

Minority Count May Suffer

SALT LAKE CITY - The nation's fast-growing Hispanic minority and already small American Indian population would both shrink significantly if the government makes suggested changes in the way it counts people, a major study found.

A federal survey of nearly 60,000 households found that adding a "multiracial" category cut the number of people calling themselves American Indian and Alaskan natives, reducing their numbers from about 1 percent of respondents to three-quarters of a percent.

And making Hispanic origin a category listed alongside white and black reduced the estimate of that population even more dramatically. It went from nearly 11 percent - roughly the same as the black population - to as little as 7.5 percent.

Ruth McKay, a researcher with the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, presented the findings this weekend at the annual conference of the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

The federal government has been struggling for several years with criticisms of the way it asks people about their race and ethnic background. Couples in interracial marriages, for example, complain that their mixed-race children have no appropriate category to check off on many official forms.

All sorts of government record keeping is based on standards set in 1977 by the federal Office of Management and Budget. Any change, which OMB is not likely to make until 1997, will mean that the next census, crime reports, studies on discrimination and affirmative action and untold other documents will introduce categories inconsistent with past surveys.

The new categories might be more socially meaningful, but "you'd have all these asterisks," said Tom W. Smith of the National Opinion Research Center in Chicago.

Some interest groups would see their constituencies fracture or shrink, and both gov-

ernment and private programs could lose money, other researchers said.

"It's not just a matter of pride and ethnic identity," said Al Gollin of the Freedom Forum Media Studies Center. Media outlets sell commercials, political analysts study voting, and universities and hospitals get grants based on racial and ethnic figures.

The Census has had a problem counting Hispanics because of the way they react to first being asked whether they are black, white, Asian or Pacific Islander. Many check "other."

"They write in their nationality - Mexican or Salvadoran - and when they get to the Hispanic origin question, 10 million of them skip it," McKay said. Research showed they thought they already answered it.

The bureau tried some variations in a supplement to the May 1995 Current Population Survey, which combines telephone and personal interviews of a nationally representative sample to measure

the monthly unemployment rate.

Half the families were asked the Hispanic question before the race question; the other half got a single, combined Hispanic origin-race question. Half of each half also was given the option of choosing "multiracial."

The new multiracial category did not significantly affect the black percentage, but instead drew people away from the categories for "something else" and Indian. That could affect the Bureau of Indian Affairs' funding, McKay said.

Eliminating the separate Hispanic question cut that population's estimate because Cuban-Americans and people who trace their ancestry to Spain tended to pick "white" over "Hispanic" when forced to choose, McKay said.

Her research and other studies presented at the conference also found that vast numbers of Americans - mostly white - don't care that much about their racial labels and some are baffled by questions about their ancestry.

News Briefs

Immigration Posse Prowl Airports

As the national debate on immigration continues apace, San Diego's international airport has become the latest focus of attention by border control activists, according to a report this weekend in the Los Angeles Times.

Encouraged by a conservative talk show host, the group calling itself the Airport Posse has formed to eyeball passengers boarding late night and early morning flights.

The posse's goal is to discourage illegal immigrants who might be looking for an airborne way to evade the Border Patrol checkpoints along Interstates 5 and 15 as they attempt to venture to cities beyond San Diego.

Wearing navy blue and gold T-shirts with the words "U.S. Citizen Patrol" on the back and a logo on the front that looks amazingly like the Border Patrol insignia, posse members for the last month have been watching and taking notes. Occasionally they politely prod airline personnel to adhere to a Federal Aviation Administration rule requiring all passengers to show a government-issued photo identification.

"What's next?" asked Herman Baca, chairman of the National City-based Committee on Chicano Rights. "Are these self-appointed vigilantes going to start stopping children going to school, families going to church, people of Mexican ancestry shopping at Price Club?"

Then as now, talk show host Roger Hedgecock, a former San Diego mayor, is at the center of the anti-illegal immigration movement. His page on the World Wide Web refers to "Roger's Airport Posse" and provides the phone number where posse organizers can be reached.

On July 4, Hedgecock and others plan a mass "Hands Across the Border" protest, possibly with hundreds of people showing their displeasure over illegal immigration. If the past is a guide, there will also be counter-protesters and a flock of reporters and cameras.

"Janet Reno said you can't close down the border," said posse member Christy King. "We're going down there, hold hands and show that you can close the border if you want."

There will also be protests when San Diego hosts the Republican National Convention from Aug. 12 to 15. For several days Hedgecock talked on his radio program of promoting a mass "mooning of Mexico," in response to illegal immigrants who bare their buttocks when they spot protesters in the distance.

Hedgecock has since dropped the mooning idea, so the details of the convention protest are still unclear, except that it will be vocal and sizable.

Linking Welfare Benefits to Education Studied

A study has concluded linking aid benefits to school attendance has failed to keep Wisconsin children in classrooms, but another study has found a similar program in Ohio to be effective, reports The New York Times.

Wisconsin's Learnfare program, which cuts welfare benefits for families with children who quit or skip school repeatedly, "had no detectable effect on school participation," according to the Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau.

But Gov. Tommy Thompson says he has reduced the welfare rolls by 35 percent since taking office in 1987. Responding to the study, the governor's chief of staff, John Matthews, called it "seriously flawed." He contended that reductions in the welfare rolls and in high school dropout rates showed that Thompson's policies were successful.

An analysis of a program with similar aims in Ohio found it to be successful in motivating young people to graduate or earn a General Educational Development diploma. The Ohio program increases welfare checks by \$62 monthly for each teen-age parent who stays in school, and docks each recipient \$62 for dropping out.

Among the teen-age parents on welfare who took part in the Ohio LEAP program, 46 percent went on to complete high school or get a GED diploma, compared with 39 percent of those in a control group.

The Ohio program was analyzed by Manpower Demonstration Research Corp., an agency that frequently designs and directs national pilot programs for the federal government. Judy Gueron, president of that group, said that Ohio's program was successful because people who would not otherwise do so were finishing high school or getting GED diplomas.

In Wisconsin, two earlier studies by the audit bureau had found that Learnfare was making a difference for some students, especially dropouts, teen-age parents and children who live outside Milwaukee County. But the latest study, released last month, said that those benefits "were no longer evident."

Aging U.S. Pop. to Have Huge Impact

The new Census report, "65+ in the United States," forecasts that the estimated 33 million Americans over age 65 in 1995 will grow to 53 million by 2020 and 80 million by 2050, reports Associated Press.

And those age 85 and above, will be the fastest growing segment, expected to double to 7 million by 2020 and to nearly 19 million by 2050.

"These oldest old men, and more frequently women, are much more likely than the young-old to live in nursing homes, to have substantial disabilities and to have quite restricted financial resources," said Linda Waite, director of the Center on Aging at the University of Chicago.

While most older people today receive assistance from their families or spouses, that could change, she warned.

"The next 50 years may see sizable increases in the proportion of older men and women who lack family to help them," Waite said. "More will reach older ages without ever having married; more will spend the end of their lives having divorced and not remarried....And baby boomers had relatively small families, giving them few children to call on for help later."

"The aging of the population is changing American society in fundamental ways," said Richard M. Suzman, who heads the demography office in the government's National Institute on Aging. "It's the equivalent of the waves of immigrants who came to the country, or the urban-

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



EL EDITOR

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Empleados Ethnicos del Depto. de USDA Acusan Prejuicio en Agencia

Por Patricia Guadalupe

La Coalición de Empleados Minoritarios (CME en inglés) del Departamento Federal de Agricultura (USDA en inglés) ha acusado a la mayor dependencia del gobierno federal de "discriminación muy extendida, represalias e imposibilidad de avance para las personas de color".

"El Presidente dijo que la igualdad de empleo es indispensable para competir y tener éxito en el siglo que viene, pero esa señal no ha llegado al USDA", dice el presidente de la CME, Lawrence Lucas.

USDA es una amplia red de dependencias a través de toda la nación, y tiene jurisdicción sobre programas que incluyen programas agrícolas para trabajadores migrantes y programas sobre el mercadeo agrícola. De sus 88,649 empleados, el 5% son hispanos. Sólo el 2% de los trabajos de alto rango están ocupados por latinos; el 77% de estas plazas están ocupadas por anglosajones.

"De modo que, ¿quién está beneficiándose realmente de la acción afirmativa? Cuando se deja fuera de la cuenta a los puestos políticos dentro del departamento, donde definitivamente existe más diversidad, el porcentaje salta al 90%", dice Lucas. Los anglosajones forman el 49% del personal de carrera dentro del departamento.

"El problema resulta especialmente agudo para los latinos", dice Rudy Arredondo, presidente de la Alianza de Dirigencia Hispana (HOLA

en inglés), el grupo de empleados latinos. "Mientras que otros hablan del llamado 'techo de vidrio', de la falta de oportunidad, nosotros los latinos ni siquiera nos hemos levantado de la alfombra".

Arredondo agrega que muchos programas de beneficio para la comunidad latina, incluyendo al Servicio de Vivienda Rural, han sido recientemente rebajados gravemente, disminuyendo el personal latino. "Ya no estamos allí para asegurarnos de que haya igualdad y tampoco sabemos qué programas podrían estar disponibles para la comunidad", dijo.

Lucas dice que el prejuicio, el hostigamiento y la conducta de condescendencia son tan extensos que las personas tienen miedo a hablar por temor de ser trasladadas o rebajadas en puesto y salario. Un informe de un grupo de trabajo dentro del departamento sobre Igualdad de Oportunidades y Diversidad fue "diluido, y pasado por alto". El informe también indica que el clima de trabajo dentro de la dependencia federal es muy hostil para los que no sean anglosajones.

En 1994, el entonces Secretario de Agricultura Mike

Espy, que se había referido al departamento como "la última plantación", en referencia a los años de esclavitud del siglo pasado, estableció el grupo de trabajo para estudiar las quejas de los empleados sobre la diversidad y la igualdad de oportunidades.

Un informe de 1995, preparado por la Oficina de Contabilidad del Gobierno (GAO en inglés), el brazo investigador del Congreso, halló cierta cantidad de obstáculos en USDA, incluyendo "apatía de la gerencia para lograr las metas y los objetivos de acción afirmativa de sus respectivas unidades; conducta estereotípica y falta de penalidades para los administradores que dejan de mantener un ambiente libre de discriminación".

Un informe preparado ese mismo año por la oficina de los derechos civiles del departamento, evaluó cuatro asuntos: responsabilidad, subrepresentación y sub-utilización, administración de las quejas y recursos y estructura. El informe encontró problemas semejantes a los identificados por el informe de la GAO y recomendó que las dependencias de USDA

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Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

Okay, I made a mistake. There were more than 30 Chicano graduates in my class... as pointed out by Pancho Gutiérrez who also graduated with me in the class of 67 from



Lubbock...there were about 60. There were 453 graduates from Lubbock High this year...about 50% were Chicanos...certainly a vast improvement but if we look at the percentages, we are probably not up to parity.

