

Jimenez Art to Be Featured at Tech Museum

The Texas Tech University Museum will open the exhibition **Luis Jiménez: Working-Class Heroes: Images from the Popular Culture**, on December 14. The exhibition features a grouping of 70 large-scale fiberglass sculptures, working models, paintings, and prints by this celebrated Mexican American artist. An informal reception will be held from 1:30-3:30 pm in the Memorial Room of the Museum.

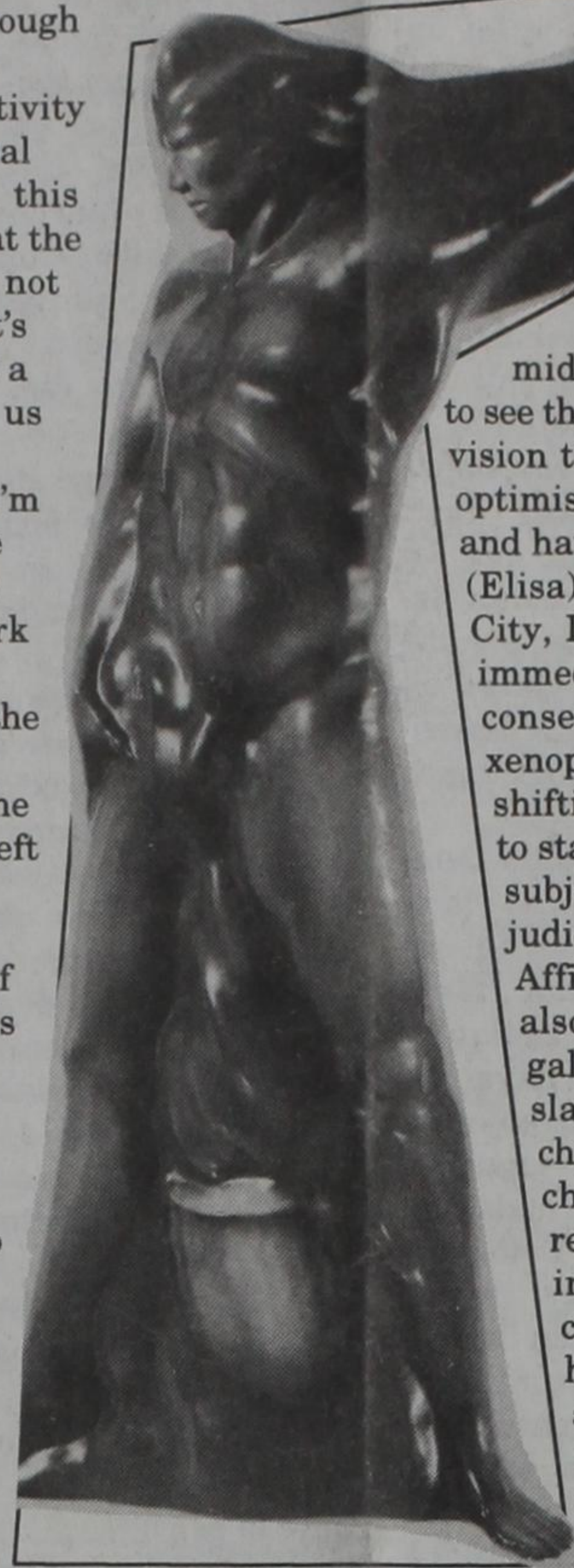
Jimenez was raised in the border town of El Paso, Texas, where he worked in his father's sign shop and mastered the techniques of welding and spray-painting. From the beginning, Jimenez has combined popular culture and imagery, Chicano style and political content, and craft with a sophisticated awareness of "high art" technique and imagery. In the 1960's he went to New York after a period of study in Mexico City with the famous muralist Francisco Zuniga. In New York Jiménez' imagery, reflecting a fascination with popular culture - cars, music, sex, plastic - was almost immediately accepted into the artwork trend of Pop Art. In 1971, he returned to the Southwest, where his work became more



focused upon an examination and celebration of Chicano culture and myth, and their relationship to contemporary events and the people who live them. The colorful exuberance that is unmistakably Jiménez is evident in this exhibition covering 30 years of the artist's career, from 1967 to the present. Luis Jiménez' work crosses many cultural boundaries and geographic borders. In a recent interview in *Hispanic* magazine, Jimenez reflected on the past ten years of Chicanos art. "The past ten years have seen an increased visibility of Hispanics in the visual arts. This was largely made possible through funding of projects and artists with national grants such as the National Endowment for the Arts and an increase in opportunities for Hispanics to study

in the arts through Affirmative Action programs and scholarships."

Like other dominant figures in 20th century art, Jiménez has continually evolved through decades of creative activity and personal experience. This exhibition at the Museum is not of the artist's rather, it is a that allows us Jiménez' While I'm term future is an artist in New York about the because of the artist, country. The funds are left they are and pre- mination of programs is Private take up the are mer- as mer- they tend to than thing. Our not have a ing its can afford rather buy Des- decades of ability in the art world and numerous public commissions in many communities around the country, Jiménez; work has never been assembled into a major traveling exhibition. This first national tour speaks in a strong voice and addresses



a celebration lifetime of work, mid-career milestone to see the breadth of vision to date. optimistic for the long- and have a daughter who (Elisa) and doing well City, I'm pessimistic immediate future conservative, anti- xenophobic mood in the shifting of whatever to state control, where subject to local bias justice, and the eli- Affirmative Action also disturbing. galleries will not slack because most chants who treat art Chandise. As such, reflect trends rather innovate any- community does history of support- artist when they to. They would a car."

pite almost three national visi- bility in the art world and numerous public commissions in many communities around the country, Jiménez; work has never been assembled into a major traveling exhibition. This first national tour speaks in a strong voice and addresses

contemporary issues, thus inviting individual interpretations and associations. The exhibition presents the opportunity to see the levels of meaning explored in Jiménez' work and to ponder the many facets of our culture with form his life and our own.

Art curator and museum rexecutive director Gary Edson stated this pleasure in bringing the exhibition to Lubbock. "The Museum's association with the work of Luis Jiménez goes back many years. We have shown individual pieces and incorporated Jiménez' works into exhibitions on several occasions but this is the first time to show his works on such a monumental and comprehensive scale." Edson said.

Luis Jiménez: Working-Class Heroes: Images from the Popular Culture celebrates the uncommon strength and endurance of the common people who have inspired many of Jiménez' often controversial public sculpture projects. Included in this exhibition are monumental versions of *Sod buster*, *San Isidro* (1989) *Southwest Pieta* (1984), and *Border Crossing* (Cruzando El Rio Bravo) (1989), all three of which have inspired heated debates within the communities of their public-commission sites. These sculptures and other work in the exhibition are the subjects of insightful essays in the exhibition catalog by the curator, Benito Huerta, and critics Dave Hickey and Michael Brenson.



The exhibition is curated by Benito Huerta and organized and toured by *Exhibits USA*, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance. It is sponsored by the Lila Wallace-Reader Digest Fund, with additional support from the H&R Block Foundation, the Cooper Foundation, the John S and Jams L. Knight Foundation, the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Union Pacific Foundation.

Locally, the exhibition is funded in part by grants from the Helen Jones Foundation and the West Texas Museum Association.



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

EL EDITOR

Vol. XXI No. 11

Week of December 11 to December 17, 1997

Lubbock, Texas

Established 1977 - Texas' Oldest Hispanic Owned Newspapers

Montford Explica Nuevo Poliza de Admision

Miembros de diferentes organizaciones y residentes de

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

This writer is yet to take a stance on what to recommend to our readers as to the issue of the 3/8¢ sales tax increase. My gut feeling is to oppose the tax simply because it is a sales tax and because it is a known fact that sales taxes are regressive and those affected most adversely by them are the poor.

My second thought is that some type of effort is needed in order to boost economic development in Lubbock and to create better paying jobs.

The question as to whether the proposed tax will create better paying jobs can only be answered by those movers and shakers that will be in charge of the monies generated by the tax. Whether they -- and it's yet to be known who they will be -- will go after those new businesses that will create good jobs.

Another question that arises is how can this new tax be offset to people that do not own property. The movers and shakers are stressing that if the sales tax is passed, the result will be a reduction in property taxes.

Perhaps a commitment from the movers and shakers and property owners to lower rental costs for those who do not own property would help to convince the rest of the public that the new tax would benefit them.

Both questions are needed to be answered. Let's hope they will not be ignored.

Lubbock se juntaron este pasado lunes para discutir con John Montford, el Presidente de la Universidad de Texas Tech, problemas que existen entre dicha institucion y la comunidad.

Entre las cosas discutidas fue el proposito hecha por la

Universidad de aumentar los requisitos para que estudiantes se ingresen a estudiar. Minorias de Lubbock estan preocupados que muchos estudiantes seran negados la oportunidad de asistir por el aumento de requisitos.

Durante la junta el Sr.

Montford aseguro a los que asistieron que no era el motivo de la Universidad excluir a ningun estudiante de asistir. Dijo que cualquier problema que encontraran se deberia de submitir a su oficina para resolucion.



Photo by Francisco J. Gutierrez

Chicanos Must Understand History to Understand Themselves

By Joe Olvera

A newspaper article in 1879 conjectured that "A family of eight or 10 (Mexicans) along the border could maintain itself all year on a small five-acre field, a few goats, a couple of old broken-down horses, two or three cows, and perhaps some donkeys and then be perfectly content to live and die in a mud jacal (adobe house)."

Thus wrote Hams Kickle, a reporter for the San Antonio Express, on Oct. 7, 1879, about Mexican families living along the border.

Another thought had it that: "The Mexican is by nature light hearted, and the unedu-

cated class live on the principle that 'sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.' Fill their stomachs and give them plenty of sunshine today and they will not worry themselves about tomorrow's dinner."

And, yet another, from a reporter for the New York Commercial Advertiser, in 1887: "They are priest-ridden, without schools or ambition and have little conception of Yankee progress. In El Paso, Mexicans wait patiently and complacently for life to slip away...."

Mexicans in Eagle Pass, Texas, were said to live "in primitive manner, present-

ing a mixture of poverty, ignorance and dirt in comparison to the wealth, culture, and refinement of whites."

