

Fiestas Tienen Exito

Fiesta Patrias Proved to be a tremendous success this year with thousand of persons attending and participating. Le damos las gracias a todos los organizadores y miembros de Fiestas del Llano Por su buen trabajo en darnos un buen tiempo y permitirnos expresar nuestra culturas y orgullo ante todas la comunidad de El Oeste de Tejas. Felicidades.



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Lubbock, Texas

UT Professor's Remarks Challenged At Rally

By Enrique Gonzales
HISPANIC Online

Austin, TEXAS - Sept. 16, 1997 - At a Tuesday rally of at least 2,000, the Rev. Jesse Jackson urged the University of Texas at Austin to "isolate the virus" represented by the controversial remarks of UT Law professor Lino Graglia.

Graglia last week told reporters he believed African-Americans and Mexican-Americans could not compete at selective institutions because they come from cultures that don't encourage academic success.

"I hope the university will isolate the virus called Graglia and let the students go on," Jackson concluded at a noon rally, flanked by Latino and African-American Texas legislators, university faculty, students leaders and others.

"How can you live in Professor Graglia's world," Jackson said, adding most of the world's people are not white, many don't speak English and a sizable number are not Christian. "Let's live in the real world."

Graglia made his comments Sept. 10 at a news conference announcing the formation of a student organization that supports a federal court case that bans race-based admissions policies in Texas.

He is quoted as saying: "Blacks and Mexican-Americans are not academically competitive with whites in selective institutions. It is the result primarily of cultural effects. It seems to be the case that, various studies seem to show, that blacks and Mexican-Americans spend much less time in school. They have a culture that seems not to encourage achievement. Failure is not looked upon with disgrace."

Other speakers at the rally condemned Graglia, saying

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Female Elected Politicians Set New Agenda For Mexico

MEXICO CITY—Amalia Garcia remembers well the battles in the late 1980s, when she was fighting to criminalize sexual harassment and her fellow federal deputies tried to convince her the problem didn't exist in Mexico.

"They said that sexual harassment was an Anglo-Saxon practice," Garcia recalled with a rueful smile. "Mexico, they said, has courtship."

Garcia knew better. And so did all the young female pages who worked in the Mexican Congress. Even as Garcia and other female deputies were persuading male deputies to vote to outlaw sexual harassment in 1990, they had to threaten to make "a huge scandal" if their male colleagues didn't stop bothering the pages.



This September Garcia and feminists are going to have company in their war for gender equality in Mexico. The new Congress, elected in July will include more women than ever before. Those women are already shaping cross-party coalitions and preparing an agenda focusing on women's concerns.

"Whether it's about the budget or health care members of congressional commissions need to start thinking about gender," said Garcia, who is leaving Mexico's lower house, the Chamber of Deputies, to serve as a senator representing the left-of-center

Democratic Revolutionary Party.

The attraction of women's issues has not been lost on the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, the PRI, and on its standard-bearer, President Ernesto Zedillo, who this month announced a new social service program aimed primarily at women and girls. Girls in Mexico drop out of school more often than boys. Of adult Mexicans who are illiterate, 70 percent are women. Women also have been hit hardest by Mexico's economic woes, Garcia said.

"We have what's called 'the feminization of poverty' in Mexico," Garcia said. "Women here are the poorest of the poor."

The Democratic Revolutionary Party, or PRD, which focused heavily on women's issues in this year's campaign, is fueling the rise of women in Mexico's legislative bodies. In the July 6 elections, the party doubled the number of female deputies it will have in the lower house. With 30 female deputies, it will have the largest percentage of female elected officials of any of the three major parties represented in the 500-seat chamber.

Among the PRD's deputies is a lesbian feminist who is making history as the first openly gay national legislator in Mexico. Patricia Jimenez is a newly elected federal deputy and the first openly gay person to serve in Mexico's Congress. She ran as a candidate for the Democratic Revolutionary Party.

In total, the chamber is 17 percent female as of September up from 14 percent previously. And unlike the past, the female lawmakers are seeking to build a solid



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News Briefs

Study: Stem Flow of Immigrants to US

A new study suggests Congress should tighten the admission of all documented immigrants into the United States to ease the strain they bring on public services and employment, reports Associated Press.

The analysis of California immigration by the Rand Corp. think tank warns the state's economy cannot continue to absorb large numbers of documented immigrants with poor job and language skills.

But the report, released Monday, also urges making an exception for Mexico, allowing increased documented immigration from that country in return for help fighting undocumented border-crossing.

The Rand report calls on Congress to reduce documented immigrants to a "moderate range" - more than the 300,000 annual average of the 1970s but less than the 1990s average of about 800,000.

It also suggests regulating immigration flow so it can be cut at times of high unemployment. Education levels and English proficiency should be used as admission criteria, which now rely heavily on family ties.

"This is not an anti-immigrant study," said Kevin McCarthy, a demographer who wrote the study along with George Vernez, an urban planner. "What we are arguing is that we need a more realistic appraisal of immigration studies."

The study by the Santa Monica-based think tank concedes immigration fueled California growth for more than 20 years - until the recession of the early 1990s.

California, home to a quarter of the nation's immigrants, is moving away from low-skilled jobs in manufacturing and other sectors. Despite that, almost half of all immigrants to the state are from Mexico and Central America, where they do not receive adequate education, the study said.

The 321-page Rand analysis does not make distinctions between the effects of documented and undocumented arrivals in a state where an estimated one in five immigrants is undocumented.

The report suggests expanding the number of documented residence permits for Mexican immigrants in exchange for collaboration on border enforcement. The range of such an expansion could be somewhere up from the 20,000 residence permits to as many as 100,000, McCarthy said.

Advocates for immigration were critical of some of the conclusions.

"It's an elitist view," said Frank Sharry, executive director of the National Immigration Forum, a Washington-based group. "If not for the very people they want to keep out, who would care for their children, make their clothes, make their food, pick their food, wash their clothes and make it possible for them to lead the quality of life that they do?"

Four months ago, a study by the National Academy of Sciences found that immigrants provided more benefit than burden to the U.S. economy. But it also concluded that some states, especially California, were contributing more to pay for education and other public services used by immigrant households.

Clinton Woos Black Caucus

Papering over bitter differences on drug sentencing and education for at least one night, President Clinton and the Congressional Black Caucus celebrated their common ground Saturday in the fight against conservatives, reports Associated Press.

"There is still too much poverty ... too much discrimination, too much to do," Clinton told a black-tie gala. "Down to the last day of my presidency I will be there with you, working with you, fighting for an equality we can all share together."

Rep. Maxine Waters, a California Democrat who is the caucus chairman and often an outspoken critic of some administration policies, shared the stage with Clinton, noting that she doesn't always agree with her mother, either.

"We don't always agree, but the president is a friend," she said. "Would I rather work with him than (Ronald) Reagan or (George) Bush or Newt Gingrich or any of those other right-wing conservatives? You bet your bottom dollar I would."

The festivities capped the 27th annual legislative conference of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. Opening several days of meetings last week, Waters reiterated her irritation over Clinton's decision to maintain sentencing disparities for cocaine offenders.

Critics say the stiffer mandatory sentencing for possession of crack cocaine vs. powdered cocaine unfairly discriminates against black offenders.

Waters also voiced frustration that Clinton, in his budget negotiations with congressional Republicans, agreed to drop the "measly \$5 billion" that caucus members sought to repair dilapidated schools in mostly urban areas.

Gingrich Critical of Clinton Education Plan

House Speaker Newt Gingrich says education will be the next area of contention between the GOP and the White House, even as President Clinton on Monday said partisanship should be put aside as he pushes for national education tests, reports Associated Press.

"I think that the president's focusing on the wrong end," Gingrich said. "He's focusing on Washington bureaucracy, Washington regulations and Washington red tape. We believe he ought to focus on local parents, local students and local teachers."

Clinton is seeking to build support for national, standardized reading and math tests for fourth- and eighth-graders, respectively. States and school districts would decide whether to use the tests, he said.

Republicans in Congress, however, are pushing an amendment that would block funds for education standards and testing.

As education again becomes an issue in the upcoming midterm elections, the GOP favors a "school choice" proposal to extend tax breaks to parents who send their children to private schools.

El Editor #1 In News

La Elección De Diputada Lesbiana Señala Grandes Cambios En Tierra Del Machismo

NOTA EDITORIAL: Los enormes cambios del panorama político de México incluyen una novedad de gran impacto. Por primera vez en América Latina una lesbiana declarada gana una curul en la Cámara de Diputados. En una sociedad que es predominantemente católica, enormemente conservadora y fuertemente machista, la elección de Patria Jiménez, totalmente respaldada por su partido, podría marcar el inicio de una nueva era para los ciudadanos homosexuales de México. El editor asociado de PNS, Andrew Reding, es miembro sénior para asuntos hemisféricos en el Instituto de Política Mundial.

POR ANDREW REDING, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

Ciudad de México.- La dirigente de "El Closet de Sor Juana" toma posesión de su curul en la Cámara de Diputados, claramente señalando un cambio en la tierra del machismo.

Patria Jiménez se convierte en la primer miembro declaradamente homosexual que forma parte del Poder Legislativo en la historia de México; de hecho, es el primer caso en cualquiera de las legislaturas de América Latina.

