

Clinton Defiende Acciones en Pro de la Economía de México

WASHINGTON- El Presidente Clinton dijo el miércoles que sus acciones en rescatar la economía de México era justo y necesario.

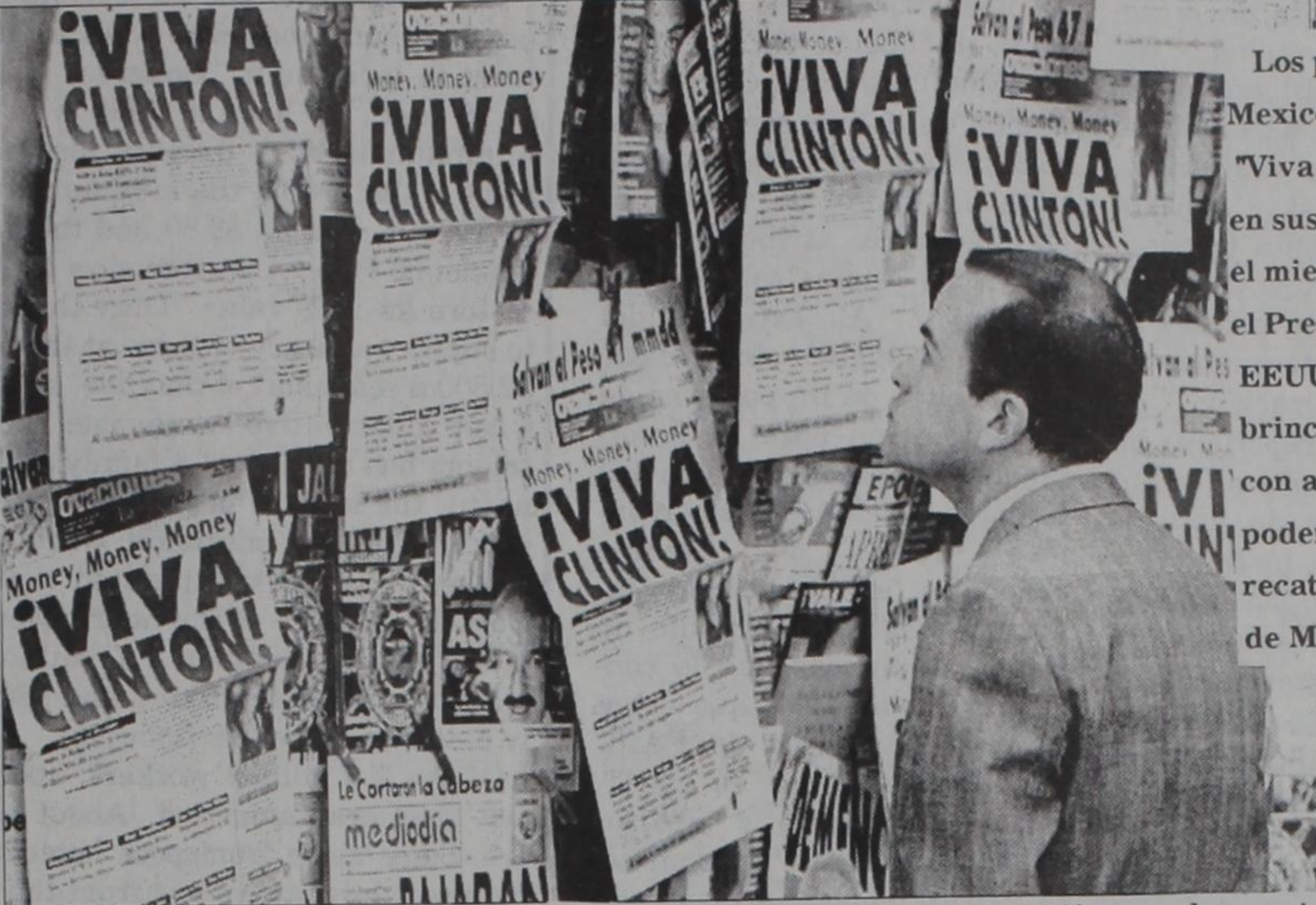
El peso continuó a enfuertecerse creciendo casi el 7 por ciento a 5.375 al dólar - arriba casi el 15 por ciento de su máxima bajo de 6.3 al dólar el lunes.

Pero el bolso cayó a 4.6 por ciento, una baja que analistas atribuyeron a cojiendo ganancias de el aumento el martes.

México a voltiado la vuelta dijo David Beckwith, gerente de John Hancock Freedom Global Fund quien tiene 2 por ciento de sus assets invertidos en México. Dijo que aun esto México no esta estable ya que habia posibilidad que hubiera una recesion este anno.

El aumento en el bolsio vino cuando Clinton anuncio que iba cometer \$20 millones en garantías para prestamos de México y bancos internacionales comitieron otros 30 millones en apoyo para México.

"Hasta ahorita esto animado," dijo el Presidente Clinton a los reporteros. "Lo que



Los periodicos de Mexico gritaron "Viva Clinton" en sus encabezados el miercoles cuando el Presidente de los EEUU anuncio que brincaría el Congreso con actuara con el poder ejecutivo para rescatar la economía de Mexico

hicimos era bueno. Bueno para nuestra nacion, bueno para trabajos, y bueno para la estabilidad de la region."

Lideres del Congreso tambien dieron su apoyo a Clinton diciendo que ellos estaban de acuerdo con la ayuda para México en la manera que se hizo.

El Representante John

Bryant, Demócrata de Dallas dijo que aun que la mayoría de los legisladores esaban a favor de las acciones de Clinton todavia habia una menoría que iban a pedir que se inves-

tigaran las acciones del Presidente.

"Hay un grupo en el Congreso que estan en contra de todo lo que tiene que ver con México," dijo Bryant.

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El Milagro de Mecado Libre en Chile

Por Arturo Cifuentes

La estimación propia de los chilenos está muy elevada en estos días. Tres chilenos llegaron a la lista de multimillonarios de la revista Forbes; un número cada vez mayor de acciones chilenas se está negociando en la Bolsa de Valores de Nueva York; el país está alistándose para llegar a ser miembro de NAFTA; y muchas familias chilenas -- gracias al deterioro continuo del dólar estadounidense contra su moneda -- están hallando que Miami y Orlando son baratas.

Además, la nueva mentalidad del mercado libre está impulsando una ola de americanización que viene haciendo parecer al país más moderno.

Los ejemplos abundan: Ahora los negociantes tratan de estar a tiempo (tradicionalmente, los horarios en Chile carecían de significación); los fumadores, hasta hace poco bienvenidos en todas partes, están hallando difícil el contaminar al aire de los demás; más solicitantes de empleos están obteniendo plazas mediante reclutadores y agencias de empleo (en oposición a los parientes o conocidos bien situados); y las empresas vienen trayendo clientes con números telefónicos de llamada gratis (sí, con un prefijo "800").

En verdad, en muchos aspectos Chile ha sobrepasado a los Estados Unidos.

Tómese a la diversidad por ejemplo. El gabinete del Presidente Frei es mucho más diverso que el de Bill Clinton: Comprende a ingenieros, sociólogos, economistas, especialistas en administración de empresas, trabajadores sociales, abogados y científicos políticos (el de Clinton, por contraste, está dominado aún por los abogados).

Nada de malo hasta ahora. Quizás. O quizás no. Lo gracioso es que, cuando Chile abrió su economía, también abrió su alma y terminó importando, sin filtración, una colección de tendencias estadounidenses con méritos bas-

tante dudosos.

El historial hasta ahora:

-- Los chilenos acostumbraban usar como especia en sus alimentos el ají o pebre hecho en casa. Ahora han cambiado para el "ketchup" -- esa "institución estadounidense" que homogeniza el sabor de todo.

-- Los teatros chilenos eran limpios y tranquilos. Los asistentes a las funciones cinematográficas disfrutaban de los chocolates y los barquillos durante el intermedio. Ya no más. Las rositas de maíz, con su olor penetrante y peculiar (y la masticación correspondiente) están en todas partes.

-- Los niños chilenos suplicaban a sus padres que les compraran chocolate helado. Los adolescentes y adultos preferían los lomitos, churrascos o chacareros, tres emparedados chilenos típicos. Hoy todos convergen en los Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken y sus semejantes locales en busca de las especialidades típicas estadounidenses, mientras que los restaurantes chilenos familiares han empezado a desaparecer.

-- Los chilenos se despiden ahora con un "cúidate" de inspiración estadounidense (traducción literal de take care), en vez de su tradicional hasta luego. A las niñas se les llama nanas (nueva acepción popular chilena de nanies.) Y El Mercurio (el periódico más importante de Chile) ya está hablando de coffee breaks (que escribe "brakes") y walking closets (en vez de "walk-in").

Y la relación continúa: Charlas sobre re-ingeniería, seminarios de Dale Carnegie, el Día de San Valentín, psicólogos para animales domésticos, evangelistas por televisión, etc. Todos ellos han hallado un lugar en el paisaje urbano y social de Chile, que ha comenzado a lucir como una mezcla al azar de kitsch de Warhol.

Nadie sabe si esta fiebre de americanización corresponde a una decadencia temporal de fin de siglo o es el comienzo

de un cambio permanente.

Me preocupa que, de aquí a cinco años, en vez de ver a un país con menos burocracia, una prensa más libre y un servicio postal confiable (es decir, más importaciones estadounidenses buenas) podríamos ver -- por ejemplo -- a un país con un arma de fuego y un gato en cada familia. O un país donde sólo las personas impedidas pueden hallar un espacio donde estacionarse. O lo que es peor, un país donde todo el mundo, desde las estrellas tontas del soccer hasta los ventanilleros de bancos "vueltos a nacer" sientan no sólo el deseo sino también la necesidad de explicar por la televisión nacional lo que sintieron la primera vez que tuvieron relaciones sexuales. ¿Quién sabe?

Algunos pesimistas creen que los chilenos, que una vez alegaron ser los británicos de la América Latina, podrían terminar comportándose como los norteamericanos de la América Latina.

Los optimistas creen que esta ola de americanización es sólo temporal y que, a medida que las empresas chilenas continúan mudándose a los mercados extranjeros, los chilenos empezarán a exportar, no sólo sus productos, sino

también su cultura, por lo cual se sentirán más seguros de su identidad y dejarán de imitar a todas las tendencias estadounidenses.

