

Appointments Fail To Satisfy Some Latino Leaders

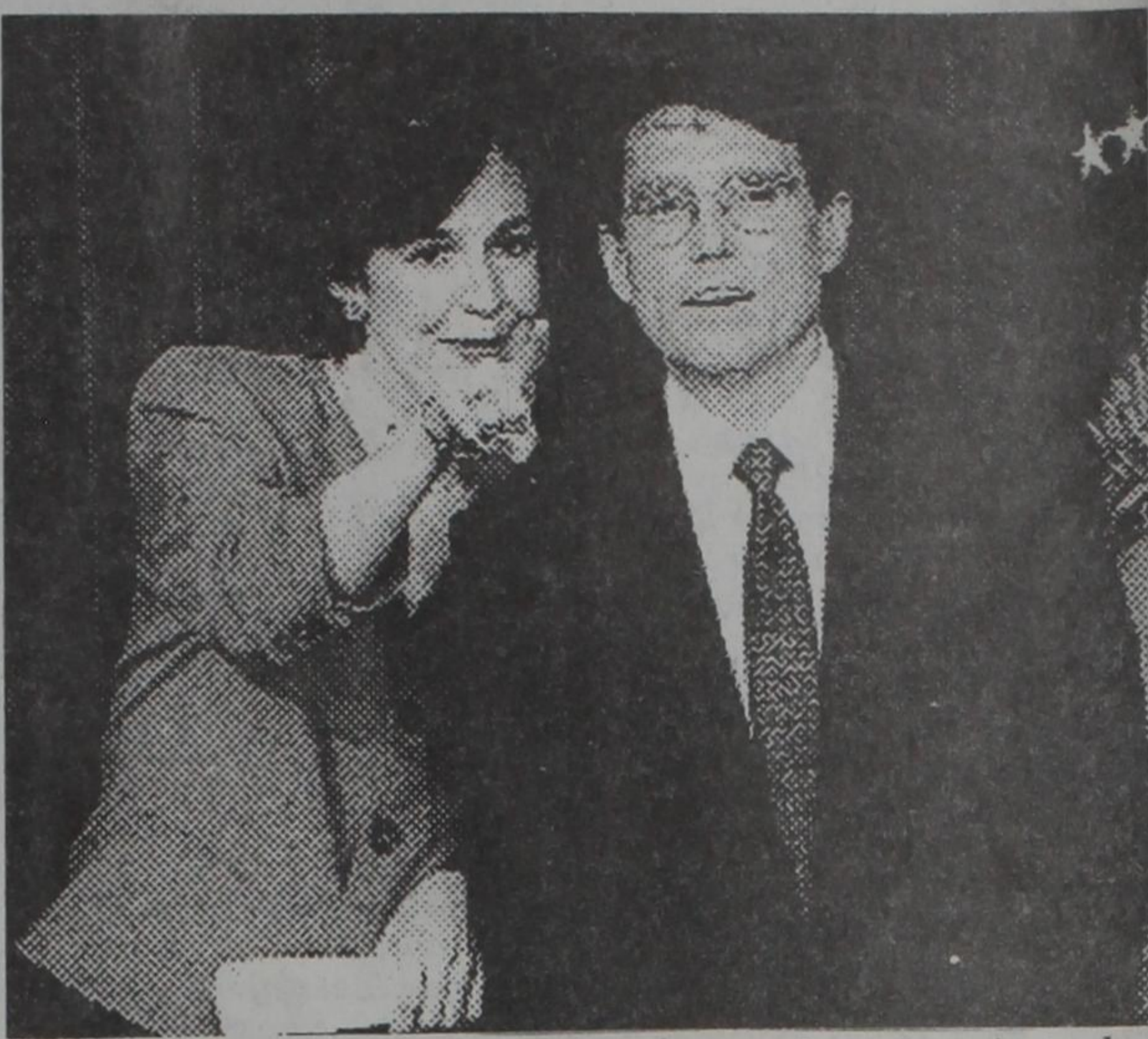
By JOSEPH TORRES

While some Hispanic leaders are saying that the Clinton administration has fulfilled its promise to appoint a strong team of Hispanics to his new Cabinet, others express fear that Latino influence will diminish in the president's second term.

No Hispanic will preside over an agency that has a major impact on the Latino community, they claim. Nor is one likely to have the same access and influence as did retiring Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros.

Federico Pena, who served in Clinton's first Cabinet as Secretary of Transportation, will return as Secretary for the Department of Energy, but, while respected by the White House, he lacks Cisneros' stature. Pena is the sole Hispanic picked for one of the 14 core Cabinet positions.

Rounding out his broader, 24-member Cabinet-level policy circle, the president nominated two other Hispanics. He tapped Aida Alvarez, who heads the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, to become the next director of the Small Business Administration, and U.S. Rep.



La sinceridad del presidente Clinton en el nombramiento de Federico Peña y Aida Alvarez fue cuestionada por líderes hispanos.

Bill Richardson (D-N.M.) as the next U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. If confirmed, Alvarez will become the first Puerto Rican and the first Latina to hold a Cabinet-level post.

Antonio Gonzalez, president of Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, told

Hispanic Link that he was "very satisfied" with Clinton's selections. He said that the president fulfilled the request by Hispanic leaders who, during a meeting with the administration last month, called for the appointment of two Hispanics to the Cabinet.

But Arturo Vargas, executive

director of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, said the entire Cabinet selection process, including the events that led up to Clinton's choosing Pena as Energy secretary as a last-minute compromise, "demonstrated a lack of respect" for Latinos.

Clinton reportedly recycled Pena's name after Cisneros planted himself in the White House's Oval Office following a budget meeting to warn the president about repercussions to the Democratic Party if he failed to appoint at least one Hispanic to his core Cabinet.

Cisneros had pushed U.S. Rep. Esteban Torres (D-Calif.) to be named Labor secretary. In spite of his pro-labor background, Torres was a strong supporter of the president on NAFTA legislation but voted against the compromise welfare bill which the president signed. Clinton ultimately chose the White House's Alexis Herman to head Labor. Clinton, Vice-President Al Gore and Cisneros then convinced Pena, who already had a for-sale sign in front of his house, to accept the Energy post.

Gonzalez cited Cisneros' las-

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News Briefs

AIDS Drug Free to Children

A drug company is offering children infected with the AIDS virus free doses of an experimental drug known as a "protease inhibitor," reports Associated Press.

Agouron Pharmaceuticals is seeking Food and Drug Administration approval of its Viracept, known chemically as nelfinavir.

If approved, the drug could become the nation's fourth protease inhibitor, a powerful class of AIDS drugs credited with revolutionizing AIDS care. Yet none of these drugs is available in pediatric form, sparking protests from parents who say they're watching their children die.

Agouron last month became the first company to seek simultaneous FDA approval for adult and child forms of a protease inhibitor. While the FDA is evaluating the drug, it gave Agouron permission to run an "expanded access" program offering Viracept free to any HIV-infected child age 2 to 13.

For information, doctors and parents may call 1-800-621-7111 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST.

CBO: Balanced Budget May Be Largely Unfelt

Although deficit fighters insist the U.S. must balance its budget within six years, the benefits of balanced federal books may be largely unseen and unfelt, even if that goal is ever reached, reports Associated Press.

Even now, after four years of sharp deficit reduction, budget writers are hard-pressed to pinpoint the positives actually achieved.

Billions probably have been saved in federal interest costs and consumer and business interest rates may be a bit lower for what has been done so far. But so many variables exist that firm numbers are not available.

The Congressional Budget Office, or CBO, has forecast a \$170 billion "fiscal dividend" from a balanced budget, to be gained from now through 2002 by lower interest payments on the federal debt and more taxes to the government from a growing economy.

In the end, the CBO says, "it may be impossible to disentangle the effects of balancing the budget from other forces operating at the same time in the U.S. economy." Indeed, it says, positives accrue over time and "the major beneficiaries of a balanced budget may be future generations."

"People are not going to get a check written to them from the federal treasury because we balance the federal budget," said Jamie Ridge of the deficit-fighting Concord Coalition. "It's very difficult, especially in the short run, to show the positive impact that reducing the deficit has."

Interest rates could drop by up to two percentage points, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan estimates. That would make homes, cars, college, manufacturing plants and everything else bought through borrowing noticeably more affordable.

But other factors affect interest rates, too, and the CBO says "caution about the likely speed of reductions...seems warranted."

Interest payments on the debt were estimated at \$344.5 billion in the last fiscal year. That exceeds federal spending on education, transportation, the environment, foreign affairs, medical research and job training combined.

Clinton: Pregnant Teens a Major Problem

President Clinton vowed Saturday to step up federal efforts to stop "the epidemic of teen pregnancy" and claimed his policies are to credit for new evidence of declining teen birth rates.

Clinton said that after four years in the White House he considers that of all America's social problems, teen-age pregnancy ranks at the top.

"Let me be clear: The teen pregnancy rate is still intolerably high in America," Clinton said in his weekly radio address. "Too many children are still having children. So we must do more." Clinton said that in his second term his administration will take steps to further reduce teen pregnancies:

- Increase support for local programs such as the one at Atlanta's Emory University "where young people teach their peers about abstinence and responsibility."
- "Spread the word about these programs so that what works in one community can be tried quickly in more communities."
- Forge stronger partnerships with businesses, religious leaders and community groups "who are committed to dealing with this problem."

Clinton also promised strong enforcement of last year's welfare overhaul law to require teen-age mothers who receive welfare to live at home and stay in school.

Clinton cited government statistics showing the national teenage birth rate dropped 8 percent between 1991 and 1995, and in the three years ended in 1994 the rate dropped by 10 percent or more in Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Michigan, Vermont and Maine.

DC Votes to Cut Unemployment Aid

Maximum unemployment benefits in the nation's capital would be cut \$50 a week under the local government's latest proposal to shave large annual deficits and simultaneously stem an exodus of companies to lower-tax suburbs, reports Associated Press.

The District of Columbia's city council voted Tuesday to cut the maximum jobless benefit from \$359 to \$309 a week, a move that sponsors said would save employers \$8.9 million in unemployment insurance premiums this year.

Council members said the action would put the city more in line with benefits in neighboring Maryland and Virginia, where the maximum weekly unemployment checks are \$250 and \$208 respectively.

The measure would become effective in February if Mayor Marion Barry and a five-member financial control board endorse it. The board was established last year by Congress after the city government ran a combined \$378 million deficit in 1994 and 1995.

The temporary legislation adopted by the council would remain in effect for at least six months. Congress would have to approve the changes to make them permanent.

Farmers Angered By Subsidies

Small farmers are angry the 1996 farm bill may allow big operations to qualify for federal money to prevent manure spills that have become major environmental problems in Iowa, Minnesota, North Carolina and other states, reports Associated Press.

Congress set aside \$200 million in the bill to help farmers and ranchers install conservation measures such as manure-handling facilities and vegetation along stream banks for protection from runoff. The farm law said "large confined livestock operations" are ineligible for the money, but it didn't set specific size limits.

Despite pressure from congressional Democrats to set national standards, the Agriculture Department has proposed

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"El Respeto Al
Derecho Ajeno
Es La Paz"
Lic Benito Juarez
ESTABLECIDO 1977
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EL EDITOR
Celebrating 20 years of Publishing
Texas' Oldest Hispanic Owned Newspaper

Vol XX No. 15

Week of January 9 to January 15, 1997

Lubbock, Texas

Marcos Dice Que Si Hay Respeto, Hay Paz

MADRID, 6 de enero (EFE).- "Si se dan las condiciones básicas, 1997 será el año de la paz", dijo el subcomandante Marcos, dirigente del Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional a la emisora de radio española Cadena SER.

En entrevista, Marcos negó que el gobierno mexicano haya acertado al identificarlo y dijo sentirse solo en la selva y a merced de la naturaleza.

Según una transcripción de la entrevista enviada por la Cadena Ser, el zapatista indicó que una de las condiciones básicas para la paz es "resolver el problema de la política nacional en la cuestión

indígena", y señaló que ello está a punto de conseguirse.

Marcos bromeó respecto de su futuro, diciendo que sólo lo ve en un ataúd, y agregó que, si se volviera a la lucha armada, sus fuerzas militares están intactas.

Del ex presidente Carlos Salinas de Gortari, aseveró que era responsable de la mayoría de los males del país.

La Cadena SER precisa en una nota que Rafael Sebastián Guillén Vicente es la identidad del subcomandante Marcos según la Procuraduría General de la República de México. La emisora no indica cuándo se realizó la entrevista.



Hispanics And The Media:

1996's Milestones And Hailstones

By JOHN ROSALES

It was a good, bad and ugly year all at the same time for Latinos in the media.

While readership and audiences for Latino media surged, demonstrating new-found economic clout, 1996 brought sober reminders that Latinos remain vastly underrepresented in mainstream media. At times, Latinos were forced to battle coverage and portrayals they protested as patently racist.

First, the good:

Circulation of Latino publications nationwide continued to climb. In the past five years, it has nearly doubled -- from 12 million to 23 million, according to the National Association of Hispanic Publications.

