

## Federal Limits on Bilingual Education Mulled

A House panel approved a bill that would put new limits on federal aid for bilingual education.

The House Education and Workforce Committee passed the measure 22-17 Thursday on a strict party-line vote. Californians voted two days earlier to dismantle bilingual education.

The legislation would end the current system of awarding federal bilingual education money through a competitive program and instead give it in block grants for states to use as they wish. Federal bilingual education programs cost \$160 million this year.

The bill would favor programs that rely on English-language immersion and limit to three years participation in programs that teach students in languages other than English.

Rep. Frank Riggs, R-Calif., the bill's chief sponsor, contended many children spend six or seven years in classes using their native language and never make the transition to speaking English.

The Clinton administration opposes the bill because of the time limits and the block grants. Also, money no longer would be set aside to train teachers in bilingual education.

Also set to end under the bill are voluntary compliance agreements that the federal government obtained from school districts and states to guarantee bilingual education. The development, the Education Department says, would increase the number of civil rights lawsuits to ensure that children who speak minority languages get equal schooling.

Opponents who conceded problems with the federal program said the committee had no business singling out one element of federal aid to schools when legislation on such aid is not due for a rewrite until next year.

"We should not be driven to reform our bilingual programs by a millionaire Californian's initiative," said Rep. Tim J. Roemer, D-Ind., referring to the software entrepreneur Ron Unz, chief backer of California's Proposition 227.

The California proposition, being challenged in court, would allow only one year's English immersion for children. The House bill has implications for GOP efforts to court Latino voters, because exit polling in California found substantial Latino opposition even though earlier polls had indicated support.

## Senate Passes Deadbeat Parents Bill

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed and sent to President Clinton a bill Friday making it a federal felony for parents to cross state lines to evade child support.

It would apply if the amount owed is \$5,000 or more and the payments are more than one year delinquent.

It would also apply if the child lives in a different state than the parent responsible for the payments, and the parent "willfully fails" to make the payments.

The "Deadbeat Parents Act of 1998," sponsored by Reps. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., and Steny Hoyer, D-Md., will be signed by Clinton, according to aides for both Hyde and Hoyer.

The Senate, which approved a similar bill last year, passed it by voice vote, without debate. The House approved it 402-16 last month.

Parents owing \$10,000 or more or who fail to pay for two years could face up to two years in prison. Parents could also face fines and would be responsible for making restitution for unpaid child support. Current law makes it only a misdemeanor, with crimes, to cross state lines to avoid payments.

Hoyer said the bill would "help close loopholes in the system which allow parents to slip across state lines to avoid paying child support, thus leaving children and families in economic ruins."

## ACLU Lawsuit Alleges Racial Bias

The American Civil Liberties Union and a group of black motorists filed a federal lawsuit alleging that Maryland state police officers unfairly target blacks in deciding which cars to search for drugs.

"Race-based searches have to stop. The victims have to be compensated," Susan Goering, executive director of the Maryland ACLU, said Thursday in announcing the lawsuit.

State police officers — black and white — say there's no truth to a lawsuit's claims that they target black motorists along Interstate 95.

The suit seeks unspecified monetary damages and to prohibit state police from using race as a factor in deciding which cars to search.

A federal judge ruled last April that a state police barrack in northeast Maryland targeted black motorists for searches along I-95 in a "pattern and practice of discrimination." But the judge stopped short of fining police \$250,000, as the ACLU requested.

Although black motorists have reported similar problems across the country, the ACLU said its suit is the first asking for monetary damages. The ACLU ran public service announcements in states along I-95 seeking plaintiffs for the case.

In addition to the police superintendent and attorney general, the suit names 32 state troopers as defendants. It was filed on behalf of the Maryland chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and 11 black motorists from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and North Carolina.

One of them, Jawad Abdullah, a 42-year-old Trinidad native who is now a crime lab technician for the Baltimore police, said he and two friends waited for 45 minutes while police searched them and their car, finding nothing.

Abdullah said he is participating in the suit "not for me, personally, but to make sure this occurrence does not happen to generations in the future."

## Bill Reduces Kids Access to Guns

Gun-control advocates believe the recent spate of kids shooting kids proves that new laws are necessary to help keep guns from kids.

"I think this is a different kind of event," said Bob Walker, president of Handgun Control Inc. "What happened in Jonesboro, in Edinboro and in Springfield has led many gun owners to the realization that the problem in America is not just the guns on the street. It's the guns in the homes."

Rep. Carolyn McCarthy, D-N.Y. — elected on a gun-control platform after her husband was killed and her son injured in a 1993 Long Island Rail Road shooting rampage — plans to introduce a bill this month to limit children's access to handguns.

The bill would seek to hold parents responsible if their gun falls into a child's hands. It also would require manufacturers to include trigger locks and new safety features.

Lawmakers at the state level, even in staunch gun-rights states such as Pennsylvania and Oregon, are acting as well.

Some Pennsylvania lawmakers want to limit gun purchases to one per month, which targets traffickers who buy many guns then immediately sell them to criminals who cannot pass required background checks. Another bill would require new handguns sold after a certain date to be "personalized," so only the owner can use it.

In Oregon, a shooting in a Springfield school cafeteria last month has galvanized support for mandatory gun-storage legislation that failed last session.

James Brady, who was injured in a 1981 attempted assassination of President Reagan, has taken action, too. He urged actor Charlton Heston, who is expected to be elected NRA president on Monday, to urge him to support new firearms storage laws.

But both the NRA, which represents gun owners, and the American Shooting Sports Council, a manufacturing trade group, oppose any new controls and accuse gun-control supporters of trying to make "political hay" of the shootings.

Even Handgun Control concedes that new laws would not have stopped every shooting. In the Arkansas and Pennsylvania cases, children are believed to have stolen locked-up weapons from relatives. In Oregon, police say the suspect used a gun his parents had bought him.

"It goes beyond legislation," Walker said. "Legislation can help to reinforce that, but fundamentally we have to plead with gun owners to recognize the dangers of having a gun in the home."

## Subscribe Today to El Editor

## Minority Communities Concerned of Change in City Council Rules

Some 20 minority activist met with T.J. Patterson this past Wednesday to express their concern pertaining to the rule change for the Lubbock City Council that would require all resolutions that are submitted to the Council for be submitted by two persons.

The meeting followed a rally held this past Monday that brought people together at Guadalupe Park who voiced their concern and claiming that the new rule was directed toward quieting Councilman Victor Hernandez in his efforts to create change for the betterment of most of Lubbock's minority community.

"We had to fight many years in order to get single member district and being a plaintiff in the case brings back bitter memories bitter memories that are beginning to be felt again," said Rose Wilson president of the Lubbock NAACP.

Others at the meeting including Emilio Abeyta echoed Wilson's concerning saying

that there was absolutely no sense in the new rule and that it would stifle the voice of minorities and all poor persons who principally reside on Lubbock North, Central and East side.

"I don't understand why they -- the

One participant in the meeting referred to the saying "El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz" by Benito Juarez. "Respect for the rights of others in peace. This saying clearly reflects what we are talking about. It seems the City Council does not want to even listen to our voices which are our right," she said.

Patterson reassured the participants that he has always and will continue to work for our rights and especially for the needs of our young and elderly. "They are the ones who we should look after and who are constantly my guide along with the Almighty."

At the end of the one hour meeting, Patterson said he felt good about the meeting and was now convinced that he would vote the right way at the Council meeting. The vote is scheduled during the Lubbock City Council's Thursday afternoon session.



other Council members -- are pushing this. Victor's resolutions all have been to benefit not only his district but all of Lubbock."

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"El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es La Paz." "Respect for the Rights of Others Is Peace" Lic. Benito Juarez

## EL EDITOR

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## Diversity Or Reconciliation?

## Sleeping Giant Stirs In California

EDITOR'S NOTE: If we were less afraid of one another, we would recognize that the growing interest in politics among Latinos and Asians -- evident in California's recent campaign -- is the key to our reconciliation, not the obstacle to it.

BY RICHARD RODRIGUEZ,  
PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE

SAN FRANCISCO -- After Tuesday's primary, political pundits are saying that

## Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

Two decisions will be made today Thursday, June 11, that can affect the Hispanic community in a very serious manner.

A press time one had already been made in part. The Lubbock County Commission today announced that the interim sheriff for Lubbock County that is to serve until January 1999 will Earl Bartley who has served a Chief Deputy Sheriff under the former Sonny Keesee who died last Saturday.

On a side note - our belated sympathies to the family of Sheriff Keesee on their lost and most assuredly the loss to all West Texans.

The Commissioners voted 3-1 to appoint Bartley with Gilbert Flores voting to appoint Chief Assistant Deputy David Gutierrez.

Bartley has said that he is not interested in running for the position in November. The Republican and Democrat executive committees will have the task of appointing candidates. Plus candidates can also file as independents.

