

es Pobreza de Ancianos Hispanos

Por Ruth E. Hernández Beltrán

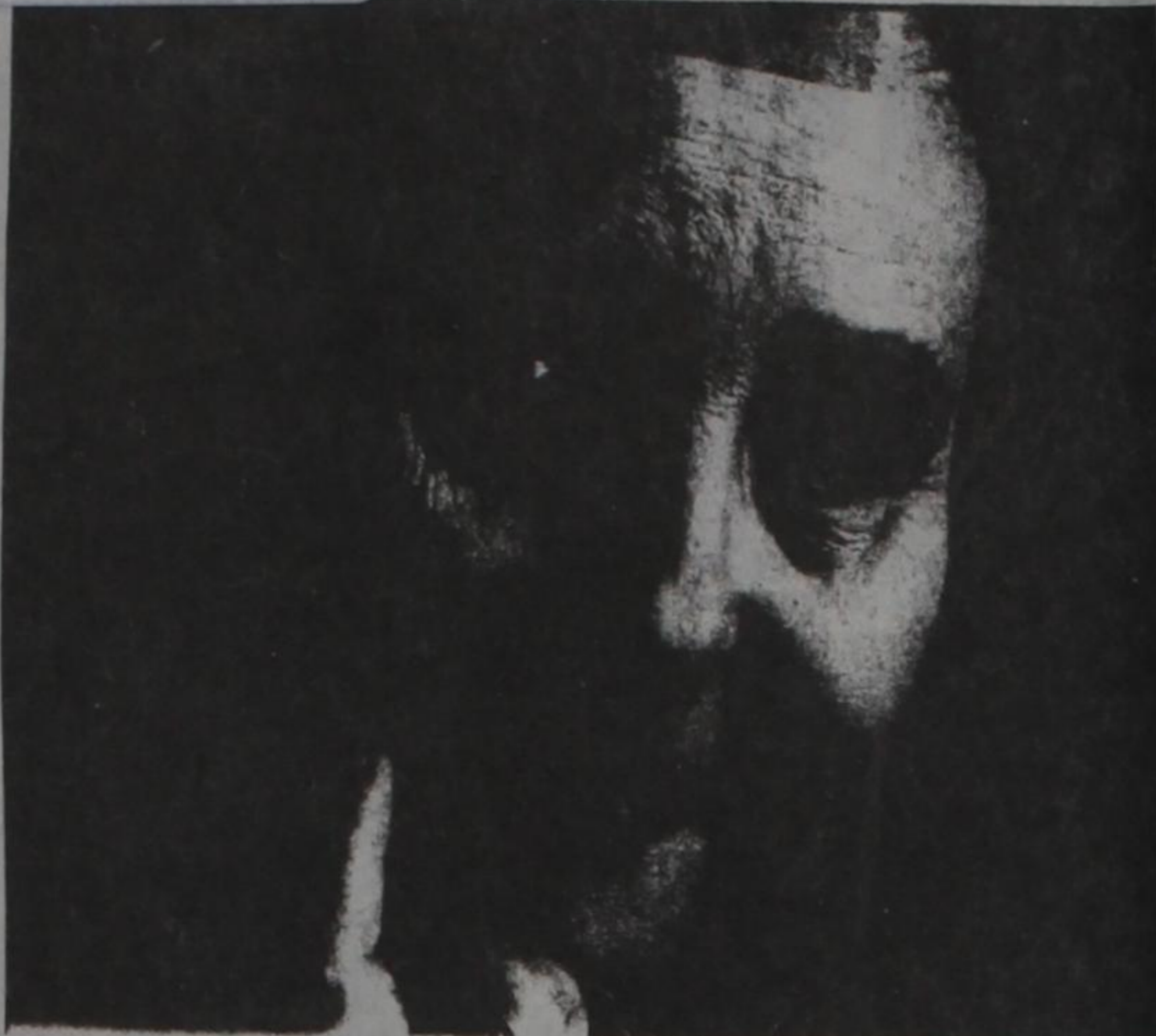
Nueva York, - El 23.8 por ciento de los ancianos hispanos que viven en EEUU son pobres y el nuevo siglo no se presenta muy positivo para ellos, ya que continuarán afrontando serios problemas económicos, de salud y de vivienda.

Entre los afroamericanos, la cifra de pobres es del 26 por ciento y de un nueve por ciento entre los blancos, según el Instituto Puertorriqueño/Hispano para las Personas Mayores en Nueva York.

Este organismo destacó que la pobreza es mayor entre ancianos de grupos minoritarios que es el sector de la población de más rápido crecimiento.

Se prevé que entre 1995 y el 2010, la población de ancianos hispanos (65 años o más) crecerá en EEUU en un 89,2 por ciento, frente a un 26,2 por ciento de los negros y un 14,5 por ciento de blancos.

Las estadísticas reflejan además que entre 1997 y el 2030, la población hispana de la tercera edad crecerá en un 368 por ciento, lo que implica que habrá grandes necesidades de servicios para un número creciente de



ancianos enfermos, pobres y que no hablan el inglés con fluidez.

Servicios de comidas y de cuidado en el hogar, de enfermeras visitantes, programas de salud física y mental, especialmente para enfermos de Alzheimer, tendrán mayor demanda entre ancianos que muchas veces no tienen quien cuide de ellos.

personas mayores.

"Apartamentos de baja o moderadas rentas son escasos, mientras aumentan los vagabundos. El problema de vivienda es el mayor para los que vienen a esta oficina a buscar ayuda. A veces viven en edificios donde hay ratones y cucarachas", comentó Cabrera, quien fundó el

Según Zuleika Cabrera, directora del Instituto Puertorriqueño, la pobreza en que viven los ancianos está impidiendo que éstos tengan servicios de salud, alimentación y vivienda adecuados.

La reducción de personal, la inflación, recortes en el presupuesto, ingresos económicos bajos y el alto costo de la vida influyen negativamente sobre la vida de las

Instituto, que ofrece diversos tipos de ayuda a este sector de población.

Indicó que un número considerable de ancianos sólo reciben los ingresos procedentes del Seguro Social, que comienzan a recibir a los 62 años excepto en caso de incapacidad.

Muchos hispanos que emigraron a EEUU trabajaron en fábricas donde los sueldos no eran los mejores, por lo que su ingreso por concepto de Seguro Social es muy bajo y de ese dinero tienen que pagar el alquiler, medicinas, alimentos y otras necesidades personales. Para recibir asistencia médica del "Medicare", a través del Seguro Social -que cubre el 80 por ciento de los gastos médicos y hospitalarios-, tienen que pagar una prima mensual de al menos 43 dólares, que aumenta casi constantemente, con que se reducen más sus escasos ingresos.

Muchos optan por acogerse al Medicaid, un programa federal para personas pobres que en los últimos cinco años ha sufrido recortes de presupuesto.

"Las personas mayores viven en niveles de pobreza y los que vienen van a estar peor", aseguró Cabrera.

Según explicó, en Nueva York, el segundo estado con mayor número de población hispana, el 32.8 por ciento de los ancianos latinos vive bajo niveles de pobreza, mientras que entre los afroamericanos son el 26.6 por ciento y el 21.4 por ciento entre los asiáticos.

"Esta cifra es alta y es un problema serio cuando uno lo ve en términos de los cambios, de los recortes que habidos en los beneficios para las personas mayores y la comunidad en general", comentó Cabrera.

Entre 1984 y 1990, el porcentaje de latinos que vivían en índices de pobreza en Nueva York pasó del 42,9 al 43,1 por ciento, mientras que el incremento entre los negros fue del 31 al 33 por ciento, y entre los blancos del 9 al 11,6 por ciento.

Para el año 2000, se calcula que la población de Nueva York llegará a 7.582.494 personas, de las cuales 2.034.344 serán latinos.

Se estima que para esa fecha, habrá 863.000 ancianos de grupos minoritarios en el estado de Nueva York y si las tendencias continúan, que 431.000 de ellos vivirán en niveles de pobreza, la mayoría de los cuales vivirá en esta ciudad.

"El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es La Paz."
"Respect for the Rights of Others is Peace."
Lic. Benito Juárez

EL EDITOR

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Worrisome Poverty Levels for Hispanic Elderly

By Ruth E. Hernandez Beltran

New York, - About 23.8 percent of elderly Hispanics in the United States live in poverty, and the coming century does not have a very positive outlook for them, with them continuing to face serious economic, health and housing problems.

Twenty-six percent of African Americans live in poverty, and 9 percent of whites, the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Institute for the Elderly in New York announced on Monday.

The organization said that poverty is more prevalent among the elderly from minority groups, which is the fastest growing sector of the population.

Statistics also show that between 1997 and 2030, the elderly Hispanic population will grow by 368 percent, meaning there will be a greater demand of services for a growing number of sick, poor elderly who are not fluent in English.

Home meal delivery and care services, visiting nurses, physical and mental health programs, especially for Alzheimer's patients, will also be needed by the elderly who have nobody to care for them.

According to Zuleika Cabrera, head of the



Puerto Rican Institute, poverty is preventing the elderly from receiving health and food services, as well as adequate housing.

Reduction in personnel, inflation, budget cutbacks, low wages and the high cost of living are negatively affecting the older generation.

"Low and moderately priced apartments for rent are scarce, while the number of homeless

increases. The housing problem is a main concern for those who come seeking help. Sometimes they live in mouse- and cockroach-infested buildings," said Cabrera, who founded the institute that offers several forms of assistance to this sector of the population.

A significant number of the elderly have only their Social Security checks - which they begin to receive at age 62, except in cases of disability - on which to support themselves.

Many Hispanics who migrated to the United States worked in factories with very low wages and consequently they receive very low Social Security assistance to pay for rent, medicines, food and other personal needs.

To receive medical assistance from the Social Security Medicare program, which covers 80 percent of medical and hospital bills, the retirees must pay a monthly premium of at least 43 dollars, a fee which is constantly rising and taking away from their meager resources. Many choose to get Medicaid, a federal program for poor people that in the past five years has suffered budget cuts.

"The elderly live in poverty and those (who will join that group in the future) will be worse off," Cabrera said.

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

I received two letters this week about the shooting in Colorado. One by Ysidro Gutierrez and the other by Professor Eduardo Cabrera from Texas Tech University. Both are reprinted on page 2 and I invite all of you to read them. Also on pages 2 and 4 are several articles pertaining to Colorado. Most of the articles are written by young persons who talk about the shootings candidly and express their true feeling about what happened. I invite everyone to continue to send their letter concerning this massacre and for that matter anything that you might have on your mind.



****Pico de Gallo****
Our congratulations to Olivia Solis for celebrating "El Día de los Niños", a new national holiday that I hope will spread to being a major event.

El Editor will be printing one day early next week in commemoration of 5 de Mayo. Pick up one and read about what 5 de Mayo is all about and why. Contrary to what many people think, it's not just about music concerts and having a good time.

Bidal can be reached by e-mail at elleditor@aol.com

¿Que Pasa?

THEATRE in SPANISH at TEXAS TECH

With the purpose of establishing a bridge between Texas Tech University and the Hispanic community of Lubbock, professor Eduardo Cabrera has started an important artistic and pedagogical project. Dr. Cabrera has chosen theatre as the best way to achieve such goal. With a group of students from the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures he is producing the play "El premio flaco" (The Meager Prize) written by Cuban playwright Héctor Quintero.

Graduate and undergraduate students participate in this unique experience, in which they take part not only as actors but also in other areas of the production: set design, wardrobe, make-up, publicity, etc.

At the end of the rehearsals (and of the semester) the play will be presented at the Allen Theatre (University Center). The performances will be in Spanish and will take place on Friday, April 30th at 7:30 pm., and on Sunday, May 2nd at 3 pm. Admission will be free.