And you wonder why Leo Graglia made negative comments about Chicano students at the University of Texas at Austin. Graglia, a law professor at the university, said that Chicanos and blacks are not academically competitive with whites, and that "it is the result primarily of cultural effects. They have a culture that seems not to encourage achievement. Failure is not looked upon with disgrace."

What Graglia believes to be the truth about Chicanos and

News Briefs

Powell Backs Affirmative Action

Retired Gen. Colin Powell expressed his support for affirmative action programs Monday, saying they help reduce racial barriers to equal opportunity, reports Associated Press.

Powell, a former Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, said in remarks to the annual National Council of Negro Women conference that such programs are far better than what went before.

"We have seen what the preference system that had been in place for 250 years has done to us," he said.

Powell, a Republican, has differed often with the more conservative members in his party over the need for affirmative action programs.

The military provides the best example of how affirmative action programs can broaden a pool of applicants in jobs and education, Powell said. West Point, for example, tries to attain various minority goals in its cadet population each year. Powell said such efforts help promote minority participation for children.

"It is not inappropriate for us to use affirmative action to get our youngsters in the pool," he said.

Study Eyes Minority Pay in Senate

A new congressional study that examines the salaries and racial backgrounds of Senate staff members shows a wide pay gap between white and minority employees, reports Associated Press.

Black Senate employees overall earned 76 cents for every dollar earned by whites this year, according to the study released today by the Congressional Management Foundation. In 1993, black staff members made 83 cents per dollar.

The average pay for Hispanic staff workers increased this year but was still considerably lower than white members. Hispanics earned 85 cents for every dollar whites earned in 1997; they earned 75 cents per dollar in 1993.

Asians and Native Americans, who were grouped collectively in the report, constituted less than 2.8 percent of minority employees of the Senate. They made 93 cents for every dollar earned by white workers.

Researchers for the foundation, a non-partisan group funded by corporations, attributed the pay disparity to an overrepresentation of minorities in lower-paying jobs and an underrepresentation in positions that paid more. Ethnic minorities comprise 13.6 percent of Senate staff, but they hold only 4.6 percent of the five top-paying positions.

The report emphasized that the salary disparities do not reflect a different pay scale for employees who have similar experiences and qualifications -- even if they are of different races.

Jackie Parker, a senior legislative assistant who has worked for Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., since 1979, said the current system of hiring often depends on internal contacts.

"Such informal networks can have the same devastating effects as an explicit discriminatory system since blacks are disproportionately out of the loop," she said.

Parker said she finds it amazing that many Senate officials can't see the political value of hiring and promoting more minority staff members.

"There should be a more concerted effort to include more qualified minority applicants in the resume pool," she said. "I don't want to get into quotas, I don't want to get into looking for blacks. I'm just saying the pool ought to be diverse, just as this country is diverse. The staff up here should look like America."

Democratic offices tend to employ more minorities than Republican offices, according to the report.

There is only one black senator. The House has 39 black members.

Continued Page 5

¿Ayuda La Enseñanza Bilingüe?

Por Domenico Maceri

Imagina que eres un(a) niño(a) de habla hispana monolingüe en una escuela aquí, en los Estados Unidos. Tú necesitas ir al baño. Tu maestro(a) no entiende tu idioma. Sientes confusión, te sientes perdido(a), incómod(a) físicamente, mientras tu maestro(a) explica las fracciones en la pizarra en un idioma que es un misterio para tí. Este(a) maestro(a), a quien tú desearías ver como tu padre (o madre) temporera no es accesible. La falta de un idioma común crea una barrera insuperable.

Imagínate, por otra lado, el mismo ambiente con un(a) maestro(a) que conoce tu idioma y que te recuerda tu hogar en algunas formas. Hay un mensaje claro de que tu idioma es importante y que, como resultado, tú también lo eres. Aún en aquellos casos en los que el dominio del español por parte de tu maestro(a) es limitado, te sientes cómodo(a). Tu auto-estima se eleva. Las gestiones de tu maestro(a) para comunicarse evidencian claramente que se te valora y se te quiere.

El hecho de que tu maestro(a) también hable el inglés te provee un ejemplo: el camino que tú necesitarás seguir. Sí, como tu maestro(a), tú modelo, tú serás capaz de hablar ambos idiomas. Tú no necesitarás perder tu lengua natal. Sencillemente ganarás otro idioma en adición al primero. Tus habilidades bilingües harán posible que conserves tus vínculos con tus padres en tu casa y puedas funcionar en el mundo exterior al mismo tiempo.

La enseñanza bilingüe no es una panacea, pero sí suaviza el choque cultural para los estudiantes inmigrantes. No

borra su temor intrínseco a estar en un país cuyo idioma y cultura no entienden. No compensa por la pobreza que es común entre los inmigrantes. No elimina la impresión de que sus padres no pueden protegerles porque ellos mismos no conocen el idioma local. No convierte automáticamente a sus padres en personas bien instruidas que entienden el modo de apoyar la enseñanza de sus hijos. Sin embargo, intenta traer la enseñanza y la comprensión a su nivel.

El reunirse con los estudiantes a sus respectivos niveles, antes de querer encontrarlos al nivel donde "deberían" estar, es un concepto fundamental. Si los chicos viven demasiado lejos de la escuela, se les envía un autobús para recogerlos. Si llegan a la escuela con hambre, se les da el desayuno, y después ya pueden aprender. Si no saben el inglés, uno aprende su idioma. Su idioma se utilizará para enseñarles matemáticas y otras materias. Uno lo empleará para comunicarse con sus padres y explicarles de qué modo ellos pueden ayudar a sus hijos con su enseñanza.

Así los alumnos no se quedarán atrasados varios grados con respecto a sus iguales. En pocos años, ellos sabrán suficiente inglés y no necesitarán enseñanza en su idioma natal. De eso se trata la enseñanza bilingüe -- de reunirse con los niños inmigrantes a los niveles en que ellos se encuentran.

Si uno no lo hace, ellos fracasarán y nosotros fracasaremos como sociedad y con el tiempo sufriremos las consecuencias de ese fracaso.

Se podría argumentar que estamos haciendo demasiado para satisfacer las necesi-

dades de los estudiantes inmigrantes. Y que a los ciudadanos estadounidenses que fueran a México no se les suministraría enseñanza bilingüe. Si a un adolescente de los Estados Unidos se le dan latigazos en Singapur por una infracción mínima, ¿significa que deberíamos nosotros hacerle lo mismo acá a un joven de aquel país por una infracción semejante?

¿Tiene éxito la enseñanza bilingüe? Los críticos dicen que no. Ellos alegan que los estudiantes no aprenden inglés, que permanecen por demasiado tiempo en clases bilingües y no hacen la transición a la enseñanza en inglés solamente.

¿Cuánto es demasiado tiempo? El aprendizaje de idiomas, la adquisición de un lenguaje, no es una tarea fácil. Pregúntele a cualquier estadounidense que haya pasado tiempo en el extranjero y descubrirá que muchos aprendieron poco o nada del idioma extranjero. Y los niños aprenden muy lentamente, aunque tienen la capacidad de adquirir un nuevo idioma sin acento extranjero.

Algunos críticos señalan también los resultados de los exámenes normalizados como prueba de que la enseñanza bilingüe es un fracaso.

Los exámenes normalizados han sido severamente atacados últimamente porque reflejan a una cultura blanca de clase media. Una parte considerable del conocimiento necesario para obtener una buena puntuación en estos exámenes, se adquiere fuera de las de las excursiones escolares a museos, en viajes y otras actividades a las cuales los recipientes de la enseñanza bilingüe tienen poco acceso.

Las opiniones de los críticos

de la enseñanza bilingüe se hallan también parcializadas por el temor al bilingüismo. Ellos ven el inglés como que está bajo amenaza por otros idiomas y por una "balcanización" de los Estados Unidos. Muchos dan por sentado que los alumnos de la enseñanza bilingüe están aquí ilegalmente.

Encima de eso, dicen los críticos, los recién llegados difieren de los inmigrantes anteriores. Los primeros son haraganes y no quieren realmente aprender inglés, convertirse en "estadounidenses".

En el pasado se han hecho argumentos parecidos sobre otros grupos étnicos. La historia probó que estaban equivocados, a medida que olas de italianos, polacos, alemanes, rusos, chinos y demás inmigrantes ingresaron a la corriente cultural principal e hicieron aportaciones valiosas a la sociedad estadounidense. La enseñanza bilingüe hará que la transición sea más fácil para los nuevos inmigrantes y todos ganaremos como resultado.

La enseñanza bilingüe no es perfecta, pero en realidad, ¿qué lo es?

¿La fonética? ¿El idioma integral? ¿Las matemáticas tradicionales? ¿Las nuevas matemáticas? ¿La enseñanza sexual? ¿El "creacionismo"? ¿La evolución?

La enseñanza bilingüe no es una bala mágica. Empero, da a los niños inmigrantes una oportunidad de tener éxito. Sin perjuicio de a qué lado del río hayan nacido, los niños merecen todas las oportunidades que podamos darles.

(Domenico Maceri enseña idiomas extranjeros en la Escuela Superior Allan Hancock, de Santa María, California.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1997.

Does Bilingual Education Help?

By Domenico Maceri

Imagine being a monolingual Spanish-speaking child in a school here in the United States. You need to go to the bathroom. Your teacher does not understand your language. You feel confused, lost, in physical discomfort, as your teacher explains fractions on the board in a language that is a mystery to you. This teacher, whom you'd like to see as your substitute parent, is inaccessible. The lack of a common language creates an insurmountable wall.

Imagine on the other hand the same setting with a teacher who knows your language and in some ways reminds you of your home. There's a clear message that your language is important and as a result, so are you. Even in those cases where your teacher's fluency of Spanish is limited, you feel comfortable. Your self-esteem rises. Your teacher's efforts to communicate make it clear that you are valued and loved.

The fact that your teacher also speaks English shows you the path you'll want to take. Yes, like your teacher, your model, you will be able to speak both languages. You will not need to lose your home language. You'll just gain another on top of your first one. Your bilingual skills will make it possible to keep your links with your parents at home and at the same time function in the outside world.