Republicans have continually said that they want to involve the Hispanic community in their party. This provides a prime opportunity for them to show their sincerity above their rhetoric. Maybe they will choose to nominate Gutierrez but it's probably going to be difficult for them.

The second factor that will affect our community will be decided later this afternoon by the Lubbock City Council. As discussed in the article about it about a rule change meant to quiet the voice of those who the City Council don't want to hear -- mainly our community. Let's hope that our City fathers opt to do what is intended by the Constitution of the U.S. -- allow freedom of speech for everyone or should we change the words in our pledge of allegiance to "Liberty and Justice for SOME."

Californians voted for the past -- familiar political faces. But the most important people in California's primary were not running for office, did not even vote. They were standing off-stage. "They" are young, often immigrant, poor. And they are everywhere in California -- the future, el futuro.

A few weeks ago, at a debate among the four leading candidates for governor, the questions were more interesting than the answers. The answers seemed canned. The questions concerned California's coming majority: first-grade, assimilation, diversity.

Not coincidentally, it was Proposition 227, the initiative against bilingual education, that attracted the most attention and acrimony in the months leading up to the primary. Clearly, Californians were less worried about which candidate would occupy the governor's office in Sacramento than about uncharted cultural changes awaiting us in the new California.

In truth, there is nothing very "new" about today's multi-racial, multi-lingual, multi-cultural California. As U.S. territory, California was born from the collision of Latin and Anglo America. Then, after gold was discovered in 1848, desperate men from every part of the world -- from Australia, from China, from Peru, from Scotland -- rushed here. California became the crossroads of the world as men jostled in the mud for the chance to spin the wheel of fortune.

Today, one hundred and fifty years after gold was discovered, Californians say (often with

foreboding) that we have "suddenly" become a world society. That notion would be unsettling enough for many Californians; what's worse is the realization that California has "suddenly" become the nation's largest Hispanic state, and Los Angeles a Latin American capitol.

This season, Hollywood's middle-aged adolescents are spinning tales of tumbling comets and Godzilla run amok in New York. California's political scientists speak, meanwhile, of a "sleeping giant" stirring, by which they mean Latinos are finally waking up to the implications of their numbers, finally voting.

The most telling moment, of the governor's race came when the four major candidates stood before an assembly of Latino fat cats. Though everyone in the audience doubtless spoke English, political theater required a debate "in Spanish." What debate? The candidates merely rivaled each other with adjectives praising immigrants, praising Latinos. And then, each candidate, in English, denounced Proposition 227 (with simultaneous Spanish translation).

As it turned out, the vote in favor of Proposition 227 -- against bilingual education -- was the most lopsided in the California primary. While left-wing civil rights groups would now like you to believe that the vote was "anti-immigrant," exit polling suggests that a large number of Hispanics and an even larger number of Asians rejected bilingual education and were furious at the incompetence of the state's public school system.

## Welfare-to-Work, or Welfare-to-Where?

Cuyahoga County.

The only thing clear is that the stock phrase "welfare to work" applies only in some cases. "Welfare to where?" is a better description of others.

According to some preliminary studies, only about a quarter of people departing welfare leave because they are finding work and no longer need or want a public handout.

Statistics compiled by the Ohio Department of Human Services show that more than half the Ohioans leaving welfare are being cut off because they violated welfare rules, such as missing appointments with caseworkers or failing to work enough hours to qualify for benefits. State data are

flawed

Using county statistics and taking a sample of the cases closed each month, the state found a monthly average of 48.6 percent of cases were closed because clients "failed a procedure required to continue eligibility," such as providing documentation of income and keeping appointments with caseworkers.

Another 7.3 percent were taken off the rolls because they failed to work in exchange for benefits.

Other cases were closed for a variety of reasons, including recipients who could not be found or who chose to forgo benefits in favor of preserving their 36 months

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"El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es La Paz." "Respect for the Rights of Others Is Peace"

# Una Nación Con La Lengua Trabada

Por Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo

El éxito de la iniciativa electoral de California para poner fin a la educación bilingüe demuestra que Estados Unidos es una nación que tiene la lengua trabada.

Seis de cada diez residentes del estado más poblado del país decidieron unirse al millonario monolingüe Ron Unz en su cruzada para obligar a las escuelas públicas del estado a pasar por alto las necesidades de enseñanza de los estudiantes particulares y emplear "una talla sirve para todos" en los salones escolares.

El argumento fundamental de Unz se centró sobre la noción que el pueblo de este país sufre de una lengua trabada.

Una vez que se acepta la idea de que el inglés es el único idioma que debería hablarse en los Estados Unidos, el bilingüismo es sospechoso.

No sólo los conservadores, sino también muchos liberales aceptan este modo de pensar. Como resultado, los programas bilingües han llegado a ser empleadas solamente hasta que los niños aprendan inglés. La noción de que otro idioma debería ser conservado o enseñado es ajena al sistema.

Aunque el 67 por ciento de los electores anglosajones respaldaron la iniciativa, un tercio de los electores latinos la apoyaron también. Quizá ellos se dieron cuenta de que

los programas bilingües tratan a sus hijos como si fueran estudiantes retrasados.

Al mismo tiempo que resucitaba su propia carrera política, Unz definió al asunto según estos principios de autoderrota, negando una oportunidad de igualdad en la enseñanza a cientos de miles de niños.

Necesitamos desafiar está noción de un país con la lengua trabada. ¿Es el hablar solamente inglés una enseñanza adecuada con un milenio a la vuelta de la esquina? En una época en que las economías está llegando a ser cada vez más global, ¿deberíamos estar alejándonos del futuro?

¿Debería cualquier estudiante -- latino o anglosajón -- estar recibiendo una enseñanza sólo en un idioma, cuando el éxito depende cada vez más de las comunicaciones globales multilingüísticas?

Puede ser verdad que el inglés se está usando hoy en las computadoras a través de todo el mundo y en los aeropuertos. Pero éste es un uso del inglés como una clave, no como un idioma, en gran medida como las personas usan el francés para hablar de cocina: a la carte, soup de jour, o el italiano para describir los términos de la música: allegro, lento, o aria.

Un sinnúmero de estudios nos muestran que el esperar hasta la escuela secundaria

para enseñar un idioma extranjero es insensato desde el punto de vista pedagógico. Ya para esa edad, el cerebro ya no puede absorber las sutilezas del idioma.

Los europeos frecuentemente pueden hablar dos o tres idiomas cuando son adolescentes; los estudiantes adolescentes de los Estados Unidos apenas están comenzando la instrucción idiomática. ¿Cuántos adultos estadounidenses han estudiado español u otro idioma durante dos años en la escuela secundaria, pero han olvidado casi todas las palabras?

La mayoría de los niños latinos de los Estados Unidos tienen la ventaja de escuchar el español que se habla en sus casas. Ellos disfrutan de una ventaja inicial hacia una enseñanza global. Pero esto es precisamente lo que destruye la iniciativa de Unz. Al limitar la enseñanza de idiomas a la escuela secundaria, estamos siguiendo nuestro curso de acción fracasado del pasado.

Desearía que hubiera habido una actitud menos defensiva sobre esta propuesta por parte de nuestros dirigentes latinos. La enseñanza bilingüe no es solamente para los latinos, o para los asiáticos, ni para otras poblaciones bilingües.

La misma ofrece enriquecimiento para todos los estudiantes, al prepararlos para un mundo que cambia.

En vez de limitar el acceso a la educación bilingüe a un año (y sólo para aquellos clasificados de habilidad limitada en el inglés), debería hacerse accesible para todos los estudiantes.

¿No envían los ricos a sus hijos a las escuelas privadas de internado, en las que puedan aprender francés o japonés en los grados elementales? ¿Por qué debería quitarseles las ventajas de una enseñanza global a las escuelas públicas, a las que envían sus hijos la mayoría de las personas?

Con la victoria de Unz, la estadidad para Puerto Rico, por ejemplo, tiene pocas probabilidades; los ataques contra la educación bilingüe en todo el país imitarán la estrategia de conservadores en California y tratarán de evitar un debate justo.

Los latinos y otros niños inmigrantes no serán los únicos perdedores. La victoria de Unz condenará a Estados Unidos a un papel inferior en la creciente economía global y mantendrán una nación con la lengua trabada.

(Anthony M. Stevens Arroyo, que fue antes vicepresidente del Comité Estatal de Nueva York para la Comisión Federal sobre los Derechos Civiles, es catedrático de Estudios Puertorriqueños y Latinos en Brooklyn College de la Universidad de la Ciudad de Nueva York (CUNY en inglés), y director de la Oficina de Investigaciones para la Religión en la Sociedad y la Cultura -- RISC en inglés).

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# Sittin' Here Thinkin' It Can't Hurt

We seem to have stopped doing things because they are kind, or fair, or the decent thing to do. Somewhere along the way advocates for social programs started being expected to go beyond designing programs that simply meet people's needs. Today, they are expected to predict the long and short term outcomes of their efforts, and to produce a level of cost-avoidance that makes the program at least pay for itself.

