish voting districts, changing the way public school teachers are paid, programming automatic controls on

state spending, and converting the state pension system for public employees into private accounts. The latter item was dropped after it enraged police and firefighter voting blocs, along with their wives.

He has steadfastly reneged on a pre-election promise to encourage highway safety by blocking individuals who can't prove legal U.S. residency from applying for state

drivers licenses, taking the test and becoming able to buy auto insurance.

So, where's the beef?

In a state of nearly 34 million people, where one out of every eight is foreign-born, California needs a governor who won't incite blame for the state's problems on its voiceless, voteless residents, but rather use his influence to help every contributing resident and shape a coherent, responsible and humane solution to our national immigration jigsaw, one that works for states and the federal government as well.

He could start by looking at the insatiable demand by companies large and small that want cheap labor for jobs that even high school dropouts won't take.

If the fear really does exist that immigrants are taking good U.S. jobs, then why don't our high schools develop curricula to prepare students for such work? Other immigrants know the answer. Perhaps, so should my immigrant governor.

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Mi Gobernador Inmigrante

Edward Barrios Acevedo

Llegó a los Estados Unidos sin un centavo casi, con muy poco inglés, y con unos sueños inmensos.

No, no hablo del joven mexicano al que los milicianos "Minuteman" patrulleros de la frontera hicieron posar con una camiseta de mensaje humillante en el desierto de Arizona.

Hablo de mi gobernador de California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, quien el mes pasado urgió al gobierno estadounidense a "cerrar la frontera" a los inmigrantes y, quien un par de semanas después, elogió a la milicia civil de los Minutemen - a quienes el mismo presidente Bush ha denunciado con el comentario, "Estoy en contra de los vigilantes" - por haber hecho "tremenda labor".

"Es, sencillamente, injusto que toda esa gente cruce y tener la frontera abierta como está", comentó mi gobernador inmigrante.

La escena es un reflejo de la cruzada del juez del Tribunal Supremo Clarence Thomas, quien quiso acabar con la acción afirmativa - el mismísimo concepto que lo propició a su puesto en el tribunal más alto.

Sin embargo, allí lo tenían, el Terminador, profiriendo en un inglés masticado su exigencia que se hiciera algo con "esa gente" que cruza la frontera.

Schwarzenegger, quien a los 21 años emigró de Austria, luego culpó su mal dominio del inglés por un malentendido de lo que verdaderamente quería decir cuando dijo "Cerrar la frontera". Continuó con decir que le encanta pasar las vacaciones en México y que ha rodado cuatro películas allí.

Qué maravilla. Aun con su acento alemán, mi gobernador inmigrante ha disfrutado de 37 años de inmenso éxito expresando su perspectiva en inglés como actor, empresario y político.

Para mí, su naturaleza prepotente, nativista es la culpable de su mensaje, no su incapacidad de entender sus propias palabras.

Con el fin de evitar cualquier malentendido en el futuro, mi gobernador inmigrante podría considerar matricularse en un curso de inglés como lengua extranjera. Aunque tal vez le cueste encontrar una en California, ya que su declarada intensión es la de trabar cualquier financiamiento que tenga el objetivo de aumentar el número de tales cursos, para alcanzar la necesidad de una demanda creciente de parte de los inmigrantes que quieren asimilarse.

A pesar de que Schwarzenegger no tuvo que cruzar a pie el desierto abrasador de Arizona cuando llegó aquí de Austria en 1968, vino cargado de los mismos sueños que los inmigrantes de hoy.

No vino a aprovecharse de nuestro increíble sistema de bienestar social ni de cuidados médicos gratis en cualquiera de nuestros maravillosos hospitales de condado. No, mi gobernador inmigrante vino con la idea de lograr algo mucho mayor: la oportunidad de realizarse plenamente.

Salvo la aprobación de una enmienda a la constitución que le permitiera lanzarse a la presidencia, es posible que se haya realizado plenamente ya al ser gobernador del estado de mayor población en el país más fuerte del mundo. El está viviendo el sueño americano.

Para aquellos que no residen en el Estado de Oro, permítanme describir la agenda agresiva que proporcionó mi gobernador inmigrante para California este año.

Incluyó desarrollar un nuevo método de establecer distritos electorales, cambiar la forma en la que se paga a los maestros de escuelas públicas, programar controles automáticos sobre el gasto estatal, y convertir el sistema de pensiones estatal para empleados públicos en cuentas privadas. Se eliminó esto último frente a la ira de bloques votantes de la policía y los bomberos, además de sus cónyuges.

Se ha negado consistentemente a cumplir con su promesa de campaña de promover la seguridad en las carreteras al poner obstáculos

a los individuos que no pueden probar residencia legal en los Estados Unidos que quieren sacar licencias de conducir del estado, examinándose y volviéndose aptos para comprar seguro automovilístico.

Entonces, ¿cuál es el problema?

En un estado de unos 34 millones de personas, en el que una de cada ocho nació en el extranjero, California necesita un gobernador que no fomente la culpa de todos los males del estado sobre la cabeza de los que no tienen voz ni voto, sino tendría que utilizar su influencia para ayudar a cada residente contribuyente del estado y formular una solución coherente, responsable y humana al rompecabezas nacional que es la inmigración, una solución que funcione tanto para los estados como para el gobierno federal.

Podría empezar con fijarse en la demanda insaciable de empresas grandes y pequeñas que tan desesperadamente quieren mano de obra barata para trabajos que ni los que abandonan la secundaria no quieren tomar.

Si de verdad existe el temor de que los inmigrantes les quiten a los norteamericanos los trabajos, ¿por qué no desarrollan un programa de estudio nuestras escuelas públicas que prepare a los estudiantes para tales puestos?

Los inmigrantes saben la respuesta. Tal vez, también tendría que saber mi gobernador inmigrante.

