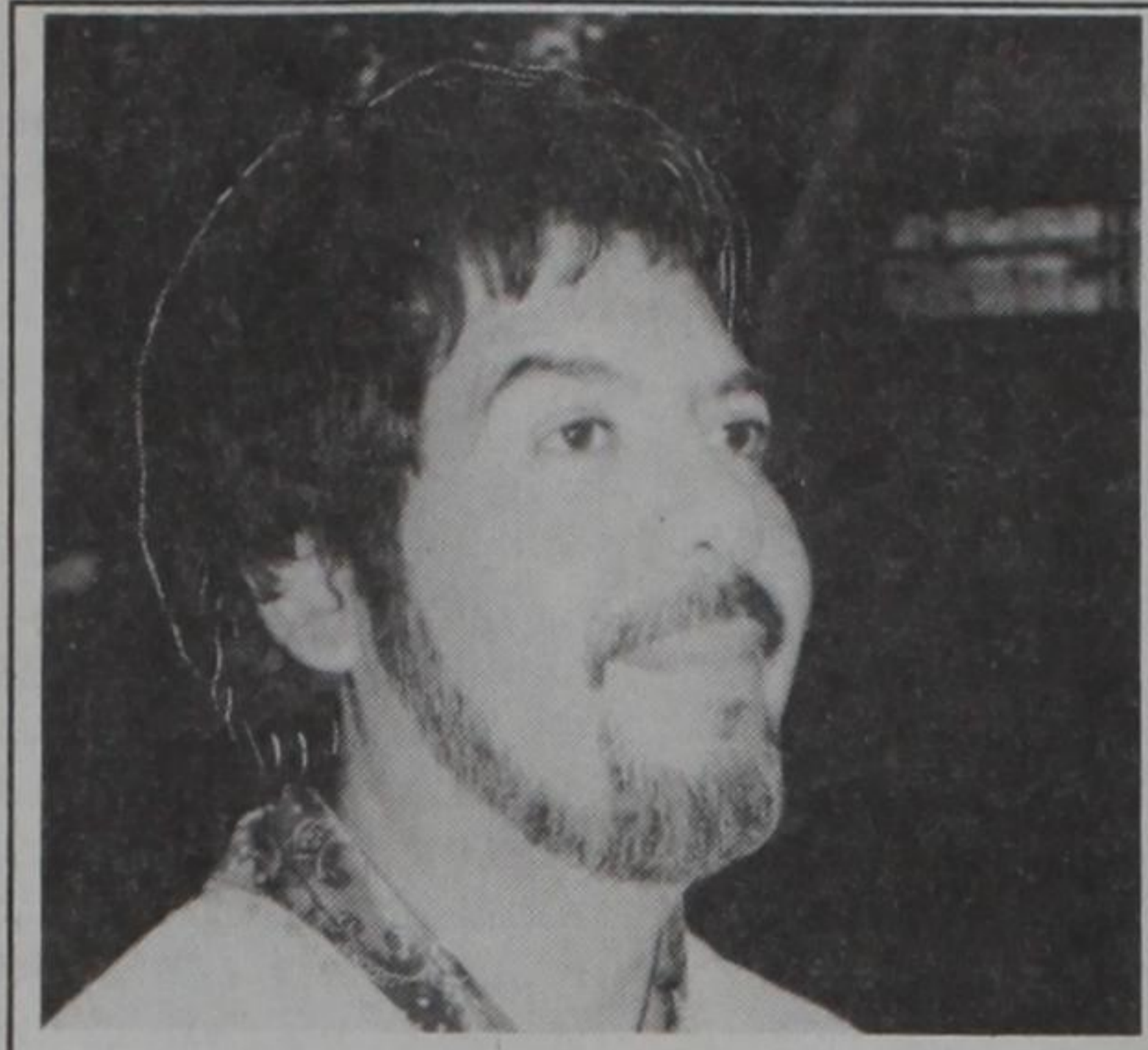


Día de los Enamorados

Con Poesia y Musica Chicana

Lubbock Centro Aztlan will produce it's final production of the series "Nuestra Herencia" as funded by the Lubbock City Council and recommended by the Lubbock Arts Alliance with the production of "Canto del Corazon" a tribute to romanticism and love within the Hispanic Community. The event will be staged very appropriately on St. Valentine's Day at the Four Points Sheraton with poetry and drama performed by Nephtali DeLeon and Josie Mora from San Antonio and music and poetry by Chuy Martinez and Jaime Chavez from Albuquerque. The event will also feature music, art and poetry from Lubbock and West Texas Hispanic artists.

Nephtali DeLeon and Josie Mora, formally from Lubbock have published several books of Chicano poetry and drama. Living for the past 20 years in San Antonio, DeLeon has been featured in several antologies and has been noted for many murals painted throughout the Southwest with pieces



El poeta, artista y autor de varias dramas, Nephtali DeLeon sera uno de los participantes en la Celebración del Día de los Enamorados que se llevara acabo este viernes en el Hotel Four Points. Para Mas informacion vea anuncio adentro o llame al 763-3841

hanging in several locals through Europe. Some of his children's books have been adopted for use in the public schools. His wife Josie Mora's poetry has also been featured in many of DeLeon's books.

Chuy Martinez is presently a director of special programs in the Albuquerque Museum of Art. He has recorded several albums that feature Chicano and Southwestern folkloric music. His most recent work was produced by the

Albuquerque Museum and is a collection of children's music that is currently being used in New Mexico schools to teach spanish speaking children about the richness of Hispanic culture and music.

Jaime Martinez is a poet who has published several books highlighting Chicano poetry. He is highly sought after to lecture and recite throughout the Southwestern United States.

In addition to the presentation on Friday evening made possible in part by the Lubbock City Council as recommended by the Lubbock Arts Alliance the artists will be performing in rural towns throughout Lubbock and the South Plains on Friday, Saturday and Sunday through a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

The event in Lubbock will be in a Dinner Theatre setting for an admission price of \$50 per couple. Attendees will be treated to dinner plus 3 hours of entertainment plus dancing to romantic music after the program.

Seating is limited for the event. For more information and reservations call Bob Craig at 806-763-3841.

News Briefs

INS Tracks Returning Undocumented Immigrants

For the first time, the nation's immigration service is tracking the number of undocumented immigrants found inside the country who agree to leave without a legal fight, reports Associated Press.

While the Immigration and Naturalization Service long has released statistics on undocumented aliens barred from entry at the border and those it has deported, it never tracked voluntary removals.

Now the agency will plug into its computers the information from paper arrest records so it can keep track of those arrested through worksite raids or other means who agree to leave the United States without going through the judicial system.

This will give the agency "for the first time an accurate and complete picture of INS removal efforts away from the border," said INS general counsel David Martin.

The announcement comes at a time when the agency's record in detaining and deporting undocumented aliens has come under attack. Just last week the INS reported the undocumented immigrant population has reached an estimated 5 million, growing by an average 275,000 people annually.

The INS last year removed 68,000 people by deportation or other judicial means and expects to deport 93,000 this year. Some 100,000 others agree to return home voluntarily each year.

IRS Probes Nonprofits' Activity

The Internal Revenue Service is stepping up its investigation of whether nonprofit organizations are violating their tax-exempt benefits by engaging in political activities, reports Associated Press.

The heightened attention comes after the House ethics committee special counsel found that House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., used tax-exempt groups to assist in campaign fundraising.

The IRS, in its annual business plan sent out to its regional offices, urged examiners to pay particular attention to political activities of charities organized under 501(c)(3) of the federal tax code.

Such charities can't engage in partisan politics or provide benefits to any individual or group. There are nearly 20 different types of tax-exempt organizations, but the political activity ban applies to the 501(c)(3) charities.

"During the election cycle of 1994-96, numerous news articles were published concerning exempt organizations' intervention in political activities and their increased electioneering efforts," the IRS planning document said. "Therefore, the regions should consider developing and implementing local projects in this area as well as addressing specific situations of potential noncompliance."

IRS spokesman Frank Keith declined to say if this passage referred to Gingrich, and he denied suggestions by Gingrich and others that IRS has been unfairly auditing politically conservative groups.

New Rules Cut Many Kids From SSI

About 135,000 poor children who are disabled will lose federal payments under rules announced Thursday, reports Associated Press.

Last year's welfare overhaul tightened eligibility requirements for children applying for Supplemental Security Income, or SSI, which pays about \$430 a month to help parents who must stay home with children or buy them expensive equipment.

Now, about half of those families will lose benefits. Over the next five years, an additional 45,000 SSI applicants who would have qualified under old rules will be phased out, officials said.

Under the new law, children are eligible for federal disability payment if they have "marked and severe" limitations.

Most of the those being cut from the rolls have mental or emotional problems, such as hyperactivity, but will no longer be considered eligible under the new, tougher rules imposed by the welfare legislation. Disability activists said the new rules will mean disabled children with IQs as low as 71 will no longer qualify for SSI.