Jiménez es todo menos discreta en lo que se refiere a su orientación sexual. "El closet" es un grupo defensor de los derechos de las lesbianas que tomó el nombre de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, monja jerónima y célebre poetisa mexicana del siglo XVII. Este año Patria Jiménez encabezó la marcha del "Orgullo Gay" en Tijuana, y en los carteles de su campaña proclamaba el lema, "Sexo Seguro, Voto Seguro -- Haz Tuyo el Futuro!" Su elección es notable no sólo por el triunfo personal sino porque señala una proclama sumamente importante del partido de izquierda, el Partido de la Revolución Demo-

crática (PRD). México tiene un sistema de voto proporcional; a cada partido le corresponde un número proporcional de curules en la Cámara de Diputados de acuerdo con el porcentaje del voto popular que recibe.

Antes de las elecciones, el partido formula una lista con los nombres de los miembros que han de ocupar las sillas. El PRD colocó el nombre de Jiménez en el doceavo lugar de la lista, con lo cual su cargo era virtualmente un hecho. Dado este paso, el partido en efecto se identifica con la causa de los homosexuales que luchan por obtener la aceptación de su modo de vida. A la vez, sin embargo, el partido se coloca en una situación de alto riesgo en una sociedad cuya inmensa mayoría es católica y conservadora. Aún así, el PRD se llevó aproximadamente el 36% de los votos en el centro de México, más del doble de los votos que obtuvo en las elecciones anteriores.

Como consecuencia, la elección de Jiménez adquiere relevancia a nivel nacional. Igualmente relevante es el hecho de que el Partido de Acción Nacional (PAN), de derecha, que por lo general respalda el sentir antihomosexual de la Iglesia Católica, perdió bastante fuerza en el mismo distrito.

Los resultados de las últimas elecciones le han dado al gobierno federal la cobertura política que le hacía falta para llevar a cabo una campaña más efectiva contra el contagio del virus VIH (virus de inmunodeficiencia humana)

y del SIDA (síndrome de inmunodeficiencia adquirida). El gobierno, maniatado por temor a reacciones violentas de grupos de derecha, ha estado aconsejando fidelidad y abstinencia en lugar de promover el uso del condón. Todo eso cambió abruptamente el primero de agosto con el lanzamiento de una nueva campaña nacional de televisión y de carteles publicitarios, en la que el mensaje es: "...hay muchas maneras de protegerse del SIDA; usar condón es una de ellas." La campaña, que ya tiene a los conservadores echando lumbre, está dirigida primordialmente a los adolescentes.

El gobierno federal también implementó un gran cambio en sus políticas sobre salud como respuesta a protestas de grupos defensores de la homosexualidad y del SIDA. El Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social (IMSS) es quien provee seguro médico a millones de trabajadores sindicalizados, a maestros, y a empleados de gobierno (y a individuos que pagan voluntariamente las primas). Ahora el IMSS cuenta con tratamientos avanzados para el SIDA, incluyendo la terapia "protease." (Los millones de mexicanos sin empleo o que tienen su propio negocio y no pueden pagar seguro médico, siguen sin cobertura.)

En México sigue arraigado el machismo. En él se exaltan los rasgos "masculinos" como son la fuerza y el afán de dominar, y es particularmente sensible a cualquier indicio femenino en un hombre.

Todo esto da pie a una perspectiva que difiere con el punto de vista que hay en los Estados Unidos. En México se tiende a ver al hombre que asume el rol activo con una pareja del mismo sexo como si recuperara la hombría, mas no así para el que asume el rol pasivo. Los travestis en especial, en su afán de ostentación femenina, son profundamente despreciados. Alrededor de veinticinco travestis fueron asesinados en México entre 1990 y 1995; en la mayoría de los casos la policía estuvo involucrada o fue cómplice.

Y en estos terrenos también hay cambios. Los gobiernos locales que por tanto tiempo fueron manejados por el Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI) han sido desplazados. En los lugares mismos donde el PRI ha sido reemplazado por el PAN se está extendiendo una nueva ética de respeto a los derechos humanos. A pesar de su inflexibilidad en cuanto a la inmoralidad de la conducta homosexual, dirigentes del PAN sostienen repetidamente también que los homosexuales deben ser tratados como seres humanos.

El partido de oposición más fuerte a nivel nacional actualmente es el PRD. Ya cuenta con los votos suficientes para controlar la Cámara de Diputados. El PRD, simpatizante de la causa homosexual, y Patria Jiménez, jurada como diputada a partir de este mes, parecen apuntar hacia el inicio de una nueva época para los homosexuales de México. Traducción de PNS por Rudolph Aceves.



Sittin' Here Thinkin'

First Hundred

by Ira Cutler

This is the 100th Sittin' Here Thinkin'.

When I started doing this, early in 1995, I had it in mind to write a few columns to see if I could actually do it. As is my custom, I waffled between deep fear and overblown ambition. Before I ever sent the first column in I wrote six, as insurance against running out of ideas. At the same time, if it all worked out, I planned to give up consulting altogether and become a Mike Royko or Jimmy Breslin kind of columnist. Hard edged, hat wearing, fast talking, cynical, feet up on the roll top desk like in The Front Page and all those old black and white newspaperman movies with actors like Clark Gable.

Lot I knew. I have since learned that newspapers only want to carry your column if everyone else already carries your column. In other words, if you are already in 200 newspapers it is not hard to get to 201. But I have also learned that newspapers are not the only means of communication.

I originally missed, entirely, that this online thing, while perhaps not at the level of Gutenberg inventing the printing press, is a very significant explosion in communications technology. Unlike most other communications explosions, like the invention of television and radio, online technology presents ready avenues for just plain people to speak out on issues. It is as if the old pamphleteers of Revolutionary America had the ability to get the word out fast and to nearly everyone at the same time. And so at this stage, while I would still like to be in a Clark Gable movie, I am pretty happy that my work is on a screen rather than on paper.

I have learned other things from my column writing experience. I learned, for example, that it is a whole lot harder to write short than to write long. Writing short requires you to make hard choices, to decide what is most important in what you want to say and to figure how you can most clearly say it. Almost all of the Sittin' Here Thinkin' columns are between 1000 and 1200 words and I have found that, on most subjects anyway, that is all I know.

I have also learned that it is hard to write anything at all during the summer. Writing, for me at least, is a close-in experience. I like to do it in small rooms, in dim light but for the computer screen, all alone and preferably late at night. I cannot write in wide open spaces, it seems unnatural to do so and summer is an open space time of year.

Writing regularly really does get harder after awhile - what can I say that I have not already said? What to talk about now that OJ is gone, Clinton's flaws are so obvious, there are no elections going on or wars to take note of? I do not think I am alone in this quandary - most columnists I read seem to be having the same problem. Last week a half dozen people getting sick from bad hamburger dominated the national news -- perhaps we live in boring times.

Writing is sometimes so hard that the difficulty has recently led me to thoughts of quitting. I have too much else to do, I am getting too little feedback and reaction, and who cares anyway, I tell myself. But on balance I find that writing a weekly column - I will be getting back to weekly now - is good for my mental health. It is good discipline for me to force myself to think a thought or two and then to think about how to convey that thought. Writing this column has improved my writing generally and, perhaps, improved my thinking as well.

I am also proud of some things about the first hundred Sittin' Here Thinkin's.

Like the fact that, although I often write about America and American politics, I have never once quoted or mentioned Alexis de Tocqueville. I do not know who de Tocqueville was, I have never read a word he wrote and I do not think that anyone else has, either.

I am also proud that I never picked on anybody who was not able to fight back and, in fact, I have criticized some people who, if they wanted to take the time, could squash me like a bug and ruin the rest of my life. I am proud that I have answered every piece of my fan mail, no matter where in the world it came from, and both readers said they really appreciated my prompt response.

But mostly I am going to keep writing, at least another hundred columns I think, because I still have some things to say - about de-professionalization of human services; about the ostrich-like behavior of alleged progressives; about the fall of communism; about Princess Di; about the World Series and baseball realignment and about the guys at the diner and how they relate to their women. I am also searching for ways to say some of what I think about the non-profit sector in general and philanthropy in particular. I need to find ways to talk about these things that will not cost me my livelihood.

But I am going to need your help - I need you to write some, too. My only regret about the column is that I have not created much debate in the HandsNet Community. Surely more people think I am full of crap than have said so, and just as surely there must be opposing or different ideas that could be presented. I am open to using the Sittin' Here Thinkin' space to present points of view other than my own - Sittin' Here Listenin' as it were - because I think that might spice things up a little.

Meanwhile, thanks for Sittin' There Readin'. Ira Cutler, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irrelevant, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. He promises us a Monday column most weeks. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.

Election of Gay Legislator Marks Major Shift In Land of Machismo

EDITOR'S NOTE: The sweeping changes in Mexico's political landscape include a striking first: for the first time anywhere in Latin America, an avowed homosexual has won a seat in the country's legislature. In an overwhelmingly Catholic, largely conservative, and strongly male-oriented society, the election of Patria Jimenez, with the full backing of her party, may mark the dawn of a new era for Mexico's gay citizens. PNS associate editor Andrew Reding is senior fellow for hemispheric affairs at the World Policy Institute.

BY ANDREW REDING, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

MEXICO CITY -- The head of "The Closet of Sister Juana" is about to take her seat in Mexico's Chamber of Deputies -- a clear sign of change in the land of "machismo."

Patria Jimenez will be the first openly homosexual member of Mexico's legislature in the country's history -- indeed, the first in any legislature in Latin America.

Jimenez is anything but discreet about her sexual orientation. "The Closet" is a Lesbian rights organization named after Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, a 17th Century Carmelite nun and renowned Mexican poet. She led this year's "Gay Pride" parade in Tijuana and campaigned with banners proclaiming, "Safe Sex, Save Vote -- Make the Future Yours!"