Ellos tienen razón. Después de todo, los Estados Unidos y Europa vienen disfrutando no sólo de los vinos, las frutas y los mariscos chilenos más que nunca antes, sino que también están leyendo los libros de Isabel Allende, escuchando la música de Inti-Illimani y presenciando "La Muerte y la doncella" (dirigida por Polanski y basada en la obra de Ariel Dorfman).

"Mientras que los chilenos no empiecen a celebrar el Día de Acción de Gracias", me dijo un sociólogo amigo mío, "no hay por qué preocuparse". Y yo le creí.

Pero estoy nervioso. Hace poco, un senador instruido en Harvard y toda su familia aparecieron en las páginas sociales de los periódicos de Santiago con disfraces completos. ¿Cuál era la ocasión? Halloween -- una palabra que la mayoría de los chilenos ni siquiera sabía pronunciar hace pocos años.

¡Mmh! Quizás si el Día de Acción de Gracias en Chile se halle sólo a la vuelta de la esquina. Sólo puedo esperar que sea con lomitos y churrascos en vez de pavo.

Groups Identify Alternative Ways to Cut Gov. Spending

A coalition of environmental and taxpayer groups have proposed eliminating 34 federal programs that they say waste money and could harm public health. They predict the cuts will save at least \$33 billion over several years and have outlined their proposal in what they have called the "Green Scissors Report."

"Our 'Odd Couple' coalition has put this report together in order to say these programs should be among the first on the chopping block," said Ralph De Gennaro, a senior budget analyst at Friends of the Earth. Some of the savings would be for one time only,

while others would occur over five, 10 or 15 years, depending on the project.

Among the 10 "Choice Cuts" targeted for special attention are: an 1872 mining law that allows companies to mine minerals on federal land without paying royalties to the government; the taxpayer-funded construction of forest roads; a military program planned for the Dept of Energy's Livermore Lab in California to simulate nuclear weapons effects and develop inertial fusion energy; a helium reactor; and an \$800 million Indiana highway project or four years and would welcome changes in the law.

News Briefs

Gingrich: New Task Force on Welfare Reform

A press release reports that House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Bob Woodson, president of the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise (NCNE) plan to announce today the formation of the Neighborhood Leadership Task Force on Grassroots Alternatives for Public Policy (GAPP).

The task force will be comprise of grassroots leaders nationwide who have demonstrated an ability to reduce poverty and have successfully addressed issues such as teen pregnancy, substance abuse, youth development, homelessness, and job training through community-based initiatives.

Convened at the request of the House Speaker, the task force is mandated to show how poverty expenditures can be reduced while increasing the number of people lifted out of poverty, and to provide policy recommendations to Congress on welfare and community revitalization within the first 100 days of the current legislative session.

Founded in 1981 by Bob Woodson, the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise is a nonprofit organization committed to helping low-income individual achieve self-sufficiency. For more information contact Heather Humphries or Donna Lewis Johnson of the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, 202-331-1103.

Senate Democrats Demand BBA Change

AP reports that several Democratic Senators demanded Tuesday a change designed to protect Social Security from future spending cuts.

An amendment offered by Sens. Dianne Feinstein of California and Harry Reid of Nevada would exclude the Social Security trust fund from balanced budget calculations. But Senate Republicans are resisting all changes to the measure that cleared the House last week, even though they said they also are opposed to cutting Social Security benefits.

Feinstein, who supported a balanced-budget amendment last year, said she would vote against it this year unless the changes were incorporated. "If my vote is important, this legislation to exempt Social Security funds from the balanced-budget equation is going to have to succeed," she said.

Two other Democratic senators who supported the measure last year - Wendell Ford, D-KY, and Byron Dorgan, D-ND, - declined to say how they would vote if Republicans rejected the Social Security provision.

Sen. Hatch and Sen. Larry Craig, R-ID, a leading sponsor of the proposed amendment, said Republicans would be amenable to sheltering Social Security in legislation Congress would be required to implement the amendment after 38 states ratified it. But they said the majority Republicans wanted no changes in the House-passed measure. The Senate debate on the amendment, which began Monday, is expected to last at least three weeks.

AIDS Leading Cause of Death, Ages 25 to 44

The New York Times reports that new Federal data show that AIDS has become the leading cause of death among those between the ages of 25 and 44. It has surpassed accidents, which has dropped to the second place, followed by cancer and heart disease, and homicides and suicides.

"AIDS was expected to rise to the top of the list eventually, but no one had predicted which year," Dr. Jaffe, a top official at the Centers for Disease Control. More than 440,000 cases of AIDS have been reported to the CDC since the epidemic was first recognized, and about 75% of cases have been in the 25-44 age group. The death toll has exceeded more than 250,000 men, women and children.

A preliminary analysis of data for 1993 found that AIDS is also the leading cause of death among men and women in 79 of 169 U.S. cities with populations greater than 100,000. For women, AIDS is now the leading cause of death in 15 of the 135 largest cities.

Gingrich Advocates Medicare Reform

AP reports that House Speaker Newt Gingrich is calling for the creation of a task force to "rethink Medicare from the ground up." The group would be composed of senior citizen groups, the American Hospital Association (AHA) and medical societies.

In a speech Monday to the AHA, Gingrich outlined his health care agenda. "We have to set up a truly revolutionary task force to think about the world without the Health Care Finance Administration," he said. "It's not just a question of saying what's wrong with the current structure; it's a question of thinking through at the vision and strategy level, what might be right about the replacement."

Martin Corry, director of federal affairs for the American Association of Retired Persons, said his group is ready to discuss the future of Medicare, but also called it premature to talk about getting rid of HCFA. "HCFA, for all the brickbats it takes, is pretty efficient," he said. "Any replacement administrative structure must be at least as good."

After the speech, Gingrich said that he is not advocating abolishing Medicare or even turning it over to the states. He said he wants to "transform it to give senior citizens choices, to give them a range of options, to give them control of their own health care."

Gingrich also said he envisioned tackling health care reform piece by piece, rather than in a large overhaul bill. He said first he would like to move a bill to allow people to carry their health insurance from job to job. Then, he said, he would try to pass a bill that guarantees tax deductions for self-employed people who buy their own insurance. Gingrich also said that the FDA should be replaced because the "current FDA structure is anti-jobs, anti-science and anti-progress."

Gingrich also mentioned plans to ask the House leadership about establishing a monthly "Correction Day" on Capitol Hill. "We'd take the dumbest thing the federal government's been doing and just abolish it," he said.

Continued Page 5

Los Medios Informativos Provocan Histeria Sobre Inmigración

Por Gilbert Bailón

Los medios informativos nacionales, impresos y electrónicos, han ayudado a fomentar una atmósfera de histeria contra los inmigrantes, ya sea conscientemente o no.

La ausencia de reportajes completos y contextuales ha sido tan perjudicial como las imágenes sensacionales grabadas al fuego en nuestra conciencia colectiva, de los inmigrantes vadeando el Río Grande con sus brazos alzados o esquivando los automóviles en la Carretera Interestatal 5 en el sur de California. Las imágenes son verdaderas, pero carecen por ellas solas del aliento completo de un relato complicado, cuyas raíces se remontan hasta la fundación de nuestra nación.

A muchos inmigrantes, especialmente los latinos, se les pinta en los medios informativos nacionales como cargas económicas, carentes de voz, personas de una sola dimensión. Ya sea debido a la incapacidad de los reporteros para hablar en los idiomas nativos de los inmigrantes, o a la indiferencia de los editores, las dificultades de los inmigrantes se pierden o quedan eclipsadas en las andanadas verbales entre los políticos y defensores enfrentados.

La inmigración es un asunto complejo del cual se informa simplísticamente. Pocas organizaciones de noticias tienen reporteros dedicados a comprender el asunto, o las burocracias gubernamentales y los debates de los cursos de acción públicos.

La terminología y el sistema legal distinto de la inmigración son mal comprendidos o desconocidos para muchos periodistas. Hay demasiado pocos periodistas que tengan los antecedentes personales o el adiestramiento adquirido para proporcionar las perspectivas necesarias sobre un asunto que ha continuado siendo importante, no sólo en el decenio de 1990, sino durante vari-

os decenios.

Una diversidad de factores impulsan a los inmigrantes chinos a ocultarse como polizones en buques, a los balseiros cubanos a derivar peligrosamente a través del océano en artefactos hechos a mano, y a los mexicanos a pagarles a los coyotes para que los pasen de contrabando hacia el norte. El modo de que las leyes, los tribunales y las autoridades manejan a estos llamados "illegal aliens" (extranjeros ilegales), sin embargo, varía dramáticamente.

En el decenio de 1960, las redacciones más importantes estaban mal equipadas para informar sobre los motines raciales que brotaron en nuestras ciudades. Los amotinados y sus vecindades predominantemente no blancas eran entonces territorios extranjeros para los miembros de las redacciones, casi exclusivamente blancos. Ese vacío en las redacciones provocó un movimiento sin precedentes para contratar a reporteros que no fueran blancos, a fin de informar sobre la intranquilidad urbana próxima.

A medida que el rostro de los Estados Unidos continúa oscureciéndose, las redacciones modernas se enfrentan a una dificultad semejante. Carecen de una cantidad suficiente de personas con las habilidades de adiestramiento e idioma como para sondear completamente las profundidades de un tema desconocido o incomprendido -- la política sobre la inmigración.

La inmigración ha ido rápidamente al frente del cuerpo político debido a las demandas de fronteras más cerradas y a las iniciativas electorales para denegar las salvaguardas básicas a los indocumentados.

La búsqueda de información mejorada y refinada sobre la inmigración no es un ejercicio polémico. Ni tampoco se trata de fomentar una ideo-

logía o de canonizar a los inmigrantes. Se trata de la necesidad de profundidad y anclaje que pocos editores toman con seriedad. Al hacer el reportaje, puede ser desastrosamente sensacional y superficial. Con demasiada frecuencia, el reportaje deja de ahondar más allá de la política de la adopción de decisiones en materia de inmigración.

