Mexican Folklorico • Mexican Art & Poetry Mexican Folklorico Songs

> Rodgers Community Center Auburn & N. Gary



October 10-12, 1997

Friday - 7:30 pm - 9:00 • Saturday - 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm Sunday - 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm • Admission - Donations Persons interested in Exhibiting Art should call (806)763-3841

Lubbock Centro Aztlan presents event and co-sponsored by Magic 93.7 & El Editor Newspapers. This program made possible by a grant from the Lubbock City Council as recommended by the Lubbock Arts Alliance.

On October 13th, Lubbock, Texas and the United States will celebrate Columbus Day. The day will be specially ob-

El Respeto

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EST. 1977

Vol. XXI No. 1

Paz."

Juarez

served by banks and schools closings, big Columbus Day Sales and many by relaxing, bar-b-que making and laying

back mainly because of a day off from work or school.

A different type of commemoration of Columbus Day is observed somewhat differently south of the border, in Mexico, Central and South America and will be extended this year to Lubbock by Lubbock Centro Aztlan.

"El Dia de la Raza", translated to 'The Day of the People', has in the past five years been celebrated in the Southwest United States by Hispanics who will join billions of people in Central and South America recognizing the day of the birth of a nation or race distinct from the anci-Caucasian, Negroid, Mongoloid and Oriental.

When Chistopher Columbus came to the Americas, already thousands of peoples existed and had lived in civilizations throughout the United States, Mexico, the Carribean, Central and South America. Many such as the Mayas, Toltecas, and Olmecas had already flourished and given way to younger civilizations such as the Aztecas.

The celebration of "El Dia de la Raza" commemorates the mingiling of all the races which had at one time or other invaded Spain - the Mongols and Orientals through the

Huns, the Mongols through the Moors, and the Caucasions through Europeans, Romans and Englishmen - to create a new race yet to be scientifically named but discribed by many as "La Raza Cosmica" or the Cosmic Race as the old civilizations mixed with the new civilizations of the new world.

"El dia de la Raza" will be marked in Lubbock by a three day art exhibit with music and dance to be held at Rodgers Community Center locatat Amherst and North Gary, starting Friday at 7:30 pm until 9:00 pm, Saturday 7:00 pm til 9:30 pm and Sunday 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm.

On Saturday, the art exhibit will feature a reception for the Fiestas del llano Committee with music and dance by local artists. Admission all three days is free but donations will be accepted. Some art will be on sale by the individual ar-

The event organized by Lubbock Centro Aztlan and sponsored by El Editor newspapers and radio station Magic 93.7 is made possible in part by a grant from the Lubbock City Council as recommended by the Lubbock Arts Alliance. For more information call 763-3841.

News Briefs

2/3 States Fail Child Support Systems Deadline

Two-thirds of the states failed to meet a deadline to install computer systems tracking child support, with one-third not even close to compliance and facing massive fines, reports Associated Press.

Officials had predicted about a dozen states would miss the Oct. 1 deadline, but nearly a week later, 33 state systems have not been certified as complete by federal inspectors.

Of those, 16 states are ready to be certified, including four already reviewed and 12 ready for review, said Michael Kharfen, spokesman for the Department of Health and Human Services.

That leaves 17 states - representing nearly half the nation's child support cases - with systems that are not even near completion.

The computerized systems are important because one-third of all child support cases involve an out-of-state parent, and the automated systems should help find parents who move from state to state. They'll also help track in-state cases by making a wealth of employment and other information about parents available electronically.

States have spent \$2.6 billion on this task since 1980, when Congress agreed to pay for 90 percent of the cost of computerization.

Still, some of the biggest states have failed to completes their systems, although some are closer than others. In Ohio, for instance, a statewide system is in place, but it includes only a handful of cases in each county. In Maryland, the system is working everywhere but Baltimore.

Federal law requires HHS to cut all child support funding to states without working child support collection systems. For California, that's \$340 million next year. Michigan would lose \$106 million; Maryland, \$59 million.

And without a working child support system, a state is also in jeopardy of losing its entire federal welfare grant. That's \$3.7 billion for California, \$775 million in Michigan and \$229 million in Maryland.

No fines are expected until mid-1998, after a series of reports, reviews and appeals are completed.

Congress extended the computer deadline once already, and now state officials are lobbying for another extension.

Rep. Clay Shaw, R-Fla., chairman of the House Ways and Means human resources subcommittee, plans legislation early next year giving HHS authority to impose smaller fines, ranging from 1 percent to 20 percent of a state's child support money. His plan would also let HHS negotiate plans to suspend fines while states fix the problem.

He also is exploring more flexibility for states that have decentralized computer systems. California, for instance, is testing a statewide system, but counties are balking that they don't want to give up the systems they operate on their own.

Discrimination Tops Supreme Court Cases

As the Supreme Court starts its new term today, disputes over affirmative action and sexual harassment - two cases that could affect every American workplace - are the top issues awaiting the justices, reports Associated Press.

Looming largest is a challenge to California's Proposition 209, which bans considering race or sex in filling state jobs or admitting students to college.

"The question is whether affirmative action will survive this term," said Kathy Rodgers of the Legal Defense and Educational Fund of the National Organization for Women,

HN4600@handsnet.org. Under Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist's leadership, the nation's highest court has become increasingly hostile to race-based policies - even those with benign intent.

The scope of its recent rulings on the use of race in affirmative action or in drawing election districts has been determined largely by the views of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who often supplies the critical fifth vote on the ninemember court.

Rehnquist and Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, the court's most consistent conservatives, are expected to press for broad limits - if not an outright ban - on most forms of affirmative action.

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy and, to a lesser extent, O'Connor, also have voiced great skepticism about affirmative action.

Justices John Paul Stevens, David H. Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen G. Breyer are viewed as more sympathetic.