"It's an evolution," says NAHP founder Kirk Whisler. "We probably have another four or five years of growth for Hispanic print media, where those publications which are solely Spanish will become bilingual, and then English-only."

"Advertising is continuing to grow locally and nationally," Whisler adds. "The quality of publications is also improving, due in part to today's computer technology."

Three major English-language publications launched Spanish-language editions. The San Jose Mercury News in Northern California began publishing El Nuevo Mundo in May. Newsweek magazine started up a Spanish-language edition for distri-



bution in Latin America. And in October, People magazine launched its first of six Spanish-language special issues to be published through 1997.

The industry standard for English-language publications expanding into Spanish remains Miami's El Nuevo Herald. It celebrated its 20th anniversary in March while earning 23 awards during the NAHP conference.

People joins several glossy magazines attempting to woo middle-class Latinos in the United States. The other '96 newcomers -- Latina, Moderna, Si and California's political entry, Latino Journal -- follow Latina Style, Frontera and Urban, with its audience of young New York Puerto Ricans, launched in the past few years. All are vying for a market with more than \$250 billion in annual purchasing

power.

On the radio and TV fronts, there were also milestones.

Arbitron's fall ratings placed Spanish-language radio station KTNQ first in listenership in Southern California, outstripping English-language competitors. Spanish-language KLAX has also led in some Southland listenership polls in the past two years.

In November, Univision's Miami affiliate, WLTV-Channel 23, became the first Spanish-language station to win a ratings sweep month in a major U.S. city. In New York, WXTV Channel 41, also a Univision affiliate, expanded its signal to reach Philadelphia via satellite.

In front of the camera, Denise Oller joined Raul Peimbert as co-anchor on Telenoticias, the daily national newscast on the Telemundo network, mak-

ing her the first Puerto Rican woman to co-anchor a national network newscast.

Two racist incidents were spawned by media celebrities Howard Stern and Mike Royko. In April, Stern, who attacked Latinos and their culture as barbaric and disparaged the memory of Selena in 1995, once again ridiculed Latinos with such dialogue as: "I never see Latinos on the beach. The only ones I see -- all they want to do is braid my hair. Do Latinos know how to swim?"

He was outdone by Chicago Tribune columnist Mike Royko, who harangued Latinos in a trio of February columns.

First, he attacked Mexicans for not "marching their sleazebag rulers to the wall and -- snap, crackle, pop -- do away with them" and for "sneaking into this country to work in a dead-chicken assembly line. You call that ambition?"

Of Cubans he wrote: "Hot-blooded members of the Cuban community in Florida want to bring back the good old days in Havana and expect the rest of us to go along with their mini-civil war...Every presidential candidate for the last 35 years has pandered to you shamelessly." The Tribune first issued a statement saying readers "misinterpreted" Royko's "political satire," then, as protests mounted, issued an apology.

Racist commentary and ignorance among mainstream jour-

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Do Shorter Welfare Rolls Spell Success?

Across the country, welfare caseloads are plunging: down 34 percent in Massachusetts over the past four years, 41 percent in Wisconsin, 37 percent in Oregon, 36 percent in Oklahoma, reports The Washington Post.

President Clinton boasts that nationwide caseloads are down 2.1 million people, the largest decline in history. Those numbers, say Clinton and dozens of governors, are the most glaring proof that welfare recipients are moving into jobs.

But reducing the rolls and saving money may well prove to be a flawed measure of success that gives little indication of whether millions of adults now on welfare are able to climb into the ranks of the working class.

Since implementing welfare reform in 1995, Massachusetts' experience of declining caseloads raises new questions when matched with other statistics:

-Only about half of the adults who left welfare have found jobs.

-Only 13 percent of the 2,000 job slots set aside in private industry for former welfare recipients have been filled.

-There has been no increase in the number of people seeking the Medicaid the state guarantees to help former recipients cover their health care costs as they move into the work force.

-There has been no increase over the past year in the number of people using the state's transitional child care assistance.

Academics argue that the Massachusetts experience foreshadows the possibility that one of the largest

domestic policy revolutions ever could take place without systematic study of what works and what doesn't, yielding a confusing web of results that offer conflicting conclusions about whether the poor end up any better off.

"Here's a state that has struggled hard with these questions," said David Ellwood, Harvard University public policy professor, referring to Massachusetts. "They have reduced the caseload. But have they gotten people working? The truth is, we just don't know."

In recent weeks, the skepticism about the state's claims of success has spread.

"I want them to go to work, but I'm not willing to push them off the edge of a cliff," said state Sen. Therese Murray, a Democrat and a chief architect of the legislation.

Murray is most uneasy at the lack of information about the 260 teenage parents who lost their benefits because they refused to return to school or live with a responsible adult, as the new law requires. "I asked [state officials] whether they were okay, and where did they go? They didn't know."

The state has hired two private social service organizations to do whatever is necessary - going door to door, questioning parents, relatives and any others - in an effort to find the whereabouts of teenagers who lost their benefits or fell through the cracks.

Yet other developments in Mass. show the state is having more trouble with welfare reform.

The rule forcing mothers to name the fathers of their children, for example,

was enjoined after several women filed suit. Welfare advocates also point to the state's problems getting people to work, a goal that becomes critical when recipients have just two years before their benefits run out. The state's two-year time limit went into effect Dec. 1.

Of the nearly 16,000 adults who are mandated to work or perform community service, nearly a third are doing neither.

Of those who are doing something, nearly a quarter are in community service, which may give them some work experience but is far from the paid work they will need to survive after they hit their time limit.

The recent survey ordered by Gov. William Weld found that of those who left, 49 percent had done so because of jobs, 11 percent had received other income, primarily child support, 14 percent had moved out of the state, 10 percent were no longer eligible and the remainder were either receiving the help of others, were going to reapply for benefits or could not be found.

Mark Greenberg, chief counsel for the Center for Law and Social Policy, a Washington research group, added that governors will have little motivation to conduct costly studies that may show their programs are not working. It will be much easier, he said, to point to declining caseloads.

"Under the new law, a state can reduce its caseload with a stroke of the pen" simply by making it harder for people to qualify, Greenberg said. "That doesn't mean that more people are working and that families are less needy."

Chicano Chic And The New Low Riders

By TONY CASTRO

Away from City Hall, Los Angeles City Councilman Richard Alatorre drives a BMW. California Democratic Party Chairman Art Torres sports a Mercedes Benz. For businessman and political insider George Pla, it's a Jaguar. And wealthy East L.A. attorney Manuel Hidalgo tools around town in a Ferrari.

Call them Chicano Chic. They are the Los Angeles Latino Establishment's powerful men and their toys.

Unfortunately, most of them would prefer to keep that a secret, as if you could somehow hide the fact that you drive automobiles worth several times the median income of the predominantly Latino Eastside.

That, of course, is the problem. Latinos, especially extremely successful ones, have been brainwashed into believing that any status symbol indicating you have more than modest taste and means somehow insults the masses and suggests that you are

somehow -- how shall we put it? -- less Latino than if you drive a Chevy.

A year ago, one of these men would have nothing to do with a magazine article on "Powerful Latinos and Their Wheels: The Eastside's Super Low Riders." Another of these men absolutely refused to be photographed with his foreign dream car.

How sad. I mean, it wasn't as if these men and their wheels had driven Ted Kennedy off the bridge in Chappaquiddick or were on the Most Wanted List of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers.

In Los Angeles, after all, they often say you are what you drive. Porsches, Ferraris, BMWs, 4-Wheel Drives. Nowhere in the country do you find fancier cars than in Southern California.

Strange, but no one ever thinks twice about powerful men with names like Spielberg and Eisner driving mega-bucks automobiles. It's expected of successful businessmen who

are regarded as having the same privileges to status symbols as movie stars and super-jocks.

Successful Latinos, and perhaps successful African Americans, are held to a different standard.

I remember listening to a major Los Angeles daily newspaper editor talking about a meeting he had with a group of Latino business and civic leaders at an East Los Angeles steak house.

All the editor could talk about was the sight of all the El Dorados, Lincolns and Mercedes Benzes in the restaurant parking lot -- cars he presumed belonged to the Latinos.

The editor's obsession with successful Latinos and their luxury cars suggested to me that in his mind this somehow disqualified these Latinos from being representative of the Latino community or of being sincere advocates of Latino issues and concerns. What did he expect to see?

Sombreros and burros, Chevy, Novas and Cutlass Supremes?

I had to acknowledge to myself that this editor I admired was a racist with pre-conceived notions of how Latinos should be represented, his own liberal Democratic Party background and American Civil Liberties Union membership card notwithstanding.

Successful Latinos, especially those in the public eye, know this from their own history of prejudged expectations, which may explain their reluctance to showcase themselves and their expensive toys.

In the bigoted mentality of the great unwashed public, it isn't politically correct to be Chicano Chic. The safe image of a modest, complacent, downtrodden people helps a troubled, insecure United States of America sleep better at night.

(Tony Castro is editor of The Los Angeles Eastside Sun.) Copyright 1997, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate

La Elegancia Chicana Y Los Nuevos "Low Riders"

Por TONY CASTRO

Lejos del Ayuntamiento, el Concejal de Los Angeles Richard Alatorre conduce un BMW. El presidente del Partido Demócrata de California, Art Torres, exhibe un Mercedes Benz. Para el comerciante y experto político George Plá, es un Jaguar. Y el acaudalado abogado del Este de Los Angeles, Manuel Hidalgo, se moviliza en un Ferrari.

Llámenlos los Elegantes Chicanos. Ellos son los hombres poderosos y sus juguetes del Establecimiento Latino de Los Angeles.

Desgraciadamente, la mayoría de ellos preferirían mantener eso en secreto, como si se pudiera ocultar de algún modo el hecho de que se conduzcan automóviles que valen varias veces la cifra del ingreso mediano del Lado Este, predominantemente latino.

Eso, desde luego, es el problema. A los latinos, especialmente los que han tenido un éxito extremado, se les ha hecho el lavado de cerebro para que crean que cualquier símbolo de situación que indique el que uno tiene un gusto y medios de fortuna más que modestos, insulta de algún modo a las masas y sugiere que uno es de algún modo -- ¿cómo lo diremos? -- menos latino que si uno conduce un Chevrolet.

Hace un año, uno de estos hombres no habría querido tener nada que ver con un artículo de una revista sobre "Los Latinos Poderosos y sus Ruedas: Los 'Super Low Riders' del Lado Este". Otro de estos hombres se negó absolutamente a ser fotografiado con

su carro extranjero de sueño.

Cuán triste! Quiero decir, no era como si estos hombres y sus ruedas hubieran sacado a Ted Kennedy del puente de Chappaquiddick, o estuvieran en la Lista de los Más Buscados de las Madres Contra los Conductores Embragados.

En Los Angeles, después de todo, se dice a menudo que uno es lo que conduce. Porsches, Ferraris, BMWs, autos de tracción en las cuatro ruedas. En ninguna otra parte del país se hallan autos de más fantasía que en el sur de California.

Es extraño, pero nadie piensa alguna vez acerca de hombres poderosos con apellidos tales como Spielberg o Eisner conduciendo autos que valen algunos millares de dólares. Se espera eso de los comerciantes exitosos, a quienes se estima como que tienen los mismos privilegios a usar símbolos de situación como las estrellas del cine y los super-jinetes.

A los latinos que tienen éxito, y quizás a los afroamericanos que tienen éxito, se les trata por una norma diferente.

Recuerdo haber escuchado a un editor de un periódico diario importante de Los Angeles hablar sobre una reunión que él tuvo con un grupo de dirigentes comerciales y cívicos latinos en un restaurante del Este de Los Angeles.

Todo lo que el editor podía mencionar era la visión de todos los autos "El Dorado", Lincoln y Mercedes Benz en el estacionamiento del restaurante -- de los que él presumía que pertenecían a los latinos.

La obsesión del editor con los latinos exitosos y sus autos de lujo me sugirió que, en su mente, esto descalificaba de algún modo a estos latinos para ser representativos de la comunidad latina, o para ser defensores sinceros de los asuntos e intereses latinos.

¿Qué esperaba ver él? ¿Sombreros y burros, Chevrolet Novas y Cutlass Supremes?

Tuve que reconocerme a mí mismo que este editor, a quien yo admiraba, era un racista con nociones preconcebidas de cómo los latinos deberían estar representados, sin perjuicio de sus propios antecedentes liberales del Partido Demócrata y de su tarjeta de membresía de la American Civil Liberties Union.

Los latinos exitosos, especialmente los que están bajo

la vista del público, saben esto por sus propias historias de expectativas prejuiciadas, las cuales pueden explicar su renuencia a destacarse a ellos mismos y a sus juguetes costosos.

En la mentalidad intolerante del gran público desaseado, no es políticamente correcto el ser un Elegante Chicano.

La imagen segura de un pueblo modesto, complaciente y atropellado ayuda a los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica con dificultades e inseguros a dormir mejor por la noche.