Bilingual education is not a panacea, but it softens the culture shock for immigrant students. It does not erase their inherent fear of being in a country where they don't understand the language and culture. It does not make up for the poverty common among immigrants. It does not take away the feeling that their parents are unable to protect them because they do not know the local language themselves. It does not au-

tomatically turn their parents into very well-educated people who know how to support their children's education. Yet it tries to bring education and understanding to their level.

Meeting students at their level rather than the level where they "should" be is a very basic idea. If kids live too far away from school, you send a bus to pick them up. If they come to school hungry, you give them breakfast, and then they can learn. If they don't know English, you learn their language. You'll use it to teach them math and other subjects. You'll use it to communicate with their parents and explain to them how they can help their kids with their education. Your students won't fall several grades behind their peers. In a few years, they'll know enough English and will not need instruction in their native language. That's what bilingual education is about -- meeting immigrant children at their level.

If you don't, they will fail and we as a society fail and eventually suffer consequences for that failure. One could argue that we are doing too much to meet immigrant students' needs. And that U.S. citizens going to Mexico would not be provided with bilingual education. If a U.S. teenager is whipped in Singapore for a minor transgression, should we do the same to a young man from that country for a similar offense?

Does bilingual education succeed? Critics say it doesn't. They claim that students do not learn English and stay far too long in bilingual classes and do not make the transition to English-only instruction. What's too long? Learning languages is not an easy task. Ask U.S. citizens who spent time abroad and you'll discover that many learned little or nothing of the foreign language. And children learn very slowly, although they have the ability

to acquire a new language without a foreign accent.

Some critics also point to standardized test results as proof that bilingual education is a failure.

Standardized tests have been seriously under attack lately because they reflect a white, middle-class culture. A considerable knowledge necessary to do well in these tests is gained outside of school trips to museums, travel and other activities to which bilingual education recipients have little access.

Critics' opinions of bilingual education are also colored by fear of bilingualism. They see English being threatened by other languages and a balkanization of the United States. Many assume that bilingual education students are here illegally.

On top of that, they say, the newcomers differ from immigrants of the past. They are lazy and don't really want to learn English, to become "Americans."

Gore Aims for HIV Medicaid Coverage

Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday he is extremely disappointed that the Department of Health and Human Services has been unable to extend Medicaid coverage to people with HIV to provide them with AIDS-fighting drugs before they become ill, reports Associated Press.

Gore, who called for the initiative last spring, said efforts will continue to help people with HIV get the new generation of drugs. The drugs have proved highly effective in keeping patients healthier but cost about \$12,000 per person per year.

"This administration understands the urgency of finding innovative ways to ensure that all people with HIV benefit from the promise of new and effective treatments," Gore said in a statement. He directed officials to keep looking for new strategies.

Last April, Gore promised AIDS activists that the government would seriously consider extending Medicaid to people with HIV.

But with no action to date, President Clinton's AIDS advisers issued a report over the weekend sharply critical of the administration's second-term AIDS activity.

Officials had hoped the plan would pay for itself by keeping people healthy and saving money on future hospital care. But several proposals were tested and all were too expensive.

People with AIDS already qualify for Medicaid coverage because they are disabled, even if they are not poor enough to participate under the program's normal guidelines. No such provisions exist for people with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.



Sittin' Here Thinkin' Catchin' Up

By Ira Cutler

People like to know how things come out and so television magazine shows often have a feature where they tell the viewers what has happened with stories from previous shows. And, at the end of movies, they sometimes do this scrolling words thing where they tell you what happened to people afterwards - "So and so quit being a gang member, learned to channel his anger and grew up to be the Secretary of Defense..."

Sittin' Here Thinkin' always likes to go with the trends, to be in the mainstream, and so this is the first annual "Update Column" to let you know, without having to read the whole newspaper yourself, how the various things from previous columns have turned out.

Ready?
Despite nightly FBI bravado on television every night for months - "We'll get the cowards that did this!" - the cause of the TWA 800 crash remains unknown. In a letter to the families of the victims, the FBI reported that after spending gazillions of dollars they had found "absolutely no evidence" of any criminal act. Initially, the FBI refused to make the letter public, idiotically calling the matter "private" after having made it a continuing media circus. Ironically, all of the silly airport procedures put in place when they thought the crash was an act of terrorism are still in place.

In other crime and punishment news, the Timothy McVeigh trial went off without a hitch, the Unabomber trial is now beginning and, as predicted here, neither trial has the right characters or story line to provide much entertainment or interest. The murderer of Bill Cosby's son has already been caught, tried, and convicted without much fanfare or controversy. We will have to be satisfied with the fact that in some of these cases justice was done, although in a boring, non-OJ kind of way. Richard Jewell, the poor fellow who the FBI fingered for the Atlanta Olympic bombing is doing okay, has secured a police officer job in a small Georgia town and is suing the FBI for millions of our dollars. He will get plenty. Whoever really did the Atlanta bombing is still walking around.

The saddest crime and punishment update is that the murder of Jon Benet Ramsey is now one year old and the police in Boulder keep asking the prime suspects for permission to investigate them. The botched investigation and non-prosecution stand as powerful testimony that there is a two tiered criminal justice system in America.

Bill Clinton's year long national conversation on race, announced in June, was silent for six months and then, just the other day, sprung to life with a two hour Phil Donahue imitation in Akron, Ohio. By all reports, nothing interesting was said -- you could have heard franker talk at any diner - and no one's views on race changed as a result of the discussion. The runner up for the Big Talk - Little Action award for 1997 was Colin Powell's big volunteerism bash in Philadelphia. Although some big corporations are reportedly doing various projects, the initiative has mostly come and gone in terms of the public consciousness. Powell said the other day that he had learned that creating a nationwide change in people's lifestyles so that they would volunteer more was "a little harder than creating an infantry battalion." I suppose so.

James Earl Ray remains in jail, dying of something or other, and when he dies the question of who shot Martin Luther King will achieve permanent conspiracy theory status. Richard Nixon's image continues to improve, relatively speaking, as various books come out about his predecessors. IBM inexplicably retired Big Blue, the computer playing chess machine. I think they know that humans will never again beat machines at chess, or probably anything else, and they have figured out that it is not good for their business to keep rubbing our noses in it.

Some of the news is that there is no news. No one is killing anyone in Bosnia anymore, or if they are the news media has lost interest in it. They did not find life or much of anything else on Mars. The tobacco companies have not gone broke or been convicted of killing anyone and people are still smoking cigarettes, although in the United States the numbers are going down. Sex in the military is presumably still going on, but there have not been any over the top incidents of late. If the Heaven's Gate cult folks left with the Hale-Bopp comet they have not, as yet, phoned home.

No one has cloned anything interesting since the sheep or, if they have, they are wisely keeping it to themselves. Newt Gingrich is still Speaker of the House, although he was pronounced politically dead in this column months ago. The awful story now is that he will be replaced as Speaker by Susan Molinari's white bread husband who, like Bill Clinton, is "post-ideological."

The federal budget is just about balanced, and taxes are being cut, meaning that people with lots of money are not being asked to contribute quite so much towards services and assistance for those with less. Meanwhile Forbes magazine reports the largest ever one year increase in billionaires, from 135 to 170. The Census Bureau reported that the incomes of the wealthiest 20% of families rose while the income of the poorest 20% fell. But let's not get ideological when the economy is booming.

Welfare as we knew it is ending and, although caseloads have been dropping, more than 10.2 million people remain on welfare. Recent reports suggest that despite President Clinton's pleas that businessmen give jobs to more welfare recipients, companies are slow to respond. At a recent celebration where an aircraft company pledged to hire 200 of the 10.2 million people, President Clinton said, "There are a lot more folks out there." The real deal is that Fortune 500 companies may hire a handful of welfare recipients for show, but most who do manage to get work will get boring, repetitive, low skill, no benefits, no future jobs that fail to pay enough to raise them above the poverty level.

Over at the diner things are going along pretty much as usual but the truth is that the conversation, reflecting the times, has grown dull. There are no elections going on, no wars, no scandals with any style to them, and the talk among the guys has degenerated into repetitive discussions of professional football. The late 1990's have gone way beyond a slow news day - this is a slow news era and, if I hear Vinnie talking one more time about passing more to the tight ends, I will just scream.

On the other hand, a couple of weeks ago I eavesdropped on the women's group, the waitresses, and their conversation was quite animated and far more interesting. They seem to be, far more than the guys at the diner, kind of deeply pissed off - I think at men - and although I have not yet grasped what their problem is, at least there is enthusiasm in their voices. I plan to spy on them some more.

That's about it. We are all caught up now and ready for another year. Any questions?

Ira Cutler, HN4072@handsnet.org, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irrelevant, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. He promises us a Monday column most weeks. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.

El Editor Newspaper

is a weekly bilingual published every Thursday by Amigo Publications in Lubbock Texas, 1502 Ave. M, 79401. Tel. 806-763-3841. Subscribing \$40 per year payable in advance. Opinions and commentaries expressed by guest columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher or of advertisers.

Editor/Publisher -- Bidal Agüero
Manager -- Olga Riojas-Aguero
Subscription -- Bob Craig

Call & Subscribe
763-3841

Los Chicanos Deben Comprender la Historia Para Comprenderse A Ellos Mismos

Por Joe Olvera

Un artículo en la prensa de 1879 conjeturaba que "una familia de ocho o diez (mexicanos) en la frontera podría mantenerse a sí misma todo el año sobre un terreno de cinco acres, con unas cuantas chivas, un par de caballos viejos y débiles, dos o tres vacas y quizás algunos burros, y después estar perfectamente contentos de vivir y morir en una choza de adobe."

Así escribió Hams Kickle, reportero del "San Antonio Express," el 7 de octubre de 1879, sobre las familias mexicanas que vivían a lo largo de la frontera.

Otra idea sostenía que "El mexicano es despreocupado por naturaleza, y esta clase falta de instrucción vive bajo el principio de que "es suficiente para el día el mal del mismo. D Llénenles los estómagos y denles bastante luz de sol hoy, y no se preocuparán por la comida de mañana."