Her election is remarkable not just for her personal victory, but because it marks a major statement by the center-left Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD). Mexico has a proportional voting system -- each party holds a number of seats in the legislature proportional to the percentage of the popular vote it receives.

Before the election, the party puts out a list showing which individual members will fill the seats. The PRD placed Jimenez twelfth on the list, making it a virtual certainty that she would hold office. With this move, the party effectively identified itself with the struggle to win ac-

ceptance of homosexual lifestyles -- a big risk in what is an overwhelmingly Catholic, conservative society. Yet the PRD won about 36 percent of the vote in central Mexico, more than twice what it won in the last election.

That, in turn, gives Jimenez's election significance on the national level. Just as significant, the center-right National Action Party, which generally echoes the Catholic Church's condemnation of homosexuality, lost much of its support in the same district.

The recent election results have given the federal government the political cover it has lacked to carry out a more effective campaign against the spread of the HIV virus and AIDS. The government, hobbled by fears of a right-wing backlash, has refrained from promoting the use of condoms, counseling fidelity and abstinence instead.

That changed abruptly on August 1, when a new nationwide television and billboard campaign carrying the message, "there are many ways to protect oneself from AIDS -- using a condom is one of them." The campaign, which has already drawn fire from conservatives, is primarily aimed at adolescents.

The federal government has also made a major change in its health policy in response to protests by gay and AIDS advocacy groups. The Social Security Institute, which provides health insurance for millions of union members, teachers, and government employees (and individuals who voluntarily pay premiums) now offers advanced AIDS treatment, including protease therapy. (The millions of Mexicans who are unemployed, or self-employed but unable to pay for health insurance, are still uncovered.)

"Machismo," which can be

translated as "male-ism," remains deep-seated in Mexico. It exalts "male" traits such as toughness and the will to dominate, and is particularly sensitive to anything that hints of feminism in men.

This all lends itself to a perspective that differs from the US view.

The tendency in Mexico is to see men who take the active role with male partners as regaining their manhood, while those who take the passive role are not. Transvestites, with their ostentatious adoption of female traits, are particularly despised. Between 1990 and 1995, more than two dozen transvestites were murdered in Mexico -- with local police involved, or complicit, in most cases.

But even here, change is underway. Local governments, long run by the Institutional Revolutionary Party, have been swept out of office. Even where they have been replaced by PAN, a new ethic of respect for human rights is taking hold. Though adamant about the immorality of homosexual behavior, PAN leaders have been equally insistent that homosexuals must be treated as human beings.

With Patria Jimenez about to take the oath of office on September 1, with the gay-friendly PRD now the nation's leading opposition -- an opposition that now has enough votes to control the Chamber of Deputies -- this may be just the beginning of a new deal for Mexico's homosexuals.

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Fiestas Tienen Exito



Carlos Flores se puso a brincar de gusto cuando se enteró de que él y sus compañeros de trabajo de la fundación Alamo Iron Works habían ganado LOTTO Texas.

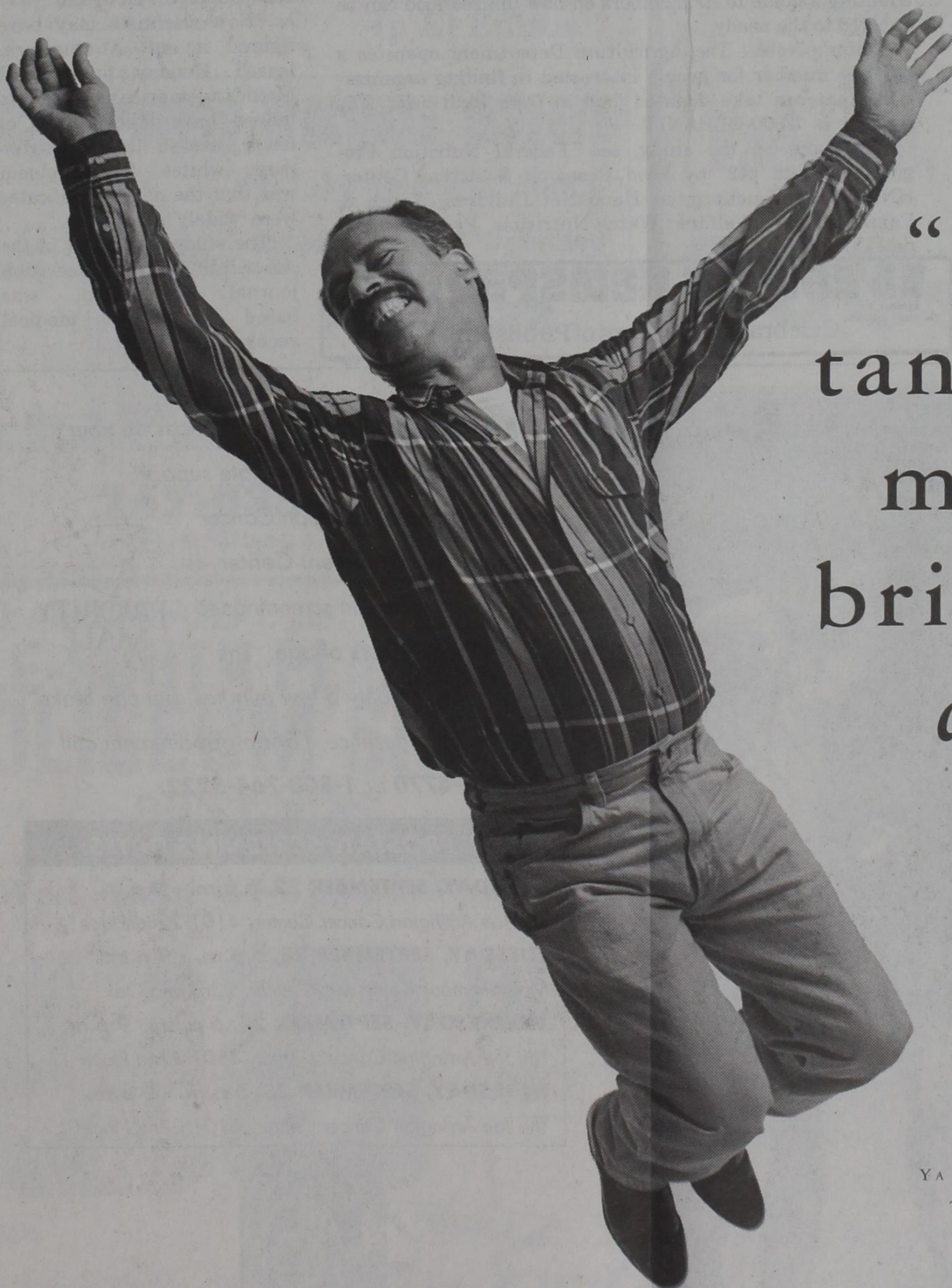
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"Estaba tan feliz que me puse a brincar como canguro".

CARLOS FLORES



YA HAY MAS DE 200 MILLONARIOS.
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*Se pagarán durante 20 años.

Health Briefs

Clinton Calls for Cig Price Hike

Declining to endorse the landmark \$368 billion tobacco settlement, President Clinton today called for legislation hiking cigarette prices by up to \$1.50 per pack, reports Associated Press.

He also asked Congress to pass legislation that stipulates targets to cut teen smoking by 30 percent in five years, 50 percent in seven years and 60 percent in a decade. Penalties for missing those targets should not be capped, or tax-deductible as a business expense, Clinton said.

Any tobacco pact must also give the Food and Drug Administration - without any "special procedural hurdles or requirements" - full regulatory power over tobacco, reduce teen smoking by restricting advertising, sales and placement and punish tobacco companies if teen smoking goals are not met, Clinton said.

Papers accompanying the president's announcement cited estimates that a 10 percent increase in cigarette prices will lead to a 7 percent drop in youth smoking.

State attorneys general and cigarette makers proposed in June a \$368 billion settlement that would end dozens of anti-tobacco civil suits.

After intense debate among administration officials, the president's decision neither to endorse the deal, nor outline point-by-point how legislation should strengthen it, formally ends any chance a tobacco deal could pass Congress this year.

Republicans have made clear they would not take up the complex legislation without a specific list of demands from Clinton. The president said today he would nonetheless invite congressional leaders to the White House with hopes of launching a bipartisan drive to enact legislation.

The federal cigarette tax is now 24 cents a pack. It will rise to 34 cents in 2000 and 39 cents in 2002 under legislation passed in July.

The Clinton proposal pleased Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., who said a \$1.50-per-pack price increase is "the best and quickest way" to reduce teen smoking. "The smoke signal from the administration is very encouraging," he said.

Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., said he would propose legislation that would slap a \$1.50 tax on each pack of cigarettes immediately, to provide funds to be divided between states and public health programs rather than collecting that money from tobacco companies.

"I intend to introduce the people's alternative that doesn't rely on the industry at all," Lautenberg said in a statement Tuesday.

Income Plummet for Young Families

The Children's Defense Fund, said today the typical young family saw its income drop by one-third over two decades, reports Associated Press.

While other families have generally held their ground, median income for parents under age 30 dropped 33 percent between 1973 and 1994, according to the fund.

"You see a lot of depressing statistics if you work on child poverty, and yet, the sudden increase for young families is so large it really took me by surprise," said Arloc Sherman, who wrote the report.