The dispute the court will resolve began in 1989, when the Piscataway, N.J., school board decided to eliminate a high school business teaching job. State law requires layoffs in reverse order of seniority, but the two most junior teachers had

been hired on the same day nine years earlier. As part of a desire to promote racial diversity, the board retained the board laid off the white teacher and retained one

who was black. Lower courts said the school board violated a federal law barring on-the-job discrimination based on race, sex or national origin. A federal appeals court ruled that race-based decisions always are illegal when their sole intent is to promote diversity.

The same federal law is at issue in the sexual-harassment case, in which a Louisiana oil rig worker says he was sexually pursued by his male supervisor.

In past rulings, the justices have said that illegal harassment can stem from a `hostile environment' in the workplace. Former roustabout Joseph Oncale said he quit his job after he was sexually assaulted, touched and threatened with rape by three men, including his supervisor.

Washington lawyer Donald Ayer, who has studied Oncale's case, said it will yield a "most predictable outcome."

"Can conduct between men amount to sexual discrimination? The answer clearly will be yes," Ayer said. If so, employers will inherit a new realm of potential liability over the conduct of their supervisors and other employees.

High Court Denies \$3Bill for CA Immigrant Claim

After a three-year court battle, Governor Pete Wilson lost his fight yesterday to force the federal government to pay California billions of dollars to cover the costs of undocumented immigration. Without comment, the U.S. Supreme Court let stand a lower court ruling rejecting Wilson's claim that the federal government had failed to protect the state from an Continued on Page 3

Lubbock, Texas Week of October 2 through 8, 1997

"Texas' Oldest Hispanic Owned Newspaper"

Comentarios de Bidal Aguero

It's quite a shocker to hear an African American person hear utter words like "The Confererate Flag doesn't even ofend me."

It is especially shocking to hear that a person that is in charge of developing cultural diversity at a major university say them.

Such was the case last week when Cathy Allen, the new assistant to the Chancellor John Montford for Cultural Diversity was interviewed by the local daily newspaper. In a discussion with some minority leaders in a meeting organized by LULAC, Ms. Allen was say to have said that she was actually quoted off of content and that she was rather trying to say that she held the philosophy that things in the past should be left in the past and forgotten about.

But isn't that what cultural diversity is all about? Doesn't the development of cultural diversity include trying to bring an inclusiveness of unpeople's background, history, culture, language etc. in order that other people may understand and accept the ethnic group?

In my opinion the new director of assistant for cultural diversity is missing the boat and should swim back, start over, and make sure to get on a row boat of instead of motor boat to get across the river.

Our Chancellor's office needs to begin immediately to correct the problem.

Or is this the type of office desired? Does our Chancellor really want and \$84,000. assistant to say "yes sir" to every question asked by the powers that be and "we'll investigate the problem" to all those that are supposed to be being served.

If this is the case, it would not surprise me.

*****Pico de Gallo***** Felicitaciones a Marciano y Martha Morales por su bon-

dad. Hicieron bien pero ojala que no se nos olvide de donde venemos.

Morales Contribuye Un Millon a La Escuela Medica



In photo left to right: Chancellor John T. Montford, Dr. Joel Kupersmith, Dr. David Smith, Marciano Morales, Carlos Morales and Martha Morales.

Home Health Services, Inc. Martha y Marciano Morales contribuyeron un million de dad mayor que tiene nada dolares para soportar la edu- más que pura potencial de excacion en el Centro de Cien- ito." cias de Salubridad de Texas derstanding into the different Tech. El Sr. Morales dijo que Montford y el Dr.

Los dueños de Caprock y otorgar a esta comunidad.

"Somos feliz en poder hacer esto para una universi-

canciller David "la comunidad de Texas a Smith presidente del centro de Texas en una area de Oklasido muy bueno con mi famil- ciencias acceptaron el regalo homa a Nuevo Mexico y hasta ia y queremos dar las gracias este martes pasado. La meta la frontera de Mexico.

tores y profesores al Health Sciences Center. Morales y su esposa

del Dr. Smith es de aumentar

la cantidad y calidad de doc-

declararon pocos requisitos a su regalo y digeron que el regalo tambien es de parte de sus cinco niños. Morales es miembro

del concilio del canciller de Texas Tech y fue miembro del concilio presidencial. Tambien es activo en otras organizaciones civicas. La Senora Morales recibio su bachillerato y titulo de leyes en la universidad. Tambien su hijo Marciano Jr. es graduante de Tech y tiene su nieta Michelle Morales al presente estudian-

En 1994, la Camara de Comercio de los Estados Unidos y la Asociación de Comerciantes de Texas nombraron la compania como corporacion del año. Morales dijo que bajo su empleo existen 1900 trabajadores en el oeste de

Autora Cisneros Se Pronuncia Por Latinos y Contra Texas Monthly'

Por Louis Aguilar

Sandra Cisneros es una de las autoras latinas más celebradas en la historia de los Estados Unidos

La revista Texas Monthly es una de las publicaciones más celebradas en la historia reciente.

En la edición de la revista para octubre, las dos fuerzas culturales chocaron.

Un artículo destinado a informar sobre la desavenencia producida por la postura de Cisneros de pintar su casa histórica de San Antonio de color morado, en vez de eso ha abierto un abismo cultural más: Las publicaciones aclamadas críticamente en la nación tienen a menudo reputaciones terribles entre los lati-

nos. Esa dualidad existe entre muchas revistas y periódicos de los Estados Unidos.

Texas Monthly puede jactarse con razón de sus logros. En sus 24 años de existencia, la publicación ha sido postulada 34 veces como finalista para el galardón de Revista Nacional, que es considerado ampliamente como el equivalente al Premio Pulitzer para las revistas, y ha ganado ese galardón ocho veces. Sólo las revistas The New Yorker, Atlantic, Esquire y HarperDs gusta nuestra comida, pero no superan esas cifras.

alega ser la voz de Texas nunca ha tenido un redactor latino en un estado que es uno de los centros culturales de latinos estadounidenses. Un

tercio de sus residentes son latinos y la comunidad está creciendo en una proporción asombrosa de 225 por ceinto. Hacia el año 2,008, menos de la mitad de los residentes del Estado de la Estrella Solitaria serán blancos no hispanos.