"This is way beyond fine-tuning," said Marty Ford, a spokeswoman for the Arc of the United States, an advocacy group. "It is devastating to these families."

President Clinton's budget, also released Thursday, would provide money for Medicaid benefits for about 50,000 children who are being bumped from SSI and are currently ineligible for Medicaid.

Report: Mob Enters Health Care

Prosecutions and tighter regulations have pushed Mafia crime families into lucrative new white collar crime, including health care scams in New York and New Jersey, reports The New York Times.

As prosecutors have shut crime families out of traditional organized crime targets - union shakedowns, infiltrating trash hauling, extortion at city markets, and fleeing pension and welfare funds - the mobsters have turned to new businesses. "They are analogous to companies in Chapter 11 bankruptcy," said Lewis D. Schiliro, a top Federal Bureau of Investigation official.

He referred to the region's five Mafia gangs, the Genovese, Gambino, Lucchese, Colombo and Bonanno families. Last summer, a reputed Genovese associate was accused of bribing people to bring business to his health care management company.

Investigators also said that members of Genovese family set up Tri-Con Associates, a New Jersey company that arranged medical, dental and optical care for more than one million patients in group plans throughout the country.

The mobsters invested their own money, used employees as managers, and intimidated some health plan administrators into approving excessive payments to the company, the paper said. New Jersey authorities said Tri-Con in effect became a broker, linking networks of health-care providers, including physicians, hospitals and dentists with group plans for companies and unions.

Teen Poll: High School Is Too Easy

A new study reports that most teenagers think their classes are not challenging enough, often lack exemplary teachers and are filled with too many disruptive students, reports The Washington Post.

The study, conducted by the national nonprofit group Public Agenda, says many students are coasting without much effort through their classes and view their years there as time spent to gain practical job skills and good work habits.

Most students who were questioned as part of the survey said they liked their schools overall. But about 70 percent said that unruly students distract them and undermine classes. Also, 65 percent of students said they do not try very hard to succeed in class, and half reported that teachers do not insist on high academic standards.

Researchers highlighted the comment of one California teenager who took part in the survey as typical of many student responses illustrating how easy it is to earn acceptable grades without much work: "I didn't do one piece of homework last year in math," he said. "I just took the tests. I'd get A's on the tests,"

"El Respeto Al Derecho Ajeno Es La Paz"
Lic Benito Juarez ESTABLECIDO 1977 ESTABLISHED 1977

EL EDITOR

Celebrating 20 years of Publishing
Texas' Oldest Hispanic Owned Newspaper

Vol XX No. 20 Week of February 13 to February 19, 1997 Lubbock, Texas

City Council Proclaims Bidal Aguero Day

El Editor Honored for Third Time With National Writing Award by Publishers

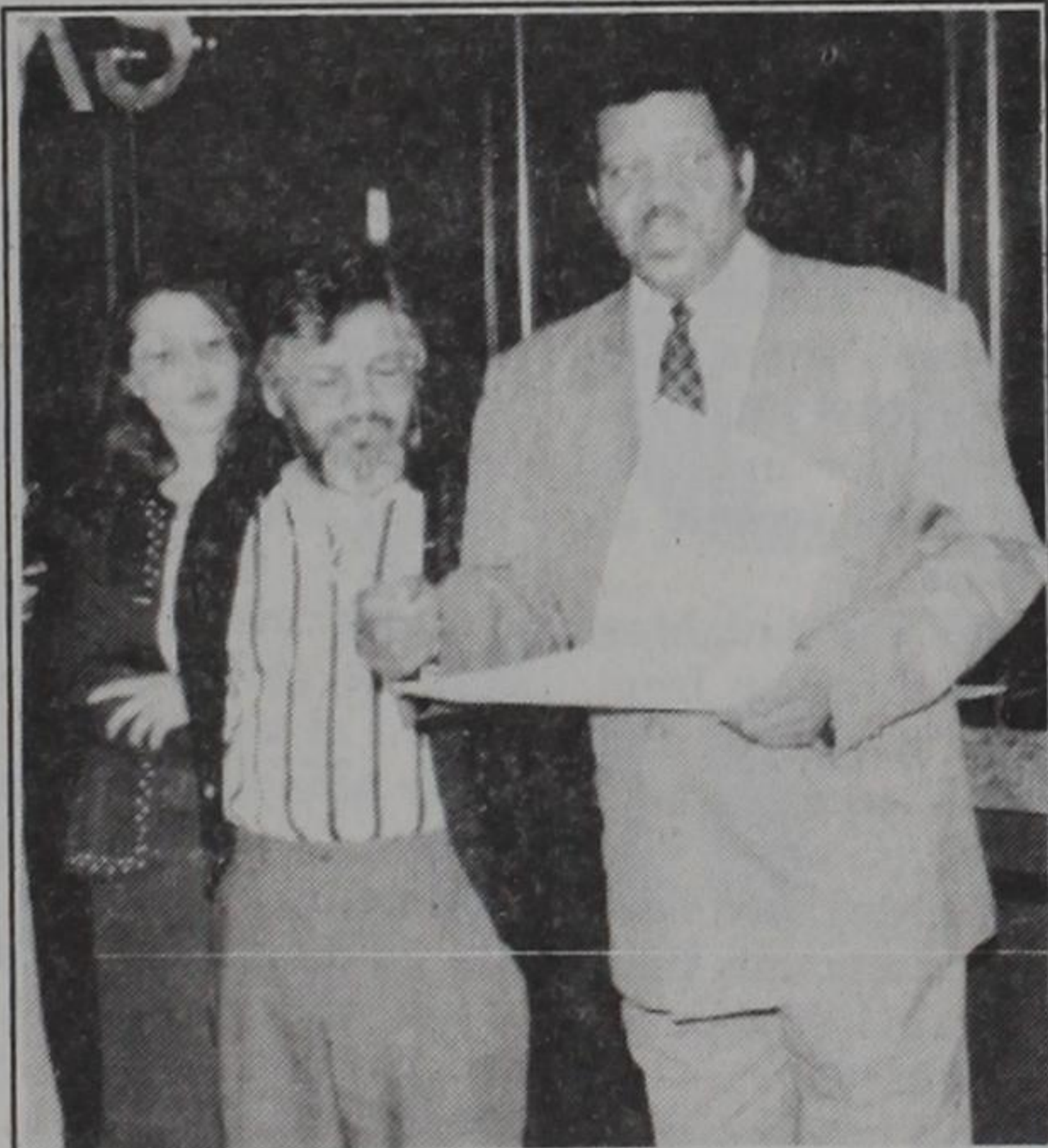
This past weekend in San Jose California Lubbock's El Editor Newspaper was honored in receiving the first place award from the National Association of Hispanic Publications for outstanding news reporting.

El Editor competed with over 100 newspaper entries. The story winning the award, "The History of Chicano Students at Tech", was written by newspaper editor and publisher Bidal Aguero.

This marks the third time that El Editor has been nationally recognized. In 1992, El Editor received honorable mention for a feature photo taken by Francisco J. Gutiérrez and in 1995 the newspaper received second place for the feature story "The Tortilla Curtain" written by Alberto Alvendaño.

The Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce hosted a press conference Wednesday, February 12, in the Norwest Bank lobby. The conference recognized the outstanding achievement by El Editor and also presented a proclamation made by the Lubbock City Council giving special recognition to editor and publisher Bidal Aguero by proclaiming "Bidal Aguero Day".

The award was presented during the 11th Annual National Conference held this weekend in San Jose, California at which more than 500 persons attended representing over 200 Hispanic newspapers.



El Consejo T.J. Patterson proclama el "Dia de Bidal Aguero citando no solamente el premio nacional por escribir pero por publicar el periódico por 20 años consecutivos

During the Conference delegate held from many dignitaries including Mexico's Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico Javier Treviño.

In his address Treviño stressed the importance of cooperation between the United States and México in order to relieve the economic plight in México. He also address problems arising that are caused by illegal immigration and the efforts of some lawmakers to deny hard

earned benefits by those immigrants that have been admitted into the United States legally.

At a noon luncheon held on Saturday, Andrew Hernandez, president of the Southwest Voter Registration and Education Project brought attention to the fact that Hispanic in the last election had made the difference.