The director of this project has been directing theatre previously at the University of Louisville (Kentucky) and at California State University, Los Angeles. Dr. Cabrera plans to produce plays in Spanish at Texas Tech every Spring semester. So this is a long-term project which is expected to benefit a large part of the Hispanic community of Lubbock and all those interested in learning about Latin American and Spanish culture.

The plays that will be included in the repertory will be represented in Spanish, and will have as its main goal to make the audience reflect about topics of local and universal interest.

Those interested in getting more information can contact Dr. Cabrera at (806) 742-1676 or (806) 742-3145 or by e-mail: ecabrera@ttu.edu

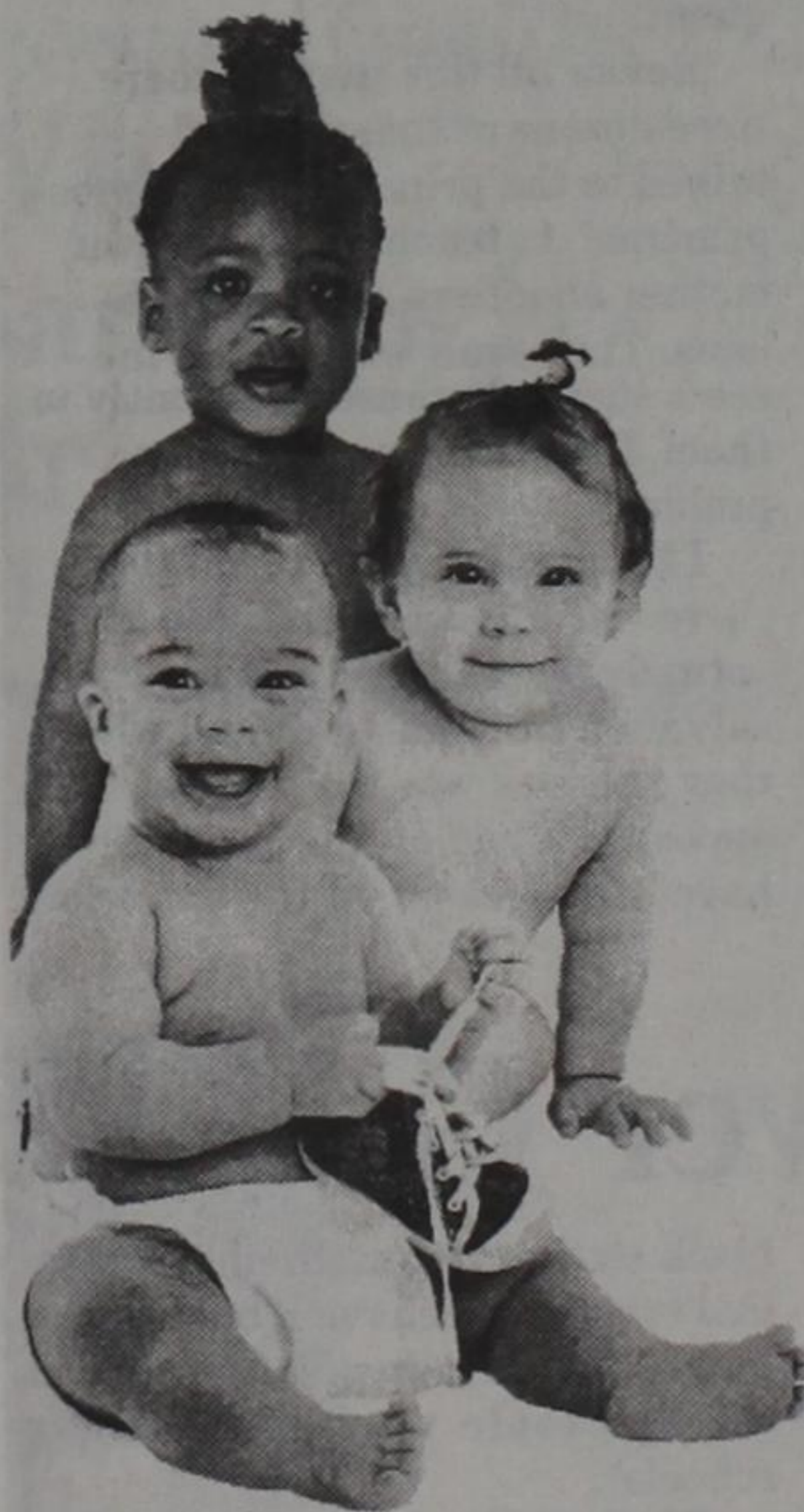
LHCC Cinco de Mayo Luncheon

The Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will be hosting it's monthly luncheon on Wednesday, May 5, 1999. The event will be held at the Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza-Atrium starting at 11:45 am and end at 1:15 pm. The cost of the event will be \$10 with RSVP and \$15 at the door. RSVP must be done by/on May 3, 1999 at 5:00 pm - 762-5059.

Hispanic Agenda

The Hispanic Agenda will holding it's monthly meeting on Monday, May 3, 1999 at the Mahon Library, 1306 9th St. The event will be at 5:30-6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome and urges members to bring a guest.

Items on the agenda will pertain to Y2K: How will it affect you? Also, brief updates will be provided by Gilbert Flores-Lubbock County Commissioner; Linda DeLeon-LISD School Board Trustee; Victor Hernandez-Lubbock City Councilman; David Gutierrez-Lubbock County Sheriff.



El Dia De Los Niños

This is a new national holiday that will be observed April 30, 1999, and every year thereafter. El Dia De Los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans is different from other children's days in that its purpose is strictly to uplift children in the United States.

Texas Migrant Council, Inc. and the City of Lubbock will celebrate El Dia De Los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans by hosting a storytelling hour, featuring Quata Dabov with "What's in the Bag." Also, grandparents will be asked to read bilingual books to the children. All children are invited. The event will be held at: Maggie Trejo Supercenter, 3200 Amherst Avenue on Friday, April 30, 1999 starting at 10:30 am - 11:30 pm

For more information contact Olivia Reyes at 767-2705.

News Briefs

UNDP and Internet Join Forces to Eradicate Poverty

United Nations, - Musical artists and other performers will join with Cisco Systems and the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) in a momentous musical event on Oct. 9 as part of a global campaign to fight extreme poverty.

This result of a joint initiative between the UNDP and Cisco Systems was announced Tuesday at U.N. headquarters in New York.

On that day three concerts will be simultaneously broadcast and netcast from the Giants Stadium in New Jersey, Wembley Stadium in London and the Opera House in Geneva.

Cisco Systems, a leader in networking for the Internet, will create a global website, christened Net Aid, which will be operative one month prior to the concerts and where UNDP will provide information and opportunities to individuals who want to get involved in wiping out poverty.

A message from U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, read at the announcement of the initiative, said that growing cooperation between the United Nations and the private sector provides unprecedented resources and experience.

"I am confident that this initiative will serve as a model of what can be accomplished when the United Nations and private business join together to use the best of their knowledge in a common goal," Annan wrote.

Taking part in the ceremony were singer Harry Belafonte, co-chair of UNDP's Poverty Eradication Committee; actor Danny Glover, UNDP goodwill ambassador; concert impresario Harvey Goldsmith; UNDP Administrator James Gustave Speth and Cisco Systems President John Chambers.

Chambers called the appearance of the Internet a "second industrial revolution," where two powerful equalizers, new technology and education, will be harnessed in an effort to eradicate extreme poverty in the world's poorest nations.

Net Aid, created by Cisco systems and to be maintained by UNDP, will have the infrastructure to support one billion hits on the web. The event's main objective is not to raise funds but to increase awareness of world poverty.

Bank Compensates Hispanics for Not Hiring Them

New York, -CFS Bank agreed on Tuesday to pay 180,000 dollars to 28 Hispanic and African American workers who were not hired when they applied for jobs, despite having better qualifications than other white applicants who actually got the jobs.

In addition, the bank decided to hire 11 of the minority applicants it had rejected between 1992 and 1993 and place them in its eight main branch offices, seven of which are located in Queens and the other on Long Island.

The complaints had originally been filed with the Department of Labor.

The bank required trained and experienced applicants, with knowledge of mathematics, good credit and living near the branch where they had applied for jobs.

"If the bank had overlooked these requirements in the case of all applicants, nothing would have happened, but they were ignored in the case of white applicants," said James Turner, regional director for the Office for Compliance with Federal Contracts.

This office is responsible for ensuring that companies and institutions under contract with the federal government comply with anti-discrimination regulations.

These cases, which violated the agreement between the government and the bank, were uncovered as regional Labor Department officials inspected the records of the bank's Woodhaven office in Queens.

The inspectors said that 72 percent of the white applicants had gotten jobs, while only 26 percent of minority applicants had been hired.

An in-depth Labor Department investigation revealed that many of the white employees did not meet job requirements, while Hispanic and Black applicants were better trained and met the prerequisites.

The bank maintains that minority applicants had not been discriminated against, but it agreed to pay compensation to avoid investing more time and money on the complaints.

HACU Presures for More Funds for Hispanic Higher Education

By Ramon Vasquez

Washington, - The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) began a forum in Washington on Sunday to touch upon issues affecting this minority group and to get Congress to approve more funds for Hispanic students who want to move on to higher education.

"One of the main purposes of our forum is to search for more funds for our universities," HACU President Antonio Flores told EFE.

The forum, which began on Sunday and will end on Thursday, also teaches HACU members how to present and debate their points of view about pending legislation.

"President Bill Clinton has recommended only 42.3 million dollars for the Fiscal Year 2000 budget under the Superior Education laws, but we are asking for it to be increased to 62.5 million dollars," Flores said. "This forum will give us the opportunity to carry out our message in a more effective manner to the public as well as to Congress and the White House."

Founded in 1986, HACU is a national organization based in San Antonio, Texas, that represents more than 200 universities in the United States and Puerto Rico, grouping two thirds of all Hispanics in higher education.

El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, April 29, 1999

Littleton-¿Porqué?

Littleton Signals Death of the "Public School

By Richard Rodriguez, Pacific News Service

After the ribbons fade, after the dead are laid to their rest, after the reporters drift away, the last casualty of the massacre at Columbine High may turn out to be the idea of public school.

"Public" school. We used to know what the adjective meant. Earlier generations understood, in a nation as individualized as ours, that we needed an institution, a school, where children would learn to regard themselves as people in common.

After Littleton, Colorado, who wonders about Yugoslavia? The most balkanized region of America may well be the high school, inner-city or rural, also suburban, middle-class. In the cafeteria, the teenagers of America segregate themselves, each group with its own — jocks, skinheads, blacks, surfers, Latinos, sluts, nerds, etc. What we saw — the goths against the jocks — was a kind of ethnic cleansing.

More than a century ago, Mark Twain created Huck Finn, a kid who, in the company of a runaway slave, left his small town to risk the great American river. The non-fictional reality today is much less romantic.

At that very time — the season we call adolescence — when we expect our children to leave home, to grasp their independence, American teenagers instead are looking for home or a tribe.

Inner-city kids, for example, speak of their gang as "family," "blood." Because school is not the center of existence for the big-city gangsta, ethnic-cleansing, East L.A.-style, tends to be accomplished through drive-bys, on street corners.

We have known for some time that brown and black inner-city kids kill one another, to establish their sense of belonging in gangs, in the city of strangers. And we are sorry for them, but as long as we stayed out of their line of fire, we thought we were safe.

But then we started to see white kids emerge from the forests of rural America, their parody of big-city gangs, their murderous rage against parents and school.

Now the nightmare moves closer to the America heart and hearth, to Littleton, Colorado, a middle class suburb where nice people live and the streets are wide and the houses have separate bedrooms for everyone and a three-car garage — the domestic architecture of anonymity.

We look at photographs of those split-level suburban homes where Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold lived. Steven Spielberg, our modern Mark Twain, would doubtlessly romanticize the warm, golden light coming from within. The other Stephen — King (the writer whom many teenagers read) — imagines teenagers in the basement, plotting to blow up the Junior Prom, while several televisions glare upstairs.