No es poco usual oír a los latinos de Texas describir la revista de igual modo que lo hace el columnista del San Antonio Express News, Carlos Guerra, "Les gustan nuestros pueblos fronterizos, les sé si realmente les gustamos Sin embargo, la revista que nosotros, o si nos compren-

> El editor de Texas Monthly, Gregory Curtis, reconoce que la revista debería contratar a

Continued on Page 5

Letter to the Editor:

October 3, 1997 Texas Tech University Attn: Jim Crowson Deputy Chancellor

Re: Poposed Changes to TTU's Provisional Admission Requirements, Admission Review Requirements, etc. ...

Dear Deputy Chancellor:

This letter will serve to confirm our conversation of Monday, September 29, 1997, wherein we discussed the potentially devastating impact that the propsed changes to TTTU's provisional admission requirements, admission review requirements, etc. ... will have on the minority communities'(1) ability (in general) to obtain a higher education.

To refresh your memory, I have the distinct privilege and honor of having received my bachelor of business degree from the University of Texas at El paso and my doctorate of jurisprudence degree from the TTU School of Law. My wife, Judge Aurora Chaides Hernandez, J.D., R.N., B.S.N., B.S., received all three of

her degrees from Texas Tech.

Of particular importance, is the fact that in 1983, I was provisionally admitted to the TTU School of Law under the now nonexistent Summer Entrance Program (SEP).(2) A few years ago, the TTU School of Law proposed to do away with the Summer Entrance Program and I initiated a letter writing campaign to all former SEP graduates in order to rally support to retain said program. The response was overwhelmingly in favor of providing an opportunity to students who did not quite fit the mold but who had succeeded nonetheless. As a result of this life experience (and others), I have been senitized to the need for providing broad based educational opportunities which are not dependent upon subjective criteria.

As you are well aware, there are currently in place a multitude of socio-economic factors which deter, if not totally obstruct, a minority students' ability to attend state run colleges and universities. (3) In addition, the recent effects of Hopwood as well as a general, highly publicized, negative attidue against minorities (particularly Hispanics) in both California and Texas have further eroded our ability to gainundergraduate and post graduate degrees. Coupling these factors with a totally unacceptable retention rate creates a perception of TTU, which at the very least could be viewed as embarrassing and at the very most could be described as laying the foundation for renewed litigation in federal court.

Furthermore, there seems to exist at TTU, an attitude of unwillingness to work (on a grand scale) with students who are labeled marginal. Too often colleges and universities attempt to find easy, inexpensive solutions in order to improve their retention rates, their scholastic grade point averages, and thus, their overall graduation rates. It seems TTU would do well following the advice given inthe proverb which states, "give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime." It would also be beneficial if TTU wouldn't apply that particular life lesson to only the top 10% of graduating high school seniors.!!!

Truth be told, the path TTU has undertaken will have the practical effect of creating a society of educated elitists. Being an officer (Captain) in the United States Army, I know first hand the value of providing those whom you supposedly lead, with the ability to excel and meet the challenges we all face. To do less is un-

American.

At this point, I would like to commend TTU for having the foresight of engaging a full-time "Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Cultural Diversity". However, I would be less than candid if I said that the recent public comments made by Ms. Allen were not disturbing. Whether Ms. Allen realizes it or not, she too has benefitted, either directly or indirectly, from measures historically undertaken to help even the playing field. Additionally, there exists in the minds of many, whether Ms. allen even knows the definition of affirmative action much less understands its' purpose. Nonetheless, I believe that the hiring of a "Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Culutural Diversity" has had an opportunity to analyze. If Ms. Allen is to act independently and provide the input which, in the long term, will add further credibility to TTU and its' commitment to providing a quality higher education for all, then time must allow that these recommendations be put in proper context and their impact be assessed.

By way of specific recommendations, I would propose the following:

and

1. Delay making these prosposed changes to the admission policy to the TTU Board of Regents until the practical, holistic, and prospective effects of these changes can be determined. This would include (but is not limited to): a. Determining the long term effects the proposed cri-

teria would have on attracting and retaining minority students as

well as minority faculty and staff; and

b. Determing the long term effects the proposed changes would have on TTU's reputation in the minority community. Would it enhance that reputation or further disminish it? 2. Apply the poposed criteria retroactively to the last five

years' of admissions in order to analyze what effect they would have had on minority enrollment(4);

3. Determine the viability of potential legal actin against TTU based on two primary factors;

a. the proposed changes to TTU's admissions policy;

b. the fact that TTU/TTUHSC are both federally and state funded institutions for higher education; and

4. Determine the attitude of TTU minority alumni regarding these proposed changes as well as the impact these changes would have on the amounts of monies currently being donated to TTU, the amount which could be donated to TTU, and the likelihood that minority alumni would recommend TTU to family and friends as a university which should be considered for obtaining their higher education.

In closing, I would like to say that there is no doubt but that TTU is being extremely agressive in its' approach to higher education. I would caution however, that in TTU's haste to attempt to correct its' deficits, there exists the possibility to creating or exacerbating a totally different set of deficits. Deficits which, in the

long run, could be costly and permanently damaging. would urge TTU to take a more analytical, reasoned and methodical approach to having TTU achieve excellence in higher education. There is no doubt but that a balance can be found which achieves the laudable and lofty goals which TTU has set and those which the minority community has. After all, the attainment of excellence is a brass ring which we all reach for (regardless of what Professor Graglia thinks).

As always, if I can be of assistance in this regard, please do

not hesitate to contact me. Sincerely,

Victor Hernandez-City Councilperson cc: TTU/TTUHSC Board of Regents John T. Montford, Chancellor Dr. Donald Harrigan, President

Dr. David Smith, President (1) Although a large portion of the hispanic community has not reached parity in terms of socio-economic status with the majority community, it is realized that this disporportionateness is not limited solely to the Hispanic community, Equally compelling arguments can be made on behalf of other ethnic, racial and/or gender based groups as well as on behalf of a large segment of the majority populous who also suffer as a result of not having attained equity in terms of socio-econmic indicators.