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Ex Concursante de American Idol dice que tuvo Relación con Juez

Un especial de ABC News sobre la serie de concurso de talentos de Fox "American Idol" reportará que un ex concursante afirma que tuvo una relación sexual con la juez Paula Abdul cuando competía en el programa, dijo ABC News el martes.

Corey Clark, quien Fox ha dicho fue descalificado de "American Idol" en el 2003 por no haber revelado que tuvo un arresto, dijo a "Primetime Live" que Abdul le ayudó con asesoría y dinero.

El especial de una hora se transmitirá el miércoles a las 10 p.m. hora del este, luego de la transmisión de "American Idol" a las 9 p.m.. El programa de Fox se acerca al final de la temporada actual, el 24 y 25 de mayo, en la cual se seleccionará a un ganador y se firmará un contrato discográfico.

Clark habló antes sobre su presunta relación con Abdul en una entrevista con el periódico sensacionalista Globe, el cual reportó que él estaba tratando de comercializar un libro sobre su experiencia en el programa de concurso.

En un comunicado a ABC News, Fox señaló el martes que Clark nunca notificó a la cadena o a productores de "American Idol" ningún asunto relacionado al programa, a pesar de "múltiples oportunidades" para que los concursantes lo hagan.

"Nosotros, por supuesto, revisaremos cualquier evidencia de conducta impropia que recibamos", dijo Fox, agregando que el público debería "examinar cuidadosamente los motivos del señor Clark, dado su aparente deseo de explotar su participación en 'American Idol' para obtener ganancias y publicidad".

La bailarina y cantante Abdul, conocida por sus comentarios positivos aun a los concursantes con menos esperanzas de triunfo,



ha respondido a Clark y a ABC. Su abogado envió una carta a la cadena amenazando con acción legal si se transmite el especial. "El señor Clark es un mentiroso confeso y un oportunista que se involucra en actividades ilegales. El está comunicando mentiras sobre Paula Abdul para generar interés en un libro propuesto",

señaló un comunicado previo emitido en apoyo a la juez.

Clark fue arrestado tras una riña con su hermana y luego decidió no impugnar los cargos de delito menor, dijo ABC.

Según ABC News, Clark asevera que Abdul inició la relación, la cual comenzó como amistad pero después fue sexual.

Jennifer Lopez, a successful & sensual woman

Is one of the most beautiful and outstanding women in Hollywood, stealing everybody's attention recently at the Billboard Latin Music Awards, where she attended to support her husband Marc Anthony, wearing a bluish gray dress displaying sensuality everywhere she went.

The attractive actress who was born in New York on July 24, 1970, daughter of Puerto Rican immigrants, showed interest in cinema and music when she was

still too young, starting her studies of singing and dancing at 5 and getting her first break as an actress in "My little girl" when she was just 16.

Known by her portrayal on film of Selena, directed by Gregory Nava, Jennifer Lynn Lopez is about to start working again with the named moviemaker and Spanish actor Antonio Banderas in "Bordertown", where she will

continued on page 4

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Jennifer Lopez

From Page 3

play a journalist that investigates the murders of women assassinated in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. During the story the young character finds hints that will put her in danger.

In addition of this project she has other films scheduled for 2005, such as "American darlings", "An unfinished life" by director Lasse Hallstrom and "Monster in law" by Robert Lucketic.

Other of her successful projects was released just a pair of months ago, we are talking about her new album, Rebirth (of which the single entitled "Get Right" has already hit the airwave) that managed the number one spot in the British charts. "Hold you down", a pop track with a rap flavor, is expected to be out as the next single.

It has also been mentioned in the media that both Jennifer and her husband, Marc Anthony, could participate in Cuban director Leon Ichaso's next film about the life and story of salsa legend Hector Lavoe.

J.Lo., who did musicals, theater

and sang in a choir during her teens, got her first major role on television through comedy series "In living color", in which she participated for two years, to later continue her career as backup dancer in music videos for artists as Janet Jackson and Puff Daddy, with whom she dated for a while.

"My Family" (1995) and "Money Train" with Woody Harrelson and Wesley Snipes, continued her string of hits. Two years later she portrayed the late singer, Selena, earning her a Golden Globe nomination.

Among her films stand out "Maid in Manhattan", "Shall we dance," "Jersey girl," "The wedding planner," "The Cell," "Blood and Wine," "Jack," "Anaconda," "U-Turn," "Angel Eyes," "Out of sight?" and "Never More," among others.

Fans and cocoa lovers would be able to enjoy her silhouette in a delicious chocolate, due to a project still in progress of British company Cadburys and New York's Madame Tussaud Museum.

Lopez has her own wax figure at both London and New York's Mme. Tussaud's locations, being the most popular the one that blushes when talking on her ear, part of the new collection of interactive figures.

Los conflictos políticos, canción desafinada que nos pone de mal humor

ARTURO CRUZ BARCENAS

Los recientes sucesos políticos de México reflejan que debe respetarse la voz del pueblo, que hay que prestarle oídos. Luego de la gran manifestación del pasado domingo, que desembocó en el Zócalo, "se demostró que todos los que se manifestaron conforman una gran mayoría; son una fotografía de lo que el pueblo desea", expuso ayer Jorge Hernández, líder de Los Tigres del Norte.

"Los conflictos no los vemos cada tres o cuatro meses, sino cada día, y eso nuestro gobierno... nuestros dirigentes deben de dialogar, tanto el gobierno federal como el estatal, y el municipal, para que todos vayamos de la mano, si no vamos a tener que echar mano de la violencia", precisó El Tigre Mayor.

En conferencia de prensa donde los considerados jefes de jefes de la música norteña presentaron su nuevo disco, titulado Directo al corazón, Hernández agregó que cuando se ignora al pueblo "es algo muy grave; la opinión de la gran mayoría demuestra que los números en votos son para (Andrés Manuel) López Obrador, y hay que respetar eso.

"El pueblo se cansa de que lo ignoren. Los conflictos políticos son como una canción desafinada que nos pone de mal humor. A veces podemos cantar bien, pero no nos escuchan del modo correcto, sino a su manera".