(Tony Castro es el editor de "The Los Angeles Eastside Sun.") Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1997. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate



Sittin' Here Thinkin'

Conspiracy Theories

by Ira Cutler

Anthropologists tell us that humans have always had a need to make sense out of seemingly inexplicable events. Our curiosity has caused us to speculate and to develop theories that make things fit neatly into orderly systems. Theorizing has always been a driving force behind mankind's progress -- it is at the core of how we think and it has spurred the development of both science and religion.

But the same desire -- the drive to find orderly and acceptable explanations -- has also shown its darker side in the genesis of disturbing conspiracy theories.

These days it seems that we are surrounded by conspiracy theories. We have the one about the LA Police framing OJ; the one about the CIA allowing crack cocaine to be sold in Los Angeles in order to finance the Nicaraguan Contras; the one about TWA 800 being shot down by the American military and the truth being covered up until after Clinton's re-election. We have all the assorted Whitewater stuff, complete with the Vince Foster suicide being murder and the "who moved the body" scenarios. Meanwhile, James Earl Ray is dying and some fear that the last chance to get the truth about who was really behind the assassination of Martin Luther King will die with him.

Conspiracy theories, of course, are nothing new. Abraham Lincoln's time saw stories about his wife being a traitorous spy for the Confederacy and it was widely believed by those who hated him that his mother was secretly black. During World War I German Americans were widely suspected of disloyalty and were persecuted and harassed. And the conspiracy theories that accompanied the Cold War -- Communists under every bed -- set new standards for national paranoia.

As a boy in the 50's, I remember hearing the widespread story that Franklin Roosevelt knew about the impending Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor but let it happen because that way he could get Congressional support to enter World War II. And, further out on the nuttiness scale, that he wanted to enter WWII because he was part of an international conspiracy of Jewish bankers and was himself secretly a Jew. I was actually told, in class by my fifth grade teacher, that on the evening before the attack on Pearl Harbor all of the Japanese-American students at Columbia University secretly checked out of their dormitory rooms and disappeared, having been forewarned of the attack.

I remember, too, hearing that Catholics had guns stockpiled in the basements of their churches, that Gypsies kidnapped children, and that Hitler and Roosevelt were secretly still alive long after their deaths.

Conspiracy theories grow out of a need to rationalize particularly troubling events. Pearl Harbor was not only a tremendous military defeat but was also a shock to our national pride. How could the Japanese sneak up on Hawaii and destroy almost our entire Navy without some treachery or other? Without a conspiracy theory to fall back on, we would have to consider that maybe they were smart and prepared while we were careless and lazy. In a similar way, we could not adjust to the idea that the Russians were smart enough to independently discover atomic power and set out on a huge hunt for imaginary spies that lasted more than a decade.

The topic with the grandest conspiracy theories is, of course, the John F. Kennedy assassination. This has gone way beyond the mutterings of a kook or two and has become, in the great American tradition, an industry. There are shelves of JFK assassination books, multiple movies, conventions of groups and perhaps someday, who knows, there will be a theme park.

I recently read the definitive JFK assassination book, "Case Closed" by Gerald Posner. In it Posner explains the prevalence of conspiracy theories as follows: "The notion that a mis-guided sociopath had wreaked such havoc made the crime seem senseless and devoid of political significance. By concluding that JFK was killed as the result of an elaborate plot, there is the belief he died for a purpose."

And so, despite overwhelming evidence, a majority of Americans believe in something other than the straight Oswald killed Kennedy story. Posner goes painstakingly through all the evidence (much enhanced now by scientific advances in computer simulation and ballistics identification) and convincingly makes the case that it was Oswald, acting alone, but it is unlikely that anyone's mind will change.

The thing is that we do not like the "Oswald did it alone story." It offends our sense of how things work and about how stories ought to be constructed.

In movies, if the hero gets killed at all, it is by a powerful enemy, one whose evil power glorifies the hero's death. In movies, by the end of the picture, the most powerful good guy fights the most powerful bad guy for the future of the world. Oswald was badly cast and not up to the role.

Certainly it would be more comfortable if life were a well constructed drama with a beginning, a middle and an end in which all conflict is resolved and all mysteries are explained. But life does not always make for good drama. Sometimes things happen that do not make sense and that certainly would never be accepted as a script. Sometimes we never know the truth, or at least the whole truth, and sometimes the truth is wholly unsatisfactory.

In this instance, the truth is that it was not the CIA, Castro or the Mafia that, for reasons that make his death seem meaningful, killed the leader of the most powerful nation on earth. The best evidence is that it was a nerdy, nervous, weird, ne'er do well, misfit named Lee Harvey Oswald, shooting three times from the Texas Book Depository, with a cheap mail order rifle, acting alone and for no reason that makes any sense at all.

Conspiracy theories also last and grow because really strange, bizarre and unbelievable things happen. Regularly. Why not believe that the CIA would support drug smuggling in Los Angeles when it is clear from the Iran-Contra hearings that they supported gun smuggling worldwide? Isn't this the same CIA that conspired with the Mafia to kill Fidel Castro with poisoned cigars? Is a Whitewater cover-up any more bizarre than a Watergate cover-up? Are sacks of money delivered to the Nixon campaign from Howard Hughes any more odd than John Huang shaking down Indonesians? Isn't it obvious that, just as they denied that veterans were harmed by Agent Orange in Vietnam, the Defense Department is now stonewalling on whatever it was that poisoned people during Desert Storm?

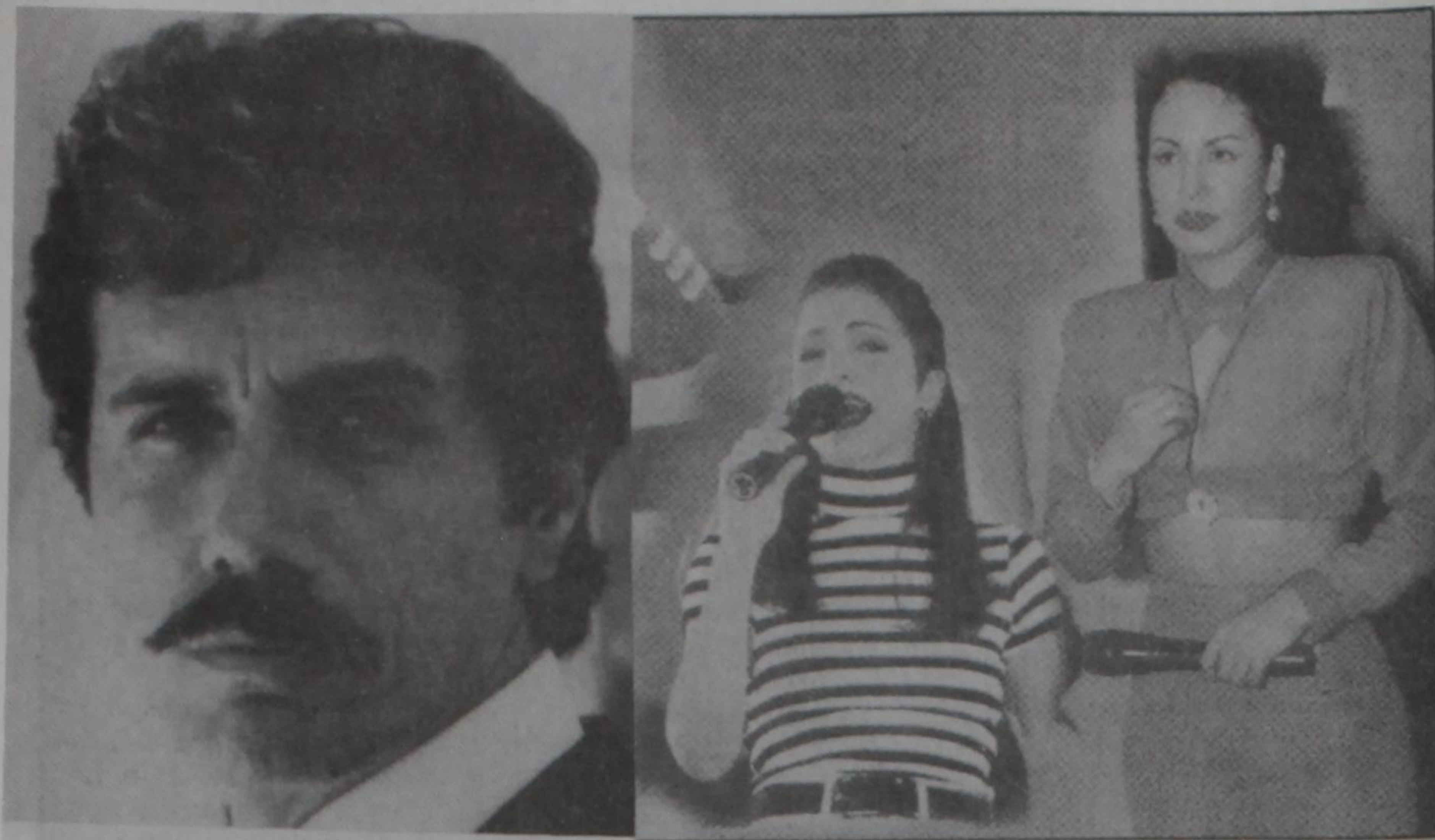
So what to believe and what not to believe? How do we know which conspiracy theory is crackpot and which just might contain an important truth?

My rule of thumb is to be skeptical about theories that require a belief in large numbers of people, across a number of institutions, working effectively together, cooperating and keeping their mouths shut over a long period of time. I have never seen anything in government or anywhere else operating that well, for good or ill. It is one thing to believe that there are evil forces in the world, but quite another to believe that they are any more competent than the rest of us.

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'*.

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Latino Involvement In Arts Entertainment Reflect in '96

By ANTONIO MEJIAS-RENTAS

Latino involvement in U.S. arts and entertainment circles was reflected in the major stories encompassing several fields during 1996.

The making of the film biography of slain Tejano singer Selena, the rise and fall of Latinos on network television, the passing of one of the nation's best storytellers, and the endurance of a song that would not go away are among leading news events of 1996.

FILM: Producers of the biopic "Selena" raised some eyebrows this summer when they announced the casting of Puerto Rican actress Jennifer Lopez in the title role after a much-publicized open casting process that lured thousands of Selena wannabes to auditions in Chicago, Miami and Los Angeles.

Becky Lee Meza, a 10-year-old from Harlingen, Texas, was chosen to play Selena as a child, and production got under way in the fall, with Edward James Olmos and John Seda added to the cast. The movie is now expected to open in April, to coincide with Selena's birth date.

Two other Latino-themed movies were in the news, mostly for their lack of Latino participation.

The producers of Evita were greeted in Buenos Aires in January with messages painted on walls decrying the casting of Madonna in the title role. She responded by calling Argentina an "uncivilized" country. The actress has been on a major promotional push for the movie, which opened in December.

Director Richard Rodriguez gave up on directing "Zorro" in Mexico, reportedly over budget problems, and the film is now slated to be done next year, with Antonio Banderas -- an

Evita co-star -- in the starring role.

TELEVISION: In an obvious reaction to a nationwide boycott, the ABC television network included a Latino-themed sitcom with several Latino cast members on its fall roster. "Common Law," which starred stand-up comedian Greg Giraldo, revolved around the life of a New York City lawyer; given a dismal air time on Saturday evenings, the show succumbed to low ratings within a month of its debut.

The fall started out with several new shows with Latino stars. Another of the season's first casualties: "Lush Life," a sitcom on Fox that featured John Ortiz as gay bartender Nelson "Margarita" Marquez. It premiered Sept. 19 and was dumped Sept. 30. "The John Larroquette Show," which had the longest-running Latino character on network television -- played by Liz Torres -- was canceled in November.

Another TV newsmaker was actor Michael DeLorenzo, who along with his co-star Malik Yoba from the Fox series "New York Undercover" did not report to work for the season's first shoot, holding out for a contract renegotiation. The pair reported to work three days later, on July 25, after producer Universal Television sued the actors for \$1.2 million.

Outside of network television, the long-awaited series "Chicano!" began airing on PBS in April.

ARTS AND LITERATURE: Chicano author, artist and performer Jose Antonio Burciaga died Oct. 7 in Northern California at age 56 following a long battle with cancer. At a sold-out memorial in San Francisco's Mission District a week later, Burciaga was

remembered for his "wonderful ability to capture our lives in murals, comedy, poetry and books." He was a regular columnist with Hispanic Link News Service.

Other outstanding Latino artists passed on in 1996. Among them: Mexican singer Lola Beltran in March; Cuban director Tomas Gutierrez Alea in April; and Mexican actress Rosario Revueltas and Puerto Rican singer Gilberto Monroig, both in May.

SONG: While U.S.-based Latino recording artists continued to make strides with their music, an import from Spain was the unchallenged hit of the year. Macarena, recorded over two years ago by flamenco duet Los del Rio, topped the charts in a remix version by Miami deejays Bayside Boys. After spending 40 weeks on the Billboard Hot 100 Singles chart, the catchy tune reached No. 1 in August -- with a little help from the Republican and Democratic conventions.