(2) The Summer Entrance program was created in order to provide educational opportunities to students wishing to enter the TTU School of Law but who did not quite fit the profile

sought in terms of academic of LSAT rankings.

(3) Please find attached hereto Chapter 10 entitled, "Education-Black Hope and Despair" which comes from the text, The Coming Race War in America. this particular chapter provides further germane insight.

(4) Although a large portion of the hispanic community has not reached parity in terms of socio-economic status with the majority community, it is realized that this disporportionateness is not limited solely to the Hispanic community. Equally compelling arguments can be made on behalf of other ethnic, racial and/or gender based groups as well as on behalf of a large segment of the majority populous who also suffer as a result of not having attained equity in terms of socio-economic indicators.

With President's Race Panel. Is No News Bad News?

By Yara I. Alma-Bonilla

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- In this town, when things go right, it seldom makes headlines, even if the president and vice president are involved.

The seven advisory board members of the president's Initiative on Race held their second meeting here Sept. 30. President Clinton and Vice President Gore sat in with them for an hour.

Gore spoke particularly eloquently about factors to consider in tackling racial and ethnic tensions in this country. Acknowledging past pain and struggle, as well as the contributions various groups have made, is indispensable for the country to go beyond the race issue, he stressed.

His words were not new. But it was refreshing to hear him express them with ease and clarity. It lent credibility to administration's effort. Within communities of color, such expressions respond to the perpetual doubt of "Do they really understand? Do they really care?"

Together, the seven members heard statistics on the changing demonation's graphics and agreed to continue identifying programs around the country that have successfully fostered better relations among ethnic and racial groups.

Demographers repeated projections that by the year 2050, the nation's Anglo population will drop to 53 percent, the Hispanic population climb to 25 percent, African Americans will hold at 14 percent, and Asian Americans will double, from 4 percent to 8 percent.

President Clinton suggested studying how counties across the country are dealing with their growing diverse popula-

Suzan Johnson Cook, one of two African Americans on the board, praised the work that Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer, a Puerto Rican, has done with the Neighborhood Safety Security Councils to open up dialogue among members of different ethnic groups.

Other board members told Clinton and Gore that they have found people enthusiastic about the initiative.

"So many people from different groups have never tried to live together democratically before." said former New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean, one of the group's three An-

Los Angeles attorney Angela Oh, of Korean descent, suggested to fellow board members that they all seek out "nontraditional sources intelligence," including the non-English-speaking, to accomplish their mission.

The lone Hispanic on the body, the AFL-CIO's Linda Chavez-Thompson, reminded the group that whatever it put in motion, younger generations would have to follow through. So they must not be left out of the process.

After the board's first meet-

ing in July, the press played up some conflicting views expressed by board members. A few columnists and commentators said that the task was far too big for the small body, or even the president, to make a dent. That didn't seem to bother the board members as they plodded through their agenda this time. Dialogue is a vital part of this initiative's his experience as president of thoroughly bored. Drew University to make the point that much important action and concrete change begin with talk.

The Washington Post got around to running an article a few days after the second session, with the headline: "Race was "struggling to translate the president's broad goals into concrete results. ... So far it has accomplished little other than assembling a staff and hearing a few presentations.

For four months in Washington, that's not bad.

Steve Holmer of The New York Times wrote that President Clinton has failed to provide the board direction and that some members felt hamto exploit any hints of conflict they hear to build a story.

concern about whether the board would focus solely on black-and-white issues.

Initiative Deputy Director Claire Gonzales, one of four Hispanics on its 24-member staff, assured me after the latest meeting that the board is very much aware of the multiracial and interracial issues. "I wouldn't have joined the initiative otherwise," said. One of the 100-plus people attending the open meeting was Georgina Verdugo, regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Afterward, she shared her concern that the board needs to hear more about how immigration affects race issues in places where new immigrant groups are burgeoning.

There are many perspectives to be aired and understood. The board, which meets next in December in the Midwest, is charged with collecting as many as possible. Its mandate is to listen to what people have to say and bring it back to the president, and to advise him and the initiative's staff. The initiative will issue a re-

port in a year. President Clinton will take it from there. He's not likely to deliver concrete results to resolve our centuries-old concern even by then, but, for me, a bit of a blueprint will do.

(Yara I. Alma-Bonilla is a reporter with Hispanic Link Weekly Report in Wasnington, D.C.)

ice. Distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Con La Junta Racial Del Presidente, Que No Haya Noticia, ¿Es Buena Noticia?

Por Yara I. Alma-Bonilla

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- En esta ciudad, cuando las cosas van bien, rara vez llegan a los titulares de los periódicos, aunque el presidente y el vicepresidente estén involucra-

Los siete miembros de la junta asesora de la Iniciativa Sobre las Razas del presidente efectuaron su segunda reunión aquí el 30 de septiembre. El Presidente Clinton v el Vice-Presidente Gore se sentaron con ellos por una hora.

El Vice-Presidente Gore habló breve, pero elocuentemente sobre los factores a considerar para hacer frente a la tensión racial y étnica en este país. Reconocer el dolor y la lucha anteriores, así como los

aportes que han hecho los diversos grupos, es indispensable para que el país vaya más allá del asunto racial, destacó

Sus palabras no eran nuevas. Pero fue refrescante oírlo manifestarlas con facilidad y claridad. Ello proveyó credibilidad a la gestión del gobierno de Clinton. Entre las comunidades de color, las expresiones de Gore confrontan y responden a la duda perpetua de, "¿Comprenden ellos en realidad? ¿Les importa en realidad?"

