

Get Out and Vote!

Lubbock's and Odessa's three minority newspapers today endorsed David Langston for the position of Texas State Senator for District 28.

City Councilman and Co-Publisher of the Southwest Digest, T.J. Patterson together with Bidal Agüero, publisher of El Editor-Lubbock and co-publisher of El Editor in Odessa said during a press conference in front of the Lubbock County Courthouse that they were joining to endorse

Langston in an effort to show the need to elect a true representative of the people of West Texas.

"Our newspapers have always been know to not only provide information and news to our readers but to be concerned about their well being and needs of their families," said Agüero.

"We have only to look at David's record to see that he worked as Mayor to develop our neighborhood organizations, to try and curb juvenile crime and crime in general and to work toward better education for our children," Agüero.

He pointed to Duncan's record saying that during the last legislative session Duncan had voted against the everyday citizen 98% of the time according to consumer groups that monitored the votes in the last Legislature.

"He continually voted in favor of insurance companies, big business, banks, oil companies and ignored the needs of his constituents," said Agüero. During his endorsement Patterson also pointed to Langston's deep concern for the City and its residents. "During his tenure as Mayor, the needs of the everyday citizens was foremost in David's agenda. His work with neighborhood associations is proof to that. His efforts to get jobs for West Texans is shown by his work to bring the DOD center and other industries to come here," said Patterson. Patterson also pointed to Langston's hard work in the redevelopment of Reese to promote economic development. "David has been there. Looking after our interest. Making sure that jobs are not lost. It is of vital importance that we elect David

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La familia Montelongo tuvo una funcion este pasado martes en apoyo de David Langston, quien busca ser electo para Senador.

"El Respeto Al Derecho Ajeno Es La Paz"
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EL EDITOR

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El Papa Acepta La Invitacion De Castro De Ira Cuba

Ciudad del Vaticano.-El papa Juan Pablo II ira a Cuba en 1997, aceptando la invitacion que le renovo el presi-

dente cubano Fidel Castro, durante la primera audiencia que mantuvieron en el Vaticano.

Segun el portavoz del vaticano Joaquin Navarro Valls, el Papa acepto la invitacion pero todavia no se fijo una fecha precisa. Tanto Castro como el Papa manifestaron su esperanza de que el viaje pueda concretarse el ano proximo.

La situacion de la Iglesia y de los catolicos en Cuba fue el gran tema que Castro abordó con el Papa, segun el portavoz. Despues, con el secretario de Estado vaticano, Angelo Sodano, hablo ademas de la evolucion de la sociedad cubana, a reconciliacion nacional y la posicion de Cuba en la comunidad internacional.

Interrogado sobre si el Papa habia puesto como condicion para el viaje la cuestion de los derechos humanos en Cuba, el portavoz se limito a decir "del viaje se hablo solo en terminos generales" y afirmo no poder decir mas sobre este tema.

Juan Pablo II y el lider cubano, que se reunieron por primera vez en una audiencia considerada "historica", conversaron a solas durante 35 minutos en la biblioteca privada del pontifice.

Segun Navarro, hablaron de la "normalizacion de las condiciones de existencia de la Iglesia en Cuba y en general del papel de los creyentes, catolicos y no catolicos, en la vida nacional".

Al parecer, la cuestion del embargo impuesto a Cuba por Estados Unidos hace 34 anos, uno de los puntos que mas preocupan al lider cubano, no figuro entre los temas tratados especificamente con el Papa, pero por el temario se deduce que estaba en la agenda con el numero dos del Vaticano.

Sobre la cuestion del embargo, Navarro indico que "tal vez no fue necesario ahondar sobre este tema porque la posicion de la Santa Sede es ya conocida y el Papa la ha expresado repetidas veces. La ultima vez fue durante la inauguracion de la Cumbre Numdial de la Alimentacion el la FAO cuando el pontifice hablo de la necesidad de tomar medidas como los embargos con "discernimiento".

"Se trato de un dialogo abierto y claro", dijo Navarro



El Papa y Fidel Castro se saludan estrechando las manos.

sobre el encuentro con el Papa, anadiendo que Castro regalo al papa una caracola con una escultura abstracta en plata mientras recibio a cambio las tres medallas del pontificado (oro, plata y bronce.)

El Vaticano comunico sorpresivamente esta mañana que se anulaba el pull de periodistas organizado ayer para asistir a la parte publica de la audiencia del Papa con Fidel Castro.

Oficialmente, se dijo que era porque la Secretaria de Estado vaticana "no quiere

dar a Fidel Castro un tratamiento distinto del que fue ofrecido a los demas mandatarios que visitaron al Papa en ocasion de la Cumbre Mundial de la Alimentacion", concluida el pasado 17 de noviembre en oma, informo un portavoz vaticano.

El lider, que lugo de las entrevistas visitó rápidamente la basílica de San Pedro, ofreció a continuación un almuerzo en un hotel cercano al Vaticano a las autoridades de la Curia que han visitado en estos últimos años Cuba.

Welfare Cuts Could Extend To WIC

Sweeping welfare reform has left governors with a choice: continue to feed all WIC participants at no cost to their states, or turn away undocumented immigrants and many other noncitizens, thus forfeiting millions of dollars in federal food aid that would go to these immigrants, reports The Los Angeles Times.

Providers around the country generally are confident that their states will continue to accept undocumented immigrants and other eligible noncitizens in WIC, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children. New York Gov. George Pataki, a Republican, already has written to federal authorities indicating that he will not change eligibility requirements.

In California, however, Gov. Pete Wilson's oft-repeated contention that public benefits serve as a "magnet"

for undocumented immigration has left many wondering whether new restrictions are imminent.

At issue are provisions in the welfare blueprint that give states the option to ban "not qualified" immigrants—a broad new category encompassing both undocumented immigrants and many others now in temporary legal statuses—from WIC, as well as from several smaller, mostly federally funded children's lunch programs at day-care centers and summer schools.

Adding urgency to the debate are fears of escalating hunger and illness in the aftermath of overall welfare downsizing—including steep cuts in federal food stamps—and, in California, the governor's recent move to eliminate prenatal care for undocumented immigrants.

The choice is a "no-

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News Briefs

AIDS Rising Among Women, Kids Worldwide

A new U.N. report says the global AIDS epidemic is striking harder than ever at the world's women and children, and infection rates are climbing swiftly in many nations barely touched by the disease until now, reports The San Francisco Chronicle.

In a year-end estimate of the epidemic's worldwide toll, leaders of the U.N. AIDS program estimate that 22.6 million people are now living with AIDS or are infected by HIV, the virus that causes the disease. More than 3 million people were newly infected this year alone - and for the first time, nearly half of them were women and at least 400,000 were children, according to the report.

"The HIV epidemic is far from over and in fact continues to strengthen its grip on the world's most vulnerable populations," said Dr. Peter Piot, executive director of UNAIDS, the specialized agency of the World Health Organization that did the report, in a telephone conference call from Geneva with American reporters.

Infection rates are increasing in parts of Asia that have been relatively unaffected by the epidemic, Piot said, particularly in China, Vietnam and Cambodia.

