

Chicago Tribune

Soriano, Cubs off to good start

White Sox still waiting for their start

FULL COVERAGE IN SPORTS

Alfonso Soriano breaks his bat during the second inning Monday.

PAT SULLIVAN/AP PHOTO



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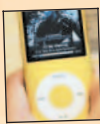
THE ECONOMY AND CONSUMERS

BUY AMERICAN?

Some say supporting U.S.-made products is more important than ever. Others say it's pointless in today's global economy—and might even make matters worse.

Just what is 'buying American'?

Buying American can mean a lot of things. Some examples:



An iPod: A 2007 analysis of the popular music player by researchers at the University of California-Irvine showed that its parts were made in Japan, China, South Korea and Singapore, with final assembly in China. But the design comes out of Apple headquarters in Cupertino, Calif., and the company captured most of the profits from selling an iPod in the U.S.



A Ford Crown Victoria: For automobiles, the U.S. government defines "domestic" content as parts made in the U.S. or Canada. For the 2008 model year, this car had the highest domestic content, at 90 percent, but is assembled in St. Thomas, Ontario. Ford is based in Detroit.



Trader Joe's: This chain of grocery stores with a neighborhood vibe is based in Monrovia, Calif., but is owned by the Albrecht brothers of Germany. They also created Aldi.

CHRISTINE BRUNO/TRIBUNE ILLUSTRATION

Shoppers "should buy exactly what kind of car they think meets their needs and that excites them," Henderson said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press." "It's our job to make sure we provide that, not necessarily have it mandated or otherwise encouraged."

The concept of "buying American" is back in the spotlight as workers worry about their jobs, Washington struggles to tame the global financial crisis and the future of the U.S. auto industry hangs in the balance.

Yet the debate over protectionism

has evolved over the last few decades. The sledgehammers are gone. Instead, the era of multinational companies and worldwide supply chains has blurred the definition of "American made." Following the money also has become more of a challenge as it ricochets internationally, experts say, complicating the impact of individual purchases on the domestic economy.

Even a sector as emblematic of American industry as automobiles

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Decision day for voters

It's Election Day today. No president to choose. No senator either. We made those big decisions only five months ago.

But nonetheless, some important questions are on the ballot. Who should replace Rahm Emanuel in Congress? Should Illinois Highway 53 be extended about 15 miles through the heart of Lake County? Should Palatine, Barrington and Hanover Townships secede from Cook County amid anger over a sales tax hike? Who should be your mayor? Who should serve on the library board? Today's your day to decide. **DETAILS ON PAGE 8**



Vania Aguirre, 24, (left) and her sister Mara, 14, remain active in the church, just like their parents. STACEY WESCOTT/TRIBUNE PHOTO

Keeping the faith—and the family

2 Palatine sisters put their lives on hold to care for their siblings after their parents die

By **Kristen Kridel**
TRIBUNE REPORTER

Vania and Noemi Aguirre, the daughters of hard-working immigrants, were attending Harper College in Palatine and dreaming of better futures when they witnessed a horrific car crash that shattered their lives.

The sisters lost more than their parents in the broken glass and mangled metal. Plans for undergraduate degrees and relatively uncomplicated lives were deferred as Vania Aguirre, 24, and Noemi Aguirre, 19, took on new responsibilities as surrogate parents for a younger brother and sister.

"I was the girl in the bubble who never had to work and got to do whatever I wanted to do and go to school," Noemi Aguirre said. "My bubble got burst."

The sisters say they continue to be haunted by memories of the crash. But what sur-

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CHICAGOLAND

Olympic tag team: Obama, Oprah

With the Olympic visitors wrapping up their tour Tuesday, Chicago 2016 charms them with Oprah Winfrey while pumping up its promotion of the president's ties to the city. **PAGE 6**

SPORTS

UNC ends Spartans' hopes early in blowout

Tar Heels jump to an early lead, go into halftime with a record 21-point edge and never look back en route to winning the NCAA men's basketball tournament 89-72 over Big Ten champs.

WEATHER

7 A.M.

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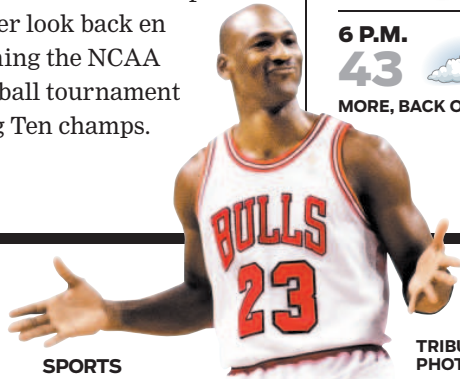
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MORE, BACK OF LIVE!



SPORTS

TRIBUNE PHOTO

Revel in greatness, one more time