Y todavía otro, de un reportero del "New York Commercial Advertiser," en 1887, "Están abarrotados de sacerdotes, sin escuelas ni ambición y tienen poco concepto del adelanto de los yanquis. En El Paso, los mexicanos esperan paciente y complacidamente a que la vida se deslice..."

Se decía que los mexicanos de Eagle Pass, Texas, vivían "de modo primitivo, presentando una mezcla de pobreza, ignorancia y suciedad, en comparación con la riqueza, la cultura y el refinamiento de los blancos."

Y uno se pregunta por qué Graglia hizo comentarios negativos sobre los estudiantes chicanos en la Universidad de Tejas, recinto de Austin. Graglia, profesor de derecho de la universidad, dijo que los chicanos y los negros no pueden competir académicamente con los blancos, y que "es primordialmente el resultado de efectos culturales. Ellos tienen una cultura que parece no alentar el logro. El fracaso no se estima como una desgracia."

Lo que Graglia cree ser la verdad sobre los chicanos y los negros muestra su propia ignorancia sobre el modo en que ambos grupos han sido subyugados, discriminados y detenidos de lograr formas superiores de enseñanza.

Lo que Graglia se niega a aceptar, o no explica, es que la sociedad anglo-americana, tradicionalmente, ha evitado que ambos grupos obtengan logros.

Arnoldo de León se enfoca en su libro, titulado "Los Llamaron Grasientos: Las Actitudes Hacia los Mexicanos en Texas, de 1821 a 1900," sobre las actitudes que han albergado los anglo-americanos tradicionalmente hacia los mexicanos -- aún aquellos mexicanos que han nacido en los Estados Unidos o se las han arreglado para llegar a estar asimilados y aculturados.

Graglia está en voz alta lo que muchos anglo-americanos creen aún. Que los mexicanos, y su progenie, todavía no tienen ambición y que son ignorantes acerca del mundo que les rodea -- contentos de ir a través de la vida con poca inteligencia y poca capacidad o deseo de tener éxito.

Si los chicanos no le dan un

valor demasiado alto a los logros académicos, como alega Graglia, hay también una razón para eso. Por ejemplo, los anglo-americanos a través de Texas premeditadamente y de modo racista, evitan que los méxicoamericanos adquieran una enseñanza superior.

En El Paso, la única escuela que enseñaba a los mexicanos en 1920 era conocida como "Escuela Mexicana." A los niños se les enseñaba sólo hasta el tercer grado.

Gracias a Olivas Villanueva Aoy, los niños mexicanos tuvieron suerte de recibir por lo menos esa enseñanza. La creencia consistía en que los niños mexicanos necesitaban aprender sólo el inglés suficiente para convertirse en los jardineros, los sirvientes y las criadas de los anglo-americanos.

Después, eso cambió. Pero la creencia de que los mexicanos no podían aprender ya estaba bien establecida.

¿Está equivocado Graglia en sus comentarios sobre los chicanos y la enseñanza superior? No, si se mira a la cantidad de chicanos que, en la historia temprana de Texas, se las arreglaban para terminar sus estudios en la escuela. Las cantidades han mejorado tremendamente, desde luego, en esta época. Pero todavía demasiados chicanos abandonan las escuelas secundarias y superiores y las universidades.

Sí, la tradición fue establecida hace mucho tiempo. No por los chicanos, sin embargo. Sino por el racismo que gobernaba a Texas y a otros estados del sur. Los chicanos están esforzándose ahora para superar las desventajas tremendas, continuando su asistencia a las escuelas de enseñanza superior.

Debemos continuar animando a estos jóvenes para que superen las concepciones negativas que sus padres y abuelos tuvieron que cargar hace muchos años.

Continúa el reto para los chicanos jóvenes. ¿Se dan ellos por vencidos cuando las cosas se ponen difíciles? ¿Se rinden cuando las personas tales como Graglia hacen observaciones idiotas acerca de cosas que no conocen?

Tomen en serio los comentarios hechos por ese catedrático de derecho. Aprendan que sí, que hay algo de verdad en lo que él está diciendo. Pero también dense cuenta de que lo que él dice está contaminado por su ignorancia de la historia.

Recuerden: Nada se desarrolla en un vacío. Siempre existe una conexión entre el pasado y el presente. Recuerden las palabras de De León, "Los blancos hablaban de la docilidad, la ignorancia, la decadencia, la mediocridad, el antagonismo hacia el trabajo, el sometimiento al vicio y las inclinaciones hedonísticas de los mexicanos. Los mexicanos parecían un pueblo culturalmente extravagante."

¿Es de extrañar, pues, que los Leo Graglias del mundo continúen albergando pensamientos y filosofías racistas sobre los mexicanos y los chicanos?

(Joe Olvera, periodista fronterizo veterano, es columnista de "The Frontier Voice", en El Paso, Texas.)

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

Conversations with the Milkman

By Miguel Perez

Back in the late 1960s when I was a teenager in Miami's Little Havana, my grandfather would get up early to wait for the milkman. Miguel Martinez, my namesake, was old and sick at that time, but on the days when milk was delivered to our doorstep, he would stand guard on the porch at the crack of dawn.

It wasn't the milk that made him wait. He just wouldn't miss an opportunity to have a conversation with the aggressive and dynamic young milkman, who spoke extensively and with passion -- as did my grandfather -- about the struggle to liberate Cuba from Fidel Castro's communist dictatorship. Their front-porch conversations outside my bedroom window not only served as my alarm clock to get ready for school, but as the day's first lesson. When I arrived at junior high school, I felt I had already received a political science lecture.

Their discussions on world events opened my eyes to many things. They were extremely patriotic, two Cuban refugees who saw no other priority than to liberate their homeland.

They were so much alike and agreed on so many issues that they became friends. The milkman had participated in the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion. But he had not given up. He spoke eloquently about the need to convince Washington to help Cuban refugees continue fighting for their freedom.

In the milkman, my grandfather saw a young man with tremendous political potential. He was a firm believer in free enterprise, a true democrat unwilling to accept either left- or right-wing dictatorships. Grandfather also admired the milkman's business savvy. In Cuba, my grandfather had struggled from poverty to wealth, and in the milkman, he saw the same potential.

"He has the stuff that leaders are made of," my abuelo would say, "He has charisma, he's a great speaker, and he has the right ideas about restoring democracy in Cuba."

"The milkman?" Other family members were skeptical.

My grandfather died in Miami in 1979, never having seen the milkman become Jorge Mas Canosa, a multi-millionaire and the most in-

fluential Cuban-American leader in the 38-year anti-Castro struggle. When Mas Canosa, 58, died of complications from lung cancer Nov. 23, he was buried in the same Miami cemetery where my grandfather rests.

During the years when my grandfather was incapacitated by a stroke, Mas Canosa had struck gold in telecommunications. In 1981, he started the Cuban American National Foundation, now the world's most powerful Cuban freedom lobbying organization.

Grandfather never saw the milkman advise three U.S. presidents and numerous world leaders on Cuban policy. He never saw Mas Canosa realize many of their common dreams.

But he would surely have applauded Mas Canosa's many achievements, including the foundation's role in formulating and passing important legislation that established Radio and TV Marti, as well as the 1996 Helms-Burton Act and the 1992 Cuban Democracy Act, both tightening the U.S. economic embargo against Cuba. He would have been proud of the foundation's

many humanitarian efforts to help Cuban refugees stranded throughout the world.

Surely, he would have felt vindicated for making outrageous predictions about the milkman if he had witnessed Mas Canosa debate liberals in Congress or make mincemeat out of Ricardo Alarcon, the head of Cuba's communist Parliament, in a 1996 televised debate.

When Mas Canosa was asked what assurances poor islanders had that rich exiles would not return and exploit them, his response would have made grandfather proud.

"The same assurances given us by the democratic system and the market economy when we arrived half-starved in this country," Mas Canosa replied.

"(Americans) respected our dignity, gave us an opportunity to prosper in this country to the best of our ability."

Mas Canosa's death leaves an enormous void. No other Cuban-American leader commands the following he had.

His critics, including pro-Castro liberals and some Cuban Americans who envied

Continued Page 5



It's time to bring you up-to-date on our pending merger.

The merger between Lubbock Methodist Hospital System and St. Mary Hospital is progressing on track, with the entities anticipating final approval from their respective boards during the first quarter of 1998. Closure is expected during the second quarter. Employees currently are participating in transition task forces to address merger-related issues. Although not readily visible to the public, great strides have been made to prepare the organization to meet the future health care needs of our region.

As written in our mission statement, our goal remains the creation of a health care system committed to "extending Christian ministry by caring for the whole person -- body, mind and spirit -- and by working with others to improve health and quality of life in the communities served."

The potential for this new organization is tremendous -- not only will it maintain Lubbock's position as the region's leading medical center, the merged entity also will be one of the largest health systems in Texas. But we are certain our size will be eclipsed by compassion, professionalism and genuine concern for the health and well-being of those we serve.

DO NOT ENTER

Great pioneers don't hesitate. MDA research pursues every possible avenue.

MDA
Muscular Dystrophy Association
1-800-572-1717

Imagine the possibilities...



LUBBOCK METHODIST HOSPITAL SYSTEM



ST. MARY HOSPITAL

Deportes - Sports - Deportes - Sports

Will the Cowgirls Give Up?

By DENNE H. FREEMAN
IRVING, Texas - Will the Dallas Cowboys mail in their last two games? No, says Barry Switzer. No, says Troy Aikman. The Cowboys, 6-8 with only a remote chance of a wild-card spot, play at Cincinnati on Sunday and are home against the New York Giants on Dec. 21. Dallas has a longshot chance to make the playoffs based on so many

not going to lay down." Switzer said there will be a tendency to play some younger players only because some of the older ones are hurting. "We'd like to play some of our young people if the older players are hurting," Switzer said. "We're going to play hard even if we are out of it." Defensive tackle Tony Cassillas, who played for Switzer

games," the quarterback said. "We still have to finish out the season and we should still give our best effort." Running back Sherman Williams said "nobody feels good. We're all feeling the pain. But we have to go out and work hard and try to better ourselves in the last two games."