AIDS is also spreading rapidly in the newly independent nations of the former Soviet Union - most strikingly in Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, Piot said. With social systems breaking down, prostitution and hard-core drug use increasing and the rate of sexually transmitted diseases rising throughout the former Soviet Union, the increase in HIV infections is not surprising, Piot said.

New drug combinations that include the anti-viral compounds called protease inhibitors are reversing AIDS symptoms and lowering virus levels dramatically for many patients in the United States, Piot acknowledged. But those drugs are almost entirely unavailable in the developing continents of Africa and Asia, where the epidemic strikes most tragically, he said.

The problem there is not just obtaining the new drugs, but distributing them and monitoring the levels of the AIDS virus in every patient as the drugs take effect, Piot said.

United Nations figures on the epidemic from two years ago reveal the unabated pace of the epidemic's spread. By the end of 1994, for example, the world total of people living with the disease or infected by HIV was estimated at 15 million - compared with 22.6 million this year. And the total of AIDS cases reported since the epidemic was first documented in 1981 stood at 4.5 million two years ago, compared with 8.4 million today.

FDA: Tobacco Can Be Regulated

The Food and Drug Administration contended in court documents Monday that it has the legal right to regulate tobacco products and to restrict advertising about cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, reports Associated Press.

The FDA brief, filed in the U.S. District Court in Greensboro, N.C., defends new regulations that the agency adopted in August to restrict the sale and promotion of tobacco products to children.

A tobacco industry group refiled a lawsuit that challenges the FDA's rules. The suit has been joined with suits by advertising organizations and a group of tobacco retailers.

The tobacco companies asked in October for a summary judgment that would throw out the FDA rules, and the new filing by the agency opposes that motion. The industry has until Dec. 23 to file a response. Oral arguments have been set for Feb. 10, 1997.

In its filing, the FDA reviews the reasoning it used to set regulations for the control of tobacco products and their marketing to children.

The brief contends:

-Congress has given the FDA the authority to regulate any product that meets the definition of a drug or device, including cigarettes and smokeless tobacco.

-Cigarettes and smokeless tobacco affect the structure and function of the body and, as a result, are susceptible to regulation by the FDA.

-FDA restrictions on advertising and promotional activities on cigarettes and smokeless tobacco do not violate the First Amendment because the restrictions are limited only to messages that would appeal to minors who cannot legally purchase the tobacco products.

Nickles: No Welfare Law Change

Sen. Don Nickles, the Senate's second-ranked Republican, ruled out fundamentally changing the new welfare law, as the White House wants, reports Associated Press.

Even Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the Democrats' leading expert on welfare, reluctantly agreed Sunday it won't happen in the coming Congress.

Nickles, appearing with Moynihan on NBC's "Meet the Press," also said the GOP doesn't want first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton actively involved in the welfare debate.

Clinton pledged when he signed the Republican-crafted welfare overhaul bill last August to fix aspects he said were too severe - particularly cuts in food stamp spending and benefits for legal immigrants.

The White House is now considering a plan to restore \$13 billion of the projected \$54.6 billion in savings from the new law of over six years. The law shifts responsibility for welfare programs to the states and sets time limits for how long people can remain on welfare rolls.

Moynihan, asked if he believes Congress would go along with White House-proposed changes, responded, "No. None. Whoever said that?" The New York Democrat strongly opposed the legislation, predicting that ending welfare entitlements will significantly increase poverty in the United States.

Moynihan urged Clinton to concentrate on protecting children, who he foresaw as the first victims of a smaller social safety net.

Retirement Savings Stay Low

A survey says although a growing number of Americans are saving more for retirement, many still are not setting aside enough to meet the income they expect after they quit work, reports Associated Press.

"Today, 71 percent says that they are not setting aside enough for retirement compared to 60 percent in 1992," said Ken Feltman, executive director of the Employers Council on Flexible Compensation. "The sad reality is that they're correct, and for many, time is quickly running out."

The fifth annual Workplace Pulse Survey, released today, found that average annual retirement savings rose to \$2,388 during 1994, 11 percent more than in 1993 and 34 percent more than in 1992.

Workplace Pulse estimated workers who are 60 and plan to retire at 65 would need \$353,324 in total savings, including Social Security, to receive the \$26,256 income. A worker who is now 30 would need \$1,145,972 at age 65 to meet expectations.

The report said 30-year-old workers would need to save \$662

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

As I listened to a debate between David Langston and Robert Duncan on the radio this past Monday, it seems that every other word that Duncan spoke was business. "I am going to be good for business. Business is going to profit. The businessman this and the businessman that."

This makes me really worry that if Duncan is elected "us normal folks", as Bob would say, won't have anyone in Austin representing us.

I would guess that about 10% of the people in Lubbock own a business. The rest probably work for a living. It really makes very little sense for people to vote for Duncan.

An interesting story came out in the Houston Chronicle this past week that showed Duncan getting up to 70% of his money from out of town, with donations from Houston lawyers contributing a large part. An even larger part of his money comes from insurance companies because Duncan says he has worked hard to keep insurance claims down. But has our insurance payments gone down?

Tuesday is election day. Polls will again be open from 7 til 7 at your neighborhood school. The vote in the Chicano community is a vital importance. You can be assured that West Lubbock is going to flock to the polls in order to elect a Republican regardless if they have a real representative in Duncan. It's up to each one of you to vote and try to elect David Langston our next State Senator.

*****Pico de Gallo***

Where have all the yellow dog democrats gone? Where is Pete Laney, Bob Bullock? Where is Victor, Ramon, Tommy, Victoria, and all our representative to the State Democratic Convention? Is this not an election between two parties?

Need a Ride to the Polls
Call 763-3841

¿Los Relojes Andan O Corren?

Por Darrell Bohlsen

No hay un sólo modo para describir las acciones de un reloj para una persona que habla inglés y español. El reloj anda, o "the clock runs." En inglés, los relojes "corren," en español "andan." El infinitivo "to run," en inglés se traduce al verbo correr.

El idioma es algo más que vocabulario, sintaxis, gramática y pronunciación. Es el modo de que un individuo percibe a la realidad. Esto explica el por qué los niños aprenden otros idiomas con rapidez y con menos dolor que los adultos. Los niños se hallan todavía en una modalidad abierta, de aprender, y pueden aceptar puntos de vista múltiples de lo que hay allá afuera.

"Creo que usted debería hablarle a ella solamente en inglés hasta que sea mayor, cuando ya no esté tan confundida. Esa confusión en esta edad temprana podría llevarle a un perjuicio en su enseñanza del que ella no podría recuperarse."

El consejo procedió de la maestra de primer grado de mi hija, a mi esposa y a mí, durante una conferencia para padres y madres. Ya que tanto el inglés como el español

se hablan en nuestro ambiente familiar, pasamos por alto la recomendación.

Dieciocho años después, las palabras de la maestra me volvieron a la mente a medida que yo me había convertido en un padre orgulloso que veía a esta misma hija recibiendo su título de bachillerato "magna cum laude".

