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WORLD AND NATION

SHOE



by Jeff MacNelly

Little respect given to vote by Mexicans

Associated Press
MEXICO CITY — Only 26 percent of the people interviewed by the weekly news magazine *Acuerdo* believe the vote is respected in Mexico. A poll of 120 people taken to accompany the magazine's cover story on the Mexican political situation found that 61 percent believe the vote is not respected and 13 percent said it is "at times."

The poll also found 61 percent believe there isn't democracy in Mexico and 26 percent believe there is.

Seventy-seven percent of those interviewed voted in the last local elections and 23 percent said they didn't vote.

"Political apathy is dead," the magazine said in an accompanying commentary on the current outlook for 1985, "and political opposition is heated and demanding." Elections are scheduled for governor in seven of the country's 31 states.

The article concentrated on recent events in the northern border state of Coahuila, where violence broke out after the dominant Institutional Revolutionary Party was awarded the victory in 35 of 38 municipal elections last month.

Disgruntled supporters of the center-right National Action Party burned the municipal complex Dec. 29 in Piedras Negras, across the border from Eagle Pass, in a protest against alleged electoral fraud. At least one person was killed and nearly 80 injured.

Republicans consider leaving mayors' group

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Some Republican mayors, upset with the Democratic leadership of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, said this weekend they are considering pulling out from the organization. "There is not a massive pullout at this point," William Althaus, mayor of York, Pa., and a leader of the dissidents said. "There is an exploration of some alternatives."

The conference's executive committee earlier on Saturday appointed Charleston, S.C., Mayor Joseph Riley Jr. vice president and named East Orange, N.J., Mayor Thomas Cooke Jr. chairman of its advisory committee.

They, like new President Ernest Morial of New Orleans, are Democrats. Under the conference's nor-

mal rules of succession, the moves mean a Democrat will be in charge of the organization at least through mid-1988.

Morial assumed the presidency Friday, replacing Hernan Padilla of San Juan, a Republican who left office as mayor Jan. 14 after losing a race for governor of Puerto Rico.

The conference, which conducts research and lobbies on behalf of cities, has had only two Republican presidents since 1966.

Morial, at a news conference closing the mayors' three-day mid-winter meeting, said the mayors must try to help solve the federal deficit while making sure "the administration and Congress understand the physical and human needs within our cities."

But he was followed to the po-

dium by Althaus and Mayors James E. Roark of Charleston, W. Va., and John Mercer of Sunnyvale, Calif., who vented what they said was widespread frustration among the Republicans who comprise a third of the conference's members.

Althaus said if a splinter organization were formed, it would be bipartisan, not for Republicans only.

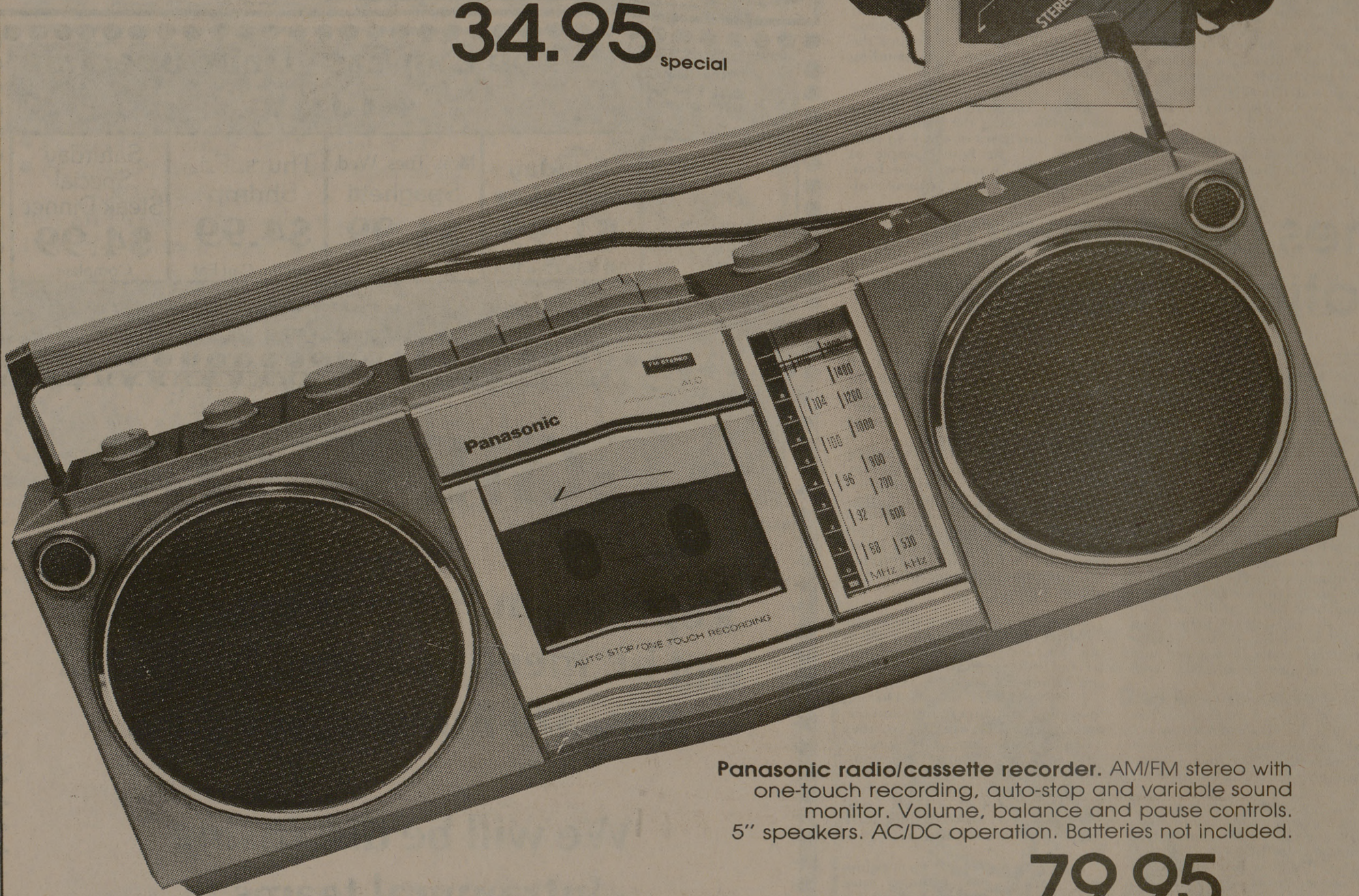
Roark predicted some mayors would quit before the conference's annual meeting this June in Anchorage.

The Republicans' wrath was stirred a week before the presidential election when Mayor Marion Barry of Washington, D.C., released a 422-page urban policy report at odds with Reagan administration domestic and defense policies.

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