La cantidad de reporteros bilingües y biculturales en las redes principales de noticias por televisión es lastimera -- y se hace notar. El anuncio provocativo de un relato el 12 de enero en el programa "Day One" de la cadena ABC era en mayor medida digno de los programas de charlas de la televisión vulgar que un reportaje noticioso serio y objetivo. Los anuncios de su reportaje sobre los inmigrantes apresados incluían frases tales como: "¿Es la comisión de un delito un modo seguro para que un extranjero se quede en los Estados Unidos?" "¿Dennos vuestras masas cansadas, pobres y apretujadas que ansían asaltar una licorería", y "Los extranjeros delincuentes se vierten dentro del país y nadie quiere sacarlos".

Esos sarcasmos lucen más como anuncios políticos pagados que como puntos de promoción para una periodista prominente como Diane Sawyer.

Los medios informativos impresos no ofrecen, por cierto, ningún modelo de excelencia, pero los periódicos y las revistas nacionales acostumbra ser menos inflamatorios. Este extracto de un artículo de primera página el 3 de diciembre en "The New York Times" ilustra un problema predominante: "Las cifras varían en gran medida, pero según algunos estimados los inmigrantes ilegales y legales reciben más de \$8,000 millones por concepto de ayuda gubernamental anualmente, casi la mitad pagada por los estados, aún cuando éstos no tienen control sobre el

influjo de extranjeros".

Ese artículo del Times no tenía atribución para la cifra de \$8,000 millones. Otros estimados de costos son considerablemente más bajos, pero falta ese punto de vista. Los estimados sin atribución plagan a los relatos sobre la inmigración. Al extracto del Times le siguen inmediatamente citas de un portavoz de la Federación para la Reforma de la Inmigración en los Estados Unidos (FAIR en inglés) acerca del drenaje económico atribuido a los indocumentados. El artículo no tiene estadísticas que lo contrarresten ni voces que retén al punto de vista de FAIR. Sencillamente, no es periodismo equilibrado y preciso. Si se invirtieran las mesas, la crítica continuaría siendo válida.

De modo que, ¿cómo pueden los medios informativos dar vuelta a su información sobre la inmigración? Por estos medios:

-- Entrevistar y fotografiar a los propios inmigrantes para mostrar su complejidad: Cómo viven y por qué vinieron aquí. Ellos tienen muchas razones para venir aquí; no obstante, se les agrupa bajo el rubro deshumanizador de "illegal aliens".

-- Eliminar la expresión de "illegal alien" de los relatos de noticias. La Prensa Asociada puede dar el ejemplo quitando su empleo de su libro de estilo, ampliamente consultado. "Illegal" alien es un término despectivo con la misma significación que "wetback" (espalda mojada), palabras usadas comúnmente en el decenio de 1950, que evolucionó hasta convertirse en un término negativo inaceptable.

-- Enfocarse sobre el efecto producido en las personas: Los inmigrantes, las personas para quienes trabajan, las industrias cuyos costos disminuyen al pagar jornales más bajos y proporcion-

Debate Over the Minimum Wage

The debate over the increase in the minimum wage continues between those who wish to eliminate it and those who want to increase it. Congress established a minimum wage of 25 cents an hour in 1938 with the purpose of building a minimum level of decency for the working poor. During most of the 1980's, the minimum wage was at \$3.35 an hour. In 1990 it reached \$3.80 and then rose to \$4.25 in 1991. The Economic Policy Institute says it should be at least \$6 now to restore its 1979 value. Once the minimum wage was enough to support a family of three at the poverty line, but now it falls \$2,500 a year short of that line, says the Institute.

But conservative economists note that the minimum wage seldom has to support a family of three. As the wage has stagnated, the kind of people who earn it has changed. Fifteen years ago, the minimum wage covered about 12% of all workers. It's now estimated that about 2.5 million hourly workers, or 3.7% of the hourly work force, are paid the minimum wage. (Another 1.7 million workers, including domestics and farm workers and people who get tips are usually paid less notes the Tribune.)

Of the 2.5 million workers, about 55% are under 24 years old. Most are unmarried. About half of the group are teenagers. Some come from poor homes that desperately need the money, while others are from the middle-class. Nearly two-thirds of the minimum wage earners are women. About one-third of the women are married to other wage-earners. A larger group are single mothers supporting a family. About 60% of all minimum wage earners work part-time jobs, by choice or necessity. More than 80% of minimum wage jobs are in services -- 30% in bars and restaurants.

The National Restaurant Association says that only 11% to 20% of all minimum wage workers belong to poverty-level families. However, the Economic Policy Institute contends that one-fourth of minimum wage workers are heads of households: as a group, it says, minimum-wage workers contribute no less than 45% of their families' total earnings.

The National Restaurant Association and business-backed think tanks also refute a higher minimum wage because they say jobs would be lost, arguing that higher wages reduce demands for workers. But some new studies suggest this isn't so. A study by Alan Krueger, now chief economist at the Labor Department, and Princeton economist David Card found that the number of low-wage jobs in fast-food restaurants actually went up when New Jersey raised its state minimum wage in 1992. At the same time, these jobs shrank next door in Pennsylvania, where the wage stayed the same.

But Carlos Bonilla, economist for the Washington-based Employment Policies Institute, which is partly financed by restaurants, cites a new study by Finis Welch of Texas A&M University and Kevin Murphy of the University of Chicago, that found that jobs for low-wage workers dropped noticeably after the 1990-91 minimum wage increases. Card, however, says the drop can be explained by the recession then. Another report, issued this month by the National Restaurant Association, even argues that a 10% increase in the minimum wage can reduce overall employment by 1%. This claim is derided by other economists, and even the author of the report, consultant Robert Shriner, admits he knew it was out of date when he included it.

"A lot of the hysteria (among employers) doesn't have to do with the employment effects but with their worry about profit-and stock shares," says Jared Bernstein, economist at the Economic Policy Institute. "This has nothing to do with what the minimum wage is about, which is helping lower-class workers."

Media Provokes Immigration Hysteria

By Gilbert Bailón

The national print and electronic news media have helped to foster an atmosphere of anti-immigrant hysteria, whether wittingly or not.

An absence of comprehensive, contextual reporting has been as damaging as the sensational images burned in our collective conscious of immigrants wading across the Río Grande or dodging cars on Interstate 5 in Southern California.

The images are real, but alone they lack the full breadth of a complex story whose roots stretch back to our nation's founding.

Many immigrants, especially Latinos, are portrayed in the national media as economic burdens, voiceless, one-dimensional people. Whether it is because of the inability of reporters to speak in the immigrants' native languages or editors' indifference, the immigrants' plight is lost or overshadowed in the verbal volleys between opposing politicians and advocates.

Immigration is a complex issue covered simplistically. Few news organizations have reporters devoted to understanding the issue or its government bureaucracies and public policy debates.

Immigration's terminology and distinct legal system is misunderstood or unknown to many journalists. There are too few journalists with the personal background or acquired training to provide necessary insights on an issue that has loomed important not just in the '90s, but for decades.

An array of factors compel Chinese immigrants to stow

away on ships, Cuban balseiros to drift perilously across the ocean in handmade contraptions, and Mexicans to pay coyotes to smuggle them to El Norte. How U.S. laws, courts and authorities handle these so-called "illegal aliens," however, varies dramatically.

In the 1960s, mainstream newsrooms were ill-equipped to cover the race riots that erupted in our cities. The rioters and their predominantly non-white neighborhoods then were foreign territory to the almost exclusively white newsrooms.

That newsroom void triggered an unprecedented movement to hire non-white reporters to cover the next urban unrest. As the complexion of the United States continues to get darker, modern newsrooms face a similar predicament.

They lack enough people with the training and language skills to plumb fully the depths of an unknown or misunderstood topic -- immigration policy.

Immigration has rocketed to the forefront of the body politic because of demands for tighter borders and ballot initiatives to deny the undocumented basic protections. The quest for improved and sophisticated immigration coverage is no polemical exercise. Nor is it about promoting an ideology or canonizing immigrants.

It's about the need for depth and grounding that few editors take seriously. When reporting is done, it can be disastrously sensational and superficial. Too often, reporting fails to delve beyond the politics of immigration policy-making.

The number of bilingual, bicultural reporters at the major television news networks is abysmal -- and it shows. Teaser advertisements of a Jan. 12 story on the ABC-TV news magazine Day One were more befitting cheesy television talk shows than serious, objective reporting.

Ads for its report on imprisoned immigrants included such phrases as "Is committing a crime a sure way for an alien to stay in America?" "Give us your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to stick up a liquor store," and "Criminal aliens are pouring into the country and nobody wants to throw them out."

Those quips read more like paid political advertising than promos for a prominent news anchor like Diane Sawyer.

Print media certainly offers no model of excellence, but the national newspapers and magazines usually are less inflammatory. This excerpt from a Dec. 3, 1994, page-one story in The New York Times illustrates a prevalent problem: "The numbers widely vary, but by some estimates illegal and legal immigrants receive more than \$8 billion in government aid annually, about half of it paid for by the states, even though the states have no control over the influx of the aliens."

That Times story had no attribution for the \$8 billion figure. Other cost estimates are significantly lower, but that viewpoint is missing. Unattributed estimates plague stories about immigration. The Times excerpt is immediately followed by quotes from a Federation for American Immi-

gration Reform spokesman about the financial drain of the undocumented. The story has no countervailing statistics or voices challenging the FAIR viewpoint.

It's simply not balanced, accurate journalism. If the tables were reversed, the criticism would hold true.

So how can the media turn around their immigration coverage? They can:

-- Interview and photograph immigrants themselves to show their complexity: how they live and why they came here. They have many reasons for coming here; yet they are lumped under the dehumanizing rubric of "illegal alien."

-- Purge the phrase "illegal alien" in news stories. The Associated Press can be the trendsetter by dropping its usage in its widely followed stylebook. "Illegal alien" is a pejorative with the same connotation of "wetback," a word commonly used in the 1950s which evolved into an unacceptable negative term.

-- Focus on the impact on people: the immigrants, the people they work for, the industries whose costs are reduced by paying lower wages and providing fewer benefits; the workers who say they are displaced by the undocumented, and people, including Latinos, who say crime in their neighborhood drops when border controls tighten. Show how immigrants persevere yet struggle to learn English, which their children speak fluently. Follow a basic journalistic tenet: put faces and human impact into the stories.

