

Chavez, De La Hoya Showdown

LAS VEGAS - Oscar De La Hoya and Julio Cesar Chavez agree heading into Friday's fight that the loser won't have to waste his time explaining what happened.

"I want no excuses on his part or on my part," De La Hoya said. "The loser has to accept the fact he lost to a great champion."

"This time there will not be any excuses," Chavez said. "I have trained like never before in my career."

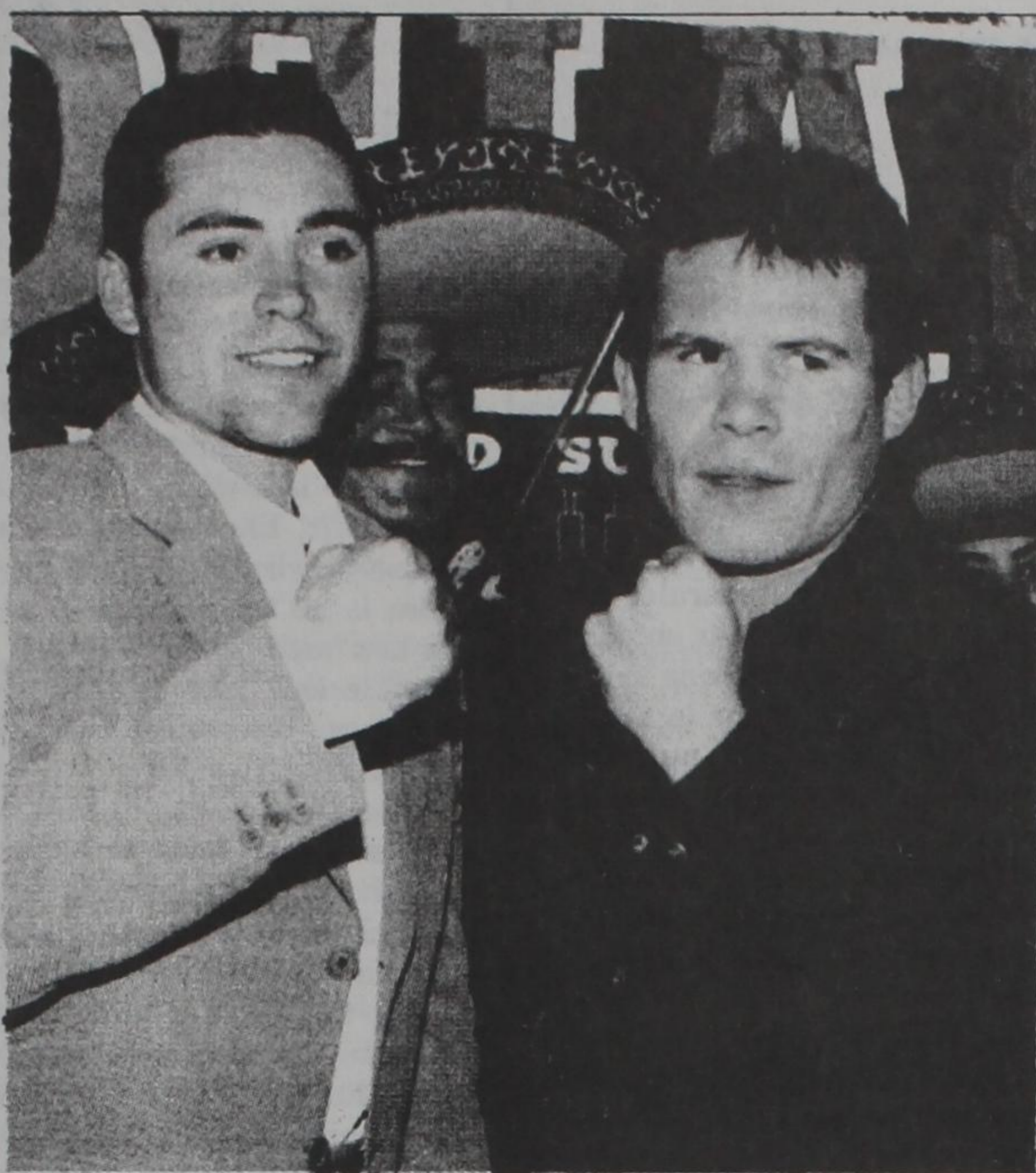
De La Hoya, of course, hasn't had to make any excuses in a pro career that has seen him win all 21 of his fights, 19 by knockout.