Using census data, the report concludes that the poverty rate for children in young families has doubled since 1973, with 41 percent of children living below the poverty line in 1994.

"Twenty years ago, young families typically had \$10,000 more income than they do now, adjusting for inflation, and far more of them could afford to rent homes or even to buy a home," Sherman said.

Parents with college educations gained income over the 21-year period, but less educated parents all lost buying power. High-school dropouts saw their family income drop by nearly half, and parents with only a high-school degree saw income drop by 37 percent.

The report attempts to explain the decline, noting that -Single parents have always had lower incomes than families with two parents, and there were many more sin-

gle parents in 1994 than in 1973.

-Wages for workers with less education have dropped across the board, not just for young parents.

Wages have stagnated for all workers since 1973, and economists have not reached a consensus as to why.

Sherman blamed a variety of factors: loss of power by labor unions, decline in the value of the minimum wage and the globalization of the economy.

CDC: Teen Birthrate Down; Prenatal Care Up

A U.S. government report on 1996 births and deaths says the teen-age birth rate fell for the fifth straight year, fewer babies died and more women sought prenatal care, reports Associated Press.

The Center for Disease Control report says the teen birth rate fell 12 percent in 1996 to 54.7 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19, down from a rate of 62.1 births per 1,000 in 1991, the CDC said.

That was the fifth year the teen birth rate has dropped. The CDC reported earlier this year that fewer teens are having sex and condom use is increasing.

"Every state seems to have some kind of teen pregnancy prevention program these days and it is a high priority at all levels of government," CDC statistician Stephanie Ventura said.

The CDC said the infant mortality rate reached a record low of 7.2 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1996. And it said 82 percent of pregnant women sought prenatal care in their first trimester, up slightly from 81 percent in 1995.

Amid the good news, the report said the percentage of babies of low birthweight has risen to its highest point in more than two decades.

The CDC said 7.4 percent of babies born in 1996 weighed less than 5 1/2 pounds. In 1995, 7.3 percent of infants were born underweight.

Poor Diets in 12 Million U.S. Households

The Department of Agriculture study of the nation's eating patterns in 1995 found that about 12 percent of the 100 million households either experienced some hunger or had poor diets because they couldn't afford better food, reports Associated Press.

Of that number, about 800,000 households were found to be suffering from severe hunger from time to time during the year. Those homes included 215,000 children under age 6.

Vice President Al Gore and Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman released the study to underscore a new initiative aimed at increasing the food recovered from restaurants, cafeterias, farm fields and food processing plants by 33 percent by 2000.

The Agriculture Department has previously estimated that 96 billion pounds of food goes to waste each year, more than a quarter of the food produced in America. If the amount recovered - or gleaned - were raised by one-third, it would be enough to feed roughly 450,000 people a day for a year.

Gore and Glickman said the federal government would embark on several new gleaning programs, including a plan by the Defense Department to donate \$10 million in excess rations to local feeding centers and a USDA farm field gleaning program in 13 states next summer.

In addition, the National Restaurant Association is distributing a guide to its members on how unused food can be donated to the needy.

Editor's Note - The Agriculture Department operates a toll-free number for people interested in finding organizations that can take donated food in their local area. The number is 1-800-GLEANIT.

[For more on the study, see "Federal Nutrition Programs Update pt2" by Food Research & Action Center, HN0050@handsnet.org, in HandsNet Children, Youth & Families/Nat'l Welfare Watch/Nutrition Program Updates]

AIDS Epidemic Worsening Among Women

Federal researchers say the number of AIDS cases among women is rising more quickly than among men, and sex with infected men has overtaken drug use as the leading cause of infection among women, reports Associated Press.

"Prevention efforts remain critical," the researchers said, particularly since those women who are most at risk can be difficult to educate because of poverty, substance abuse, alcoholism and other problems.

From 1991 through 1995, the number of women diagnosed with AIDS increased by 63 percent versus 12.8 percent for men.

By the end of 1995, 67,400 women nationwide had been diagnosed as having AIDS since the epidemic began, with 11,500 of them being diagnosed in 1995.

However, the number of AIDS cases among women is still smaller than for men. Infected women in 1995 represented just 19 percent of all cases that year, said CDC epidemiologist Dr. Pascale M. Wortley, chief researcher of the study.

The trend toward infection through sex is particularly evident for women under 25, who are 2 1/2 times more likely to have been infected through heterosexual contact than by injecting drugs, Wortley said.

"So it's critical to reach young people before they reach the age of having sex and injecting drugs," she said. "The key is to get them before they even start."

The findings highlight the continuing spread of the disease despite the success of new drugs in prolonging life, said Daniel Zingale, executive director of AIDS Action, HN3384@handsnet.org.

"There has been a lot of attention on the declining death rate ... this is the rest of the story," Zingale said.

The study also found evidence suggesting that many adolescent women become infected by older men and that in cases of a large age gap the women are less likely to insist on using condoms.

Prevention programs need to take this into account and not assign adolescent women the primary responsibility for adopting safe behavior, the researchers said.

Study Released On Heart Disease

By Linda Leavell

DALLAS - For years, doctors were confronted with a contradiction:

Death certificates suggested Mexican-American men were less likely than whites to die of heart attacks even though they had greater risk factors - a higher rate of diabetes, a tendency to be fat around the middle, and less "good cholesterol" in their blood.

"We refer to it as the paradox," said Dr. David Ramsey, a researcher at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.

Now scientists may have figured it out. A study released Monday found that Mexican-Americans do indeed have higher rates of heart disease than non-Hispanic whites. The problem was that the death certificates were widely inaccurate.

The study, published in the American Heart Association journal *Circulation*, was based instead on medical records.

The researchers looked at people ages 25 to 74 who were admitted to seven Corpus Christi hospitals in 1988 to 1992. The authors identified 2,872 hospitalizations for definite or possible heart attack.

The highest heart attack rates were observed among Mexican-American men.

For example, in 1991-92, the heart attack rate for Mexican-American men was 578.5 per 100,000 population. Non-Hispanic white men had 548.5 heart attacks; Hispanic women, 318.5; and non-Hispanic women, 228.2.

Dr. David Goff, a co-author of the study with Ramsey, attributed the higher rate among Mexican-Americans more to cultural and behavioral factors than genetics. He explained that the Mexican-Americans in the study had less schooling and lower incomes and were generally less knowledgeable about health matters.

That means the risk can be lessened with proper diet, exercise and preventive medicine, he said.

"And that's good news because it means that there is a good prospect for intervening to improve the situation," Goff said. "If we thought it was all genetically determined, it would be fairly bad news for the prospects of prevention in the near future."

The doctors pointed to the inaccuracy of death certificate data to help explain the paradox. For example, Ramsey said, a death caused by cardiac arrest as a result of diabetes would be recorded as a diabetes death.

Dr. Philip Huang, who specializes in family practice and public health with the Texas Department of Health, acknowledged there are "definite problems inherent in death certificate data collection."

But he said the issue needs further study, particularly because the findings conflict with previous conclusions.

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Los Pulidos To Perform at Fair

Bobby Pulido

Bobby Pulido is one of the hottest Latin artist on the music scene today, and will leave a blazing trail as he heads to the top with his outstanding voice, good-looks and talents. One might be easily swayed to affectionately refer to Bobby as "A chip of the old block", but this young good-looking aspiring entertainer is without a doubt in a league of his own.

Bobby Pulido is a name that is already known to many music fans after the smash hit "Contigo" which was a duet with his father

Roberto Pulido. Born and raised in Edinburg, Texas.

Bobby took an early interest in music which led him to playing the saxophone and singing with a Mariachi.

Bobby made his debut in the Latin music market in September 15, 1995, with his EMI-Latin, Platinum CD Entitled "Desvelado", which spun the first single of "No Se Por Que", and then followed with the smash hits of "Desvelado" and "Te Voy Amar".

Bobby's second compact-disc entitled "Enseame" release in

October (1996) has reached platinum status, thus giving Bobby's first two Compact-Disc a combine total sales of over 500,000 units sold in the United States and Mexico.

Bobby's group consist of Isaac Rios as on Accordion; Felix Salinas on Bass; Anthony Gutierrez on Keyboards; Jimmy Montez on

Drums; Issac Bazan on Guitar; and Raymond Davila on Bajo Sexto.

Roberto Pulido

Roberto Pulido Y Los Clasicos, considered a leading force in the Tejano music industry are widely acknowledged as one of the major Tejano artists today, because of their consistent strength in music sales and drawing power at concerts everywhere.

"Friendly", "down to earth" and "cordial" are adjectives often used to describe Roberto Pulido, or "El Primo" as he is affectionately nicknamed.

He is a talented musician, who along with Los Clasicos, has managed to consistently stayed the forefront of Tejano Music for the past two decades.

Roberto was born in Edinburg, Texas, where he continues to live today. At the age of two years, Roberto was involved in a truck accident, which resulted in his partial hearing loss. This, however, never kept him from pursuing his life-long musical dreams. his successful career serves as an inspiration to others with any type of physi-

cal impairments.

After graduating from Edinburg High School in 1969, he received a music scholarship to Pan American University in Edinburg. After he obtained a degree in music, he began teaching. On weekends he would play with various bands. Eventually, he chose to make performing his career, and in 1974 Los Clasicos was formed.

It was in the mid-70's that Roberto Pulido began his quick and sudden ascent to the top of the Tejano music field. his first hit "Copa Tras Copa", made him a household name and initiated his climb into star status in the industry.