Los apoyos al jefe de gobierno de la ciudad, dijo, son "una revelación, un principio y un signo

muy claro de que de repente puede haber un coraje más profundo que puede explotar en cualquier momento. Cuando el pueblo se manifiesta, al rato puede ser retado a la violencia, y eso va a causar otro problema, otro conflicto.

De El circo a La neta de las netas En su nuevo disco, Los Tigres del Norte, leyendas vivientes, ídolos del pueblo, originarios de Rosa Morada, Mocorito, Sinaloa, reúnen 14 temas inmersos en el corrido clásico, cumbias norteñas, ritmos latinos y baladas románticas. "Este cídí lo lanzamos en febrero y la canción La sorpresa salió a la radio en la primera semana de marzo. El último reporte que tenemos es que ya se han vendido 80 mil copias".

Han aparecido en 14 películas y, dijo Jorge Hernández, hay planes para participar en la cinta Amapola, bajo la dirección de Luis Mandoki. Iban a filmar La reina del sur, "pero quedó fuera de nuestro control. Acabo de enterarme que el señor Pérez-Reverte, autor de la novela, declaró que iniciará la filmación próximamente".

¿Han sufrido presiones por sus canciones donde abordan temas políticos? "En nuestros eventos la gente nos pide que hablemos de esto o de aquello, pero finalmente nos referimos a lo ya publicado por la prensa y que la gente ya sabe (...). Nosotros hemos cantado lo que la prensa ya ha dicho. Con El circo, donde hablamos de los hermanos Salinas de Gortari, hicimos

lo que nunca habíamos hecho. Esa historia es de las que nos ha dado más miedo traerla.

"Cuando lo escuchamos y lo grabamos no lo íbamos a sacar al mercado; al publicarse sobre el tema sí tuvimos temor. Fue desesperante, porque no sabíamos lo que iba a suceder. Al final todo estuvo tranquilo. Al cantarlo, el público desahogaba su coraje y cosas que querían decir".

En su nuevo cd hablan del "complot" al que se ha referido López Obrador. La canción se llama La neta de las netas, de la autoría de

José Cantoral. "Hizo una reseña, un espejo, de todo lo que ha sucedido. Es como han sucedido las cosas, cantándole a la conciencia.

"Somos unos cronistas. No estoy muy relacionado con las noticias, pero por lo que veo y leo pienso que (López Obrador) ha hecho el trabajo que le corresponde. Notamos que hay un conflicto entre él y el presidente (Vicente Fox). Se dicen ya cosas muy directas y eso nos pone en duda a todos los ciudadanos; como que estamos incrédulos de lo que estamos viviendo. No existe la comunicación; no lo puedo asimilar como algo bueno para nuestro país ese conflicto".

El voto en el extranjero Manifestó sus dudas sobre el tema del voto de mexicanos en Estados Unidos, porque "los que radican allá no saben nada de acá. No hay conciencia de lo que se vive, pues se supone que para votar hay que conocer la comuni-

dad y sus necesidades (...) Puede haber un partido que vaya a hacer campañas sin que convenza a la gran mayoría. Son importantes sus divisas, eso sí. Pero están solos, solos. Pueden ser manipulados.

"Además, los mexicanoamericanos estamos siendo señalados en EU como si todos fuéramos narcotraficantes, terroristas, ilegales. Si nos ven en la calle nos señalan y eso va a crear un problema de más racismo. Todos los ciudadanos mexicanos que radican en EU van a explotar porque no es justo.

"Arnold Schwarzenegger, el gobernador de California, ha dicho que quiere sellar la frontera, pero de repente no es muy claro en sus señales. No quiere darnos la licencia, como una identificación. Las asociaciones latinas ya están tomando otra posición porque las cadenas de televisión como CNN sacan reportajes de indocumentados mexicanos, como si todos fuéramos así, ligados al

narcotráfico. Es una política de radicalización. Eso es para dar una imagen que no es cierta. ¿Por qué no hacen reportajes de los triunfadores que han llegado a ese país?" Como ellos.

Los Tigres del Norte se presentarán por primera vez en el Auditorio Nacional el 10 y 11 de julio, donde, precisó Hernández, harán una reseña de sus principales éxitos, a lo largo de más de tres décadas.



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Isabel Madow se desnuda para 'Playboy'

La modelo y actriz mexicana Isabel Madow, quien visitó la casa del Gran Hermano en España hace casi dos años, aceptó posar desnuda para la edición de mayo de la revista Playboy de México.

Madow dijo que ésta es la primera vez que aparece tal como Dios la trajo al mundo, y aclaró que para hacerlo tuvo dos razones: la garantía de que era un trabajo de calidad "y con mucho respeto" y que la paga por el desnudo fue buena, aunque no especificó a cuánto ascendió.

"Me encantó el trabajo fotográfico, fue de gran gusto, además que a nadie le cae mal un dinero extra, pues yo mantengo a mi mamá, me mantengo yo, coopero en mi casa, así que me cae bien este dinero", enfatizó.

Sin embargo, aclaró que la principal razón por la que aceptó hacer el desnudo fue porque "me gusta mi cuerpo, y creo que tengo una constitución privilegiada".



pues no tiene que mantenerse a dieta.

La revista Playboy obtuvo su mayor cifra de ventas en México con la actriz argentina Margarita Gralia, quien vive en este país y apareció desnuda en la edición de

octubre de 2004, número del que se vendieron más de 180 mil ejemplares.

El segundo lugar le pertenece a la primera expulsada de la primera temporada de Big Brother en México, Dennise Padilla, me-

gor conocida como "La Mapacha", cuya portada de 2003 vendió 150 mil revistas.

Ante estas dos líderes de ventas, Madow, cuyas medidas son 90-60-92, comentó que espera poder desbancar, por lo menos, a la ex Big Brother, pues está consciente de que Gralia es una "dura competencia".