An Italian friend of mine shakes his head. He says we Americans are always flattering ourselves by announcing our "individualism" to the world. But, my Italian friend says, you cannot be

truly individualistic unless you have a strong sense of family or village. You can't become an "I" without a strong sense of "we."

For all our American talk of individualism, my Italian friend says, we are merely the loneliest people on earth. Our divorced and womanizing politicians keep yearning for "family values." The rest of us settle for chat rooms or "support groups" or a cafeteria table with people just like ourselves.

Have you ever been to Littleton? There are hundreds of Littletons in America now, from the Silicon Valley to north Dallas to Long Island. The main employers are high tech firms; many homeowners have college degrees, and there is a preference on golden Saturdays for soccer, not football. But Littleton, Colorado is a town built on restless ambition. Most people come from elsewhere, and most will probably end up moving away.

A psychologist, on one of the networks this week, estimated that twenty percent of American teenagers today should seek psychological help. But all week, I kept thinking of the parents of the two "monsters."

A woman, a mother of teenagers, said to me this week that she began to "lose contact" with her children when they began to listen to a music she could not decipher. Before that, they had their televisions. And now, of course, they have their own computers. "They live in their own world."

This, of course, is where the teacher comes in. We send our children who are innocent of intimacy to Columbine Public High School. But look at the place! The building has the charm and the scale of an office building alongside the Interstate.

It falls to the teacher, underpaid and overworked, to teach the children of Littleton, what public school teachers have always tried to teach children, that they belong to a culture in common, speak a common tongue, carry a common history that connects them to Thomas Jefferson and Malcolm X.

The ideal of public education is an extraordinary one, especially because America is a country that otherwise prizes its unruly soul. (In Mark Twain's story of Huckleberry Finn, the "school marm" must play the villain, because it is she who intends to catch Huck, diminish his individualism, by making him "speak regular.")

In fact, for many decades, in many parts of America, our public schools betrayed their role, by being racially segregated. Today, on the other hand, at a time when the American public school is open to all, many teachers settle for the sentimentality of "multiculturalism" (Celebrate Diversity!) instead of insisting on a communal vision.

There are doubtlessly good teachers at Columbine. (One teacher died last week, trying to protect the lives of his students.) But imagine the task of today's public school teacher. Everyday

facing too many faces to know by name. Body-builders, pierced noses, shaved heads, brown skin, Calvin Klein blues, black trench coats.

At such a school, can we be surprised to learn that a sad little tribe, the Trench Coat Mafia, dressed like the Blues Brothers, published an ad in the yearbook that announced **INSANITY IS HEALTHY**. And no one on the faculty noticed or had time to remark.

It turns out, something not nice was going on at Columbine High School. One father said to CBS News that a football player used to look for his son in the hallways, pick on his son — a Jew — for being different.

Meanwhile, elsewhere along the school hallway, two boys in black trench coats murmured Nazi tags to each other about football players!

You will say, of course, that high school is high school. It's always been the most conformist society of our lives. What is different now is that increasing numbers of high school students come from families and neighborhoods that barely exist. They live surrounded by an architecture of impersonality and a technology of solitude — web pages screaming in silence — for attention.

As my Italian friend would say, you cannot become a true individual, if you do not come from a "we." You merely end up a loner, looking for a tribe. The white supremacist dreams of a cabin on the edge of America, where he might be with his own kind. The street thug kills to prove that he is tough enough to earn his place in the gang. Now we know that there are borderlines in the middle class high school as murderous as any in Kosovo.

Lost in the news from Colorado this week was an educational story not unrelated. Theodore Forstmann, a Wall Street billionaire, who has promised low-income children scholarships to private schools announced that he had received replies from over a million families.

The rich, of course, long ago abandoned our public schools. Now the poor want out. For many poor families, the best hope for we might call a "public" education may be private, religious schools. In spite of their theological tribalism — or maybe because of it — a student is grounded in a larger reality than his separate self, call it a faith.

After Littleton, Colorado, the middle-class parent may well decide that the public school cafeteria is too dangerous a place for her daughter or son.

But the question for America is larger than the safety of any one of our children. The question, now, is whether or not Americans will be able to embrace the idea of a public life — our responsibility to all children — at a time when we feel so foreign to our own, sitting in front of their computer screens or playing in the basement.

Comentarios Sobre Littleton, Armas y Mas de Nuestros Lectores --Comments About Littleton, Guns and More from Our Readers
Reflexiones sobre las causas de la violencia en nuestra sociedad:

Armas, racismo y faltade modelos

Cuando yo era niño pensaba que sólo los policías y los criminales tenían armas. Al emigrara este país me di cuenta que muchas otras personas -algunas de las cuales consideran muy cristianas- poseen armas con el pretexto de defenderse en caso de que sea necesario. Las consecuencias de esta actitud egoísta y narcisista están a la vista del mundo: un número creciente de victimas inocentes pagan con sus vidas aquel capricho irracional.

Sabemos que uno de los grupos de presión más poderosos y perverso en los Estados Unidos es aquel que defiende la libre posesión de armas; si paravender armas es necesario crear guerras por diversas partes del mundo ofacilitar la obtención de armas por parte de niños... todo se consideraválido.

Mientras una parte de la sociedad estima que un medio importante para resolver el problema de la violencia es la prohibición de tener armas - solución clara, concreta y simple-, otra parte de esta misma sociedad considera el problema como muy "confuso" y reclama que no se acuse a nadie.

Vivimos en un país cuyo gobierno ofrece la lucha armada como el camino más idóneo para resolver crisis importantes. Un mismo gobierno ha hecho la guerra con dos países distintos. Nuestros jóvenes tienen muy en claro la lección: nada se soluciona por la vía pacífica (o diplomática), hay que imponerse de manera violenta. Los muertos inocentes están justificados por el fin (pareciera que "el fin justifica los medios").

Los Estados Unidos tienen la capacidad como para infiltrar sus hombres del FBI o la CIA en casi cualquier parte del mundo; sin embargo no pueden controlar grupos extremistas de su propio territorio cuya conducta criminal y actuación impune se ha demostrado en numerosas oportunidades.

Aun muchas personas que estamos en contra de la censura consideramos urgente el control de grupos racistas que se desempeñan con total libertad.

Finalmente, como si los hechos no fueran suficiente demostración de una conducta violenta del gobierno de este país, y para dejar en claro la

ideología que debe prevalecer, el ex-presidente George Bush nos avergüenza una vez más ante el mundo entero al salir en defensa de uno de los peores dictadores de la historia latinoamericana: el general Augusto Pinochet.

Difícil será pedirles a nuestros adolescentes que actúen dentro deparámetros éticos "universales", pues la realidad actual no ofrece muchos modelos dignos de ser imitados.

Lo que sí podemos hacer es presionar a nuestros representantes para que prohíban la libre posesión de armas y que confronten de una manera más eficaz a los grupos racistas extremistas con los que tememos que "sobrevivir".

Un abrazo,
Dr. Eduardo Cabrera
Texas Tech University

Point of No Return

By: Ysidro V. Gutierrez

Ever since last weeks shootings in Littleton, Colorado, American has clamored for the answer to "Why?"

Why would two teenage boys from middle class families kill and injure their school mates? Some experts suggest liberal gun laws are to blame. However, guns have been a part of Americana for centuries, but school shootings are recent phenomena. Therefore, if one follows this thesis to its logical conclusion one must say that guns are not the problem.

Since the question remains, a new hypothesis must be formulated.

I propose that school shootings are only a symptom of a cancer which permeates American society. One needs simply to investigate more thoroughly what has transpired over the last few decades to suggest some plausible possibility as the causes of school shootings. Through observation one can surmise that no single event caused the shootings, rather a complex series of events have incrementally brought us to this point in history and may be the underlying causes of "Teen killings".

In seeking to answer the question, "Why", it is reasonable to examine some norms which emerged over the last four decades. If we pursue this theory, it is possible to suggest that the causes of school shootings may be rooted in events which have transpired since the early 1960's.

School shootings may simply be the latest symptoms of a cancer which American contact in the 1960's. The cancer has been slowly destroying the moral foundation of American society and will soon corrupt it entirely. Indeed America may already be past the point of no return, the cancer may be terminal.

The early 1960's are a good place to begin our review of the incremental degradation of American society. It was 1960 when Vietnam War protesters began the practice of civil disobedience. In retrospect this was good for the country as Vietnam was a moral aberration itself. However, in the aftermath of war, civil disobedience and distrust of authority became embedded in Americans soul.

After the war divorce became common. Wives became the new anti-war protesters, rebelling against domineering and abusive husbands. No fault divorce became the law of the land. Radical feminism reared its head and hissed its battle cry; "We are Strong, We are Invincible, We are Women." The stage was now set for the demise of the nuclear family, which is the very fabric of society. As the family dissolved, so did society.

Next came the decade of greed. The acquisition of wealth and the accumulation of the almighty dollar became America's primary endeavor. The Menendez brothers took greed to new heights. They murdered their parents to get their money and begged for clemency from the courts claiming that they were poor orphans. "Greed is Good" was the slogan of the day. Anything good for the pocketbook was seen as good for the soul. When greed became fashionable, charity and virtue died.

Individualism soon became the norm. This led to the demise of the sense of community, which was the very fabric of civilization. Today there is an absence of a sense of community in America. Many Americans have no idea who their next door neighbor is.

The point of no return for America came when children were no longer safe at home. Polly Klase, a teenage girl was abducted from her home as a slumber party was in progress. She was brutally raped and murdered. But it wasn't just criminals who threaten the child. Americans soon learned that the rapists' and murderers were often the child's own parents. Last year, 179 children died from domestic abuse in Texas. The home, once the very essence of security, has been ripped asunder.

Many remained unconvinced that America had passed the point of no return until workplace violence became common and the workplace was no longer safe. Disgruntled workers took out bosses, coworkers, and innocent by-standers as well. When the workplace, the fountain of prosperity, was no longer safe it became reasonable to conclude that little remained of the moral foundations of American society.

Racism, sexism, abortion, job discrimination, police brutality are the perennials of the cancer which has contributed in equal measure to the erosion of the American moral foundation.

What transpired in Littleton, Colorado may be a mere symptom of a chronic cancer that is slowly destroying American society. If children are not safe at home, workers are not safe at work, the family has all but disappeared, and Americas are too busy generating wealth to be outraged then it is easy to see why violence permeates our schools.

No one can predict what the future will bring, but it is certain that there is no hope in the foreseeable future for a cure of the cancer that infects America. In the absence of a cure, the cancer will continue to corrode American values. Therefore, more school shootings can be expected.

Crying Rage in Littleton

Don't Blame the Media, Blame Us!

BY HAZEL TESORO, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

To be young, it has its great times, yet it is not much different from a world war, just that the sounds of explosion, death, and agony can only be heard by one. I know for I am still there awaiting the day it is over, while trying to survive in a society that somehow still remains deaf to the youth, though it hears of our destruction.

The other day, I sat in a room full of adults who talked of the incident in Littleton with disgust.

Their eyes burned with it. How could something like this happen, was the question that remained silent, plainly posted on their faces. Is it such a difficult question to answer? Apparently not, when just a few days after I heard of the incident, the media already had the conclusions in the papers — "Basketball Diaries."

You know, that just makes so

A 23 Year Old at High School Shooting

They Were Just Never Good Enough

A 23 Year Old at High School Shooting

They Were Just Never Good Enough

By Lynn Duff, Pacific News Serv.

DENVER, CO — I was at home working on a term paper for my Western Civilization class when the pager beeped.

As a Red Cross Disaster Action Team worker, I was on call for any emergencies in Jefferson County this week. I threw on a sweatshirt and my Red Cross vest and within an hour was one of the many standing outside of Columbine High School.