Chavez, on the other hand, blamed both the referee and the judges in his draw with Pernell Whitaker and his loss to Frankie Randall, the only blemishes in a remarkable 99-fight pro career.

"I don't care if Chavez's trainer judges this fight," De La Hoya said. "The judges will know who won the fight if it goes 12 rounds, that's for sure."

De La Hoya remains a 2-1 favorite to beat Chavez and take the WBC 140-pound title in their scheduled 12-round fight Friday night at the outdoor arena at Caesars Palace.

The fight matches the 33-year-old Chavez, a legend in boxing circles, against De La



Hoya, an Olympic gold medalist who may be on the brink of transforming his boxing success into wide commercial appeal.

"It's Oscar's opportunity to seize the mantle of the greatest Hispanic fighter of his time from Julio," promoter Bob Arum said.

Friday, 7 pm - Lubbock Municipal Coliseum

"You don't see either of these guys bad mouthing each other or pushing and shoving each other," Arum said. "They're class fighters who save it for the ring."

Both Chavez (97-1-1, 79 knockouts) and De La Hoya (21-0, 19 knockouts) will earn

about \$9 million for the scheduled 12-round bout before a sold-out crowd of more than 15,000 at the Caesars Palace outdoor arena.

"I deserve this money as the payment for my boxing career," said Chavez, who will pay a big chunk of his earnings to the IRS to make up some back taxes. "I don't fight now for the passion of boxing after having 99 fights."

The payday is the biggest for either fighter, made possible by the rabid following that Chavez enjoys in Mexico and among Hispanics in parts of the United States.

Tickets for the bout sold out quickly, and promoter Bob Arum predicted another 40,000 people would pay \$30 to \$50 to watch the bout on closed circuit in the Las Vegas area alone.

Unlike most recent big fights, the bout will be sold mainly to closed circuit locations, with only scattered pay-per-view showings. It is expected to do strong regional business, especially among Hispanics in Southern California.

The Anaheim Arena is already sold out for the fight, prompting promoters to rent the Rose Bowl for an outdoor telecast expected to draw more than 20,000 fans.

News Briefs

Mexico Acts to Solve Own Migrant Woes

Mexico's federal government is beginning efforts to protect the tens of thousands of Central American migrants who illegally enter its territory each year, reports the Chicago Tribune.

Chagrined by reports of corruption and human rights abuses committed by Mexican police and immigration officials, a special, independent police force in the southern state of Chiapas has been charged with not only combatting the criminal gangs that prey on Central Americans but also investigating officials who take advantage of them.

Mexican authorities also are stepping up efforts to arrest alien smugglers, particularly once they near the northern border with the United States.

The measures come at a sensitive time. The Mexican government has been accused of hypocrisy for criticizing the treatment of Mexican migrants in the U.S. while doing little to clean up abuses in its own backyard.

The new police force in Chiapas, which is expected to start with 20 to 30 members, is modeled after the Beta Group in Tijuana. That outfit has been praised on both sides of the border for reducing crime and abuses against Mexican migrants trying to cross into California.

The Beta Group's success has spawned the creation of similar outfits in Matamoros and, most recently, Sonora state. And the South Beta Group marks the first time that Mexican officials have addressed their other border, where tens of thousands of Guatemalans, Hondurans, Salvadorans and others enter Mexico each year in hopes of making their way to the U.S.

Study Challenges Poverty Stereotypes

According to a state-by-state survey of children's well-being released by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, more than one-third of all America's poor children - or about 5.6 million kids - live in working-poor families, reports Associated Press.

Only 14 percent of children in working poor families were born to a teen-age mother, the report says. Most were born to women over 25 years old and half lived in married, two-parent households where at least one parent - usually the father - worked all year, according to the report.

The findings indicate that between 1989 and 1994, when the overall economy was strong, conditions became worse for the working poor. The number of children in such families increased by 30 percent.

The problem is caused by a decline in the value of low-skill labor, said Douglas Nelson, executive director of the Casey Foundation, a private charitable organization based in Baltimore, Md., that focuses on disadvantaged children.