Nosotros, en este país -- y eso incluye a una gran cantidad de nuestros maestros -- no tenemos una buena comprensión de la función de los idiomas, de lo que realmente hacen; y, por lo tanto, tenemos poca idea sobre su papel en una democracia como la nuestra.

Esta democracia necesita de muchos idiomas porque necesita ver las cosas desde muchos puntos de vista. Esto no es confusión. "Un problema artístico tiene un millar de soluciones", decía mi maestra de arte en la escuela secundaria.

Su punto de vista estaba bien fijado: Que como un artista, su paleta es más que negra y blanca. La selección de colores no lleva con ella ninguna mezcla singular correcta. Es la capacidad de ver las cosas con más de un par de

ojos y de enfocar a los problemas desde muchos ángulos.

Esta ha sido la fortaleza tradicional de la ciudadanía de nuestro país. Es asunto de alternativas.

El dominio de estas alternativas es el argumento de Andrei Codrescu, autor rumano, corresponsal de la Asociación de la Prensa Nacional y ahora ciudadano naturalizado. En un discurso titulado "El Punto de Vista de un Inmigrante sobre los Estados Unidos", que él pronunció a principios de este año en la Universidad Randolph Macon para Mujeres, de Lynchburg, Virginia, el Sr. Codrescu se definió a sí mismo como un hombre "nuevo" del Nuevo Mundo; un hombre que no está mezclándose en el crisol tradicional, sino que está enfrentándose a una cantidad emocionante de alternativas para ser diferente.

Para este inmigrante rumano, los Estados Unidos no son un crisol de razas. Son un "experimento transcendental" que siempre le permite ser distinto. Para él son un medio, no un fin. Son un acontecimiento de viaje que no debe parar, porque si lo hace, él pierde su naturaleza diferente.

Mark Twain relacionó la existencia del prejuicio con la falta de viajes. Los idiomas son viajes para la mente, y los prejuicios descansan sobre la mente flemática.

Un gran caldero animado e hirviente de multilinguismo contribuye en gran medida hacia el dinamismo de nuestra sociedad democrática. Suiza tiene cuatro idiomas oficiales: Francés, alemán, italiano y rético.

La mayoría de los suizos puede hablar dos o tres de éstos idiomas y, casi siempre, el inglés además. Un movimiento del "inglés solamente" sería incomprensible para ellos. Nuevamente, es asunto de alternativas.

Por ejemplo, puedo decidir "run" con un cierto grupo de amigos, o puedo andar con otro grupo. El tener estas clases de alternativas es de lo que trata nuestra democracia.

Los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica deberían ser una tierra donde los relojes puedan andar y correr.

(Darrell Bohlsen, de Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, ha dado conferencias y escrito sobre asuntos mexicanos durante más de 30 años.)

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A Decade in the Life of Tomas, The Guatemalan Adventurer

By Rick Martinez

They call him Don Tomás around his house in a Riverside, Calif. barrio. It's a sign of respect due this Guatemalan adventurer who for 10 years has come to the United States to work. And work. And work.

The government calls him an illegal alien, but Tomás, 43, says that's OK. "We come here to work, that's all -- not to make trouble for anybody."

Tomás is one of hundreds of Solomeros in this city 60 miles east of Los Angeles. Solomeros are from the area around San Pedro Soloma, Guatemala, a couple of hours by bus from the Mexico border.

Tomás and his countrymen are typical of many undocumented people who are reaping the benefits of the new focus on U.S. border enforcement.

Because Operation Gatekeeper has pulled so many INS agents to the border and inland highway checkpoints at Temecula and San Clemente, city enforcement has all but dried up. The Border Patrol calls its city patrols "surveys," but that longstanding practice is all but extinct. The Riverside Border Patrol office is scheduled to be closed this fall after decades of working the vast Inland Empire area of Southern California.

It is largely Guatemalans who gather each morning on one of the main arteries in the Casa Blanca barrio, seeking a day's labor from private citizens and landscaping contractors.

Tomás, like other (ital) veteranos, (unital) has developed a reputation as a dependable worker, so the contractors usually pick him up at his home.

When new Guatemalans arrive, others help them find a place to live and provide leads on jobs. But they don't like slackers, these Guatemalans. They are proud of their reputation as hard workers. That word is passed to new arrivals.

The Solomeros believe they have been virtually ignored in the Casa Blanca barrio of Riverside in recent years not due to the dictates of Washington politics, but for another reason.

"One of the local Border Patrol agents is a (ital) mexicano (unital) and he does not like arresting Mexicans in Casa Blanca, so we benefit as well," Sebastián, one of Tomás' six Solomero housemates, says in Spanish

Members of the group talk among themselves in Spanish and their native Qanjobal, with an occasional word or phrase in English thrown in.

There are as many as 900 transient Guatemalans in the Riverside area. They have been coming and going into communities around the county for years. When Tomás goes home to San Pedro Soloma to see his wife and nine children, he also hears of the exploits of other countrymen throughout the United States.

The reason is simple: Guatemala has been besieged by civil war and an unstable government and economy for 30 years. Pope John Paul II visited that country this spring to give his personal support to new peace talks.

Tomás would earn \$5 a day as a farmhand in Guatemala if he could find the work.

Here he makes \$5 an hour in landscaping. "I'll work seven days a week if I have to," Tomás tells two visitors who awakened him from a late afternoon nap.

"I'd like to take Sundays off, but if the work is there..." he says with a smile. "You take the work while you can because in November and December the work dries up."

Tomás sends home \$700 or more a month to care for his family. His hard work laying sod, cutting weeds, pruning oleanders has garnered his family their own house and land in Guatemala.

The work has been so good that Tomás has been joined in Riverside by his two younger brothers. They have been employed lately in cement construction.

Tomás lives a spartan lifestyle. He and his six housemates split the \$750-per-month rent. They share the cooking and the chores. But it's a lonely existence.

Drinking is one of the ways some of these Guatemalans pass the time, though a sobering experience occurred earlier this year. One of their countrymen who was inebriated was killed by a car while crossing a busy street. A collection was taken up to send his body home for burial.

"I miss my family more in the fall when the work is slower," Tomás says. But he has no plans for retirement to the old country any time soon. "I'll keep working as long as I can," he says, looking at his arms and his legs which are keys to his existence. "As long as I can keep working, I'll keep coming."

It's not an easy existence.

Because Guatemalans are sometimes robbed by Mexican-American teenage thugs, they usually travel in twos, careful not to be caught with too much cash. One recently was beaten and robbed of \$300.

Other Solomeros live in Third World conditions. Three young men I visited share a small shed, which has rough wiring and just enough room for three beds, a hot plate, portable radio and 13-inch TV. Pictures of Jesus and the Virgin Mary are tacked to the uninsulated walls. "We pay \$75 a month each but that's OK. We have more money to send home," explains Ricardo, one of the trio.

ItDs a tough road for these

Do Clocks Walk Or Run?

By Darrell Bohlsen

There is no single way to describe the actions of a clock for a person who speaks English and Spanish. The clock runs, or "el reloj anda." In English the clocks run, in Spanish they walk. The Spanish infinitive "andar" translates into the English verb "walk."