Recently the school have had good progress in keeping kids in schools but a lot remains to be done to provide cultural enrichment programs and courses in order to elevate our students' self esteem and pride in our history and culture.

Pico de Gallo

Residents in Arnett Benson are involved in having marches in order to bring attention to gangs and drugs that plague their community. Last week some 100 residents took to the street for the third time. In an interview with the A-J, City Councilman Victor Hernandez was quoted as saying that such marches would bring down property values. The A-J gave emphasis to this statement and less emphasis to some of the other statements made by Hernandez about economic development in Arnett Benson. Many residents were upset with Hernandez. In all probability, both the community and Hernandez are at fault. The community for believing the A-J and Hernandez for not communicating directly instead of through the A-J.



Residentes del Arnett Benson se juntaron este pasado fin de semana para traer atención a la problema de gangas y drogras en su comunidad. Mas de 150 personas asistieron.

Photo por Omar Rodriguez

Latino Alumni Groups Adjust To Retain Ties with Graduates

By John Blackburn
(First of two parts)

As the number of Hispanics earning college diplomas increases, Latino alumni associations and universities with large ethnic enrollments are rethinking how to establish lasting ties between graduates and their alma mater.

The 1980s saw dozens of groups established in the wake of a surge in Hispanic college enrollment.

The trend in the '90s has been toward reorganization, as some earlier efforts faltered with the departure of key players and the realization that recent college graduates are often not the best candidates for alumni recruitment.

Latino graduates of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for example, formed their association in 1987 around a core group interested in exposing junior high school students to opportunities in science and engineering.

After a second cycle of the project was completed in 1989, recounts MIT Hispanic alumni president Víctor Quintana, some members left the area for career opportuni-

ties elsewhere and the group disbanded.

"The group of alumni in the Boston area was not that big and many were recent graduates starting their careers and didn't have a lot of free time.

"What will have to happen is more time to pass for people to graduate, do well in their careers, and then free up time for community service," Quintana, a 1982 graduate in electrical engineering, says.

A more permanent framework is key to the future of Hispanic alumni organizations, cat seems only fitting. Max and the Beatles are eternally linked, not so much for their work together — they did only one major joint project, the 1968 film "Yellow Submarine" — but because they are pop icons of the 1960s now up in New York City near the university. We discovered it was hard to get in touch with people elsewhere.

"We have restructured in the last few months with individuals in different regions who are the contacts for the local Princeton organizations."

Computers may solve part of the communication problem, Quintana says. "Getting

together is difficult but I'm thinking the Internet may help overcome that barrier."

Latino alumni groups have also discovered they need to explore new relationships with their universities' central alumni associations, in which they usually function as special interest groups.

"They are struggling with the concept of affiliated groups," said Gorbea-Díaz. "They are afraid their alumni group is going to fragment. The tradition is (to organize by) graduating classes."

After 18 years of organizing a special Chicano commencement ceremony at Fresno State University in California, Chicano Alumni Association president Manuel Olgin convinced the university to institutionalize the event.

"The whole thrust was to make the bilingual, bicultural ceremony a university function. My support got tired and frankly, I did, too. It now has a mail address, an office and university support instead of being done out of my garage," Olgin explains.

He wrote his master's thesis

in social work on Chicano alumni associations.

A further challenge to Hispanic alumni organization is posed by the changing profile of student bodies; many older students now pursue college degrees.

At Stanford University's fifth annual Chicano/Latino Alumni Symposium in January, students asked alumni to share their experience in balancing family, marriage and careers.

Forty-five percent of students at Fresno State are non-traditional, said Olgin, who is coordinator of student leadership and Greek affairs at the school. "We want their contact with the alumni association to be part of the good experience they have at the university. Those good memories are our kindling that can keep that warm fire going."

(Next: As raising funds remains a central concern, Hispanic alumni groups react to attacks on race-based scholarships and proposals such as California's Proposition 187.)

John Blackburn, of Tucson, Ariz., is a free-lance writer.
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Los Grupos Latinos Se Ajustan Para Conservar Vinculos

Por John Blackburn
(Primera de dos partes)

A medida que la cantidad de hispanos que obtienen diplomas universitarios aumenta, las asociaciones de ex-alumnos latinos y las universidades que tienen matriculas étnicas numerosas estan volviendo a pensar sobre el modo de establecer vinculos duraderos entre los graduados y su alma mater.

El decenio de 1980 me cansé yo. Ahora tiene una dirección postal, una oficina y el apoyo de la universidad, en vez de hacerse con sede en mi garage", explica Olgin. El redactó su tesis de maestría en trabajo social acerca de las asociaciones fracasaron con la partida de jugadores importantes y la realización de que los graduados recientes de las universidades no son a menudo los mejores candidatos para el reclutamiento de alumnos.

Los graduados latinos del Instituto de Tecnología de

Massachusetts (MIT en inglés), por ejemplo, formaron su asociación en 1987 alrededor de un núcleo central interesado en exponer a los estudiantes de las escuelas intermedias a las oportunidades en las ciencias y la ingeniería.

Después que se terminó el segundo ciclo del proyecto en 1989, recuerda el presidente de los antiguos alumnos hispanos de MIT, Víctor Quintana, algunos miembros se fueron de la zona para ocupar plazas en otros lugares y el grupo se deshizo.

"El grupo de antiguos alumnos de la zona de Boston no era muy numeroso y muchos eran graduados recientes que comenzaban sus carreras y no tenían mucho tiempo libre.

"Lo que tendrá que suceder es que transcurra más tiempo para que las personas se gradúen, les vaya bien en sus carreras y entonces dispongan de tiempo para servicio comunitario", dice Quintana,

que se graduó en 1982 de ingeniería eléctrica.

Un enmarque más permanente es la clave para el futuro de las organizaciones de ex-alumnos hispanos, concurre Nellie Gorbea-Díaz, presidenta de la Asociación de Antiguos Alumnos Latinos de la Universidad de Princeton.

"El quid está en comenzar una organización nacional con voluntarios, lo cual es un desafío. Cuando empezamos en 1988 teníamos un grupo dedicado en la ciudad de Nueva York, cerca de la universidad. Descubrimos que era difícil comunicarse con las personas en otros lugares.

"Nos hemos re-estructurado en los meses recientes con personas de distintas regiones que son los contactos para las organizaciones locales de Princeton.

Las computadoras pueden resolver una parte del problema de la comunicación, dice Quintana. "Es difícil

reunirse, pero estoy pensando que la Internet puede ayudar a superar ese obstáculo".

Los grupos de ex-alumnos latinos han descubierto también que necesitan explorar nuevas relaciones con las asociaciones centrales de ex-alumnos de sus universidades, en las cuales ellos funcionan de costumbre como grupos de intereses especiales.

"Ellos están luchando con el concepto de los grupos afiliados", dijo Gorbea-Díaz. "Tienen miedo de que su grupo de ex-alumnos vaya a fragmentarse. La tradición es organizarse por clases de graduados".

Después de 18 años de organizar una ceremonia de graduación especial chicana en la Universidad Estatal de Fresno, en California, el presidente de la Asociación de Ex-Alumnos Chicanos, Manuel Olgin, convenció a la universidad para que institucionalizara

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Bob Dull for President ?

by Alberto Pena

Senator Bob Dole, the Republican Presidential candidate, announced that he will resign as Majority Leader of the US Senate in order to devote himself to winning the White House in November.

The announcement received the usual spin along political lines as expected, but what was unexpected was that "Bob Dull" actually expects to be anything but the usual Dull Bob.

A neutral observer must wonder about Bob Dull's appeal to independent voters since it is the middle of the road swing voters who elect the President. It is generally accepted that conservatives vote for the conservative candidate while liberal candidates receive the liberal vote. It is necessary therefore that any presidential contender win the swing vote. A candidate's own party vote is usually not enough to win.

The republican party hopes to sell Bob Dull as "Citizen Bob - the average American", but the "Beltway Bob" label is well deserved: indeed it is well earned. Therefore the obvious question must be: Can his four decades long inside the beltway, back-room wheeler-dealer, quick-to-wavier reputation escape election year scrutiny? Much of what is perceived to be wrong: with America happened on his watch largely due to career politicians like Mr. Dull who failed to stand on principle, demonstrate core beliefs, or champion issues to benefit the whole of America. Instead Mr. Dull and the republicans have aligned themselves with special interests groups such as the radical National Rifle Association (NRA) whose core belief includes legalizing assault weapons the purpose of which is to kill or maim innocent citizens. Despite the pain and sufferings of the innocent, the NRA and Republicans adamantly champion unrestricted gun ownership. Such platforms have little appeal to moderate voters.

Contrast this to the President who possesses the power of the incumbent, enjoys solid support, and is highly skilled at bringing to the debate the differences between him and the republicans and November results appear to be a foregone conclusion. Senator Dull is no match for a master campaigner like Bill Clinton. To further complicate matters it is now rumored that the hopeful Bob Dull lacks the finances to run a national campaign. Mr. Clinton must be feeling a bit disappointed, beating Bob Dull will simply be too easy. He'll miss the good fight.

This week's White water verdicts were welcomed with glee by republican spin masters, but, any astute observer would recognize the verdicts for what they truly are - the conviction of three dishonest business people which have nothing to do with the President who has never been charged or implicated in any fashion whatsoever. A sensible observer remains unconvinced about republican allegations which if valid would have certainly led to some charges being filed considering the zeal of the special investigator. A Republican strategy based on the convictions of the President's old business partners is flawed at best and akin to the proverbial grasping for straws.

The President's supporters have stood firmly at his side for the past 3 years and there is little cause for them to waiver now. Most have dealt with business partners in one fashion or another sometime during their life time and recognize that the honest partner has little control or fault over the actions of the unscrupulous. While most political observers would exercise caution this early in an election year, this writer believes that the following prediction is warranted: Bill Clinton will be reelected in November. At worst this prediction is only 50% wrong., but it's not dull.

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Politics as Usual

by Todd Klien

There's quite a bit of commotion currently in Washington over whether to repeal the gas tax. This is Washington politics as usual. Bob Dole who continues to trail in the polls desperately needs an issue he can throw at the president. Remembering how badly the gas crisis during the Carter Administration hurt that president's re-election efforts Dole now sees a foothold.

Bill Clinton supported the tax increase of four-and-a-half cents as part of an effort to bring down the deficit. And despite the fact that throughout his career in congress Dole has voted to increase the gas tax by a dime, the Clinton Administration is caving on the issue, because they feel it is easier to strike a bargain with the Republicans in congress. The administration is attaching an increase in the minimum wage to the removal of the tax. But what is intriguing is the trend that is beginning to develop.

It is becoming apparent that Bob Dole's election theme of "its my turn" has lots of room for hypocrisy as well as contradiction. His call to remove less than five cents from the gas tax after having supported raising the gasoline tax a full 10 cents has about as much credibility as his earlier campaign posturing. Dole's campaign to rid us of that tax hike, which if repealed will save the average family about twenty dollars a year, sounds a lot like his election cry of running to ward off any more of Clinton's liberal appointments to the bench.