Juntos, los siete miembros oyeron estadísticas sobre los cambios demográficos de la nación y acordaron continuar identificando programas en todo el país que han fomenta-

do con éxito mejores relaciones entre diferentes grupos étnicos y raciales. Los demógrafos repitieron

las proyecciones de que, para el año 2,050, la población de origen anglo de la nación disminuirá al 53 por ciento, la población hispana aumentará del 11 por ciento al 25 por ciento, los afroamericanos se mantendrán en un 14 por ciento y los asiático- americanos se duplicarán del 4 por ciento al 8 por ciento.

El Presidente Clinton recomendó estudiar de qué modo los condados de todo el país están tratando con poblaciones cuya diversidad crece

más y más cada día.

Suzan Johnson Cook, una de dos afroamericanos en la junta, elogió el trabajo que el presidente del distrito del Bronx, Fernando Ferrer, que es puertorriqueño, ha hecho con los Consejos para la Seguridad de las Vecindades a fin de abrir el diálogo entre los miembros de distintos grupos étnicos que viven en la misma comunidad.

Otros miembros de la junta dijeron a Clinton y Gore que ellos han encontrado que las personas se muestran receptivas y entusiastas sobre la iniciativa.

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Sittin' Here Thinkin'

Chemicals R Us by Ira Cutler

I have said before that I am, like most people, very nearly scientifically illiterate. I am a Liberal Arts sort of person, far more comfortable reading a novel than looking through a microscope and I faked my way through every science course I was ever forced to take in school. Science had no relevance, in my mind, to real people or real life - all that cutting up frogs, work, they agreed. Kean cited looking at slide rules and fooling with bunsen burners left me

But now the gap between my meager knowledge and even a rudimentary understanding of modern science is widening rapidly. The little bit of science that I was forced to learn in school is now overshadowed by remarkable new discoveries and, every day, I fall farther and farther behind. Nowhere is this more true than in the areas of genetics and biochemistry. These disciplines are telling us more about what we are, and how we came to be that way, than may be good for us to know. Initiative Appears to Be And they are now making my favorite subjects -- psychology, Foundering." Writer Peter history, sociology, literature and the like -- appear irrelevant Baker observed that the group to an understanding of human beings.

For example, a great deal is being discovered about a chemical called Serotonin.

How much serotonin is in your brain seems to have influence over depression, anxiety, pre-menstrual syndrome, autism, migraines and a predilection to violence. Whether you tend to see a glass as half empty or half full, scientists say, has to do with your serotonin level. Other chemicals are also associated with mood, creativity and energy levels. Endorphins, for example, are all tied up in depression, sex drives, chronic pain, stress, obesity, pregnancy, labor and how we respond to works of art.

In short, an argument can be made that everything that makes us unique as individuals, that thing that is called our "personality," may be less than we always imagined it to be. strung because, under sederal Who we are may have more to do with how much of various law, their deliberations must chemicals we happen to have in our brains than all the other be held publicly. For journal- things we always thought explained us: character, intelists, that's an open invitation ligence, culture, sense of humor, kindness, upbringing. Future generations, upon greeting an unhappy friend, may no longer say "you look like you lost your best friend." Perhaps Following the first meeting they will say instead "your endocrines look at a little out of last July, it was reported that whack." And maybe, once we know a little more, we can turn Hispanic advocates expressed nasty people into nice ones and dullards into sparkling wits.

On the genetic front, molecular biologists are finding out how this or that little part of that microscopic DNA thing determines all sorts of things about us. When I occasionally did listen in science class, a long time ago, I heard them talking about primitive things like the gender of fruit flies and why some people get blue eyes while others do not. The more current discussions center not only on identifying the underlying genetic reasons for our defects and traits, but also on actually changing the genetic predilections that we determine are

negative.

This is a wholly new idea - changing things at the genetic level - and it may make medicine as we now know it pretty nearly obsolete. In one process I read about, scientists are attempting to trigger human genes into growing new, healthy blood vessels as an alternative to bypass surgery. Other studies are looking at the small communities around the world where life expectancy is shockingly high and are searching out ways to find and use the "long life gene" for others.

On the personality front, the relationship between genetics and mental illness and mental retardation is now firmly established. In addition, researchers have isolated a combination of genetic traits that, taken together, predispose individuals towards "novelty seeking" or risky behaviors. And the age old hunt for a "crime gene" continues: a recent study of adoptees in Denmark showed that, despite no contact with their biological parents, those whose parents had a history of convictions for criminal offenses were more likely themselves to be convicted of crimes than were adopted children whose biological parents had had no trouble with the law.

All of this, the emerging understanding of human beings at the chemical and sub-atomic level, is exciting, confusing and more than a little scary. There are huge amounts of money to be made from medical advances and huge political pressure to get promising medications and techniques quickly out to those who are suffering. Fooling with this stuff, at this early stage of knowledge, has already proven risky. Recently, serotonin related diet pills were found to have been causing serious heart valve damage. Some 60,000,000 people worldwide had been exposed to the offending drugs since their introduction, fortunately not all in the most dangerous combinations.

It is, to be sure, reminiscent of the old sci-fi movies where, sooner or later, someone says that there are things that man was not meant to tamper with or know about. The real deal for me is how these discoveries will, over generations, effect our (c) 1997, Hispanic Link News Serv- view of ourselves and our essential nature. Will we honor some future Picasso less because we understand that his awesome talent comes as a result of 9 inherited traits that add up to artistic genius? If we learn that sadness comes as a result of too little of the sadness-inhibiting chemical, will we stop writing poetry about our sadness and take a pill instead?

Ira Cutler, HN4072@handsnet.org, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irreverant, 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'.

News Briefs From Page One

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

dent, and not by the courts.

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

question" that had to be resolved by Congress and the presi-

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 Arizo-

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 is-

"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 immigra-

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 reluctant-

"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.

