

News Briefs
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"invasion" of undocumented immigrants. Because of its inaction, Wilson argued that the federal government should reimburse the state \$15 billion to cover the accumulated costs of providing a public school education, medical care and other services to 1.7 million undocumented immigrants.

But in January, the Court of Appeals in San Francisco rejected that argument, saying the issue was a "political question" that had to be resolved by Congress and the president, and not by the courts.

Wilson expressed "disappointment" yesterday with the "unwillingness of the Supreme Court to step in and resolve the conflict between California and the federal government." He vowed to continue to lobby Congress to "pay its full share of illegal immigrant-related costs."

But immigration advocates hailed the court's action, saying the governor had exaggerated both the numbers of undocumented immigrants and their costs to the state. "These were frivolous lawsuits designed to politicize the immigration issue in a volatile environment," said Robert Rubin, deputy director of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, HN3092@handsnet.org.

"It was disingenuous for the Wilson administration to make the argument that the state has incurred all these costs," he said. "They did not deduct from the costs the enormous benefits in taxes and the work illegal immigrants perform in restaurants, hotels and child care."

Even Wilson acknowledged that his lawsuit raised "novel" legal arguments.

"California is the victim of a massive, unlawful and continuing invasion of approximately 125,000 undocumented immigrants across its borders every year," the state's attorneys told the nation's highest court.

Because it was the federal government's responsibility to protect states from foreign attack, they argued, it should pick up the \$3 billion they alleged California spends on undocumented immigrants each year.

The Supreme Court also refused yesterday to review a lower court argument that rejected a similar claim from Arizona.

Lower courts have denied requests for reimbursement by New York, Florida and New Jersey. Yesterday's high court action fell short of a definitive ruling on the matter, but it suggests that it is unlikely to side with other states on the issue.

"Whatever merit there is to the issue, which is nebulous at best, it never belonged in the courts, and the Supreme Court decision affirmed that," said Rubin.

Rubin said that Wilson's lawsuit had costs the state hundreds of thousands of dollars in litigation expenses. But Wilson argued that the suit had yielded other benefits by forcing Congress to focus on the problem of undocumented immigration.

Congress, he noted, has strengthened border patrols, terminated taxpayer funded benefits and appropriated \$500 million over the past three years for the costs of incarcerating undocumented immigrants.

Despite these actions, H.D. Palmer, the state's finance director, said Congress will reimburse the state for only \$300 million of the \$3.13 billion the state will spend on undocumented immigrants this year.

Sierra Club May Take Immigration Stance

The Sierra Club's 500,000 members will vote on whether to end a neutrality policy by endorsing a reduction in immigration as a way to slow U.S. population growth, reports Associated Press.

Why would an organization dedicated to protecting America's wildlands take on immigration? Overpopulation, which "happens to underlie all environmental issues," explained longtime Sierra Club member Alan Kuper, who fought to bring the issue to a vote now scheduled for March.

Immigration feeds overpopulation, and that increases traffic jams, air pollution, water shortages and extinction of plants and animals, he said.

The Sierra Club's ballot will ask members if they want to remain neutral or whether the club should have a policy "that continues to advocate an end to U.S. population growth at the earliest possible time through reduction in natural increase (births minus deaths), but now also through reduction in net immigration (immigration minus emigration)."

It's a position some in the club have approached reluctantly.

"This is a nasty, polarized debate in our society, one of the reasons our directors didn't want to get involved in the issue," said Carl Pope, executive director of the Sierra Club.

Advocates of immigrants' rights say opposing immigration won't help, that overpopulation is the result of wasteful U.S. consumption levels, corporate behavior, unwanted pregnancies and government regulations.

"It would be unfortunate if a reputable environmental organization like the Sierra Club gets hoodwinked by anti-immigrant zealots," said Frank Sharry, executive director of the National Immigration Forum, HN1786@handsnet.org, in Washington, D.C.

Right now, immigration accounts for 60 percent of U.S. growth, contends Virginia Abernathy, the director of Population-Environment Balance and an anthropologist and psychology professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.

"There is no prospect of stabilizing population so long as immigration continues at this level," Abernathy said.

Con La Junta Racial Del Presidente

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"Tantas personas de tantos grupos diferentes nunca han tratado antes de vivir juntos democráticamente," comentó el ex-Gobernador de Nueva Jersey, Thomas Kean, uno de los tres miembros blancos de la junta.

La abogada de Los Angeles Angela Oh, de origen coreano, recomendó a los colegas de la junta que busquen "fuentes de inteligencia no tradicionales," incluyendo personas que no hablan inglés, para cumplir su misión.