Of the 184 appointments Clinton has made so far Dole has approved 182 of them. And the American Bar Association has rated those appointments as in keeping with the judicial appointments of such presidents as Nixon, Ford, and Bush.

So long as Dole can run a campaign of voting one way and campaigning another he will apparently continue to do this, witness his latest speech on foreign policy. Billed as one where Dole would draw a stark contrast between himself and Clinton, the only difference really drawn is apparently over style not substance. Ultimately, after much brooding Dole aligned himself with the administration's position on renewing "Most Favored Nation" status to China.

Pandering to the whims of the moment and offering momentary relief such as the gas tax cut over long term solutions like the economic benefits of deficit reduction won't help the country. And if the public sees through such ploys they won't help his presidential run either.

Policy Alerts

from the Center for Community Change

Victory on Minimum Wage

BACKGROUND: The House of Representatives passed a 90 cents an hour increase in the minimum wage this week, with 77 Republicans breaking ranks to support the proposal. Advocates also defeated an amendment that would have exempted small businesses from the increase, a loophole which would have denied the raise to 10 million minimum wage workers. The amendment, sponsored by Rep. Goodling [R-PA], was opposed by 43 Republicans.

The measure now goes to the Senate, where passage is also expected. CCC Policy Alert subscribers sent dozens of letters to Congress during the past few weeks in support of this increase, and deserve credit for their part in this victory.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jerry Jones at 202/342-0567.

Final Week to Endorse Youth Employment Sign-On Letter

BACKGROUND: This is the last week to endorse the national sign-on letter supporting a Department of Labor pilot program that would provide \$250 million for youth employment opportunities next year. The initiative, called Opportunity Areas for Out-of-School Youth, would be a competitive program with grants targeted to neighborhoods of high unemployment. Local areas fitting the Enterprise Zone/Empowerment Community definition would be eligible to apply. (Eligibility would not be restricted to EZ/EC grantees.)

Statutory authority already exists to create Opportunity Areas. The sign-on letter supports the Administration's budget request of \$250 million. The deadline to sign on is Friday, May 31. Endorsers will be listed alphabetically by organizational name. The letter will be distributed to House and Senate appropriators.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jerry Jones at (202) 342-0567.

Community Reinvestment Act Update: We Hate to Say It, But...

BACKGROUND: The chances are increasing for a bank "regulatory relief" bill to head to the House floor within the next two or three weeks. House Banking Chairman James Leach [R-IA] earlier this week wrote the Republican leadership in his chamber asking for an opportunity to report a banking bill to the floor as soon as possible. Leach believes he has won over the powerful financial interests, which fortunately for the community side, have stymied his bill from going forward for months now.

The expected legislative vehicle for floor action now appears to be H.R. 2520, the Financial Services Competitiveness and Regulatory Relief Act of 1995. H.R. 2520 currently includes a series of anti-CRA provisions and rollbacks to certain existing consumer protection requirements. This far reaching banking bill also permits banks and securities companies to own one another and sets potential limits on the authority of banks to sell insurance products.

In a related development, Leach two weeks ago indicated

his intention to drop "controversial CRA" elements from H.R. 2520. Leach was vague, but community reinvestment activists were encouraged by his statement. However, it now appears that Leach and his staff have no intention of dropping the provisions in H.R. 2520 that abolish opportunities for community input into bank mergers and other expansions, other provisions that reduce by one-third the number of lenders reporting under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, and who knows what else.

Community groups should begin preparing for some quick action. More details next week.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allen Fishbein or Debby Goldberg, at CCC's Neighborhood Revitalization Project, 202/342-0567 or fax to 202/333-5462.

Conferees to Move Quickly on Public Housing Bills

BACKGROUND: Congressional staff are already holding informal discussions on the public housing reform bills passed by the House and Senate. Formal conference negotiations to reconcile HR 2406 and S 1260 are likely to begin right after the Memorial Day recess.

National advocates are focusing on ten issues of concern. The top four priority areas are: rents; income targeting, self-sufficiency contracts (time-limited leases); and the 300 PHA demonstration project (Moving to Work...). The other areas of concern are: voucherization; resident participation; grievance procedure; tenant rights; occupancy standards; and CDBG, HOME changes.

Last week Senator Kerry [MA] circulated a Dear Colleague letter to all members of the Senate that urges them to endorse the Senate position on repeal of the Brooke amendment in a letter to Banking Committee Chairperson D'Amato. The Senate bill would only repeal the 30% of income rent cap for those earning more than 50% of area median income (AMI). The House bill repeals the cap for those at more than 30% of AMI, exempting the elderly, disabled, and veterans.

An analysis by the National Housing Law Project shows that, in 95% of localities for which HUD calculates AMI, those at 30% of AMI are living below the national poverty line. Moreover, in 831 localities (throughout 39 states), the AMI is so low that anyone who moves from welfare into a minimum wage job would lose the Brooke protection and face unlimited rent increases. Clearly, if the sponsors of the House bill truly intended to support working families, they would not have eliminated rent protections for that very population.

ACTION NEEDED:

Urge your senators to sign-on to the Kerry letter to D'Amato regarding the Brooke amendment. Your senator's staffer can call Paul Weech or Amy Randel at the Banking Committee directly at 202/224-9204 to sign-on. If you would like to receive a copy of the Kerry letter, call Fax-on-Demand at 703/716-7349 and request document # 1170.

Urge your senators to send an individual letter to D'Amato that raises his/her concerns regarding: maximum rent limits (Brooke) and minimum rents; targeting to low-income people; self-sufficiency contracts/time limited leases; and complete deregulation of 300 PHAs.

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A Real Texas Tale of David & Goliath

By Victor Landa

"As Goliath approached, David ran out to meet him and, reaching into his shepherd's bag, took out a stone, hurled it from his sling, and hit the Philistine in the forehead."

----- 1 Samuel 17:48

The comparison may be too easy, but it's irresistible. There has seldom been a time when politics or politicians captures the imagination of the electorate as has Victor Morales in his campaign to represent Texas in the United States Senate.

Morales moved a giant step closer this month. The Goliath, seven-term Congressman John Bryant of Dallas, stood in the field with his Philistine army of Democratic heavyweights. Bryant spent \$600,000 in his campaign to beat the lightly regarded Mesquite high school teacher, whose campaign pot totaled less than \$50,000.

But in the end, the little man prevailed, winning 51 percent of the Democratic primary run-off vote, and with it the right to face incumbent Republican Sen. Phil Gramm, an even greater giant, come November.

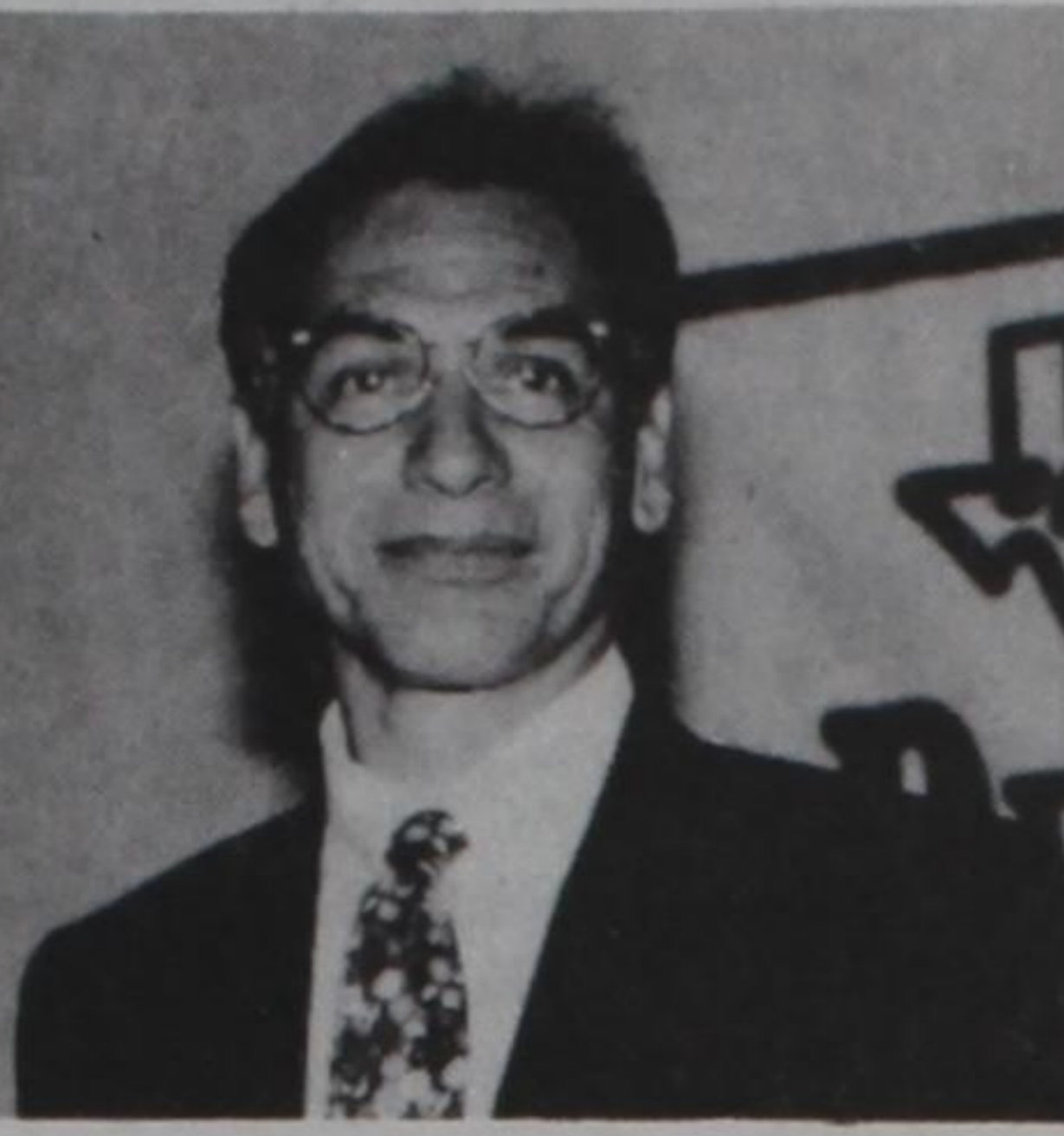
What Morales has accomplished so far needed to be accomplished, if only to quiet the cynics. He is, in a figurative sense, David the shepherd slinging smooth stones at the giants in his path. The parallel is almost trite.

"When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they turned and ran."

----- 1 Samuel 17:51

Morales' candidacy has now taken on an importance that the Democratic Party is only beginning to understand. The last thing the party leaders should do is turn and run.

Texas is of major importance in national electoral politics. It's a state where Bill Clinton found little support in



the 1992 election. A candidate who can rally a statewide victory on a campaign chest of \$50,000 and a pickup truck could do wonders to bring Clinton/Gore supporters to the polls. This is especially true in the case of Hispanic voters. After all of the ballots were counted in the April 9 Democratic Party runoff, only 11,728 votes out of nearly half a million stood between Morales and Bryant. The tally: Morales 248,163, Bryant 236,435.