The Cowboys have a long list of injuries. Tight end Eric Bjornson will be out the rest of the season with a fractured ankle and running back Emmitt Smith has a bad shoulder that could keep him from playing.

Offensive linemen Erik Williams and Nate Newton also are nursing injuries.

"We'll go with the healthy ones," Switzer said. "We have to go up there and face a hot quarterback (Boomer Esiason) in a cold town. It won't be easy."

Jones said the Cowboys need to win the last two games "to set the tone for next season." The owner, however, has yet to say who will coach the Cowboys next year.



combinations of events the NFL office hasn't bothered to compute the possibilities.

Does Switzer turn to younger players to give them experience? Or does the coach stay with the older players in their season of discontent?

"We're going to play for a win," Switzer says. "We still have a chance for a 500 season. Jerry (Jones, the owner) and the fans deserve a full day's play for a full day's pay. This team has pride. It's

at Oklahoma, said "it's going to be very difficult to take the field knowing that we aren't going anywhere. And it will be difficult to sit at home in three weeks watching other teams in the playoffs. It's humiliating to know you should win. But we'll keep playing hard."

Aikman said he expects the team to come to play.

"It will be disappointing if we didn't go out and give great effort in the last two

Apply electronically for federal student aid.

FAFSA EXPRESS

www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/express.html

De La Hoya Wins Convincingly

By TIMOTHY W. SMITH
On a scale of 10, Oscar De La Hoya rated his performance against Wilfredo Rivera a 7. He was being hard on himself.

"Hopefully, one day I'll give you a perfect performance," said De La Hoya, who kept his World Boxing Council welterweight championship Saturday night and raised his record to 27-0. "Maybe that will be in three years. Maybe it will never happen. Maybe I'll retire before it happens."

By the time Referee Joe Cortez stopped the fight at 2 minutes 48 seconds of the eighth round because of a severe cut over Rivera's right eye, De La Hoya had already put on a dazzling display.

De La Hoya threw 375 punches and landed 176 and threw 148 jabs and landed 59. He took Rivera out of his game plan with a left hook that opened a gash over Rivera's right eye in the second round. The cut took 40 stitches to close.

"This was another learning experience," De La Hoya said. "As each fight goes on I feel I'm progressing in my boxing. As each fight goes on I feel like I'm becoming a complete boxer."

Rivera (27-3-1), who had lost two close decisions to Pernell Whitaker in his previous world championship bouts, said he tried to stay away from De La Hoya after the cut and was not able to fight inside as he had wanted to.

Tracking down Rivera tested De La Hoya's resolve and the cut over the challenger's eye tested his patience.

"One thing we've been working on is staying cool and staying calm," De La Hoya said. "The mistake I've been making in the past is that when I see blood or see someone hurt in the ring, I've gone crazy. Sometimes when a fighter sees an opponent hurt they want to take him out immediately. But when a fighter is hurt that's when he's the most dangerous."

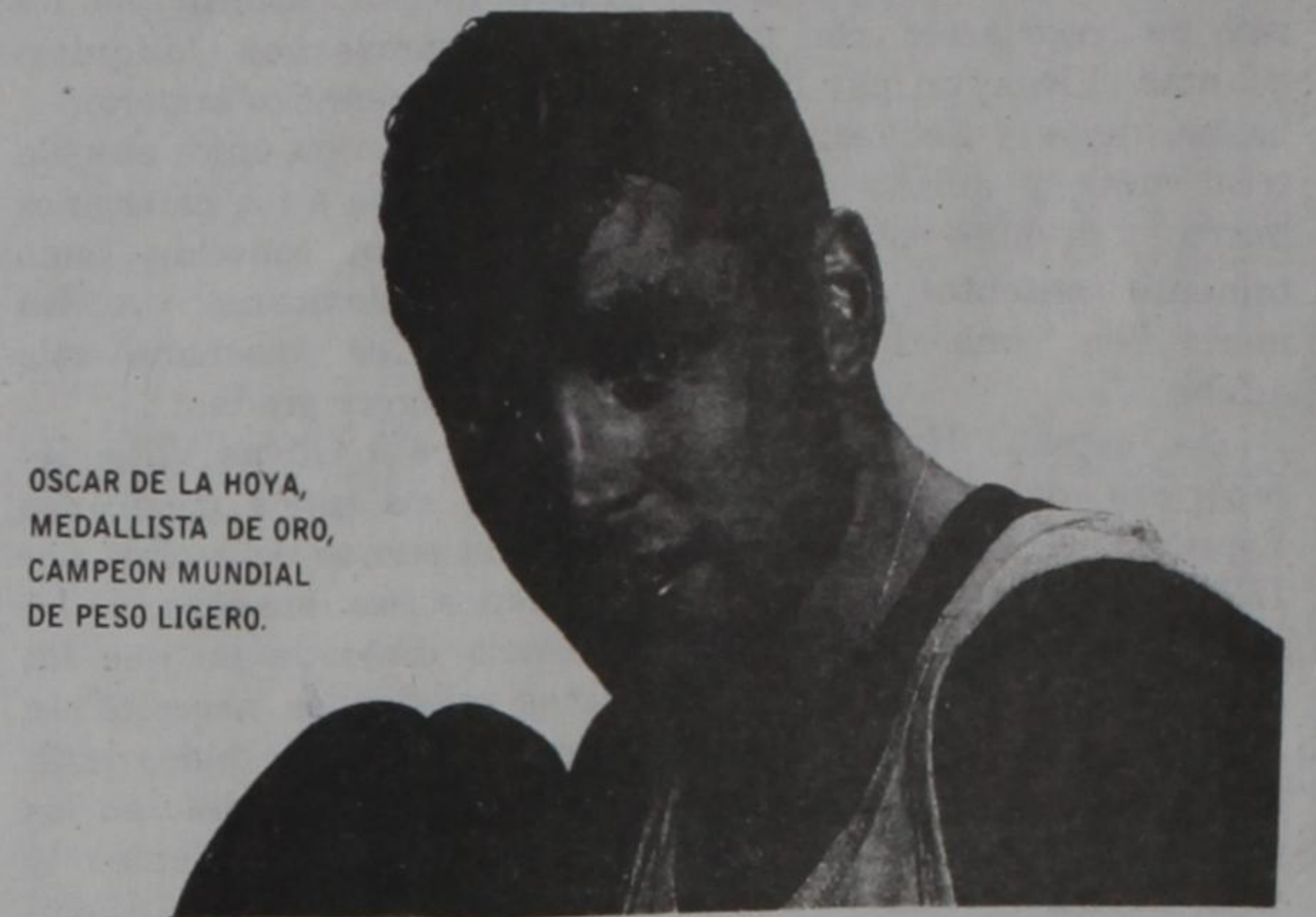
The victory completed a rugged year for De La Hoya. He spent nine months training for five fights -- all title defenses -- and went through three different trainers. He dismissed Emanuel Steward three weeks before his fight against Rivera and hired Gil Clancy as a strategist. He said he would keep working with Clancy.

De La Hoya's promoter, Bob Arum, said De La Hoya would fight four times next year -- twice on pay-per-view and twice live on HBO. He has a mandatory title defense against Patrick Charpentier of France on Feb. 28.

De La Hoya's list of big-payday opponents got narrower

Saturday night because of upsets on the undercard. Raul Marquez lost his International Boxing Federation junior middleweight title to Yory Boy Campas after being stopped on a technical knockout in the

ris-Mullings bout to be a title fight with the stipulation that the winner would fight Trinidad. Trinidad owns the IBF welterweight title, but won the right to fight for the WBC superwelterweight belt by de-



OSCAR DE LA HOYA, MEDALLISTA DE ORO, CAMPEON MUNDIAL DE PESO LIGERO.

eighth round.

Arum had planned to match De La Hoya with Terry Norris in June. But Norris lost his WBC superwelterweight championship on a ninth-round technical knockout by Keith Mullings of New York City. Norris, who had turned down a \$2 million offer to fight World Boxing Association champion Ike Quartey in October, missed out on a \$4.5 million payday to meet De La Hoya.

Mullings took Norris' title, but it came with strings attached. Mullings has a mandatory defense against Felix Trinidad, thanks to a deal agreed to by the WBC at its convention in September.

The WBC allowed the Nor-

feating Troy Waters in an elimination match in August. Norris was going to relinquish the title to Trinidad without meeting him in the ring if he had defeated Mullings.

Now Mullings must fight Trinidad. But Mullings may opt out of the Trinidad fight and drop down for a shot at De La Hoya at 147 pounds.

De La Hoya, with his performance against Rivera on Saturday night, showed unlimited potential.

"I want to make history in boxing," De La Hoya said. "I'm young. I'm only 24. I think I have a bright future. I'm going to make the best of it in as short a period of time as I can."

TOROS DE CHICAGO

¿Quién entiende a Pippen?

La imagen muestra a Scottie Pippen con una camiseta de los Bulls. Pero, a juzgar por sus últimas declaraciones, cabe preguntar si una fotografía similar se repetirá. "No pienso jugar otro partido con los Chicago Bulls", dijo.

La frase llegó en un momento en el que los Bulls (8-5 al comienzo de la semana) necesitan su regreso al equipo tras su operación casi con desesperación. Pippen, que cumple con el último año de su contrato por 2.7 millones de dólares, señaló: "Soy muy serio acerca de esto. Siento que la organización no me respeta después de todo lo que hice por ella".

Pippen dijo estar dispuesto a ser parte de un canje por otro jugador, algo que estuvo a punto de concretarse al comienzo de esta temporada. Por su parte, Michael Jordan y Phil Jackson dijeron que habrá que esperar. De Pippen o de Jerry Krause, gerente general, será la última decisión.