Parents came up to me, frantic. Their children's names were not on the lists posted of kids who'd gotten out safely. They wanted to know where their children were. I didn't know what to say to them.

Nearby, a sobbing girl crumpled against her friends, her sweatshirt and jeans splattered with someone else's blood. A boy lay in the grass, curled in a fetal position, shaking, his fists kneading his eyes. A woman leaned over the police car next to me and vomited. A father angrily confronted a police officer demanding to know why this had happened.

As I spent most of my teenage

much sense. I mean it's such an easy, obvious answer. Kids aren't capable of thinking something like this up on their own. They're just too lame, too mindless, to even give something like this a thought. Why bother when there are numbers of video stores to go to, thousands of movies to pick from, which will basically plan the whole scene out for them. It's sad that that is all society thinks of us, when they fear us enough to put us away.

All I gotta say about this, is that if I were to go to school for the last time in my life, shoot enough ammunition to kill several people, build some bombs, and kill myself, I sure wouldn't go through the trouble just to be known as an imitator. Hell no.

Guns, bombs, death, it sounds like someone who has been driven past the point. Did these kids get punked around in school? I mean, from experience, being the outcast

years on the streets and in foster care, I am no stranger to violence. But I just collapsed. It was awful. I wanted to pray but didn't know what to ask of God.

I made a round of the grounds around the school, handing out bottles of water to SWAT team members and then came back to the Red Cross van and turned on the radio, trying to get some news. It was tuned to a talk station, which, only two hours after the shootings began, was broadcasting a monologue saying young people have no respect for human life and advocating gun control.

At 23, I'm not much older than these students are, and I am as disturbed as anyone about the violence and the hatred that came out of these two boys. But I can't help but ask, where did that violence come from?

The media portrays these acts as "senseless" killings. The local daily ran an article saying, in effect, "there is no way you can tell who will turn out to be a killer." But I think you can — not just by looking for the "warning signs" of withdrawal,

in school can be the most horrifying and humiliating thing in this world. I remember when I was in the 8th grade, I was terrified of attending school because of what the popular crowd might have had in mind for me that day. So what did I do? I cut and cut and cut until finally I became the oppressor's product — a delinquent.

Before all this though, there were dozens of times when I talked to the principal, to the vice-principal, to teachers, to my own mother about my ongoing problems. The result was having me see a shrink because apparently to them, I was the one with the problem.

I bring this up because I think here was a time when these kids actually tried to seek hope and salvation from an adult and what they received was the complete opposite. When all the choices have been crossed off the list, what

black clothes, unintelligible music, and rebellious behavior, but looking for the mix of ingredients that lead young people to shoot up their schools.

"Perpetrators" don't come out of nowhere, they are created. Created by a society that loves violence, ignores its children. A society that focuses only on a particular definition of success, that sterilizes experiences, that no longer shows love towards its young people, that offers no hope for the future.

Asked why she thought they did it, one student just looked at me and sighed, "I think they were just tired of being picked on. They were just never good enough."

That's the message a lot of young people get — fundamentally they just aren't good enough. I got that message, too. As a high school student, I forever felt like I would never have the respect and admiration given popular students. I felt I was just a leftover.

At Columbine High School, the "leftovers" bonded together, formed the Trenchcoat Mafia. They wanted to belong. The killings were not just

is left? The only difference between them and I was that I have never killed, but I still chose a path of destruction. Just where did the news conjugate the idea of blaming it on the entertainment media?

It's so ridiculous. If people want to claim "imitation", then why don't they point the finger at adults. I mean, we as youth should learn from the best right? So why wouldn't it be something like this: Two kids who were on a search to make some sort of big impact, to finally be heard.

Two kids who were tired of being nothing. If this is how it was then why not try the adult way of being heard? Start a war! Drop some bombs!

Invade and conquer someone else's land just to feel powerful! Now, we're really cookin'.

revenge for years of teasing — it was the losers versus the winners and they wanted to be winners.

The response to Columbine will be metal detectors, or more police at schools, or gun control, or limits on internet freedom — anything that "protects" kids by demonizing them and putting more distance between them and the adults in their lives. As long as you "protect" students you don't have to get to know them.

The only thing that will stop school shootings is a change in the way that adults interact with kids. Until the lines of communication and respect are open, acts of violence will continue — acts that are not random but a desperate attempt to make a mark in the world.

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An Inner City "Loser" Too Scared to Shoot

EDITOR'S NOTE: Picked on and beaten up in school, Charles Jones recalls the day he brought a gun to class, determined to do in his tormentors.

What made him hold back? Why does he think his childhood as an inner city African American gave him an advantage the two teenagers in Littleton, Co., did not have? Jones, now 22, writes for YO! Youth Outlook, a publication by and about young people published by Pacific News Service. By Charles Jones, Pacific News Service

SAN FRANCISCO — I carried a gun to school when I was a lot younger. I'm 22 now. I never took it to the next level to actually use it.

In 7th grade I was a target for everyone and anyone and an easy one at that! If it wasn't because of my size, then the clothes I wore made me the butt of jokes. It wasn't just that my parents were not well off and my clothes reflected that, it was that my personal sense of style and fashion left me open to bitter jibes.

Imagine meeting a young man about 4 foot 5 inches tall with very light skin and freckles, wearing turquoise 501's, Pro-wings and a reddish afro as high as a cloud. I cried a lot, many a time in the classroom. One day, when the teasing all got too much for me, I got into a fight with another 13-yr-old named Larry. Needless to say he beat the @*#\$ out of me.

I was not only a target for bullies, I was too weak to do anything about it. I thought to myself, I can't let my school mates think this of me. So I fought more and more, until, win, lose or draw there was no one I was afraid of.

But I was still being picked on and still getting beaten up in and out of school. Two days after my 13th birthday I carried my mother's pearl-handled 22-caliber revolver to school. I hid it from my teachers but I knew where to get it if someone messed with me again. I had every intention of using it against one boy in particular.

I played out the scenario time and time again in my head. But then I began to think about what would happen to me if I did try to shoot him and I fantasized about being killed by the police in a shoot-out. I became sick with fear, and changed my mind.

I was afraid of dying at the hands of police because two friends of mine had already been killed by gun violence. I also knew that the other boy could have had a gun. The last thing I wanted was to give him the pleasure of wounding me and laughing in my face — or even killing me! Once you understand fear the way I saw it then even you would hold back from shooting someone else, no matter the reason why.

But I don't think those young men in Littleton, Colorado understood fear and the

police the way that I do having grown up black in the inner city. White people are born the winners in America. The system is built by white people for white people; therefore, whether they'll admit it or not, most of them feel they have a right to a better life.

When white people become losers, they are really losing — they are becoming like niggers.

For most of us who aren't white, life is about being born on the losing side and making your way to the winning side. If you're white, most of the time you're born on the winning side of the stick and your life is a struggle not to fall off.

Growing up in a ghetto environment, I saw lots of people resort to violence — sometimes out of meanness but often just because they were trying to survive. Young black people sometimes say they don't see the future and they can't think about living beyond tomorrow. Whereas, these dudes in Colorado killed because they felt their lives were already over. These white kids saw tomorrow but it wasn't the tomorrow they wanted to see. For good or for bad, they took their destiny into their own hands.

I'm willing to let my future come to me. I guess the difference between those boys who actually go out and shoot up their schools and me is that my will to live far outweighs my desire to kill.

FOR TEENS, UNBEARABLE PRESSURES BUILD IN NICE TOWNS WITH NO PLACE TO BE DIFFERENT

EDITOR'S NOTE: For someone who has attended a nice school in a nice town, the explosive events at Littleton come as no surprise. With no space for individuality, few outlets for anger, everyday pressures can become unbearable. PNS commentator Caille Millner is a sophomore at Harvard University, and on the staff of YO! (Youth Outlook), a newspaper by and about young people published by Pacific News Service.

BY CAILLE MILLNER, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

Stop telling me that the murders of over a dozen students in Littleton on Wednesday should not have happened in "such a nice town." That's exactly where these explosions happen again and again.

That's why I got out. Even in my small all-girls high school, I knew people like those two 17-year-old boys that blasted into Columbine High School with automatic weapons and bombs. They were quiet social outcasts, on the fringes of everything, trapped in the suburbs like prisoners of war. They formed their own circles and watched the self-absorbed people who spit on them

with scorn. And their anger and hatred was obvious to anyone who chose to look. I remember watching one of those girls cut herself in the bathroom with a sliver of glass. She had marks up and down her arms — crosses, stars, and pretty little decorations oozing with blood. Even though most other people in the school made fun of her, she was nice and we were (sort of) friends, so I asked her why she did that.

"When I cut myself," she said calmly, "I concentrate on the physical pain, and whatever's going on inside seems a lot less hurtful." Later on that year she graduated to knives and broken bottles, and soon she had so many cuts on her body that she looked as if she had walked through a glass door.

At this point, girls like my friend — and the trench coat Mafia at Columbine — are practically a cliché. Everyone who has been to high school since the early 1980s knew a clique that wore all black and tried to dissociate themselves from the mainstream. So at some point, people stopped taking them seriously. That's the real danger.

Most of these social outcasts only destroy themselves, which is what everyone expected from the trench coat Mafia. In the suburbs, it's just kind of taken for granted that children will go through rebellious phases (hopefully they'll do it quietly, so the neighbors don't find out) and then straighten up. Most of them do. But the anger there is real, and it doesn't fade away.

When you're growing up in the suburbs, there aren't many outlets for your anger or your insecurity. Most teenagers are isolated, living in perfectly enclosed spaces that all look alike — homes, schools, malls — their whole lives. Add that to the middle-class pressure to succeed and the suburban conspiracy of silence and you've got conditions that cause

lots of young people to snap. I felt that pressure, too, and I dealt with it by running away. As far away as I could, actually — all the way on the other side of the country, to a big urban environment where people all lived together in a

messy, asymmetrical stew of backgrounds and desires. But I could only do that because I was blessed with the foresight to see a way out, and the high SAT scores to make that happen. Some people aren't that lucky. The only way they see out is through small moments of transcendence or explosive moments of violence. Until this anger is acknowledged, until the young people wearing black can get an audience instead of mockery, those moments will keep happening.

El Editor Newspapers

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themselves from robbers," she says. "People there have guns to hunt. They grow up with guns. They like guns."

Inner cities and kids of color are often blamed for the rise of violence in the nation. But these urban kids defend themselves. "Mainstream white America is quick to blame the problems they make," points out Charles Jones, 20. "Who makes Doom? Who distributes Doom?"

Rojas adds that shootings at city schools don't get nationwide coverage. "My school had five shootings in one semester," he explained. "It's because we're not from the heartland... because the kids weren't white."

He adds that suburban kids, who don't see the bums on their doorsteps, the junkies on their blocks, naively romanticize urban life. "Kids in the suburbs try too hard to be city kids," Rojas says. "They end up doing something stupid that city kids would never do. They go overboard."

"Drop off a kid from the suburbs in Hunter's Point," Royal Toliver, 18, adds, shaking her head. "It'd be like taking an innocent bystander and putting them in the pen. They just wouldn't be able to handle it."

Susana Palma, 17, who has lived in both city and suburb, has a clear picture of suburban kids. "Druggies. Alcoholics. They do good in school, but they're rowdy little kids who have a lot of sex. They party all the time and they get away with it. They're neat and nice and they live in a house in an all-white area."

Asked to pick one reason why these shooting sprees keep happening in the suburbs, Hermes says without hesitation, "They were bored."

And all the young people in the room nodded. "Yeah, they were just bored."

Read REAL NEWS IN EL EDITOR

In Littleton, Colo.: Lucille Moore pauses Wednesday near Columbine High School to look at 15 crosses erected there in memory of the people who died in last weeks massacre carried out by two students.