La única hispana de la junta, Linda Chávez-Thompson, de la AFL-CIO, hizo este comentario, puntualizó que la gente joven había que involucrarlas porque el trabajo que se comience con esta iniciativa, lo van a tener que terminar ellos.

Después de la primera reunión de la junta en julio, la prensa enfatizó los puntos de controversia entre los miembros de la junta. Unos cuantos columnistas y comentaristas dijeron llanamente que la tarea era demasiado grande para la pequeña junta, o aún para el presidente, para que puedan hacer alguna diferencia.

Ello no pareció limitar a los miembros del grupo, mientras continuaron avanzando en su programa de trabajo en

esta ocasión. El diálogo es parte vital del trabajo de esta iniciativa, afirmaron ellos. Kean mencionó su experiencia como presidente de la Universidad Drew para decir que gran parte de las acciones importantes y de los cambios concretos empiezan con lo que se habla.

Al Presidente Clinton se le ha criticado por hacer de la junta una entidad pública. Un foro público limita considerablemente el nivel de debate sincero que, según algunos, es fundamental para cualquier crítica sobre la raza.

El Washington Post finalmente escribió un artículo sobre la segunda sesión de la junta unos días después, con el titular "La Iniciativa de la Raza Parece estar Naufragando." El autor, Peter Baker, observó que el grupo estaba "luchando con traducir los objetivos amplios del presidente en resultados concretos. ... Hasta ahora, la junta ha logrado poco más allá de juntar un personal y escuchar algunas presentaciones."

Para llevar sólo cuatro meses en Washington, no suena mal.

Steve Holmes del New York Times escribió que el Presidente Clinton no proveyó guía suficiente a la junta sobre su objetivo y que algunos miem-

bro de la misma se sentían "atados," porque según la ley federal, sus deliberaciones deben efectuarse públicamente. Para los periodistas, éso es una invitación para explotar cualesquiera insinuaciones de disensión.

En una sociedad multi-cultural, cada grupo tiene dirigentes que protejen y abogan por sus intereses. Después de la primera reunión en julio último, los partidarios de los hispanos manifestaron preocupación por si la junta se enfocaría en asuntos raciales en términos de negros y blancos solamente.

La directora adjunta de la iniciativa Claire Gonzales, una de cuatro hispanos en el personal de 24 miembros de la iniciativa, aseguró a Hispanic Link en esta reunión que la junta está muy consciente de la naturaleza multi-racial e interracial de su tarea. "De otro modo, yo no me hubiera unido a la iniciativa," dijo ella.

De las más de 100 personas que asistieron a la reunión pública, menos de diez eran hispanas. Una de ellas era Georgina Verdugo, la asesora legal regional del Fondo México-Americano para la Defensa Legal y la Enseñanza (MALDEF).

Después de la reunión, ella

compartió su preocupación de que ningún demógrafo hispano declaró. La junta necesita oír más sobre el modo en que la inmigración afecta los asuntos raciales en lugares donde grupos de inmigrantes están apareciendo por primera vez y aquellos donde están creciendo ciertos grupos que no llevan establecidos por generaciones.

Se necesitan ventilar y entender varias perspectivas. La junta -- que se reunirá la próxima vez en diciembre en el Medio Oeste -- tiene el encargo de recolectar tantas como sea posible. Su mandato es escuchar lo que el pueblo tiene que decir y transmitirlo al presidente, además de asesorar al presidente y al personal de la iniciativa. El personal de la iniciativa entregará su informe final al en un año.

El Presidente Clinton tomará el batón desde ese punto. El no tendrá la respuesta a nuestro problema de siglos para entonces, pero para muchos como yo, algo semejante a un plano será suficiente.

(Yara I. Alma-Bonilla es reportera de Hispanic Link Weekly Report en Washington, DC.)

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Promise Keepers & The Latino Family

By Anthony Stevens-Arroyo
Promise Keepers is not a Latino organization. But this nationwide movement to convince men of a religious duty to be good fathers and husbands has many Latino members.

Any program that can bring about better behavior for hundreds of thousands of men at a time in this country when the family structure is under so much stress ought to be applauded, right?

Yet various organizations, most prominently the National Association for Women (NOW), attack Promise Keepers stridently. NOW went so far as to organize a counterdemonstration to the massive men's march on Washington that Promise Keepers held Oct. 4.

Patricia Ireland, president of NOW, charges that Promise Keepers disguises itself as an empowerment movement but has a clear political agenda that is rightist; that it discriminates against women by catering only to men; that it reinforces the biblical notion that wives should submit to their husbands.