No U.S. recording artist was as successful this year as Gloria Estefan, who was identified in Hispanic Business magazine as the wealthiest Latino entertainer, with a net worth (with husband Emilio Estefan) estimated at \$50 million. Her long-awaited English-language pop album "Destiny" was released in June. In July, the singer launched "Evolution," her first international tour in five years, in Atlanta -- and she performed for the closing of the Olympic Games.

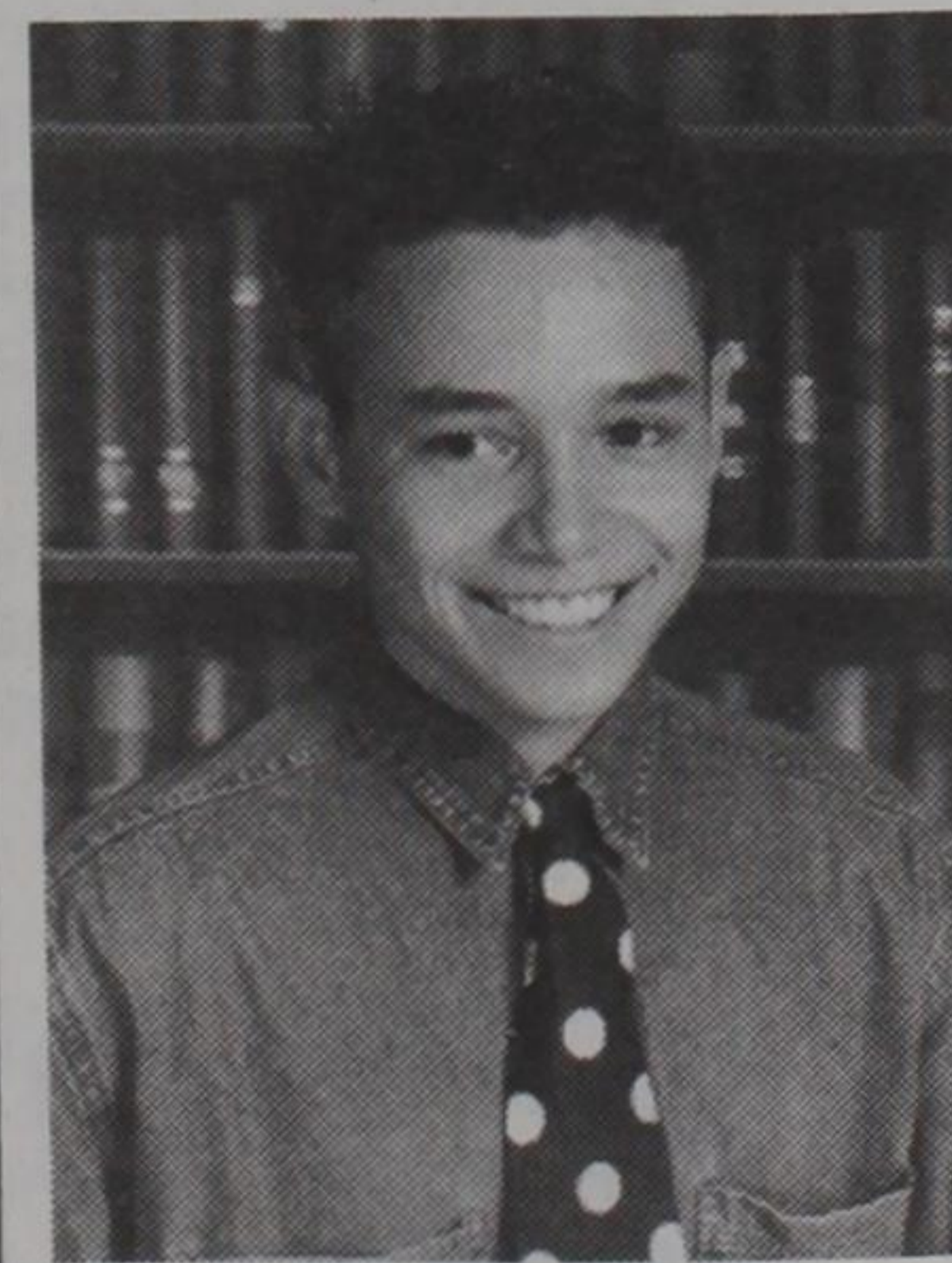
Also touring in '96 was rocker Carlos Santana. He dedicated his song "You Have to Stop Your Evil Ways" to Republicans at every stop. In December, Santana received Billboard's Century Award, commemorating the publication's first 100 years.

(Antonio Mejias-Rentas is managing editor of the Espectaculos section of the nation's largest Spanish-language daily, La Opinion, in Los Angeles and a columnist with the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

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Amplia Participacion Latina En Los Campos Del Arte Refleja En '96

Por ANTONIO MEJIDAS-RENTAS

La participación de los latinos en los círculos artísticos y de las diversiones en los Estados Unidos quedó reflejada en las noticias importantes que abarcaron varios campos durante 1996.

La confección de la biografía filmica de la cantante tejana asesinada, Selena, el ascenso y la caída de los latinos en las redes televisoras, la muerte de uno de los mejores relatores de historias de la nación y la persistencia de una canción que no quiere desaparecer, se hallan entre los principales acontecimientos de noticias de 1996.

PELICULAS: Los productores del cuadro biográfico de Selena hicieron fruncir algunas cejas en este verano cuando anunciaron el señalamiento de la actriz puertorriqueña Jennifer López para el papel del título después que un trámite de selección abierta muy anunciado llevó a millares de aspirantes a personificar a Selena a las audiciones de Chicago, Miami y Los Angeles.

Becky Lee Meza, una niña de 10 años de edad de Harlingen, Texas, fue seleccionada para representar a Selena cuando era niña, y la producción dió comienzo en el otoño, con Edward James Olmos y John Seda agregados al elenco. Se espera ahora que la película sea estrenada en abril, para coincidir con la fecha del nacimiento de Selena.

Otras dos películas con temas latinos estuvieron en las noticias, primordialmente por su falta de participación latina.

Los productores de "Evita" fueron recibidos en Buenos Aires en enero con mensajes pintados en las paredes que condenaban a la selección de Madonna para el papel titular. Ella respondió llamando a la Argentina un país "incivilizado". La actriz ha estado en un impulso de promoción importante por la película, que se estrenó en diciembre.

El director Richard Rodriguez se dió por vencido para dirigir a la cinta del Zorro en México, según se informa por

problemas presupuestarios, y ahora la película está señalada para filmarse el año próximo, con Antonio Banderas -- co-estrella de Evita -- en el papel estelar.

TELEVISION: En una reacción evidente a un boicot de alcance nacional, la red de televisión ABC incluyó una comedia con tema latino, con varios miembros latinos en el reparto, en su lista de otoño. "Common Law", que destacó al comediante Greg Giraldo, se centraba en la vida de un abogado de la ciudad de Nueva York; al dársele un espacio de tiempo miserable los sábados por la noche, el programa sucumbió a los resultados de las encuestas de medición de audiencia dentro del mes de su debut.

El otoño empezó con varios programas nuevos con estrellas latinas. Otra de las primeras bajas de la temporada fue "Lush Life", otra comedia que destacaba a John Ortiz como el cantinero homosexual Nelson "Margarita" Marquez. Se estrenó el 19 de septiembre y fué descontinuada el 30 de septiembre. El programa "The John Larroquette Show", que tenía al personaje latino de mayor duración en las redes televisoras -- personificado por Liz Torres -- fué cancelado en noviembre.

Otro personaje de la televisión que estuvo en las noticias fué el actor Michael DeLorenzo, quien junto con su co-estrella, Malik Yoba, de la serie de Fox "New York Undercover", no se presentaron a trabajar para el primer programa de la temporada, esperando una renegociación del contrato. La pareja se presentó al trabajo tres días después, el 25 de julio, después que el productor, Universal Televisión, demandó a los actores por \$1,200,000.

Fuera de las redes de televisión, la muy esperada serie "Chicano!" empezó a transmitirse por la PBS en abril.

ARTES Y LITERATURA: El autor y artista chicano José Antonio Burciaga murió el 7 de octubre en el norte de California a la edad de 56 años, después de una larga lucha contra el cáncer. En un acontecimiento de conmemoración en

el Distrito Mission, de San Francisco, una semana después, Burciaga fué recordado por su "capacidad maravillosa para capturar nuestras vidas en murales, comedias, poesía y libros. El era un columnista periódico de Hispanic Link News Service.

Otros artistas latinos sobresalientes murieron en 1996. Entre ellos la cantante mexicana Lola Beltrán, en marzo; el director cubano Tomás Gutiérrez Alea, en abril; y la actriz mexicana Rosario Revueltas y el cantante puertorriqueño Gilberto Monroig, ambos en mayo.

CANCIONES: Aunque los artistas latinos de la grabación con sede en los Estados Unidos continuaron haciendo progresos con su música, una pieza importada de España fué el éxito indudable del año. "Macarena", grabada hace más de dos años por el dueto flamenco Los Del Río, encabezó los cuadros de popularidad en una versión de mezcla por los "disc-jockeys" de Miami Bayside Boys. Después de pasar 40 semanas en el cuadro de las "100 Piezas Más Calientes", la tonada pegajosa llegó al No. 1 en agosto -- con un poco de ayuda por parte de las convenciones republicana y democrata.

Ningún artista estadounidense de las grabaciones tuvo tanto éxito en este año como Gloria Estefan, que fué identificada en la revista "Hispanic Business" como la artista latina más acaudalada, con un valor neto (junto con su esposo Emilio Estefan) estimado en \$50 millones. Su muy esperado álbum de música popular en inglés "Destiny" fué publicado en junio. En julio, la cantante lanzó "Evolution", su primer aiva internacional en cinco años, en Atlanta -- y ella actuó en la clausura de los Juegos Olímpicos.

También estuvo viajando en 1996 el rockero Carlos Santana. El dedicó su canción "You Have to Stop Your Evil Ways" a los republicanos en todas sus escalas. En diciembre, Santana recibió el Galarón del Siglo de Billboard, que conmemoraba los primeros 100 años de la publicación.



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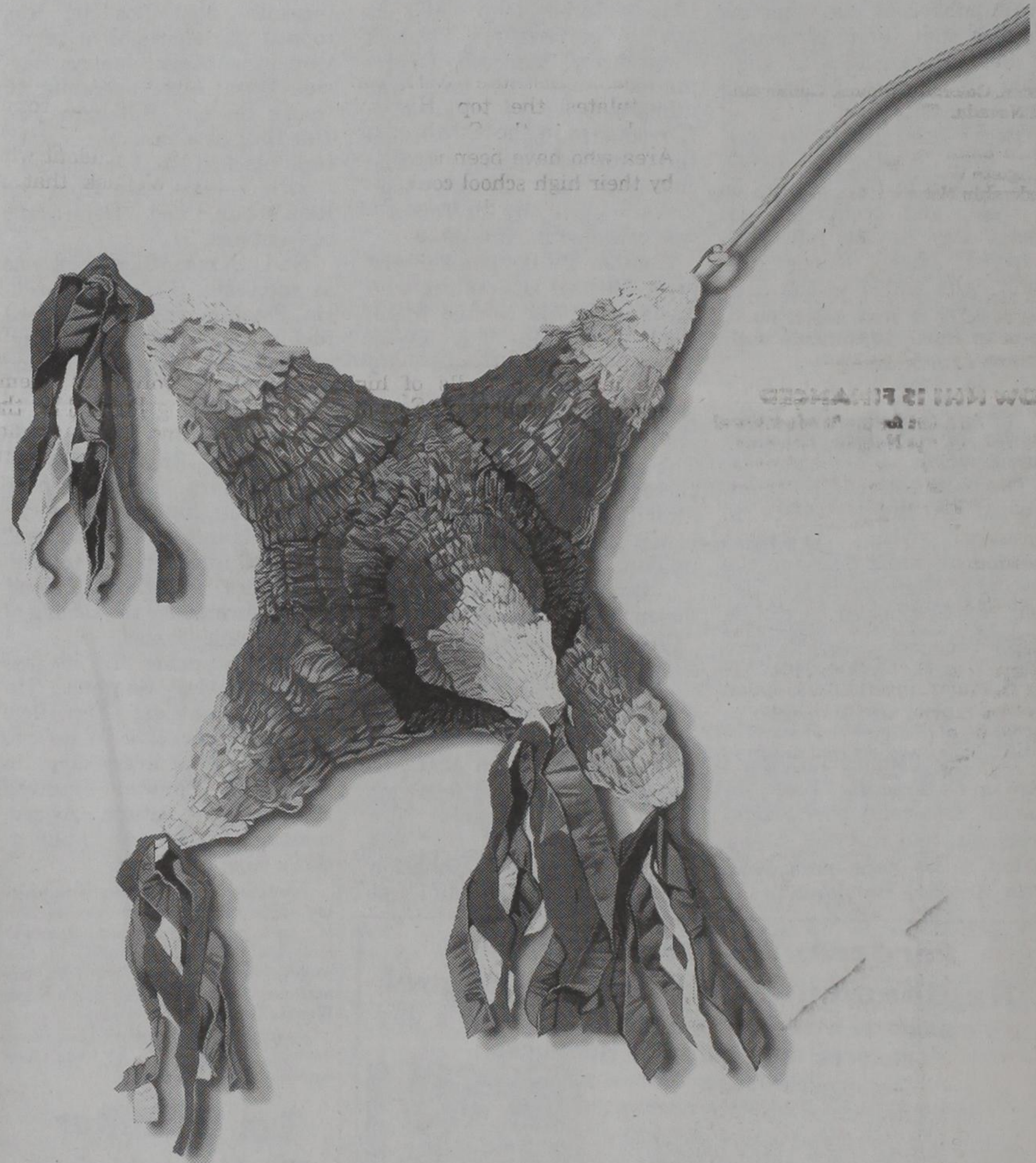
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DINERO SEGURO.