Language is more than vocabulary, syntax, grammar and pronunciation. It is a way an individual perceives reality. This explains why children learn other languages with rapidity and less pain than adults. Children are still in an open, learning mode and can accept multiple views of what's out there.

"I think you should speak only English to her until she is older when she won't be so confused. Such confusion at this early age could lead to an unrecoverable setback in her education."

This advice came from my daughter's first grade teacher to my wife and me during a parents' conference. Since both English and Spanish are spoken in our family environment, we ignored the recommendation.

Eighteen years later, the teacher's words drifted back into my mind as I stood a proud parent watching this same daughter receiving her baccalaureate magna cum laude.

We in this country -- and that includes a great number of our educators -- don't have a good grasp of the function of languages. Consequently, we often do not fully understand the role of language in a democracy like ours.

This democracy needs many languages because it needs to see things from many different points of view. This is not confusion. "An artistic problem has a thousand solutions," my high school art teacher would

Solomeros from their homeland to California. Because they fear being extorted and jailed by the Mexican Border Patrol -- the Judiciales -- they usually claim to be from Oaxaca or some other rural state when they are busing across Mexico. And there's the cost of the coyote at the U.S.-Mexico border, some \$400.

Right now, there's plenty of work to make it all worthwhile. Maybe Tomás will earn enough not just to keep the wolf from his family's door in San Pedro Soloma, but to take a few months off and go home for Christmas.

(Rick Martinez is an editorial writer for the Riverside Press Enterprise.)

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Lawmaker Gets a Taste of Welfare

Feeding her family for a month on food stamps didn't seem like it was going to be all that bad until Glenys Lovett took a sip of Shop-n-Save brand coffee.

"Yuck," she said. "I'm used to gourmet."

Lovett didn't like that first taste of life on welfare, but the coffee was \$3.50 cheaper than the Royale Hazelnut she usually buys. Besides, the 61-year-old Maine legislator wasn't supposed to like it. She was supposed to learn from it.

Lovett has joined 135 other state legislators and officeholders from seven states in a month-long project called "Walk-a-Mile." The idea is to give legislators a first-hand look at welfare -- the program that became theirs to run when President Clinton signed the Welfare Reform Bill on Aug. 22. To do that, they're adhering to a food stamp budget through mid-December and spending quality time with welfare recipients.

After winning a second term in the Maine House and returning from a vacation at the Ritz-Carlton on Amelia Island, Fla., Lovett began her personal Walk-a-Mile. She shopped on welfare budget at a grocery in suburban Portland and met Angel Egan, a 26-year-old divorcee living on welfare with her two young sons. Lovett, a Republican who campaigned on a pledge to crack down on welfare fraud, was supposed to bond with Egan, a high-school dropout who has never been farther from home than New Hampshire.

Lovett doesn't believe anyone should get a penny more than necessary from the government. She pushed a bill through the Legislature this year that forces state officials to verify the addresses of welfare recipients to cut down on fraud. She is sure she could feed herself, her husband, a daughter and two grandchildren on \$400 a month in food stamps, about what a poor family of five gets.

Lovett learned that Egan married her high school boyfriend, that they bought a small house in central Maine and had a second son, and that the marriage never had much of a chance of lasting. She learned that Egan is working toward her high school diploma at night, that she won't eat dinner if there is not enough for the boys and that being on welfare embarrasses her.

There were other eye-openers for Lovett. She was shocked to learn that Egan's food stamps don't always come on time in the mail and that the state takes 15% of the ex-husbands child support to fund welfare programs. She was dismayed when Egan said even people on welfare have to pay \$40 to register a child in the town's youth soccer league.

And she seemed surprised when Egan said she got only \$210 a month in food stamps.

"Is that all for three people?" Lovett asked.

[Food Research & Action Center approximately four million American children under age 12 go hungry and about 9.6 million more are at risk of hunger in the United States; see their comprehensive study in Children, Youth & Families/Hunger & Nutrition/"Hunger Fact Sheet"]

US to Review Children's Disability Aid

The government sent letters to the parents of 260,000 children on Wednesday notifying them that the children might lose disability benefits because of the new welfare law, reports The New York Times.

The cash benefits, averaging \$424 a month, are paid under the Supplemental Security Income program. The children, most of them from low-income families, were previously found to have a wide range of severe physical or mental disabilities like cerebral palsy, autism, tuberculosis, diabetes, sickle cell anemia, epilepsy and mental retardation.

Some children, especially those with mental, emotional and behavioral problems, will lose the cash benefits they now receive. Some will also lose Medicaid coverage.

Philip Gambino, a spokesman for the Social Security Administration, said the letters were being sent to 260,000 of the 1 million children who receive disability benefits. The government will review the cases to see if the youngsters meet the definition of disability established by the new law and regulations.

Gambino estimated that 100,000 to 200,000 children -- 10 percent to 20 percent of all children on the rolls -- would eventually lose benefits.

The new law does not stop benefits immediately. Children now on the rolls may receive benefits through June 1997, provided they continue to meet all the other eligibility criteria.

In the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, the federal government spent \$26 billion on the Supplemental Security Income program, including a little more than \$5 billion for children. The Congressional Budget Office says the new restrictions on children's benefits will save a total of \$7 billion in the next six years.

But Gambino said that Social Security officials were not writing the new rules to save any specific amount of money and had given "very little" weight to fiscal considerations. The agency's goals, he said, are to carry out the spirit of the new law and to protect children.

Welfare from Pg. 1

brainer," said Laurie True of California Food Policy Advocates. The organization is one of a number of groups, along with the state Department of Education, urging the Wilson administration to refrain from imposing restrictions on immigrants who participate in the nutrition programs. Undocumented immigrant usage at some WIC clinics is estimated at between 5% and 40% of participants.

With the new state option in place, even some hard-line subscribers to the welfare "magnet" theory of undocumented immigration worry that those thrown off the food rolls could end up at county hospitals and other public facilities, raising the price tag for taxpayers. "You have to find out if returning that money is going to put a heavier burden somewhere else," said state Sen. Richard

Mountjoy (R-Arcadia), a co-author of Proposition 187, the 1994 California ballot initiative--strongly supported by Wilson--that sought to restrict benefits for undocumented immigrants.

Many providers fear that the mere prospect of case workers checking people's status will frighten off applicants--even legal immigrants who would be eligible regardless of what the state does.

Another unknown, nutrition workers say, is how the nonprofit agencies and county health departments that run most WIC clinics could accurately screen for status, and whether time spent on verification would detract from more essential services.

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DINERO SEGURO.

Cowboys Move On Without Lett

By DENNE H. FREEMAN
IRVING, Texas - The Dallas Cowboys survived without Michael Irvin. They think they can get back to the Super Bowl without their best defensive player, Leon Lett.

Tony Casillas on Wednesday was plugged into the suspended Lett's right tackle position, with Hurvin McCormack a backup. "Obviously we'd love to have Leon but we feel confident we can do the job despite the changes," defensive coordinator Dave Campo said. "We have a tremendous amount of pride in our defensive unit. Tony Casillas is a good player. He's been around awhile. We may have to do a few things differently but we'll be all right."