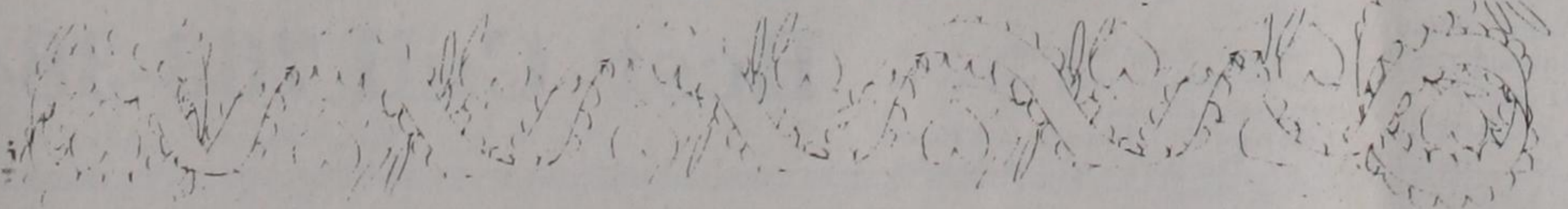
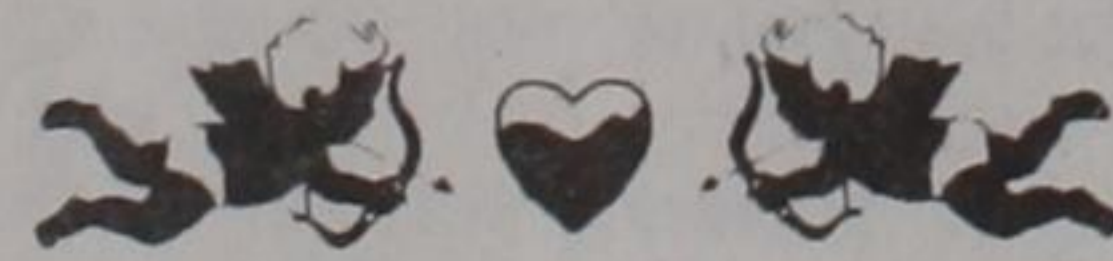
"The election of 1996 will be seen in history as the year that changed the role of Hispanics in the United States. We are now posed to become the most important and influential segment of the U.S. population," said Gonzalez.

"It is well known in Washinton that the party that pays attention to the Latino people will be the party that will control the White House."

Among the sponsors of the event were Philip Morris Companies, Kraft Food, Coca-Cola, R.J. Renolds, Miller Brewing, General Motors, Ford, Alstate Insurance, H&R Block, Aneuser-Busch, Pacific Telesis, Coors, Brown & Williamson, Dunn & Bradstreet, PepsiCo, The Southland Corporation, Chrysler, Univision, Flagstar Companies, American Airlines and Sears.

In addition to the Award, El Editor also obtained a commitment for a National Board meeting of the Association. The Lubbock delegation was helped in this effort by the Lubbock Visitor and Tourism Bureau.

Happy Valentines Day to All
Our Readers and Friends



El Editor, Lubbock, TX, February 13, 1997

Margarita, Mi Mentora

Por Joseph Torres

CUERNAVACA, México -- Yo estaba muy nervioso cuando fui a mi primera conferencia de prensa en Washington, D.C., en la primavera de 1995. Había pasado los primeros dos años de mi carrera periodística informando primordialmente sobre los deportes de las escuelas secundarias para el Staten Island Advance, en Nueva York.

Pero en calidad de nuevo reportero-interno de Hispanic Link News Service, acompañé a Ana Margarita Contin a una conferencia de prensa sobre la Proposición 209 de California, el referendo para eliminar la acción afirmativa en ese estado.

Mientras que yo estaba nervioso, Margarita -- con 22 años, unos años más joven que yo -- ya era una profesional. Yo estaría tomando sus responsabilidades pronto. Ella se iría para ingresar a un programa de maestría en periodismo impreso en la Universidad de Syracuse.

La conferencia de prensa en un hotel lujoso estaba congestionada a capacidad de reporteros y cámaras.

Margarita me llevó tan cerca del frente como fue posible. Cuando los oradores pidieron preguntas, su mano se alzó la primera. ¿Cuántos hispanos fueron incluidos en los datos del estudio que ellos hicieron? y ¿Cómo habían respondido los hispanos a las diferentes preguntas? Ella quería información específica, muestras estadísticas válidas. Como ocurre con demasiada frecuencia en Washington, D.C., habían pasado por alto a los hispanos en la presentación.

Después, ella arrinconó a uno de los encuestadores para extraer más noticias del grueso fajo de papeles que él llevaba debajo del brazo.

¿Cómo sabía ella lo que había en aquellos papeles? ¿Se esperaba lo mismo de mí? Tuve dificultad en decir mi nombre sin tartamudear.

Justo antes de que Margarita se marchara del Hispanic Link, le hable de mis temores acerca de sustituirla, acerca de saber qué preguntarles a miembros del Congreso y a altos funcionarios del gobierno, sobre conseguir la historia completa.

No había modo de que yo llenara sus zapatos, de equipararme con ella, le confío.

Ella se rió, casi sin control. Sin duda en su voz, me dijo, "Joe, te irá bien."

Ella no tenía dudas. ¿Por qué debía tenerlas yo? Mi mentora y amiga, Margarita, me enseñó lo que realmente significa ser un reportero. Ella me mostró la forma de hallar relatos -- en recepciones y acontecimientos sociales, no en las conferencias de prensa. Disfrutaba el conducirme de grupo en grupo de "conocedores" y "pesos pesados."

A ella le deleitó el fruncimiento abochornado de mi cara cuando me presentó a Henry Cisneros y él reconoció mi presencia cepillando algo -- todavía no estoy seguro de qué -- de la chaqueta de mi traje.

Recuerdo abrazar a Margarita dentro de la Casa Blanca este diciembre último, durante la anual fiesta de Navidad para la prensa. Actuamos como chiquillos, tomando fotos en todos los salones y bail-

ando al ritmo de una gran orquesta.

Trabajando con ella como competencia amistosa cubriendo las convenciones políticas de 1996, me maravillé de la altura a que ella fijaba sus parámetros. Los relojes no importaban. Ella no se detenía hasta que su historia estuviera en el periódico.

Ahora todo eso es tiempo pasado. Por razones que nadie entiende, Margarita se tragó algunas pastillas y se quitó la vida este mes, a la edad de 24 años, después de sólo unas pocas semanas en su nuevo empleo como reportera del Long Beach (California) Press-Telegram.

Su obituario en el periódico -- con un ancho de cinco columnas -- manifestó el asombro que sus talentos inspiraron:

"Una mujer con grandes posibilidades adelante. Era tan buena, dijo un editor pensativamente, que un periódico mayor de seguro se la llevaría pronto ... Se elevaba a la cima de cualquier cosa que emprendía. Mientras estuvo en la Universidad de California, Santa Cruz, escribió para un periódico en español, El Andar, y llegó rápidamente a ser su editora. También pasaba 20 horas a la semana como voluntaria en un centro comunitario para trabajadores migratorios ... Defensora feroz de los desamparados ..."

Eso es tan cierto. Hija de un padre agrónomo de la República Dominicana y de una madre anglo-americana educadora de éxito, fue criada primordialmente en el norte de California, pero pasó suficiente tiempo en la República Dominicana como para lograr com-

pleto dominio del español.

Envidié ferozmente su habilidad para sacarle historias a la gente en dos idiomas y ganar la confianza de dignatarios internacionales y refugiados de la pobreza de la América Latina con igual facilidad.

Ella es la razón de que yo esté en México hoy. Su ejemplo me dijo que, para ser el reportero que quiero ser, necesito tener una mayor comprensión de mi segundo idioma.

Yo envidiaba su modo de consolar a otros. A medida que Sebastiana Mendoza Ericksen, fundadora de Hispanic Link, se debilitaba progresivamente en su lucha de cuatro años contra el cáncer el año pasado, Margarita la visitaba y se sentaba a su lado, le sostenía la mano y escuchaba el relato de sus recuerdos de haber crecido en una aldea minúscula del sur de México.

Cuando Sebastiana fue sepultada en Sacramento el mes pasado, Margarita viajó desde Long Beach, haciendo escala en Gilroy para recoger a su padre, a fin de presentar sus condolencias y consolar a la familia.

Mientras que Margarita suavizaba los dolores ajenos, nunca reveló el suyo. Nunca nos mostró siquiera un "mal humor". Nadie que la conoció vio siquiera una nube ominosa en su cielo. Sólo vieron a una persona llena de amor, a una perfeccionista gozosa que deseaba que todos compartiéramos un mundo perfecto.

(Joseph Torres está matriculado en un programa de estudio intenso de español en Cuernavaca, México.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1997. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

My Mentor Margarita

By JOSEPH TORRES

CUERNAVACA, Mexico -- I was all nerves when I attended my first Washington, D.C., press conference in the spring of 1995. I had spent the first two years of my journalism career covering mostly high school sports for the Staten Island Advance in New York.

But as the Hispanic Link

News Service's new reporter/intern, I accompanied Ana Margarita Contin to a press conference on California's Proposition 209, the referendum to eliminate affirmative action.

While I was nervous, Margarita -- at 22, a couple of years younger than me -- was already a pro. I would soon be

taking over her responsibilities. She was leaving to enter a master's program in print journalism at Syracuse University.