Texas Tech 73, Oklahoma St. 64

By OWEN CANFIELD

STILLWATER, Okla. - Tony Battie proved to be everything Oklahoma State thought he would be, and that was way too much for the Cowboys.

Battie, Texas Tech's junior center, had 25 points, seven rebounds and three blocks in leading the 20th-ranked Red Raiders to a 73-64 victory Wednesday night.

The 6-foot-11 Battie scored 16 points in the first half when the Red Raiders (10-2, 2-0 Big 12) overcame a slow start to twice take 12-point leads. Then he carried his team after Oklahoma State pulled within four early in the

second half.

"We think he's the best center in the Big 12 and he puts so much pressure on your defense," Oklahoma State coach Eddie Sutton said. "When you go up and down their lineup, they can hurt you in so many ways."

The Red Raiders did that Wednesday. Cory Carr had 16 points, Gionet Cooper grabbed 10 rebounds and Rayford Young came off the bench to score 13 points.

"We got a good education tonight on several things," Texas Tech coach James Dickey said. "One is how physical this league is going to be.

The second thing is what it's going to be like on the road - to play above the crowd, play above the pressure, play above the officials."

The Red Raiders handed Oklahoma State (7-5, 0-2) only its eighth home loss in Sutton's six-plus years as coach. The crowd of 5,603 was 700 short of a sellout, due partly to snowy weather and school still being out, and Texas Tech never really let the crowd get going.

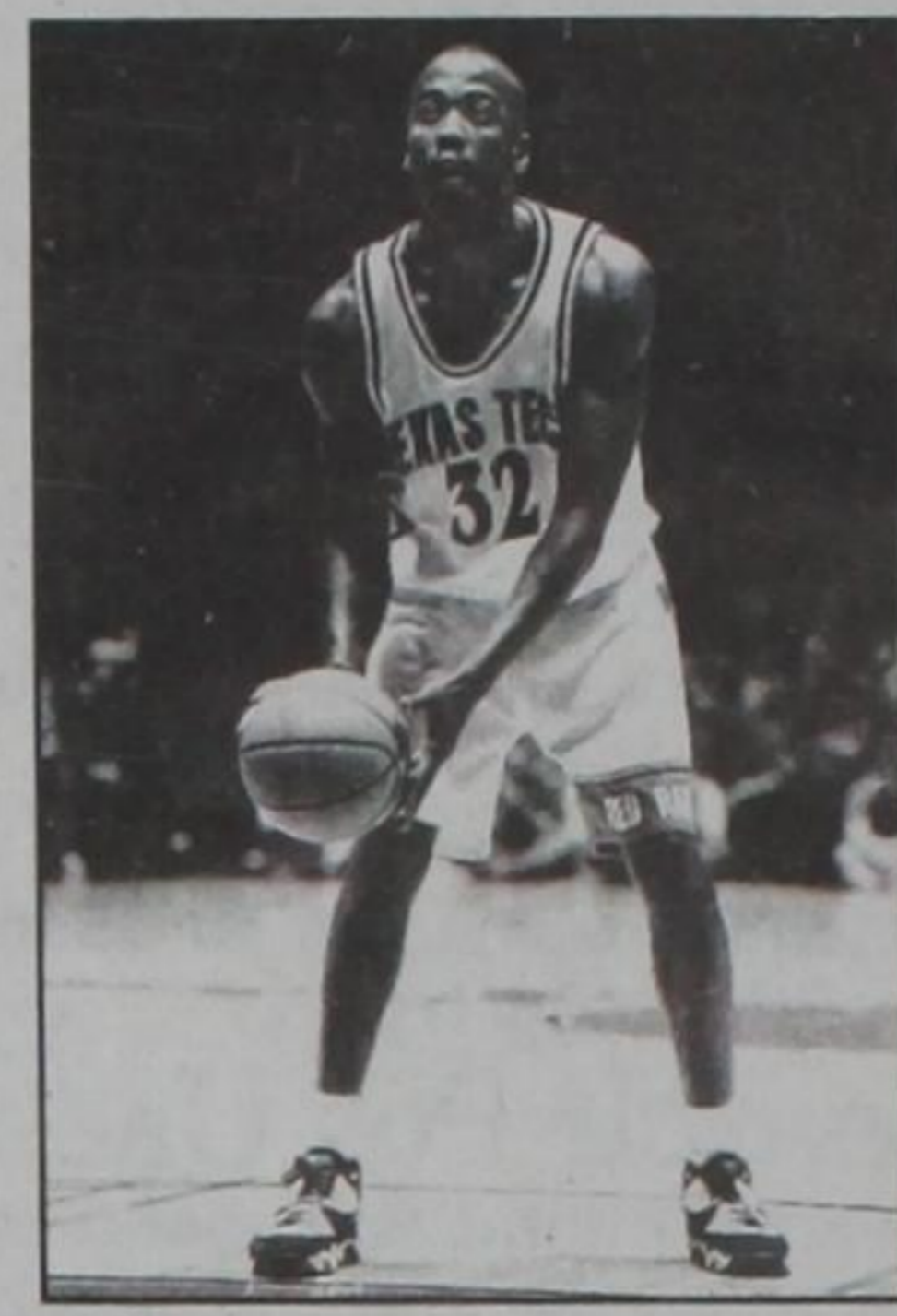
The Red Raiders missed their first nine shots to fall behind 10-3. Then Stan Bonowitz made a 3-pointer to start a run in which Texas Tech

went 9-for-10 from the field and took a 26-20 lead.

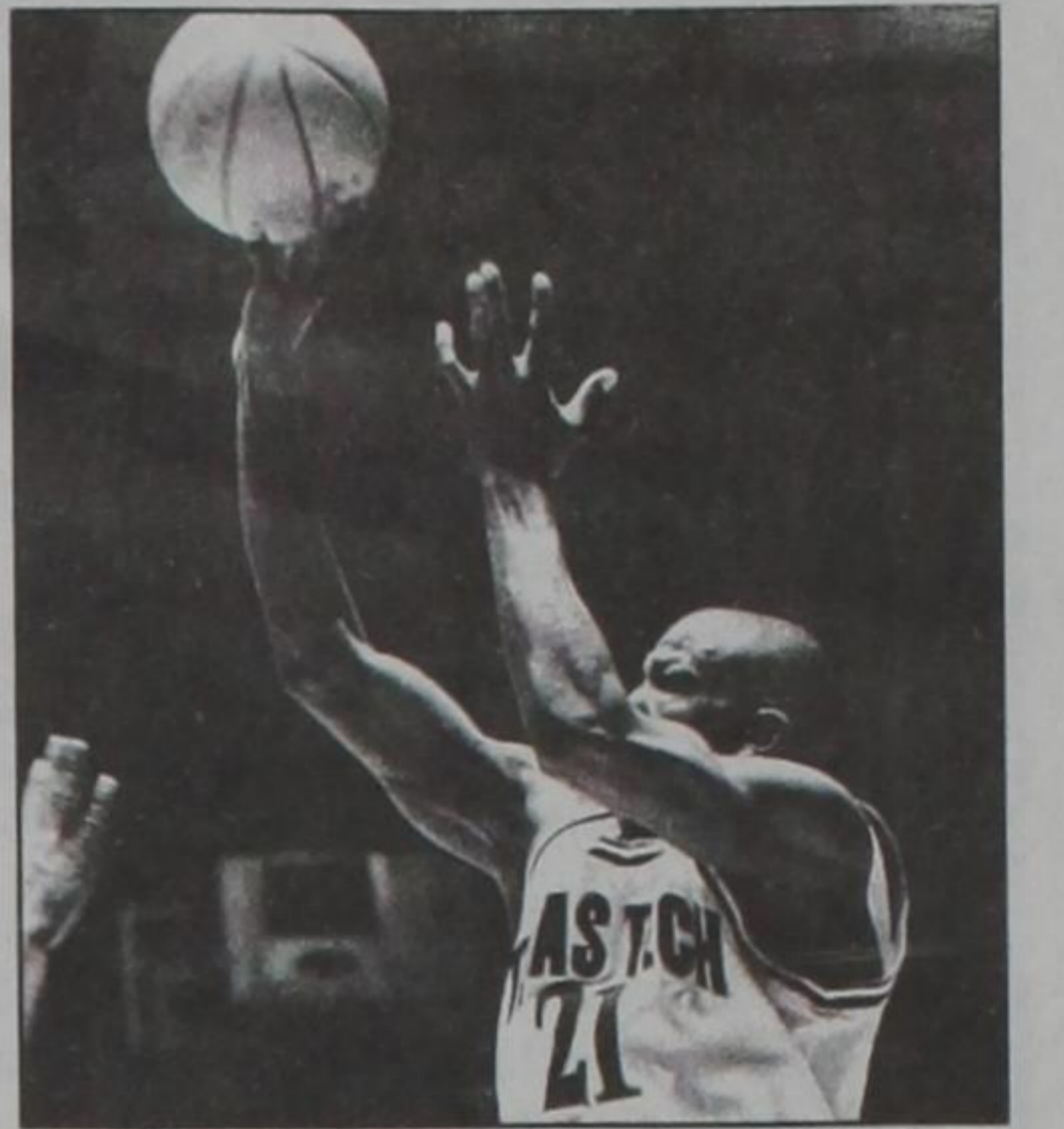
Carr's 3-pointer with 4:04 left widened the lead to 31-22. Later in the half, Battie showed his versatility by scoring inside, doing it again and converting a three-point play, then draining a 3-pointer.

"I thought he really established himself tonight early that he was going to be a factor in the ball game," Dickey said. "I thought the punch we had in first half was because of his offensive output."

Oklahoma State scored the first six points of the second half to get within 42-38. Then Battie hit a turnaround jump-



Gionet Cooper



Cory Carr



Stan Bonowitz



Tony Battie



MISSION

The National Hispanic Institute was founded with the belief that educated Latino youth have great contributions of skill and talent to make to their communities. NHI helps Latino youth develop advanced skills in community problem-solving through specialized training in the areas of critical/analytical thinking, writing, networking, team work, and public speaking. Knowledge and participation in Latino culture are fundamental to all NHI programs as well as assignment of Latino-related issues as topics of controversy, discussion, and debate for students. NHI challenges all its members and constituency groups to be creative problem-solvers and engineers of new Latino-based markets while specifically addressing the social, cultural, political, and economic characteristics of the Latino community.

Program sites of the National Hispanic Institute are in Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Illinois, California, and Nevada. They include the Young Leaders Conference, the Lorenzo de Zavala Youth Legislative Session, the Collegiate World Series, the Collegiate Leadership Network, the John F. Lopez Community Service Fellowship, the College Register, the Graduate Consortium and the Community Leadership Councils. Since its founding in 1979, NHI has served over 18,000 students from 24 states through various leadership programs. Participation annually increases by 3,000 students.

HOW NHI IS FINANCED

As a not for profit educational organization, the National Hispanic Institute utilizes creative fundraising activities to serve over 3,000 new Latino students each year. The majority of NHI funds are received from student participants and members who pay tuition and assessment fees.

NHI CO-HOST INSTITUTIONS

Austin College, Colorado State University, College of Santa Fe, Knox College, New Mexico Highlands University, DePaul University, Southwestern University, University of Chicago, University of Dallas, University of New Mexico, University of Texas at Austin, University of Southern Colorado



NHI HEADQUARTERS

NHI is housed in a two story, Victorian style home on 27 acres of land in Maxwell, Texas, about 23 miles southeast of Austin. NHI is equipped with state of the art computers and information systems as well as a data base of over 15,000 top Latino high school, college, and graduate students from across the country. Each year the number of NHI alumni grows by an additional 3,000 students.

National Hispanic Institute's Young Leaders Conference for High School Freshman

The South Plains Area Community Leadership Council, an affiliate of the National Hispanic Institute (NHI) congratulates the top Hispanic freshman in the South Plains Area who have been identified by their high school counselors for their outstanding academic records and involvement in school. We invite these students to bring their skill and talent to the Young Leaders Conference, a program designed to further enhance the leadership skills of high academic students. Seventy students from this area will be selected to participate in the Young Leaders Conference. As members of the NHI, these students will gain all the benefits of college connections, financial aid packaging, scholarship information and assistance, and experiences that will increase their opportunities for academic and career success. NHI will work with them throughout high school and into college to ensure their

continued academic success and leadership development. Letters have been sent to those students either by mail or through their school counselors. We feel that we have not reached every student who may qualify. We ask that if you are a High School Freshman with an academic grade point average of 80 or above to contact us for more information as to whether you qualify.