Isabel Madow, quien actualmente actúa en la obra teatral Confesiones de una güera oxigenada, alcanzó la fama televisiva como "secretaria" del payaso Brozo (Víctor Trujillo) en su espacio de noticias El mañanero, de la cadena Televisa.

En septiembre de 2003, Madow ingresó al programa mexicano Big Brother Vip, en el que fue seleccionada para representar a México en el Gran Hermano de España, donde tuvo un romance con uno de los inquilinos.



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El acuerdo, dijo a La Opinión Cecilia Muñoz, vicepresidenta del Consejo Nacional de la Raza (NCLR), "es una victoria para los grupos extremistas a las órdenes del propio presidente [George W.

Bush], quien pidió a los legisladores que incorporaran la REAL ID al proyecto de gastos".

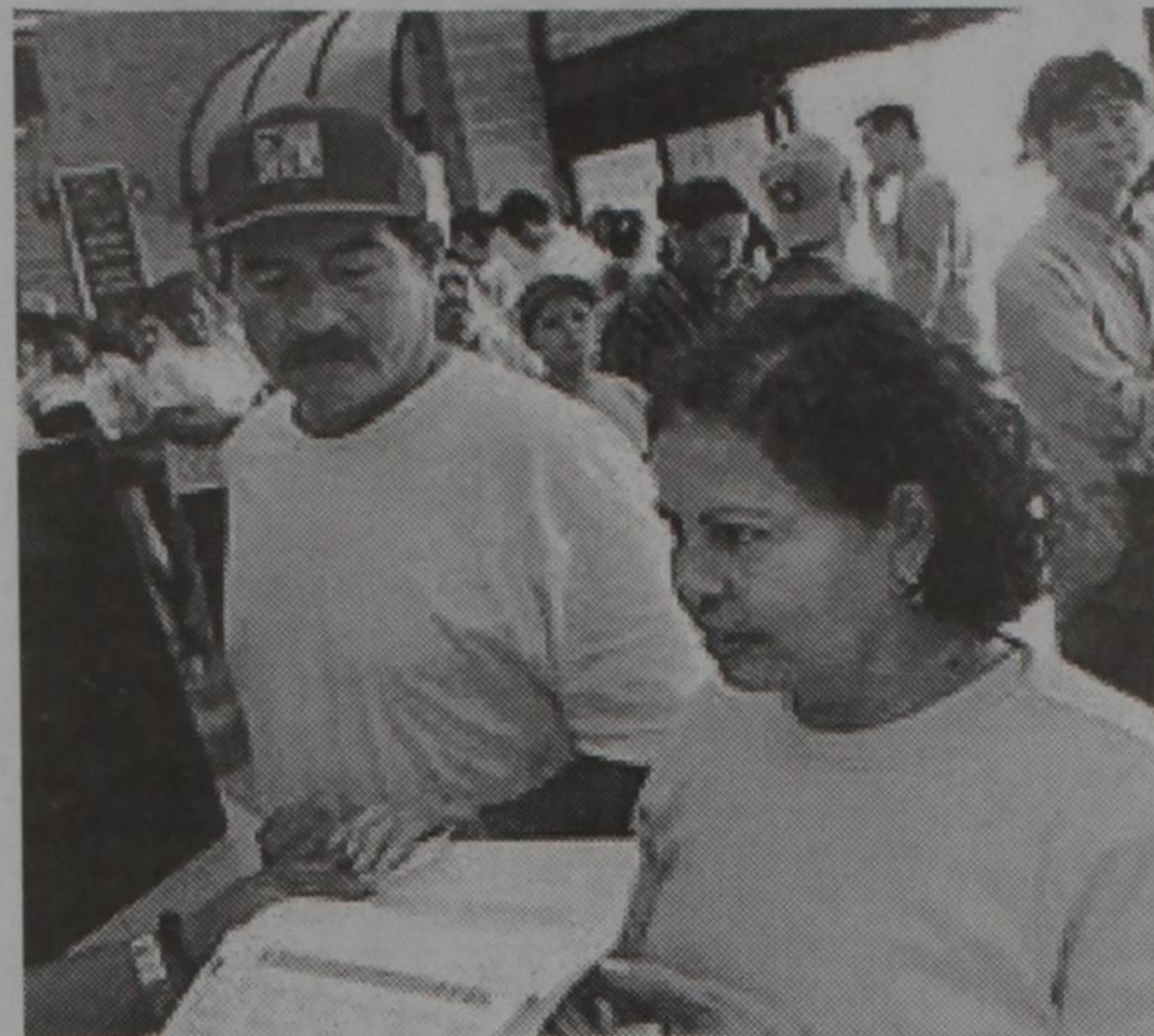
La medida creará, afirmaron, una pesadilla burocrática que, además de no evitar el terrorismo, si intensificará la discriminación en contra de los inmigrantes aunque estén legalmente en este país; hará que los indocumentados sigan manejando sin licencia y sin seguro vehicular y también afectará sin necesidad a los ciudadanos y residentes legales.

Según el acuerdo entre los representantes de ambas cámaras del Congreso, todos los solicitantes de licencias de conducir, quienes vayan a renovarlas o quienes deseen adquirir una tarjeta de identidad del estado, deben presentar

hasta cuatro documentos que comprueben su identidad, que son ciudadanos y que residen legalmente en este país.

El proceso de probar la residencia legal o la ciudadanía es estándar en 41 estados, pero bajo la medida las exigencias serían mucho mayores. Los solicitantes deberán proveer certificados de nacimiento, identificaciones con foto, prueba del documento de Seguro Social, y un documento que muestre el nombre completo y la dirección del domicilio.

La medida da un plazo de tres años a los estados para que implementen el programa y prácticamente los obliga a hacerlo porque, si se niegan, las licencias de ese estado no podrán em-



pléarse con fines federales como abordar un avión o ingresar a un tribunal.

Los estados tienen la opción de conceder licencias a indocumentados pero éstas deben tener marcas, colores o diseños especiales para alertar a las autoridades de que no pueden emplearse con fines federales.