"In the late 1960s, a young adult working full-time at the minimum wage could keep a family of three out of poverty," said Nelson. "In 1994, a household head working full-time at the minimum wage earned only 70 percent of the income needed to lift a family of three out of poverty."

The poverty standard in 1994 was \$11,821 for a family of three.

Nelson argues the long-run solution to the problem is an educational system that prepares young people for modern jobs.

The short-run solution, he contends, is making sure poor families get support to raise children who can learn to compete. Otherwise, those children will be a burden on everyone as adults, either in prison or needing public assistance, he said.

"Although many factors put children at risk, nothing predicts bad outcomes for a kid more powerfully than growing up poor," Nelson said.

Among the programs the foundation advocates preserving is the Earned Income Tax Credit, which provides low income wage earners a refundable tax credit that enlarges their net income.

Elderly Move to HMOs

More than 80,000 elderly Medicare beneficiaries are joining cost-conscious health maintenance organizations every month, a trend that may help nudge the giant, financially troubled program toward a leaner future, reports the San Jose Mercury News.

The number of Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in HMOs rose by 25 percent in 1995, and is increasing at the same rate this year. Attracted by HMOs' broader benefits, HMO members now account for more than 10 percent of Medicare's 37 million beneficiaries, up from 5 percent in 1990.

While nearly 30 percent of working-age people and their families are in HMOs, the elderly are usually viewed as resisting managed care. Nonetheless, HMOs have made inroads among retirees in California, Arizona, south Florida, Massachusetts and parts of the Northwest. They are gaining in the mid-Atlantic states, New York, and urban areas of the South.

Health economist Stuart Altman, who has advised Congress on Medicare, said that in parts of California and Florida, Medicare overpays HMOs by as much \$140 per beneficiary, per month. That's on top of an allowance for HMO profits.

The overpayment gets plowed into alluring benefits, said Altman. Some HMOs offer health club memberships and free transportation to the doctor's office. "It's become a gigantic bribe," said Altman.

But Ramona Alvarez, 86, a retired cigar binder from Tampa, Fla., does not view her HMO benefits as a bribe. To her, they're more like a godsend. Alvarez switched from traditional Medicare into an HMO a few years ago, on a frustrating day when she went to the pharmacy and found she couldn't afford her prescription.

"I pay \$10 to see the doctor, and \$5 for every prescription," said Alvarez. "I had two surgeries, and I was in a convalescent home for five weeks, and it didn't cost me a penny."

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Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Aguero

It's very seldom that I am at a loss for words, but it seems that this is one of those weeks. Maybe because I'm still recuperating from all the happening in May including, May Day, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Graduation, Memorial Day and an endless amount of days that probably I didn't even know were supposed to be observed.



But now it's June. It seems the only thing that happens during June is Father's Day and then of course there's Juneteenth. And of course the first day of Summer..... Well maybe there are more than .. only one thing.

And how can we forget that the Republicans and Democrats are having their State Convention this coming weekend. To make some important decisions...like who is going to run for President. Hopefully, since that decision has already been made. The Democrats and Republicans can turn to address some of the real issues that need to be discussed. Like are both partys going to continue to cut social services to the poor in the name of balancing the budget.

Several people from Lubbock will make the trip to the Conventions and hopefully they can get back to us and report what happened.....or maybe they'll just tell whoever doesn't really listen.

*****Pico de Gallo*****

People are really divided as to who will win tomorrow's fight between Chavez and DeLaHoya. My daughter Amarila is for Oscar, because he's cute. Joe Black says that Julio Cesar Chavez, who he once confused with Cesar Chavez the farmworker advocate, is going to "beat that young boy". Whoever wins, you can be sure...I'll see you at the fight!

Estudio Refuerza El Estereotipo Hispano Y Lo Desafia

Por Joseph Torres

El estereotipo es que los latinos son inmigrantes. Es una imagen que ofende a muchos hispanos, pero un nuevo estudio importante proporciona material fresco para alimentar a la percepción.

En un proyecto de investigación de tres años, la Agenda Latina para Cursos de Acción Urbanos (LUPA en inglés), financiada por la Fundación Ford, mira a los latinos en cinco zonas urbanas donde son más visibles -- Los Angeles, Nueva York, Miami, Chicago y Houston. Juntas, las cinco alojan a más de la mitad de la población hispana de la nación.