Perhaps his biggest legacy in the Tejano music industry may be his unique blend of the traditional Tejano orquesta brass sound with the accordion-based conjunto sound, a sound forged through the years. Critics have labeled Roberto Pulido y Los Clasicos the reigning kings of the beer-drinking ranchera music by consistently working to produce their popular brand of rancheras, cumbias, polkas, and boleros. In the last few years, the group has managed to stay on top of the fickle Tejano market, a feat not taken lightly by many in the industry.

The ever-popular Pulido, unique in his style and mannerism, has carved a solid niche in the Tejano music industry. Pulido and his famous acclaimed band are veterans of the annual Tejano Music Awards held in San Antonio; having been nominated every year and walking away with the top honors several times.

The ever-active music artist and his band travel on tours all over the United States and Mexico. The band is trying to satisfy increasing demand for their newly released compact-disc on Capitol Records/EMI Latin label entitled "Te Vi Partir". In all Pulido has produced 29 albums and a harvest of single

Entre los managers de Grandes Ligas:

Felipe Alou: Latino y el mejor

Su nombre no suena tan fuerte como el de otros managers, como Tony La Russa o Jim Leyland. Tal vez es porque dirige a los Expos de Montreal, una organización sin la menor tradición en el mundo del béisbol. Sin embargo, el dominicano Felipe Alou es considerado uno de los mejores managers de la actualidad.

Sus números son elocuentes. El año pasado, sus Expos se mantuvieron en la carrera por el wild-card de la Liga Nacional hasta la última semana de la temporada, a pesar de haber perdido a estrellas como Marquis Grissom, Ken Hill, Larry Walker y John Wetteland. Este año, con un equipo muy humilde, cuya nómina ascendía apenas a 15.4 millones de dólares en el comienzo del campeonato, Alou se las arregló para colocar a Montreal con un respetable récord de 62-63 (.496) hasta el fin de semana pasado. Sin ir más lejos, y para establecer comparaciones, los White Sox tenían hasta el viernes el mismo récord de .496, a pesar de que le pagan 11 millones anuales a un solo jugador, Albert Belle.

"Todo es cuestión de psicología, a este negocio llegan jóvenes faltos de confianza", dice Alou, quien considera que no hay que presionar a los peloteros. "Esa es la mejor manera de sacarles jugo".

En su voz, el béisbol parece un negocio fácil de dominar. "Yo creo en los fundamentos, en lo más elemental. Esa gente que da batazos a 500 pies, y aquellos que se tiran de cabeza... eso pasa una vez al año. Las jugadas de rutina son las de todos los días; nosotros queremos a esa clase de jugador, que pueda dominar un juego de rutina".

En los últimos cinco años, Alou lleva un récord de 384-323, y el promedio general de su carrera se ubica segundo (detrás de Davey Johnson, de Baltimore) entre los managers activos.

Sin embargo, su actitud es pura humildad. "No me gusta que me llamen el genio del béisbol; a mí no me puede dañar ni la fama ni el dinero, no ando detrás de esas cosas. Mi papá me enseñó que si uno tiene lo necesario, es suficiente. Uno no puede llamarse rico cuando tiene familiares o vecinos pobres a los que no ha podido ayudar".

Probablemente, los Expos queden fuera de la competencia para los playoffs en este '97. Sucede que en la División del Este de la Nacional compiten Atlanta y Florida, dos equipos muy alejados en las posiciones, pero con aspiraciones para ganar las Grandes Ligas. Pero esa situación no empaña el mérito de Alou.



"La pérdida de grandes jugadores del año pasado, como Mel Rojas (su sobrino) y mi hijo Moisés (ahora estrella de los Marlins), nos está haciendo daño". Alou también tiene una opinión parcial sobre Rojas, de quien cree que fue víctima de la presión de los Cubs por ganar. A los peloteros, "nosotros no les ponemos presión. Pero en otros clubes no tienen esa filosofía, y Rojas vino para salvar a los Cubs".

Alou es, ni más ni menos, un pionero en el salto de los latinos al béisbol de las Grandes Ligas, y uno de los que soportó los primeros golpes en beneficio de los multimillonarios hispanos en las Mayores de hoy. "Los jugadores hispanos de ahora se pueden considerar dichosos porque no tuvieron que pasar por lo que sufrimos nosotros hace 30 o 40 años, como el problema del racismo, el idioma, el acento y esas cosas feas", dice Alou, quien concluye hablando de otro tema muy en boga: la discriminación.

"Sí, hay algo de discriminación, pero eso es normal; nosotros estamos ocupando espacios que podrían ser para norteamericanos, pero la verdad es que no nos están regalando nada. Podemos hacer el trabajo y estamos aportando. Por eso estamos acá".

Felipe Alou: Latino and the very best

His name does not sound as powerful as that of other managers, like Tony La Russa or Jim Leyland. Maybe it's because he heads the Montreal Expos, without much of a story to tell. But Dominican Felipe Alou is recognized as one of the best baseball managers today.

His numbers are eloquent. Last year, the Expos stayed in the game, thanks the National League wild-card, until the last week of the season, despite losing star players like Marquis Grissom, Ken Hill, Larry Walker and John Wetteland. This year the team, with humble salaries barely passing \$15 million for the entire team, had a decent record of 62-63 (.496) until the end of last weekend, thanks to Alou. The White Sox had, until Friday, the same record of .496 despite paying \$11 million annually to just one player, Albert Belle.

"Everything is a matter of psychology in this business. Youngsters arrive with a lack of confidence," said Alou, who believes one must not place pressure on the players. "That is the best way to get their best game."

Listening to Alou, one would think baseball seems like an easy game to dominate.

"I believe in the fundamentals, in the basics. Those that hit the ball at least 500 feet, and those that reach out to grab the ball—that happens once a year. Routine plays are everyday plays. We want that kind of player, the one that can dominate the routine play."

In the last five years, Alou has a record of 384-323 and his career's general average is second among active managers (behind Davey

Johnson of Baltimore). His attitude, however, is very humble. "Fame or money can ruin me. I'm not after those things. My father taught me if one has what is necessary, it is sufficient. One cannot call oneself rich when one has poor family members or neighbors that one could help."

The Expos are probably out of the playoffs for 1997. It just so happens that in the National East Division, Atlanta and Florida compete as two teams with equal aspirations to win. But that situation doesn't hold Alou back.

"Last year's loss of great players, like Mel Rojas (his nephew) and my son Moises (now a Marlin star), is not causing any damage."

"We don't place any pressure on them (the players). But they don't hold the same philosophy in other clubs," he said.

Alou is a pioneer in the emergence of baseball's Latinos. He was one of the first to take a beating for the benefit of multimillionaire Hispanics players.

"Hispanic players of today should consider themselves lucky, because they did not have to go through what we suffered in the 1930s and 1940s, like racism, language barriers and other ugly things," said Alou.

"Yes, there is some discrimination, but it is normal. We are occupying spaces that could easily be for North Americans, but the truth is they are not giving us anything for free. We do the work and are contributing. That is why we are here," he said.

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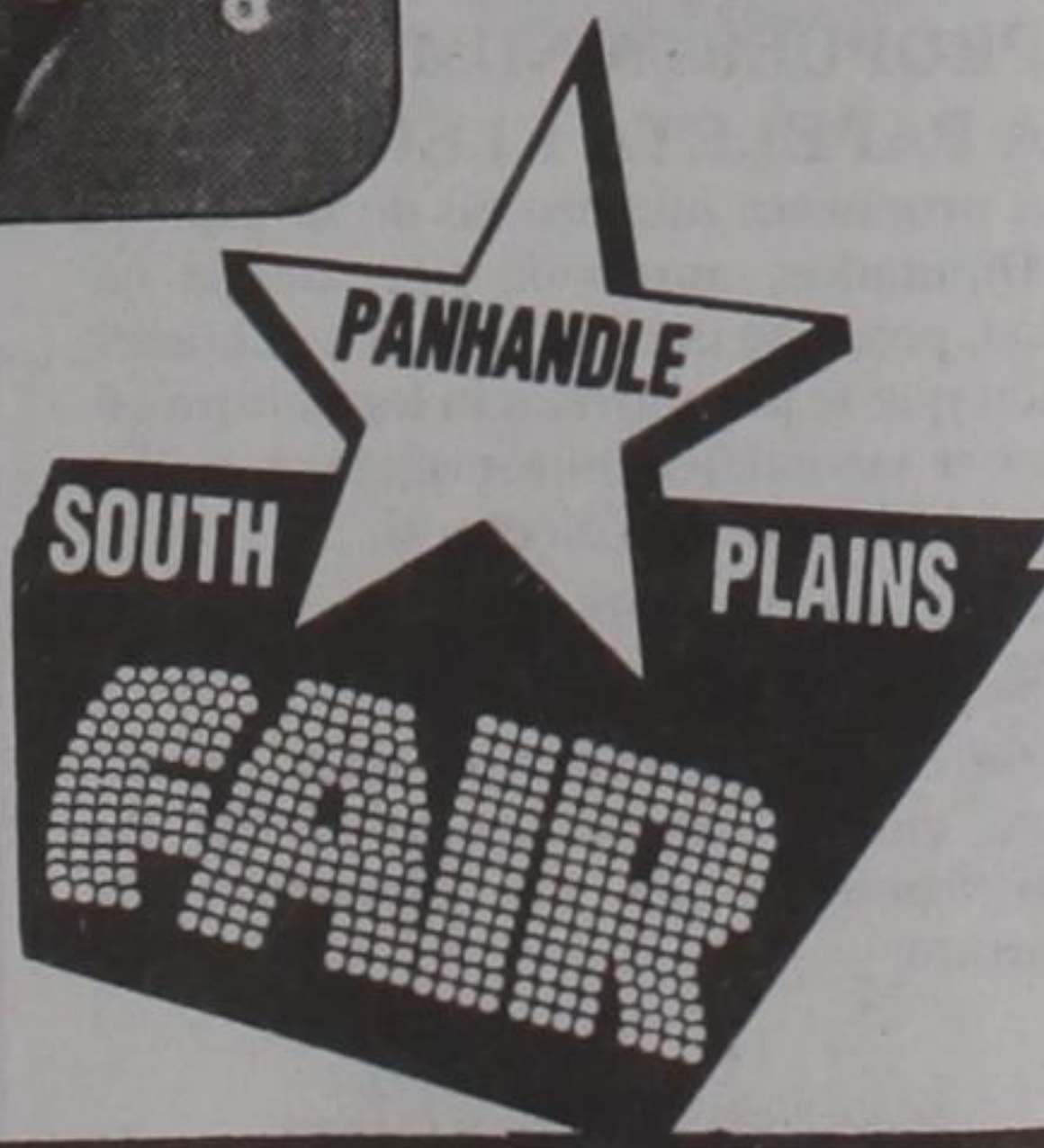
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- Marty Stuart - Sat., Sept. 27