The Cowboys, with Lett, have the No. 1 defense in the NFL, first against the pass and fourth against the rush.

Casillas, an 11-year veteran, has only 15 tackles and no sacks in limited playing time. McCormack has 18 tackles and has been credited with 1 1/2 sacks.

"I'm frustrated for Leon and I feel badly for him because he is a good person," Campo said. "But we've played well without Charles Haley (back operation) and we can do the same without Leon. We're paid to do a job and we'll do it."

The Cowboys, tied with Washington and Philadelphia in the NFC East, have three games left - Arizona (road), New England (home) and Washington (road).

Lett was suspended for a year Tuesday for a second violation of the NFL's drug policy. He is banned from coming to the team's headquarters and his gear was still in his locker as he ducked all interview requests.

Casillas, an excellent run-stopper in his prime, was obtained from the free agent ranks in the off-season as injury insurance in the defensive line.

"It's hard to believe what happened to Leon," Casillas said. "I feel I can still play although I came in to be a role player figuring I would get 25 or so snaps per game. I just have to look at it like somebody got injured. It's not it's like the first time I ever played."

Casillas said he figured the

Arizona game plan will include running plays right at him.

"That will be fine if they come my way," Casillas said. "I'd love that."

Casillas said being a starter will automatically make him a better player.

"You get a better feel of the game when you start, it will be to my benefit," Casillas said. "It's definitely a challenge for me to get back in there starting the first time. But I think I can help this team get right back into the Super Bowl."

The Cowboys won't depend on just Casillas and McCormack. The team on Wednesday signed five-time Pro Bowl tackle Ray Childress to a free-agent deal.

Childress, a 12-year veteran, has not played since the Houston Oilers cut him and his \$2.3 million salary in February to clear room under the NFL salary cap. The terms of his deal with the Cowboys weren't released.

Dallas had some salary cap money freed because the checks have stopped on Lett's \$150,000 per game payoff. Lett's suspension will cost him about \$2 million.

Lett missed a month last year the first time he was suspended and the Cowboys logged a 3-1 record without him.

"For whatever reason controversy always makes this team play at a high level," said safety Bill Bates. "We'll come out of this fighting. It hurts to lose somebody who

would probably have been the NFL defensive player of the year. But this team is still going to be good."

Lett finished the year with 54 tackles and 3 1/2 sacks. He also had an impressive 20

quarterback pressures. Asked if he thought Lett would retire, Campo said: "I'd be surprised if he does. If he gets the correct rehabilitation he should play again."

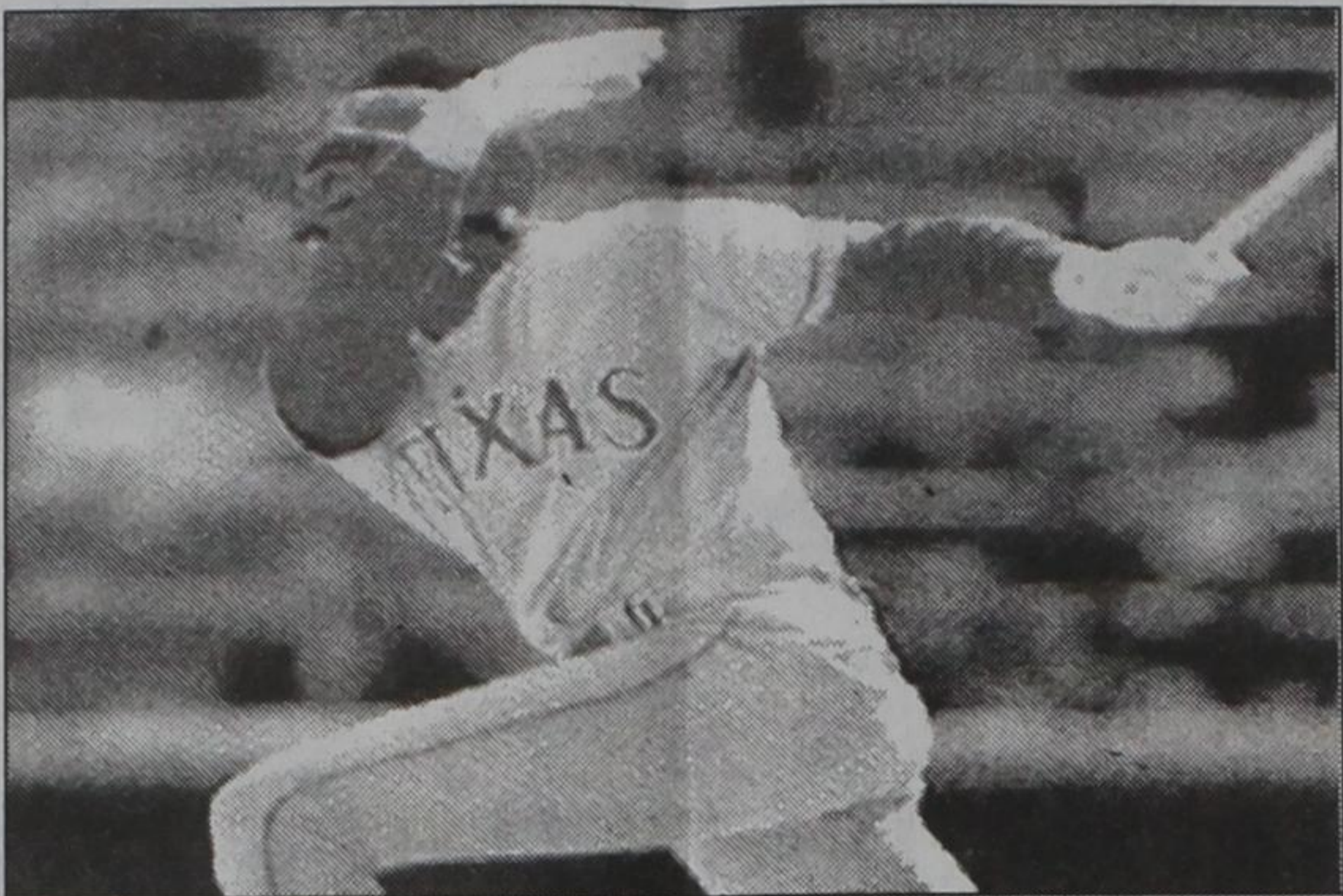
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González es el más valioso

El puertorriqueño Juan González, que lideró a los Rangers de Texas en las series de playoffs por primera vez en los 36 años de historia del club, fue proclamado como el Jugador más Valioso de la Liga Americana, en una de las votaciones más reñidas realizadas

por la Asociación de redactores del béisbol de las Ligas Mayores.

González le ganó la pelea al paracorto Alex Rodríguez, de los Marineros de Seattle, por el escaso margen de tres puntos. Albert Bell de los Indios de Cleveland fue el tercer colocado.



González, primer outfielder premiado Jugador Más Valioso desde Rickey Henderson (1990) de los Atléticos de Oakland, bateó para un promedio de .314 con 47 jonrones y 144 carreras impulsadas, al tiempo que comandó a los Rangers al título de la división Oeste.