Ironically, the same criticisms (but in reverse) have been made against NOW: that it has a leftist political agenda; that it caters only to women; that it urges that women be given preference over men in such areas as employment and educational opportunities.

I would say the two organizations are mirror images of each other: very much alike, but going in opposite directions.

One of the bits of Latino/a cultural wisdom is that equality between the sexes does not mean that both to do the same things.

In academic terms, these differences are called "the division of labor," but in countless Latino households, it was always called "common sense."

My father had certain responsibilities, usually regarding the lifting, painting, plumbing and so forth in the house. He also was the driver of the car when the family traveled together, basically because he drove better than my mother (or than any of us teen-agers). My mother had her own list of responsibilities that included -- but were not limited to -- the kitchen. Mom was a leader in church, the Cub Scouts, the Mothers' Club at school and a host of do-good agencies. She did things my father didn't (and did the

same things differently), but I always saw my parents as equally committed to us and to the family. Certainly, there were times my mother submitted to my father. There were other, probably more occasions, when he submitted to her. Marriage doesn't seem to work without compromises for the sake of one you love.

I don't think my family was perfect, but because of my experiences growing up Latino, I think I understand the conflict between NOW and Promise Keepers. The feminists see equality as requiring that men and women do

exactly the same things; Promise Keepers view the genders as different and urge men to consider women's work as equally important to men's work.

There are times when NOW's approach is preferable, as for instance in writing laws to give women access in the marketplace. But in day-to-day living, Promise Keepers have a vital message. The basic experience in the family should be that men and women can cooperate, each contributing what they do best to the marriage.

Promise Keepers use a four-

letter word usually excluded from public discussion today. They ask for love. I know Latino men who were behaving badly who turned their lives around by commitments made through Promise Keepers. These men have given up abusive behavior, excessive drinking, gambling and adultery.

In some ways, Promise Keepers is doing today for Evangelical Latino men what the Catholic Cursillo has been doing for 30 years. Religion has a place in our culture because moral rectitude is often more important than political correctness.

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Texas Tech Hispanic Ex-Student Association

The Hispanic Ex-Student Association would like to invite all Texas Tech Ex-Students to an Open House following the Homecoming Game between the Texas Tech Red Raiders and the Kansas Jayhawks on October 11, 1997.

The Open House will be held at the LULAC Office located at 1304 Avenue O. For more information contact Christine Gonzalez at 785-7900.

Sports Sports Sports

Tech Faces University of Kansas

Texas Tech (2-2, 1-0 Big 12) will be looking to reverse one trend this week and continue another on October 18 when it takes on the University of Kansas (4-1, 2-0 Big 12) in its homecoming contest Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at Jones Stadium. The Red Raiders have won five-straight conference games



away from Jones Stadium, but are on a current 0-2 streak in league contests at home. The Red Raiders have fallen to Texas and Nebraska in its last two Big 12 games at home, with both games taking place during the 1996 season. Gameday festivities will include a reunion of football players that participated under head coach Jim Carlen, the weekly Raider Alley festival, a reunion of former members of the Goin' Band, as well as a traditional bonfire and pep rally on Friday night.

Texas Tech won its fifth-straight conference road game with a convincing 35-14 win over Baylor at Waco. The Red Raiders' 35 points marked the most-ever against Baylor in Waco, surpassing a 31-24 Texas Tech win in 1991. The 21-point win marked the largest Texas Tech margin of victory in Waco since a 26-11 win in 1983 and was the seventh-largest in series history.

Following a scoreless first

quarter, the Red Raiders out-scored Baylor 28-7 over the next two stanzas to put the game out of reach. Senior quarterback Zebbie Lethridge connected with junior All-American candidate receiver Donnie Hart on 11 passes for 181 yards and two TDs in the game. Overall, Lethridge passed for 243 yards and rushed for his fifth score of the season. The Red Raiders won the battle of possession 33:42 to 26:18 in the game, but out-gained the Bears by just a 352-339 margin in total offense. Senior free safety Dane Johnson recorded seven tackles, one interception, a pass breakup and his second punt return for a TD this season, a 47-yarder in the second quarter.

Several Red Raiders are among the leaders in a number of Big 12 offensive statistical categories. Senior quarterback Zebbie Lethridge is the top offensive player in the conference, leading the



league with a 247.75 yards per game average in total offense. A second-team all-Big 12 pick last year behind Koy Detmer, Lethridge is 34 yards per game ahead of the nearest



competitor. He is also rated fifth in the league in passing efficiency and is tied for eighth in scoring.