Un Rayito De Luz

por Sofia Martinez

Aunque no hay obligación de "oir misa" mas que los domingos, y dias de fiesta, es muy bueno y de mucho provecho oír misa todos los días que puedan, sin faltar a tu obligaciones, esto, muy pocas veces deja de ser posible para la mayor parte de los cristianos, cuando tiene un verdadero deseo de oír misa, y muchos se dan el gusto de oír misa todos los días, antes de ir a sus trabajos o despues de salir de sus trabajos, porque ir a este Sacrificio Divino es hacer una profeción pública de cristiano, es decir que, están diciendo públicamente que "son Cristianos Católicos, y conocen, y aman y sirven a Dios". Dios es mas honrado con una sola misa, que contodas las alabanzas de la humanidad y de los ángeles, porque el la misa quien honra a Dios es Su Hijo Jesucristo. No hay nada mas agradable, en el mundo, con que poda-

mos honrar al Eterno Padre, que el Sacrificio de la misa, porque en él se ofrece a Su Santísimo Hijo. Los ángeles no tienen en el cielo cosa mas grande que ofrecerle, que la que nosotros le ofrecemos en el altar. Cuando decimos u oímos misa, cuando ofrecemos como ministros o como asistentes, este divino sacrificio podemos decirle al Eterno Padre: Señor, mira ahí tu querido Hijo sacrificado sobre ese altar por nosotros. Ahí está el precio con que te pagamos todos los beneficios que nos haces, y los innumerables pecados que nos perdonas. (I Cor. 11)

Prayer

Prayer of the Blessed Virgin (Never known to Fail)

O, most beautiful flower of Mt. Camel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed mother of the son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my Necessities, O' star of the son, help an show me here you are my mother. O' Holy Mary mother of God queen of Heaven and earth, I humble be seech me ir. my many necessities (make request), there are non that with stand your powder. O' Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (3 times) Holy Mary I place this prayer in your hands. Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you.

508-4tp.

From Page 1

his condemnation of minority culture is a new twist of racism that once maligned other races only for alleged genetic or biological shortcomings.

"At least he's out of the closet. We know who he is," Jackson said, asking how many other professors hold opinions similar to those of Graglia.

Jackson also urged students to turn this negative event into a plus. "This a great moment in history for Texas," he said, urging action to overturn the state ban on affirmative action in college admissions.

University police estimated the rally drew as many as 5,000, but a final official number was not available.

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NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC HEARING

RE: City of Lubbock/Citibus Section 5307 Capital, Technical Studies, and Operating Assistance Grant Application.

Notice is hereby given that an opportunity for a public hearing will be afforded, in the Citibus Conference Room, 801 Texas Avenue, on September 30, 1997 at 12:00 noon for the purpose of considering projects for which financial assistance is being sought from the Federal Transit Act of 1964, as amended. The financial assistance is as follows:

CAPITAL ASSISTANCE GRANT Program of Projects: this project will consist of the following: the purchase of 2 replacement vans and 3 expansion vans for the Demand Response Service, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); spare parts and associated capital maintenance items which include engines, transmissions, tires, and other main components; various pieces of maintenance, administration, and operations equipment which include tools and computers; the construction, purchase and procurement of bus pullouts and shelters; the expansion of the administrative/ maintenance facility parking lot; rehabilitation of the bus wash facility; and the purchase of bicycle racks for city route system buses.

This project is estimated at \$2,223,000. Of this, \$1,781,700 will be provided by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds, \$441,300 will be provided by local funds. This project is proposed to begin October 1, 1997 and be completed by March 31, 1999.

TECHNICAL STUDY GRANT Program of Projects: this project will consist of the following: training and travel for professional development; development of a five-year capital plan and five-year marketing plan; conducting short-range planning; Welfare to Work program planning; and the purchase of office equipment, including computers.

This grant is estimated at \$117,000. Of this amount, \$101,600 will be provided by FTA Section 5307 funds and \$15,400 will be provided by the City of Lubbock. This project is proposed to begin October 1, 1997.

OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT Program of Projects: this project will consist of providing the transportation services in the Lubbock urbanized area, which are provided by City Transit Management, Inc., d/b/a Citibus and includes the following:

(1) Providing the transportation services beginning October 1, 1997. This portion of the grant is estimated at \$3,420,000, of which \$1,710,000 will be provided by FTA Section 5307 funds, \$482,500 by the City of Lubbock, \$600,000 by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and \$627,500 by non-farebox revenues.

Interested persons or agencies may submit, orally or in writing, evidence and recommendations with respect before 11:00 a.m. September 30, 1997. The preliminary Program of Projects is available to the public at the Citibus offices, located at 801 Texas Avenue. The final projects will also be available to the public at the Citibus offices.

General Manager P.O. Box 2000
Citibus Lubbock, Texas 79457

AVISO PÚBLICO

Aclaraciones breves de las ENMIENDAS CONSTITUCIONALES

Que se someten a votación pública en Elecciones especiales del 4 de noviembre de 1997

PROPUESTA NUM. 1 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 36 del Senado, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que permitiría que alguien, simultáneamente, desempeñe el cargo de juez municipal en una o más municipalidades.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional permitirá que una persona ejerciendo el cargo de juez municipal pueda a la vez ocupar otro cargo público remunerado.

PROPUESTA NUM. 2 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 43 del Senado, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que permitiría que la legislatura estableciera un límite máximo en los aumentos hechos anualmente en cuanto al valor cotizado de un hogar de familia. Éste se calcularía a partir de la más reciente evaluación para fijar el valor impositivo de dicha propiedad. Esta enmienda también permitiría que la legislatura le otorgase a los gobernantes de los distritos escolares la opción de aplicar la ley que permite que una persona mayor de 65 años de edad, ya calificada para la congelación del impuesto escolar a pagarse en cuanto a su hogar de familia, transfiera dicha congelación a su nuevo hogar de familia, esto aunque se haya mudado a su nuevo hogar de familia antes de que dicha ley entrase en vigor.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional autoriza que la legislatura limite el aumento del valor cotizado de un hogar de familia a ser usado para fijar el impuesto ad valorem de dicha propiedad, y también permite que los distritos escolares calculen la congelación del impuesto escolar a ser pagado por un propietario de un hogar de familia que sea de edad avanzada o por los viudos de estos mismos, de acuerdo con la ley que permite la transferencia de la congelación del impuesto escolar a otro hogar de familia sin importar que dicha ley haya estado vigente en el momento de calificarse una residencia como hogar de familia.

PROPUESTA NUM. 3 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 45 del Senado, aprobada por ambas cámaras propone una enmienda a la constitución que le permitiría a legislatura otorgarle a los condados, las ciudades, los pueblos y otras entidades con facultades impositivas la autorización de otorgar exenciones u otros tipos de protección ante la paga de impuestos ad valorem en cuanto a aquellos bienes raíces en que se ha puesto en práctica una iniciativa para la conservación del agua aprobada.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional autoriza que la legislatura le otorgue a una unidad impositiva la facultad de exentar o, de cualquier otro modo, perdonar la paga de los impuestos ad valorem sobre aquellas propiedades en las cuales se ha realizado un programa de conservación del agua.

PROPUESTA NUM. 4 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 104 de la Cámara de Diputados, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone actualizar la constitución del Estado eliminando la numeración duplicada de ciertas disposiciones y aquellas cláusulas que sean obsoletas.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional eliminará las numeraciones duplicadas y aquellas cláusulas que sean obsoletas de la Constitución del Estado de Texas.

PROPUESTA NUM. 5 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 19 del Senado, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que permitiría que la Corte Suprema del Estado de Texas celebre sesiones en cualquier lugar ubicado dentro de este Estado. En la actualidad, la Corte Suprema sólo puede celebrar sesiones en la ciudad de Austin, debido a que ésta es la sede del gobierno estatal.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional permitirá que la Corte Suprema celebre sesiones en cualquier lugar dentro de este Estado.