-- Explore and acknowledge contradictions and conflict-

ing information. Many Latinos along the Texas border support Operation Hold the Line in El Paso. Some feel it made their neighborhoods safer and reduced crime. At the same time, Latinos who support border patrol increases don't necessarily support denying children an education or pregnant women prenatal care as proposed under Proposition 187 in California.

-- Press for bilingual/bicultural reporters and editors to be hired to help reach those now muted by invisibility.

-- Rid news stories of loaded language like illegal alien, invasion, waves, hordes, streaming across the border, stealing jobs, criminal aliens and a rising tide of immigrants.

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-- Explore the contextual history of immigration reform. The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 was

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ing information. Many Latinos along the Texas border support Operation Hold the Line in El Paso. Some feel it made their neighborhoods safer and reduced crime. At the same time, Latinos who support border patrol increases don't necessarily support denying children an education or pregnant women prenatal care as proposed under Proposition 187 in California.

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billed as the solution by providing sanctions against employers who hire the undocumented, while legalizing some immigrants. Yet people still come, and very few employers were ever penalized. In the 1950s, U.S. policy was massive deportations of Mexicans under Operation Wetback.

The news media should examine contradictions such as importing more agricultural workers for seasonal work while some want to deny benefits to current workers and their families. The immigration surge of the early 1900s has two major distinctions from today: at the turn of the century, the U.S. economy thirsted for unskilled labor and the immigrants were mostly white Europeans.

Today many of the unskilled and semi-skilled immigrants are brown, yellow and black. Their motivations are similar, but their motives are questioned. Our high-tech world has less demand for their labor; yet documented and undocumented immigrants remain essential to many industries.

(Gilbert Bailón is president of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and assistant managing editor of The Dallas Morning News.)
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El Editor
Newspapers

News Briefs

Gingrich Promises to Work with States

AP reports that House Speaker Newt Gingrich spoke to the National Governors Association Tuesday and promised the governors broad flexibility over federal welfare and health care programs, if they agree to help Congress balance the budget and make due with less federal money. He also suggested that he would be willing to offer states financial incentives if they can administer federal programs at lower costs than anticipated.

The NGA had been working on a proposal urging Congress to give states maximum leeway in administering welfare programs - regardless of whether Congress decides to keep welfare as individual entitlement programs or convert aid programs into state block grants. The document also calls on Congress to guarantee the level funding of the block grants for five years, and not to use the block-grant approach as a guise for balancing the federal budget at the expense of the states. The governors were to vote on the proposal later Tuesday.

In addition to welfare and Medicaid reforms, Gingrich said in his address, that the federal government wanted to make it easier to dispose of federal lands, and asked the governors for advice. He also asked for help drafting legislation that would allow states to keep a percentage of the money, possibly 20% if they can keep the cost of running federal programs down.

Governors Reach No Consensus on Block Grants

San Francisco Chronicle reports that in concluding their annual meeting, governors had not reached consensus on whether entitlement programs should remain as they are or whether they should be converted to block grants. They adopted a compromise policy that stated if Congress enacts block grants, it should set minimum standards for protecting children, encourage work programs, push efforts to combat teenage pregnancy and guarantee stable funds for five years. The policy also included recommendations for Congress if it rejects block grants. The governors asked that the federal government set general standards for welfare and allow states to experiment with them without waiver approval.

Despite the failure to reach agreement, governors said the meeting was a success in light of the increase of states' rights. The president, who as governor of Arkansas and previous chair of the governors association, said that power had become centralized in Washington, in part because not all states could be trusted to fairly provide for their residents. "As a Southerner, I can tell you that I don't know what we would have done if the federal government hadn't been willing to take some of the actions that it took in civil rights and in some other areas, to help poor children in my state and others," said Clinton. The president suggested that that era had passed and he is willing to restructure the relationship between the federal government and the states.

Governors Deadlocked on Welfare Reform

The New York Times reports that the National Governors' Association could not agree Monday on whether to endorse GOP proposals to replace existing welfare programs with block grants. The governors also were unable to reach a consensus on how much freedom states should have to redesign their welfare programs.

Three Republican governors, John Engler of Michigan, Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin and William Weld of Massachusetts, have proposed consolidating welfare, food stamps and more than 300 other federal programs into eight lump-sum payments. Under the proposal, there would be almost no federal restrictions on how states would use the federal money. But Weld said, "We didn't have the three-fourths vote" needed for the governors' association to endorse such a huge change.

Leaders of the governors' association said the group would not endorse either a block grant or a new welfare entitlement program. Instead, the association may specify the factors that Congress should consider with both alternatives. Gov. Howard Dean, D-VT, chairman of the group, said, "We may adopt guidelines so that our staff can lobby on both proposals."

The governors, however, will continue trying to build a compromise among themselves over the next 24 hours. Democratic governors said they agreed that states should have much more flexibility. But many of them contend that welfare should remain an entitlement program. They also say block grants could leave children unprotected, especially in a recession, and could force states to raise taxes if Congress decided to cut funds designated for such grants.

Latino Health Data

By Margarita Contin

Latino residents and community health leaders in eight U.S. cities agree that the high costs of health care, lack of insurance, and linguistic barriers are the principal obstacles preventing many families from obtaining adequate care, a Latino health needs study released Jan. 30 points out.

But Jane Delgado, coordinator of the five-year project, says that it found the biggest problem of all to be a nationwide void of critical data on Hispanic health experiences and needs.

"Profiles in Health -- Documenting Health Status and Establishing Priorities" examines community health concerns, barriers to access, and major causes of death in Albuquerque, Brooklyn, Chicago, Denver, El Paso, Los Angeles, Miami and Watsonville, Calif. It also offers recommendations for improving education, outreach and preventive health.

The group Delgado heads, the National Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Services Organization (COSSMHO), worked with researchers from Latino clinics at each of the sites to develop the 88-page needs assessment and programs that address individual community's demands. But the most compelling finding, Delgado says, is the difficulty the groups had in obtaining Hispanic data on child health and morbidity.

Georgia Pappas, director of research for Denver's Latin American Research and Service Agency, suggests that the problem is two-fold. "Either the state department of health doesn't collect the information for Latinos, or if it's collected, they don't have any way of analyzing and dispersing the data."

Barbara Garcia, executive director of Salud Para la Gente, a Watsonville, Calif., clinic, says the limited information hinders her agency's program development and resource allocation. "Figures on Latinos aren't provided, so we can't see the trends in the different subgroups to determine how certain diseases might affect one group more than another. Some data, like on ear infections, are not even collected."

COSSMHO helped the agencies determine where resources need to be reallocated, which are their most effective services, and which need to be improved or expanded.

Garcia, for example, discovered that her agency had been emphasizing tobacco dangers while motor-vehicle accidents were identified as the No. 1 cause of death among Watsonville Latinos.

"Rather than spending a lot of time on tobacco or AIDS education, we have to emphasize the importance of traffic safety, of buckling up," she says. As a result of the assessment, the agency has started an infant car-seat loan program.

The study also found differences between community

leaders' top health concerns and the actual primary causes of death.

"We found that the leaders were out of touch with the data, while the residents were right on target because (the illnesses are) striking them," Garcia observes. "They thought infant mortality was the No. 1 health problem but the fact is that our rates are lower than the national rates."

Although leaders and residents in all communities agree about high costs and the overwhelming lack of health insurance, they differ greatly in identifying other barriers. While residents focus on their daily dilemmas, such as the lack of transportation or inconvenient clinic hours, the leaders identify the absence of culturally competent providers, discrimination and political disenfranchisement as key problems.

LARASA's Pappas dismisses notions that the issues are contradictory. "The barriers that the residents emphasize are in fact cultural issues, which is why LARASA has created a cultural competency training with the help of COSSMHO to make health providers become more culturally aware," she said.

All of the communities strongly agree that more emphasis should also be placed on improving the health curriculum at the elementary school level to include sex education and family planning, drug awareness, nutrition and immunization information.

(Margarita Contin is a reporter with the national newweekly Hispanic Link Week Report in Washington, D.C.)

New Book - Faces of Poverty

An upcoming book by Jill Duerr Berrick of the National Child Welfare Research Center dispels commonly-held myths about the lives of women on welfare. "Faces of Poverty: Portrait of Women and Children on Welfare" will be published by Oxford University Press this June. The author spent up to a year with five welfare mothers and their children and her book reveals the diversity of the welfare population. "The book is about trying to put a human face on people's experiences," said Berrick. "When we do that, the middle and working class recognize that there but for the grace of God go us."

One of the five women interviewed for the book is Rebecca, a teen mother who had dropped out of school and was addicted to drugs. With the help of AFDC and some financial aid, Rebecca finished high school, then enrolled first in a community college and then in a state college. At 23, Rebecca plans to become a teacher.

Federal proposals such as a two-year lifetime limit on benefits and a family "cap" banning additional aid to mothers who have more children, which Berrick views as punitive welfare reforms, are not the answer to the problems of women and children on welfare. Berrick believes a range of policy measures including family planning, child support, child care and health care would do the most good in assisting women to become more self-sufficient.