Junior Donnie Hart has rapidly moved to the top of the league's receiving charts, averaging a league-high 8.25 receptions (3rd nationally) and 130.75 receiving yards per game (6th nationally). His nearest competitor in receiving yards is a whopping 42.6 yards per game behind. Malcom McKenzie is second in the conference in receptions with an average of 5.75 per game.

Senior free safety Dane Johnson is one of the premier returners in the league, ranking first in the Big 12 and third nationally in punt returns with an average of 19.11 per return. He is the only Big 12 punt returner with two touchdowns this season.

A few other conference individual leaders include freshman Ricky Williams, who is fourth in kickoff returns with an average of 21.71 yard per return. Donnie Hart is sixth in the Big 12 in all-purpose yardage at 130.75 per game.

As a team, the Red Raiders are second in the league in passing offense (250.8 per game) and total offense (429.0 per game). In addition, Texas Tech is fourth in scoring offense (34.5 ppg) and third in punt returns (14.3).

Los "Promise Keepers" Y La Familia Latina

By Anthony M. Stevens Arroyo

"Promise Keepers" (Los Mantenedores de la Promesa) no son una organización latina. Pero este movimiento nacional para convencer a los hombres de un deber religioso de ser buenos padres y esposos, tiene muchos miembros latinos.

Cualquier programa que traiga como resultado una mejora en la conducta para cientos de miles de hombres, en una época en este país en la que la estructura familiar se halla bajo tanta tensión, debería ser aplaudido, ¿no es cierto?

Sin embargo, varias organizaciones, y más prominentemente la Asociación Nacional para las Mujeres (NOW en inglés), ataca estridentemente a los "Promise Keepers," llegando al extremo de organizar una contramanifestación a la impresionante marcha en Washington que los "Promise Keepers" efectuaron el sábado 4 de octubre.

Patricia Ireland, presidenta de NOW, acusa a los "Promises Keepers" de disfrazarse de un movimiento de rehabilitación, que en realidad tiene una agenda política derechista; discrimina contra las mujeres al atender sólo a los hombres; y refuerza la noción bíblica de que las esposas deben someterse a sus esposos.

Irónicamente, las mismas críticas (pero a la inversa) han sido hechas contra NOW: que sigue una agenda política de izquierda; que atiende sólo a las mujeres; que insta a que se les dé preferencia a las mujeres por encima de los hombres en campos tales como el empleo y las oportunidades de enseñanza.

Yo diría que las dos organizaciones son reflejos una de la otra, muy semejantes, pero en direcciones opuestas.

Un pedazo del conocimiento cultural latino es que la igualdad entre los sexos no implica que ambos tengan que hacer las mismas cosas. En los medios académicos, se les llama a estas diferencias "la división del trabajo," pero en incontables familias latinas se les llamó siempre "sentido común."

Mi padre tenía ciertas responsabilidades, de costumbre referentes a levantar objetos pesados, pintar, reparar la fontanería y así por el estilo, en la casa. El era también quien conducía el auto cuando la familia viajaba junta, básicamente porque él manejaba mejor que mi madre (o que cualquiera de nosotros cuando éramos adolescentes).

Mi madre tenía su propia lista de responsabilidades, que incluía -- pero no se limitaba, a la cocina. Mamá era una dirigente en la iglesia, en los Escuchas, en la Asociación de Madres en la escuela y una diversidad de entidades caritativas y de servicio.

Ella hacía cosas distintas a mi padre (y hacía las mismas cosas de modo distinto), pero siempre ví a mis padres igualmente dedicados a nosotros y a la familia. En verdad, había ocasiones en que mi madre se sometía a mi padre; había otras, probablemente más, cuando él se sometía a ella. El matrimonio no parece funcionar sin transigencias por causa de la persona a quien se ama.

No creo que mi familia fuera perfecta, pero debido a mis experiencias al crecer siendo latino, creo que entiendo el conflicto entre NOW y los "Promise Keepers." Las

feministas ven la igualdad como que exige que hombres y mujeres hagan exactamente las mismas cosas; "Promise Keepers" ve los géneros como distintos e insta a los hombres a considerar el trabajo de las mujeres como igualmente importante a el trabajo de los hombres.

Hay veces en que el enfoque de NOW es preferible, como por ejemplo al redactar proyectos de leyes para dar a las mujeres acceso al mercado de trabajo. Pero en la vida diaria, los "Promise Keepers" tienen un mensaje vital. La experiencia fundamental de la familia debería ser que hombres y mujeres puedan cooperar, aportando cada uno lo que hagan mejor al matrimonio. "Promise Keepers" usa una palabra de cuatro letras que se halla de costumbre excluida del debate público actualmente: Ellos piden amor.