Odd Boys Out

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Madness in great ones must not unwatch'd go," wrote the great English bard. Today thousands of young people fantasize about exploding with rage — rage which could be soothed by even one adult's attention. Russell Morse, 18, writes for YO! Youth Outlook, a newspaper by and about young people published by Pacific News Service.

By Russell Morse, Pacific News Service
SAN FRANCISCO — Taunted as "freaks," "outcasts," "weirdos," two boys opened fire in Littleton, Co., killing more than a dozen of their classmates. One girl said that all the taunting and name calling was "just stupid teenage stuff."

For those who are viewed as square pegs in round holes, the confusion of not belonging is enough to prompt the fantasy of killing those who reinforce such ideas.

I know I sat in many biology classes reading Kerouac and estimating how much plastic explosive it might take to reduce my biggest source of fear and anxiety (the schoolhouse) to rubble. I looked at my tormentors and longed to see them beg me for mercy (maybe even with a gun in their mouths). To have the upper hand, the power, the control over them was what excited me. Was I a sick person in need of immediate psychological assessment? Was I a rare, warped mind among millions of high school students who dealt with their frustrations more constructively (i.e. smoking pot, playing the violin)? I don't think so. My belief is that there are thousands who think just as I did and the only difference between us and the boys from Littleton is that they acted on

their fantasies.

Today I still wonder why I was targeted for torment. Sure, I was a little eccentric — quoting William Burroughs in drug awareness class and flicking boogers at a pretty girl — but did that warrant years of torture and harassment? If only I had known then that the beautiful, trendy people who made my life so difficult only did so because of their own insecurities, I might have fared better and not even been in a position to imagine a doomsday massacre. Maybe if I had more people tell me that they loved me and that I was a beautiful person, too — even though I was different — I may not have spent so many years isolated and afraid. Maybe that's all Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold needed.

An insightful choir teacher said that the boys were "extremely bright, but not good students." Before a Danish prince with similar characteristics went on a killing spree of his own to avenge his father's murder, the boy's uncle (and recently appointed King) commented, "Madness in great ones must not unwatch'd go." I went unwatched. Ted Kazinski went unwatched. So did Eric and Dylan.

And maybe someone called Charles Whitman, a weirdo when he was a freshman in high school. His guidance counselor thought little of it when he started spending a lot of time in bell towers. I'm not trying to put blame on anyone, whether it be adolescent bullies or inattentive adults. I'm just saying that in every high school across the country there exists at least one

young man or woman with the potential to bring about this kind of disaster. And we act baffled when things like this happen, paralyzed with fear and unable to formulate any kind of response or prevention.

View from the City

City Kids See Littleton Shooting as Symptoms of Suburban Life

EDITOR'S NOTE: Asked for their view of the killings in a suburban Colorado high school, San Francisco teens agree on a diagnosis that places much of the blame on the suburban setting. Without claiming any particular virtue for themselves, they do think that the city offers outlets and opportunities that might ease the pressure of being young.

SAN FRANCISCO — To city teenagers, the suburbs are a barren land where nothing is distinctive and the kids are "just normal" and "goody-two-shoes." Parents shop at Costco and the kids look like clones — "square" and "not street-smart." Vanessa Goodrich, 16, a native San Franciscan, says of her suburban peers,

Without regular exposure to violence and no outlets for anger or creativity, these city kids think suburban kids are more likely to explode than the so-called juvenile "predators" in the city. At a YO! Youth Outlook workshop focusing on the latest school shooting in Littleton, Colorado, Matt Fowler, 16, rhymes about life in Suburbia.

"Repressed to dull stupidity.
To MTV or poverty
Left out of the world of diversity
Don't have the balls to live in the city
Wanna live in the hot country
cheap and oh so pretty"

Recoger la leche
Cambiar el aceite
Enviar el paquete
Llamar antes de empezar a excavar

Tal vez le parezca una tarea sencilla, pero puede salvarle la vida. Si al hacer una excavación usted perfora una tubería de distribución de gas natural, podría causar un incendio o una explosión. Debido a que hay una red de gasoductos tendida a lo largo de miles de kilómetros en este país, sólo hay una manera de cavar sin peligro. Llame al 1-800-545-6005 dos días antes de la fecha en que planea empezar a excavar.

La compañía KN Energy señala con toda claridad dónde se ubican los gasoductos y en qué lugares no se puede excavar. Hacer una llamada telefónica para preguntar dónde hay tuberías de distribución de gas natural es más que una buena idea — ¡es lo que manda la ley!

Además, si alguna vez usted siente olor a gas natural, salga de esa área de inmediato. No ponga a funcionar ningún aparato o equipo; ni encienda ningún interruptor eléctrico. Lo único que debe hacer es alejarse de ese sitio y llamar a KN desde otro lugar.

Por favor, tómese unos minutos para llamar antes de empezar a excavar. Su familia entenderá si se le olvida recoger la leche, pero no — si se olvida de llamar antes de excavar.



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Cherishing My Greatest Role Model

By Miguel Perez

For many years, she has appeared in my newspaper columns, a recurring character who often surfaced when I drew anecdotes from my life experiences.

She was part of a column opposing flag desecration, because - back in Communist Cuba - she had taught me to draw, love and respect the American flag.

She appeared when I wrote about the day I came to this country, and about my family's Christmas reunions in Cuba and in Miami. She was part of my writings when Congress threatened to deny Medicaid benefits to non-citizen elderly immigrants. She was often part of this space because I knew her story more clearly, I felt her pain, celebrated her accomplishments, admired her tenacity.

She was my mother, Lilia Perez, by far the most influential person in my life. Ironically, I'm glad her life is over.

I remember how as a child, I feared losing my mother more than anything imaginable. But when she died at age 79 in Miami last December, I felt relieved.

The child in me still cried out upon my greatest childhood fear, but no one should have to live the way she did for the last few

years. For me, Dr. Kevorkian became much more sensible during that time.

My mother suffered -- agonized -- from Alzheimer's disease, which is the closest thing I've seen to hell on earth. But it's not time to dwell on the pain she and my whole family endured near the end of her life. That should not overshadow a wonderful life.

She died so close to the Christmas holidays and to the 40th anniversary of Fidel Castro's Communist Revolution that for me those holidays became a time to reflect on the history of my own family, our flight to freedom, and my mother's role in it all. Sadly, she became the third family elder to die in exile, waiting for Cuba's freedom.

Instead of her illness, I've been dwelling on what she considered her life's greatest accomplishment: getting her two sons out of the shocking grip of a Communist dictatorship.

She had achieved many goals in her life, becoming a teacher, raising a family, cultivating good friendships. But getting my brother and me out of Cuba to live as free men in a democratic society was her ultimate source of pride.

In the early '60s she convinced my father and the rest of my family -- including my grandparents, aunts and cousins -- that we had to leave everything behind and seek political asylum.

I can only imagine the courage that it took. Imagine leaving behind all your worldly possessions, your job and career, your lifestyle, your dearest friends and relatives, to become a refugee in a foreign country where you could not even speak the language.

I don't know if I could do it. Heck, most of us won't even consider moving to another state. But that's just what my parents did, 37 years ago, for me and my brother Beny. Their prime years were sacrificed so that in our prime years, Beny and I would be free to realize our dreams.

During the twilight of their lives -- my father died 12 years ago -- they found their greatest joy through our accomplishments. My brother is a successful real estate salesman in Miami.

Our greatest reward was knowing that by growing up to become honest and successful United States citizens, we made them proud.

But my mother also taught me the importance of holding onto

my roots, to love the homeland I left as a child, and to treasure the freedom she had given me. For her, my becoming a journalist in a free society was vindication.

Every so often, my mother would express her pride by writing poems to Beny and me, declaring her unconditional love, the kind that only parents feel for their children.

She had a gift for making phrases rhyme in Spanish, for picking the right words to recreate wonderful moments. Whenever we did something right, Beny and I could expect to hear about it in one of our mother's loving poems.

She had a talent, through her writing, for making us cry. But she had the personality, strength and perseverance to make us believe in ourselves, and she did it by example. She was our greatest role model.

For years, she has been a recurring character in my newspaper column. She inspired the principles I have defended in many of them. And this is not likely to be her last one.

(Miguel Perez is a columnist with The Record in Bergen, N.J.)

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realmente la Guerra del Golfo Pérsico, más que darnos un lugar para someter a prueba nuestras armas más recientes?

Algunos pueden recordar cuán indignados estuvimos cuando los italianos bombardearon a una Etiopía indefensa y la fuerza aérea alemana ensayó su uso del poderío aéreo al bombardear a Madrid. Después bombardeó a Londres. No conozco de ningún caso en que el poderío aéreo, por sí solo, haya llevado a la capitulación del enemigo.

¿Significa esto que con el tiempo llegará a ser necesario el empleo de tropas de infantería de Estados Unidos? En vez de tres prisioneros, ¿cuántas bajas estamos preparados para sufrir?

Sí, me siento molesto por nuestro papel en Kosovo y por la seguridad de nuestras tropas. Pero estoy aún más preocupado por un curso de acción que sitúa a nuestros hombres y mujeres en el camino del daño sin que su involucración haya sido debatida claramente.

De seguro, en este día y esta época, debe haber un modo mejor de resolver la situación que el descansar en un curso de acción disparatado, instituido por un presidente que no tuvo la fortaleza para responder al llamado de su país cuando le llegó el turno de prestar servicio. Ningún comandante militar debería pedir que sus tropas hicieran lo que él no haría por sí mismo.

"LA MENTIRA" Mesmerizes Hispanic T.V. Audiences

by Judith Torrea

Austin, - Every morning when Aida Berdugo-Douglas arrives at her job with the Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce she knows the first question of the day from her co-workers will be "What happened to Veronica?"

Veronica, played by Kate del Castillo, is the heroine of "La Mentira," the most popular Mexican soap opera on U.S. Hispanic television.

"The soap is a bit like real life. You feel as if you're part of it," Berdugo-Douglas says.

"In Texas we follow the doings of Demetrio, Veronica's husband, with particular interest because he (the actor Guy Ecker) attended the University of Texas at Austin and even learned to ride a horse at a nearby ranch where he worked," she adds.

Every night Monday through Friday during the prime-time hour of 8 to 9 p.m., two and a half million viewers hang on every plot twist of this dramatic offering from Univision Spanish-language network.

"The soap opera is attracting the largest audiences in Los Angeles, where it has 524,000 viewers, followed by New York with 312,000, Chicago with 135,000, and San Antonio with 74,000," says Pia Fugedy of Univision's Audience Department in Miami.

The soap's musical theme, "Me voy a guitar de en medio" (I'm getting out of your way) by Vicente Fernandez has also become a hit, played by some Texas stations up to 40 times a day.

Federico Subervi-Velez, professor at the University of Texas at Austin and expert on Hispanic soap opera audiences, says that "La Mentira" depicts romantic situations featuring the heroine that are very attractive to men.

"Soap operas have become popular among Anglos as well as Hispanics. They are no longer the province of housemaids and grandmothers. We are feeling the need to understand social developments, and this type of soap opera fills that need," Subervi-Velez said.

"Soap operas have become objects of academic analysis," he added.

University of Texas Professor Joe Straundhaer believes Mexican soaps are more realistic than those from the rest of Latin America.

"In Brazil, soap operas target poorer women, who see in them the possibility of changing their lives, and encourage them to become consumers," he says.

"La Mentira" is scheduled to end in mid-May, and the bets are on.

Guadalupe Mendieta, age 14, has promised her mother she will do extra chores if Veronica doesn't wind up finding happiness at the side of Demetrio.

"At the end it could all have been a mentira (lie), no?" laughs Mrs. Mendieta.

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Indignacion Por Prisioneros Latinos Atemperada Por Historia

Por Ray Rodriguez

Aunque me preocupo por la seguridad de los tres soldados estadounidenses capturados por los serbios, no comparto la sensación de indignación que muchos latinos han manifestado por los dos soldados de descendencia mexicana.