For example, it is not enough today to run a youth program that kids enjoy and that their parents think is good for them. In addition, the pressure is on to show that the program reduces crime, or drug abuse, or teen pregnancy, and as a result its costs are more than offset by future public savings. It is as though we do not see the value in providing children with clean, safe, fun places to play and grow unless we can show that the expenditure will make them less likely to kill or rob the rest of us. The silly extension of this logic, I suppose, is to only provide these services to kids who can demonstrate a high degree of criminal leanings.

The easy explanation for this hardball, business-like approach is that our society has become cold-hearted and tight-fisted and no longer wants to be kind or helpful. I believe that is to some extent true. But another part of the story is that we, the actors in the social policy field, helped to create this expectation by pretending that it was really possible to measure long term and discrete results. In order to justify funding for programs, or for this program rather than that, we created a lot of pseudo-science and claimed that we could prove things at a much higher degree of certainty than is true. The result is a system in which we now cannot admit that evidence is scant and shaky and we have to continue to pump up expectations about our ability to measure success. In a very telling moment, advocates got Headstart funded at enormously higher levels by suggesting that there was scientific evidence that it "worked". In doing so, they raised the standard of proof for funding everything else.

Just among us, let's admit that there is a world of difference between what we know and what we believe. Let's closely examine the notion that we can precisely measure the long term impact of progressive social interventions. The truth is that we really know very little about why Johnny becomes a killer while his brother Billy becomes a dentist. But while we may not be able to really prove that playing Little League baseball will keep Johnny from a life of crime, we do know that he will not be committing crimes during the time he is playing second base and that, whatever else playing ball might do, it can't hurt.

Most people believe that recreation contributes to the development of character and that kids learn valuable social skills in after-school activities. We know that playing ball is fun and believe that all kids should have an opportunity to have fun, as a privilege of being members of the richest society in the world. We know that well-to-do and middle class kids have a good deal of access to sports, recreation, and entertainment of all sorts and that, as parents, we would not have it any other way. But we also know that these resources are scarce in low income neighborhoods. Shouldn't that be a convincing enough argument to garner support for publicly funded after-school programs that are of high quality?

Despite the presence of a large and vibrant program evaluation industry, trying to prove "what works" leads to a dizzying and complex world of cause and effect, participant selection, control groups, Hawthorn effects, losing track of participants over time, margins of error, and inevitable informed guessing. Ironically, this enormous effort and expense is often intended to prove things that are already generally believed. Common sense says that kids do better in smaller classes with teachers who care about them, and that having positive things to do like sports and recreation is good for them, and that services over a long period of time is better than brief services, but we spend millions trying to prove these and other equally obvious propositions.

These things are generally believed, not because of studies that have been done, but because they make sense and square with the public's own reality and experience. In similar fashion, the public supports prisons and longer prison sentences because no amount of research will ever shake the idea that they are more safe with criminals locked up than on the streets.

We are getting gamed here and should recognize it. American public policy is based on people's common sense ideas about what is good, fair or valuable, not about the results of research or program evaluation. Billions of public dollars are spent annually in support of the belief that home ownership is a fundamentally good thing that enhances family strength, pride, and community connectedness, and no one is asking for evidence to support this middle and upper class benefit.

Every day, in both our public and private lives, we act on faith and common sense, without scientific proof. We buy breakfast cereals based on commercials featuring gray haired men in lab coats, cross our fingers, knock on wood, fund Star Wars, and believe that there is a relationship between the federal deficit and the economy. Only when we are speaking about public benefits to poor people do we suddenly become a nation of science-driven decisionmakers.

In the long run, we might be better off owning up to the fact that the world is an imprecise place and that we cannot fully measure all that goes on. We should learn from the Pope, who in New York recently spoke out for caring, concern and generosity just because people are in need. It can't hurt.

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

# A Tongue-Tied Nation

By Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo

The success of the California ballot initiative to end bilingual education proves that the United States is a tongue-tied nation.

Six out of 10 people in the country's most populous state chose to join monolingual millionaire Ron Unz in his crusade to force the state's schools to ignore the educational needs of individual students and use a "one size fits all" classroom approach.

Unz's basic argument was centered on the premise that the people of this country are tongue-tied.

Once you accept the idea that English is the only language that should be spoken in the United States, bilingualism is suspect. Not only conservatives but many liberals as well buy into this thinking. As a result, most bilingual programs have become temporary strategies to be used only until the children learn English. The notion that another language should be preserved or taught is alien to the system.

While 67 percent of white voters backed the initiative, a third of Latino and Latina voters supported it, too. Perhaps they realized that bilingual programs treat their children as if they are remedial students -- not good enough to be the best. Unz defined the issue according to these self-defeating premises, denying an equal educational opportunity to hundreds of thousands of children while resuscitating his own political career.

We need to challenge the premise of a tongue-tied America. (The expression comes from a book by former Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois.) Is speaking only English an appropriate education at the dawn of the millennium? At a time when the world's economy is becoming more and more global, should we be moving away from the future? Should any student -- Latino or Euro-American -- be offered an education in only one language when success increasingly depends upon global communications?

It may be true that English is used today in computers

around the world and on the radio bands of every airport. But this is use of English as a code, not as a language, much as people use French to speak about cuisine: a la carte, soup du jour, or Italian to describe music: allegro, lento, aria.

Countless studies show us that waiting until high school to teach a foreign language is pedagogically unsound. By that age, the brain no longer can absorb the subtleties of a new language.

Europeans today often speak two or three languages as teenagers; teenage students in the United States are just beginning language instruction. How many U.S. adults have studied Spanish or another language for two years in high school, but have forgotten virtually every word?

Most U.S. Latino children have the advantage of hearing Spanish spoken at home. They enjoy a head start toward a global education. But this is precisely what Unz's initiative destroys. By limiting language instruction to high school, we are following our failed policy of the past.

I wish there had been less defensiveness about this proposition from our Latino leaders. Bilingual education is not just for Latinos, or for Chinese or other bilingual populations. It offers enrichment for all students. It prepares them for a changing world. Instead of limiting access to bilingual education to one year (and only for those classified as limited English-proficient), it should be expanded to all students.

Don't the very rich send their children to boarding schools where they can learn French or Japanese in the elementary grades? Why should the advantages of a global education be taken away from the public schools, where most people send their children?

## El Editor Newspaper

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# Should State Law Dictate Your Child's Classroom Lesson Plan?

By Joan Whitlow

Letting voters dictate the lesson plan, as just happened in California where they voted to dismantle bilingual education, is the worst possible way to run education.

Bilingual education, or teaching students English while teaching other academic subjects in their native tongues in the meantime, gets mixed reviews, but what educational method works all the time for every student?

Should we put whole language learning vs. phonics to a vote, and make every schoolroom abide by the result? How about "regrouping" on the ballot against plain, old fashioned "borrowing" to teach subtraction? Flash cards, yes or no? How about making math optional after the sixth grade? Shall we vote?

Democracy and the right to

vote are precious gifts. But the notion of putting hot-button education issues up for popular referendum comes close to an abuse of those freedoms. Such curricular and pedagogical matters are best decided on a case-by-case basis, at the local public school district level.

That is particularly so with an issue like bilingual education, where educational concerns are not the only things driving the debate.

We are an immigrant nation that was not all that enlightened about helping earlier arrivals to our borders, and that has created some resentment about special programs to help the new ones. The contention that there is no anti-immigrant feeling behind the anti-bilingual movement is a lie. But it is not as simple as that.

In California, about a third of Hispanic voters were part of

the 61 percent who voted June 2 to dismantling bilingual programs. They did so, for the most part, because they wanted their children to learn English faster.

Yet even educators who believe in bilingual education differ in their opinions as to the length of time students should remain in such programs before being

"mainstreamed." Their opinions differ as to whether bilingual programs hold back preschoolers, who are at an age when the mind is primed to learn language.

New Jersey has one of the nation's more extensive, statewide bilingual education efforts.

Our state seems intent on allowing what is needed

most: flexibility in bilingual and English-as-a-second-language programs. That way schools and families can adjust depending on individual and group needs and, most important of all, according to what works.

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## ¿Deberia Una Ley Estatal Dictar El Plan De Estudios De Sus Hijos En Salones De Clase?

Por Joan Whitlow  
El dejar que los electores dicten el plan de estudios, como acaba de ocurrir en California, donde votaron para dismantlar la educación bilingüe, es el peor modo posible de administrar la enseñanza.

La educación bilingüe, o sea el enseñar inglés a los estudiantes mientras aprenden otros temas

académicos en sus idiomas natales, obtiene resultados mixtos, pero, ¿qué método de enseñanza funciona todo el tiempo para todos los estudiantes?

¿Deberíamos por ejemplo someter a votación varios métodos de enseñar idiomas y hacer que todas las clases fueran obligadas a llevarse por los resultados?