The bulk of Morales' support came from south Texas. Geography, math and logic tell us that it very well could have been the Hispanic bloc vote that made the difference.

This year the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project plans to register 1 million new voters nationwide in time for November. At least one-third of these will be registered in Texas. It makes good political sense for the Democratic Party to jump head-first onto the Morales bandwagon, but it makes just as much good sense that they stay away.

"King Saul now kept David at Jerusalem and wouldn't let him return home anymore."

----- 1 Samuel 18:2

Morales was able to win precisely because of his lack of support from the legions of party controllers, fundraisers and strategists. I

don't think he could win in spite of them.

Gramm already boasts \$3.5 million for his campaign, which kicks off in earnest on Labor Day. He has years of campaign and government experience, and he is riding high on the Republican swell. He has been immensely popular among those who bother to go to the polls. In the March 12 state GOP primary, he attracted 85 percent of the vote. It was the first time in Texas history that more Republicans -- 1,020,000 -- voted in the primary than Democrats -- 921,000.

The Democrat Party leaders, meanwhile, have lost their preferred contender and seem to have no idea what to do with a candidate whose main support has been a pickup truck.

"Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "How can a boy like you fight with a man like him?"

----- 1 Samuel 17:33

If Victor Morales has come this far on five smooth stones and a slingshot, why not let him take aim again?

The best thing that state Democratic Party chairman Bill White can do is honestly offer Morales help and the backing of his party, then sit back and learn about what is possible. The worst thing that can happen is that the Democratic Party build the Morales campaign into a machine, and strip it of its human touch.

Can Morales beat Gramm? In Victor Morales' life, the odds have never been more formidable. Just as they were for David.

Victor Landa is news director of Telemundo affiliate KVDA-TV in San Antonio.

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Una Historia Real de David Y Goliath en Texas

Por Victor Landa

"Mientras Goliath se aproximaba, David salió de las filas y corrió a enfrentarsele, y metiendo la mano en su zurzón, sacó una piedra, la lanzó con la honda, e hirió al filisteo en la frente."

Samuel, 17: 48.

La comparación puede ser demasiado fácil, pero es irresistible. Hay pocas veces un momento en el que la política o los políticos capten la imaginación del electorado, como lo ha hecho Víctor Morales en su campaña para representar a Texas en el Senado de los Estados Unidos.

Morales dió un paso gigantesco hacia adelante este mes. El Goliath, el Representante de seis períodos John Bryant, de Dallas, estuvo de pie en el campo con su ejército filisteo de gigantes demócratas. Bryant gastó \$300,000 en su campaña para derrotar al maestro de escuela secundaria de Mesquite, considerado ligeramente, cuyo cofre de campaña totalizaba \$50,000.

Pero al final, el hombrecito predominó, ganando el 51% de la votación primaria demócrata decisiva, y con ello el derecho a enfrentarse al titular republicano, el Senador Phil Gramm, un gigante aún mayor, al llegar noviembre.

Lo que Morales ha logrado hasta la fecha, necesitaba lograrse, aunque fuera para hacer callar a los cínicos. El es, en sentido figurativo, David el pastor lanzando piedras alisadas a los gigantes que hay en su camino. El paralelo es casi trillado.

"Viendo los filisteos que había muerto su campeón, huyeron."

Samuel, 17:51.

La candidatura de Morales ha asumido ahora una importancia que el Partido Demócrata está sólo empezando a comprender. Lo último que los dirigentes del partido deberían hacer es dar la

vuelta y correr.

Texas es de importancia extraordinaria en la política electoral nacional. Es un estado donde Bill Clinton halló poco apoyo en las elecciones de 1992. Un candidato que puede lograr una victoria estatal con un cofre de campaña de \$50,000 y una camioneta "pick-up" podría hacer maravillas para llevar a los partidarios de Clinton/Gore a las casillas electorales. Esto resulta especialmente cierto cuando se trata de los electores hispanos.

Después que todas las boletas fueron contadas en la elección decisiva del Partido Demócrata el 9 de abril, sólo 11,728 votos de casi medio millón separaban a Morales de Bryant. Los totales: Morales 248,163 y Bryant 236,435.

El grueso del apoyo de Morales llegó del sur de Texas. La geografía, las matemáticas y la lógica nos dicen que muy bien podría haber sido el bloque hispano el que hizo la diferencia.

Este año, el Proyecto del Sur-oeste para la Inscripción y Enseñanza de los Electores se propone inscribir a un millón de electores nuevos a tiempo para las elecciones de noviembre. Por lo menos una tercera parte de éstos se inscribirán en Texas. Tiene buen sentido político para el Partido Demócrata el lanzarse de cabeza al carro de Morales, pero tiene tanto buen sentido que ellos se queden lejos.

"El Rey Saúl retuvo a David aquel día en Jerusalén y no le permitió regresar a casa de su padre."

Samuel, 18:12.

Morales pudo ganar precisamente debido a su falta de apoyo por parte de las legiones de los que controlan al partido, los recaudadores de fondos y los estrategas; no creo que pudiera ganar a pesar de

ellos.

El titular, Senador Phil Gramm, ya se jacta de \$3,500,000 para su campaña, que empezará temprano el Día del Trabajo. El tiene años de experiencia en campañas y en el gobierno, y está figurando en un lugar alto en la expansión republicana.

El ha sido inmensamente popular entre los que se molestan en ir a las casillas electorales. En la primaria estatal del Partido Republicano el 12 de marzo, él atrajo al 85% de la votación. Fue la primera vez en la historia de Texas que más republicanos -- 1,020,000 -- votaron en las primarias que los demócratas -- 921,000.

Los dirigentes del Partido Demócrata, mientras tanto, han perdido a su contendiente favorito y parecen no tener idea de qué hacer con un candidato cuyo apoyo principal ha sido una "pick-up."

"Dijo Saúl a David: "No puedes ir contra ese filisteo para luchar con él, porque tú eres un niño y él es hombre de guerra desde su juventud."

Samuel, 17:33.

Si Victor Morales ha llegado hasta aquí con cinco piedras alisadas y una honda, ¿por qué no dejarle que apunte otra vez?

Lo mejor que el presidente estatal del Partido Demócrata, Bill White, puede hacer, es ofrecer sinceramente ayuda a Morales y el respaldo de su partido, entonces sentarse y aprender acerca de lo que sea posible.

Lo peor que puede suceder es que el Partido Demócrata convierta la campaña de Morales en una máquina, y la despoje de su toque humano.

¿Puede Morales vencer a Gramm?

En la vida de Víctor Morales, las probabilidades nunca han sido más formidables. Igual que lo fueron para David.

\$4 MILLONES
NO
SON

\$4 MILLONES
SON

Hay quienes piensan que \$4 millones de dólares no son más que cacahuates, los suficientes para causar una estampida de elefantes. En realidad el premio mayor de LOTTO Texas es un montón de dinero y no de maní.



Employees Accuse USDA

By Patricia Guadalupe

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Coalition of Minority Employees has accused the federal government's largest agency of "widespread discrimination, reprisals and glass ceilings for people of color."

"The President said equal employment opportunity is essential to compete and succeed in the next century, but that signal has not been heard within the walls and halls of the USDA," says CME president Lawrence Lucas.

The USDA contains a vast network of agencies nationwide with jurisdiction over programs that include migrant farming and agricultural marketing. Of its 88,649 employees, 5 percent are Hispanic. Only 2 percent of senior-level positions are held by Latinos; 77 percent are occupied by Anglo males, who make up 49 percent of the agency's career personnel.

"So who's really benefitting from affirmative action? When you factor out the political appointees, where there is definitely more diversity, the 77 percent figure jumps to 90 percent," says Lucas.

"The problem is particularly acute for Latinos," says Rudy Arredondo, president of the Hispanic Organization Leadership Alliance, the group of Latino employees. "While others talk of the glass ceiling, we haven't even gotten off the carpet."

Arredondo adds that many programs of benefit to the Latino community, including the Rural Housing Service, have been severely cut in recent months, reducing

Latino personnel. "We're not there to make sure there's equity and we also don't know what (programs) could be available (to the community)," he says.

Lucas says the prejudice, harassment and condescending behavior is "so rampant" that people are afraid to come forward for fear they might be transferred or demoted. He contends that a recent report to the Secretary's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Equal Opportunity and Diversity was "watered down, whitewashed and ignored" and that the department's climate is "good ol' boy business as usual."

In 1994, then-Secretary Mike Espy, who had referred to the department as "the last plantation," established the blue ribbon panel to address employee concerns about diversity and equal opportunity.

A 1995 report prepared by the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, found a number of barriers at USDA, including "senior management apathy to their units' affirmative action goals and objectives, stereotypical thinking, and lack of penalties for managers who fail to keep a discrimination-free atmosphere."

A report prepared that same year by the department's civil rights leadership council addressed four issues: accountability, underrepresentation/underutilization, complaints management, and resources and structure. It found problems similar to those identified by the GAO report and recommended that USDA agencies

incorporate diversity accomplishments into performance reviews.

It also recommended that mentoring and other programs be established to aid in the career development of persons of color and that offices of civil rights be funded on par with other functions within the agency.

Secretary Dan Glickman's report in response to the task force took many of the recommendations "under advisement" but did not adopt the proposals.

One of the internal memos to Glickman, who replaced Espy last year, stated, "Requiring agencies to provide opportunities in these times of dwindling resources and budgets can be perceived negatively by some groups within the work force..."

Lucas claims, "The people who are advising the secretary are part of the problem, and they're still there. A few of them have many complaints directed at them. The secretary's getting bad advice."

USDA spokesperson Laura Trivers says, "The secretary takes this seriously and we continue to investigate."

Coalition members say they are particularly disturbed that the Office of Civil Rights Enforcement has been merged under the functions of the assistant secretary for administration, who handles mostly personnel matters. They are asking that the OCRE report directly to the secretary.

The coalition says it will give Secretary Glickman 60 days to address their concerns and will press for congressional hearings.

(Patricia Guadalupe is editor of the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report in Washington, D.C.)

Alumnos de la Pagina 2

zara al acontecimiento.

Un desafío adicional para la organización de ex-alumnos hispanos queda planteado por el perfil cambiante de los cuerpos estudiantiles; muchos estudiantes más antiguos ahora prosiguen para grados universitarios.

En el Quinto Simposio Anual de la Asociación de Antiguos Alumnos Chicano/Latinos de la Universidad de Stanford, los estudiantes pidieron a los ex-alumnos que compartieran sus experiencias en equilibrar a la familia con el matrimonio y las carreras.

El cuarenta y cinco por ciento de los estudiantes de la Universidad Estatal de Fresno son no tradicionales, dijo Olgin, que es el coordinador de dirigencia estudiantil y asuntos griegos en la escuela. "Queremos que su contacto con la asociación de ex-alumnos sea parte de la buena experiencia que ellos tengan en la universidad. Esos buenos recuerdos son nuestra mecha, que puede mantener encendido ese fuego cálido".