El estudio revela que las ciudades interiores de cuatro de las cinco zonas contienen a más latinos inmigrantes que los nacidos en los Estados Unidos. Sólo en Houston superan los hispanos nativos a sus primos nacidos en el extranjero.

Los hallazgos preliminares del estudio, destinado a proporcionar a los elaboradores de cursos de acción urbanos la información que aumente su eficacia para trabajar con sus poblaciones latinas cada vez mayores, fueron publicados durante la conferencia de LUPA los días 29 y 30 de mayo en Arlington, Virginia.

Uno de sus directores, Harry Pachón, presidente del Centro Tomás Rivera, con sede en Claremont, California, manifestó su esperanza de que los dirigentes políticos y comerciales ya no situarán más a los latinos de los Estados Unidos en cualquier clase de cuadrado monolítico y que usarán desgloses, tales como los que el estudio viene desarrollando, entre inmigrantes y nacidos en los Estados Unidos, en su planificación pública y empresarial.

El estudio que examina a 88 vecindades de las ciudades estudiadas, identificó varias diferencias distintivas entre los latinos inmigrantes y los nacidos aquí en las comun-

idades que estudió, así como diferencias entre los grupos latinos de diversos orígenes nacionales. Entre ellos se hallan los siguientes:

-- ENSEÑANZA: Los latinos nacidos en los Estados Unidos tienen mayores probabilidades de haber terminado la enseñanza secundaria.

-- JOVENES: El 50% de los latinos nacidos en los Estados Unidos son menores de 18 años de edad. Las gestiones de LUPA están orientadas por el Instituto Latino, el Consejo Nacional Cubano Americano, el Instituto para los Cursos de Acción Puertorriqueños (IPRP en inglés) y el Centro Tomás Rivera.

Angelo Falcón, presidente del IPRP en Nueva York, dice que la información suministrará a los legisladores y a las

organizaciones comunitarias los perfiles indispensables de las vecindades latinas a las que ellos prestan servicios.

Un resumen ejecutivo del estudio, incluyendo recomendaciones, se publicará en este verano, y el informe final está señalado para salir alrededor de fines de año, según dijo Millie Rivera, directora ejecutiva del Instituto Latino, con sede en Chicago.

Guarioné Díaz, presidente del Consejo Nacional Cubano-Americano, con sede en Miami, señala que muchos hijos nacidos en los Estados Unidos de inmigrantes en aquella ciudad están desarrollando el dominio idiomático bilingüe y que constituyen un recurso muy valioso para los Estados Unidos, a medida que éstos compiten en el mercado global.

Legal Immigrants Face Deportation

Thousands or even tens of thousands of legal immigrants nationwide could face deportation under new Congress passed in April, reports The San Jose Mercury News.

The anti-terrorism law expanded the number of criminal actions for which a non-citizen could be deported. Under the old law, foreigners with at least seven years' legal residence in the United States who had also committed deportable offenses could ask a judge for permission to stay in the United States on humanitarian grounds. The crimes had to be punishable by no more than a five-year prison sentence. Now, a judge's ability to grant such permission has been almost eliminated - even in cases in which the felon has created a new life.

While no one knows for certain how many legal residents committed felonies at some point in their lives, the

number of would-be citizens who have applied for the waiver offers some clue into the size of the relevant population. In the 12 months that ended Oct. 31, 1995, 2,303 people received such waivers, out of 5,330 who applied nationally. In the previous 12 months, 1,778 received waivers out of 4,134 who applied, according to INS figures.

"The numbers are very, very small and don't affect in any meaningful way the demographics of immigration," said Mark Silverman of the Immigrant Legal Resource Center [HN0783], which has San Francisco and East Palo Alto offices. "This is not only anti-immigrant but anti-family and anti-human rights."

A large portion of the people applying for waivers had immigrated as children and were convicted of drug offenses, immigration lawyers say.