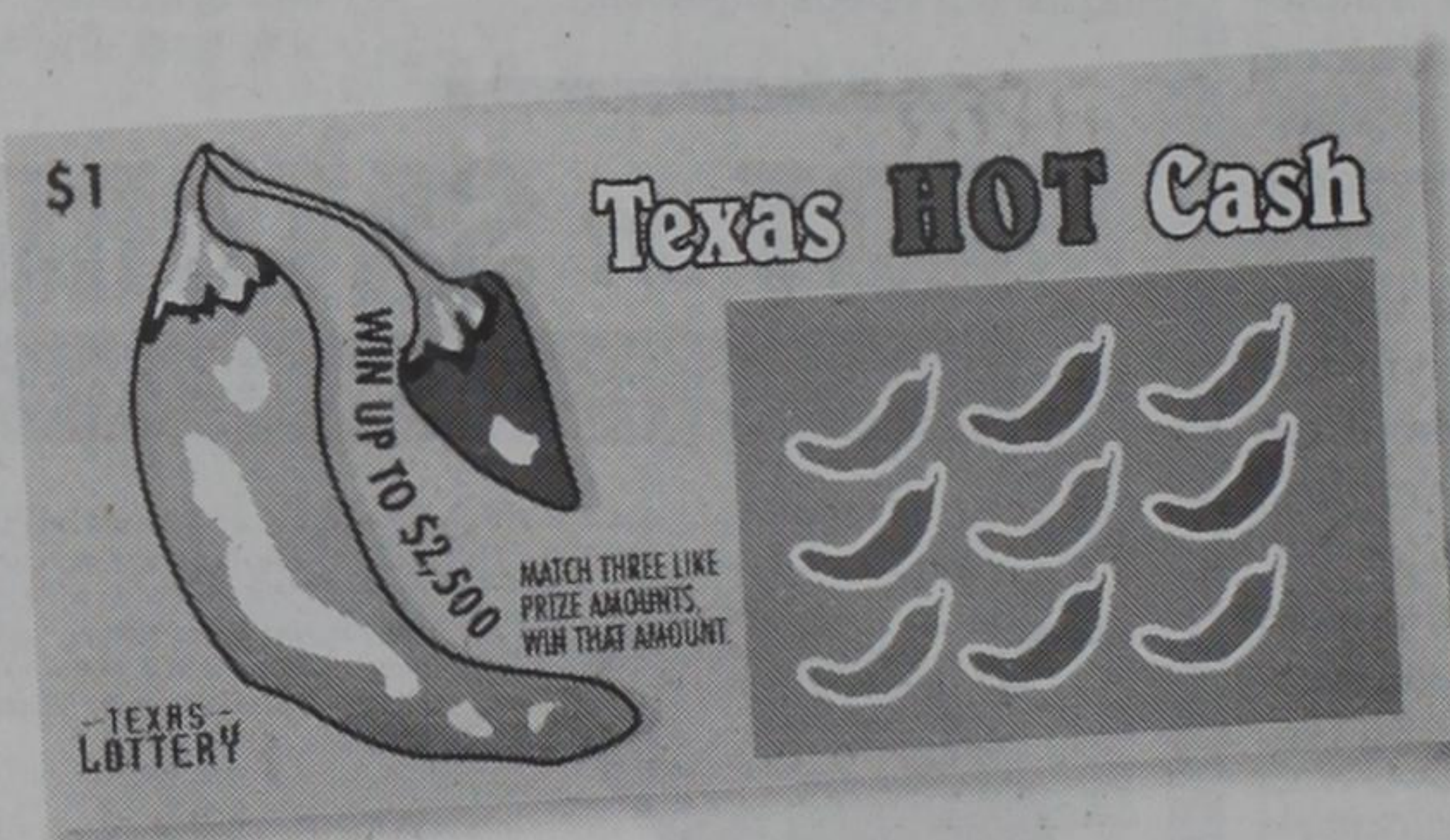


A new slate of executive officers were elected to head the National Association of Hispanic Publications (NAHP) during the organization's Ninth Annual Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. The executive board includes President: Luis Rossi, La Raza, Chicago, IL; Vice President: Ray Guerrero, El Latino, San Diego, CA; Vice President of Marketing: Jaime Noriega, El Mexica de Houston, TX, Secretary: Kevin Kennedy, El Sol de Valle, Fresno, CA; Treasurer: Jaime Castañeda,

Hispanos Unidos, Escondido, CA.

The directors are: Region I: Andres Tobar, National Reporter, Washington D.C.; Region II: Eleine Miceli, El Heraldo de Broward, FL; Region III: Mary Montgomery, EXTRA Bilingual Community Newspapers, Chicago IL; Region IV: Manuel J. Orona, El Editor, Midland, TX.; Region V: Eddie Escobedo, El Mundo, Las Vegas, NV; Region VI: Mary Andrade, La Oferta Review, San Jose, CA; Region VII: Julie Rocha, El Sol de San Diego, CA.

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LOS MEDIOS INFORMATIVOS PROVOCAN

ar menos beneficios; los trabajadores que dicen ser desplazados por los indocumentados y las personas, incluyendo a los latinos, que dicen que la delincuencia de sus vecindades disminuye cuando se aprietan los controles en las fronteras. Mostrar cómo los inmigrantes perseveran mientras luchan para aprender el inglés, que sus hijos hablan con soltura. Seguir un principio básico del periodismo: Poner caras y efectos humanos en los artículos.

-- Explorar y reconocer las contradicciones y la información conflictiva. Muchos latinos a lo largo de la frontera de Texas apoyan a la Operación Bloqueo en El Paso. Algunos creen que hizo que sus vecindades fueran más seguras y disminuyó la delincuencia. Al mismo tiempo, los latinos que apoyan a los aumentos de la Patrulla Fronteriza no apoyan necesariamente el denegar la enseñanza a los niños o el cuidado pre-natal a las mujeres en estado de gestación, como se propuso a tenor de la Proposición 187 en California.

-- Apremiar para que se contrate a reporteros y editores bilingües y biculturales para ayudar a llegar a los que ahora están enmudecidos por la invisibilidad.

-- Purgar a los artículos de noticias del lenguaje cargado de expresiones tales como ilegal, invasión, olas, hordas, corriente a través de la frontera, sustracción de empleos, extranjeros delincuentes y una marea creciente de inmigrantes.

-- Existe un buen modelo de información sobre la inmigración con profundidad y humanidad: Los medios informativos en español, incluyendo a las cadenas nacionales de televisión como Telemundo y Univisión, junto con periódicos diarios como "La Opinión" de Los Angeles y "Diario Las Américas" de Miami. Desgraciadamente, sus artículos y transmisiones en español son desconocidos para la mayor parte de los consumidores de los medios informativos estadounidenses y los principales forjadores de decisiones en las redacciones de los Estados Unidos. Ellos no oyen ni ven estos asuntos que se dicen presentan ángulos distintos.

-- Explorar el por qué los inmigrantes continúan viniendo, de qué modo encuentran empleos y por qué los empleadores estadounidenses procuran su trabajo; qué industrias prosperan y cuál sería el efecto de perder a la fuerza de trabajo indocumentada.

-- Explorar la historia contextual de la reforma de la inmigración. La Ley de Reforma y Control de la Inmigración de 1986 fué presentada como la solución, al disponer sanciones contra los empleadores que contratan a los indocumentados, al tiempo que legalizó a algunos inmigrantes. No obstante, la gente sigue viniendo. En el decenio de 1950, la política de los Estados Unidos consistió en deportaciones en masa de mexicanos bajo la Operación Espalda Mojada.

Los medios informativos deberían examinar las contra-

Sports Deportes

Mexican Financial Crisis Affects Athletics

MONACO, Jan 31 - The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) said on Tuesday it was concerned that Mexico's financial crisis could force a change in the venue of the 1997 world championships, due to be staged in Mexico City.

IAAF spokesman Christopher Winner, responding to questions, said Mexico was still officially hosting the event and no moves were afoot to seek an alternative venue.

But he added: "The IAAF is extremely concerned about the situation in Mexico, above all because the economy has been under siege for the past two months. We do need to plan two years in advance for such a big event."

"The IAAF hopes there is a broad-based willingness of Mexico to go forward with the championships, our premier event. We had hoped to bring the world championships to the American continent and we would be loathe to abandon that idea."

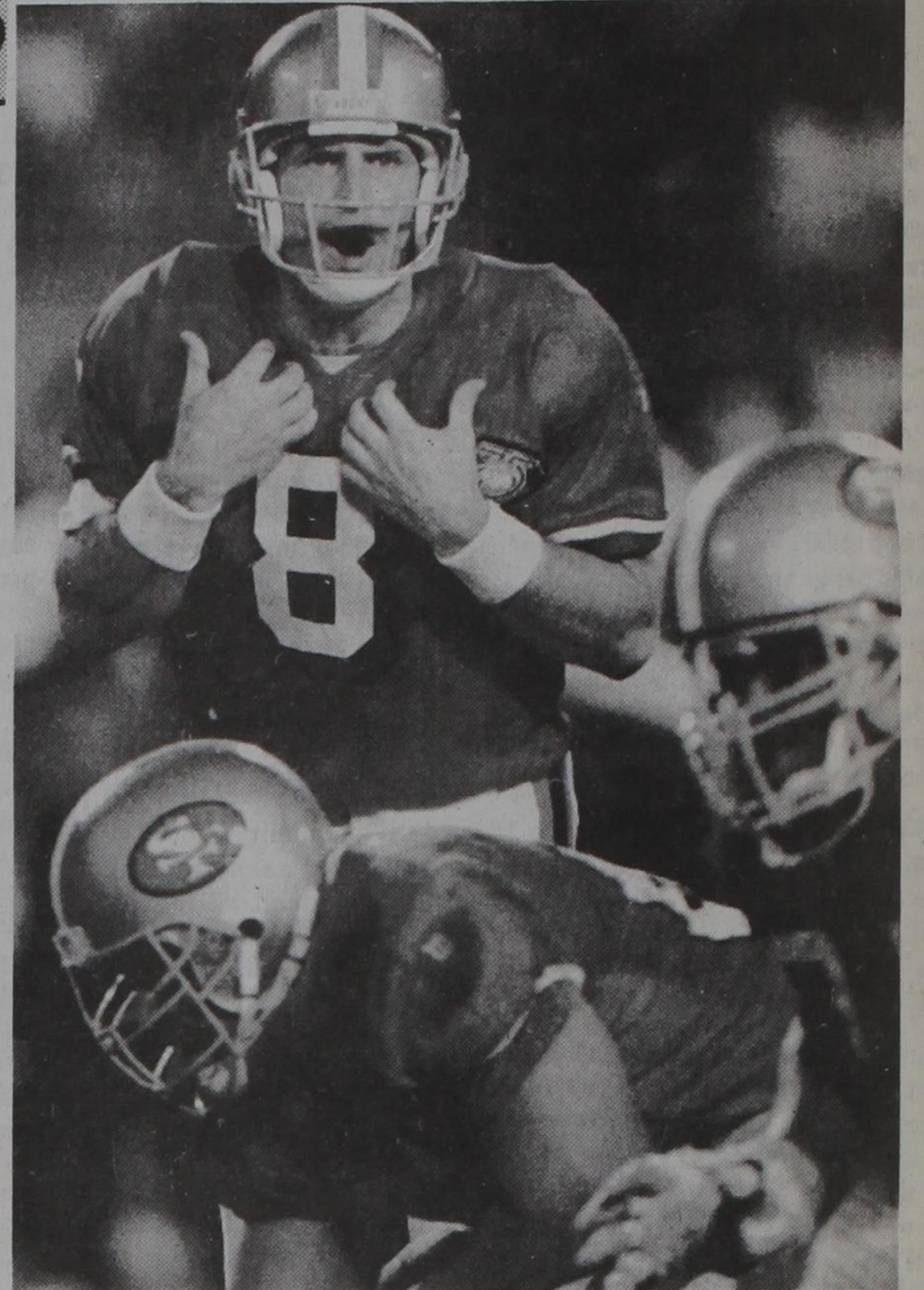
Since the first world championships in Helsinki in 1983, the event has only been held outside Europe on one occasion -- in Tokyo four years ago.