Sin embargo, como estudiante de historia, me siento profundamente molesto por lo que está sucediendo en Kosovo y por la razón de ello. La cantidad de refugiados albaneses, y las bajas serbias en la población civil continúan aumentando. Ambos grupos son víctimas inocentes de actos igualmente bárbaros.

A fin de activar al pueblo de los Estados Unidos y ganar su apoyo a nuestras misiones de bombardeo, la expresión "depuración étnica" se ha convertido en la palabra clave.

¿Cómo pueden las personas civilizadas cometer tales atrocidades? nos preguntamos a nosotros mismos. Nosotros y nuestros aliados estamos en Kosovo para evitar tales actos de barbarie, decimos. Encuentro divertida la indignación simulada del primer ministro de Turquía. Evidentemente, él elige pasar por alto la matanza de armenios cometida por Turquía.

Cada nación ha cometido sus propios actos de atrocidad. Si ustedes quieren conocer sobre la purificación étnica, pregunten a los descendientes de los pueblos indígenas que ocupaban estas tierras antes de que llegaran los europeos.

El concepto de purificación étnica fué traído a nuestras costas por los ingleses, basándose en su experiencia de Irlanda. Según la filosofía predominante, el único "indígena bueno" era uno que estuviera muerto. Ese punto de vista sancionaba su aniquilación. Los británicos sólo estaban siguiendo una tradición tan antigua como la historia misma.

Sólo nos engañamos a nosotros mismos si pensamos que podemos poner fin a eso en Kosovo u otro lugar cualquiera. Puede que lo sepultemos durante algún tiempo, pero resurgirá como lo ha hecho siempre. Esta es una parte innata de nuestra naturaleza básica. Si ése no fuera el caso, ¿por qué hay tantos grupos étnicos que corren riesgo en todo el mundo?

Para justificar el uso de nuestro poderío militar, oímos mucho acerca de "la auto-determinación" -- el derecho de los pueblos a determinar sus propias formas de gobierno. Eso suena extremadamente digno.

Pero también es retórica. Quizás si la prueba más condenatoria de nuestro desdén por la auto-determinación sea que, cuando nuestros estados meridionales trataron de separarse, libramos la guerra más sangrienta de nuestra historia para evitar que ellos ejercitaran ese derecho. ¿Auto-determinación? En otro lugar, puede ser. Pero aquí no.

Otra razón de que estemos en Kosovo, se nos dice, es nuestra oposición a los dictadores, especialmente aquéllos que deniegan al pueblo sus derechos humanos fundamentales. La relación de dictaduras opresoras a las que los Estados Unidos han apoyado siempre que hicieran lo que les ordenáramos o sirvieran a nuestros propósitos es considerablemente larga. Sólo en nuestro hemisferio, hemos respaldado a dictaduras en lugares tales como México, Nicaragua, Chile, Cuba y Guatemala. Hemos apoyado a dictadores sin escrúpulos en lugares tales como China, Corea del Sur y Vietnam.

Hasta Saddam Hussein, el maligno, fué sostenido en el poder

por Estados Unidos mientras él hizo nuestro juego. Su victoria sobre Irán se debió a nuestro apoyo militar y a la información muy valiosa que le proporcionó nuestro sistema de satélites espías. Fué tonto de nuestra parte el no esperar que Saddam emplearía todo el equipo que le suministramos para ajustar antiguas cuentas pendientes. Irónicamente, a pesar del embargo, recibimos actualmente más petróleo de Iraq que de Kuwait, la nación que combatimos para salvar. Dada la situación actual, ¿qué logró



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Noticias Breves

HACU Presiona Por Mas Fondos Para Educación Superior de Hispanos

Por Ramón Vásquez

Washington, -Con el objetivo de que el Congreso apruebe más fondos para la educación superior de estudiantes latinos, la Asociación Hispana de Universidades (HACU, por sus siglas en inglés) inició un foro en esta ciudad en el que aborda temas que afectan a esa minoría.

"Uno de las principales razones de nuestro foro es la búsqueda de más fondos para nuestras universidades", dijo a EFE el presidente de HACU, Antonio R. Flores.

busca que los miembros de esa asociación adquieran un conocimiento más amplio de cómo presentar y debatir puntos de vista sobre asuntos legislativos que están pendientes.

"El presidente Bill Clinton ha recomendado para el presupuesto fiscal del año 2000 solamente 42,3 millones de dólares bajo las leyes de Educación Superior, pero nosotros estamos pidiendo que se aumente a 62,5 millones de dólares", enfatizó Flores.

"Este foro nos dará la oportunidad de enviar nuestro mensaje de una manera más efectiva tanto al público como al Congreso y a la Casa Blanca", agregó Flores.

Fundada en 1986, HACU es una organización nacional con oficinas en San Antonio (Texas), que representa a más de 200 universidades de EEUU y Puerto Rico, que agrupan en total a las dos terceras partes de todos los hispanos en educación superior.

HACU busca aumentos significativos no solamente bajo leyes de Educación, sino bajo otras leyes que también proveen fondos para universidades como de Agricultura y Defensa, pero que no son suficientes.

Plaza hizo un llamado contra la discriminación, ya sea en el trabajo, el hogar, o en cualquier otra parte.

El Congreso Latino, organizado por el Centro Latino de Derechos Civiles de Washington, es un foro que se celebra cada año, desde 1992, para discutir temas que afectan a la comunidad hispana del área de la capital estadounidense, donde habitan unos 350.000 latinos.

Destacan Poder Empresarial de Latinas en EEUU

Washington, - Las empresarias latinas han contribuido, en forma significativa, a la creación de fuentes de trabajo en EEUU en los últimos seis años, destacó Ida Castro, directora de la Comisión de Igualdad en las Oportunidades de Empleo (EEOC).

Castro fue la oradora invitada del séptimo Congreso Latino '99, que reunió durante dos días a líderes políticos de la comunidad hispana en Washington.

La funcionaria señaló que entre 1987 y 1996 el número de mujeres propietarias de negocios se triplicó en más del 206 por ciento. Hasta 1996, había 382.400 mujeres dueñas de negocios en todo Estados Unidos y dieron empleo a más de 671.000 personas, generando ventas por más de 67.000 millones de dólares, dijo Castro.

En la actualidad, continuó Castro, la comunidad empresarial hispana en el país emplea aproximadamente 1,5 millones de personas, cuyos sueldos ascienden a más de 35.000 millones de dólares anuales.

"Al entrar al nuevo milenio los hispanos emplearán casi 4 millones de personas y generarán más de 100.000 millones de dólares en sueldos, lo cual es impresionante", enfatizó Castro.

Criticó, sin embargo, la desigualdad salarial de los hispanos, en comparación con otros grupos étnicos, ya que los hombres latinos ganan 64 centavos por cada dólar que devenga la mujer anglo.

"Las latinas están mucho peor todavía al devengar solamente 53 centavos por cada dólar que un hombre lleva a su hogar", agregó.

Las mujeres hispanas que cuentan con un diploma universitario ganan menos sueldo que un hombre que tiene un diploma de la secundaria.

Castro, de origen puertorriqueño, lamenta el alto nivel de deserción escolar entre los hispanos, niveles que considera inaceptable.

Y aquellos que optan por concluir sus estudios no tienen los recursos que les permitiría una competencia justa, dijo Castro.

"Estos obstáculos limitan, a la larga, nuestra habilidad de obtener una educación universitaria o de pos-grado. Es imprescindible participar de lleno y contribuir a la sociedad con nuestro 'granito de arena' en el mundo laboral del futuro", agregó.

Como directora del EEOC, Castro señaló que "la discriminación en el empleo mantiene a los hispanos y otros grupos lejos de la prosperidad económica y mantiene a nuestra familias con un bajo nivel de vida".

Por su parte Eva Plaza, subsecretaria de la oficina federal de Vivienda e Igualdad de Oportunidades, dijo que cualquier acto de discriminación contra cualquier grupo es contra "nosotros mismos".

Entre 1984 y 1990, el porcentaje de latinos que vivían en índices de pobreza en Nueva York pasó del 42,9 al 43,1 por ciento, mientras que el incremento entre los negros fue del 31 al 33 por ciento, y entre los blancos del 9 al 11,6 por ciento.

Para el año 2000, se calcula que la población de Nueva York llegará a 7.582.494 personas, de las cuales 2.034.344 serán latinos.

Se estima que para esa fecha, habrá 863.000 ancianos de grupos minoritarios en el estado de Nueva York y si las tendencias continúan, que 431.000 de ellos vivirán en niveles de pobreza, la mayoría de los cuales vivirá en esta ciudad.

America Latina No Alcanzará Objetivos de Reducir Pobreza a la Midad

Washington, - El crecimiento vacilante de América Latina y Asia, así como las perspectivas inciertas de la economía de Rusia y la constante expansión del sida en África impedirán lograr algunos objetivos, como reducir la pobreza, que la comunidad internacional se había fijado para el inicio del nuevo siglo.

El Banco Mundial (BM), en la víspera de su reunión semestral con el Fondo Monetario Internacional (FMI), publicó su tercer informe anual sobre los indicadores del desarrollo, en el que alerta a América Latina de que no podrá conseguir los objetivos de reducir la pobreza a la mitad en el año 2015, debido a los efectos de las últimas crisis económicas.

El informe indica que las actuales previsiones económicas para el período entre 1998 y el 2001 "sugieren que sólo el sur de Asia y China crecerán lo suficientemente rápido como para reducir en el año 2015 su pobreza a la mitad".

"En los últimos 18 meses ha habido una crisis que ha puesto en riesgo el sistema financiero global, amenazando con erosionar los progresos económicos y sociales alcanzados a lo largo de muchos años", señala James Wolfensohn, presidente del BM, en la introducción de ese documento.

Pero, según el vicepresidente de la institución, Joseph Stiglitz, "también hay buenas noticias. Se puede observar un extraordinario aumento de los niveles de vida en los últimos 25 años".

De acuerdo con los expertos del Banco Mundial, el Producto Interior Bruto (PIB) de América Latina y el Caribe experimentará en 1999 un retroceso del 0,8 por ciento, mientras que será de un crecimiento positivo del 2,5 en el año 2000 y del 3,9 en el 2001.

Las estimaciones del organismo multilateral señalan que es preciso alcanzar un crecimiento anual de al menos el 2,7 por ciento para reducir a la mitad la pobreza entre los latinoamericanos.

El BM ha realizado esta estadística tomando como referencia lo que se considera el umbral de pobreza: por debajo de 1 dólar/día.

Se estima que, con ese ritmo de crecimiento, los más de 120 millones de latinoamericanos que viven con menos de ese dinero al día habrían doblado sus ingresos.

La mayoría de las estadísticas que difunde este informe incluyen datos anteriores al estallido de la crisis financiera de 1998, aunque se refiere en parte a las turbulencias registradas en los mercados.

Según el BM, la crisis hizo que la entrada de capitales extranjeros privados a largo plazo a los países en desarrollo se redujera de 299.000 millones de dólares en 1997 hasta 227.000 millones el año pasado.

Aunque indica que la entrada de capital extranjero directo aumentó un poco, el descenso de la confianza de los inversores en los mercados emergentes provocó una fuerte bajada en los flujos de acciones, de 136.000 millones de dólares en 1997 hasta 72.000 millones en 1998.

Stiglitz señaló que desde 1970 "la producción de alimentos ha superado el crecimiento de la población de casi 2.000 millones de personas y el 70 por ciento de los adultos del mundo en desarrollo saben hoy leer".

Outrage Over Latino Prisoners Is Tempered By History

By Ray Rodriguez

While I worry about the safety of the three U.S. soldiers captured by the Serbs, I do not share the sense of outrage many Latinos have expressed because two of the soldiers happen to be of Mexican descent.