The news conference room in a swanky hotel was jammed to capacity with reporters and cameras.

Margarita led me as close to the front as possible. When the speakers called for questions, her hand shot up first. How many Hispanics were included in the survey data they used, and how had Hispanics responded to the various questions? She wanted specifics, valid statistical samples. As happens too frequently in Washington, Hispanics had been ignored in the presentation.

Afterward, she cornered one of the pollsters to extract more news from the thick wad of papers tucked under his arm. How did she know what was in those papers? Would I be expected to do the same? I had trouble saying my name without stuttering.

Just before Margarita left the Link, I told her my fears about replacing her, about knowing what to ask members of Congress and high government officials, about getting the full story.

There was no way I could ever measure up to her, I confided.

She laughed. With no uncertainty in her voice, she told me, "Joe, you'll do great." She had no doubts. So why should I? My mentor and my friend, Margarita taught me what it really means to be a reporter.

She showed me how to find stories -- at receptions and social events, not press conferences. She enjoyed whisking me from cluster to cluster of insiders and heavyweights. She delighted at the embarrassed frown on my face when she introduced me to Henry Cisneros and he acknowledged my presence by brushing something -- I'm still not sure what -- off my suit jacket.

I remember hugging Margarita inside the White House this past December during the annual Christmas party for the press. We acted like little kids, taking pictures in every room and dancing to the sounds of a big band.

Working with her as a friendly competitor covering the 1996 political conventions, I marveled at how high she set the bar. Clocks were irrelevant. She never stopped until her story was in the paper.

Now all that is past tense. For reasons no one understands, Margarita swallowed

some pills and took her life this month, at age 24, after only a few weeks in a new job as a reporter with the Long Beach (Calif.) Press-Telegram.

Her obituary in the paper -- five news columns wide -- expressed the paper's respect for her talents:

"A woman with great things ahead of her. She was so good," one editor said wistfully, "a bigger paper would surely lure her away soon.... She rose to the top of whatever she tackled. While at the University of California-Santa Cruz, she wrote for a Spanish-language newspaper, El Andar, and quickly became its editor. She also spent 20 hours a week volunteering at a community center for migrant workers.... A fierce advocate of the downtrodden...."

That's so true. The daughter of an agronomist father from the Dominican Republic and an Anglo mother who's a successful educator, she was raised mostly in Northern California, but spent enough time in the Dominican Republic to gain fluency in Spanish.

I fiercely envied her ability to extract stories from people in two languages and to bond with international dignitaries and refugees from Latin America's poverty with equal ease.

She's a big reason why I'm in Mexico today. Her example told me that, to be the reporter I want to be, I need to have greater comprehension in my second language.

I envied her way of comforting others. As Hispanic Link co-founder Sebastiana Mendoza Ericksen became progressively weaker in her four-year struggle with cancer last year, Margarita would visit her and sit by her side, hold her hand, and listen to her reminisce about growing up in a tiny south Mexico village.

When Sebastiana was buried in Sacramento last month, Margarita traveled from Long Beach, stopping in Gilroy to pick up her father, to pay respects and comfort the family.

While Margarita soothed others' pain, she never revealed her own. She never showed us so much as a bad mood. No one who knew her saw a single ominous cloud in her sky. They saw only a person filled with love, a joyous perfectionist who wanted everyone to share in a perfect world.

(Joseph Torres is enrolled in an intensive Spanish study program in Cuernavaca, Mexico.)

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Sittin' Here Thinkin' Prosperity

By Ira Cutter

Unemployment is way down, corporate profits are way up, and what little inflation there is may be just an arithmetic error. Young stock brokers on Wall Street walked away with millions of dollars each in bonuses last year just like the 80's -- and a couple of weeks ago I was in a city where employers are so desperate for help that one big company is paying its employees a bounty for bringing in applicants. As Yogi Berra might have said: "There is an awful lot of prosperity out there and some people are getting rich off it."

There is, of course, no shortage of people and institutions claiming credit for today's prosperity. Corporate America sees it as evidence of their ability to successfully compete in the global economy -- the inevitable result of cutting costs, increasing productivity and focusing on the bottom line. Bill Clinton sees it as his legacy -- the result of his pragmatic, centrist policies and a reduction in the growth of the federal deficit. Congressional Republicans, with Newt recently neutered, are mostly out in the cold but content with taking credit for forcing Clinton to adopt their agenda. They feel they have backed him into a corner and made him act like one of them.

Meanwhile, all across America, people of modest means are looking with wonder as their pension and mutual fund statements go up like a rocket. If they are in the stock market at all, they are making lots of money (on paper) and doing absolutely nothing to earn it. It is just a little taste of what it must be like to be rich and Republican.

Looking at those easy profits and seeing the economy boom causes even us, at the Sittin' Here Thinkin' editorial desk, to wonder if unrestrained Capitalism might just work after all. The evidence keeps piling up that rising tides do lift all boats and that, if you wait long enough, prosperity does trickle down. It must have been at a moment like this that Ronald Reagan either came to his senses or was seduced by the dark side of the Force, depending on your point of view, and was turned from a Roosevelt Democrat to the greatest conservative leader of our time.

But before we declare a Capitalist heaven on earth in our time, there are a couple of big questions to answer. The first is whether the booming economy is real and the second is whether it is fair.

Some skeptics argue that the current bulge in prosperity is a short term illusion and that profits are being wrung out of a society that will, after a time, be left ill-prepared to continue to prosper in the future. They see it as making a fast buck, coupled with a failure to maintain, much less expand or re-build, the nation's infrastructure. They point to the enormous costs we will someday have to pay for roads, bridges, schools and hospitals that are today being ignored in a rush to cut taxes. They suggest that, unlike other industrial nations, we offer no real long term security for the huge number of older citizens who hope some day to retire. They point to deeply rooted social problems, to an under-educated next generation in which the under-class will steadily grow. These critics suggest that, although a lot of money is being made now, the multinational corporations are akin to the robber barons of a century ago who made fortunes and left ruin in their historical wakes.

Other critics point to the hyperactive growth of the American economy in the 1920's, fueled by debt and speculation and ultimately contributing to a generation of suffering in the Great Depression of the 1930's.

Perhaps most fundamentally, some critics are unsure that an economy built on "services", rather than "products", is a stable base for the long term. They distrust the notion of a global economy and worry about how we can gain, as a nation, if the goods we buy are increasingly produced in other nations. These critics, more isolated and less listened to all the time, see a distinction between the well-being of American corporations and the well-being of America. The boom, they suggest, is real but it is short term and short sighted.

Meanwhile, in terms of fairness, some point out that while most of us are doing so well, we do so on the backs of the many Americans, including millions of children, who are doing poorly. As just one example, President Clinton's plan to balance the budget -- a proposal from a Democrat -- ends disability payments for nearly 180,000 children.

Some nit-pickers argue that corporate prosperity is being earned at the expense of the workers who are shouldering most of the pain for increased productivity, while receiving little of the profits. They note that workers' salaries are only now starting to edge up a little bit, while corporate profits have boomed for five years. They point out that workers are putting in longer hours, that benefits have been shaved for permanent workers and that temporary help is regularly used as a way to avoid benefits like pensions and health care.

Nit-pickers are concerned about broken union contracts and broken unions, and about financially healthy corporations that got that way by downsizing much of their labor force or by moving the work overseas. They suggest that family income is only marginally better than it was twenty years ago, despite people taking second jobs, the prevalence of two earner families and rapidly rising costs. They argue that rich people are paying a much lower percentage of their income in taxes than they did in the 1970's, while middle income people are paying a larger portion.

All in all, it is hard to know what to do or to think. For all practical purposes, we have no choice but to go with at least some of the flow. I don't want to be the only one in America who missed the mutual funds boom, for example. On the other hand, it is wise to look at it all with a skeptical eye. History tells us that booms are followed by busts and that what goes up must come down. We may see, sometime soon, that sinking tides lower all boats, too, and that those at the bottom who got the last trickle will lose it first.

My big worry is that the dismantling of a Social Welfare system is one thing -- a painful, cruel and stupid, but survivable, thing -- when the economy and job market are sizzling. You can get away with eliminating benefits that only a few disenfranchised citizens depend upon and things will just go on. It is quite another thing when a recession, or worse, comes along. We may find that we will miss our tired, old, disgraced New Deal institutions when we once again need them for broad segments of the population.

Meanwhile, how about that Intel? And what's your take on tax free munis?

Ira Cutter says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irreverent, 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'."