Dos veces campeón jonronero en la Liga Americana, González jugó su mejor temporada en 1996, sobreponiéndose a la plaga de lesiones que ha sufrido durante su carrera de siete años en los diamantes, siempre con el club texano.

Texas Gear Up For Huskers

By CHIP BROWN

AUSTIN, Texas - Texas cornerback Bryant Westbrook says he's seeing Nebraska players running the option in his sleep.

"They're like little sheep jumping over the fence, except that in my dreams the sheep are wearing red jerseys with an N on their helmets, and their names are Scott Frost, Ahman Green and DeAngelo Evans," Westbrook said.

The Texas (7-4, 6-2 Big 12) defense knows its toughest challenge of the season will come Saturday in the Big 12

brook and Taje Allen say they expect to be providing a flood of run support on Saturday.

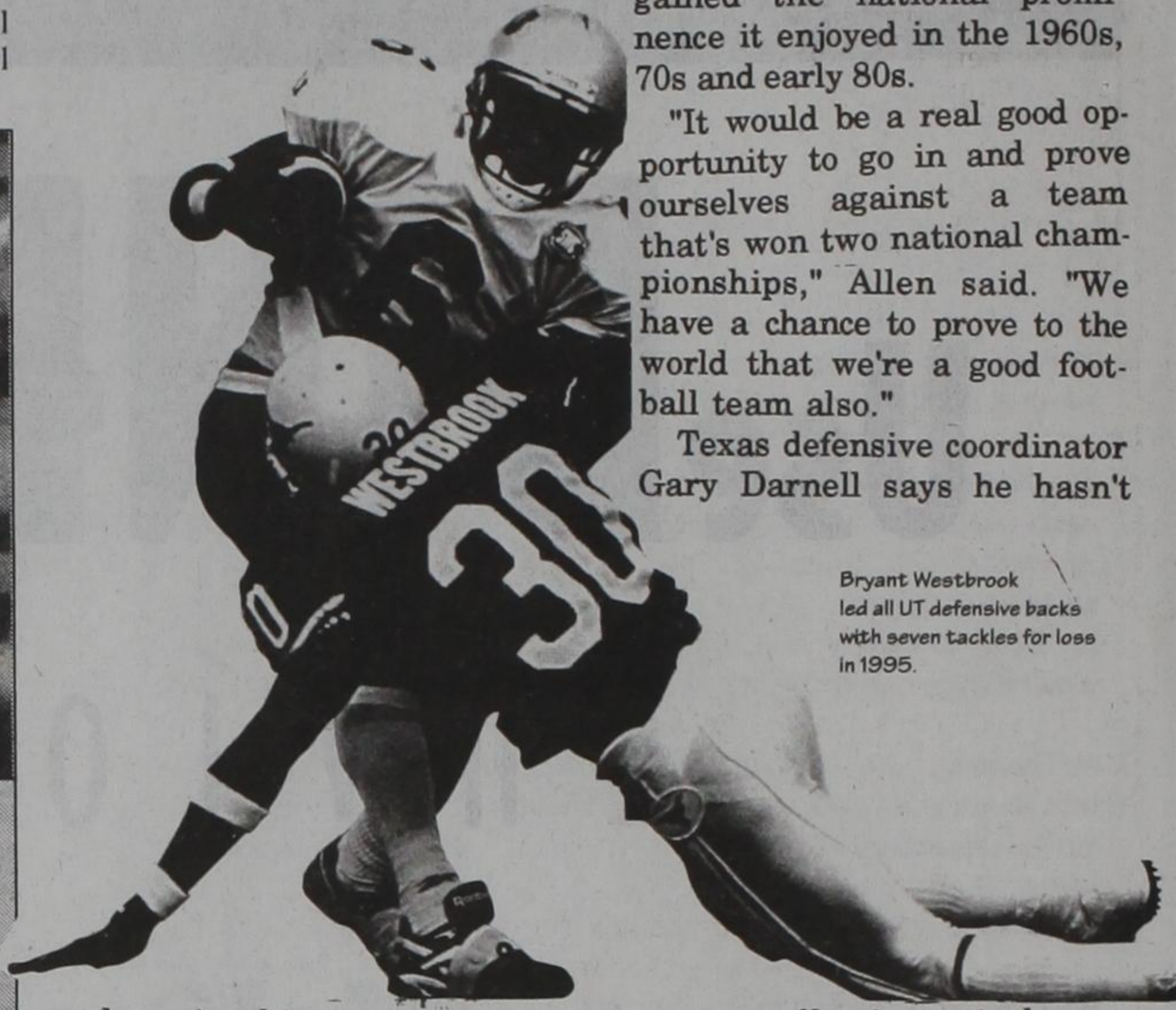
And that's OK with Westbrook, the hardest hitter on Texas' team, and one of its biggest trash talkers.

"They're the champions of the north, and we're the champions of the south. It's going to be like that Civil War, baby," Westbrook said. "I hope they're ready because we're going to be ready."

Allen says Saturday's game is a chance for the Texas defense and the team to prove the Longhorns' program has regained the national prominence it enjoyed in the 1960s, 70s and early 80s.

"It would be a real good opportunity to go in and prove ourselves against a team that's won two national championships," Allen said. "We have a chance to prove to the world that we're a good football team also."

Texas defensive coordinator Gary Darnell says he hasn't



Bryant Westbrook led all UT defensive backs with seven tackles for loss in 1995.

championship game against third-ranked Nebraska (10-1, 8-0).

The Huskers' rushing offense, an option attack averaging 296.4 yards, is fifth in the nation. Texas' defense, ranked 64th in the nation, has been erratic against the run, yielding nearly 200 yards per game. But the Longhorns, riding a four-game winning streak, are coming off their best game.

In a 51-15 victory against Texas A&M last week, Texas gave up just 227 yards, marking the Aggies' lowest offensive output in five years.

Texas cornerbacks West-

seen an offensive attack as complete as Nebraska's this side of the NFL.

"Green Bay, maybe," he joked.

Frost, at quarterback, lines up in the backfield with an array of I-backs including Green, Evans and Damon Benning. They follow the blocks of star linemen Aaron Taylor, Chris Dishman and Eric Anderson.

"It's almost impossible to have the run, the pass and the option, but they come as close to having all three phases as maybe any team ever in college football," Darnell said.

Chávez: "Hay una campaña para desprestigiarme"

Julio César Chávez rechazó haber secuestrado a uno de sus familiares para interrogarlo sobre supuestas infidelidades de su esposa.

Chávez fue acusado ante las autoridades por su conculado, Jesús Antonio Jacobo, de haberlo secuestrado y amenazado de muerte si no le revelaba las actividades privadas de su esposa Amalia Carrasco, quien actualmente se encuentra en trámite de divorcio.

"Es una vil mentira, este muchacho es un drogadicto y alcohólico, que no sirve para nada, que incluso le ha pegado a mis hijos", declaró Chávez al noticiario televisivo mexicano Hechos.

También se quejó de que su esposa no le deja ver a sus hijos ni hablar por teléfono con ellos, "hacen todo para

provocarme, para hablar mal de mí, para que yo haga una tontería".



