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Local P.a.n. Officials Challenge Results Of Baja California Sur Gubernatorial Race

by Carlos Navarro
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On Feb. 18, state officials of the National Action Party (PAN) in Baja California Sur announced plans to legally contest the results of the Feb. 7 gubernatorial race. According to results released by the state electoral commission, Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) candidate Guillermo Mercado Romero won the governor's seat by only 5,000 votes, defeating PAN candidate Crisoforo Salido Almada. On Feb. 22, El Financiero International weekly business newspaper reported that PAN supporters were "searching garbage dumps" for discarded and uncounted ballots marked for Salido Almada. Despite the cries of fraud, however, the newspaper said national PAN leaders were generally satisfied with the election results because the party retained control over the state legislature. Meanwhile, 200 PRI supporters took over city hall at the Baja California Sur town of Loreto, claiming the PAN fraudulently won the mayoral election there. (Source: Notimex, 02/18/93, El Financiero International, 02/22/93)

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