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El Editor Newspapers

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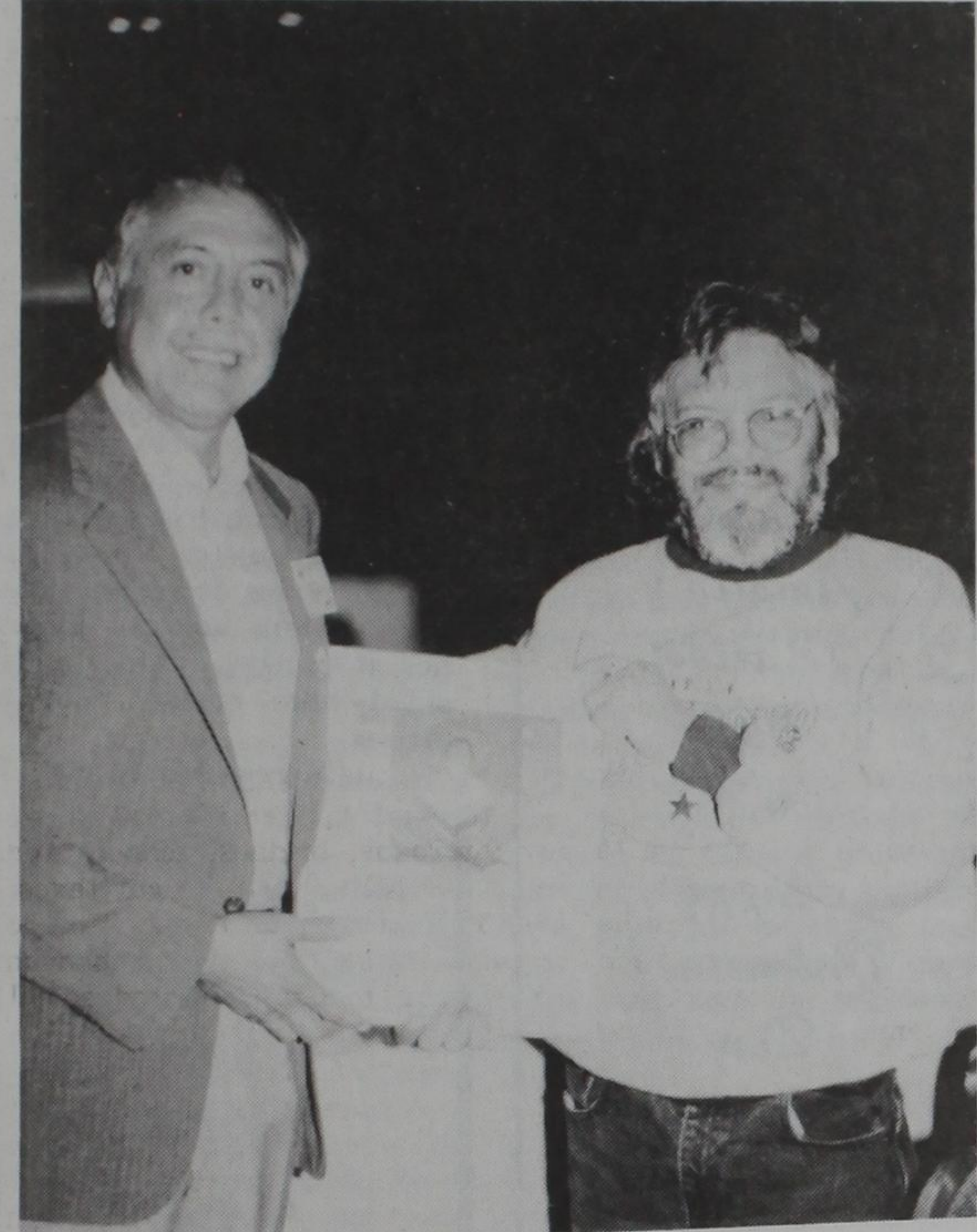


Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco



Olga Agüero and Blanca Orona at San Francisco

The National Convention of the National Association of Hispanic Publications



Manuel Orona & Bidal Agüero Receive National Award



Brown & Williamson Representative Presented Award for Support

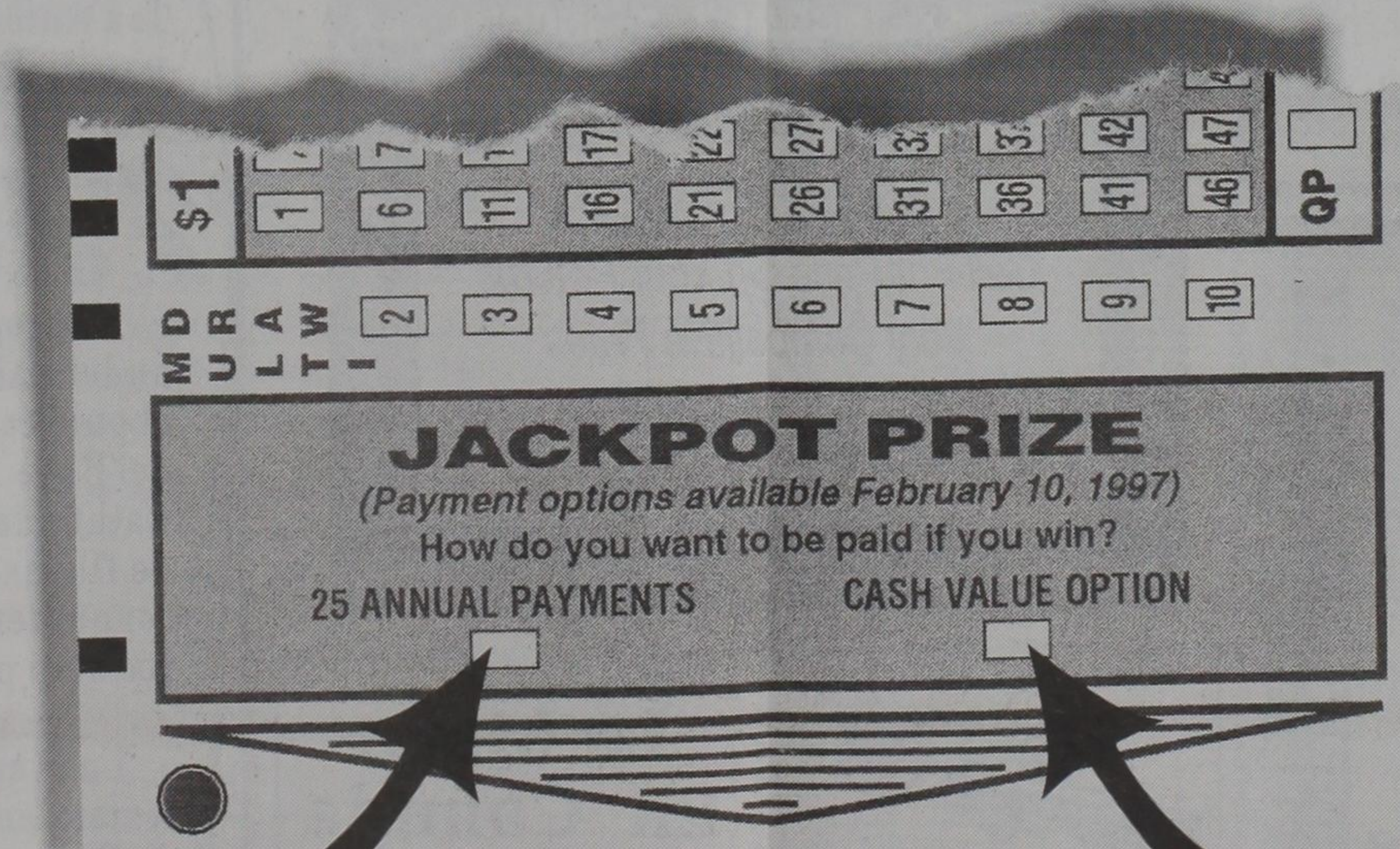


Celebrating The Chinese New Year



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News Briefs

not do the homework, and I got a B in class. There's just lots of ways to get around it."

The survey, titled "Getting By," included the responses of more than 1,300 high school students nationwide who were selected randomly and interviewed by telephone. Most of them attend public schools. Small groups of teenagers also were gathered together at five sites around the country to discuss their attitudes about high school.

The findings match those in other recent studies that found substantial numbers of students disengaged from learning. A survey of college freshmen nationwide conducted annually by researchers at UCLA this year found that a record number of them, 35.6 percent, reported that they often were bored in their high school classes.

The Public Agenda report also suggests that the priorities of most high school students are the same: They are eager to master basic reading and math, to work with computers and to gain values such as honesty and tolerance. But they often question the relevance of learning subjects such as history or literature.

Copies of the survey can be obtained by calling the group at 212-686-6610.

Airline to Give Partner Benefits

United Airlines has two years to extend health and other benefits to its workers' same-sex partners, under an agreement reached with city leaders, reports Associated Press.

The accord, which the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Monday, allows United's \$90 million expansion at San Francisco International Airport.

In June, the city will begin requiring all the companies with which it does business to offer spousal benefits to their workers' unmarried partners.