¿Y qué tal sobre hacer que el

estudiar matemática sea solamente una opción después del sexto grado? ¿Votaremos sobre eso?

La democracia y el derecho al voto son dones preciados. Pero la noción de poner a referendo popular los polémicos temas educativos se acerca mucho a un abuso de esas libertades. Dichos asuntos curriculares y peda-

**From Page 1**

of lifetime eligibility. Human Services doubts its own report. The data are flawed because not all counties record case closings the same way, and some caseworkers are confused over the various definitions for closings, said department spokesman Greg DePorter.

Some nonprofit and social service agencies say they have heard of people going hungry and losing their homes after falling off welfare. But no one, including the United Way of Greater Cleveland, HN4624@handsnet.org and the Federation for Community Planning, an umbrella group for nonprofit social service agencies, has any numbers.

The National Conference of State Legislatures earlier this year compiled studies done by nine states of what happened to welfare recipients who had left the rolls.

Though the studies varied by method, sample and reliability, the conference drew several conclusions, including that 50 to 60 percent of people leaving welfare find jobs and that losing welfare leaves some families without enough money for food or rent. But most do not suffer greatly, the studies found

Meantime, the greatest social experiment in decades is proceeding largely in the dark.

"Welfare reform may be working beautifully, but we need to know that," said Robin Harris, an advocate for Children's Defense Fund-Ohio, HN3287@handsnet.org.

**De La Pagina 2**

gógicos se deciden mejor caso por caso, al nivel del distrito local.

Esto es particularmente cierto con un asunto tal como la educación bilingüe, en la que las preocupaciones educativas no son los únicos motivos que impulsan el debate.

Somos una nación de inmigrantes que no estuvo muy bien al tanto en cuanto a ayudar a los que llegaron antes a nuestras fronteras, y eso ha creado algo de resentimiento en cuanto a los programas particulares para ayudar a los recién llegados. La afirmación de que detrás del movimiento que se opone a la educación bilingüe no hay un sentimiento en contra de los inmigrantes es una mentira.

Pero no es tan sencillo como eso.

En California, un tercio de los electores hispanos formaron parte del 61 por ciento que votó el 2 de junio para dismantelar los programas de educación bilingüe. Lo hicieron, en su mayoría, porque querían que sus hijos aprendieran inglés más rápidamente.

Sin embargo, aún los maestros que creen en la educación bilingüe difieren en sus opiniones en cuanto al tiempo que los estudiantes deberían permanecer en dichos programas antes de entrar a las otras clases donde la enseñanza es en inglés. Los maestros difieren en cuanto a si los programas bilingües retrasan a los alumnos de edad pre-escolar, cuando la mente está en su mejor condición para aprender un idioma.

Nueva Jersey tiene uno de los programas más extensos de educación bilingüe en toda la nación.

Nuestro estado parece tener la intención de permitir lo que es más necesario: flexibilidad en los programas de educación bilingüe y de inglés como segundo idioma. De ese modo, las escuelas y las familias pueden cambiar, dependiendo de las necesidades particulares de cada alumno, a lo que funciona.

**From Page One**

Today's surfers in Huntington Beach are as likely to be Filipino as blond, and they are, in any case, dating Chinese. They are, in other words, modern mestizos.

The sleeping giant may, indeed, be stirring. If we were less afraid of monsters in the dark, we would recognize that the growing interest in politics by Latinos and Asians is the key to California's reconciliation, not an obstacle to it. Latinos and Asians no longer want to be left on the outside.

Racial and ethnic identity politics may, indeed, sound divisive, but its intent is social mobility. And the result of that mobility will be inclusion and mixture. Just as the Irish used identity politics in the nineteenth century to get inside the door, so today's Latinos will use their ethnic badge to get noticed in Sacramento and Washington.

The paradox is that Latinos as a political force will diminish as the U.S. becomes more culturally Latin American. Precisely as California becomes more Mexican (more mestizo), a distinct Latino political agenda will become impossible to sustain because we Californians will be too mixed, too inter-married to entertain separate racial/ethnic

categories. What will remain, finally, will be economic class. That's the issue no one ever raises, despite all the chatter about diversity. In California's debate over bilingual education, for example, no one ever troubled to distinguish between middle-class bilingualism and the dilemma of the poor who need to learn how to use public language.

During the last weeks before the primary, journalists from all over the world stopped by my house with microphones and note pads. They came to ask me about the new California. German TV. Australian radio. Canada phoned to ask if southern California is becoming "the new Quebec."

I told them, whether or not there is bilingual education, children of poverty, whatever their race, will continue to receive inferior schooling. Poor whites will have more in common with poor Latinos in the new California than poor Latinos have with me. I told them that Spanish will remain the language of cheap labor. And I told them that my nephew, with his Scottish surname, goes to a fancy prep school where he learns three languages, Spanish among them. He looks Italian, dates blond, and calls himself (and truly is!) Latino in the new California.

**HEALTH**

**Survey Finds Gaps in Coverage For People With Diabetes**

News USA

(NU) - Diabetes remains the fourth-leading cause of death by disease and costs Americans an estimated \$105 billion annually. Now there are new guidelines for diagnosing diabetes, and the American Diabetes Association recommends screening for all adults at three-year intervals beginning at age 45. The new guidelines could result in up to 2 million more diagnosed cases of the disease.

But a new Gallup survey of 252 of the country's largest employers shows that a large percentage of health care plans fail to provide coverage for essential diabetes management tools:

- Seventy-five percent fail to pay for patient education classes.
- Forty-nine percent provide no coverage for lab tests.
- Thirty-eight percent don't provide coverage for blood glucose meters.

Studies have proven that regular monitoring and control of blood glucose levels can prevent or delay serious complications including blindness, heart disease, and kidney and nervous system damage.

In addition to the lack of coverage for diabetes management tools, the survey revealed that only 23 percent of the employee benefits managers surveyed believe it is most important to offer preventive care for diabetes compared with 68 percent who believe it is most important to offer preventive care for heart disease. The fact is that 16 million Americans have diabetes compared with 13.5 million who have coronary heart disease.

"On the surface, virtually all companies offer a health plan that covers some aspect of diabetes care, particularly the treatment of complications once they develop," says

Richard Wiesner, president of Life Scan, the subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson that commissioned the Gallup survey. "Unfortunately, this can create a false sense of security for companies and their employees who assume they have appropriate coverage when, in fact, key elements of preventive care may be lacking."

Illustrating the impact the lack of insurance coverage and patient education has on patient behavior, a new Frost & Sullivan report revealed that as many as 82 percent of people with diabetes do not monitor their blood glucose daily. An IntelliQuest study showed that 33 percent said that, among other reasons, cost is an important barrier to self-monitoring.

Experts agree that people with chronic diseases such as diabetes must take primary responsibility for their day-to-day care and that the cornerstone of self-care is education.

To control their diabetes and make adjustments as needed, patients must be able to monitor their blood glucose throughout the day and understand how to use the results to assess how well their diet, exercise and medication programs are working.

In addition, the physician assesses a patient's overall level of control through quarterly laboratory tests (HbA1c) that measure the average blood glucose level.

Wiesner recommends that employers and employees alike examine closely the preventive diabetes care benefits offered by each health insurance plan before making a selection.

Lifescan is the nation's leading maker of blood glucose monitoring systems. Its products are recommended by more physicians, diabetes educators and pharmacists than any other brand.

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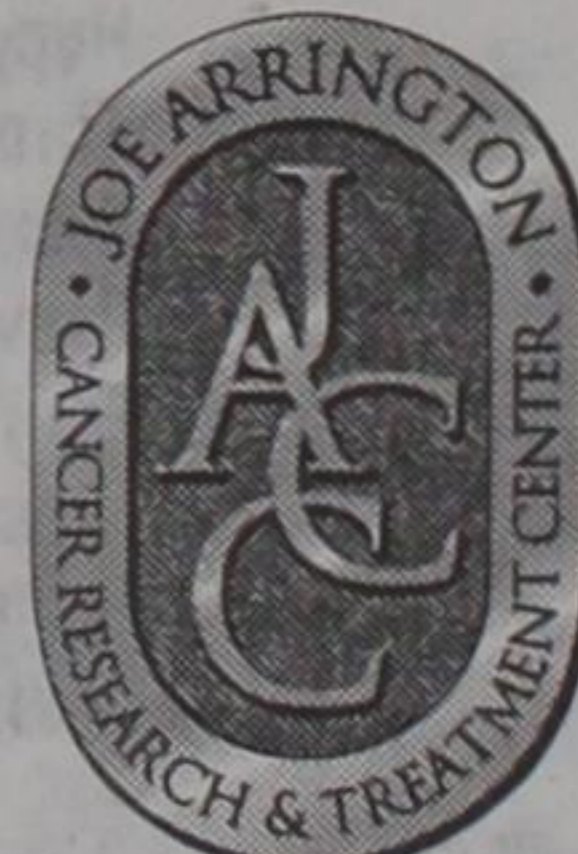


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**THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.**  
The Joe Arrington Cancer Center, 4101 22nd Place

**SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 8 a.m. - Noon**  
The Joe Arrington Cancer Center, 4101 22nd Place

There is no charge for these screenings, but reservations are appreciated by calling 806-725-7970.