On Sunday, January 12, 1997 at 2:00 p.m., at the Texas Tech University Chemistry Building Room 113, the South Plains Community Leadership Council will conduct an orientation to the program. Applications will be distributed and taken. If you are interested and wish to find out if you qualify for this invaluable program be sure to attend this meeting. The deadline to submit applications for regular admission is January 10, 1997. Late admission will continue through February 1997. We

encourage you to submit your application early. Applications should be mailed to the National Hispanic Institute for administrative review. A \$20.00 processing fee should be included. Students who gain admission to the Young Leaders Conference are advised of their selection through the mail.

If selected to participate you will be introduced to leadership training, debate, speech, and basic communication skills which will help you through high school and college. Your parents will be invited to take part in the South Plains Area Community Leadership Council to help plan and organize all aspects of this educational process. These include the Weekend Series, where students spend a weekend at a local college to be introduced to the competition events and concepts of the YLC. Several meetings of tournament rehearsals and team building will be held before this summer's *Great Debate* (the championship tournament). It is an opportunity that you do not want to miss.

El Editor
The Best in News

er, converted a three-point play, had a dunk and assisted on a basket to start a 16-4 run that gave the Red Raiders a 58-42 lead.

He finished the game 8-of-11 from the field, including 2-for-2 from 3-point range.

"I didn't think Battie could hit 3-pointers, but he proved me wrong," Sutton said.

Texas Tech went more than eight minutes without a field goal late in the game, which allowed the Cowboys to get as close as six.

Adrian Peterson scored 19 points to lead Oklahoma State.

The game featured a matchup of head coaches who are close friends. Dickey spent eight years as an assistant under Sutton at Arkansas and Kentucky, and both said beforehand they would prefer not to have to play each other.

Ebonics May Help Close the Learning Gap

More school leaders are agreeing that Ebonics may be useful as a bridge to learning standard English, reports The Washington Post.

Last Friday, the 6,000-member Linguistics Society of America stepped into the Oakland Ebonics debate by adopting a resolution backing the school board's intention to use black English as a learning tool.

Last month, in an analysis of test scores in every state, the Education Trust, a non-profit Washington group, concluded that the academic gaps between white students and minorities are growing again. Black students now complete high school at the same rate as white students, but their scores on national tests in reading and math, and their college enrollment rates, still lag well behind whites.

In Oakland, that problem is acute. A school system study last year showed that black students had the lowest grade-point average in the district - 1.8 on a 4.0 scale. It also found that 80 percent of the students who receive suspensions are black.

At their annual convention a few months ago, leaders from the nation's urban schools spotlighted a series of programs that seemed to be helping black students, par-

ticularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, make academic strides.

One of them was the limited Ebonics program being offered in some of Oakland's most troubled public schools. The program, in which 3,000 of Oakland's black students participate, was designed to teach standard formal English by first recognizing, and in part using, the distinct language habits they have learned in African American communities.

The focus of the program, which costs \$200,000 a year in state and federal funds designated for poor children, is to train teachers and develop classroom materials that help students make the transition to standard English in ways that are not demeaning. In the years since Oakland initiated it, the program hardly received any local, much less national, notice.

But that changed two weeks ago, when the Oakland school board unanimously approved a resolution calling for a system-wide Ebonics program, rooted in the scientifically unfounded notion that the way black students speak is a "genetically based" language -- and not a cultural dialect or slang.

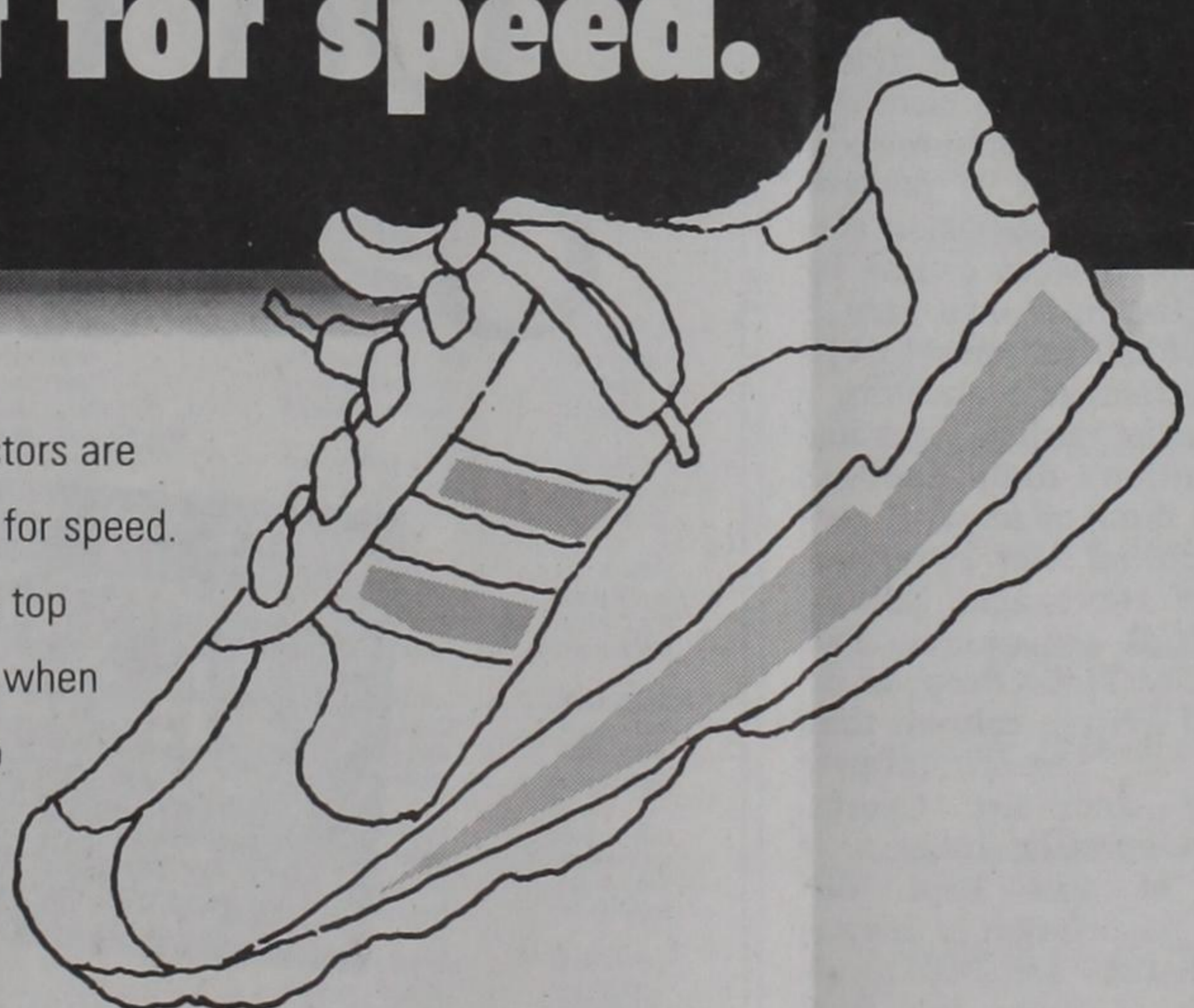
The school board's resolution also urges Oakland's teachers to promote the "richness" of Ebonics even as they instruct students in standard English. No other public school system has taken those steps, educators say.

U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley disagrees. Many linguists say key features of Ebonics, such as different conjugations of the verb "to be" - as in "I be going" - are strong evidence of a dialect, not a language. Riley endorsed that view.

But John R. Rickford, a linguistics professor at Stanford University, said there have been a few studies in this country, as well as with students in Europe, suggesting that a "bridge system" can help students move from a particular dialect to a standard language.

"People seem to be endorsing existing methods," Rickford said, "but existing methods are not working."

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New Briefs from Page 1

to let states decide which among their farms qualify for the aid. Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., said that could turn the program into another form of "corporate welfare." The department isn't expected to issue the program's final rules until next month, and officials still are considering national size limits, said Tom Hebert, USDA undersecretary for natural resources and the environment. Family-sized producers see the growth of big producers as a threat to their way of life, and that cleanup subsidies for them would lead to still more consolidation of the industry.

Government to Research Pot Uses

The White House said Tuesday the government will spend up to \$1 million gathering scientific evidence on the effectiveness of marijuana as a medical treatment, reports Associated Press.

Retired Army Gen. Barry McCaffrey said the White House drug policy office committed the funds last month for a comprehensive review by the Institute of Medicine at the National Academy of Sciences.

The administration was criticized by AIDS activists last week when officials threatened to sanction physicians in California and Arizona who take advantage of those states' newly relaxed restrictions on the medical use of some illegal drugs, including marijuana.

Those same activists questioned on Tuesday the credibility of any study sponsored by the White House.

The institute was to report within 18 months on its compilation of clinical, medical and scientific evidence on the health effects of marijuana.

Justice Thomas Declines Appearance

Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas withdrew as a speaker at a youth festival Tuesday after the NAACP HN0586@handsnet.org said it would protest the speech because it doesn't consider him a suitable role model, reports Associated Press.

"I do not think that it is prudent or wise to put these children in that position, even though I do not personally object to peaceful demonstrations by those who have contrary views or opinions," Thomas said in a letter to the festival's organizers Tuesday.

Thomas was one of three speakers scheduled to address a Jan. 18 banquet closing the Festival for Youth, an event sponsored by community groups and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware.

Thomas' invitation angered the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which opposed his appointment to the nation's highest court because of his opposition to affirmative action.

Hanley Norment, president of the NAACP's Maryland State Conference, said he hoped Thomas' withdrawal was "a recognition that he is an inappropriate role model."

Justices Hear Child-Support Case

Initial comments from two Supreme Court justices hearing a lawsuit on whether parents can sue states over child support collection suggest the plaintiffs may be facing an uphill battle, reports Associated Press.

An attorney for five women who sued Arizona said Monday parents should be allowed to claim their rights are violated when a state doesn't do enough to collect child support from deadbeat parents, reports Associated Press.

"Arizona is dead last among the states with respect to the efficiency of their (child-support) collections," said lawyer Marsha S. Berzon.

But Justice Sandra Day O'Connor noted the difficulties involved in forcing some parents to help pay the cost of bringing up their children. "Clearly it's not going to be effective in every case," she said. "You can't squeeze blood out of a turnip."

O'Connor agreed Arizona had a "dismal" record in collecting child support. But she said Berzon appeared to be asking, in effect, to allow federal judges to take over administration of state child-support enforcement. "I never read that act as contemplating such a broad role for federal courts," the justice said.

Justice Antonin Scalia suggested an analogy: If a broadcast station is denied a federal broadcast license, does a nearby hot dog stand have the right to sue over lower sales of hot dogs?

Not everyone who is harmed by a government's failure to act has a right to sue, Scalia said. But Berzon insisted such a scenario was not similar to the Arizona child-support case.

Forty-two states and the District of Columbia want the justices to bar lawsuits over states' failure to help collect child-support. The Clinton administration joined the five women in arguing for a right to sue.

The justices are expected to issue a ruling on Blessing vs. Freestone, 95-1441, by July.

Social Security Plan Criticized

Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle said Sunday a proposal to allow people to open private retirement investment accounts in lieu of paying Social Security taxes is a "nonstarter," reports Associated Press.

On CBS' "Face the Nation," Daschle said he supports a pilot project to test the profitability of investing some Social Security trust funds in the private sector, "but I am not in favor of the privatization of the Social Security system."

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, also on CBS, said private investment was "an attractive option for younger people." But he said the government's first obligation is to protect its commitments to those already dependent on Social Security.

Private investment is an option proposed by a federal advisory panel in a report on how to overhaul the Social Security system and keep it solvent in the coming decades. The report is being released Monday.

Social Security Report Released

In a long-awaited report, a prominent advisory panel Monday recommended that a portion of the billions of dollars in payroll taxes collected for Social Security each year be invested in the stock market to help rescue the program from bankruptcy, reports Associated Press.

But the 13-member Advisory Council on Social Security could not agree on a single set of recommendations and instead issued three competing plans.

Each of the three plans contained a recommendation for investing a portion of Social Security taxes in the stock market as a way to boost investment returns. Social Security payroll taxes collected from workers and their employees are invested only in government bonds.

The amount Social Security collects in benefits exceeds annual payments by \$60 billion. But by 2012, that surplus will end as the baby boom generation starts retiring and without corrective action, the Social Security trust fund will be broke by 2029. At that point, payroll taxes will cover only about 76 percent of promised benefits.

The advisory commission was given the task of recommending fixes to the impending financial troubles. But supporters who had hoped for a unified plan were disappointed. Instead, the panel could never reconcile differences that are certain to be at the center of the upcoming debate over the issue.

Supporters of so-called privatization, investing Social Security taxes in the stock market, argue that stocks traditionally have paid much higher returns than U.S. Treasury securities.