The city had said it would not approve the airline's \$13.4 million, 25-year lease until it promised to comply with the new law. Under the agreement, United must develop a spousal benefits program in the lease's first 20 months.

Clinton Vows Action on Youth Crime

U.S. President Bill Clinton said on Friday a new federal report on juvenile crime and violence showed the need for bipartisan action to address the problem, reports Reuters.

"I'm very concerned about it....That's one of the reasons I made such a big issue of juvenile crime and violence in the State of the Union" speech, Clinton told reporters when asked about the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report.

The CDC report, which was made public on Thursday, showed that children in the United States are five times as likely to be murdered and 12 times as likely to die because of a firearm than those in other industrialized countries.

Homicide was the third-leading cause of death in 1994 for U.S. children aged 5 to 14 and fourth-leading cause for children 1 to 4. The CDC compared childhood death statistics with figures from 25 other countries that had similar economies and a population of at least one million.

Clinton said there were signs the problem was abating somewhat, based on 1995 crime statistics, but that it was still an "unacceptable condition."

"We have too many children raising themselves on our streets, too many children who have not been embraced by their communities, who can't get what they need in their own families," he said.



Jerry Flores Fund Established

Jerry Flores Jr. (5 years old) has leukemia and is presently at Methodist Hospital. Jerry Jr. was diagnosed two years ago with Leukemia. The Flores family would greatly appreciate your support in the form of prayers or any financial donations. Donations can be sent to the Jerry Flores Jr. medical Fund at Plains National Bank, P.O. Box 271, Lubbock, Texas 79408. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Latinas Letter To Political Success is Anchored In Barrios

By NANCY LEON

Political pundits may be quick to explain the upset victory of an entrenched member of Congress from Orange County, Calif., by a politically unknown Latina as a fluke or the result of a formerly white, conservative district suddenly becoming more Hispanic.

Both explanations are simplistic, and only partially true. Businesswoman Loretta Sanchez's surprising November win over incumbent Rep. Bob Dornan, a sharp-tongued conservative from California's 46th Congressional District, shows how long-term grassroots civic involvement by Latinas is beginning to pay off at the ballot box.

Instinct and common sense tell me that more Latinas will run and win against incumbents, not only because their districts have become more Hispanic, but because they have put in long years building strong community and civic ties. Over time, they have built up relationships of trust.

In coming elections, more political novices like Sanchez, a Democrat, will challenge Democratic and Republican incumbents, and win. Four Latinas currently hold House seats. Sanchez, Lucille Roybal-Allard, (D-Calif.), Ilena Ros-Lehtinen, (R-Fla.), and Nydia Velazquez, (D-N.Y.) comprise nearly a fourth of the 17 Hispanic voting members in Congress.

The Latina trailblazers have taken the time to get to know the people who live in their hometowns -- heading PTAs, coaching soccer teams, baking cookies for the church choir, working the polling place, as well as working for and running community-based programs. Sanchez, from Santa Ana, devoted years of her life fighting for community causes like the building of a freeway sound barrier in Anaheim, and raising money for summer school classes or college scholarships for disadvantaged children at a local school.

Another example of community activism opening doors to national politics is provided by Shirley Baca, a state representative from Las Cruces, N.M. In the November election, Baca came close to unseating incumbent Joe Skeen, who has held a U.S. House seat for 12 years. Baca ran a community action agency in Southern New Mexico for eight years and directed a child care program.

The political influence of Latina community leaders has been felt at the local and state level for some time. According to a study of Latino politics in Massachusetts by political researcher Carol Hardy-Fanta, 17, or almost 30 percent, of

the 58 Hispanics who have run for elected office in Massachusetts between 1968-94 were Latinas.

When Latinas competed for state and local office, they usually won, according to the study. Of the 17 Latinas who ran for office in Massachusetts between 1968-94, some 47 percent were elected, compared with just 15 percent of Latinos who ran.

Another interesting statistic: More than half (56 percent) of the Hispanics in that state to run for state office or higher since 1970 have been Latina.

Hardy-Fanta says what has happened in Massachusetts is happening elsewhere. "People are surprised when a Latina makes a big splash, but those big splashes are based on years of community activism and connections that women have been making."

Using scanty existing data, it's impossible to conclude whether Latinas who run for public office are more likely than Latinos to be civic activists. Or whether Latinas are more likely to register and vote. Or for whom they voted. We know, for example, that President Clinton won 54 percent of the women's vote, but we don't have the breakdown for Latinas.

According to November exit polls, 5.2 million Hispanics voted in the presidential election -- an increase of more than a million since 1992. I wish we knew what percentage of the 5.2 million were Latinas, and how many of the million new voters were Latinas.

Until we get more hard data on the gender question, we'll have to rely on what we already see working in our communities: While so far only a few Latinas are making waves on the national political scene, when it comes to community activity, they are the genie inside the bottle.

(Nancy Leon is president of the National Hispana Leadership Institute based in Arlington, Va.) Copyright 1997, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate



Un Rayito De Luz

por Sofia Martinez

Por Sofia Martinez

Para librarnos de los pecados de impureza es necesario: Huir de las ocasiones, pensar que Dios nos ve; dedicarnos a la oración, y a la penitencia y al trabajo, confesarnos y cumplir seguido, y tenerle muchísima devoción a María Santísima.

"Evitar las ocasiones" de pecar. Este primer medio es indispensable para librarnos del pecado impuro, sobre todo cuando se trata de las ocasiones próximas de pecar.

Es muy útil "pensar que Dios nos ve" siempre y donde quiera, y que conoce hasta nuestros más íntimos pensamientos y nos va a pedir cuenta exacta de ellos, así como de todas nuestras acciones.

Dedicarnos a la oración, y a la penitencia, y al trabajo. Jjesucristo les decía a sus Apóstoles, refiriéndose al demonio de la impureza: "Esta clase de demonios no puede ser arrojado de las almas sino con la oración y el ayuno"

Es indispensable recurrir a Dios con deseos grandes de mortificar nuestros sentidos y mantener sujetos los apetitos desordenados de nuestro cuerpo. Conviene además dedicarnos al trabajo, porque la ociosidad hace crecer todos los vicios.

(Marcos 9.28)(Zac.9,17).

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The Lubbock REESE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

La Autoridad para el Revelación de Reese de Lubbock tendra una audencia publica el 19 de febrero, 1997 en la Camara de Consejales de Lubbock

El proposito de esta audencias para discutir con el publico el pendiente revelación del Base Aerio Reese. The Pathfinders, un grupo de consultas de Dallas presentará un plan comprehensivo de revelación y recibirá preguntas del público.

La Mesa Directiva de la Autoridad para el Revelación de Reese tambien estará dispuesto para recibir sugerencias de la comunidad. El principal enfoque sera para desarrollar un consensus para el proponido reuso de las propiedades del Base.

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Clinton Discute Con Congreso Nuevo Prosupuesto

Washington, AFP.- El presidente Bill Clinton y los líderes del Congreso, con mayoría republicana, se reunieron este martes en el Capitolio para intentar llegar a un acuerdo sobre los medios de restablecer el equilibrio presupuestario de ahora al año 2002.

Poco antes del inicio de la reunión, en la que participó también el vicepresidente Al Gore, Clinton se congratuló de la buena voluntad demostrada por sus interlocutores, estimando que esta atmósfera constructiva representaba una "gran ocasión" para hacer avanzar las negociaciones sobre el presupuesto.

"Todo el sistema tiende hacia el movimiento y no hacia una nueva parálisis", comentó.