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**Osteoporosis, su prevención y tratamiento**



Por **Dra. Silvia Panitch**

La osteoporosis es una enfermedad generalizada de los huesos que provoca un debilitamiento, fragilidad y consecuentemente fracturas de los mismos. Afecta a 25 millones de americanos.

Una de cada dos mujeres y uno de cada ocho hombres sufrirá una fractura a lo largo de su vida debido a la osteoporosis.

La población vive hoy en día más años y por lo tanto el problema se hace cada vez más urgente. Los dos factores más importantes son: la falta de estrógenos durante la menopausia (o cambio de vida) y el envejecimiento de los huesos.

Los lugares más comunes donde ocurren las fracturas son: la columna vertebral, las caderas y la muñeca.

Si usted se fractura la cadera tiene un 20% de probabilidades de morir en el año siguiente, el 25% de terminar sus años en un hogar de ancianos y un 50% de perder gran parte de su movilidad.

El gasto que le ocasionará una fractura de cadera puede llegar a los 30 mil dólares y el costo total a la nación es de 10,000 millones de dólares por año (27 millones de dólares

por día). Es importante aconsejar a las niñas y adolescentes que ingieran suficiente cantidad de calcio y vitamina D, ya que cuanto más hueso desarrollen durante esos años, menos posibilidad habrá de desarrollar fracturas en el futuro.

**Quiénes están en riesgo**  
Mujeres  
Antecedentes familiares de osteoporosis  
Raza blanca o asiática  
Pequeña estatura y contextura pequeña  
Envejecimiento  
Comienzo de la menopausia a edad temprana  
Inactividad física  
Si tuvo pocos hijos  
Poco consumo de calcio, vitamina D  
Uso de alcohol y/o cigarrillo  
Ciertas medicinas como los esteroides, etc.

Ciertas enfermedades como de la tiroides

Molestias ocasionadas  
Muchas veces la osteoporosis no da ninguna molestia pero a veces puede dar dolor de espalda debido a una fractura que a veces se confunde con artritis o un problema muscular.

Desgraciadamente, cuando se ve a la osteoporosis en las radiografías ya se ha perdido el 30% de la masa ósea.

**Diagnóstico**

Un nuevo test permite el diagnóstico de osteoporosis en forma temprana: Dexa Scan, este test dura solamente entre 5 y 10 minutos. Expone al paciente a poca radiación y cuesta aproximadamente 100 dólares y está a su disposición en muchos centros médicos.

Quiénes deberán tomar este test

- 1.- Si usted está en la menopausia y se rehusa a usar estrógenos.
- 2.- Si tiene enfermedades asociadas con osteoporosis.
- 3.- Si en sus radiografías se ve debilitamiento de los huesos.
- 4.- Para revisar el éxito de su tratamiento.

**WHAT'S NEW**

**Here's Some News You Can Use**

NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1994

**In Major Finding, Drug Curbs H.I.V. Infection in Newborns**

By LAWRENCE K. ALTMAN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 - A federally financed study has found that the drug AZT dramatically reduces transmission of H.I.V., the virus that causes AIDS, from infected mothers to their newborns. Government health officials said today.

The findings were considered so significant that the study, which began in April 1991, was ordered stopped on Friday, and officials are spending the holiday weekend notifying the 39 medical centers in the United States and France taking part in the study to offer AZT to the pregnant women who had been receiving a placebo.

In addition, said Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, the head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the data from the study were being distributed as a "closed alert" through the National Library of Medicine, which has a computer network available to health care workers around the world.

Dr. Harold W. Jaffe, an epidemiologist and the top scientist on H.I.V. at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, said in an interview today that the finding was one of major public health importance.

"It is the first indication that mother-to-child transmission of H.I.V. can be at least decreased, if not prevented," Dr. Jaffe said. "And it will provide a real impetus for identifying more H.I.V.-infected women during pregnancy so that they could consider the benefits of AZT treatment to themselves and their children."

About four million women give birth in the United States each year, and the disease centers estimate that 6,000 to 7,000 of them are H.I.V.-infected. About 1,500 to 2,000 of their babies later become H.I.V.-infected.

The transmission of the virus to newborns is a much bigger public health problem in developing countries in Africa, Asia and South America, where millions of people are infected and where infection rates among childbearing women can reach 10 percent to 30 percent in some areas, said Dr. James Carran, coordinator of all H.I.V. activities at the disease centers. He added that in some areas of the United States, including some urban areas in the Northeast, the comparable figure is as high as 5 percent.

On average, about 25 percent of pregnant women who are H.I.V.-infected pass along the virus to their babies. The researchers had confidence in the study because the

Continued on Page A13, Column 1

**Finally, some good news about AIDS.**

If you're pregnant, please get an HIV test. For confidential HIV/AIDS information 24 hours a day, call 1 800 342-2437.

Ad Pediatric AIDS Foundation

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# A long fire season torments Mexico

By SAM DILLON

Huitzilac, Mexico—Alejandro Manilla's clothes reek of smoke and his eyes are bloodshot. A town official in this mountainous county bordering Mexico City, he has spent weeks battling wild fires here with an ax and shovel, alongside forest rangers and army troops.

"And there's no end in sight," Manilla, a director of agricultural promotion, said this morning as word arrived of a new blaze raging through timberlands a few miles south of the Huitzilac county hall.

Millions of Mexicans are expressing similar exasperation with their country's most devastating burning season in memory, which has lasted well into what should be the rainy season.

Nearly 10,000 blazes, many of them the size of a football field, have claimed scores of lives, forced the closing of airports and left at least 50 million Mexicans choking in smoke. A cloud of haze and cinders covering thousands of square miles has hung over most of southern Mexico and northern Central America since early last month. After the smoke intensity reached alarming levels, officials

ordered Mexico City into an environmental alert Friday, urging residents to stay inside.

Fires are also reported burning out of control in Guatemala and Honduras.

This week the vast bank of smoke drifted across America's Gulf Coast states all the way to Florida. The fumes were dense enough in Texas that officials issued a health warning for 50 counties.

The Mexican Embassy in Washington announced that the United States had offered fire-fighting assistance, and that Mexico would accept it, adding that "heavily-equipped air-crane helicopters, water supply airplanes, and expert fire fighters" were most needed. A spokesman for the United States embassy in Mexico City said officials from both nations were meeting to outline priorities.

Behind the drought is the same El Niño disturbance of ocean currents that in recent months led to much more extensive destruction of rain forests in Indonesia and Brazil.

In Mexico, after a worsening drought, a heat wave and high winds all turned brush and grasslands into tinder this spring, major forest and brush fires have burned in every state except Baja California, Victor Manuel

Villalobos, Mexico's deputy Environment secretary said.

The extraordinary number of simultaneous fires has stretched the government's ability to react, and the average fire is burning for 12 hours before forest rangers, army troops or local peasants can smother it, Villalobos said. That is up from an average of seven hours in previous years, he said. But the fires have burned only a tiny fraction of Mexico's timberlands, and long-term damage would probably be minimal, he said.

Environmentalists dispute that. "The federal government is minimizing the crisis," said Gustavo Alanis, director of the Mexican Center for Environmental Law.

The Group of 100, a conservation watchdog organization led by the poet Homero Aridjis, also criticized the government for a listless reaction to what the group called a national emergency. "The complacency of Environment Ministry officials and their technical incompetence in attempting to extinguish these fires is a scandal," the Group said in a statement Friday.

The largest fires reported this week were burning in the Chimalapas rain forest in the southern state of Oaxaca, home to hundreds of rare plant and

animal species.

Mexico's most tragic conflagration occurred last week in Puebla state, where fireworks set off during a religious celebration ignited the forest, and 19 villagers who rushed forward to extinguish the flames were overwhelmed and burned to death by a wall of flame.

Many fires, especially in southern Mexico, have been lit by peasants who traditionally use fire to fertilize pasture land with ash or to clear forest land for corn plots.

"The custom of our people is to go into the rain forest every year and bring down the trees," said Anselmo Entzin, an official in Chanal, a Tzeltal Indian town in southern Chiapas state. "But this year our Lord in heaven put us in a bad problem. It hasn't rained since November, and when we went to put out the fires, we couldn't do it."

Other causes have been cited. Military officials in Guerrero state argued recently that narcotics traffickers were lighting fires to pin the army down while moving large drug shipments.