Texas Tech Hispanic Bx-Student Association

The Hispania Dresimeent Association one to an Open House following the House Committee Committee Description of the Property of the Committee of the Co Ten a least committee to the Kennese of the water out the color (2) 11 11 15 37

TO THE OWNER OF THE PARTY OF TH

Con La Junta Racial Del Presidente de la pagina 2

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 incluyendo tradicionales," personas que no hablan inglés, para cumplir su misión.

ta, Linda Chávez-Thompson, er crítica sobre la raza. 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.

bros de la junta. Unos cuantos tarea era demasiado grande algunas presentaciones." puedan hacer alguna diferen- mal.

"Tantas personas de tantos 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, La única hispana de la jun- es fundamental para cualqui-

El Washington Post finalmente escribió un artículo sobre sobre la segunda sesión de la junta unos días después, con el titular "La Iniciativa de la Raza Parece estar Naufragando." El autor, Peter Después de la primera reun- Baker, observó que el grupo ión de la junta en julio, la estaba "luchando con traducir prensa enfatizó los puntos de los objetivos amplios del prescontroversia entre los miem- idente en resultados concretos. ... Hasta ahora, la junta columnistas y comentaristas ha logrado poco más allá de dijeron llanamente que la juntar un personal y escuchar

para la pequeña junta, o aún Para llevar sólo cuatro mespara el presidente, para que es en Washington, no suena

Steve Holmes del New York Ello no pareció limitar a los Times escribió que el Presimiembros del grupo, mien- dente Clinton no proveyó guía tras continuaron avanzando suficiente a la junta sobre su en su programa de trabajo en objetivo y que algunos miem-

bros de la misma se sentían "atados," porque según la ley federal, sus deliberaciones 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

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 oir 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 transmitírselo 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.)

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

Promise Keepers & The Latino Family

nationwide movement to con- the family. Certainly, there to be good fathers and hus- mitted to my father. There bands has many Latino were other, probably more ocmembers.

about better behavior for hun- work without compromises for dreds of thousands of men at a the sake of one you love. time in this country when the family structure is under so perfect, but because of my exmuch stress ought to be applauded, right?

Yet various organizations, most prominently the National Association for Women Promise (NOW), attack stridently. Keepers 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 a 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 is 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 tions.

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

vision 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

By Anthony Stevens-Arroyo same things differently), but I Promise Keepers is not a La- always saw my parents as tino organization. But this equally committed to us and to vince men of a religious duty were times my mother subcasions, when he submitted to Any program that can bring her. Marriage doesn't seem to

> I don't think my family was periences 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

things; exactly the same 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 that political correctness.

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each other: very much alike, but going in opposite directions are infror images of the contract of the contrac Great Service In academic terms, these differences are called "the di-744-7005

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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 fifthstraight 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 his-

Following a scoreless first

quarter, the Red Raiders outscored 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 outgained the Bears by just a 352-339 margin in total offense. Senior free safety Dane Johnson recorded seven tackles, interception, a pass breakup and his second punt return for a TD this season, a 47-yarder in the second quar-

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 behing Koy Detmer, Lethridge is 34 yards per game ahead of the nearest



competitior. 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 game (6th nationally). His nearest competitior 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, whi 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 In addition, per game). 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 estridentea los "Promise mente Keepers," llegando al extremo de organizar una contramanifestación a la impremarcha sionante Washington que '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 sicamente porque él manejaba mejor que mi madre (o que cualquiera de nosotros cunado éramos adolescentes).

Mi madre tenía su propia lista de responsabilidades, que incluía -- pero no se limitaba, a la cocina. Mamá era 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 fontanería y así por el estilo, de la familia debería ser que en la casa. El era también hombres y mujeres puedan quien conducía el auto cuando cooperar, aportando cada uno la familia viajaba junta, bá- lo que hagan mejor al matrimonio. "Promise Keepers" usa una palabra de cuatro letras que se halla de costumbre excluída del debate público actualmente: Ellos piden

> Conozco hombres latinos que estaban portándose mal y que dieron vuelta a sus vidas mecompromisos los diante hechos a través de "Promise Keepers." Estos hombres han la conduta renunciado a 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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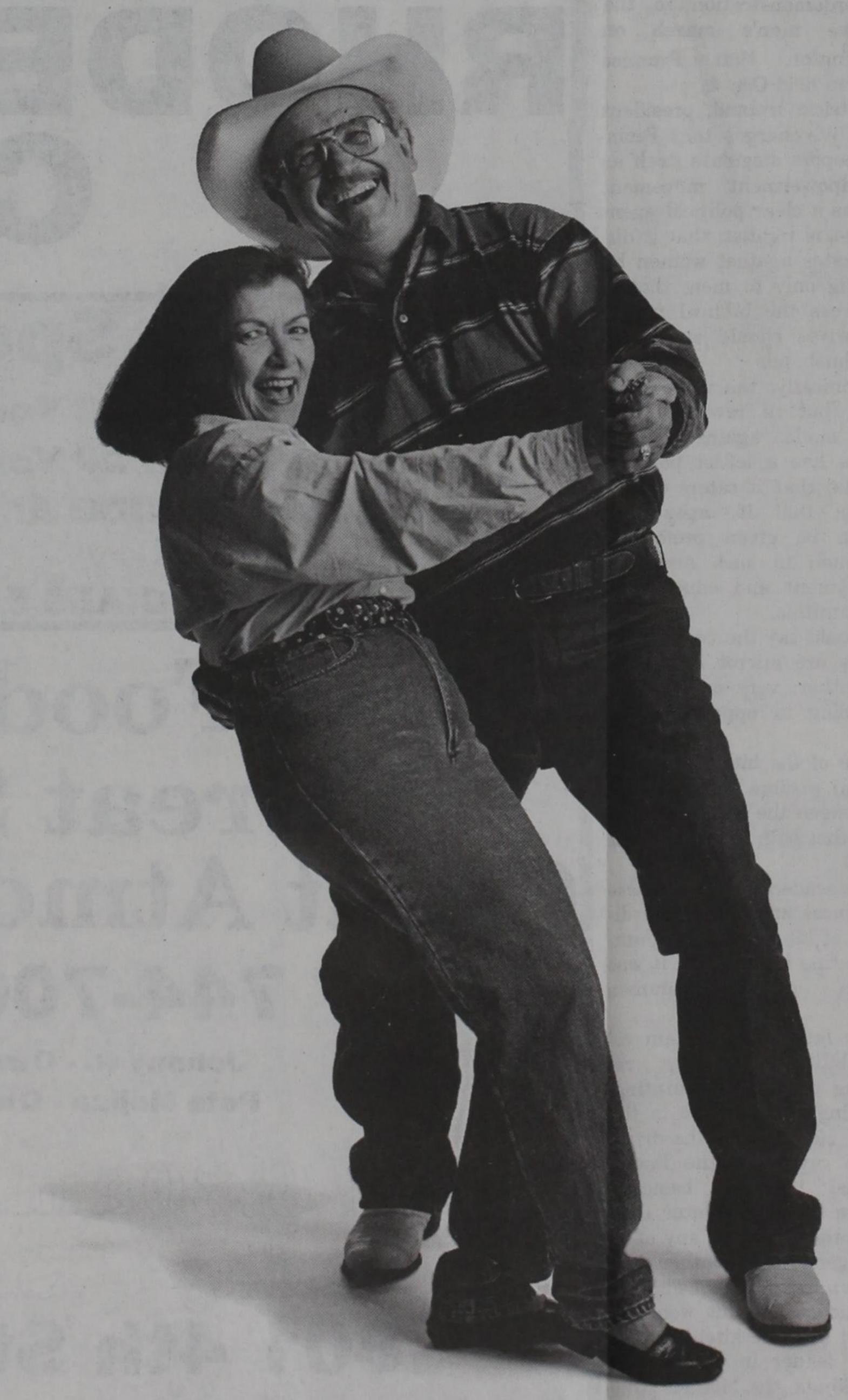
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Author Cisneros Takes Stand For Latinos vs. Texas Monthly