Valla en San Diego El acuerdo "suavizó" las cláusulas sobre asilo, pero siguen siendo restrictivas.

También permaneció la cláusula que permite que se complete la construcción de un valla de tres millas y media en la frontera de San Diego y México y sigue permitiendo que el Secretario de Seguridad Interna pase por alto leyes, mayormente ambientales, para permitir la construcción de la verja. Se eliminó, empero, la cláusula que permitía que los concesionarios de fianzas arrestasen a los inmigrantes.

"Es la misma idea descabellada contemplada en el proyecto original que salió de la Cámara Baja", dijo a La Opinión Rob Brahma,

asesor legal del Leadership Council on Civil Rights.

El proyecto de gastos del Senado no incluyó el proyecto REAL ID, pero sí el de la Cámara Baja, y el presidente Bush pidió a los negociadores del Senado que aceptaran la versión de los representantes.

Los negociadores bicamerales siguen limando algunas diferencias antes de la votación de ambas cámaras sobre el proyecto conciliado.

Muñoz declaró a este diario que, aunque la medida a punto de convertirse en ley afecta a todos los estadounidenses, tendrá un impacto más directo sobre los inmigrantes hispanos.

"Será más difícil para todos, pero en la comunidad latina va a ser más complicado, pues contamos con documentos de identidad que son diferentes. Los empleados de los departamentos de vehículos de motor no conocen la leyes de inmigración ni los tipos de visados ni documentos de otros países", dijo Muñoz.

La medida establece, además que para probar la residencia legal no pueden emplearse documentos extranjeros como las matriculas consulares.

"Y si un estado determina que la implementación es muy costosa o complicada, pues sencillamente las licencias de ese estado no pueden emplearse con fines federales", agregó Muñoz.

"Además, el lenguaje de que las licencias de indocumentados deben tener marcas o colores diferentes, sólo hará que esos indocumentados no obtengan el documento y sigan conduciendo sin licencia y sin seguro en sus vehículos", dijo Muñoz.

La experta agregó que es contradictorio que un Partido Republicano y un presidente republicano que aseguran que desean ganarse el voto y el apoyo latino apoyen una medida de este tipo, que lo único que hace es dar una victoria a los grupos extremistas.

"Lo contenido en esta medida REAL ID es lo que han estado pidiendo grupos extremistas", indicó Muñoz.

"Si el Presidente desea el apoyo de la comunidad latina, ésta es una forma muy interesante de conseguirla", concluyó Muñoz.

La medida expresa que las licencias de quienes poseen visas temporales deben caducar al mismo tiempo que la visa.

Los gobiernos estatales y la Asociación Americana de Administradores de Vehículos de Motor (AAMVA) se oponen al proyecto por considerarlo un mandato federal para el que no se están proviendo los fondos de implementación.

Los demócratas y grupos pro derechos civiles también consideran que la medida se prestaría al uso y abuso de información contenida en el banco de datos que los estados tendrían que crear.

Hopkins, Taylor set for battle of ages

Middleweight champion Bernard Hopkins looked through thick, circular, black-rimmed glasses and lifted a pipe to his mouth.

The 40-year-old Hopkins then laughed and, referring to his undefeated challenger Jermain Taylor, said "He's in college now."

The professor costume was a joke, but Hopkins is taking his July 16 fight against the 26-year-old Taylor seriously. The bout, which was officially announced Tuesday after months of negotiations, will mark the 21st defense of his title and is being hyped with the catchphrase "NeXt In Line."

"He's next," Hopkins said. "Next in a line of 20. He's 21."

The fight will be held at the MGM Grand hotel-casino in Las Vegas.

The professor get-up and the fight's tagline are both nods to the fact that some see this bout as a clash of generations, the possible passing of the torch from an aging champion to a young, or Generation X-like, challenger.

Hopkins (46-2-1, 32 knockouts) has said he plans to retire when he turns 41 in January, and he plans to do it while still being

Tarver vows IBO champ Johnson will swoon in June

Antonio Tarver finally has his rematch with Jamaica's Glen Johnson for the IBO light heavyweight title, and he promised on Monday he will be ready to make up for his controversial loss in December.

Tarver said he didn't get into shape for their first fight until after the contract was signed in mid-October. Still, he pointed out that several observers scored the fight as a victory for him.

"The guy didn't beat me," Tarver said at a news conference.

"This time around I know how bad I want this victory. I know how bad I want to right the wrong. I'm here to tell Memphis on June 18, I will once again reign supreme over the light heavyweight division. I've been working. I'm committed. I'm dedicated. I've made all the sacrifices."

Johnson, 42-9-2 with 28 knockouts, said he doesn't have to make excuses for why he won.

"I took it seriously. I did my work. I did my part, and I came out on top. I will do the same thing again June 18. We will take care of business, and I will come out on top," Johnson said.

The fighters, considered the two best light heavyweights in the world, each gave up titles to fight each other on Dec. 18 in Los Angeles.

The WBC stripped the 36-year-old Tarver of the belt he won by knocking out Roy Jones Jr. nearly a year ago because he wouldn't fight mandatory challenger Paul Briggs of Australia. Johnson knocked out Jones on Sept. 25 in Memphis with Tarver watching, and gave up the IBF title instead of fighting top challenger Rico Hoye, another American.

Tarver, with a 4-inch height advantage at 6-foot-2 1/2, was the aggressor for most of the 12-round bout in December and threw the harder punches. But two judges scored the fight 115-113 for Johnson, while the third judge had it 116-112 for Tarver.

Jones said in a statement on Monday that he was excited there would be a rematch after such a close fight.

"If I decide to return to fight again -- to right the wrongs -- this box-off may decide who my first opponent will be," Jones said. "So I will be watching on June 18."

Trainer Buddy McGirt said Tarver (22-3, 18 knockouts) will take care of Johnson in the rematch as he should've done before.