PROPUESTA NUM. 6 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 39 del Senado, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que revocaría la disposición actual que prohíbe que la mesa directiva del fondo estatal Texas Growth Fund invierta dinero en cualquier empresa que no haya divulgado si tiene cualquier inversión económica, ya sea directa o indirecta, en o con Africa del Sur o Namibia.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional permitirá que el fondo estatal Texas Growth Fund siga invirtiendo en empresas sin exigirles que den a conocer cualquier inversión que tengan en Africa del Sur o Namibia.

PROPUESTA NUM. 7 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 17 del Senado, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que crearía el fondo estatal Texas Water Development Fund II, un fondo distinto e independiente del fondo estatal denominado Texas Water Development Fund. A la vez, esta enmienda le otorgaría al "Texas Water Development Board" (el Consejo de desarrollo de recursos hidráulicos) la autorización de administrar dicho fondo y emitir bonos de obligación general en apoyo de este fondo, siempre y cuando éste cumplierse con las normas establecidas por esta enmienda.

Esta enmienda también le permitiría al Consejo utilizar aquellos pagos de préstamo hechos a favor del fondo después del cierre del año fiscal para atender la deuda adquirida por medio de la emisión de los bonos, y además establecería ciertas condiciones que asegurarían la disponibilidad de los fondos necesarios para cancelar los bonos emitidos por el Estado de Texas para la conservación de las aguas agrícolas.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional autorizará al "Texas Water Development Board" (El consejo de desarrollo de recursos hidráulicos) a utilizar los bonos que fueron aprobados para ciertos programas tales como: sistemas de agua potable, mejoras en la calidad del agua, control de inundaciones, o participación estatal, en programas distintos a aquellos para los cuales fueron aprobados, con el fin de sacar el provecho máximo a los fondos disponibles y mejorar la eficiencia de los programas financiados por dichos bonos.

PROPUESTA NUM. 8 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 31 de la Cámara de Diputados, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que permitiría el otorgamiento de préstamos respaldados por el valor liquidable de la casa del prestatario, inclusive el hogar de familia del prestatario de tal forma que se podría emitir un gravamen en contra del mismo. A la vez, la enmienda establecería ciertas medidas de protección para el consumidor al otorgarse dichos préstamos.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda a la Constitución del Estado de Texas amplía el tipo de embargo que el acreedor de un préstamo puede hacer valer, con el consentimiento del propietario, sobre el hogar de familia ofrecido en garantía del préstamo.

PROPUESTA NUM. 9 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 96 de la Cámara de Diputados, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que permitiría que la legislatura en aquellos distritos de prevención de incendios rurales del condado de Harris autorizase un impuesto de cinco centavos por cada \$US 100 de valuación en cuanto a las propiedades ahí ubicadas.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional permitirá que la legislatura establezca una tasa de impuestos ad valorem de cinco centavos por cada US\$ 100 de valor impositivo que tenga un inmueble dentro de un distrito de prevención de incendios rural en el condado de Harris.

PROPUESTA NUM. 10 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 33 del Senado, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que en forma permanente comprometería el dinero del fondo estatal Texas Crime Victim's Compensation Fund (El Fondo para la indemnización de víctimas de la delincuencia del Estado de Texas) y sus fondos complementarios para el uso exclusivo en la aportación de ayuda a las víctimas de la delincuencia. Pero si fuere a acontecer un incidente de violencia en masa y si toda otra fuente autorizada para la ayuda en casos de emergencia estuviere agotada, este dinero podría usarse para amparar a las víctimas de dicha violencia.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional establecerá los usos para los cuales se podrá utilizar el dinero que proviene del Fondo para indemnizar a las víctimas de la delincuencia y el Fondo auxiliar para indemnizar a las víctimas de la delincuencia.

PROPUESTA NUM. 11 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 59 de la Cámara de Diputados, aprobada por ambas cá-

maras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que prohibiría que la legislatura autorizase una deuda estatal adicional a pagarse usando fondos provenientes de los ingresos generales del Estado si el monto necesario para atender dicha deuda adicional excediera el cinco por ciento de los ingresos generales anuales disponibles durante los últimos tres ejercicios fiscales, después de deducir el monto de aquellos ingresos que la constitución haya comprometido para usos no relacionados con la paga de la deuda estatal.

Para propósitos de esta enmienda, los bonos, aunque cuentan con el respaldo completo de la plena fe y el crédito del Estado, no forman parte de esta "deuda estatal adicional" ya que es razonable esperar que los fondos necesarios para cancelarlos provendrán de fuentes que no forman parte de los ingresos generales del Estado.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional limitará el uso de fondos provenientes de los ingresos generales del Estado para pagar la deuda estatal.

PROPUESTA NUM. 12 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 55 de la Cámara de Diputados, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que establecería un plazo máximo de 180 días para que la Corte Suprema actúe en cuanto a un pedimento solicitando la reconsideración de una causa. Si ésta no actúa, el pedimento quedará denegado.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional fijará un límite de tiempo para que la Corte Suprema responda a un pedimento de reconsideración de causa.

PROPUESTA NUM. 13 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 8 de la Cámara de Diputados, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que establecería el fondo de fideicomiso estatal Texas Tomorrow cuyo propósito exclusivo sería la paga por adelantado de la matrícula y tarifas universitarias. Esta enmienda garantizaría que si en un año fiscal no hubiese suficiente dinero para sufragar dichas matrículas y tarifas, al inicio de cada ejercicio fiscal se consignarían dichos fondos de los primeros dineros depositados en la tesorería estatal.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional busca alentar a toda persona a proyectar y ahorrar para la educación universitaria de los jóvenes texanos, y compromete la plena fe y el crédito del Estado a proteger el fondo Texas Tomorrow de pago por anticipado de matrículas universitarias, y asimismo establece el mismo como un fondo de fideicomiso constitucional.

PROPUESTA NUM. 14 EN LA PAPELETA ELECTORAL

La propuesta número 83 de la Cámara de Diputados, aprobada por ambas cámaras, propone una enmienda a la constitución que le permitiría a la legislatura establecer las calificaciones oficiales de los alguaciles de recinto electoral.

En la papeleta electoral, el texto de dicha enmienda será el siguiente:

Esta enmienda constitucional permitirá que la legislatura prescriba las calificaciones de los alguaciles de recinto.

Publicado por Tony Garza Secretario de Estado de Tejas

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News Brief

House Rejects Reading, Math Achievement Tests

The House last night rejected President Clinton's plan to give students national tests in reading and math, reports The Washington Post.

After several hours of contentious debate on the federal government's role in education, lawmakers in the House voted 295 to 125 to support a measure introduced by Rep. William F. Goodling (R-Pa.) that prohibits federal money from being spent on the tests. Clinton wants schools to begin using the tests on a voluntary basis in 1999.

More than 70 Democrats joined Republicans in opposing the tests. Many conservative lawmakers denounced the plan as an unnecessary federal intrusion into the affairs of local schools. Some liberal voices in the House, including the Congressional Black Caucus, also warned that the tests would unfairly stigmatize poor or minority students who have no choice but to attend disadvantaged schools.

Goodling, chairman of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, also suggested that reaching a compromise with the Senate over national tests could be difficult. He called its 87 to 13 vote to support the tests but shift control of them from the Education Department to an independent board "positively, totally inadequate, unacceptable."

Clinton reacted with dismay to the House vote. In a statement last night, he said the House "cast a vote for the status quo and against better schools....They have voted against a plan to improve our schools by raising standards, empowering parents and increasing accountability."

Lawmakers who supported the voluntary tests said that they could spur the kind of school improvements that parents nationwide are demanding. But while White House officials said they hoped the size of the Senate vote would ultimately preserve the tests in some form, some of the president's allies on the issue conceded that he may have an uphill fight.

Clinton contends that the tests would give parents a better picture of how schools are performing and would prompt educators to set higher academic standards for students. The standards that most schools use to assess students vary greatly among states, and are often criticized for being weak.

Under Clinton's plan, fourth-graders would take a test in reading and eighth-graders would take one in math. Each exam would last 90 minutes.

But to date, only seven states, including Maryland, and 15 of the nation's largest urban school systems -- the District is not among them -- have agreed to use the tests. Many governors remain skeptical of the idea.

UC Chancellor: Prop 209 Harming Campus Diversity

The chancellor of end of the University of California-Berkeley says racial preferences in admissions at has been devastating to diversity and the damage could take a generation to repair, reports Associated Press.

"I don't think we will ever achieve, without taking race into account ... the kind of diversity that we have had in the past, especially among the African-American and Hispanic population," Chancellor Robert Berdahl told the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday.

"We're talking long term - at least 20 to 25 years," he said.

In his most candid public comment on Berkeley's affirmative action woes since he took office July 1, Berdahl said recent admission figures at UC-Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law foretell problems for the entire campus next fall.

Under a 1995 regents' decision, admission based on race was banned at UC graduate schools this fall. At Boalt, just one black and seven Hispanics are in the new class of 270 students. By comparison, 52 blacks and Hispanics entered Boalt last year under affirmative action guidelines.

Starting in fall 1998, the racial preference ban applies to undergraduates as well. Berdahl said the university doesn't expect an undergraduate diversity plunge as severe as Boalt's, but diversity will decline.

Because of the UC regents' 1995 vote and passage of Proposition 209 last year, the end of racial preferences is state law, Berdahl said. He predicted that, for the near future at least, a ban on affirmative action will spread through other public universities.

Hispanic lawmakers take the offensive

By LIZETTE ALVAREZ

Washington—At times lately, Hispanic legislators in Congress have felt like a ragtag group of volunteer firefighters confronting a scorched earth campaign against immigrants.