(En el próximo artículo: A medida que la recaudación de fondos continúa siendo una preocupación importante, los grupos de antiguos alumnos hispanos reaccionan a los ataques contra las becas basadas en la raza y las propuestas tales como la Proposición 187 de California.)

John Blackburn, de Tucson, Arizona, es un escritor por cuenta propia.

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News Briefs from page 1

zation and industrialization of the country.

The first members of the massive postwar baby boom generation turn 50 this year, and "when they turn 65 it will have an explosive effect on all facets of society," Suzman said in an interview. Some 75 million people were born in the United States during the boom years, 1946 through 1964.

The effects will reach beyond retirement, health and long-term care, Suzman said. Working-age people increasingly will face hard choices over educating children, caring for parents and saving for their own retirement.

On the positive side, Suzman saw today's Americans approaching retirement years in better health and with more preparedness for coping with aging.

Better overall health and the availability of procedures such as simplified cataract surgery and hip replacement reduces disability and permits more people to remain at work, Suzman said. "We are seeing more and more ability to influence health," he said.

Clinton Renews CARE AIDS Program

President Clinton renewed the Ryan White CARE Act Monday, extending federal AIDS assistance for five years, reports The Chicago Tribune.

Under the law, \$738 million would go toward treatment and support services for AIDS patients, up from \$632 million last year. These services include home and hospice care, transportation and family counseling.

The law also provides \$10 million for implementing guidelines to get pregnant women to voluntarily seek counseling and testing for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Clinton also announced that states would receive \$52 million for providing new AIDS drugs and therapies to HIV patients.

Department Stores Selling Sweatshop Goods

The Labor Department said Monday sweatshop-made goods have been traced to some of the nation's largest retailers, reports Associated Press.

J.C. Penney has been notified for the fourth time in less than a year that it had gotten goods made in a sewing shop that failed to pay its workers the minimum wage and overtime, the department said.

Others receiving sweatshop goods were Talbots Inc., a national women's wear retailer, and Macy's East, Specialty Retailers, Charlotte Russe and Claire's Boutiques. Specialty Retailers is the holding company for Palais Royal and Beall's stores.

None of the retailers face any penalties. But Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich had announced last year that he would make public the names of stores whose goods were produced in violation of U.S. wage laws.

Gel Blocks AIDS Transmission in Monkeys

According to a preliminary study, powerful virus-inhibiting gel appears to be highly effective in blocking transmission of the AIDS virus in monkeys, reports the Chicago Tribune.

The substance, called PMPA, totally stopped transmission of SIV, the monkey version of the AIDS virus, when applied protectively to the animals' vaginas.

"We don't know how this will translate to human beings, but we see the results as very promising and worth pursuing," said Roberta Black of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which financed the study.

Researchers say the gel could be applied vaginally by women before intercourse-or perhaps even afterward-to protect them from the AIDS virus.

Finding a vaginal anti-AIDS compound is an important research goal for use in circumstances when condoms are not available or not wanted, said Zeda Rosenberg of the national allergy institute.

The animal research suggests PMPA may be twice as effective as the spermicide nonoxynol-9, which also kills HIV. Its developers will have to show that PMPA does not cause irritation, which is a drawback of nonoxynol-9.

from page 1

incorporaran los logros en diversidad dentro de las responsabilidades del departamento.

También recomendó que se establecieran programas de tutoría y otros para ayudar en el desarrollo de las personas de color, y que se asignaran fondos a las oficinas de derechos civiles en base de igualdad con otras funciones dentro de la dependencia.

El informe del ahora Secretario de Agricultura Dan Glickman en respuesta al grupo de trabajo puso a muchas de las recomendaciones "bajo estudio", pero no adoptó las propuestas.

Uno de los memorándums interiores dirigidos a Glickman, que sustituyó a Espy el año pasado, decía: "El exigir que las dependencias proporcionen oportunidades de acción afirmativa en estas épocas de pocos recursos y bajos presupuestos puede ser percibido negativamente por algunos grupos dentro del departamento..."

Lucas alega: "Las personas que están asesorando al secretario son parte del problema, y todavía están allí. Algunos de ellos han sido objetos de muchas quejas. El secretario está recibiendo un asesoramiento malo".

La portavoz de USDA, Laura Trivers, asegura a Hispanic Link: "El secretario toma esto en serio y continuamos investigando".

Los miembros de la coalición dicen que les molesta especialmente que la Oficina de Derechos Civiles (OCRE en inglés) haya sido unida con las funciones del subsecretario de administración, que maneja primordialmente los asuntos de personal. Ellos están pidiendo que OCRE reporte directamente al Secretario.

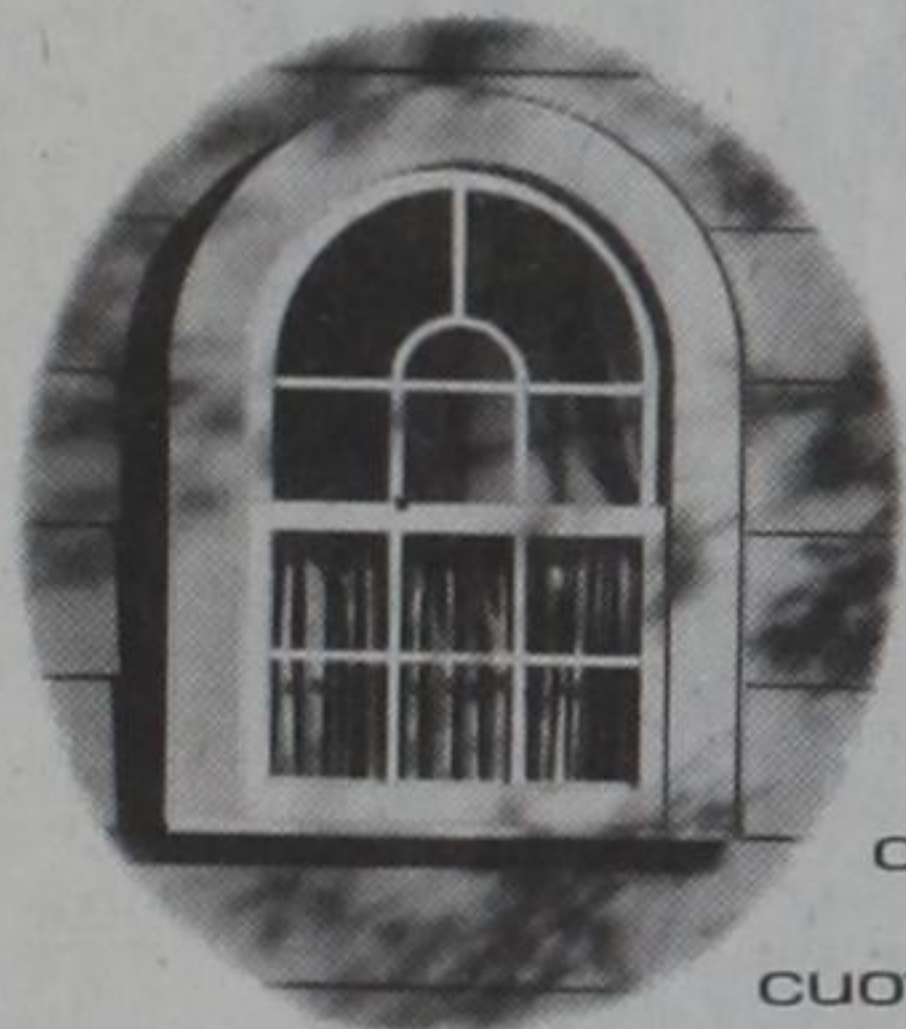
La coalición dice que dará al Secretario Glickman 60 días para estudiar sus quejas, y presionarán para que se lleven acabo audiencias congresionales.

(Patricia Guadalupe es la editora del semanario nacional Hispanic Link Weekly Report, en Washington, D.C.)

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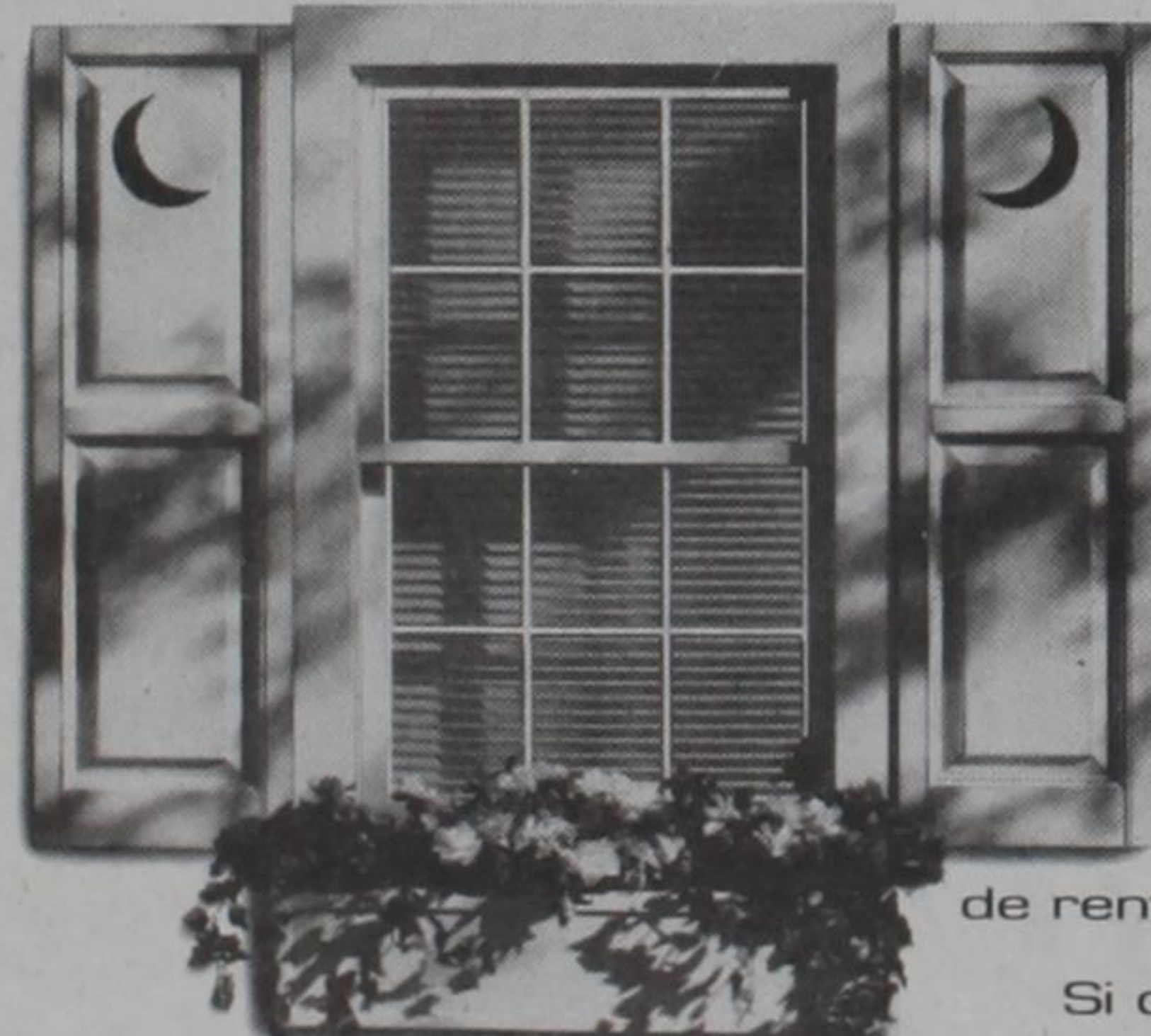
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Remembering Some of Our Heroes

For many here in Lubbock Memorial Day is a day to remember those who fought and died in different wars but for Richard Lopez it brings back memories of a brother who was actually not fighting during the war but rather spent most of it suffering at in a POW camp.