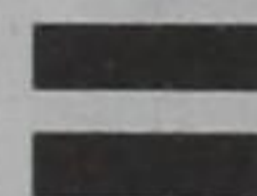
Julio César Chávez, con su actitud habitual en los últimos tiempos: meditando en busca de una solución para su situación.

"Quiero que me dejen en paz", subrayó Chávez.

Chávez dijo que hay una campaña para desprestigiarlo y advirtió que iniciará demandas contra aquellos "que me calumnien".

Mientras tanto, hay otras versiones sobre el tema. Según Jesús Antonio Jacobo, conculado de Julio César Chávez, varios guardaespaldas del boxeador lo secuestraron en la calle y lo llevaron a una casa abandonada, donde el boxeador lo amenazó con matarlo si no le daba detalles de la vida privada de su esposa Amalia Carrasco.

"Me dijo que me daba media hora para hablar y si no lo hacía me mataría. Estaba completamente ebrio", dijo Jacobo, quien fue rescatado por un hermano del propio Chávez.



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News Briefs

From Page One

more each month than the average \$1,011 a year they now put away in order to achieve an annual retirement income of \$26,256 in 1996 dollars.

At the same time, a 60-year-old worker with \$140,000 already saved would need to put away an additional \$2,325 a month to retire at 65 on a \$26,256 yearly income. But the survey found the average worker aged 45 to 64 is saving only \$2,529 a year.

"That's a huge gap between what people expect and what they will likely receive," said John Penko, vice president of the insurance company.

"For younger workers, there may be time to catch up," he added. "For older workers, it is going to be very hard, if not impossible, for them to live their retirement dreams, even though workers over 45 are saving 31 percent more than they were two years ago."

The council is a nonprofit membership association formed in 1981 by several Fortune 500 companies to study and promote 401(k) and other elective retirement plans.

Welfare Cuts for Californina Kids to Start 1/1/97

Calif. Governor Pete Wilson took a major step toward imposing the new federal welfare law that will allow cuts in benefits for 2.7 million poor people and children in California starting New Year's Day, reports The San Francisco Chronicle.

The most immediate impact will be felt by recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, whose monthly checks will be reduced by 4.9 percent statewide, and by another 4.9 percent in 41 counties areas deemed by the state to have lower costs of living.

The governor's action still must be ratified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, but no objections have been raised so far by the Clinton administration.

The plan signed by Wilson details the first steps for imposing a new program called Temporary Aid to Needy Families. It includes:

- Teen Pregnancy Disincentive: A requirement that teenage parents on AFDC live with their parents or in a government-approved residence. This is scheduled to take effect in March.

- Maximum Family Grant: Beginning in the summer, welfare checks will not increase when recipients have more children. Supporters contend increases were an incentive to have more children.

- Relocation Grant: Recipients who move to California starting in March will receive the amount of their home state's check until they have lived here 12 months. Wilson has long declared that California's generosity -- its checks are the fourth-highest in the nation -- attracts recipients from other states.

Wilson's filing of the welfare plan shifts California from receiving a fixed amount for each AFDC recipient from the federal government to a block grant of about \$3.7 billion a year. In the short term, California and other states will receive more money from Washington than they would have under the traditional system.

But the block grant remains constant through 2002. Thus, the state must reduce its welfare costs or use its own money to pay for its public assistance program. Wilson's signature does not trigger a five-year lifetime limit for federal welfare benefits or a requirement that recipients find a job within two years.

Langston from Page 1

Langston our next Texas Senator. For our good and the good of our children," said Patterson.

The Southwest Digest is distributed in the entire West Texas and Eastern New Mexico region. El Editor - Lubbock is distributed in a 10 county area around Lubbock. Both newspapers have been continuously printed weekly for 20 years. El Editor-Odessa is distributed in Odessa and in a 10 county area. The three newspapers have a combined readership of approximately 150,000 persons mainly in the minority population.

David Langston candidato para el Senado de Tejas de esta area tuvo varias actividades esta semana pasada donde se invito todo el publico para que lo escucharan. Los eventos se llevaron acabo en Lubbock, Odessa y por 16 mas ciudades del oeste de Tejas. Las elecciones para esta posición sera este martes. Personas pueden votar en su cajilla electoral normal. Personas quien necesitan transportación para ir a votar o necesitan mas informacion pueden llamar al 796-1996 en Lubbock o al 333-3614 en Odessa.



Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

Cristo dijo: "Si no comen la caren del Hijo del hombre, y si no beben su sangre, no tendrán vida en ustedes". Estas palabras han deser paa nosotros una orden formal. Durante mucho tiempo, en los principios de la Iglesia, los fieles no tuvieron necesidad de ningún mandamiento, porque ellos recibían diariamente la Sagrada Comunión; pero, habiendo disminuído el fervor en el transcurso de los siglos, la Iglesia impuso el Precepto de Comulgar una vez al año, en el Cuarto Concilio de Letrán, especialmente: "Comulgar en el tiempo de la Pascua".

La edad de razón o de discreción es aquella en que la inteligencia del niño pueda distinguir, con la seriedad conveniente, las cosas de la Religión y principalmente lo relativo a al Sagrada Comunión.

Lorenzo Sailor's Fish Story Is Big Catch

By H. Sam Samuelson

SAN DIEGO--When your business is as noble as protecting the national security of the United States of America, you generally don't strut around telling fish stories.

Still, the "official" fishing tally aboard the guided missile frigate USS Lewis B. Puller, during a recent four-month deployment to the Caribbean, is something even the folks of Lorenzo can brag about: close to 5,000 pounds of illegal narcotics.

It was the catch of the day for Navy Petty Officer 1st Class David Trevino.

Trevino, the 37-year-old son of Charlie and Balbina Lopez of Lorenzo, is a gunner's mate aboard the Puller where he operates and maintains the ship's weapons systems. His ship recently partnered with the U.S. Coast Guard this summer off the southern coast of Haiti and helped seize a fishing vessel carrying more than two tons of narcotics, along with several weapons.

Five drug traffickers were also arrested.

Trevino said he feels it's important for the Navy to aid federal agencies in counter-narcotic operations.

"It's important for the Navy to aid federal agencies in counter-narcotic operations in order to keep drugs out of towns, cities and neighborhoods and out of our children's hands. With the Navy's help, we can stop this from happening," said Trevino, a 1978 graduate of Lorenzo High School.

Navy ships also bring intimidation. Even drug traffickers get a little sea sick when they spot the menacing profile of a bristling U.S. Navy guided missile frigate waiting for them on the horizon, or worse, cutting toward them, on a direct heading.

For Trevino, helping stem the flow of illegal drugs into the United States was the highlight of the deployment.

"The most rewarding part of the cruise was making a drug bust," said Trevino, an 18-year Navy veteran.

While the Navy does not hold arresting authority, the Coast Guard does. Since the late 80s, the Coast Guard has, in a sense, deputized Navy ships in the war on drugs. Trevino's ship steamed more than 21,000 nautical miles in support of counter-drug operations with U.S. interagency task forces, as well as ships from several foreign navies.