"We know Glen's coming. We know Glen's going to be ready. He's going to put the pressure. He's going to do everything. One thing we know, I know, that was the best Glen Johnson. You didn't see the best Antonio Tarver," McGirt said.

the undisputed champion. Taylor (23-0, 17 KOs), a member of the 2000 U.S. Olympic team considered to be the top contender among middleweight challengers, realizes this could be his chance at beating the fighter that has been at the top of the division for more than a decade.

"It's a true blessing," Taylor said, "that I'm about to be a true world champion."

There was plenty of talk about respect at the news conference announcing the fight, with Hopkins and his camp praising Taylor's ability and speaking highly of his future.

"One day Jermain Taylor will be champion," Hopkins' trainer Bouie Fisher said. "But not this day. He still needs some schooling."

As for Taylor, he seemed to have nervous energy to spare on the dais, especially after a small verbal squabble between Hopkins and Taylor's promoter, Lou

DiBella.

"It's a new era and here I am," Taylor said.

The friction between Hopkins and DiBella provided the biggest sparks of the day. DiBella, who used to work with Hopkins, won a civil libel judgment against the fighter last month. Hopkins had alleged that when DiBella was employed by HBO he asked for \$50,000 to secure Hopkins a fight on the channel.

DiBella initially tried to downplay the situation with Hopkins, but the animosity between the two was visible. At one point, Hopkins remarked about his motivation for the fight and reached down to pat DiBella on the back.

"Do me a favor and don't touch me please," DiBella said.

"I am the judge and jury in the ring come July 16," Hopkins said earlier, in a nod to the recent legal situation. "It's too bad for (Taylor) and his family that he's got to be the whipping boy."

Grupos Presionan al Congreso

(viene de la primera)

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Immigration Policy

(from page 1)

At a news conference a day earlier, Simcox said he hopes by October to have his civilian patrols in the southern border states of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas, with civilian volunteers along the U.S. northern border to follow. "We are going to franchise our border patrol," he stated.

The Minuteman Project reported that in Arizona during April it organized 970 private citizens who completed eight-hour patrol shifts. It took credit for notifying the U.S. Border Patrol of the presence of some 330 undocumented immigrants.

Asociación Tepeyac de New York executive director Joél Magallán stated that the patrols fail to solve immigration problems. "We need to change the immigration system to help those who are coming to work in the United States," he said, adding that such legislation would make it less likely that criminals will remain unidentified by the community and law enforcement.

A Hispanic woman from Tucson, Ariz., whose husband is an undocumented immigrant, added the human dimension. "The main problem facing the Hispanic community is fear. Fear that they will be deported and fear that they will be harmed." There is a lot of misunderstanding about undocumented immigrants as a threat, when all they really want when they come here to find work, she concluded.

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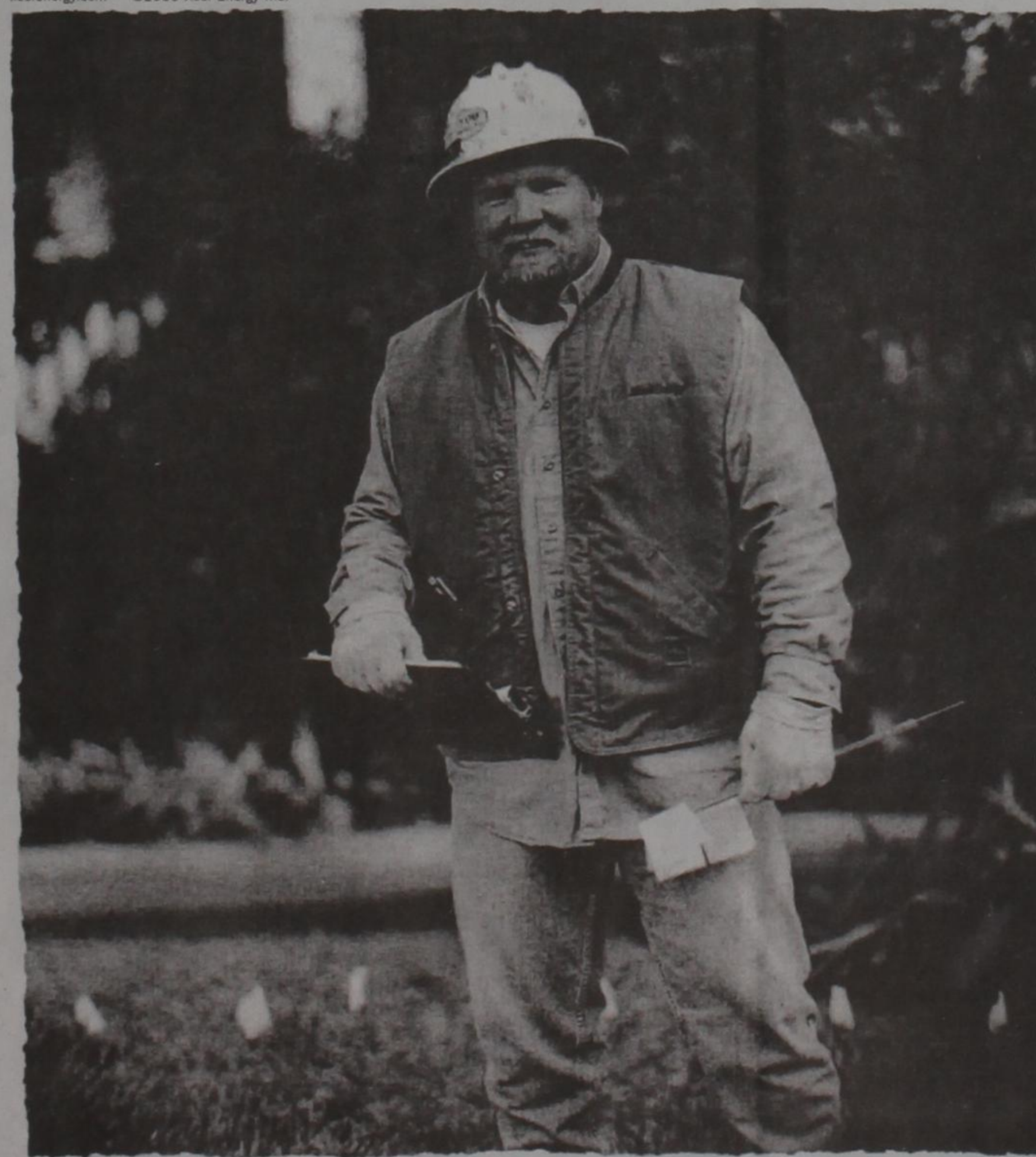
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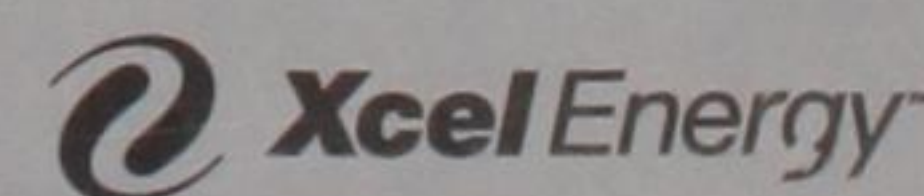