The last championships were staged in 1993 in Stuttgart, Germany and this year's event is being hosted by the Swedish city of Gothenburg.

Winner said the IAAF had no plans to withdraw the right to stage the championships

from Mexico but was waiting for indications from organizers that they could go ahead, despite the deepening financial crisis in the country.

He said any eventual decision on a change of venue would have to be taken in the next few months.



The Super Bowl — in which San Francisco quarterback Steve Young (8) led his team to a 49-26 victory over San Diego — topped the Nielsen ratings for Jan. 23-29.

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Por ejemplo, usted no puede discriminar contra un empleado o solicitante debido a su lugar de nacimiento o su estado de inmigración. También es ilegal despedir o negarle empleo a alguien por no ser ciudadano americano. Usted no puede pedir documentos específicos, como la tarjeta de residencia (green card), para comprobar permiso de trabajo. Tampoco puede negarle trabajo a personas calificadas que tengan permiso de trabajo.

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Un mensaje de la Oficina para Asuntos de Inmigrantes y Refugiados del estado de Texas.

763-3841

dicciones tales como importar más trabajadores agrícolas para trabajo estacional, mientras que algunos quieren negar los beneficios a los trabajadores actuales y a sus familias.

El brote de inmigración a principios del decenio de 1900 tuvo dos diferencias importantes con el de hoy: A la vuelta del siglo, la economía de los Estados Unidos estaba sedienta de mano de obra sin habilidades y los inmigrantes eran primordialmente europeos blancos.

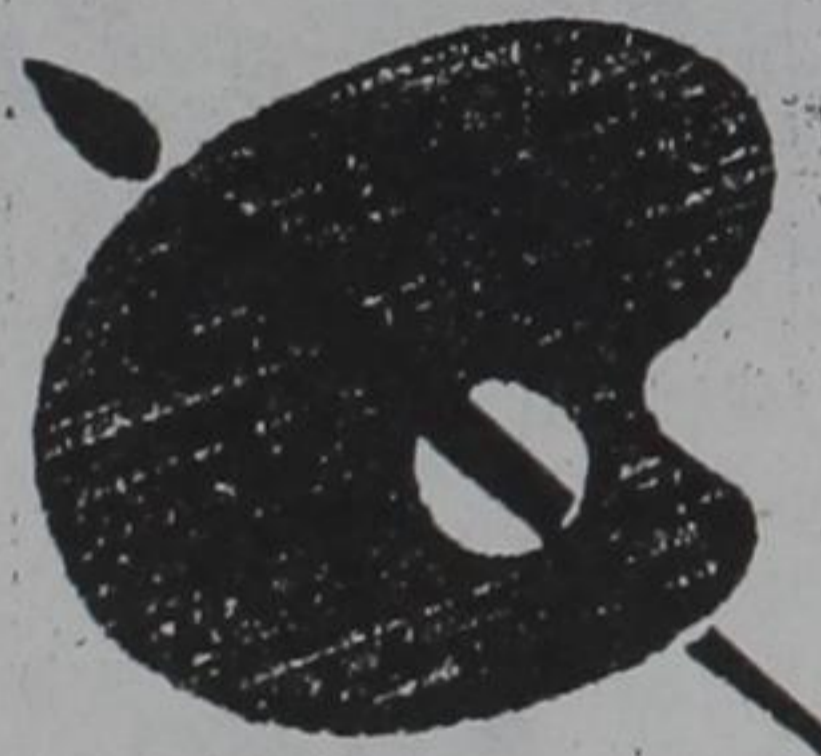
Hoy, muchos de los inmigrantes sin habilidades y semi-hábiles son pardos, amarillos y negros. Sus motivaciones son semejantes, pero se pone en tela de juicio a sus motivos. Nuestro mundo de alta tecnología tiene menos demanda para su trabajo; no obstante, los inmigrantes documentados e indocumentados continúan siendo indispensables para muchas industrias.

(Gilbert Bailón es presidente de la Asociación Nacional de Periodistas Hispánicos y editor administrativo auxiliar de "The Dallas Morning News".)

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National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Información Sobre Salud de Latinos: No Hay Atención

Por Margarita Contín

Los residentes latinos y los dirigentes comunitarios de la salud en ocho ciudades de los Estados Unidos están de acuerdo en que los altos costos de la atención a la salud, la falta de seguros y las barreras idiomáticas son los obstáculos principales que evitan que muchas familias obtengan atención adecuada, según precisa un estudio de necesidades de los latinos en materia de salud, publicado el 30 de enero.

Pero Jane Delgado, coordinadora del proyecto de cinco años de duración, dice que el mismo halló que el mayor problema de todos es un vacío nacional de información crítica sobre las experiencias y necesidades de los hispanos en materia de salud.

"Perfiles de Salud -- Documentación de la Situación Sanitaria y Establecimiento de Prioridades", examina las preocupaciones comunitarias en el campo de la salud, los obstáculos para el acceso a la atención y las causas principales de muertes en Albuquerque, Brooklyn, Chicago, Denver, El Paso, Los Angeles, Miami y Watsonville, California. También ofrece recomendaciones para mejorar la enseñanza, la proyección al exterior y la atención preventiva a la salud.

El grupo que encabeza Delgado, la Coalición Nacional de Organizaciones Hispanas de Salud y Servicios Humanos (COSSMHO en inglés) trabajó con investigadores de las clínicas latinas en cada uno de los lugares para desarrollar la evaluación de necesidades de 88 páginas y los programas que se enfocan sobre las demandas comunitarias individuales.

Pero el hallazgo más apremiante, dice Delgado, es la dificultad que tuvieron los grupos para obtener información hispana sobre la salud y la mortalidad infantiles.

Georgia Pappas, directora de investigación de la Agencia Latina de Investigación y Servicio (LARASA) de Denver, sugiere que el problema tiene dos partes. "O bien el departamento estatal de salud no copia la información para los latinos, o si es copiada no tiene modo alguno de analizar y diseminar la información".

Bárbara García, directora ejecutiva de Salud para la Gente, una clínica de Watsonville, California, dice que la limitación de la información retrasa el desarrollo de programas y la asignación de recursos para su agencia. "No se proporcionan cifras sobre los latinos, de modo que no podemos ver las tendencias de los diversos subgrupos para determinar cómo ciertas enfermedades podrían afectar a un grupo más que a otro. Alguna información, tal como la referente a las infecciones del oído, ni siquiera se recoge".

COSSMHO ayudó a las agencias a determinar dónde se necesita reasignar los recursos, cuáles son sus servicios más eficaces y qué necesita mejorarse o ampliarse.

García, por ejemplo, descubrió que su agencia había estado haciendo énfasis sobre los peligros del tabaco, mientras que los accidentes de vehículos motorizados fueron identificados como la causa de muerte No. 1 entre los latinos de Watsonville.

"Mejor que gastar mucho tiempo en la enseñanza sobre el tabaco o el sida, tenemos que hacer énfasis sobre la importancia de la seguridad en el tránsito, de ponerse los cinturones de seguridad", dice ella. Como resultado de la evaluación, la agencia ha comenzado un programa de préstamos de asientos de seguridad para los niños.

El estudio halló también diferencias entre las preocupaciones principales de los dirigentes comunitarios y las causas reales primordiales de muertes.

"Hallamos que los dirigentes estaban fuera de contacto con la información, mientras que los residentes estaban dando en el blanco porque las enfermedades están afectándoles a ellos", observa García. "Ellos pensaban que la mortalidad infantil era el problema de salud número uno, pero el hecho es que nuestras tasas son menores que las tasas nacionales".

Aunque los dirigentes y residentes de todas las comunidades están de acuerdo sobre los altos costos y la falta abrumadora de seguro de salud, difieren en gran medida para identificar a los demás

obstáculos. Mientras que los residentes se enfocan sobre sus dilemas diarios, tales como la falta de transporte o las horas incon-

venientes de las clínicas, los dirigentes identifican a la ausencia de prestadores de servicios culturalmente competentes, la discrimina-

ción y la falta de habilitación política como los problemas claves.

Pappas, de LARASA, descarta las nociones de que los asuntos son contradictorios.

Chile's New Identity The Most Overlooked Free Market

By Arturo Cifuentes

Chileans' self-esteem is running high these days: Three Chileans made the Forbes Magazine list of billionaires; an increasing number of Chilean stocks is being traded on the New York Stock Exchange; the country is ready to become a member of NAFTA; and many Chilean families -- thanks to the continuous disorientation of the U.S. dollar against their currency -- are finding Miami and Orlando a bargain.

In addition, the new free-market mentality is pushing a wave of "Americanization" that is making the country look more modern.

Examples abound: now businessmen try to be on time -- traditionally, time schedules in Chile had lacked any meaning. Smokers until recently welcomed almost everywhere are finding it difficult to pollute other people's air; more job applicants are landing positions through recruiters and employment agencies as opposed to well-placed relatives or acquaintances; and companies are attracting customers with service-oriented toll-free numbers (yes, with a 1-800 code).

In fact, in many respects Chile has outdone the United States. Take diversity for example. President Frei's cabinet is much more diverse than that of Bill Clinton: it includes engineers, sociologists, economists, MBAs, social workers, lawyers and political scientists. (Clinton's cabinet, by contrast, is still lawyer-dominated.)

Nothing wrong so far. Perhaps. Or perhaps not. The funny thing is that when Chile opened its economy, it also opened its soul and ended up importing, without any filtering, a collection of U.S. trends of rather dubious merit.