But opponents argue that investing in the stock market carries big risks and would leave many Social Security retirees in the lurch financially if the value of their investments went down.

From Page 1

t-minute influence as an example of how Hispanics are gaining political clout. "We didn't have people on the inside who could twist the president's arm. We didn't have a Cisneros standing there," he said.

While the leaders applauded the nominations of Richardson, Pena and Alvarez, they disagreed on whether the makeup of the new Cabinet will serve the needs of Hispanics adequately.

Georgina Verdugo, regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, told Hispanic Link: "We are lacking effective representation in the vital areas of labor, health and human services, education, justice, and housing and urban development."

Roger Salazar, White House director of specialty press, said he "respectfully disagrees" with the criticism. All three nominees, if confirmed, will meet regularly with Clinton and will have an input on domestic issues, he stressed.

Alvarez said in support, "SBA is a key to empowering the Latino community...It's where we turn for opportunities when there are no opportunities."

Mickey Ibarra, former senior campaign advisor for Clinton-Gore '96, said he was "satisfied" with the administration's appointments. He added that the Cabinet process showed Latinos the importance of advocating strongly for Hispanic appointments.

Hispanic leaders, still pressing for more sub-Cabinet-level appointments, expect to meet with the administration to discuss the process before the Jan. 20 inauguration.

Observing that Clinton "has fallen behind," Rep. Ed Pastor (D-Ariz.), chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, promised, "The Hispanic community will be vigilant in urging the president to build a record that moves Latinos forward in his second term."

Pastor said the Caucus is "disappointed about the lack of Latino representation in senior White House positions." He pointed to the fact that there are no Hispanics among the 24 senior White House staff who form the president's inner circle.

(Joseph Torres of Washington, D.C., is editor of the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

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From Page 1

nalists might be explained by a study released in June by the National Association of Hispanic Journalists. It revealed that of 12,000 stories aired on NBC, CBS, and ABC television in 1995, only 121 -- 1 percent -- focused on Latinos. In the 121 stories, reporters did not include a Latino interview nearly half of the time.

A June survey by the U.S. Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration reported that 97 percent of all radio and television stations in 1995 were owned by Anglos. Hispanics own only 1 percent of the nation's 11,412 radio and television stations.

Latino journalists working at the nation's daily newspapers still hung at about 3 percent, reported the American Society of Newspaper Editors at its April convention. The Los Angeles Times dropped its only staff-written column that focused on Latino affairs, returning columnist George Ramos to reporting duties.

None of this kept the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and MCI from launching in June the first web site page for Hispanic journalists. The site is located at: <http://www.latino.com/nahj/>.

Nor did it dissuade National Geographic magazine from devoting 125 pages of its August issue to "Emerging Mexico," nor the folks at CBS "This Morning" from hiring broadcaster Jose Diaz Balart.

More good vibes came in the fall when Fox Sports International launched in November Fox Sports Americas, a 24-hour, Spanish-language sports service telecast in the United States and Latin America.

(John Rosales of Washington, D.C. is a freelance writer)

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Un Rayito De Luz

por Sofia Martinez

Para salvarnos no basta haber recibido el bautismo y creer todas las verdades que la Iglesia nos enseña, sino que es necesario cumplir los mandamientos de la Ley de Dios y los de la Iglesia.

Ciertos herejes dicen que Jesucristo no exige más que fe (eso es creer), porque dijo: "El que creyere y fuere bautizado se salvará". Pero esas palabras, no incluyen de ninguna manera las obras, ya que Jesucristo ha afirmado en otro lugar: "Si quieres entrar en la vida eterna, cumple los mandamientos". Y Santiago aña: "La fe sin obras es muerta".

Por mandamientos de la ley de Dios, se entiende los que El mismo le dió a Moisés, en el momte Sinaí, y que Jesucristo confirmó en Su Evangelio:

1. Amarás a Dios sobre todas las coasa.
- 2 No jurar el santo nombre de Dios en vano.
3. Santificarás las fiestas.
4. Honrarás a tu padre y a tu madre.
5. No matarás.
6. No fornicarás.
7. No hurtarás.
8. No levantarás falso testimonio, ni mentirás.
9. No desearás la mujer del prójimo.
10. No codiciarás las cosas ajenas. (S. Mant. 11, 28-30, S. Mat. 5, 17-19. S. Mat. 19, 17-20. Y 22, 35-41).

Exodo 20, 1-17. Deut. 5, 1-2). Es muy necesario cumplir los mandamientos de la ley de Dios, porque si que brantamos uno sólo voluntariamente en materia grave, (o en algo grave), cometeríamos un pecado mortal. (Santiago 2, 10)

IF YOU HAVE CANCER, WE CAN HELP.

IF NOT, YOU CAN HELP.



PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR

POR PASTOR FRANK GARCÍA

LUBBOCK, TEXAS

EL EVANGELIO EN LA TIERRA

"No penseis que he venido para meter paz en la tierra, No he venido para meter paz sino espada."

Mateo 10:34

Con estos versículos el Jefe de la iglesia puso términos a las primeras instrucciones que dio a los que envió a anunciar el Evangelio.

LO PRIMERO:

El Evangelio no producirá paz y concordia en donde quiera que se anuncie. El fin que se propuso en su primera venida no fué establecer un reino como el milenio en que todos los súbditos fuesen de un mismo modo de pensar, sino que se trataba de introducir el Evangelio, el cua había de crear dimensiones y contiendas. Por lo cual no debemos sorprendernos si la religión cristiana causa separaciones en las familias y desavenencias entre los parientes más íntimos. Por supuesto que esto no depende de defecto alguno en la religión, sino más biem de la corrupción del hombre.

LO SEGUNDO ES:

Que los verdaderos cristianos debe resignarse a pasar trabajo y dificultades en este mundo. Ya sea que seamos ministros o ya sea que seamos oyentes. Porque ahora tal vez seamos maestros o discípulos, y como discípulos llevaremos una cruz a cuesta. Por lo tanto es preciso que nos resignemos aun a perder la misma vida por amor de Cristo y su enseñanza. Y tal vez sea necesario que nos enseñemos a perder las simpatías de los hombres y tal vez a sufrir muchas penalidades, y hacer muchos sacrificios, o de otro modo, jamás entraremos en el cielo. Y esto tendrá que ser así, en tanto que el mundo, el demonio, y la carne continúen lo mismo.

LO TERCERO ES:

Que debemos entender que Dios observa y recompensa el más pequeño servicio que se haga a los que en su causa trabajan. Pues la Escritura dice: que el que diere a un creyente aunque sea un jarro de agua fría, en nombre de discípulo, no perderá su recompensa. Pues hay algo muy lindo en esa promesa. Esto nos enseña que el Maestro Divino está velando constantemente a los que estan empeñados en su santa causa y que siempre procura hacer bien. Pues El observa quien los trata con bondad, y que como Lidia a Pablo; y quien estorba sus pasos, o quie se ponga a su santa obra; todo está escrito en el libro de sus recuerdos, y será revelado en el último día.

LO SIGUIENTE ES:

Que el Señor Jesucristo jamás olvidará a ninguno de sus discípulos... Pero ántes de terminar este artículo, preguntémonos, qué parte tomamos nosotros en la causa de Cristo, ¿En verdad cooperamos en ella, o estorbamos su progreso? Los que dan un jarro de agua siempre que tienen la oportuna obran bien; mas los que trabajan activamente en la obra de Dios obran todavía mejor.

Cooperemos a fin que este mundo sea mejor cuando partamos de él que cuando vinimos a él, pues ese fue el espíritu de Jesucristo.

Prepare yourself for college.

For the Savings Bond Investor

Information pamphlet,

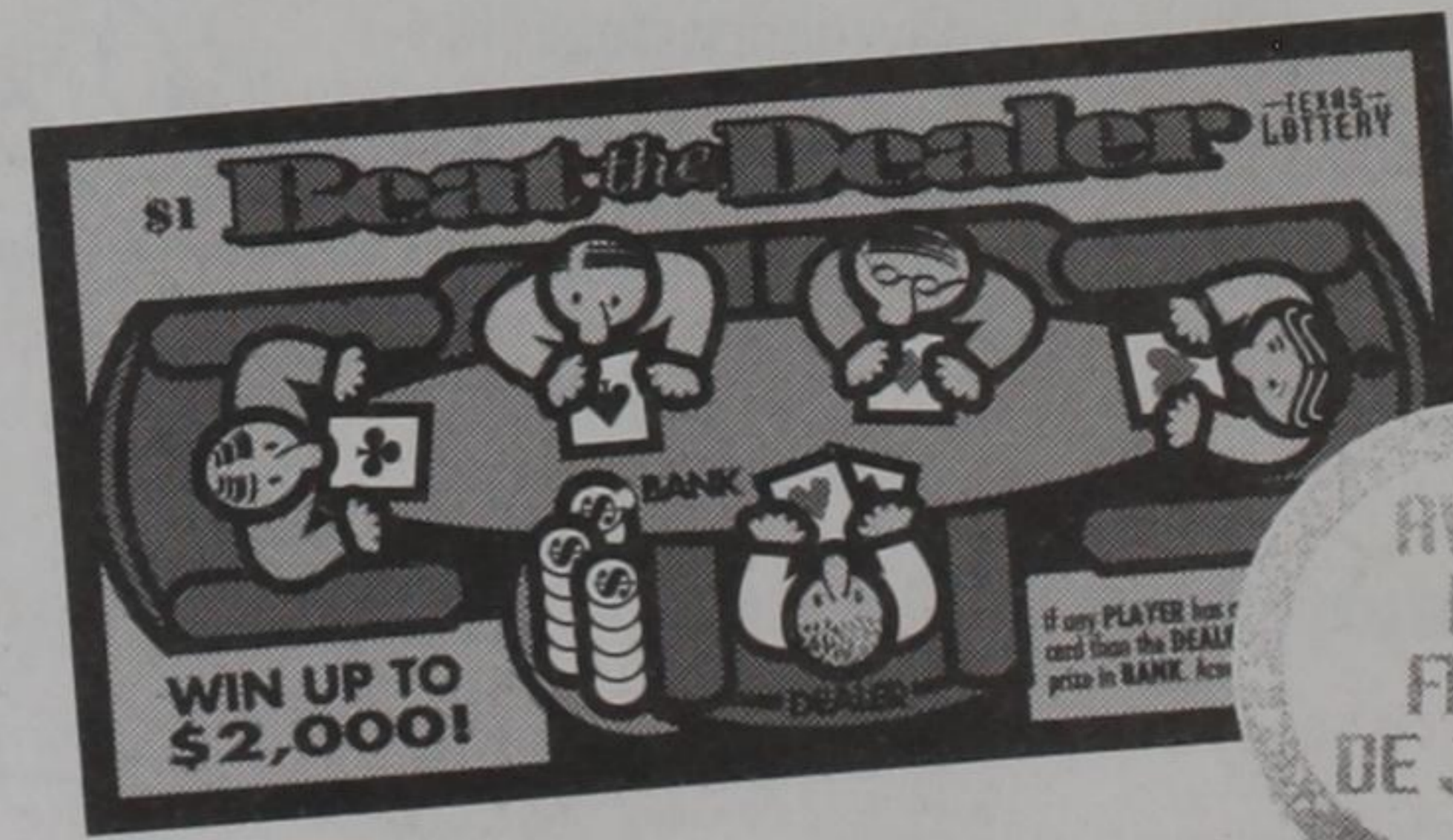
write U.S. Savings Bonds,

Washington, DC 20226.

Take Stock in America

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Juega Una Ultima Mano Antes De Que La Casa Cierre.



AVISO DE FINAL DE JUEGO

Beat The Dealer, el juego instantáneo de la Lotería de Texas cierra oficialmente el 1ro. de enero de 1997. Sin embargo, tú tienes hasta el 29 de junio de 1997 para comprar los boletos restantes y cobrar tus premios. Así que juega Beat The Dealer, porque podrías ganar hasta \$2,000 al instante.

Los premios menores de \$600 pueden ser reclamados en dondequiera que veas el anuncio oficial de la Lotería de Texas. Los premios de más de \$600 deberán ser reclamados en uno de los 24 centros de reclamo de la Lotería de Texas, o por correo, usando una de las formas de reclamo que tienen los comerciantes de la Lotería.

¿Tienes preguntas? Llama gratis al Teléfono de Servicio a Clientes de la Lotería de Texas al 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).



RESOLUCION

VISTO QUE, la dimisión del Alcalde David Langston el día 5 de septiembre de 1996 ha producido un vacante en el Concilio de la Ciudad de Lubbock; y VISTO QUE, la Carta de la Ciudad de Lubbock requiere que dicho vacante se llene por una elección especial que fue llamada con ese propósito...