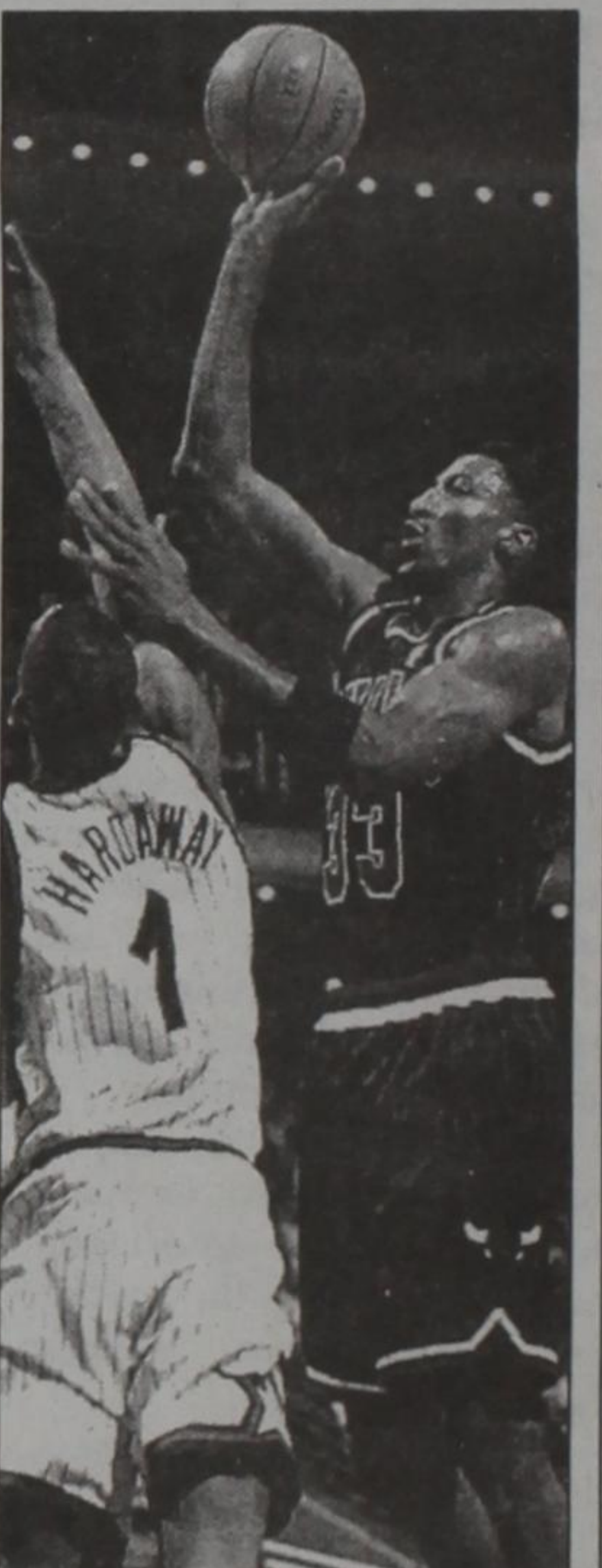


Foto: Archivo La Raza

PRONTO ESTOS BOLETITOS SERAN OTRA PARTE DE LA HISTORIA DE TEXAS.



AVISO DE FINAL DE JUEGO

El 31 de octubre de 1997, First Down, Pecos Bills y Texas Tripler pasarán a la historia de Texas. Estos juegos serán gratas memorias del pasado de Texas así que, si te traen suerte, asegúrate de cobrar tu premio antes del 29 de abril de 1998. Con First Down puedes ganar hasta \$4,000, con Pecos Bills hasta \$2,000 y con Texas Tripler hasta \$6,000.

Podrás reclamar los premios por un monto de hasta \$599 en cualquier agencia donde se venden los boletos de la Lotería de Texas. Los premios de \$600 o más podrás reclamarlos en cualquiera de los 24 centros regionales de la Lotería de Texas o por correo. ¿Preguntas? Sólo llama a la línea Telefónica de Servicio a Clientes de la Lotería de Texas al 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).



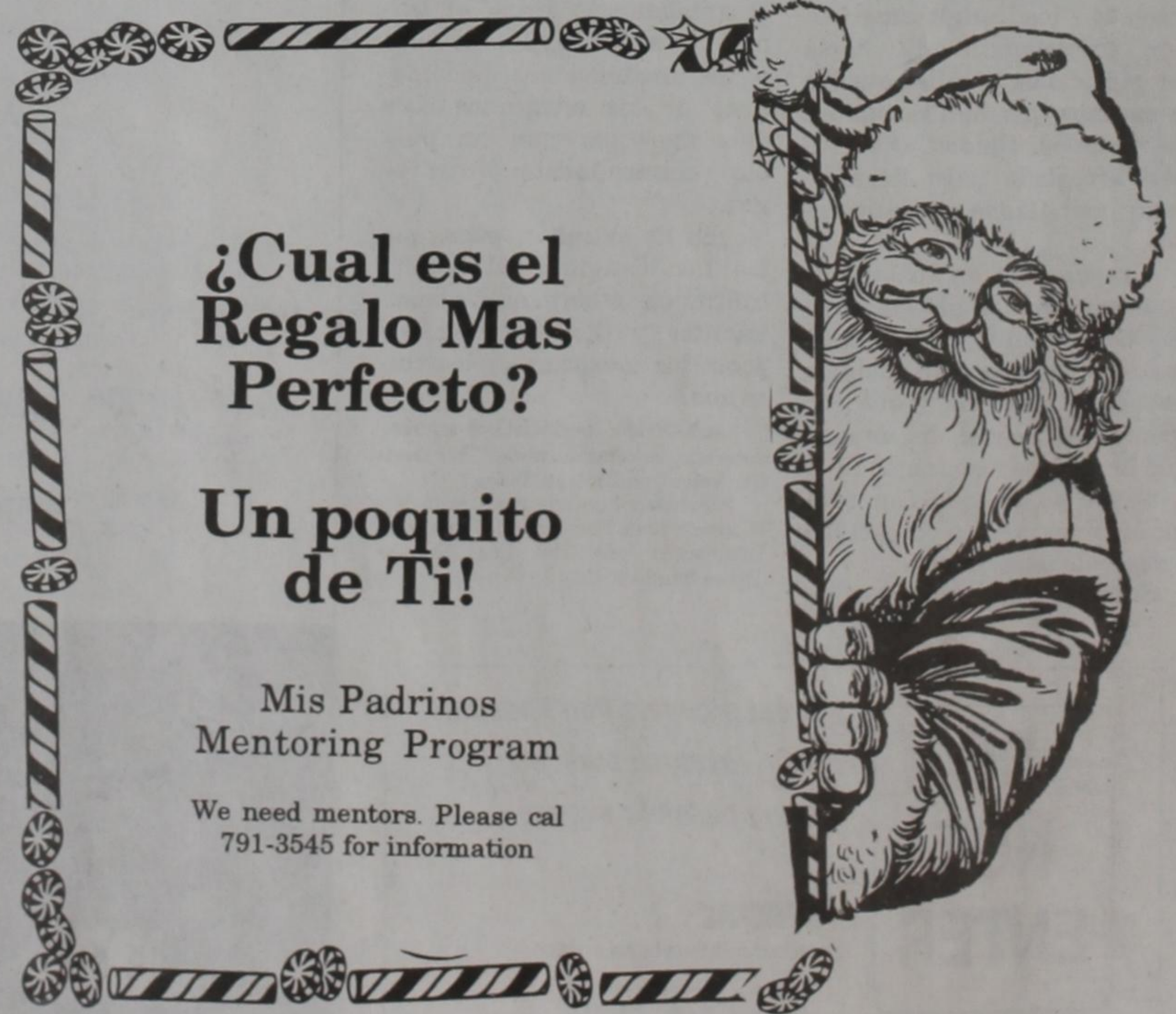
Probabilidad de ganar en First Down, 1 en 4.70. Probabilidad de ganar en Pecos Bills, 1 en 4.77. Probabilidad de ganar en Texas Tripler, 1 en 4.94. Debes tener 18 años para poder jugar. ©1997 Texas Lottery

¿Cual es el Regalo Mas Perfecto?

Un poquito de Ti!

Mis Padrinos Mentoring Program

We need mentors. Please call 791-3545 for information



Drug Family - Latino Families' Dirty Little Secret

EDITOR'S NOTE: For people in the Latino community, illegal drugs and the drug trade are woven into the pattern of life -- affecting relatives, friends, loved ones at every level. The reality of these connections, writes commentator Barbara Renoud-Gonzales, should serve as a reminder that we are all connected, even if we would rather not admit it, and this connection carries a special burden for those in the middle. Barbara Renoud-Gonzales writes widely on Chicano life. She is a columnist for the San Antonio Express and commentator for National Public Radio.

BY BARBARA RENOUD-GONZALES

Some of my best friends are drug dealers. One of them, Miguel Luis (not his real name), was the Chicano "capo" who handled business for the now-jailed Garcia Abrego clan. Its network stretched from Brownsville, Texas to New York City -- talk about making it! -- and he wasn't even featured in Hispanic Business 500.

The only time I read about him was when he was going to testify about the relationship between his boss and Raul Salinas, the notorious brother of Mexico's former president.

Don't be shocked. Drugs have defined my family's struggle for the American dream. My brother, Gabo, is in a Texas prison for a series of armed robberies prompted by his cocaine addiction. My younger brother David died in 1993 from flu complicated by his long-time drug habits. You should have seen the funeral -- a hundred grieving customers, from students to professors. It turns out he had sold nickel bags and pills for years to pay his University of Texas tuition. My sister Magda has detoxed from an affair with heroin.

It's easy to say that drugs are bad. But the people I know in the business, sellers or users, are good. They're just trying to make it "the American Way," but they figure the dream has a double standard -- I have to play by the rules, you get to make them. They say the drug business is more honest than any corporation. "Look at pharmaceuticals, tobacco, the Ford Pinto case,"

says my friend Juan Antonio the law student. "They know people have died using their products, and they don't care. In the narcoindustry, no one lies to you."

And, unlike the rest of American business, the drug trade values Latinos. Bilingual and bicultural skills are critical for communications with Colombian and Mexican drug lords, and the intact family unit is essential for survival.

Yes, the risks are great, but the rewards are a dream come true. Latinos have grown up seeing the glamorous life on TV, just like everyone else, and drugs are the obvious route. Just say yes. Maybe you can't be a doctor -- I never met a Latino physician until I was 30 -- but you can make more money than they do.