The record so far: -- Chileans used to spice their food with homemade ají or pebre. Now they have switched to ketchup -- that American institution that homogenizes the taste of everything.

-- Chilean theaters were clean and quiet. Moviegoers would enjoy chocolates and barquillos during the intermission. Not any more. Popcorn, with its penetrating and peculiar smell (and the corresponding munching), is everywhere.

-- Chilean children would

need to explain on national TV what they felt the first time they had sex. Who knows? Some pessimists believe that Chileans, who once claimed to be the British of Latin America, might end up behaving as the northamericans of Latin America.

The optimists think this Americanization wave is only temporary, and as Chilean companies keep moving into foreign markets, Chileans will start exporting not only their products but also their culture. Thus they will feel more secure about their identity and will stop imitating every U.S. trend.

They may have a point. After all, the United States and Europe are not only enjoying Chilean wines, fruits and seafood more than ever, but they are reading Isabel Allende's books, listening to Inti-Illimani's music and watching "Death and the Maiden" (directed by Roman Polanski and based on Chilean Ariel Dorfman's play).

"As long as Chileans don't start celebrating Thanksgiving," a sociologist friend of mine once told me, "there is nothing to be concerned about. But I am nervous. Recently a Harvard-trained Chilean senator and his entire family appeared on the social pages of Santiago's papers in full costume. The occasion? Halloween -- a word that most Chileans didn't even know how to pronounce a few years ago.

Maybe the Chilean Thanksgiving is just around the corner. I can only hope it will be with lomitos and churrascos instead of turkey.

(Arturo Cifuentes, a native of Chile, is a free-lance writer based in Ossining, N.Y. He holds a Ph.D. in engineering from the California Institute of Technology.)
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beg their parents to by them chocolate helado (liquid chocolate and ice cream). Adolescents and adults went for lomitos, churrascos or chacareos (three typical Chilean sandwiches). Today they all converge on the local Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken and the like for typical U.S. specialties, while family-owned Chilean restaurants have started to disappear.

-- Chileans now say goodbye with a U.S.-inspired "¡Cuidate!" (a literal translation of Take Care), instead of their traditional "hasta luego." Niñeras are called nannas (new Chilean slang for nannies.) And El Mercurio (Chile's most important paper) is already talking about coffee brakes (sic) and walking closets (sic).

And the list keeps going: re-engineering talks, Dale Carnegie seminars, Valentine's Day, pet psychologists, TV evangelists. They have all found a place in the Chilean urban and social landscape, which has started to look like a random sample of Warholian kitsch.

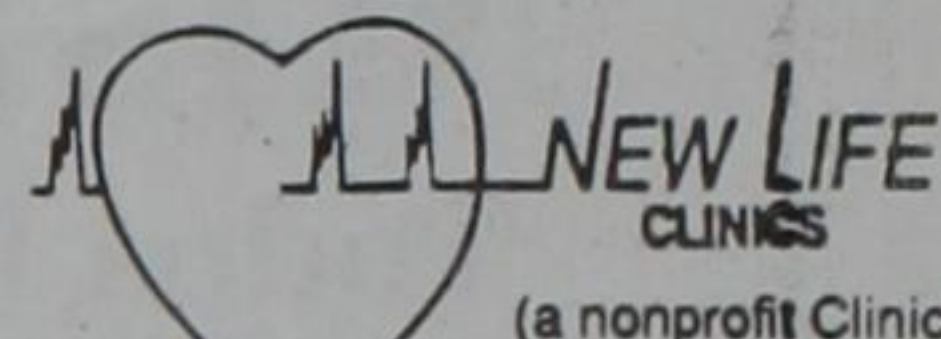
Nobody knows whether this Americanization fever corresponds to a temporary fin de siècle decadence or is the beginning of a permanent change.

I worry that five years from now, instead of seeing a country with less bureaucracy, a free press and a reliable postal service (that is, more good U.S. imports) we might see -- for example -- a country with a gun and cat in every household. Or a country where only handicapped people can find a parking spot. Or worse, a country where everybody, from moronic soccer stars to born-again bank tellers, feels not only the desire but also the

"Las barreras que los residentes enfatizan son en verdad asuntos culturales, por lo cual LARASA ha creado un adiestramiento de competencia cultural con ayuda de COSSMHO para hacer que los prestadores de servicios lleguen a estar más conscientes culturalmente", dijo ella.

Todas las comunidades concuerdan enérgicamente en que debería hacerse también más énfasis sobre el mejoramiento del plan de estudios sobre la salud al nivel de la escuela elemental, incluyendo la enseñanza sexual y la planificación de la familia, el conocimiento sobre los narcóticos y la información sobre nutrición y vacunación.

(Margarita Contín es reportera del semanario nacional Hispanic Link Weekly Report en Washington, DC.) Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1995. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate



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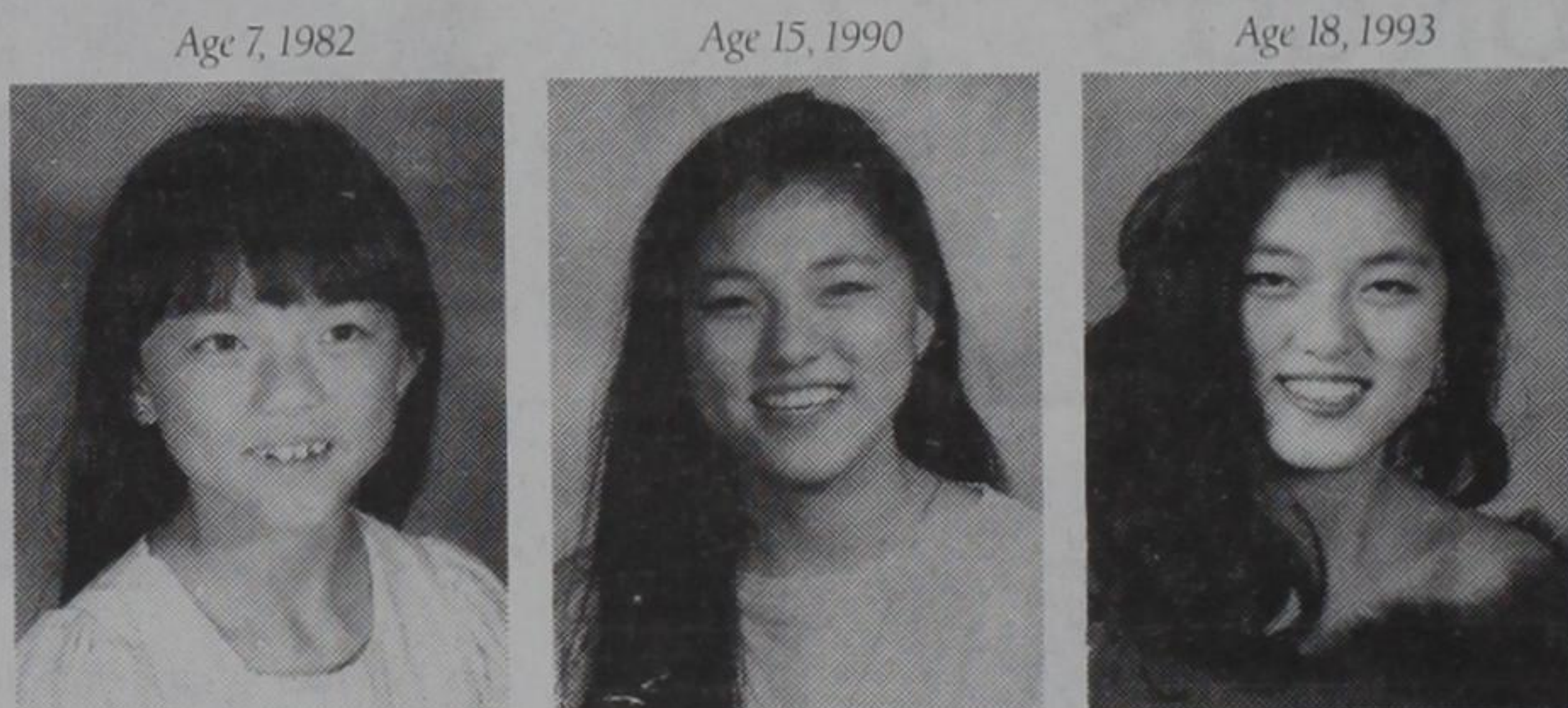
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CLIP AND SAVE



Age 7, 1982 Age 15, 1990 Age 18, 1993

Elizabeth Suto.

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Por Sofia Martinez

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El tiene poder para realizar todas las cosas mucho mejor de lo que nosotros podemos pensar o pedir, con Su poder que actúa en nosotros: (Efesios 3, 20).

Su plan supera muchísimo lo que tu imaginas o puedes pensar para tu bien. Como el cielo aventaja

a la tierra, asi aventaja Su plan al tuyo: Is. 55, 8 9.

Desde un principio nos creo a Su imagen y semejanza, llenos de Su amor y cocreadores con El, capaces de ser Sus representantes en este mundo.

Nos creo en armonia perfecta con El: una relación personal, intima y permanente (Nos creo con los demas: relaciones de justicia, de verdad y de servicio. Nos creo con toda la creación: siendo libres y no esclavos de las cosas de este mundo. Nos lleno de felicidad con Su gozo, y Su paz y union. Dios te ama, y lo unico que te pide es que creas en Su amor, que creas en El, y que confies en Su plan mas que en el tuyo.