Possessing a variety of weapons and a state-of-the-art combat information center, the 3,600-ton Puller is one of

Desde esa edad, todos estamos obligados a "confesarnos una vez al año" y, a "comulgar por la Pascua". Nadie cumple el precepto de recibir la Sagrada Comunión comulgando sacrilegamente. (Canon 861). (San Juan 6, 48-60).

Debemos de creer que Juesucristo es Diosa, porque El mismo lo atestiguó y lo probó por sus milagros, y por sus virtudes y por la santidad de su doctrina.

Jesuristo aseguró con juramento, ante el sumo Sacerdote, que El era Hijo de Dios. También, después de haber curado a un ciego de nacimiento, se llamó Hijo de Dios. Cuando San Pedro le dijo a Jesucristo: "Tú eres el Cristo, Hijo de Dios vivo", y Jesucristo lo alabó y lo aprobó.

Confirmó que es Dios con muchísimos milagros que son relatados en el Evangelio; y los hizo en su propio nombre, demostrando así su omnipotencia.

Jesucristo dijo, desafiando a sus propios enemigos: "¿Quién de ustedes me vencerá de pecado?". Solamente Diosa puede hablar así, porque sólo Diosa es incapaz de pecar. (Mateo 26, 64.). (Juan 9, 35-37) (Juan 8, 46). (Mat. 16, 13-19).

Young, Dynamic And Diverse-Hispanic Americans

NEW YORK,NY--The Hispanic population continues to be among the fastest growing segments of the U.S. population, reports the October/December issue of Statistical Bulletin, published quarterly by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Between 1980 and 1990 the number of persons of Hispanic origin increased 53 percent in the U.S., rising from 14.6 million to about 22.4 million. By 1994, the total increased another 19 percent to 26.6 million. "Hispanic Americans present a varied social, economic and residential portrait," states Jorge H. del Pinal, Ph.D., U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC, author of the study.

Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Central or South Americans and persons from Spain all are classified as being of Hispanic origin. "Each national group has tended to settle in specific states and is beginning to have a significant presence in those in which the majority resides: Arizona, California,

Colorado, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, and Texas," he added. In 1994 close to 90 percent of all U.S. Hispanics lived in just these nine states.

According to the Census Bureau, Hispanic Americans may surpass African Americans as the largest U.S. minority group by the year 2005. Research indicates that the population totals may exceed 31 million by the year 2000 and 96 million by 2050.

It is further projected that the proportion of Hispanic school-age children may more than double between 1995 and 2050, reaching nearly 33 percent of all U.S. preschoolers and 30 percent of school-age children, ages 5 to 17.

Hispanics, particularly men, have high labor force participation rates and will become an increasingly important source of the future labor force. Dr. del Pinal writes, "As such, they will be expected to contribute to the retirement benefits of an ever aging U.S. population."

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the Navy's most formidable warships. During its operations in the Caribbean, the

450-foot frigate combined the use of air-search radars, sophisticated communication

equipment and embarked helicopters to monitor, detect and deter the shipment of drugs into the United States.

Little happens on the horizon--or beneath the sea--that the ship is not aware of, and it is that capability that is the most beneficial in the war on drugs.

"With the technology we have on our ship cab make it easier for us to find drugs," Trevino said. "I think it's a great idea that all countries get together and fight the war on drugs as one because we can't do it alone."

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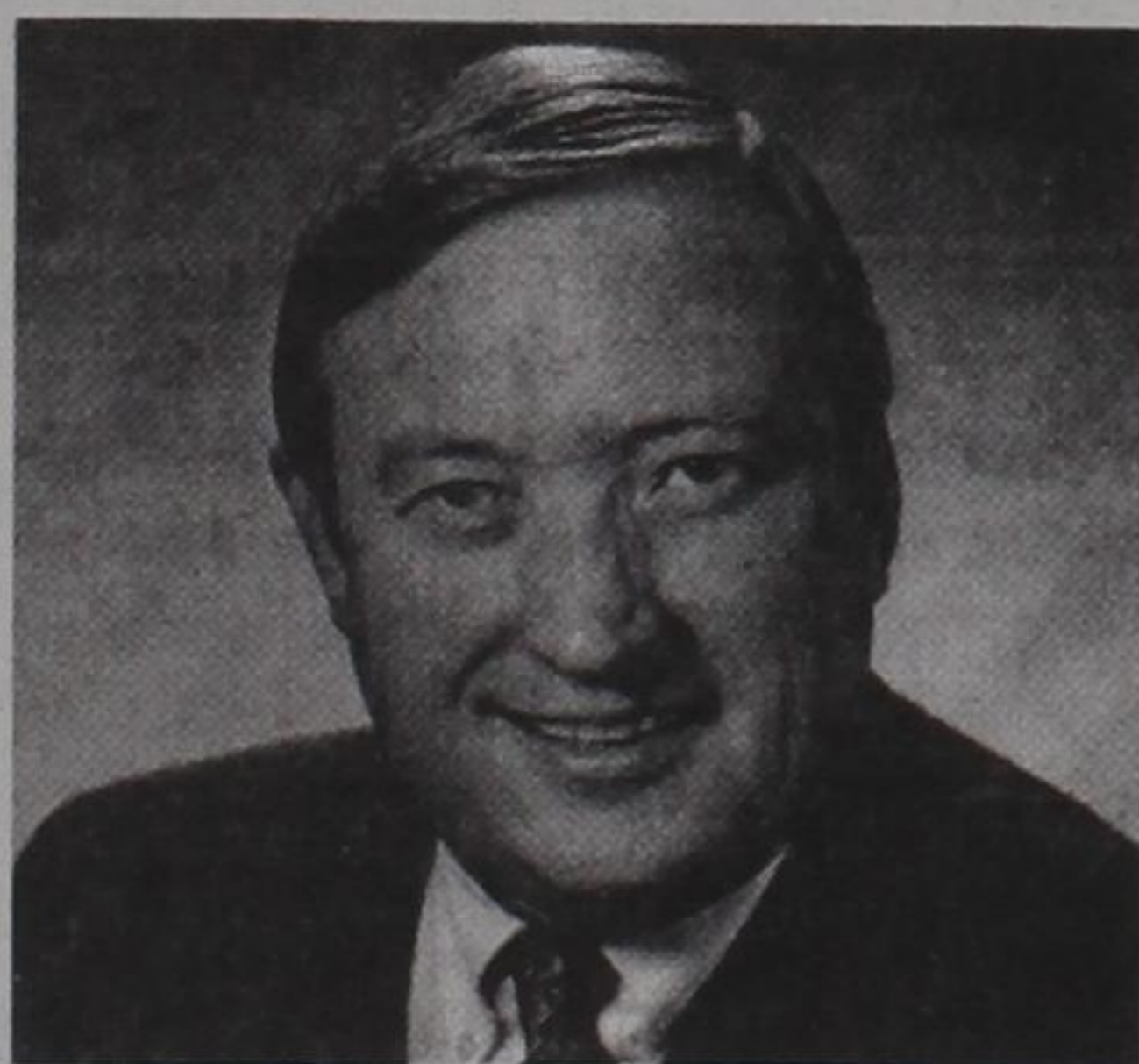
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