The following is a story reprinted from a Burley newspaper provided to us by Lopez which accounts his brother's experience during WW II.

By JANET FEILER

May 6 is just another day to most of us but World War II veterans remember it as the day Gen. Jonathon Wainwright surrendered the U.S. forces in the Philippines on the island of Corrigador to the Japanese.

Scarred tissue on his shins, white lines under his fingernails and an improperly-healed leg are reminders to Manuel "Manny" Lopez, Burley, of his circumstances 37 years ago when he received the news of Wainwright's surrender. At that time, Lopez had been a Japanese POW a month; after he endured another three years.

Lopez, wounded before his capture on April 6, 1942, was to live through the historic Bataan Death March, torture and malnutrition to be one of 12 survivors in his regiment and, later, be decorated with the Silver Star for bravery.

It was a twist of fate that landed Lopez in the middle of the war. He had joined the Texas-New Mexico National Guard the latter part of 1939 and had gone to the Philippines on maneuvers in 1941. By late November, most of his buddies were enroute home. However, Lopez decided to first take a 15-day leave to Australia. He returned two weeks later to catch a boat home; that trip was delayed more than three years.

The Japanese' surprise attack on the Philippines turned he and others like him into fighting soldiers, equipped with very few weapons and little ammunition.

Fifty-eight year old Lopez, who is now community coordinator for the Cassia County School district, earned the Silver Star for gallantry while fighting in Manila. Several soldiers were holed up in dugouts on the four sides of the Jose Resaul Monument. When three soldiers, operating a machine gun in a dugout on the other side of the monument were killed, Staff Sgt. Lopez braved Japanese fire to crawl around the monument and take over the machine gun. Shortly afterwards, he was wounded in the leg.

His leg went without proper treatment until the end of the war. With only a makeshift splint, the shattered bones healed overlap-

ping. After the war, a metal plate was inserted to extend the bone, but several operations have been necessary since on the weakened limb.

Lopez was captured April 6, 1942 and, along with some 10,000 other survivors, began the historic Corrigador-Bataan Death March to Manila.

"If you fell, you wouldn't get up, they'd kill you," commented Lopez about the 150 miles they walked, day and night. "We lost alot of men in that march."

Lopez and other POWs were moved into Tokyo to work in the coal mines, the rice fields, to dig trenches and build airstrips.

He remembers seeing Philippine women and children killed and of American nurses who committed suicide rather than be touched by Japanese soldiers.

Like many POW's, Manny is a little reluctant to talk about the torture he endured. But a close look at his hands shows while lines where needle-like slivers of wood were forced under the fingernails

as the Japanese attempted to gain information about U.S. weapons. "They thought we were brave, but the real reason we didn't tell them anything was we didn't know anything. We really didn't know about new weapons."

Deep, purple scars on his legs are evidence of another torture. "They put honey or sugar water on your legs, then tied your legs and let big black ants eat on you," he recalls. This was punishment for escape. "We did try to escape a couple of times. One day we were lucky and stayed out three days..."

He tells of the water torture. "They'd tie you on a post and have a "You couldn't stop woking...if you did, they'd run a bayonet through you."

He and the other POW's were fed two bowls of rice a day when



Surrendering

This photo captured from the Japanese shows Gen. Jonathon Wainwright surrendering the Philippines. That speech sent a Burley man on 'the Bataan Death March.'

working; one bowl when not working. Once in a while they were given dried fish which was used like bread. About once a month, they got a canteen of saki.

"I weighed 180 pounds when captured, 90 afterwards...everyone was the same way," said Lopez.

Although the war ended in August, the first contact Lopez and the others in his camp had with Americans was in early October. waterbag making small drips in front of you or on the back of your neck...just far enough where you couldn't reach it with your tongue."

But, says Lopez, one of the worst tortures was when the Red Cross packages arrived during the

holidays. The guards "would eat the food right in front of you."

Most of his time was spent working as a welder on bridges. "We'd build those bridges in the daytime and at night the Americans would blow them up. It almost got to where we resented the Americans for doing that," he smiled.

"The Japanese soldiers left after the (atom) bomb was dropped, but the POWs waited several days because they felt (the Japanese' leaving) was a trick. "They would often do this to fool you...use you for a target," recalled Lopez. After three or four days the POWs started walking out, one at a time, one per day, toward Tokyo Bay. "We went into some of the villages and noticed the Japanese would just stare at us...We didn't know what had happened (that the war had ended) until we saw the American ships."

"Out of my regiment of 1500, 12 of us were left."

Lopez survived, married, moved to Utah and later to Idaho. After fathering 10 children he attended college to earn a bachelor's degree in agriculture.

Manuel Lopez died on March 29 of 1992 and was buried in Havburn, Idaho.

Astros Might

Get New Owner

HOUSTON - A Houston businessman has discussed buying part of the Astros from owner Drayton McLane Jr., whose goal is to sell at least 35 percent of the team as a way to cover financial losses, the Houston Chronicle reported today.

David Wolff, a commercial land developer and auto dealer who represents a group of potential investors, said there are "no serious negotiations at this time." But he said he remains interested.

McLane began talking with Wolff and 40 other potential investors about buying a piece of his team in January 1995. Only Wolff remains, McLane said, but the discussions have never gotten down to specific dollar amounts.

But two unidentified sources close to the negotiations told the Chronicle that Wolff has offered to buy roughly 20 percent of the Astros, though he and McLane were unable to determine the value of one-fifth of the ball club.

McLane, who says his losses have surpassed \$60 million in the past three seasons, has said he will make his decision on whether to keep the team here by the second half of summer.

McLane said he will seriously consider moving the franchise if he cannot sell part of it, see attendance rise and win the promise of a new stadium.

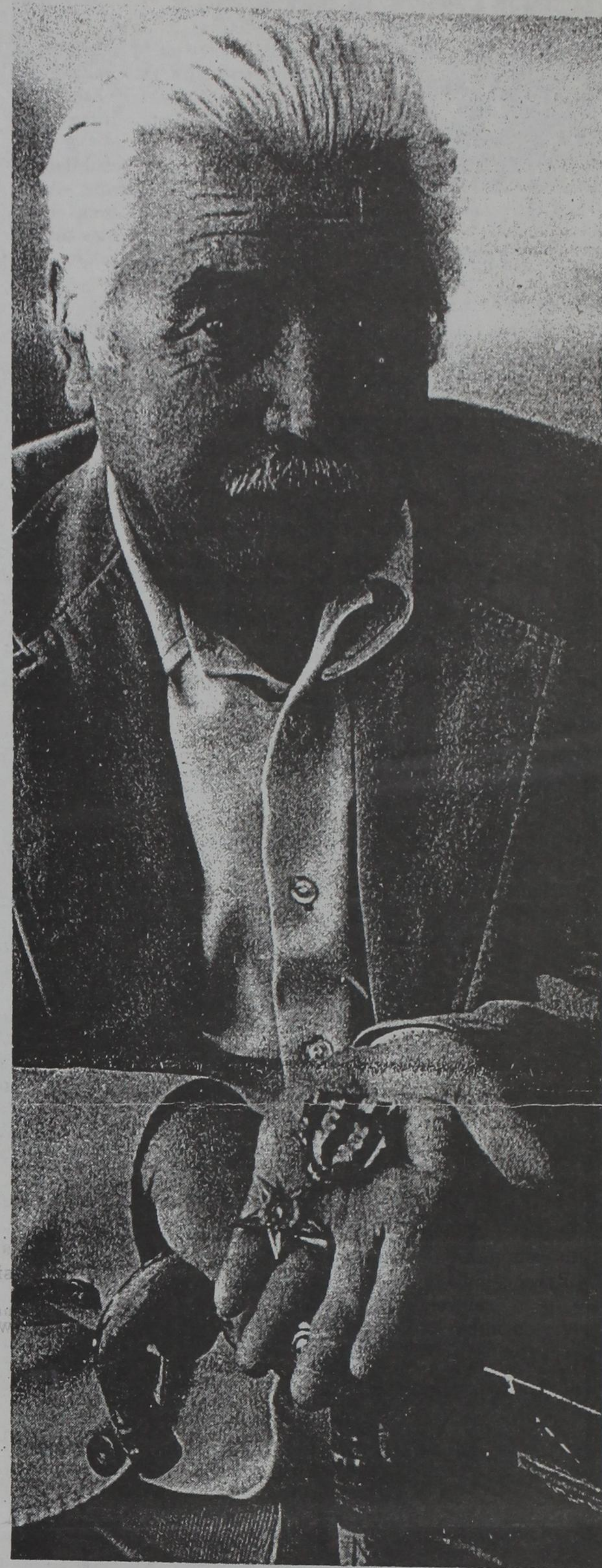
A key to the continued interest of Wolff, who wants to keep the franchise in Houston, will be the future of a new baseball stadium recommended by a task force appointed by mayor Bob Lanier and county judge Robert Eckels.

"I want to see what happens," Wolff said Wednesday.

He said he'll continue to be interested in the team, especially if Houston builds a new baseball park.

Eckels said he met with Wolff earlier this spring to discuss the possibility of the county building a new ball-park.

"He was trying to get a sense of the future of baseball in Houston," Eckels said.