However, as a student of history, I am deeply troubled by what is going on in Kosovo, and why. The number of Albanian refugees and Serbian civilian casualties continues to grow. Both are innocent victims of equally barbaric acts.

In order to energize the people of the United States and gain their support for our bombing missions, the term "ethnic cleansing" has become the buzz word.

How can civilized people commit such atrocities, we ask ourselves righteously? We and our allies are in Kosovo to prevent such barbaric acts, we say. I find the feigned outrage of Turkey's prime minister amusing. Obviously, he chooses to overlook Turkey's slaughter of the Armenians.

Every nation has committed its own acts of atrocity.

If you want to know about ethnic cleansing, ask the descendants of the native peoples who occupied this land before the Europeans arrived.

The concept of ethnic cleansing was brought to our shores by the English, based on their experience in Ireland. According to the prevailing philosophy, the only "good Indian" was a dead one. That view sanctioned their annihilation. The British were simply following a tradition as ancient as history itself.

We only fool ourselves if we think we can end it in Kosovo, or anywhere else. We may drive it underground for a time, but it will resurface as it always has. This is an innate part of man's base nature. If that were not the case, why are so many ethnic groups at risk all over the world?

In justifying using our military might, we hear a great deal about "self-determination" -- the right of people to determine their own form of government. That sounds most worthy.

But it also is rhetoric. Perhaps the most damning proof of our disdain for self-determination is that when our southern states tried to secede, we fought the bloodiest war in our history to prevent them from exercising that right.

Self-determination? Somewhere else, maybe. But not here at home.

Another reason we are in Kosovo, we are told, is our opposition to dictators, especially those who deny people their basic human rights.

The list of oppressive dictatorships the United States has supported so long as they did our bidding or served our purpose is very, very long. In our hemisphere alone, we have backed dictatorships in such places as Mexico, Nicaragua, Chile, Cuba and Guatemala. We have supported ruthless dictators in countries such as China, South Korea and South Vietnam.

Even Saddam Hussein, the evil one, was sustained in power by the United States as long as he played ball. His victory over Iran was due to our military support and the invaluable information our satellite spy system provided him. It was foolish of us not to expect that Saddam would use all the equipment we provided him to settle old scores. Ironically, despite the embargo, today we get more oil from Iraq than from Kuwait, the nation we fought to save.

Given the current situation, what did the Gulf War actually accomplish, other than give us a place to test our newest weapons?

Some may remember how outraged we were when Italians bombed defenseless Ethiopia and the German air force rehearsed its use of air power by bombing Madrid. It later bombed London. I know of no instance where air power alone has led to the capitulation of the enemy.

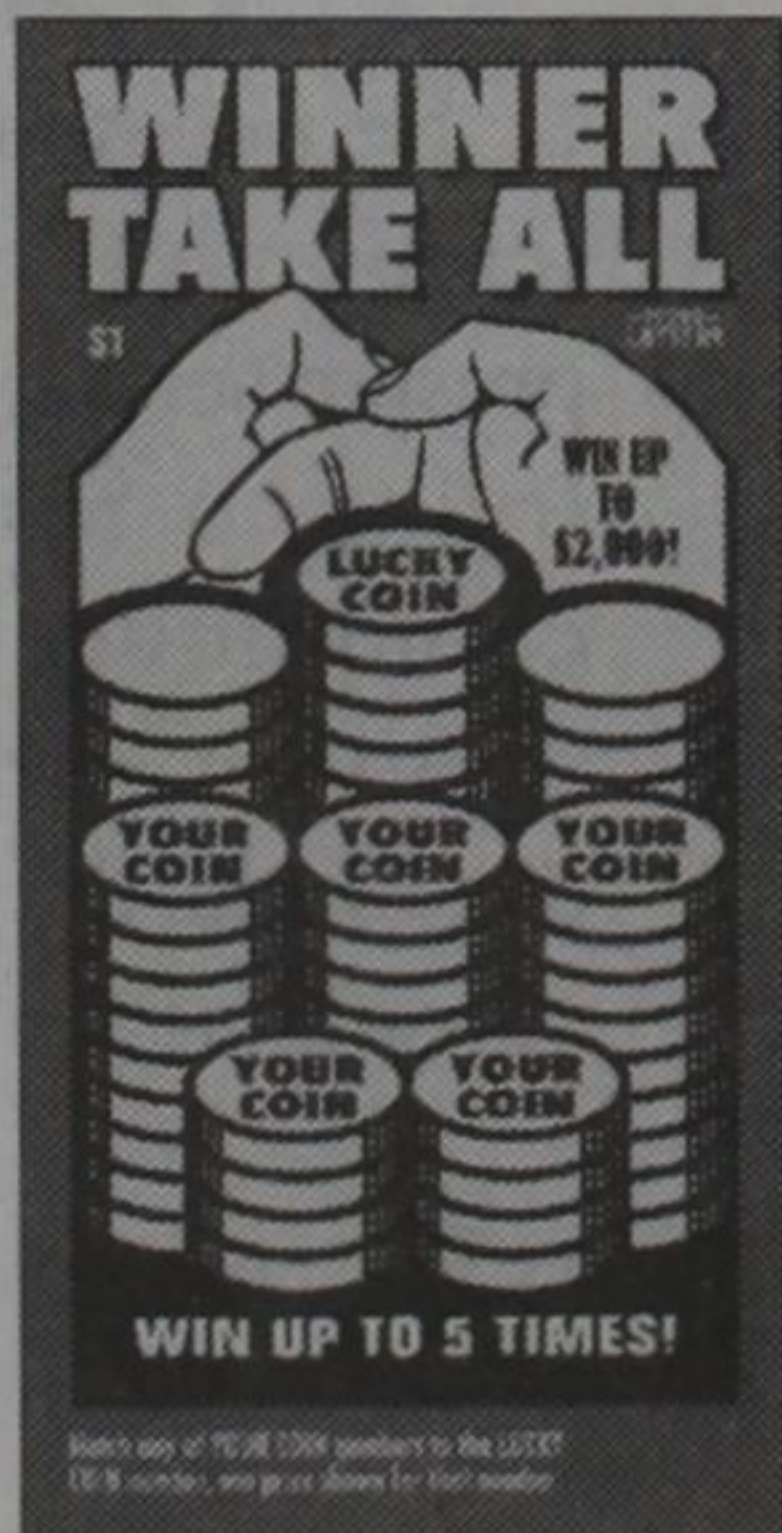
Does this mean that it will eventually become necessary to use U.S. ground troops? Instead of three prisoners, how many casualties are we prepared to endure?

Yes, I am troubled by our role in Kosovo and the safety of our troops. But I am even more concerned about a policy that places our men and women in harm's way without their involvement being clearly thought out.

Surely, in this day and age, there must be a better way to resolve the situation than relying on a half-baked policy instituted by a president who did not have the fortitude to answer his country's call when it came his turn to serve. No military commander should ever ask his troops to do what he will not do himself.

(Ray Rodriguez of Long Beach, Calif., is a retired history professor.)
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Ali Backs Senate Reforms To Clean Up Pro Boxing

WASHINGTON He uttered not a word, but the presence of Muhammad Ali at a Senate hearing to lend support to efforts to



Boxing legend Muhammad Ali, right, huddles with his friend Howard Bingham, while testifying on Capitol Hill April 22, 1999 before the Senate Commerce Committee hearing on boxing reform. Ali testified in support of legislation named for him that would impose regulation on professional boxing. (AP Photo/Linda Spillers)

clean up boxing spoke volumes.

The former heavyweight champion, who suffers from Parkinson's syndrome, told the Senate Commerce Committee through longtime friend Howard Bingham that the controversial Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield draw last month was the "lowest point" for a sport beset with problems.

"Ali has become increasingly upset about the scandals that have occurred in professional boxing," Bingham said as Ali gazed intently at committee members from a witness table.

Ali is particularly interested in the parts of Sen. John McCain's boxing reform bill that would stop exploitation of boxers by promoters, such as a prohibition on "coercive option" contracts that prevent fighters from controlling their careers.

"Muhammad Ali believes that fighters deserve the same R-E-S-P-E-C-T, respect, as all other professional athletes in this country," Bingham said. "Currently, they aren't respected."

McCain, an Arizona Republican and 2000 presidential aspirant, told Ali: "Your support of this legislation is absolutely vital to our chances of passing it."

Among other things, McCain's bill would establish new standards for sanctioning organizations that rank fighters, create new financial disclosure requirements for promoters and event organizers, and require that state boxing commissions be informed when charges, costs and fees are taken from a boxer's purse.

McCain, an avid boxing fan who attended the Lewis-Holyfield fight, said the sport has too

few ethical boundaries and a ranking system controlled by promoters that "defies all reason." "When honest and open com-

petition is inhibited, it is the boxers who suffer most," McCain said. "But millions of ticket-buying fans in America are also hurt by monopolistic practices in boxing." Former boxing referee Mills Lane, now a judge on a TV court show, said boxing's credibility suffers because sanctioning bodies - the IBF, WBA and WBC - play too large a role in which judges and referees work the matches.

"These subtle pressures are there and nobody can tell me they're not," Lane said. But Walter Stone, counsel to the International Boxing Federation, said fight organizers are already working to address the problems, such as a new IBF rule in which the No. 1 ranking cannot simply be assumed by a boxer moving up due to others' losses. Instead, one ranked boxer would have to beat another ranked boxer to take the spot.

"We've recognized what the problems are and we've moved to try to correct them," Stone said. Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., expressed concern that the McCain bill might unfairly target certain promoters and invite numerous court challenges. He said the bill must address multiyear broadcast contracts in which contenders stay under a network's control in return for a shot at the championship.

"There is no question when it comes to revenues, the broadcast industry packs the biggest wallop," Reid said.

McCain is likely to move the bill through the Commerce Committee later this year. An identical measure last year passed the Senate but went nowhere in the House.

King Loves Opening Scoring: Overall Reviews Mixed SportsLine Wire Reports

WASHINGTON - While it's far too early to make a complete assessment of open scoring in boxing, Don King is convinced that the sport can't survive without it.

"It is time for change," King declared early Sunday morning, shortly after staging a world championship tripleheader that featured the return of open scoring.

"Boxing has to step up to the forefront," King said. "Many of us in the boxing world love having a difference of opinion, but progress demands that we come into the 21st century."

As the promoter of Saturday night's event at the MCI Center, it was in King's best interest to assert the positives of open scoring. He pointed out that the fans were kept abreast of the scoring as the fight progressed, and because of that there was no adverse reaction - or surprise - when the final decision was announced.

But two of the three fights were clearly influenced by the open-scoring system, which had not been used since the 1980s yet has gained support in the wake of last month's disputed

draw between Evander Holyfield and Lennox Lewis.

Sharmba Mitchell retained his World Boxing Association super



Don King is open to a change in the scoring process. (AP)

lightweight crown with a majority decision over Reggie Green, whose promoter rued the fact that scores were announced after each round.

BY THE 11TH ROUND, it became clear that Mitchell needed only to avoid a knockout in order to win. So the champion simply

ran out the clock. "The public was robbed of a good finish," said Harold Weston, who represents V.I.P. Productions and serves as Green's promoter. "Sharmba did nothing in the last two rounds. Open scoring is just a bad situation."

Helped by a knockdown in the first round, the only one in the fight, Mitchell took a seemingly insurmountable lead into the final round.

"I knew I had to knock him out at the end," Green said.

Mitchell won 116-111 and 115-113 on two cards, while a third judge saw the fight 114-114.

As the scores were announced, a portion of the crowd occasionally voiced its displeasure. But when Mitchell was declared a winner, the announcement didn't come as a shock.

The two earlier title fights on the MCI Center card had a different version of open scoring, providing scores after every four rounds.

IN THE FIRST BOUT, Mark "Too Sharp" Johnson claimed the vacant International Boxing Federation junior bantamweight title with a unanimous decision over Ratanachai Vorapin of

Thailand. Johnson, who knew he had an overwhelming lead after eight rounds, coasted to the finish.