CERTIFICO: HAROLD WILLARD SECRETARIO DE LA CIUDAD INTERINO APROBADA EN CUANTO A FORMA: DONALD G. VANDIVER PRIMER ASISTENTE AL PROCURADOR DE LA CIUDAD

ORDEN Y AVISO DE LA ELECCION MUNICIPAL ESPECIAL

EL ESTADO DE TEXAS CONDAO DE LUBBOCK CIUDAD DE LUBBOCK

ORDEN DE ELECCION

Yo, Alex "Ty" Cooke, Alcalde interino de la Ciudad de Lubbock, Texas, en virtud de la autoridad que se ha dado a mi cargo por las leyes, y según la Carta de la Ciudad de Lubbock, el Código de Gobiernos Locales de Texas, el Código de Elecciones de Texas, y una Resolución debidamente decretada anteriormente por el Concilio de la Ciudad de Lubbock llamando una Elección Municipal Especial que se celebrará en la Ciudad de Lubbock, Texas, el día 18 de enero de 1997...

ALCALDE (PLAZO NO CUMPLIDO)

Se utilizará un sistema de votar electrónico para dicha elección, incluyendo la votación anticipada. Dicha Elección Municipal Especial se celebrará en los sitios de la Ciudad de Lubbock que más abajo aquí dentro están designados precintos electorales y en los sitios de votación designados en el Documento de Prueba "A" que esta adjunto a ésta...

Las personas que están nombradas en el Documento de Prueba "B" que esta adjunto a ésta, y dicho Documento de Prueba "B" se considerará parte de esta en todos sentidos y propósitos, por la presente están nombradas Jueces y Jueces Alternos para manejar dicha Elección Municipal Especial el día 18 de enero de 1997. Cada Juez Presidente que está nombrado está autorizado para nombrar al número de escribanos que autoriza el Administrador de Elecciones...

La votación anticipada en persona empezará el día 30 de diciembre de 1996 y terminará el día 14 de enero de 1997. Dicha votación anticipada se manejará en la oficina de la Secretaría de la Ciudad que queda a 1625 13th Street, Cuarto 206, de lunes a viernes, además de días de fiesta de la Ciudad, durante las horas regulares de negocio de la oficina de la Secretaría de la Ciudad...

El sitio de votación en South Plains Mall estará abierto para votar en persona el último sábado y domingo del plazo designado para la votación anticipada de las 10 de la mañana a las 6 de la tarde el sábado, y de la 1 de la tarde a las 6 de la tarde el domingo. Además, South Plains Mall estará abierto para la votación anticipada en persona los últimos dos días del plazo designado para la votación anticipada de las 8 de la mañana a las 8 de la noche.

En esta Elección Municipal Especial, se utilizará el procedimiento gobernando la caja de boletas sellada que fue establecido por el subcapítulo C, capítulo 127, del Código de Elecciones de Texas.

AVISO DE ELECCION

La Secretaria de la Ciudad de Lubbock por la presente esta ordenada a hacer que se publique informacion sobre esta Elección Municipal Especial por publicar esta Orden y Aviso de la Elección Municipal Especial en un periódico de circulación general a lo menos una vez entre 10 y 30 días antes del día de la elección. Además, a lo menos 21 días antes del día de las elecciones, una copia de esta Orden y Aviso de la Elección Municipal Especial se fijará en la tabla de anuncios que se utiliza para fijar avisos de las juntas del cuerpo directivo, y un aviso de consolidación se fijará a lo menos 10 días antes del día de las elecciones en cualesquier sitios de votación que no fueron consolidados en la última elección...

La Secretaria de la Ciudad servirá una copia debidamente certificada de esta Orden y Aviso de la Elección Municipal especial a cada de los Jueces Presidentes que están nombrados en el Documento de Prueba "B" a más tardar el séptimo día después de que se firme esta Orden y Aviso de Elección o 15 días antes de la elección, cualquier que ocurra mas tarde.

FIRMADA Y EJECUTADA en el Edificio Municipal en Lubbock, Texas, este primer día de noviembre de 1996.

CERTIFICO: Kaythie Darnell Secretaria de la Ciudad

APROBADO EN CUANTO A FORMA: Donald G. Vandiver Primer Asistente al Procurador de la Ciudad

ORDEN ENMENDADA DE LA ELECCION MUNICIPAL ESPECIAL

EL ESTADO DE TEXAS CONDAO DE LUBBOCK CIUDAD DE LUBBOCK

ORDEN DE ELECCION ENMENDADA

Yo, Alex "Ty" Cooke, Alcalde Interino de la Ciudad de Lubbock, Texas, en virtud de la autoridad que se da a mi cargo por las leyes, y según la Carta de la Ciudad de Lubbock y el Código de Elecciones de Texas, por la presente modifico la Orden de Elección que yo publiqué el primer día de noviembre de 1996, tocante a la elección Municipal Especial que se celebrará el 18 de enero de 1997, en el siguiente concepto:

Se agregará el siguientes nombrado puesto oficial vacante a la boleta que se llenará en la Elección Municipal Especial que se celebrará el 18 de enero de 1997, debido a la dimisión del Miembro del Concilio, Distrito 3:

MIEMBRO DEL CONCILIO, DISTRITO 3 (PLAZO NO CUMPLIDO) FIRMADA Y EJECUTADA en el Edificio Municipal en Lubbock, Texas, este día 26 de noviembre de 1996. Alex "Ty" Cooke ALCALDE INTERINO

CERTIFICO: Kaythie Darnell Secretaria de la Ciudad APROBADA EN CUANTO A FORMA: Donald G. Vandiver Primer Asistente al Procurador de la Ciudad

TERCER ORDEN ENMENDADA DE LA ELECCION MUNICIPAL ESPECIAL

EL ESTADO DE TEXAS CONDAO DE LUBBOCK CIUDAD DE LUBBOCK

ORDEN DE ELECCION ENMENDADA

Yo, ALEX "TY" COOKE, Alcalde Interino de la Ciudad de Lubbock, Texas, en virtud de la autoridad que se da a mi cargo por las leyes, y según la Carta de la Ciudad de Lubbock y el Código de Elecciones de Texas, por la presente modifico la Orden de Elección que yo publiqué el primer día de noviembre de 1996, tocante a la Elección Municipal Especial que se celebrará el 18 de enero de 1997, en el siguiente concepto:

La votación anticipada en persona empezará el día 30 de diciembre de 1996, y terminará el día 14 de enero de 1997. Dicha votación se manejará en las ubicaciones, días y horas mostradas en el Documento de Prueba "A" que esta adjunto a ésta. FIRMADA Y EJECUTADA en el Edificio Municipal en Lubbock, Texas, este día 19 de diciembre de 1996.

CERTIFICO: Kaythie Darnell Secretaria de la Ciudad APROBADA EN CUANTO A FORMA: Donald G. Vandiver Primer Asistente al Procurador de la Ciudad

UBICACIONES PARA LA VOTACION ANTICIPADA

Table with columns for location, dates, and hours. Includes locations like Oficina de la Secretaría de la Ciudad, South Plains Mall, Davis Park Party House, Biblioteca Godeke, etc.

El Editor Newspapers

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Editor/Publisher Bidal Aguero Advertising Olga Riojas Aguero

El Editor - First in News

EXPUESTA B

JUECES ACTUANTES/JUECES SUPLENTE DE LOS RECINTOS ELECTORALES CIUDAD DE LUBBOCK

ELECCION ESPECIAL

18 de enero de 1997

Table with columns: SITIOS PARA VOTAR, RECINTO #, JUEZ ACTUANTE, JUEZ SUPLENTE. Lists various schools and locations with assigned judges.

La Nueva Vida de Chabeli

El "talk show" americano de mayores ratings y audiencia, con la presentadora mas famosa y mejor pagada, ha tenido una panelista de excepcion. Chabeli participo en "El Show de Oprah Winfrey", que se emito el pasado dia 7 de noviembre. En ei tema central sobre como han crecido los hijos de famosos, Chabeli compartio el panel con su propio hermano Julio Iglesias Jr. Y con las respectivas hijas de Diana Ross y de Richard Pryor...

El motivo salta inmediatamente a la visita, Chabeli se ha hecho un noble por si misma y mientras realiza este programa, ha dejado de ser "la hija de", en el sentido de que ha establecido sus propios creditos y credenciales.

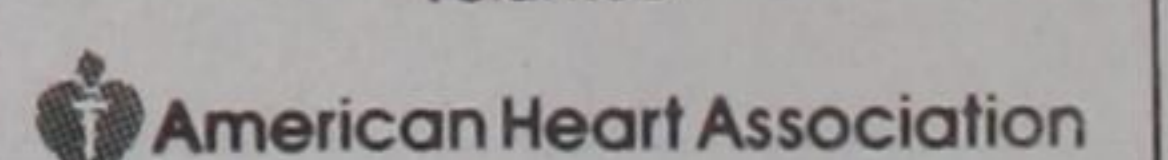
Hija de Julio Iglesias e Isabel Preysler (la primogenita) y famosa desde que nacio, dio su salto completa a la fama cuando su internacional padre le dedico el album "De Nina a Mujer" y, a partir de ese momento cuando su nombre y su imagen, desde la portada del disco hasta el programa televisivo de Barbara Walters, dieron la vuelta al mundo, Chabeli se condagro a trabajar y luchar para crear su propio nombre y su propia identidad.

Desde entonces, al margen de mas de 500 portadas en las revistas de mayor tirada del mundo, Chabeli ha hecho s propia carrera con pasos seguros y firmes. Modelo en Japon, alcanzando las mayores ventas del producto, comentarista deportiva de Antena 3 en Espana, entrevistadora de superfamosos en la revista "Hola" y superfamosa entrevistada en programas de TV de Europa y America, nombrada una de las 10 Mujeres mas elegantes de Miami y, sobre todo, llevando las riendas y la imagen de su propio show televisivo en Univision, que el pasado domingo dia 2 alcanzo su tercer aniversario con una edicion especial de "Chabeli en Grande", por donde desfilaron Vicente y Alejandro Fernandez, Bibi Gaytan, Gloria Trevi, Julio Sablal, Xuxa, Paul Rodriguez y Lucero.

Ha resultado profetico pues, el cerrar ese triunfal ciclo con una aparicion en el show de Oprah Winfrey. Ahi, con ese equipaje de fama y experiencia, se inicia la nueva vida de la nueva Chabeli. Ahora regresa a Miami para formar parte del jurado que elegira a "Nuestra Belleza '96", en e certamen de Univision, junto a Don Francisco, Carlos Bonavides ("Huicho" de "El premio mayor"), Amanda Miguel y otras personalidades del mundo de la belleza y de la moda. Al mismo tiempo que aparece un "perfil" suyo en otro de los programas de television americana de mayor rating, el magazine "Hard Copy".

Chabeli esta recibiendo propuestas de television, de fotografias, de modas, hasta de cine. Pero Chabeli lo va a estudiar detenidamente, ha de cuidar cada nuevo paso de su carrera porque ya han quedado atras los tiempos de abrirse un camino, de canalizar una vocacion, de demostrar que tiene un gran talento ademas de tener un gran apellido. A partir de Oprah, ha surgido una nueva Chabeli, famosa por si misma y recorriendo el mundo enterio sin un apellido famoso. Solo un nombre: Chabeli.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR Volunteer.



SLOWER TRAFFIC KEEP RIGHT

Your support keeps lifesaving research in the fast lane. MDA Muscular Dystrophy Association

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It's about **EXCELLENCE.**

November 27, 1996

Scarlett Kay DuBois
1011 West Twelfth Avenue
Suite 4
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Office of the President
University Medical Center
Post Office Box 5980
Lubbock, Texas 79408-9959

Sir:

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the exemplary professional care provided to Mr. Tom Culhane during our recent visit to your facility. We were referred by Robert Swift, M.D., who practices in Alaska. Dr. Swift received training at University Medical Center several years ago.

Mr. Culhane has been a resident of Alaska since the 1930's, and I was born here in 1942. We are established and familiar with the Alaskan medical community and the superior local hospital which is operated by Sisters of Providence.

It is my belief that University Medical Center provided care at a level that we could not have attained at any other establishment including the use of our long-standing local resources. Initially we considered the Mayo Clinic at Scottsdale, Arizona, but due to Dr. Swift's contacts, elected to travel to Texas.

Professional demeanor and compassion were exhibited to us by all staff at Texas Tech; however, a few individuals left a lasting impression and I would like to compliment them personally.

I will refer my family and acquaintances to University Medical Center where my experience remains that each person with whom I had contact returned caring beyond my expectations. University Medical Center is synonymous with excellence. May I wish you continued success and God's blessing.

Yours truly,

S. K. DuBois
S. K. DuBois

At University Medical Center and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, we often think of ourselves as a regional medical center. When we receive letters like this one, we realize the tremendous impact the Texas Tech Medical Center has across the nation.

Mrs. DuBois brought Tom Culhane from Alaska to The Institute for Pain Management at UMC. This center of excellence is led by Dr. Gabor Racz and his team of experts. Recognized in *"The Best Doctors in America"* as a world renowned pain specialist, Dr. Racz is one example of the expert physicians who practice medicine at Texas Tech.

The "experts" who treat patients and teach the physicians of tomorrow are among the best and brightest in health care. The partnership between UMC and Texas Tech assures you the highest level of medical care... and excellence.



University Medical Center

Where the experts are