By Louis Aguilar

Sandra Cisneros is one of the most celebrated Latina authors in U.S. history.

Texas Monthly magazine is one of the most celebrated publications in recent history.

In the magazine's October issue, the two cultural forces clash.

A story meant to cover the rift produced when Cisneros painted her historic San Antonio home purple has instead opened yet another cultural chasm. Critically acclaimed publications often have terrible reputations with Latinos. It is a duality that exists among many magazines and newspapers in the United States.

Texas Monthly can rightfully brag about its achievements. The publication has been nominated 34 times as a finalist for the National Magazine award -- widely considered the magazine equivalent to the Pulitzer Prize. It has won the award eight times. Only The New Yorker, the Atlantic, Esquire and Harp- gets marginalized. er's Magazine top those numbers.

Yet the magazine that writer. A third of the state's residents are Latino.

San Antonio Express News columnist Carlos Guerra says of the magazine: "They like our border towns, they like our food, I don't know if they really like or understand us."

Texas Monthly editor Gregory Curtis concedes that Texas Monthly should hire a Latino or use more Latino free-lance writers. He is somewhat at a loss to explain why it hasn't happened yet.

"I don't argue the point. ... There is no blueprint or treaswre map on how to find someone who can write a magazine story at a national level. I don't know if we are overlooking someone or not,"

en el futuro.

he says.

It all came to the fore when the magazine began to pursue a story about Cisneros' highly publicized battle with San Antonio's Historic Design and Review Commission. At issue is the author's decision to paint her Victorian cottage, located in the swanky King William neighborhood, a bright purple.

The historical board insists the color violates city rules for repainting homes in a historic district. Cisneros claims purple runs deep in Tejano history, which is the influence of Mexican heritage in the

The color flap remains unresolved and continues to attract much attention, both nationally and internationally. Cisneros, whose 1994 book "The House on Mango Street," is standard reading among many public schools and even some Ivy League colleges, contends the larger point is that Mexican influence in Texas history often

Enter Texas Monthly, which requested an interview with her. Cisneros said OK, but claims to be the voice of Texas only if the story were reported -- a state that's one of the cul- by a Latino or some other pertural centers for U.S. Latinos son of color, or even a gay -- has never had a Latino staff writer. She sent the editors a that level of credibility to list of possible writers.

> Says Cisneros: "I've talked to many non-Latino reporters from other publications, but Texas Monthly is bad. The only time they write about Tejanos is when they are raped, dead or are some mythological political hero. It's just so horrible."

> The magazine balked at Cisneros' request and instead assigned free-lance writer Kathy Lowry. Lowry showed up at Cisneros' home, only to be snubbed.

> The subsequent article is a wide-ranging piece that criticizes Cisneros' career, questions the validity of her motives for painting the house and takes a swipe at the cred-

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ibility of a CNN reporter who is Latina.

Lowry describes witnessing an interview between CNN reporter Maria Hinojosa and Cisneros, conducted while she herself was "kept at bay by Spanish dagger plants and prickly pear." Hinojosa and Cisneros claim Lowry stood at least 15 feet away while the interview took place.

Lowry describes the conversation as "not exactly a hardball interview."

Editor Curtis agrees that the article implies Hinojosa may have been too sympathetic toward Cisneros because both are Latinas. "You have to call them how they are," he says.

Counters Hinojosa: "I don't know how can you accurately report a conversation when you hear it from behind the fence."

Hinojosa says Lowry's description points to something much broader. "As a journalist of color, you are always seen as having an agenda. So many people who make decisions about news are so far removed from the stories that someone like me has access to. They immediately think you are creating stories where they don't exist. The real danger is that they still have make this kind of thing stick."

Curtis sticks by the Texas Monthly story.