"Why should I go out there and take any chances? If I'd have gotten into a war after the eighth round, I could have been hurt and maybe lost the fight," he said.

Keith Holmes, on the other hand, managed to avoid that type of situation altogether - he reclaimed the World Boxing Council middleweight title by stopping Hacine Cherifi at 2:13 of the seventh round.

Holmes led on two of three cards after the fourth round, but there was no need to total up the scores a second time after Holmes landed a barrage of punches that caused referee Frank Capuccino to stop the fight.

Long after the final punch was thrown, King addressed the media in a rambling speech that confirmed his reputation as a master of elaboration and pontification. Along the way, he gave his own review of the return of open scoring.

"It was awesome," he said. "A smashing success."

Senate Turns Over Some Holyfield-Lewis Evidence to DA

ALBANY, N.Y. A state Senate committee has turned over evidence of potential criminality in the judging of the Evander Holyfield-Lennox Lewis fight to Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau, its chairman said Wednesday.

"We found some rather suspicious and peculiar developments of a potentially criminal nature which we frankly turned over to the New York (County) district attorney," state Sen. Roy Goodman said Wednesday.

He said testimony on March 18 in Manhattan before the Senate Investigations Committee, which Goodman chairs, has been forwarded to Morgenthau's investigators. The district attorney has convened a grand jury to look into the controversial outcome of the March 13 heavy-weight title fight, which was declared a draw despite Lewis' apparent domination of the bout.

Lewis is the WBC champion. Holyfield holds the WBA and IBF titles.

During the Senate hearing, one of the judges at the fight acknowledged that she had recently filed for bankruptcy. However, Eugenia Williams of Atlantic City, N.J., who scored the fight

for Holyfield, denied that there was any attempt to help her financially in exchange for influencing her judgment of the bout.

Goodman said the hearing testimony also indicated that the mortgage of judge Larry O'Connell of England, who scored the fight a draw, was in "arrears."

"This raises a very important question: Should anybody be judging a big fight on which enormous amounts are wagered if they themselves have financial problems and could be subject to temptation?" Goodman told Albany radio station WROW-AM on Wednesday. "We are not accusing anyone of anything, but we do think that the criminal piece should be looked at by the DA."

Morgenthau's office can also issue subpoenas across state lines, Goodman said. The Senate committee cannot do so.

In addition to the Senate and district attorney's investigations, the state Athletic Commission and state Attorney General Eliot Spitzer are also reviewing the

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Holyfield-Lewis decision and prize fighting in general. A federal grand jury in Newark, N.J., is also reportedly investigating whether the International Boxing Federation sold rankings and arranged fights in return for kickbacks. The world's three major sanctioning bodies are the IBF, WBC and WBA. A Holyfield-Lewis rematch has been ordered by the three sanctioning bodies. The Senate committee's hearing resumes Friday in Manhattan, with Holyfield scheduled to appear in person and Lewis via a videotape interview. Goodman said he has already conducted. Goodman said they will be "testifying as to their im- p- sions not only of the fight bu- what needs to be done to clean up the boxing game."

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SPC SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES
Levelland Campus full-time position: Request position description and application packet from South Plains College, Human Resources Office, Maria Chapa, 1401 S. College Ave., Levelland, TX, 79336, (806) 894-9611, ext. 2177. Review of applications will begin May 6, 1999, with an anticipated start date of June 15, 1999.
Complete employment listings and descriptions are available at our web site www.spc.cc.tx.us under "JOBS".
South Plains College reserves the right to extend the search or not offer position advertised. An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Educational Institution.

THE LUBBOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 1999-2000 SCHOOL YEAR
May 6, 1999, 2 P.M.
The campuses listed below offer Full-Day Kindergarten.

Arnett	701 E. Queens St.	Overton	2902 Louisville Ave.
Bayless	2115 58th St.	Parkway	406 N. Zenith
Bean	3001 Ave. N	Parsons	2811 58th St.
Bowie	2902 Chicago Ave	Posey	1301 Redbud Ave.
Bozeman	3101 E. 2nd St.	Ramirez	702 Ave. T
Brown	2315 36th St.	Rush	4702 15th
Dupre	2008 Ave. T	Smith	8707 Dover Ave.
Guadalupe	101 N. Ave. P	Stewart	4815 46th St.
Hardwick	1420 Chicago Ave.	Stubbs	3516 Toledo Ave.
Harwell	4104 Ave. D	Tubbs	3311 Bates St.
Haynes	3801 60th St.	Waters	3006 78th St.
Hodges	5001 Ave. P	Wester	4602 Chicago Ave.
Honey	3615 86th St.	Wheatley	1802 E. 28th St.
Hunt	415 N. Ivory	Wheelock	3008 42nd St.
Iles	2401 Date Ave.	Whiteside	7508 Albany Ave.
Jackson	201 Vernon Ave.	Williams	4812 58th St.
McWhorter	2711 1st St.	Wilson	2807 25th St.
Maedgen	4401 Nashville Ave.	Wolffarth	3202 Erskine St.
Murfee	6901 Nashville Dr.	Wright	1302 Adrian St.


Parents are required to provide the following at the time of registration:
★Birth Certificate
★Social Security Number
★Immunization Record
★Proof of Residence (i.e. Utility Bill or Lease Agreement)

Children Must Be 5-Years-Old On Or Before September 1st.
Please check with individual campuses to confirm registration time.

Our Customers Always Deserve the Best!
Casa Formal
For All Your Dress Wear
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2447 34th Street - Lubbock, Tx
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MONTELONGO'S RESTAURANT
3021 Clovis Rd - 762-3068

SATURDAY
MAY 1st
9am - 5pm
FREE!
BRING THE
WHOLE
FAMILY!

be a

Tourist
 in your own backyard.
Who says there's nothing to do in Lubbock?

In celebration of "National Tourism Week", the Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau is hosting the first annual "Be A Tourist in Your Own Backyard" day! YOU are our most valuable assets and we want to introduce you to all of the many exciting things there are to see and do in and around the City of Lubbock. Who says there's nothing to do in Lubbock? Bring the family out and see for yourself what we have to do here!

It's Free!



Just Look At All There Is To Do!

These businesses will be open and ready to welcome all visitors.

American Wind Power Center
 East Broadway & Canyon Lake Dr.

Breedlove Dehydration Plant
 1818 N Mlk Blvd

Buddy Holly Statue & Walk of Fame
 9th St. & Ave. Q.

Cap Rock Winery
 Woodrow Rd. 1/2 mile east of 87 South

Depot District
 19th St. & IH-27

Llano Estacado Winery
 FM 1585, 3 miles east of US of IH-27 South

Lubbock Fine Arts Center
 2600 Ave. P

Lubbock Memorial Arboretum/Municipal Garden & Art Center
 Arboretum: 4111 University Ave.
 Garden Center: 4215 University

Lubbock Lake Landmark State Historical Park
 2401 Landmark Drive

Prairie Dog Town
 Mackenzie Park 4th St. & IH-27

Ranching Heritage Center
 4th St. & Indiana Ave.

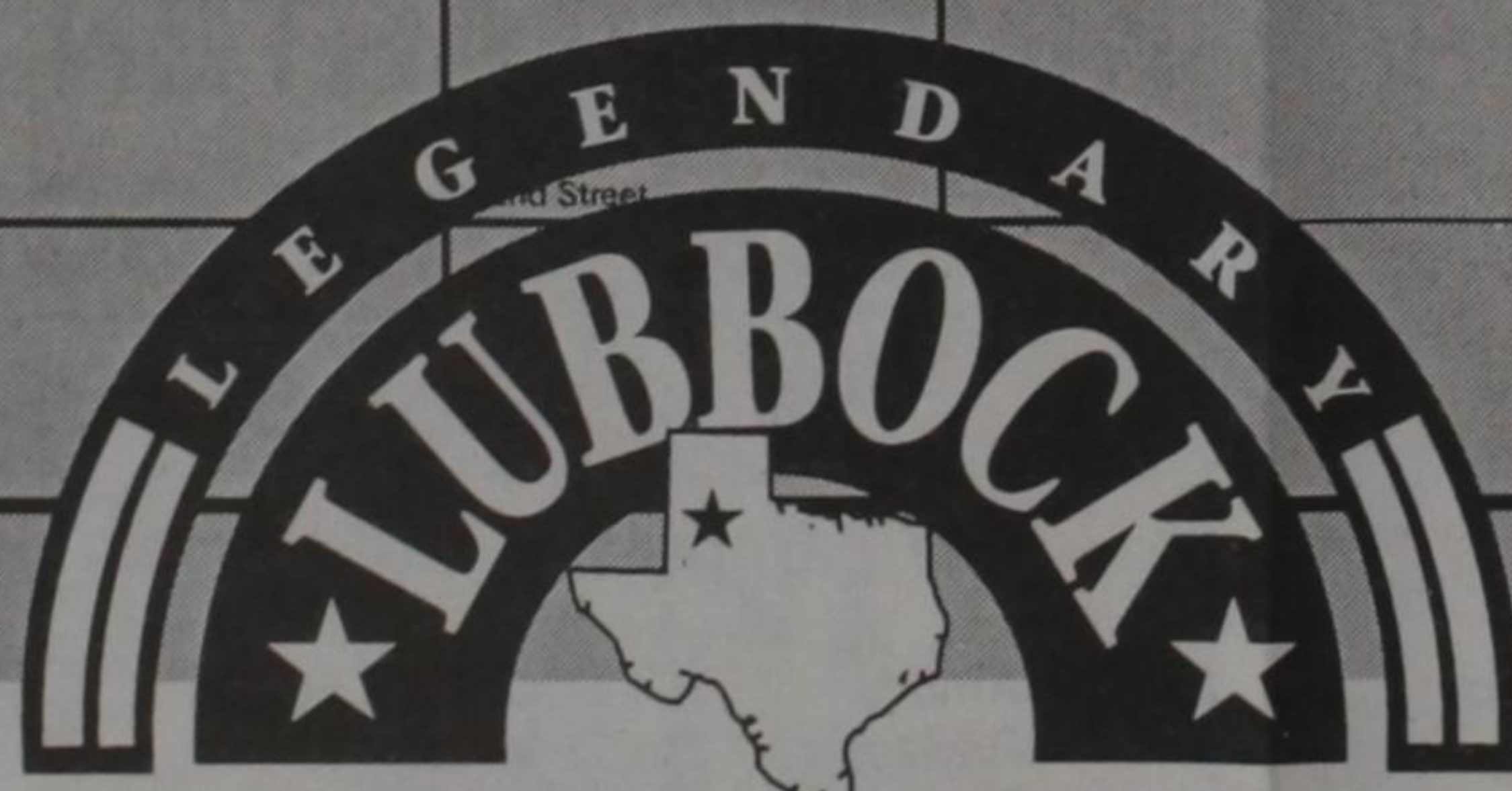
Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library
 15th St. & Detroit

The Museum of Texas Tech University
 4th St. & Indiana Ave.

Take A FREE Tour Of Lubbock's Hot Spots

If you ride the guided Citibus tour you have A CHANCE TO WIN:

- Free Night Stay At Local Hotel
- Free Dinners At Local Restaurants
- Free Tickets to Up coming events



Convention & Visitors Bureau
OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Sponsored by the Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Catch a FREE ride on a designated Citibus approximately every 30 minutes, at every site on the guided tour.

TOUR BUSES BEGIN LEAVING FROM RANCHING HERITAGE CENTER AT 9:30 AM

Don't want to take the bus? Feel FREE in taking your own car to any of the sites on the tour and enjoy Free Fun!

EVERYONE'S INVITED

Kickoff Presentation 9am at the Ranching Heritage Center
FOOD! • BEVERAGES! • LOTS OF FUN!