Remembering

A medal for heroism and a walking cane remind Manuel Lopez, Burley, of the Bataan Death March. (SIP Photo)

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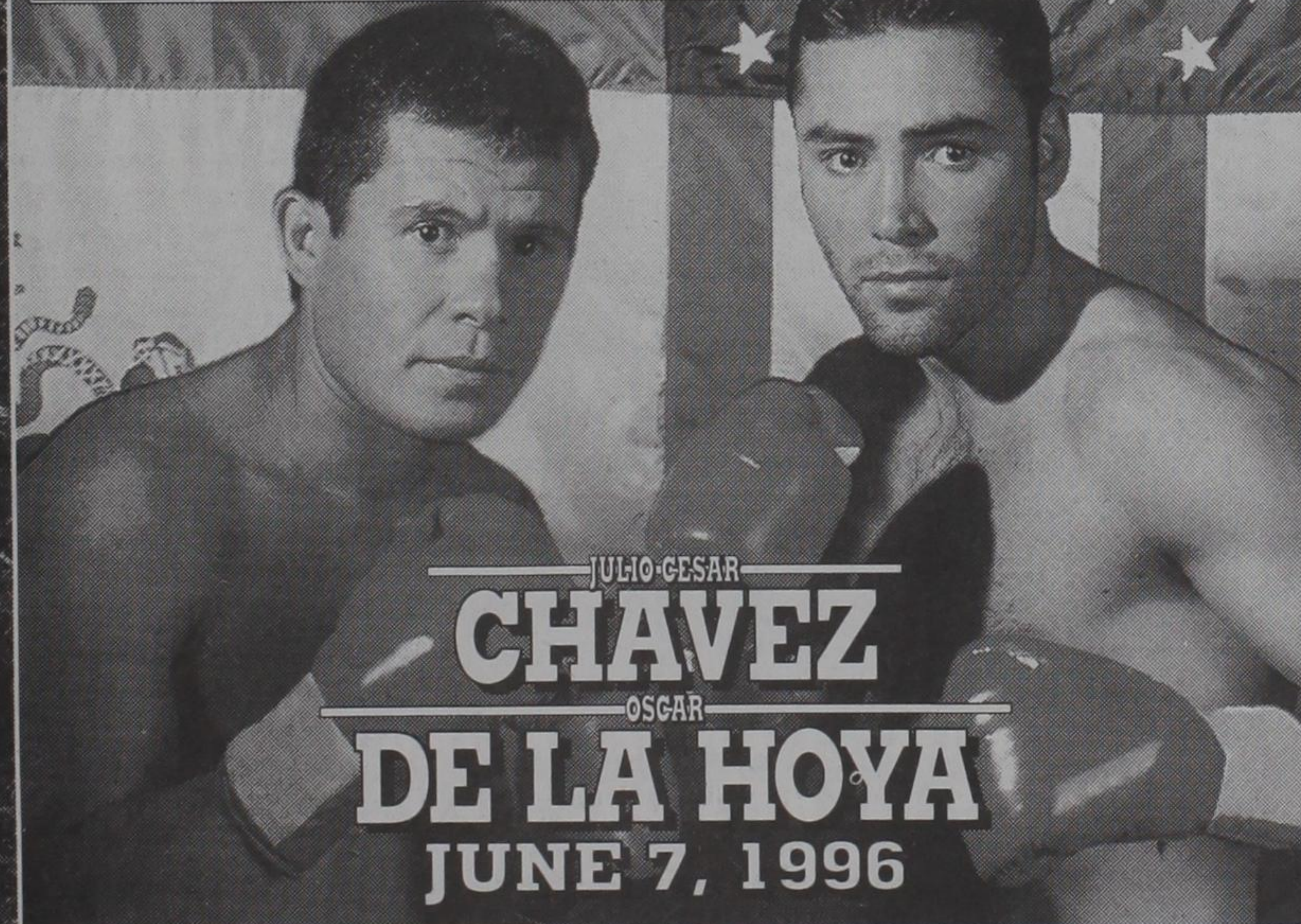
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May 31-2 - Sierra Blanca Opener Men's C,D,E & Women's C,D
June 21-23 - Cool Pines Classic, Men's C,D,E & women's C,D
July 19-21 Last Chance Qualifier, Men's C,D,E & Women's Open
August 17-18 Ruidoso Co-Ed Classic
September 21-22 Mountain Double-Up Co Ed
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Un Rayito De Luz

por Sofía Martínez

Nosotros, los Católicos no adoramos a la Santísima Virgen, ni a los Angeles, ni a los Santos, pero los honramos como amigos de Dios. Solamente a Dios, Creador y Dueño de todo lo que existe, son debidas nuestras adoraciones. Pero los santos son amigos de Dios y merecen nuestra "veneración" que es respeto y amor, Honramos a los Santos con un culto muy diferente, y más pequeño del que le damos a Dios; a Dios le decimos: Perdonanos, Ten piedad de nosotros; y a los santos les decimos: Rueguen por nosotros, intercedan por nosotros.

A la Santísima Virgen le damos un culto especial de "Mayor honor" como a Madre

de Jesucristo, que es Dios Hijo, la segunda persona de la Santísima Trinidad. A ese culto de "Mayor Honor" también se le llama "hiperdulia" en griego.

A los Santos les damos el culto de "veneración, dulía" en griego. Ellos son cultos muy diferentes y más pequeños, que el culto de "ADORACIÓN".

El culto de hiperdulia que le damos a María se debe a que ella ha sido elevada sobre todos los coros celestiales y ella ocupa un lugar privilegiado entre todas las creaturas y todas las generaciones, según lo expresa ella misma en el "Magnificat". (Luc. 1, 48).

Veneramos las reliquias de los Santos porque sus cuerpos fueron templos del Espíritu Santo y han de resucitar gloriosos. Reliquias son restos que quedan del cuerpo de los santos. También se les da el nombre de reliquias a las cosas que les pertenecieron o estuvieron en contacto con su cuerpo, como lienzos, florees, etc. y todo por haber sido amigos muy especiales de Jesucristo. (Luc. 1, 48)



PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR

POR PASTOR FRANK GARCÍA
Lubbock, Texas

LAS BIENAVENTURANZAS

*Bienaventurados los pobres en espíritu;
Porque de ellos es el reino de los cielos.
Mateo 5:3.*

Estos versículos merecen la atención especial de todos los que leen la Biblia. Contienen lo que se llama generalmente el sermón del monte. Por lo mismo todos los que profesan ser cristianos toda palabra del Señor Jesús debe ser preciosa. Pues es la voz del Pastor de los pastores. Es el mandato del gran Obispo y jefe de la iglesia. Es el Maestro que habla. Es la palabra de aquel que habló como ningún hombre ha hablado. Y por El todo seremos juzgados en el último día. ¿Quieres saber qué clase de gente deben ser los cristianos? ¿Quieres conocer el carácter que los cristianos deben buscar? ¿Quieres conocer la conducta y el hábito interior de la gente que corresponde al discípulo de Jesús? Entonces estudiemos frecuentemente el sermón del monte, reflexionemos con cuidado sobre cada frase, y por ella probemos a nosotros mismos, quienes son aquellos llamados bienaventurados.

LOS POBRES EN ESPIRITU

Esto quiere decir los humildes que se miran con modestia y aún con desprecio. nos da a entender que los que han sido profundamente convencidos respecto a su culpa a la vista de Dios. Los tales no sabios en su propia estimación ni santos a su propia vista. Estos no son ricos ni prosperados en cuanto a sus bienes. Y no abrigan la delusión de que no tienen necesidad de nada. Y que éstos se consideran como cuitados miserables pobres y ciegos y desnudos. ¡Bienaventurados son todos de esta clase! Porque la humildad es la primer letra en el alfabeto del cristiano. Porque debemos principiar de abajo, si queremos edificar muy alto.

LOS QUE LLORAN

Esto quiere decir los que lamentan a causa de su pecado, y que se afligen diariamente al pensar en sus propias imperfecciones. Estos son los que se hallan más incómodos por el pecado que por cualquier otra cosa en la tierra. Pues el recuerdo de ello es penoso para ellos. Y la carga de ellos les parece intolerable. ¡Bienaventurados son todos aquellos! "Los sacrificios de Dios son un espíritu quebrantado y contrito." Pero habrá un día que no llorarán más, "Ellos recibirán consolación."

LOS MANSOS

Esto quiere decir los que son de un espíritu paciente y contento. Pues éstos están conformes aunque reciban poco honor aquí en la tierra. pues éstos pueden soportar injurias sin resentimiento. Y éstos no se ofenden fácilmente. Como Lázaro en la parábola están contentos, pues éstos esperan sus bienes en el venidero. ¡Bienaventurados son todos aquellos! Porque al fin nunca pierden nada. Pues algún día "Reinarán en la tierra." Apocalipsis 5:10.

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for county commissioner precinct. 3

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Policy Changes from page 2

If your senator refuses to write a letter, plan next steps (letters, calls, media). Call your senator's nearest district office to schedule a meeting with local tenants and the senator's district staff.

To generate local press, participate in the NLIHC release of their new 1996 report "Out of Reach: Can America Pay the Rent?" Call Marc Granowitter, NLIHC, at 202/662-1530, x246 for a media outreach organizing kit.

Report back to Lisa Ranghelli at 202/342-0567 on your senator's position.

MATERIALS AVAILABLE: To receive a document, call our automated Fax-on-Demand system at 703/716-7349. NHP piece on the 30% of AMI cut-off - document # 1169. Kerry letter on Brooke amendment - document # 1170.

Briefing paper - on 5/30 we will have a briefing paper available on the 10 priority issues mentioned above. To receive a copy in the mail, call Teri Tompkins at 202/342-0567.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Ranghelli at 202/342-0567, hn0688@handsnet.org.

Overhaul of Indian Housing Inserted in HR 2406

BACKGROUND: A bill to overhaul Indian housing programs was inserted into the House public housing reform legislation passed on May 9. The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (Title VII of HR 2406) would eliminate funding for Indian Housing and various set-asides in other housing programs, replacing them with one block grant to the tribes. The block grant would go to tribal governments, but would be administered by Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs), which would likely be the existing Indian Housing Authorities. The bill authorizes \$650 per year for the next five years for the block grant.

Recognizing the right of tribal self-determination, the bill separates Indian public housing from the rest of public housing; all federal rules governing rents, income eligibility, admissions, etc. would no longer apply. However, tribes would be required to submit an annual plan to HUD that spells out the housing needs and its plans for addressing those needs. The bill also requires that tribes provide adequate funding to operate and maintain the existing Indian public housing.

The bill also creates a loan guarantee program whereby HUD would guarantee up to \$400 million annually for the next five years for affordable housing development.

MATERIALS AVAILABLE: To receive a five-page summary of Title VII of HR 2406, call Fax-on-Demand at 703/716-7349 and follow the automated instructions to request document # 1168.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Ranghelli at 202/342-0567, hn0688@handsnet.org.

Clinton Supports Wisconsin Welfare Plan; GOP Introduces Welfare/Medicaid Bill

BACKGROUND: On Saturday, May 18, President Clinton

announced his support of the recently passed Wisconsin state law called W-2 or Wisconsin Works. The new Wisconsin welfare law was signed by Governor Tommy Thompson [R] on April 25, 1996 and is scheduled to go into effect statewide by October 1997. In order to enact the law, however, the state of Wisconsin must request a waiver from the existing federal law regarding welfare programs.

Wisconsin Works eliminates the cash assistance safety net. Assistance is granted only when parents comply with work and training activities - although there is no guarantee of job placement in the plan. There is a lifetime limit on aid of five years with few exemptions, even if a family complies with all requirements but still cannot secure regular employment.