Miguel Luis may have dropped out of school, but that doesn't mean he wasn't ambitious. I suspect some of our best minds are laundering money because they were bored in school. With "las drogas," you can pioneer accounting and finance techniques faster than you can say FBI. You have to.

If it sounds like I'm proud of Miguel Luis, I am, in a way. What is the difference, anyway, between the narco-CEOs and the barons of the last century? Miguel Luis is the classic poor boy who made it. In a hundred years no one will ask how he became so rich.

I don't want to give you the impression we're the bad guys because the drug culture that I know includes everyone. All in the same familia. My high school chum Adelina prosecutes people like my brother, whom she adored. "Sal," the judge who could put Miguel Luis away for life, was aclose friend of my late father-in-law. My friend Paulina, with her MD from Harvard, swears she could have saved my brother David because she knows -- her own brothers

have been ruined by drugs.

Next time you're in a room full of professional Latinos, ask how many have a relative in prison for drugs. Wait for the denials. Then slowly, but surely, you'll hear, yes, a cousin once-removed is doing time for a robbery, he needed money for his fix. Then someone will talk about Tio Roberto whose car panels were stuffed with little plastic "bolsitas" of white powder. And the neighbor's grandson is using her house to sell homemade amphetamines. We've lived with these secrets for so long we don't think about them any more. They're embarrassing. They confuse us.

My intimacy with the drug world has reminded me of something very important -- that we are all connected to each other, even when we would rather forget it. If you're going to sell drugs, you need someone to buy them. There is Miguel Luis the drug lord and there is my brother Gabo the addict. One simply cannot live without the other. The drug culture is a microcosm of haves and have nots. It is America played out around my mother's kitchen table. For Latinos like me, the questions bite, the answers elude us. "Do something."

Why me? Because I am in the middle, the witness to this spectacle. I know the drug pushers, I went to school with the users. I go to receptions with the merchants who sell the Mercedes and Rolex watches Miguel Luis bought. I know that whole economies would wither without the drug trade. I also know the drug war is not supposed to be won -- because we want our drugs at any cost, and Latinos are going to pay that cost.

I am supposed to tell the truth. About playing ball with Henry, now in jail for burglary. Playing "Makeup" with Zenaida, now a coke head. Fishing with "Tonio" who is now a drug boss. These are our uncles, our cousins, the black sheep. We are the cops and the robbers, the bankers and the drug lords, and the line separating us is surprisingly thin.

Believe me, a graduate degree doesn't mean much when your brother is in prison or dead.

Yes, the individual chooses. But society has never asked me how we make that choice. Why I get to win when so many others have lost.

People say, "But you're different. You made it."

We think, "Sure. If you only knew." Well, now you know.

From Page 3

blacks shows his own ignorance about the way both groups have been subjugated, discriminated against, and held from achieving higher forms of education.

What Graglia refuses to accept, or does not explain, is that Anglo society, traditionally, has deliberately kept both groups from achievement.

Arnoldo De Leon focuses in his book, "They Called Them Greasers: Attitudes Towards Mexicans In Texas, 1821-1900," on the negative at-



Un Rayito De Luz

Por Sofia Martinez

El Espíritu Santo nos da los Farutos que nos menciona San Pablo en Galatas Cap. 5, 22: Amor, alegría, paz, paciencia, comprensión de los demás, bondad, fidelidad, mansedumbre y dominio de sí mismo. Vamos a ver que son y como podemos hacerlos crecer y que se desarrollen en nosotros. El Espíritu Santo nos da una ordenación espiritual de todo nuestro ser, esto quiere decir, que nos ayuda a ser santos, nos da madurez y perfección espiritual mediante los Frutos.

Para entender mejor nos comparemos las plantas, que, cuando llegan a cierta edad, o madurez, dan frutos. en la Palabra de Dios se compara el alma con un huerto. En Cantar de los Cantares 5, 1 dice: Venga mi amado a su huerto y llénese con el fruto de los manzanos. El alma es un huerto en el que el Espíritu Santo ha puesto la gracia, que es semilla divina, con todas las virtudes y todos los dones, y al madurar, produce los Preciosos Frutos. En el Paraíso, todo era orden, armonía y felicidad. Adán y Eva obedecían a Dios, y el Espíritu Santo hacía que los Frutos se desarrollaran plenamente en ellos. Pero, vino el pecado y aquella armonía se acabó. Dios dejó de ser lo único importante para nosotros los humanos, que decidimos desobedecer haciendo nuestra propia voluntad, apartádoce de Dios, y entonces, los Frutos del Espíritu Santo ya no se miraron.

titudes that Anglos have traditionally held toward Mexicans -- even those Mexicans who are U.S.-born or who have managed to become assimilated and acculturated.

Graglia is only mouthing aloud what many Anglos still believe. That Mexicans, and their progeny, are still without ambition and ignorant about the world around them -- content to go through life with little intelligence, and little ability or desire to succeed.

If Chicanos don't place too high a value on academic achievement, as Graglia claims, there's a reason for that, too. For instance, Anglos throughout Texas deliberately and in a racist manner kept Mexican Americans from attaining higher education.

In El Paso, the only school that taught Mexicans in 1920 was known as the "Mexican School." Children were taught only up to the third grade.

Thanks to Olivas Villanueva Aoy, Mexican children were fortunate to receive even that education. The belief was that Mexican children needed to learn just enough English to become the gardeners, janitors and housemaids for Anglos.

Later that changed. But the belief that Mexicans couldn't learn was already well-established.

Is Graglia wrong in his comments about Chicanos and higher education? Not if you look at the number of Chicanos who, in early Texas history, managed to finish school. The numbers have improved tremendously, of course, in this era. But still, too many Chicanos are dropping out of high schools, colleges and universities.

ping out of high schools, colleges and universities.

Yes, the tradition was established long ago. Not by Chicanos themselves, however. But by the racism that ruled Texas and other Southern states. Chicanos now are striving to overcome tremendous odds by continuing to attend schools of higher learning.

We must continue to encourage these young people to overcome the negatives their parents and grandparents were saddled with so many years ago.

The challenge for young Chicanos remains. Do they give up when the going gets tough? Do they surrender when individuals like Graglia make idiotic remarks about things they don't know? Take the remarks made by that law professor to heart. Learn that yes, there is some truth to what he is saying. But realize also that what he says is tainted by ignorance of history.

Remember, nothing develops in a vacuum. There has to be some connection from past to present. Remember the words of De Leon: "Whites spoke of Mexican docility, ignorance, decadence, mediocrity, antagonism toward work, submission to vice, and hedonistic proclivities. Mexicans seemed a culturally wanton people."

Is it any wonder, then, that the Leo Graglias of the world continue to harbor racist thoughts and philosophies about Mexicans and Chicanos?

(Joe Olvera, a veteran border journalist, is a columnist with The Frontier Voice in El Paso, Texas.)



Change goes in.
Change comes out.

We can't make our contribution without yours. So, give to The Salvation Army now and throughout the year. We promise, you'll get change back.



NEED KNOWS NO SEASON.



POLLARD USED CARS & AUTO CREDIT BUILDERS



- 1997 Ford Escort, red, hard loaded, auto \$10,900.
- 1997 Chevy Lumina, blue, power everything, auto \$12,900.
- 1997 Pontiac Grand AM, blue, PW, PDL, tilt, cruise, auto, \$11,900.
- 1996 Buick Regal, maroon, custom pkg, auto, \$12,400.
- 1996 Ford Contour, aqua, low miles, auto, 4 cylinder, \$9,900.
- 1996 Pontiac Sunfire, factory warranty, 5 speed, 4 cylinder, \$9,900.
- 1995 Mercury Mystique, light blue, super loaded, auto, 4 cylinder, \$9,900.
- 1994 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, white, SL pkg, leather, auto, \$8,900.
- 1995 GMC Sierra Ext. Cab P/U, SL pkg, auto, Save Big!!
- 1995 Chevy Cavalier 2 dr, ground effects, 5 speed, 4 cylinder, \$8,900.

- 1995 Pontiac Grand AM, 2 dr, ABS, 5 speed, cassette, A/C, \$8,900.
- 1994 Chevy Cavalier, 2 dr, AM/FM Cassette, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, \$5,900.
- 1994 GMC Jimmy 4 dr, SLE pkg, 6 cylinder, auto, Blow Out!!!
- 1994 Nissan Quest mini van, GXE pkg, sunroof, leather, CD, cassette, Low, Low!!
- 1994 GMC P/U Ext Cab, Sierra pkg, 5 speed, 6 cylinder, SAVE BIG!!!
- 1994 Mercury Cougar, XR7 pkg, leather, PW, P&L, Psts, \$8,900.
- 1994 Mercury Sable Wagon, G.S. pkg, 4 dr, super loaded, Low, Low Payments!!
- 1991 Pontiac LeMans, 4 dr, gray, auto, 4 cylinder, Credit Builders!
- 1987 Olds Sierra, 4 dr, blue, 4 cylinder, auto, We Finance!!
- 1987 Chevy Celebrity 4 dr, burgundy, 6 cylinder, auto,
- 1985 Buick LeSabre 4 dr, white, 6 cylinder, auto, Buy Here! Pay Here!