Here in Huitzilac, a bucolic county of pines and sheep meadows straddling the superhighway leading south out of Mexico City, municipal president Jose Luis Aguilar says that many of the 110



A peasant continues the tradition of burning land in order to plant corn seeds afterward, in the mountains of Chimalapas in Cintalapa, Chiapas, Mexico on May 18. 95 percent of the fires currently burning in Mexico are set by humans, accidentally or on purpose. 18 percent of all the blazes presently burning in the state of Chiapas are in the county of Cintalapa.

fires here have been set by motorists who disregard signs that say "Protect our Forests!" and fling smoldering cigarettes from their vehicles.

Thursday was a typical fire-fighting day, Aguilar said. At about 2 p.m., the Environment Ministry phoned to report a fire blazing through a stand of oak and pine a few miles away. Manilla and

40 town volunteers rushed to the site, where they were joined by 70 soldiers and 30 forest rangers. Five hours later, the men had controlled the ormy blaze by using spades and hatchets to cut a half-mile fire-break.

"Pray for rain," said one of the volunteers.

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## Babies For Sale

By Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo

Just when you think you've heard everything, reality springs a surprise. Augusto Sanchez Fuentes, a pro-statehood senator in Puerto Rico's legislature, has a new plan for ending abortions. He proposes that the island government sponsor adoption "fairs" that would bring prospective parents from the United States to the island. These visitors would pay Puerto Rican women for their babies, thus providing a financial incentive to bear children. Representative Sanchez Fuentes argues that this would be good for the island's tourist economy. The prospective parents would spend thousands of dollars while staying in island hotels, and when the children are grown up, they probably would return to Puerto Rico seeking their natural mothers. Those return trips,

he says, would also enrich the economy.

To prove that he is not ignorant of racial issues, Sanchez Fuentes clarified in his proposal that this tourist phase is only for white Puerto Rican babies. Black or mulatto babies would be placed by the government in special athletic schools, where they would be taught sports at an early age.

Since the representative is sure that blacks can jump higher and run faster than whites, he suggested that these athletic centers for the babies saved from abortion would produce many great sports stars "like Roberto Clemente." He sees the contracts and lucrative offers to these children as a source of revenue for the Puerto Rican treasury.

When I first read these accounts, I thought that this was a joke. The logic is so far

removed from the political reality of today that it seems impossible for anyone, much less a legislator, to suggest such a silly plan. But Representative Sanchez Fuentes explained that he has been working on this bill for five years.

No one can doubt his sincerity in wanting to end abortion, a practice that militates against many of the religious traditions of the island. But the notion that the government would get into the business of "buying babies" -- even secondhand -- is no remedy. The racism of his plan is so outrageous that it merits no rebuttal.

If there were a Puerto Rican version of David Letterman, no doubt this bill would receive a Top 10 ranking as an all-time Puerto Rican idea. Fortunately, it is unlikely that this legislation will pass into law.

Nor can one generalize about a culture or a political ideology from such an extreme case. But the incident serves as a warning to those who think that making Puerto Rico a state will bring progressive Latino voices to the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate in Washington.

This island nation has its distinctive culture and a way of thinking that is very different from what is found in the United States. I have been amazed over the years at the blindness of Puerto Rico politics to larger trends in the mainland.

This limitation is not restricted to statehooders. It equally contaminates commonwealth and independence advocates. In some ways, the common people of the island and in the states have more wisdom than their political spokespersons. In particular, the Puerto Ricans who have spent several years in big cities like New York and Chicago seem to acquire street smarts in the process.

They may not make headlines, but they make a lot of sense.

It seems to me a mistake to leave Puerto Ricans in the United States out of any future plebiscite about the future of the island.

Even if there were not legal and procedural arguments that require the participation of the stateside Puerto Ricans, Representative Sanchez Fuentes's plan alone would be reason enough. Somebody has to protect Puerto Rico's politicians from themselves.

(Dr. Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo, formerly vice-chairman of the New York State Committee for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, is Professor of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies at Brooklyn College City University of New York and director of the research office for Religion in Society and Culture.)

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## Community Health Outreach CALENDAR

June 17, 24  
July 1, 8, 15, 22  
WEDNESDAY

- Prenatal Class
- St. Mary Counseling Center; Education Room, 1302 Broadway
- 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- A six-week, comprehensive course targeting teen, first time pregnancies which includes:
- Nutrition; exercise; prenatal, labor, birth and postpartum instructions;
- as well as pain relief techniques.
- Everyone is welcome. Free of charge.
- Classes are bilingual.
- For more information please contact
- Josie Valdez, R.N. at 765-2613.

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
August 5  
WEDNESDAY

- Education - The Key to the Diabetic Puzzle
- St. Mary Counseling Center; Education Room, 1302 Broadway
- 1:00-2:30 p.m.
- A six-week, comprehensive course which includes:
- What is Diabetes?; Symptoms of Hyperglycemia and Hypoglycemia and How to Treat These Conditions
- Through Diet, Exercise, and/or Medications;
- Sick Days and Stress: Their Effects on Glucose; and
- Prevention and Treatment of Complications.
- Everyone is welcome. Free of charge.
- Classes are bilingual.
- For more information please contact
- Josie Valdez, R.N. at 765-2613.

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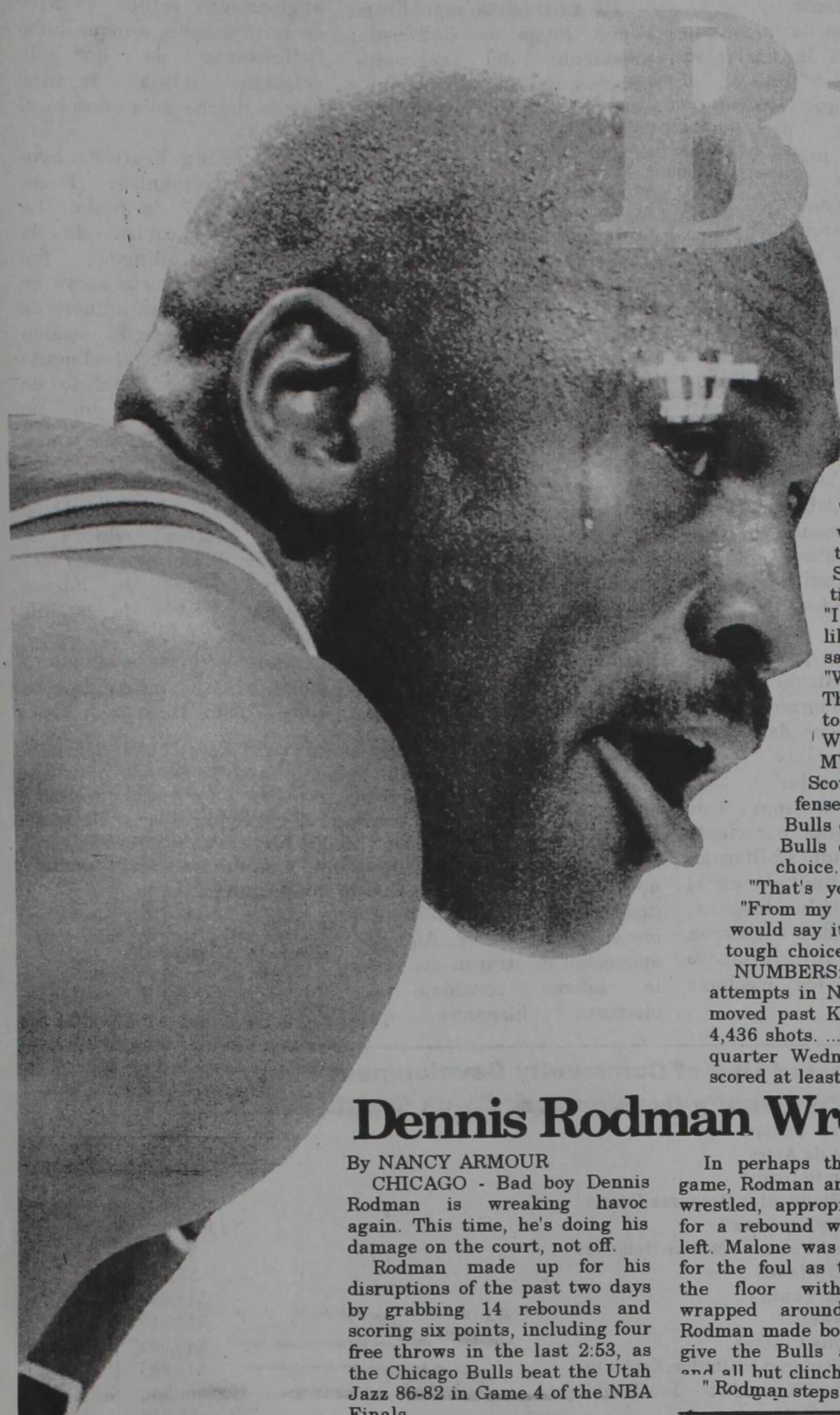
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**By RICK GANO**  
 CHICAGO - No team has ever rallied from 3-1 down in the NBA Finals to win a championship. The Utah Jazz still believe they can be the first. But first they have to take care of Friday's Game 5. Find a way to score and win at the United Center.