The early brush fires, the ones that took aim at illegal immigrants, seemed predictable and not much of a threat. But when Republicans took control of Congress in 1994, the GOP leadership aimed at tax-paying legal immigrants.

Almost daily, Hispanics in the House of Representatives confronted new bills to ditch bilingual education or to kick green-card-holding residents off welfare. There were efforts to keep would-be immigrants out of the country.

"Yes, we were constantly having to put out fires," said Rep. Xavier Becerra, D-Calif., who is chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. "And when you are constantly fighting fires, it's hard to develop a strategy of pre-emption on some of the major issues. You've got all of your fire engines out on the scene already."

That may be changing. While Hispanics have suffered a string of policy defeats, the worst flare-ups may be behind them.

One indication that attitudes might be shifting was a victory last month on the reinstatement of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for some elderly and disabled legal immigrants after a bitter and protracted battle that seemed lost early on.

In many ways, the House's 20 Latinos are at a pivotal juncture. The economy is improving, which should help dampen anti-immigrant hysteria.

Republicans are taking notice that Hispanics now are 10 percent of the

U.S. population and will probably be the biggest minority group by 2010.

More Hispanic representatives now sit on major committees than ever before. Becerra sits on the Ways and Means Committee, which handles tax issues. Lincoln Diaz-Balart, a Republican from Florida, is a member of the Rules Committee, which plays an important role in shaping or blocking legislation. And a handful of Hispanic representatives sit on the Appropriations Committee.

Last year Hispanics turned out to vote in record numbers and helped President Clinton capture Florida, Arizona and California. Their presence at the polls also played a role in a major coup in conservative Orange County, Calif., where Loretta Sanchez, a Democratic political novice, defeated Robert Dornan, a nine-term Republican congressman known for his diatribes against immigrants. That race that is still being contested.

The departure of Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros in this term leaves Federico Pena, the energy secretary, as the only Hispanic member of the Cabinet.

But it was this year's battle over benefits for disabled and elderly immigrants that best illustrated how Hispanic members of Congress can effect change when they coalesce around one issue.

In December it seemed to some members that reclaiming any of the benefits wiped out by last year's welfare-reform law would be next to impossible. Republicans were arguing that the law should be given a chance to work before any tinkering went on. And Democrats, while earmarking at least some money, did not initially press the issue.

Sensing the urgency, some members of the Hispanic caucus seized on the 1996 election results as

leverage and began a series of high-level meetings with the White House. They knew the president had to push for the restoration of benefits as part of the balanced-budget deal or the battle would fizzle.

"The president pledged to do this in August, and we were there in November supporting this president," Becerra said. "We expected that something would be done."

As part of their strategy, they enlisted 77 members of Congress for a protest vote of "present" on a piece of legislation and worked closely with advocacy groups.

The two Florida Republicans, Diaz-Balart and Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, orchestrated their own crusade and met repeatedly with several party leaders. Other allies also stepped up the pressure, including several influential Republican governors and senators.

In the end, more than \$11 billion was included in the budget deal to restore benefits, more than expected but half of what was originally cut. "I think it showed with this welfare battle that we were victorious," Ros-Lehtinen said.

Yet much of the criticism aimed at the caucus in the past—that the members cannot work effectively as a group—remains unchanged. Hispanic members of Congress are a mixed bag: Republicans and Democrats, urban and rural, Puerto Rican, Mexican-American and Cuban-American. The diversity is viewed as an asset but still drives a wedge among them.

As chairman of the caucus, Becerra, 39, has touted one goal—unity. "The base-line consideration for me is to have a cohesive working group," he said in an interview last week.

But Becerra has been criticized for driving away the only Republicans in

the caucus—Ros-Lehtinen and Diaz-Balart—both anti-Castro Cuban-Americans.

The two members didn't like the trip Becerra made to Cuba while he was campaigning for chairman of the caucus in December and his failure to call for free elections in Cuba.

Becerra defended the trip, saying he traveled to Cuba as a member of Congress, not as caucus chairman. He also said that other caucus chairmen and members who had visited Cuba and openly expressed support for Castro did not face such vehement criticism from Ros-Lehtinen or Diaz-Balart. The caucus does not take a position on Cuba policy, because there is no consensus.

Hispanic advocacy groups have widely bemoaned the February departure of the two Republicans, who are considered invaluable while Republicans control Congress. Ros-Lehtinen and Diaz-Balart, who did not sign the party's Contract With America, because of its harsh posture toward immigrants, still lobby on behalf of immigrants, but they do so apart from the caucus.

Raul Yzaguirre, the executive director of National Council of La Raza, a Hispanic advocacy group, agrees that the departure of the two is a setback, but he hopes it is only a temporary one. "There is no question about it," he said. "It is a loss. It is not an irreparable loss."

More important, Yzaguirre said, the political powerhouses are now paying attention. At La Raza's convention earlier this year, Vice President Al Gore and Rep. Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., who is a possible presidential rival of Gore, both made appearances, even though the race is three years away.

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Women Still Gaining Ground Despite End of Affirmative Action

EDITOR'S NOTE: As California does away with gender and race preferences in higher education, female enrollment at institutions of higher learning continues to gain ground. Just how many of those women students are women of color is unclear, however, because the statistics for minorities aren't broken down by gender and those for women aren't broken down by race. PNS correspondent Colleen O'Connor writes regularly on issues of culture and religion.

BY COLLEEN O'CONNOR, PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

Berkley, CA. -- Women -- long the major beneficiaries of affirmative action programs -- are continuing to gain ground in higher education even as California scraps race and gender preferences. That fact alone may undercut efforts by proponents like Rev. Jesse Jackson who want to reinstate affirmative action in the name of widening access to higher education for women and minorities.

"Sex discrimination in admissions is a non-issue today," declares scholar Wendy Kammer, a Radcliffe Public Policy fellow who writes on feminism and law. "My sense is that women need affirmative action programs much less today than they once did."

More than half of the first year students enrolled at the University of California, Berkeley's Boalt Law School this fall are women. This continues a steady upward trend -- last year, 52 percent of all University of California undergraduates statewide were women, and in 1995, 44 percent of all first-year law students and 42 percent of all first-year medical students across the country were women. So what happened to the predictions that passage of California's Proposition 209 -- ending the state's affirmative action policy -- would have dire effects not just on minorities but on women?

Elizabeth Toledo of the National Organization for Women, who co-directed the Stop 209 campaign, thinks the 1997 enrollment figures reflect the cumulative effect of years of affirmative action -- and that women have at best a fragile toehold. "Finally, after 20 years of affirmative action we see parity," she says. "If those efforts had been banned (earlier), you wouldn't see 52 percent of women enrolled in the class of 1997."

The picture changes dramatically if one looks through the lens of race, according to Irma Herrera, executive director of Equal Rights Advocates in San Francisco. Women may be taking a small edge in overall college admissions, she points out, but these are white women -- black and Latin women do not appear to be faring as well.

A big problem is that there's almost no data that break down statistics for minority enrollment by gender or for women enrollment by race, Herrera says. For instance, the only reason we know no black women were admitted this year to Boalt Law School is because the news media identified the only black freshman as a male. But it is usually not possible to make such distinctions, as blacks and Latinos are all considered "minority," regardless of gender. At the same time, "women" in practice almost always refers to white women.

"We're encouraging Boalt and other schools to gather crossover statistics (gender broken down by race) so we can get a clearer picture of who's benefiting and who's not," Herrera says. The same blind spot applies to analyses of voting patterns. The California Democratic Party found that 58 percent of white women voted for 209, but did not break down the black or Latino vote by gender. Exit polls on 209 also failed to break down race by gender.

White women may have voted for 209 in part because they never credited affirmative action for their gains, according to Toledo. In focus groups, she says, when women were asked if they thought they'd benefited from affirmative action, it was the non-white women who raised their hands.

The gender question will only loom larger as Congress considers a new bill, called the Civil Rights Act of 1997, that would eliminate affirmative action in federal hiring and contracts.

Some proponents of affirmative action believe that the tide will change as women in civil service and other jobs begin to feel the impact of eliminating preferences. "When they start to implement 209 and it becomes clear that women are not hired or promoted to state jobs, that police departments stop reaching out to women, there's going to be a very big backlash," predicts Kathy Spillar, a coordinator of the Stop 209 campaign.

But Lydia Chavez, author of Color Bind, a new book documenting the history of Prop

209, says the picture is complicated by issues of class. By and large poorer women, regardless of color, gained little from affirmative action policies, unless they worked at the post office or fire department or had civil service jobs, Chavez says. Moreover, she found that working class women tended to view affirmative action as a negative because they saw it as threatening to their husbands and sons.

As long as white women--particularly affluent white women--see themselves gaining parity in higher education, it's unlikely they'll support reinstatement of gender and racial preferences, even when the call comes from so persuasive a political figure as Jesse Jackson.

"I can see why Rev. Jackson wanted to include women in the recent anti 209 march, because it substantially increases the number in his interest group. But he doesn't have the real support of women behind that tactic," says Anita Blare, executive vice president of the Independent Women's Forum, an organization of professional women. "It's a tactic opponents of 209 used early on, and it never went anywhere."

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12:30 PM - 6602 19th Street
Senior Citizen Lodge
Enjoy Our GOLD ROOM
with Video Slots and Poker
Enjoy the Excitement of
Las Vegas In Lubbock &
Special Snack Bar Specials
on Saturday Open 10 am.

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