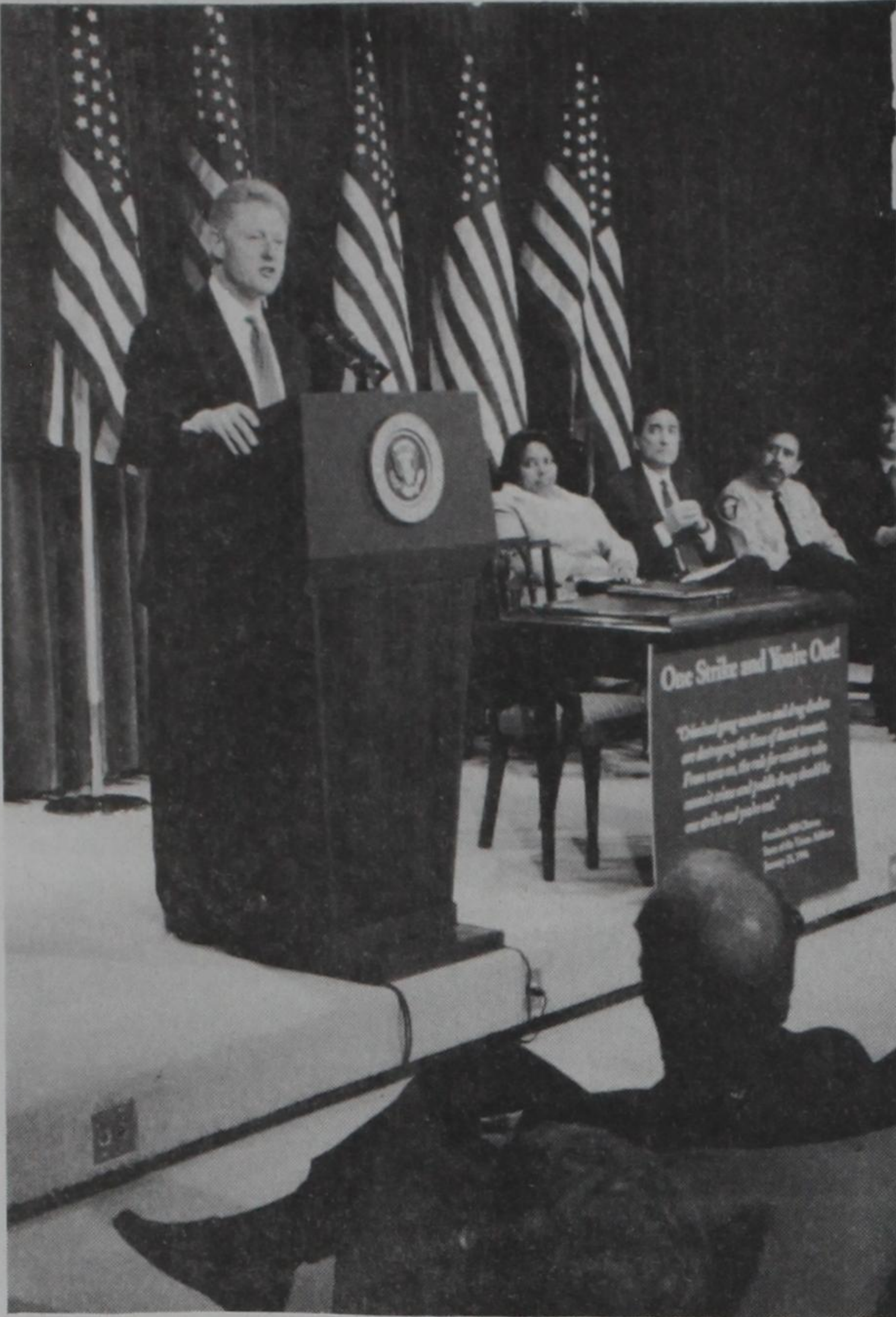
"El objetivo de esta reunión es arremangarse y decidir sobre qué estamos de acuerdo", resumió el líder de la mayoría republicana en el Senado, Trent Lott, quien afirmó recientemente que un compromiso sobre una eliminación del déficit de ahora al año 2002 podría intervenir en las próximas seis semanas.

El lunes, el portavoz del presidente Clinton, Michael McCurry, se felicitó por la decisión de los líderes republicanos de trabajar sobre el proyecto de presupuesto del Presidente, en vez de proponer otro.

"Suponemos que tendrán ideas complementarias, es importante que los republicanos precisen los campos en los cuales podrán modificar el proyecto del presidente", comentó.

"Esperamos ideas concretas de su parte sobre reducciones de gastos necesarios al financiamiento de nuevas reducciones fiscales, si tienen la intención de apoyar tales reducciones fiscales", agregó.

Reabsorber el déficit, que cayó el año pasado a 107 mil millones de dólares, "no será fácil", reconoció Clinton, al presentar el pasado jueves su proyecto de presupuesto para el año fiscal 1998, que concluye en setiembre próximo, de un monto de 1,7 billones de dólares, en alza de 3,4% respecto a 1997, con un plan de eliminación progresiva del déficit presupuesto federal en



cinco años.

"No podemos seguir permitiendo al gobierno vivir por encima de sus medios", agregó, afirmando que sus proposiciones presupuestarias deberían permitir "mantener las finanzas equilibradas durante más de veinte años".

Los republicanos se preocupan sobre todo de que el proyecto de Clinton prevé un aumento del déficit presupuestario para los próximos tres años, principalmente para pagar una serie de promesas electorales, antes de revertirse la tendencia.

Por otra parte, la secretaria de Estado norteamericana, Madeleine Albright, pidió al Congreso que apruebe un presupuesto para Relaciones Exteriores superior en 6,7% al del año pasado y que pague la deuda de Estados Unidos con la ONU. Estados Unidos debe un mil millones de dólares a la

ONU, afirmó Albright, añadiendo que mantener el liderazgo de Estados Unidos depende en parte del pago de esta deuda.

"Nuestros principios lo exigen. Nuestro presupuesto lo autoriza y nuestros intereses lo exigen," afirmó la ex embajadora ante la ONU, que hablaba ante la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores de la Cámara.

"No se engañen. Para los que se sienten celosos u hostiles al liderazgo de los norteamericanos esos adeudos son una invitación abierta a denigrar a Estados Unidos", afirmó, añadiendo que hasta los aliados británicos se complacen en hacer chistes al respecto.

La mayoría republicana que controla el congreso desea que la ONU emprenda reformas de fondo antes de pagar esos adeudos.

La Escalera Al Exito Politico De Las Latinas Esta Anclada

Por NANCY LEODN

Los sabihondos políticos pueden explicar rápidamente como una "chiripa" la extraordinaria victoria que una latina desconocida políticamente logró contra un miembro atrincherado del Congreso en el Condado de Orange, California -- o bien, describir dicha victoria como el resultado de que un distrito conservador, que tuvo antes una mayoría blanca, se haya vuelto de pronto más hispano.

Ambas explicaciones son simplistas, y sólo parcialmente ciertas. La sorprendente victoria de la mujer de negocios Loretta Sánchez sobre el titular Representante Bob Dornan, conservador de lengua afilada del Distrito Congressional 46 de California, muestra que la participación comunitaria a largo plazo de las latinas, a nivel popular está empezando a producir frutos en la casilla electoral.

El instinto y el sentido común me dicen que más latinas se postularán y ganarán en contra de los titulares, no sólo porque sus distritos se tornen más hispanos, sino porque han dedicado largos años a desarrollar sólidos vínculos comunitarios y cívicos. Por un tiempo, han construido relaciones de confianza.

En las próximas elecciones, más novicias políticas, como Sánchez, que es demócrata, retarán a titulares demócratas y republicanos, y ganarán. Cuatro latinas tienen actualmente escaños en la Cámara de Representantes: Sánchez, Lucille Roybal-Allard (demócrata por California); Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (republicana por la Florida), y Nydia Velázquez (demócrata por Nueva York) forman casi una cuarta parte de los 17 miembros hispanos del Congreso con voto.

Las precursoras latinas se han tomado el tiempo para llegar a conocer a las personas que viven en sus ciudades -- dirigiendo Asociaciones de Padres y Maestros, entrenando equipos de soccer, horneando galletas para el coro de la Iglesia, trabajando en los colegios electorales, así como trabajando en y administrando programas basados en la comunidad.

Sánchez, de Santa Ana, dedicó años de su vida a luchar por causas comunitarias, como la construcción de una barrera contra el ruido en la autopista en Anaheim y la recaudación de dinero para las clases de la escuela de verano o las becas para la universidad para niños desventajados de una escuela local.

Otro ejemplo de activismo comunitario que abrió las puertas de la política nacional lo da Shirley Baca, representante estatal oriunda de Las Cruces, Nuevo México. En las elecciones de noviembre último, ella estuvo a punto de derrotar al titular Joe Skeen, que ha tenido un escaño en la Cámara de Representantes Federal durante 12 años. Baca dirigió una agencia de acción comunitaria en el sur de Nuevo México durante ocho años y un programa de guardería infantil en el Condado de Doña Ana.

La influencia política de las dirigentas comunitarias latinas se ha sentido a los niveles local y estatal durante algún tiempo. Según un estudio de la política latina en Massachusetts, efectuado por la investigadora política Carol Hardy-Fanta, 17, o casi el 30 por ciento, de los 58 hispanos que se han postulado para cargos electivos en Massachusetts entre 1968 y 1994 fueron latinas.

Cuando las latinas compitieron por cargos estatales y locales, usualmente ganaron, según el estudio. De las 17 latinas que se postularon para cargos electivos en Massachusetts entre 1968 y 1994, cerca del 47 por ciento resultaron electas, comparándose con sólo el 15 por ciento de los latinos que se postularon.

Otra estadística interesante: Más de la mitad (el 56 por ciento) de los hispanos de aquel estado que se postularon para cargos electivos estatales o superiores desde 1970, han sido latinas.

Hardy-Fanta dice que lo que ha sucedido en Massachusetts viene ocurriendo en otras partes. "La gente se sorprende

cuando una latina hace una gran demostración," dice ella, "pero esas grandes salpicaduras se basan en años de activismo comunitario y en las conexiones que las mujeres han estado haciendo."