"It's not a good position to be in but I don't feel it's frustrating," John Stockton said. "If we win, that's a different situation. We'll be going home for two."

"I'm not happy where we are, but with one win can we change the complexion and we can go back to our house and finish it off ourselves." Strangely, Michael Jordan likened the Bulls' position to a meal.

"I don't want to jump ahead of myself. Tonight was like an appetizer, Friday could be the entree," Jordan said.

"We can't fill ourselves up with just the appetizer. The job is not done. We can taste it but we still have to finish the job."

**WHO'S THE MVP:** Michael Jordan has been the MVP of the finals in all five of his previous trips. Scottie Pippen hasn't scored as many points but his defense on Utah's screen-and-roll has been a key as the Bulls captured three of the first four games. Bulls coach Phil Jackson admitted it would be a tough choice.

"That's your call, not mine guys," Jackson told reporters. "From my situation it would be difficult who would merit it. I would say it's between Michael and Scottie and you got a real tough choice."

**NUMBERS:** Michael Jordan became the leader in field goal attempts in NBA playoff history. Jordan attempted 27 shots and moved past Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (4,422). Jordan has attempted 4,436 shots. ... The Bulls were 17-of-24 from the line in the fourth quarter Wednesday to only 2-of-3 for the Jazz. ... Jordan has scored at least 20 points in a finals-record 33 straight games.

## Dennis Rodman Wreaking Havoc Again

**By NANCY ARMOUR**

CHICAGO - Bad boy Dennis Rodman is wreaking havoc again. This time, he's doing his damage on the court, not off.

Rodman made up for his disruptions of the past two days by grabbing 14 rebounds and scoring six points, including four free throws in the last 2:53, as the Chicago Bulls beat the Utah Jazz 86-82 in Game 4 of the NBA Finals.

"The much-maligned Dennis Rodman had a wonderful game for us," coach Phil Jackson said. "As usual, he takes himself out of the hole and finds a way to redeem himself."

In perhaps the play of the game, Rodman and Karl Malone wrestled, appropriately enough, for a rebound with 44 seconds left. Malone was the one called for the foul as the two fell to the floor with their arms wrapped around each other. Rodman made both foul shots to give the Bulls an 81-77 lead, and all but clinch the game.

Rodman steps up and makes

four free throws in the closing minutes. What more can you say?" Michael Jordan said. "I can never figure this guy out, I don't even start. One day he's wrestling, the next day he's defending. We have come to live with it and move forward, and not really try to dissect this individual."

"I don't even know if he is an individual."

### Heading

to First Fight In 98

## De La Hoya in Great Shape

**By EDUARDO MONTES**

EL PASO, Texas - WBC welterweight champion Oscar De La Hoya is looking forward to next week's title defense in the Sun Bowl - and already is planning a return to El Paso.

De La Hoya's June 13 bout with Patrick Charpentier, the WBC's No. 1-ranked contender, is expected to draw upwards of 50,000 spectators and could become the biggest U.S. fight crowd since 71,000 people saw Muhammad Ali take on Leon Spinks in the New Orleans Superdome in 1978.

De La Hoya made it clear Wednesday he wants to try it again in the future.

"Once we go back to El Paso once again, we will see that same event happen one more time," he said. "People in El Paso have just shown me that they're real true boxing fans and they're real Oscar De La Hoya fans."

"I wouldn't mind fighting again in El Paso with a good opponent because people will watch it. I think Texas fans and El Paso fans deserve that."

In a conference call, De La Hoya also said he feels good coming off an injury-free training camp and is eager to

face Charpentier.

Despite being heavily favored, the undefeated De La Hoya (27-0, 22 knockouts) called Charpentier (27-4-1, 23 KO) a dangerous opponent.

"He's a game fighter," De La Hoya said. "He's going to come at me and try for the knockout. I'm just going to have to stick and move, on my toes. He can be dangerous if I stay right in front."

He said he's seen Charpentier before and found him to be a strong and aggressive fighter who is predisposed to use his head.

"With this guy, the key is going to be the jab, jab, stick and move and a lot of feints to try to confuse him," De La Hoya said.

De La Hoya was scheduled to fight Charpentier in a mandatory defense twice before. The bout was first set for Feb. 28, but was postponed because De La Hoya suffered a wrist injury while sparring. It was rescheduled for March 14, but postponed again when doctors diagnosed a cartilage tear and ordered his left wrist placed in a cast.

De La Hoya's last fight was Dec. 6.

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## La Educacion Bilingue: ¿Odiada o Querida Por Los Latinos?

Por Charlie Erickson

La mayoría de los hispanos de California votaron a favor de la Propuesta 227, la iniciativa estatal diseñada por el millonario Ron Unz para eliminar la educación bilingue en las escuelas públicas del estado.

¿La mayoría? ¿Cierto o falso? ¿Sí o no?

Bueno, vamos a ver. El Sr. Unz había estado diciendo durante meses que los latinos lo apoyaban y que también apoyaban su propuesta. El llegó hasta a insinuar que algunos dirigentes latinos, aunque temerosos de decirlo públicamente, le habían confiado que la educación bilingue es una causa

perdida.

Y la prensa, como una taquígrafa personal, lo han citado fielmente.

Antes de las elecciones del 2 de junio, varias encuestas realizadas por los principales medios informativos hicieron que Unz luciera como un profeta. Las encuestas alegaban que los hispanos respaldaban la Propuesta 227 por márgenes de hasta 3 a 1.

Hubo otras encuestas, auspicadas por los medios latinos, tales como la cadena televisiva "Univisión" y el periódico "La Opinión", que encontraron exactamente lo contrario. La aprobación de educación bilingue entre los latinos se hallaba entre el 60

por ciento y el 80 por ciento.

Aún cuando los resultados fueron compartidos con otros medios informativos, éstos no recibieron casi ninguna atención por parte de los principales medios en inglés. ¿Hispanos reportando sobre los hispanos? Evidentemente, podría haber un prejuicio allí.

Entonces llegó el día de las elecciones, y los encuestadores del "Los Angeles Times"/CNN efectuaron un sondeo de salida de las casillas electorales. Una estadística asombrosa surgió:

Los hispanos estaban votando en contra la iniciativa de Unz por cerca de un margen de 2 a 1, 63 por ciento

contra 37 por ciento.

Esa encuesta, la única que he visto hasta la fecha, se llevó a cabo el 2 de junio.

Entonces, ¿qué han estado diciendo los principales medios en inglés desde entonces para rectificar la impresión errónea que ellos mismos plantaron?

Comparto unos cuantos ejemplos:

El "Chicago Tribune", 3 de junio: "Los sondeos de salida indicaron que la medida sobre la educación bilingue fué aprobada por un margen de 3 contra 1 de los electores del estado, incluyendo a una mayoría de los residentes hispanos de California, que con esto rechazan el actual sistema en el estado".

El "Washington Post", 3 de junio: "Los sondeos de salida sugieren un apoyo considerable por parte de los hispanos -- el mismo grupo al que los programas de educación bilingue del estado en gran medida están destinados a ayudar".

El "Associated Press", 3 de junio: "El ochenta por ciento de los niños (de California) con habilidad limitada en el inglés son de habla hispana, pero las encuestas sugirieron que la medida tuvo un apoyo amplio entre los electores hispanos".

El congresista republicano

Frank Riggs de California, presidente del subcomité congressional de educación y auspiciador de un proyecto de ley para implementar la propuesta 227 a nivel nacional, 3 de junio: "Quizás la información más importante sobre este voto sea que una cantidad abrumadora de electores hispanos -- el 60 por ciento -- votó a favor de la Propuesta 227".

El "Christian Science Monitor", 4 de junio: "Los expertos dicen que la votación es importante porque dos tercios de los electores latinos del estado apoyaron la propuesta".

Editorial del "Christian Science Monitor", 4 de junio: "Una mayoría del enorme electorado hispano de California votó por la propuesta".

El "Dallas Morning News", 4 de junio: "Los argumentos sobre la medida bilingue no estuvieron tan influenciados por asuntos de raza como aquellos referentes a las iniciativas anteriores (187 y 209). Una razón por esto fué el apoyo considerable que disfrutó la Propuesta 227 entre los electores latinos. Algunas encuestas mostraron que casi la misma cantidad de electores hispanos que

anglosajones estaba a favor de la propuesta, aunque hubo indicaciones de que la votación latina terminó siendo mucho más cerrada el martes".

El "King Features Syndicate", columnista Roger Hernández, 7 de junio: "La medida en contra de la educación bilingue fue aprobada con fuerte apoyo de hispanos. Un gran número de hispanos le dieron la espalda a un programa originalmente creado para el beneficio de niños inmigrantes que no hablan bien el español".