Continued on Page 2

Alumnos Hispanos Se Enfrentan A Los Desafios Nacionalistas

Por John Blackburn

(Segunda de dos partes)

Los ataques contra la acción afirmativa y los programas de becas basados en la raza, así como un aumento de las propuestas nacionalistas, tales como la debatida Proposición 187 de California, se han unido a las preocupaciones más tradicionales de los ex-alumnos latinos en cuanto al reclutamiento de estudiantes y profesores, la tutoría y otras formas de servicio a la universidad.

A mce Puente. Ella menciona una huelga de hambre efectuada en el semestre anterior para protestar contra el despido de la Decana Adjunta Cecilia Burciaga, miembro residente en la Casa Zapata de la Universidad, y otro incidente en el cual fren- cia.

"Debido a que muchos de nuestros estudiantes han venido aquí mediante becas, la asociación de antiguos alumnos quiere tener un programa de membresía más sólido", dice Alice Hawley, directora de relaciones con los antiguos alumnos en la Universidad Pan- Americana de Edinburg, Texas, donde el 85% de los matriculados son hispanos. "Como dijo un asesor de la junta de ex-alumnos:

"Enfrentámonos a eso; es la hora de reembolsarD".

Hace cuatro años, la Asociación de Ex-Alumnos Latinos de la Universidad de California en Los Angeles (UCLA en inglés) ofrecía una beca por \$500; ahora ofrece siete de \$1,000 cada una y otra que vale \$3,000, dice el presidente del grupo, Ray Cano.

La búsqueda de dinero nuevo se enfrenta a muchos obstáculos. Los grupos de antiguos alumnos basados en cubano-

americanos y puertorriqueños, por ejemplo, hallan que tienen que vencer conceptos equivocados sobre la financiación de la enseñanza superior en los Estados Unidos.

"Antes de la revolución en Cuba, una universidad pública no era un lugar al que uno hacía sus donativos", advierte Eduardo Hondal, director de asuntos de antiguos alumnos en la Universidad Internacional de la Florida (FIU en inglés), en Miami. "Su concepción es que FIU está financiada por el estado, cuando sólo el 44% de sus fondos proceden del estado; el resto es de fondos privados.

Irónicamente, la que está proyectada para convertirse en la mayor universidad de la Florida para el año 2004 también se enfrenta a un obstáculo inusitado para recaudar fondos, planteado por la posición económica general de un cuerpo estudiantil que es hispano en un 46%.

"En su mayoría, los estudiantes son de la clase media o media alta, y no descansan en gran medida en las becas. La matrícula es razonable y los padres pueden enviar a sus hijos aquí. El reto se halla en convencerlos de que necesitamos de su apoyo".

Las organizaciones de ex-alumnos que trabajan en la comunidad puertorriqueña ven una tendencia semejante.

"No hay una mentalidad para dar porque nunca se le cultivó", dice Frank Morales, director ejecutivo de programas académicos especiales en la Universidad Seton Hall. "Entre el 75% y el 80% del presupuesto de la Universidad de Puerto Rico procede del gobierno. También hay

un problema con las deducciones fiscales, porque los donativos no son deducibles."

Los nuevos asuntos sociales del decenio de 1990, tales como la Proposición 187 de California, han obligado también a los grupos de ex-alumnos latinos a alejarse de lo que Sylvia Puente, presidenta del Club de Ex-Alumnos Chicanos/Latinos de la Universidad de Stanford, califica de "énfasis sobre las actividades culturales a fines del decenio de 1980".

"Parece ser una marea que sube y baja. Ha habido recientemente un impulso fuerte por una presencia chicana en el recinto", di80 vió establecerse a docenas de grupos, en la estela de un brote en las matrículas de hispanos en las universidades.

La tendencia en el decenio de 1990 ha sido hacia la reorganización, ya que algunas gestiones anteriorefueron voceados epitetos raciales durante la exhibición en el recinto de un documental sobre las dificultades de los trabajadores agrícolas y el boicot contra las uvas.

Durante el debate antes de que los electores de California aprobaran la Proposición 187 en 1994, la Asociación de Antiguos Alumnos Latinos de UCLA auspició un foro público en el Ayuntamiento de Los Angeles, que presentaba a los proponentes y los opositores de la medida que denegaría los servicios de enseñanza y sociales a los inmigrantes indocumentados. La asociación realizó también una encuesta informal de su membresía respecto del asunto.