(Louis Aguilar writes a media column for Hispanic Link Weekly Report and a weekly column for Knight Ritter News Service. He can be reached at (202) 547-8803 or via e-mail: AguilarDC(AT SIGN)aol.com

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Cisneros Contra Texas Monthly' From Page One

un latino, o emplear más eslatinos indepencritores dientes. Pero no pudo explicar de elgún modo por qué ello no ha sucedido todavía.

"No discuto ese asunto. No hay plano o mapa de tesoro sobre el modo de encontrar a alguien que pueda escribir un artículo en una revista a nivel nacional. No sé si estamos pasando a alguien por alto o no," dijo él.

cuando la revista empezó a señanza. su casita de estilo victoriano cosas de este mundo, los que campestre, situada en la vecindad elegante de King William, de color morado brillante.

La junta histórica insiste en que el color viola los regla- St. Joseph Scool will hold their mentos municipales para annual Sausage Festival pintar las casas de un distrito Sunday, October 19,1997 from histórico. Cisneros alega que 11:00a.m.-3:00p.m. el morado está arraigado pro- able for your enjoyment are fundamente a la historia teja- German Sausage and Grilled na; ésa es la influencia de la Chicken Dinners with all the herencia mexicana en el es- trimmings for just \$6.00

manece sin ser resuelta y They also have sausage by the continúa atrayendo mucha pound for \$3.00 per pound atención por parte de los medios informativos, tanto nacional como internacionalmente. Cisneros, cuyo libro de 1994 titulado "La Casa de la Calle Mango," es lectura normal en muchas escuelas públicas y hasta algunas universidades de la Ivy League, argumenta que el problema principal es que la influencia mexicana en la historia de Texas a menudo es margina-

Aquí entra Texas Monthly, solicitando una entrevista con Cisneros. Esta dijo que estaba bien, siempre y cuando la entrevista estuviera informada por un latino o alguna otra persona de color, o hasta un(a) escritora(a) homosexual. Ella envió a los editores una relación de posibles redactores.

Cisneros dijo, "He hablado con muchos reporteros no latinos de otras publicaciones, pero Texas Monthly es mala. única vez que ellos escriben sobre los tejanos latinos es cuando son violados, muertos o resultan ser alguna clase de héroe político mitológico. Eso es exactamente horrible."

La revista objetó la solicitud de Cisneros y, en lugar de satisfacer su pedido, asignó a la independiente escritora Kathy Lowry. Esta se presentó en casa de Cisneros, sólo para ser rechazada.

El artículo subsiguiente fue uno de largo alcance que critica la carrera de Cisneros, pone en juicio la validezs de sus razones para pintar la casa y da una bofetada a la credibilidad de una reportera de CNN que es latina.

Lowry describe el haber presenciado una entrevista entre la reportera de CNN María Hinojosa y Cisneros, mientras Lowry mantenida a raya por plantas de daga española y nopal espinoso," escribió ella. Hinojosa y Cisneros dijeron que ella se mantuvo por lo menos a quince pies de distancia mientras tenía lugar la entrevista.

Lowry describió a la conversación como "no exactamente una entrevista de juego duro." Curtis está de acuerdo en que el artículo infiere que Hinojosa puede haber simpatizado demasiado con Cisneros, porque ambas son latinas.

"Usted tiene que decirlo como es," dice él.

Hinojosa contrarresta, "No sé como usted puede informar exactamente sobre una conversación cuando usted la escucha desde el exterior de una cerca. Ni siquiera voy a dignificar esto diciéndole la serie de preguntas."



Un Rayito

por Sofia Martinez Mirar a Jesucristo nuestro modelo de vida. una clarisima verdad afirmada por el mismo Redentor y espresada en todo el Nuevo Testamento. Cristo es nuestro Maestro Divino con Su Palabra y con Su ejemplo: seguir El asunto salió a relucir su ejemplo es practicar su en-Imitan

seguir un relato acerca de la Jesucristo; los que como el, bien publicada contienda de aman al projimo, y buscan Cisneros con la Comisión de unicamente el bien del proji-Diseño y Revisión Históricos mo y, saben comprender, y rede San Antonio. Se trata de la spetar y perdonar, los que, decisión de la autora de pintar como el, no se apegan a laas

como el, son justos y santos. Imitar a Cristo es la mas grande sabiduria cristiana y el recto camino de la perfeccion y solamente los que imitan a Cristo pueden seer verdaderos testigos suyos.

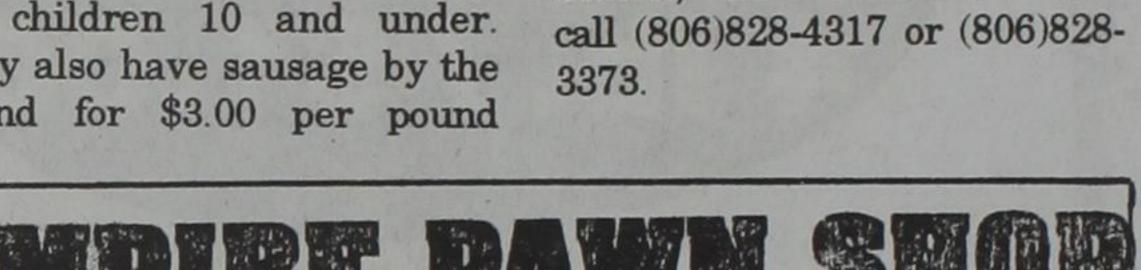
Testimoniar con buenas obras la fe recibida. Es el buen ejemplo de conducta cristiana, que debemos darles a los demas, en todo, siempre y dondequiera. Este ejemplo entra de lleno, en la obra evangelizadora de la Iglesia. Es un deber de todos ser buen ejemplo y, principalmente, de los que tienen autoridad: Los padres sean ejemplo de sus hijos; los maestros sean buen ejemplo de sus discipulos, los mayores sean de los mas jovenes; los empresarios de los obreros; los superiores de sus subditos y de cualquier autoridad con relacion a sus dependientes.

(Juan 13, 15. Ef. 5, 2. I Pe. 2, 21 Gal. 4, 12).

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