Ese mismo día, Gloria Matta Tuchman, co-auspiciadora de la propuesta, le comentó a Joseph Torres, editor de Hispanic Link, que más del 60 por ciento de latinos votaron a favor de la iniciativa.

Quando Torres le preguntó dónde habían conseguido esta cifra, Tuchman no pudo citar una fuente, pero le aseguró, "Lo ví en los periódicos".

Si contestó equivocadamente a la pregunta que propuse al principio de esta columna, no se sienta mal. Tiene mucha compañía.

(Charlie Erickson, de Washington, DC, es editor en jefe de Hispanic Link News Service.)

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### Bilingual Education:

### Do Hispanics Love It Or Loathe It?

By Charlie Erickson

Most California Hispanics voted in favor of Proposition 227, the statewide initiative designed by millionaire Ron Unz to do away with bilingual education in the Golden State.

True or false? ¿Si o no?

Well, lets see. Mr. Unz had been saying for months that Latinos love him and his proposition. He even intimated that some top Latino leaders, while fearful of saying so publicly, have confided to him that it's a hopeless mess. And the press, like a loyal personal stenographer, has quoted him faithfully.

Before the June 2 election, several voter surveys by mainstream media made Unz look like a prophet. They claimed that Hispanics backed Prop. 227 by margins ranging as high as 3-1.

There were other polls, sponsored by Hispanic media organizations such as the TV network Univision and the nation's largest Spanish-language daily La Opinión, that found just the opposite. Hispanic approval of bilingual education was in the 60 percent-80 percent range.

But they received next to no attention from the English-language press.

Hispanics reporting on Hispanics? Obviously, there could be a bias there.

Then came election day, and the highly respected, reputable Los Angeles Times/CNN survey squad conducted its exit poll. Eureka! A startling statistic emerged: In the voting booths, Hispanics pulled the lever against Unz's initiative by nearly a 2-to-1 margin, 63 percent-37 percent.

That survey, the only one I've seen to date, was June 2. So what have the mainstream papers and others been saying since then to correct the erroneous impression they planted?

Let me share a few examples:

Chicago Tribune, June 3: "Exit polls indicated that the proposed bilingual education measure was approved by a 3-1 ratio of the state's voters, including a majority of California's Hispanic residents who rejected the state's existing system."

Washington Post, June 3: "(T)he exit polls suggest...sizable support from

Hispanics -- the very group that the state's bilingual education programs are designed to help the most."

Associated Press, June 3: "Eighty percent of limited-English children (in California) are Spanish speakers, but polls suggested the measure had wide support among Hispanic voters."

U.S. Rep. Frank Riggs (R-Calif.), chairman of the House Education Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families, and sponsor of legislation to eliminate federal funding for bilingual education, June 3: "Perhaps the most important information about this vote is that an overwhelming number of Hispanic voters -- 60 percent -- voted for Proposition 227."

Christian Science Monitor, June 4: "Experts say the vote is significant because about two-thirds of the state's Latino voters supported the proposition."

Christian Science Monitor (editorial), June 4: "A majority of California's huge Hispanic electorate voted for the proposition."

Dallas Morning News, June 4: "The arguments over the bilingual measure were not as racially charged as those that attended the earlier initiatives, propositions 187 and 209. One reason for this was the heavy support Proposition 227 enjoyed among Latino voters. Some polls showed nearly the same numbers of Hispanic voters favored the proposition as did whites, although there were indications the Latino vote ended up much closer Tuesday."

King Features Syndicate (columnist Roger Hernandez): "Tuesday's anti-bilingual education measure won with strong backing from Hispanics. In effect, large numbers of Hispanics turned against a program originally created for the benefit of immigrant children who do not speak English."

That same day, Prop. 227 co-chair Gloria Matta Tuchman told Hispanic Link editor Joseph Torres that more than 60 percent of Hispanics voted for the initiative. When Torres challenged the figure, Tuchman couldn't cite a source, but, she assured him, "I read it in the papers."

So if you answered wrong the question I posed at the beginning of this column, don't feel bad.

### 1998 Projected Use of Community Development Resources by Grant

#### Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

|                                                               |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Fine Arts Center                                              | \$30,000    |
| Estudio de Artes                                              | No Funding  |
| Step Up to Health                                             | \$5,750     |
| South Plains Aids Resource Center                             | \$20,000    |
| Hub City Sertoma                                              | No Funding  |
| Fire Department - Smoke Detectors                             | \$6,000     |
| SMART Moves                                                   | \$6,545     |
| Summer Youth                                                  | \$75,000    |
| Girl Power                                                    | \$12,650    |
| Parenting Cottage                                             | \$45,000    |
| Court Ordered Visitation Exchange                             | \$47,083    |
| Parks and Recreation - Job Training                           | No Funding  |
| Literacy Outreach                                             | \$8,250     |
| Broadway Festivals                                            | \$3,500     |
| LEARN, Inc.                                                   | No Funding  |
| South Plains Regional Workforce Development Board             | \$120,000   |
| SHAPES                                                        | \$56,000    |
| YWCA - Childcare                                              | \$8,500     |
| Contact Lubbock - Information & Referral                      | No Funding  |
| Contact Lubbock - Kidline                                     | \$25,552    |
| Neighborhood Coordinator                                      | \$33,559    |
| Lubbock United Neighborhood Assoc.(LUNA)- Youth               | No Funding  |
| Lubbock United Neighborhood Assoc.(LUNA)- Curfew              | No Funding  |
| Lubbock United Neighborhood Assoc.(LUNA)- Neighborhood Dev.   | \$12,211    |
| Arnett Benson Neighborhood - Ombudsman Project                | No Funding  |
| Lubbock Housing Finance Corporation - Keys to Homeownership   | \$15,000    |
| Chatman Memorial Center, Inc.                                 | \$61,430    |
| City of Lubbock - Residential Rehabilitation                  | \$600,000   |
| City of Lubbock - Barrier Free Living                         | \$75,000    |
| City of Lubbock - Emergency Repair                            | \$250,000   |
| Lubbock Housing Finance Corporation - Down Payment Assistance | \$200,000   |
| City of Lubbock - Replacement Reserve                         | \$20,000    |
| City of Lubbock - Soft Second Program                         | No Funding  |
| City of Lubbock - Land Disposition                            | \$20,000    |
| City of Lubbock - Rental Reconstruction                       | \$55,000    |
| Lubbock Housing Authority                                     | \$141,000   |
| Our School                                                    | No Funding  |
| YWCA Rehabilitation                                           | No Funding  |
| Environmental Inspection Service & Graffiti Removal           | \$291,698   |
| Catholic Family Services                                      | \$12,859    |
| Chapel Hill Neighborhood                                      | \$15,000    |
| City of Lubbock - Neighborhood Beautification                 | \$85,000    |
| City of Lubbock - Senior Paint Program                        | \$45,000    |
| Interfaith Hospitality                                        | \$45,000    |
| City of Lubbock - Traffic Circles                             | No Funding  |
| Community Housing Resource Board (CHRB)                       | \$46,200    |
| Teen Publication                                              | No Funding  |
| City of Lubbock - Micro Enterprise Program                    | \$80,000    |
| City of Lubbock - Contractor's Apprentice Program             | \$100,000   |
| City Administration (20% cap)                                 | \$413,479   |
| Housing Delivery Services                                     | \$467,667   |
| Indirect City Costs                                           | \$94,067    |
| TOTAL RECOMMENDED CDBG Funding                                | \$3,649,000 |

#### HOME Investment Partnership Program

|                                                          |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| New Construction                                         | \$59,900    |
| Community Housing Resource Board (CHRB) - Operating      | \$50,000    |
| City of Lubbock - Reconstruction Program                 | \$550,000   |
| Community Housing Resource Board (CHRB) - Elderly        | No Funding  |
| Community Housing Resource Board (CHRB) - Lease/Purchase | \$162,300   |
| Lubbock Housing Finance Corporation - Rehabilitation     | \$151,600   |
| City Administration (10% Cap)                            | \$108,200   |
| TOTAL Recommended HOME Funding                           | \$1,082,000 |

#### Emergency Shelter Grants

|                                              |            |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|
| ASK House                                    | \$3,000    |
| Women's Protective Services (WPS)            | \$21,212   |
| West Texas Human Resources Corporation       | No Funding |
| Walker Houses                                | \$7,500    |
| Salvation Army - Homeless Prevention         | \$35,700   |
| Lakeside Services                            | \$2,088    |
| Salvation Army - Essential Services          | \$18,000   |
| Interfaith Hospitality                       | \$15,000   |
| South Plains Children's Shelter - Renovation | \$12,000   |
| Alcohol Recovery                             | \$10,000   |
| South Plains Children's Shelter - Other      | \$2,500    |
| South Plains Aids Resource Center            | \$7,750    |
| City Administration (5% cap)                 | \$6,250    |
| TOTAL Recommended ESG Funding                | \$141,000  |

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