Conozco hombres latinos que estaban portándose mal y que dieron vuelta a sus vidas mediante los compromisos hechos a través de "Promise Keepers." Estos hombres han renunciado a la conducta agresiva, a beber excesivamente, a los juegos de azar y al adulterio. De algún modo, "Promise Keepers" está haciendo hoy por los hombres latinos evangélicos lo que el Cursillo Católico ha estado haciendo durante 30 años.

La religión tiene un lugar en nuestra cultura porque la rectitud moral es a menudo más importante que la corrección política.

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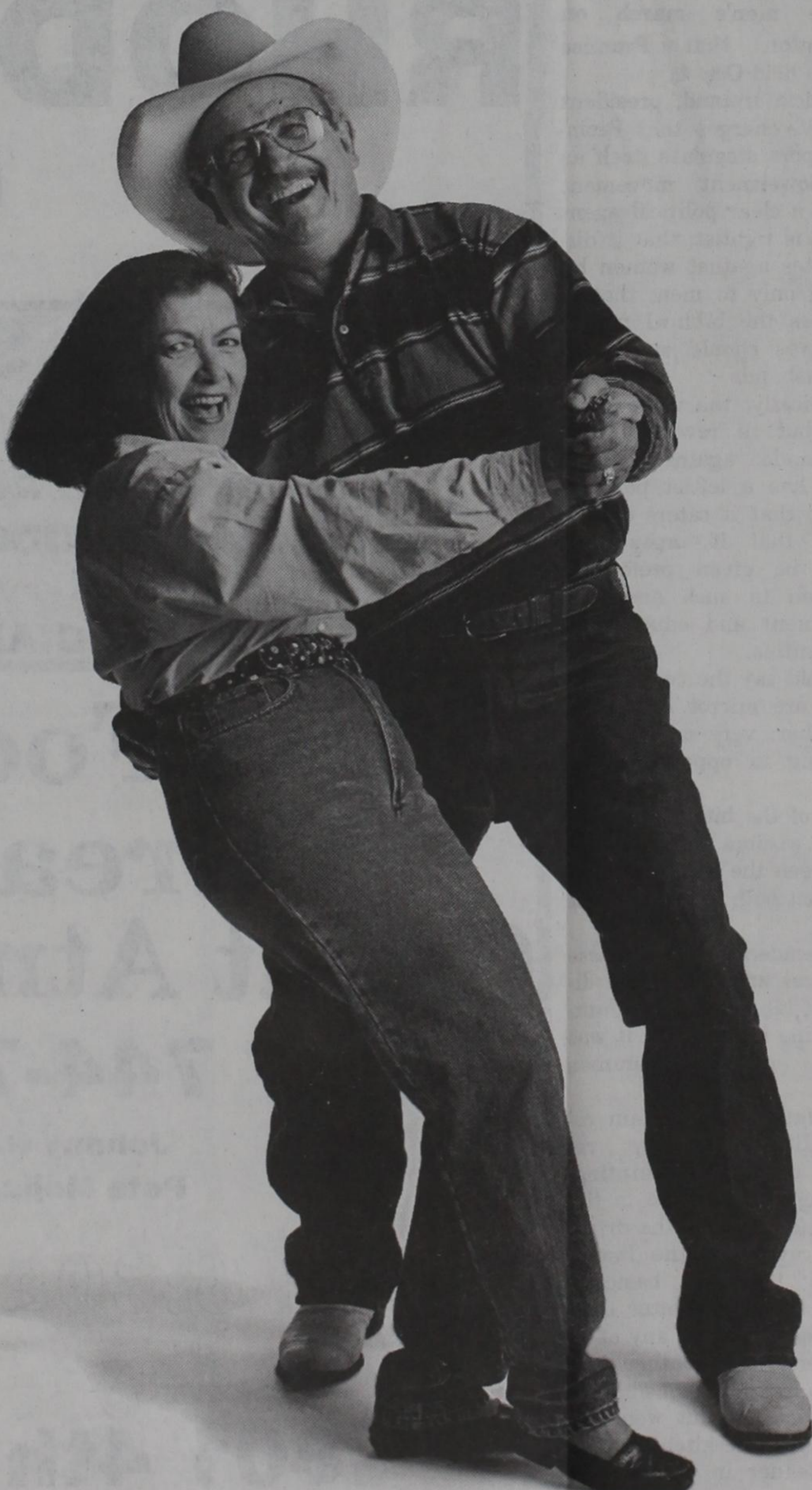
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