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¡Celebremos El Cinco de Mayo!

The True Meaning of Cinco de Mayo

By Ysidro Gutierrez

There are events in history which transcend time and endure in the hearts of men. These are the accounts of the little guy standing up to a bully and prevailing in the face of insurmountable odds. The celebration of Cinco de Mayo, which commemorates the 1862 Battle of Puebla, Mexico, is such an event.

When recounting the story of Cinco de Mayo, the writer is at once challenged to find the words worthy of a story of heroes. Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of triumph, and of the sacrifice and courage of ordinary people who took up arms in defense of their country. In the end the writer must describe, with clarity, how freedom was won and liberty preserved by the actions of patriots.

Although Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Battle of Puebla, it is less a celebration of victory in battle and more a celebration of the patriot's courage. When its true meaning is understood, its spirit is embraced and the celebration joined.

Cinco de Mayo celebrations are becoming increasingly popular in the U.S. especially in areas with a high population of people of Mexican heritage. The day is usually a celebration of Mexican culture and tradition featuring food, music, beverage and customs unique to Mexico. But food, music, and dance alone convey neither the meaning nor the spirit of the day.

History records the events but it is the people who give the celebration its flavor. The celebration's true meaning is found in the honor derived from the people who find inspiration in the heroic actions of the brave who fought and died for freedom. A famous author once wrote, "The fame of heroes owes little to the extent of their conquests and all to the tributes paid to them." The acts of husbands and wives standing side-by-side along with their sons and daughters engaged in bitter battle against a stronger, better equipped and highly trained army are memorialized in the stories and songs of the people who pay them tribute.

History recounts how the French came to Mexico not to settle but to conquer and plunder. The French as others before them came thinking it would be an easy victory. There would be no one to stop them. A civil war raged in the United States. It was obvious that America could not oppose them. Great Britain and Spain would not oppose them. For the opportunistic French, it was an opportune time for conquest. That is as it has always been with the French. They came for gold, to exploit the people, and to rape the land. It was a move by France to realize colonial ambitions.

The French plan was cleverly crafted, except for one important point. The plan failed to consider the determination of Mexican farmers and peasants who, under the leadership of Benito Juarez, stood up to the invaders with a resounding "No! You will not take our gold. You will not ravage our land. You will not abuse our people."

The battle was fought on May 5, 1862 in Puebla about 100 miles southeast of Mexico City. The French with a force of about 6000 well trained soldiers equipped with modern rifles and artillery were engaged by the rag-tag Mexican army of 2000 comprised mainly of peasant men and women, young and old motivated solely by a yearning to live free. The words of Winston Churchill following the "Battle of Britain" aptly fit the Battle of Puebla; "Never had so many owed so much to so few."

History records that it was the Mexicans who took the fight to the invaders. The French ensconced behind the ramparts of an old

El Cinco de Mayo: por qué se celebra y con qué música celebrarlo

Es un error común considerar el conocido Cinco de Mayo como el Aniversario de la Independencia Mexicana, pero esto debería dejar de suceder. El Cinco de Mayo es un día conmemorativo del coraje de los luchadores mexicanos contra la opresión francesa, una de las más rotundas muestras de pasión y amor por la patria que se ha producido en toda Latinoamérica y que hoy en día, lamentablemente, se confunde con la gloriosa labor de Miguel Hidalgo y José María Morelos.

De acuerdo al Pequeño Larousse Ilustrado, "en el año 1862, el ejército francés emprendió la ocupación militar de México, con el apoyo de los conservadores." Benito Juárez, quien asumió la presidencia mexicana en el año 1859 y emitió leyes reformativas que no gustaron a algunos de los gobiernos imperialistas, dio la orden al general

fortification must have scoffed at the audacity of the attackers charging up the hill armed with antiquated rifles and farm implements as weapons. In the face of withering artillery and rifle fire, the undeterred Mexicans killed over 1,000 French and secured the victory that we celebrate today.

The least that can be said of the heroes of the Battle of Puebla is that Cinco de Mayo does not celebrate victory in a single battle, but the bravery of ordinary people who fought the fight. It is a celebration of the willingness to sacrifice, the willingness to give their lives, the willingness to charge an entrenched enemy, the willingness to march into deaths' grip for the justness of the cause. American novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote: "O the truest heroism is to resist the doubt; and the profoundest wisdom," Owing to the bravery and determination of the citizen soldiers, had the battle been lost, it would have been no less a victory of the human spirit. Had the battle been fought last week or a thousand years ago, it would be no less a sacrifice, the act of courage no greater.

There are those who say that Puebla was only one battle. Others say that the war continued long after the battle. Such arguments fail to grasp how this victory inspired the masses to continue the struggle until final victory was achieved. The victory at Puebla made victory possible in the end. Winning the battle was winning the war. Had the French prevailed at Puebla, Mexicans would be speaking French instead of Spanish.