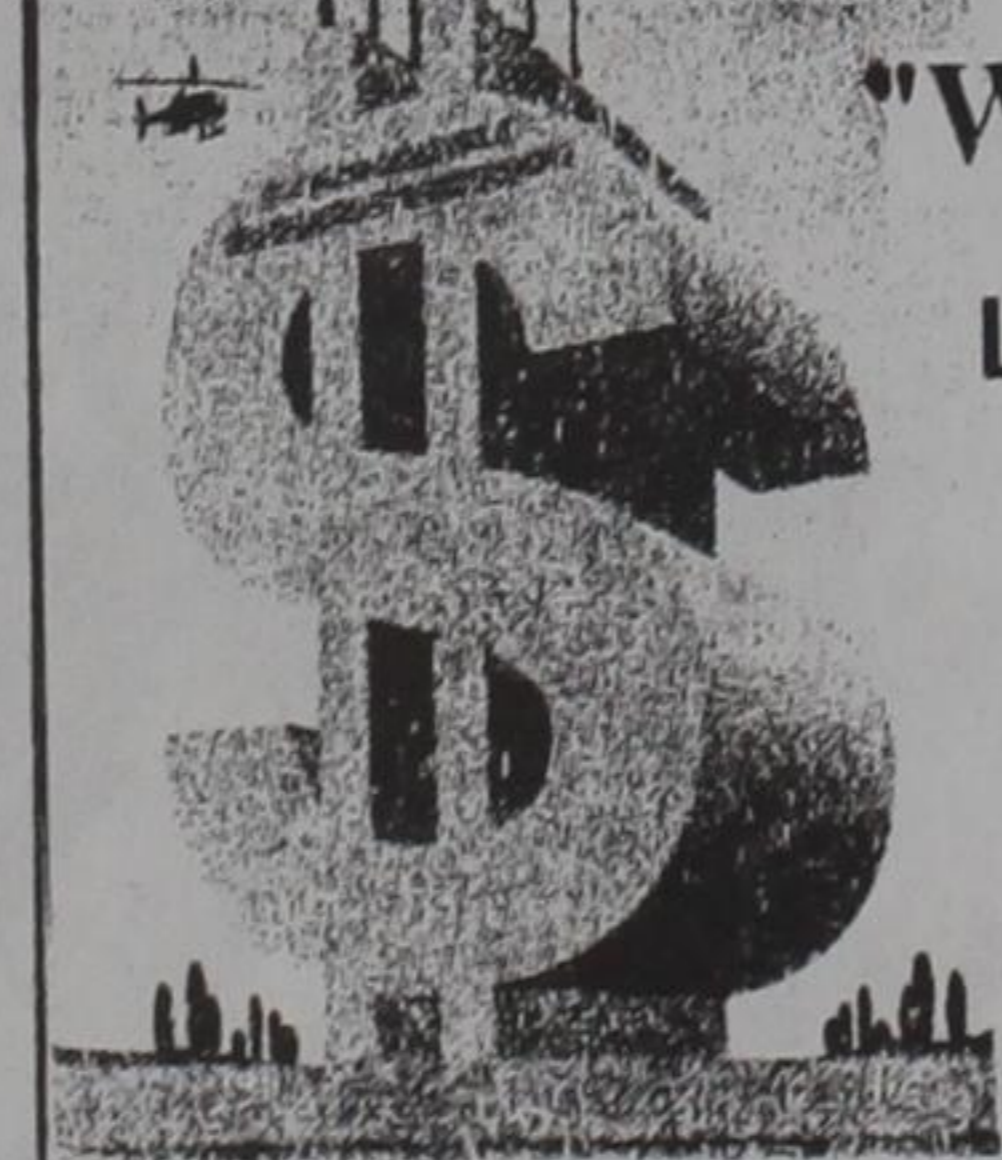
Pollard/Saturn 323 N. University Lubbock Used Cars (806) 744-0281 Fax: 744-3988

Los Hermanos Gil



Luis Gil ponen a la disposicion del publico su grupo especializando en todo tipo de musica incluyendo Canciones o mañanitas. Flamencos Ahora Para Sus Fiestas de Dia de Dar Gracias o Navidad Musica de su Preferencia Para informacion llame al 806-747-6950

EMPIRE PAWN SHOP



"We Like To Loan Money"

Locally Owned & Operated

747-0383

1510 50th St.

747-7043

1120 19th St.

¡Nos Gusta Prestar Dinero!



Lo Mejor En Comida

Mexicana



MONTELONGO'S RESTAURANT

3021 Clovis Rd - 762-3068

Ho, Ho, Ho!

Merry Christmas

Look For It Special

Christmas Edition

Dec. 23, 1997

Christmas Stories, Photos, Messages

Call For Your Reserve Space Today 763-3841

News Briefs

From Page 1

Poll: Drugs Worst Problem Facing Kids

A survey finds Americans overwhelmingly believe drugs are the most serious problem facing children today, with crime and the breakdown of home life trailing behind, reports Associated Press

The poll, released Monday, suggests those who focus on family values are winning the battle for public opinion over those who say it is more important to improve the social condition of children, said the study's director, Robert Blendon, a professor at Harvard University.

"The family values side has really caught on in the American mind," he said. "All the issues that relate to kids in poverty have not caught on in the last decade."

A similar survey conducted 11 years ago also found drugs to be the top concern.

But while the breakdown of home life was a close second in 1986, with 46 percent mentioning it, just 22 percent see it as a serious problem today, according to the survey, which was sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, HN4292@handsnet.org, and conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health and the University of Maryland.

While 28 percent of Americans were concerned about child and sexual abuse in 1986, fewer than 2 percent of people mentioned it this year.

By contrast, this year's survey showed 24 percent of Americans concerned with crime, which didn't register in 1986.

Blendon suggested that general concerns about crime may have replaced concern about a particular crime -- child sex abuse, which got considerable attention a decade ago. But he argued that the shift is unwarranted given that crime rates are falling.

"People really are anxious about things that should be going down the list," he said.

He noted that given the chance to name any problem facing children, few Americans mentioned child poverty or health care and wondered if support for a new, \$24 billion children's health insurance program will die at the state level.

The exception was poor quality education, which 17 percent of people named as a top concern, up from 9 percent 11 years ago.

"In a country where one in five kids live in poverty, that's not resonating at all with people we surveyed," he said.

CA County to Push Voluntary Affirm Action

Three months after suspending affirmative action contracting requirements, the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors is set to substitute voluntary goals for hiring minority- and women-owned firms, reports The San Francisco Chronicle.

The proposed interim outreach program would encourage affirmative action contracting without the preferences or quotas included in the old county policy. The new program is intended to avoid Proposition 209's ban on state and local agencies' giving preference to one group while still increasing diversity among the firms doing business with the county.

If the board adopts the outreach program tomorrow, county staff will continue to make special efforts to let minority- and women-owned firms know of county contracts and encourage contractors to hire those firms as subcontractors.

Contractors also will be required to list subcontractors and the county will continue to track the percentage of minority and women businesses as well as small and locally owned firms.

"I don't mind it being a voluntary effort or the county keeping track of it just so long as it appears the voluntary is not really mandatory," said Supervisor Joe Canciamilla of Pittsburg, who concurred with Proposition 209's ban on preferences and quotas.

Supervisors suspended the old program on September 16 after a court order letting Proposition 209 take effect. At the time, supervisors said they feared lawsuits by affirmative action opponents, including one against San Jose.

Contra Costa's proposal appears to be legal, said Mark Gallagher, the attorney suing San Jose on behalf of a white-owned electrical contracting firm which was passed over for a city contract even though it submitted the lowest bid.

He questioned why the county would keep such close tabs on the racial and gender breakdown of the firms being hired.

"I guess I would be curious to see what they are going to do with the numbers," said Gallagher, who works for the conservative Pacific Legal Foundation.

The foundation also represents Proposition 209 supporter Ward Connerly and Governor Pete Wilson in a lawsuit to make the state's hiring policies conform to the 1996 initiative.

Affirmative action supporters slammed the board for acting prematurely. They want the county either to restore the old standards or to expand the outreach proposal to include requirements for contractors to solicit workers from unemployment and welfare rolls.

Over 12 Years Experience
D.J. "MAX"

Music for All Occasions
Holiday Parties, Birthdays, Bodas, Quinceañeras
Call Today! Max Ortiz
747-6020 or 761-1773 pager

Buscamos **TECHEROS** Para trabajar en **Richmond, Virginia y Dener, Colorado.** Se provera gastos de viaje. Interesados deberan: Saber techar con composition y madera y tener permiso para trabajar en USA. Se pagara bien y cada viernes. Llamar al telefono: 972-272-3595 para entrevista.

ATTENTION FORMER REESE AFB EMPLOYEES

Lost your job due to base closure?
Are you interested in full-time employment?
No cost to you to help you get back into the workforce!

**Texas
Workforce
Center**
Lubbock

Call Don Davis or Darryl Victor today at 765-5038
Don't delay! You must enroll by the end of the year!

Milkman - From Page 3

his power, said he was overly ambitious and utilized hefty political contributions to gain influence in Washington. But that's just what my grandfather would have admired. After all, he didn't promote terrorism or war. He modeled his organization after the typical U.S. political action committee and delivered Cuban-American contributions and votes to politicians who stood firmly against Castro.

Some of his critics were overly concerned about whether Mas Canosa wanted to be the president of a free democratic Cuba. My grandfather would have considered that an honorable ambition. No doubt, he would have cast a vote for the milkman/president.

As a journalist interviewing the most influential Cuban-American leader, many times I found myself filling

my grandfather's shoes, continuing his conversations with the milkman. On various occasions, I reminded Mas Canosa that my house had been on his milk route. He welcomed the topic because he knew I was a witness to his humble beginnings, his willingness to work hard for his family, and his long devotion to Cuba -- even before he was rich and famous. Of course, he remembered his conversations with my grandfather. "I feel so sorry Miguel died without seeing a free Cuba," Mas Canosa once told me as I interviewed him on a radio program. And that's exactly what I felt Sunday when I learned that the milkman had died.

(Miguel Perez is a columnist with The Record in Bergen, N.J.)
Copyright 1997, Bergen Record Corp. Reprinted with permission. Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by The Los Angeles Times Syndicate



Feliz Cumpleaños Mary Jane Gutierrez de parte de tu Familia que te quiere y te aprecia.
Frank - Natalie - Jaavier



Boda de Los Riojas

In Adjacent Photo

Gracias a todos las personas quien participaron en la boda de Joe Adam y Mollie Riojas y , especialmente a todos los padrinos.



*Pase Y Celebre
Las Posadas
Domingo 14
Empesando a las
4 de la tarde
Parque
Guadalupe*

Here
Comes
Pancho
Clos!!



Ya Viene Pancho Clos

Sunday, December 21, 1997

Sponsored by American GI Forum

Maggie Trejo SuperCenter
3200 Amherst

1:00 p.m. Everyone Welcome!

¡Feliz Navidad! Merry Christmas!