The plan will eliminate the current guarantee of Medicaid coverage for welfare families and transitional coverage for former welfare families that leave the rolls due to earned income. Child care is provided for low income families at or below 165 percent of poverty, but at a much higher cost to parents than current levels.

The Republican congressional leadership introduced their welfare reform plan on Wednesday, May 22. The welfare provisions were packaged with Medicaid reform measures, to be considered by the House Commerce Committee. The Medicaid and welfare provisions will be considered as one measure when it comes to the floor. President Clinton has indicated his intention to veto the measure due to the Medicaid changes it contains. The plan cuts \$53 billion in welfare spending - cuts equal to the Congressional Budget Office's scored level for H.R. 4. The new spending bill has almost \$10 billion more in spending cuts than were included in the National Governors' Association proposal (NGA).

The bill mandates that every family receiving aid must work within two years or lose benefits. Lifetime receipt of assistance is limited to five years with the 20 percent hardship exemption that is found in the NGA proposal. States will be required to have 50 percent of welfare families working by 2002. States failing to do so will lose their federal funding.

Other key provisions in the legislation are: \$22 billion in child care funding over seven years; a state opt-in family cap provision; an entitlement of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits to children under a redefined and stricter definition of eligibility; a restriction on SSI and Food Stamp eligibility for noncitizens; and a sponsorship deeming provision (the process of adding a sponsor's income to that of a sponsored non-citizen in determining eligibility for benefits) that expands to include most federal benefit programs.

Thanks to the Coalition on Human Needs for providing this update.

MATERIALS AVAILABLE: To obtain a copy of the Children's Defense Fund fact sheet on the W-2, Wisconsin Works waiver, call Fax-on-Demand at 703/716-7349 and request document # 1171.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Ranghelli at 202/342-0567, hn0688@handsnet.org.

Mire Lo Que Hay Para La Cena

(NAPS)—Con años de experiencia desarrollando y preparando recetas que se han convertido en favoritos de la familia, los expertos de Kraft Creative Kitchens—el centro vanguardista de recetas y prueba de comidas en Glenview, IL—han perfeccionado el arte del cocinar simple y rápido. Estos economistas domésticos son una gran fuente de platos ganadores. Intente algunos de éstos consejos comprobados de Kraft Creative Kitchens para ayudarle a preparar deliciosas comidas familiares en poco tiempo.

- Extienda cazuelas de un solo plato o ensaladas mezclandolas con pasta cocida. Cuando la pasta esté "al dente" (firme al morder), enjuague con agua fría y guarde en una bolsa plástica en el refrigerador o el congelador. Para recalentar, eche la bolsa en una holla de agua hirviendo.

- Pre-caliente el horno o hierva el agua antes de obtener los otros ingredientes para éste plato. ¡Usted no tendrá que esperar a que la holla hierva!

- Un buen consejo para ahorrar tiempo: prepare recetas para un solo plato o ideas para comida con ingredientes que ya tenga a la mano. Cree combinaciones nuevas e interesantes de acuerdo a los gustos de su familia.

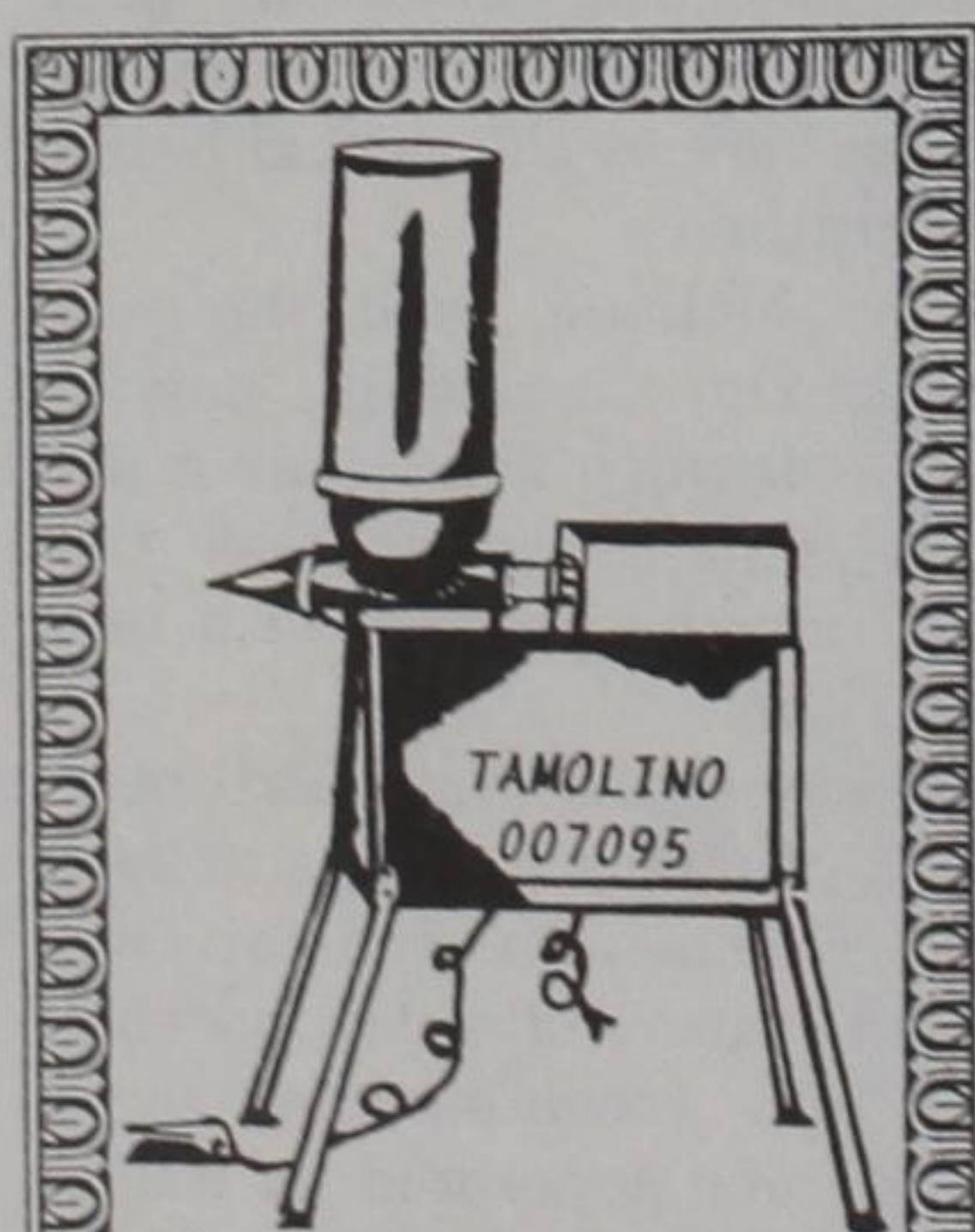
Por ejemplo, intente ésta receta:

Pasta Horneada Fácil

Cocine
1 lb. carne molida en un sartén grande, oscura.

Remueva
1 frasco (30 oz.) de salsa de spaghetti, 1/2 taza de 100% queso parmesano molido KRAFT y 5 tazas de pasta cocinada. Vierta en una bandeja de mornear de 13x9 pulgadas.

Coronar
1 pqt. (8 oz.) de queso mozzarella triturado KRAFT. Hornee a 375°F por 20 minutos.



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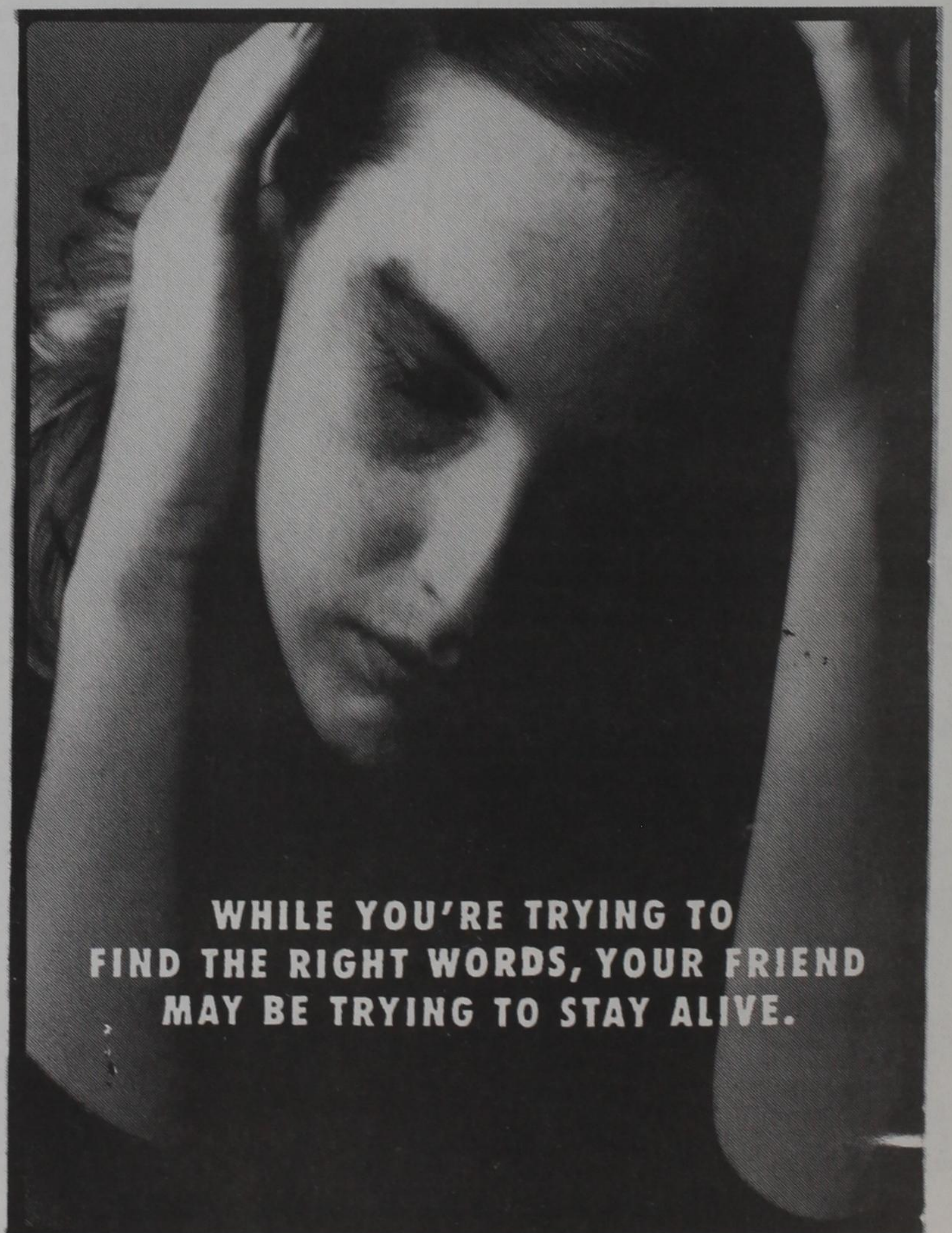
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