The story of the Battle of Puebla cannot be told without telling of the man who rallied the people.

Great men make history, not events. The events come to be because of the leadership and vision of great men who at the cost of personal sacrifice and willingness to lay down their lives lead the people to victory. The American Revolution had George Washington. Great Britain had Winston Churchill. Cinco de Mayo had Benito Juarez.

Benito Juarez pledged his life, fortune, and sacred honor. For Benito Juarez it was not his life nor his fortune that was sacred but his honor. This is yet another lesson of the Battle of Puebla; that virtue is greater than life, more dear than fortune.

The brave who fought and died in Puebla fought and died for all men. In all times, the struggle to cast off the yoke of tyranny transcends history and is the subject of stories and the theme of songs. In all times and places the struggle is no less noble and admirable.

Este Cinco de Mayo La Raza de Lubbock will gather for the annual celebration. All are invited to join in the commemoration of the human deeds which are as inspiring today as they were in 1862.

"Que, VIVA EL CINCO DE MAYO!" - "Que, VIVA"

Ignacio Zaragoza de que detuviera el avance de las fuerzas armadas francesas en los fuertes de Guadalupe y Loreto, cerca de la ciudad de Puebla, la cual esté último aceptó, a pesar de contar con un reducido ejército de unos dos mil soldados. Sucede entonces que, el 5 de mayo de 1862, los cañones y rifles se dispararon y, de manera impresionante, alrededor de mil soldados franceses terminan muertos. Ese día, los mexicanos ganaron la batalla, pero no la guerra, porque, poco después, en 1864, el archiduque de Austria, Maximiliano (Fernando José de Habsburgo) sería nombrado emperador de México por Napoleón III, lo cual sucedió a través del tratado de Miramar. Juárez se refugiaría en el norte del país, pediría ayuda a los californianos y se encargaría de retornar a la capital en 1867, cuando Francia se retiró de México tras la presión de los Estados Unidos y sus compromisos con Europa.

Por ello, el Cinco de Mayo se ha convertido en una fiesta nacional

mexicana. Con la Batalla de Puebla los mexicanos dieron el primer golpe a los franceses y demostraron que su nación - y sus habitantes - no sería fácil víctima de la opresión. Cientos de museos y murales localizados en México rinden honor a esta fecha y, tanto en Estados Unidos como en el resto del mundo, los vecindarios mexicanos y sus miles de habitantes tienden a celebrarla de forma festiva con música, bailes folclóricos, cerveza, tequila y la exquisita comida mexicana.

A raíz de esto, y para que su próximo festejo del espíritu gozoso del Cinco de Mayo arranque con todos los hierros, hemos copilado un listado de distintas producciones musicales con las cuales usted sorprenderá a sus invitados y, al mismo tiempo, rendirá honor a su querido México. Agréguele estos diez discos a sus colores verde, blanco y rojo y amanecerá, junto a sus invitados, con una sonrisa en el rostro

Quiero dar las gracias primeramente a Dios y en seguida a mi papa y mama, Bidal y Olga Agüero y toda mi familia por todo su trabajo en celebrar mi Quiceañera

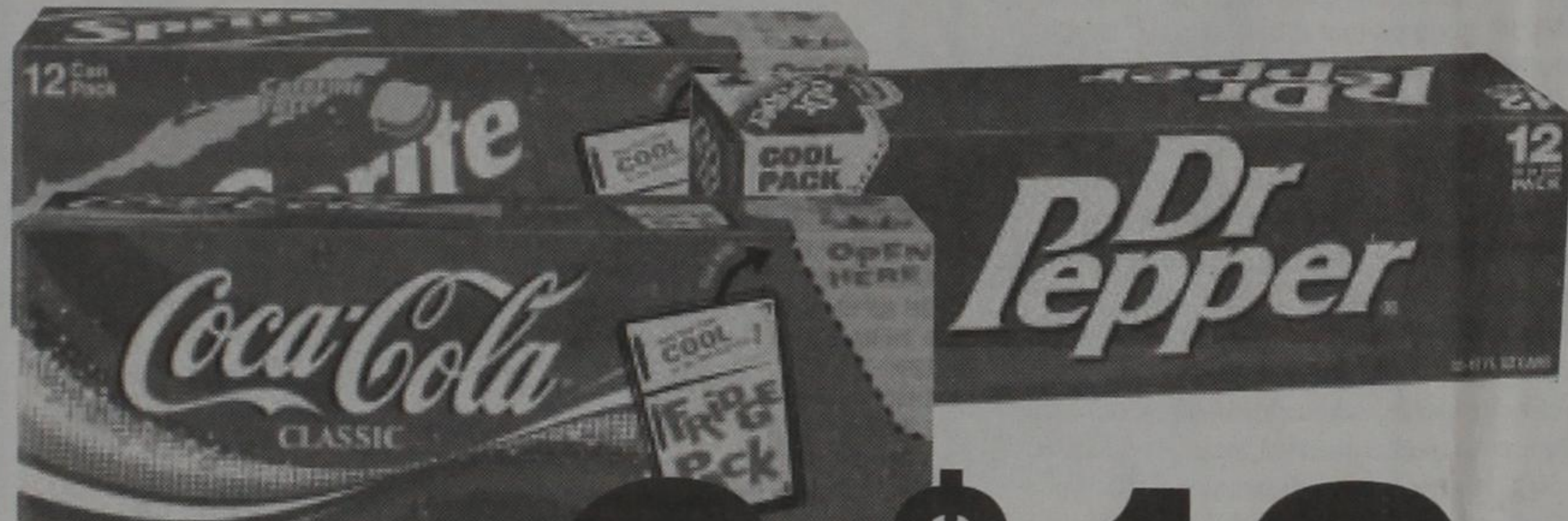
Muchas Gracias tambien a todos los que me acompañaron en la celebración.

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