Lo primero que Dios nos pide no es que le amemos, sino que nos dejemos amar por el. Solamente manifiestale que quieres experimentar Su amor por ti. (Galatas 4,9)

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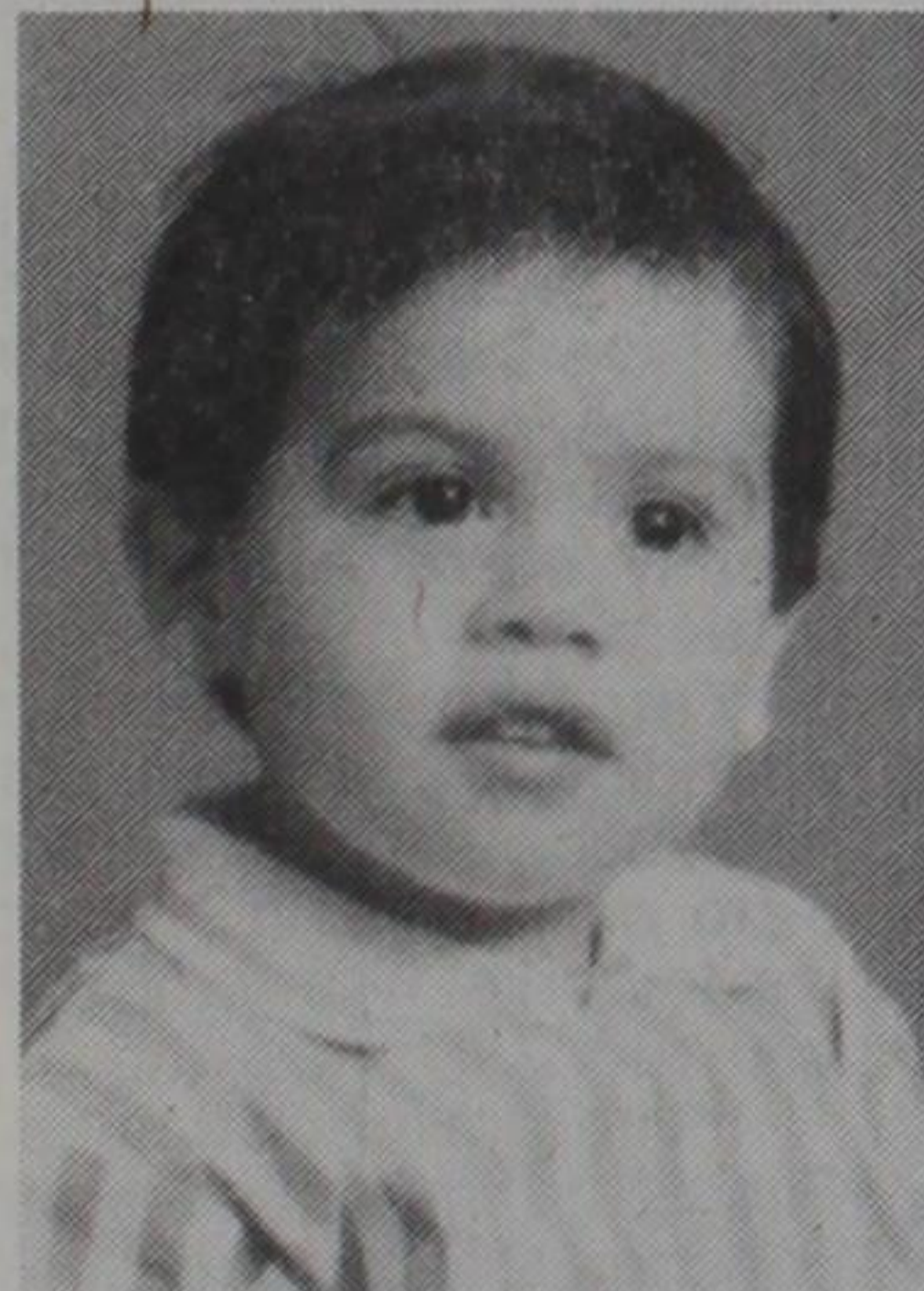
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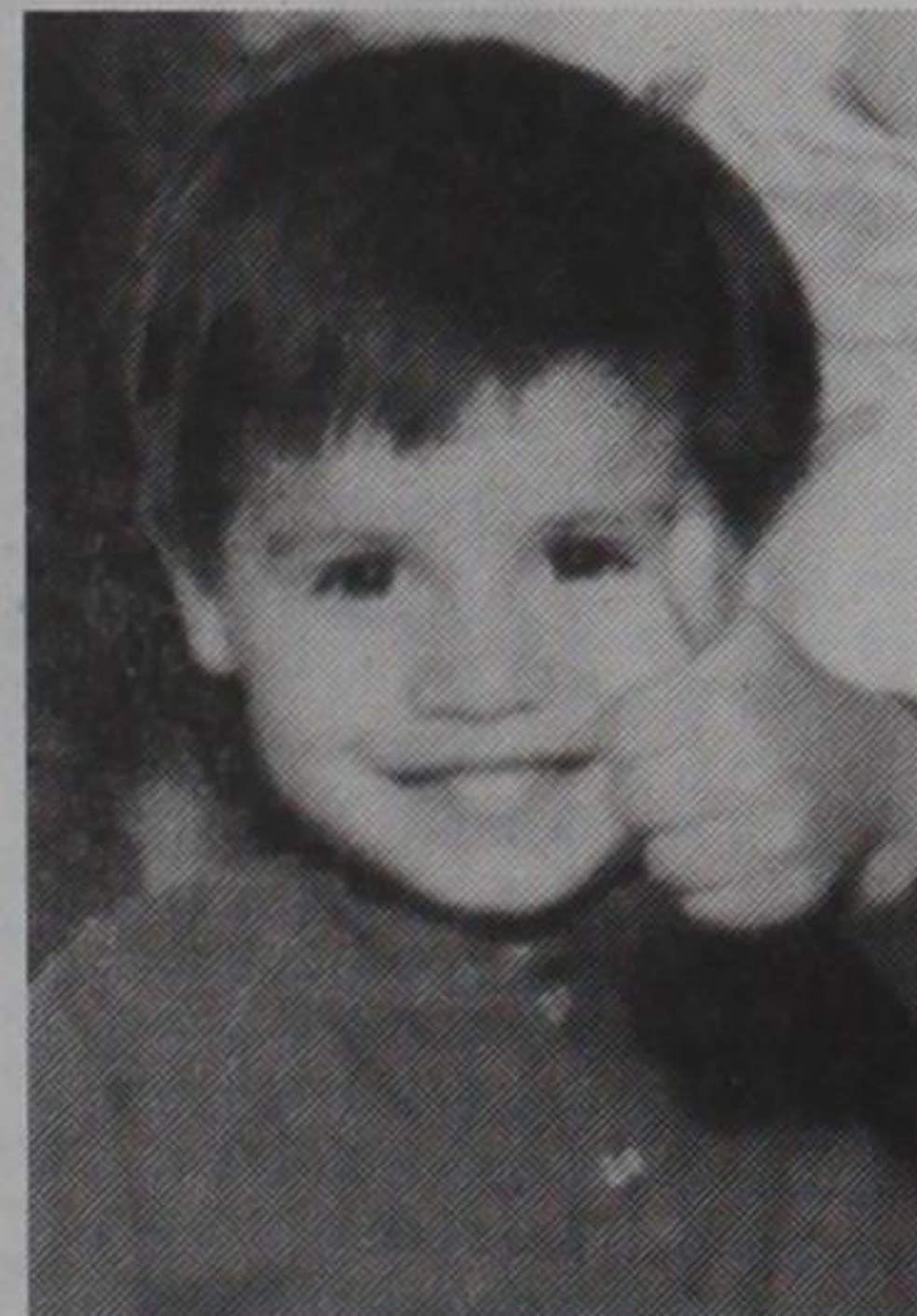
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2 weeks old, 1989



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Stevie Ace Flores.

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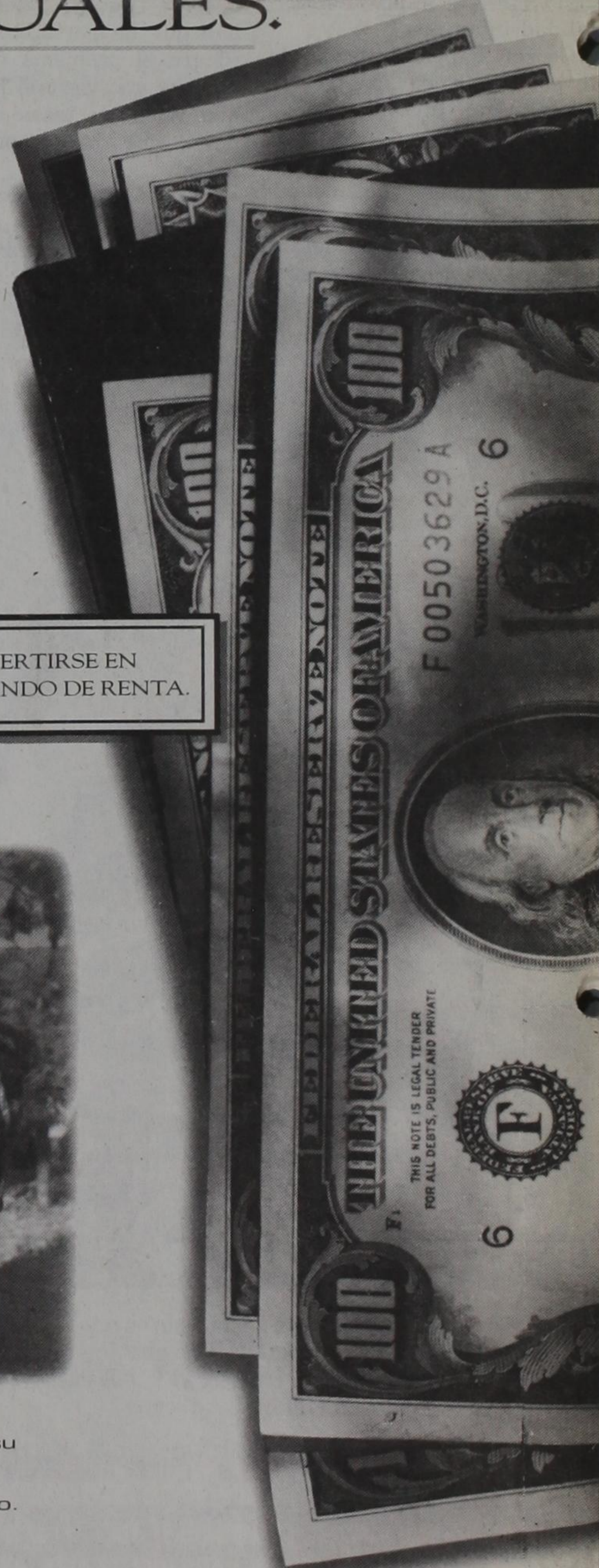
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