Empleando los escasos datos que hay disponibles, resulta imposible concluir si las latinas que se postulan para cargos públicos electivos tienen mejores probabilidades que los latinos para ser activistas cívicos. O si las latinas tienen mayores probabilidades de inscribirse y votar. O por quién votaron. Sabemos, por ejemplo, que el presidente Clinton ganó el 54 por ciento del voto femenino, pero no tenemos el desglose de esa votación para las latinas.

Según las encuestas de salida de los colegios electorales en noviembre último, 5.2 millones de hispanos votaron en las elecciones presidenciales -- un aumento de más de un millón desde 1992. Quisiera que supiéramos qué porcentaje de los 5.2 millones eran latinas, y cuántas del millón de electores nuevos eran latinas.

Hasta que tengamos más información cuantitativa con respecto al género, tendremos

que confiar en las vivencias, lo que vemos ocurriendo en nuestras comunidades: Aunque hasta ahora sólo unas pocas latinas están levantando olas en la escena política nacional, cuando se trata de las actividades comunitarias, ellas son el genio dentro de la botella.

(Nancy León es la presidenta del Instituto Nacional de Dirigencia para Hispanas, con sede en Arlington, Virginia.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1997. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

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Players Ready For Spring Training

By RONALD BLUM

NEW YORK - Ah, it's time for fun in the sun.

Time for players to stretch those old and injured bodies, and for teams to figure out what to do with all their extra bodies.

So with players supposed to start arriving at camp later this week, here are some things to look for:

1 - NEW YORK YANKEES: Winning the World Series for the first time in 18 years didn't put an end to the continual soap opera in the Bronx. Cecil Fielder has filed a formal trade demand, worried that Tino Martinez and Darryl Strawberry will keep him from getting enough playing time in the final season of his contract. Meanwhile, the Yankees have added free agent Mark Whiten to an outfield that already included Bernie Williams, Paul O'Neill, Tim Lincecum, Ruben Rivera and Strawberry. It appears

someone will get traded.
2 - ATLANTA BRAVES: What does the luxury tax mean? Exhibit A is the NL champions, who are looking to trade Fred McGriff and/or David Justice to keep their payroll near \$50 million. The arrival of Andruw Jones and the flexibility of Ryan Klesko give the Braves enough confidence to make a deal.

3 - PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES: They need power and they know it. That's why they're thinking about signing Danny Tartabull, who still thinks he should get a \$5 million salary. They could wind up with the Yankees' and/or Braves' discards. Philadelphia also will be seeking to find out if Darren Daulton and Lenny Dykstra have anything left, or if their bodies have broken down too much to play anymore.

4 - SEATTLE MARINERS: Is this the year for Seattle to finally win its first pennant? Randy Johnson's health is a

bid part of the answer to that question. After missing most of 1996, the 1995 AL Cy Young Award winner will be trying to prove he's healthy during spring training.

5 - OAKLAND ATHLETICS: Oakland was terrible last season and boring, too, with the exception of Mark McGwire, who hit 52 homers in just 423 at-bats. If he can stay healthy all season, and with Jose Canseco back in the lineup to protect him, perhaps he can threaten to break Roger Maris' record of 61 homers in a season.

6 - CHICAGO WHITE SOX: Is this the new Albert Belle? Can he behave with the White Sox, or will he revert to the boorish behavior that marred his years with the Cleveland Indians? The answer might not be known until the regular season, when pressure starts to mount. But in the past, Belle has gotten testy when faced with the repeated interviews that occur during spring training.

7 - TEXAS RANGERS: After advancing to the postseason for the first time in the history of the franchise, the Rangers added World Series MVP John Wetteland. But Juan Gonzalez' health is questionable again after a thumb injury during winter league play in Puerto Rico, and it appears he'll miss the first month of the season.

8 - NEW YORK METS: During spring training last year, Jason Iiringhausen, Paul Wilson and Bill Pulsipher were touted as stars of the future. All three got hurt, and they combined to go 11-26. Going into training camp this year, the Mets aren't sure if any of the three will be ready by opening day.

FOX TALES: Fox will be taping goofy commercials again during spring training to promote its "Game of the Week" broadcasts on Saturdays.

- Dodgers catcher Mike Piazza asks a girl to dance - of course from a crouched position.

- Bernard Gilkey of the Mets escorts a crazed fan off the field after the fan - his father - runs out to protest a called third strike.

- Derek Jeter of the Yankees tells a teammate that he really wants to win the Rookie of the Year award, but is told he can't win it again. Later, in the corner of the locker room, a player is seen with a mustache, fake buck teeth, sunglasses and corn row braids.

In all, Fox plans on shooting 20 teams for the promos.

BEISBOL'S BANNER YEAR: Along with trying to make the playoffs with their boosted payroll, the Florida Marlins have another goal this season: to attract more Hispanic fans.

Attendance has been dwindling in Miami, and the team is making more of an attempt to lure Hispanic fans in south Florida.

This year, for the first time, the Marlins are set up to accept ticket orders in Spanish. Also, announcements and scoreboard messages at Pro Player Stadium will be made in Spanish for the first time.

"They felt the Hispanic market was just going to come," said Jorge Plasencia, director of Hispanic marketing for the Marlins. "The thing is, if you don't talk to us in our language, we're not going to be part of it. Now, we're 'Latinizing' the whole organization."

Ricardo Lopez Es El Mejor Boxeador Del Año Para CB

Por Victor M. Carrillo Montiel

El peleador capitalino Ricardo López, campeón mundial de peso paja, versión CMB, fue designado Mejor Boxeador del Año 1996 por la Comisión de Boxeo del Distrito Federal. Asimismo, recibió las distinciones en ese mismo rubro correspondientes a los años 1993 y 1994.

López Nava superó en las votaciones al campeón mundial supergallo CMB, Daniel Zaragoza, y al ex campeón de la misma división de la OMB, Marco Antonio Barrera.

Por lo que respecta al Mejor Campeón Nacional nombraron a Marcelo Nava, quien ganó el cetro de peso supermosca y realizó tres defensas; Víctor Miranda fue el Novato del Año por acumular ocho triunfos en igual número de combates, y la Mejor Pelea la protagonizaron Julio Alvarez contra Jesús "Kiry" Rodríguez por el cetro nacional superpluma.

Enrique Hernández fue nombrado Manager del Año por haber coronado a Ramón Europa, monarca continental CMB y nacional en peso minimosca, y a Javier Carmona en peso ligero; el Preliminarista fue Cayetano Sesmas, con ocho triunfos consecutivos en 1996.

La distinción de Semifinal-



ista recayó en Ulises Flores, y el campeón superpluma Julio Alvarez fue el Estelarista, con cuatro victorias, una de ellas ante "Kiry" Rodríguez, a quien destronó; como Mejor Oficial nombraron a Gelasio Pérez Huerta, mientras que el mexicano Fernando Huicochea y el jalisciense Alvaro Medel fueron reconocidos como el Mejor Manager de Provincia y Boxeador de Provincia.

Luis "Kid Azteca" Villanueva recibió licencia honorífica vitalicia de la CBDF, y al cardiólogo Jaime Arriaga Gracia, el reconocimiento "Doctor Gilberto Bolaños Cacho" por su labor con los pugilistas. Investiga CMB a Oliver McCall El peleador estadounidense

Oliver McCall es investigado por el Consejo Mundial de Boxeo debido a la conducta que asumió el viernes pasado, durante su pelea titular ante Lennox Lewis, lo que motivo que le detuvieran el combate.

Lo anterior lo informó José Sulaimán, presidente de ese organismo, y aseguró que "mientras, se le retuvo la bolsa económica a McCall".

Agregó que Oliver en su vida particular tiene muchos problemas de drogadicción y alcoholismo, "pero en el aspecto deportivo, en la pelea nunca fue dañado por Lennox ni tampoco visitó la lona, pese a que todos consideraban que el británico lo noquearía. Se investiga su conducta y por lo pronto se retuvo la bolsa que percibiría", abundó.

Asimismo, comentó que Mike Tyson nunca buscará la corona de Lewis, ya que "de él no quiere saber nada", y agregó que el nuevo campeón, Lennox Lewis, deberá pelear ante el primer retador, Henry Akinwande. Montiel fue derrotado

Por su parte, el mexicano Alejandro Montiel fue derrotado la noche del lunes por Mark Johnson, cuando buscaba la corona mosca de la FIB, que este último posee.

Johnson ganó por decisión unánime, en pelea efectuada en Los Angeles, y logró su trigésima victoria consecutiva y su segunda defensa exitosa, con récord de 31 triunfos, 23 por knock out y una derrota. Montiel sufrió su tercera derrota contra 33 triunfos, 25 por knock out.

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