"Estábamos contra la 187. Parecía más una campaña para obtener una plaza electiva que una posición razon-

able", dice Cano.

El futuro de las becas con base en la raza, desafiadas hace poco en Maryland y Colorado, es incierto. Los funcionarios de las asociaciones de ex-alumnos hispanos se preguntan si el desafío se mantendrá.

"Debido a que ellos no están usando fondos federales ni estatales, creo que su enfoque es: "Este es dinero que nosotros recaudamos; por lo tanto, podemos estipular a quién se dedicará", dice Rocky García, director auxiliar de relaciones con los antiguos alumnos en la Universidad de Colorado en Boulder, donde la Asociación de Antiguos Alumnos Hispanos ha otorgado cerca de 80 becas en los tres años últimos. "Ellos son uno de los grupos recaudadores de fondos con mayor éxito. Hay una dedicación a este propósito".

Morales, de Seton Hall, cree que el éxito o el fracaso de las gestiones de los ex-alumnos universitarios para conectarse con las comunidades de color tendrá efectos importantes más allá de los salones de charlas.

"Es un mercado atractivo, que ahora comenzará a ser atacado, por falta de un término mejor", dice Morales. "Ellos no están proyectándose con demasiada eficacia ahora. Si los ex-alumnos no ayudan, habrá una generación completa que se quedará fuera, especialmente a juzgar por la actitud del gobierno ahora".



Hispanic Alumni Groups Confront New Funding Challenges

By John Blackburn

(Second of two parts)

Attacks on affirmative action and race-based scholarship programs, as well as a rise in nativist proposals such as California's contested Proposition 187, have joined more traditional Latino alumni concerns of student and faculty recruitment, mentoring, and other forms of service to the university.

As traditional funding sources dry up, universities and Latino alumni association issue.

"We were anti-187. It seemed more a campaign to gain an elected post and not a rational position," Cano says.

The future of race-based scholarships, challenged recently in Maryland and Colorado, is uncertain. Hispanic e Hawley, director of alumni relations at Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas, where 85 percent of the enrollment is Hispanic. "As an alumni board adviser said, 'Let's face it; it's payback time.'"

Four years ago, UCLA's Latino Alumni Association offered one scholarship worth \$500; today it offers seven for \$1,000 each and another worth \$3,000, says the group's president, Ray Cano.

The quest for new money faces many hurdles. Cuban-American and Puerto Rican-based alumni groups, for example, find they have to overcome misconceptions about the funding of higher education in the United States.

"Before the revolution in Cuba, a public university was not a place where you gave your donations," notes Eduardo Hondal, director of alumni affairs at Florida International University in Miami.

"Their conception is that FIU is state-funded, when

only 44 percent comes from the state; the rest is private."

Ironically, what is projected to become Florida's largest university by 2004 also faces an unusual fund-raising obstacle posed by the general affluence of a student body that is 46 percent Hispanic.

"For the most part (the students) are middle- or upper-middle class and they may not rely as much on scholarships. Tuition is reasonable and parents can send their kids here. The challenge lies in convincing them that we need the support."

Alumni organizations that work in the Puerto Rican community see a similar trend.

"There isn't a giving mentality because it was never cultivated," says Frank Morales, executive director of special academic programs at Seton Hall University. "Seventy-five to 80 percent of the budget for the University of Puerto Rico comes from the government. You also have a problem with the tax (writeoff) because it is not deductible."

New social issues of the 1990s, such as California's Proposition 187, have also forced Latino alumni groups to move away from what Sylvia Puente, president of Stanford University's Chicano/Latino Alumni Club, calls an "emphasis on cultural activities in the late '80s."

"It seems to be an ebb and flow. Recently there has been a strong push for a Chicano presence on campus," Puente says. She cites a hunger strike staged last semester to protest the dismissal of Associate Dean Cecilia Burciaga, resident fellow at the university's Casa Zapata, and another incident in which racial epithets were voiced during the on-campus screening of a documentary on the plight of farm workers and

the grape boycott.

During the debate before California voters approved Proposition 187 in 1994, UCLA's Latino Alumni Association sponsored a public forum at Los Angeles City Hall featuring proponents and opponents of the measure that would deny educational and social services to undocumented immigrants. The association also conducted an informal survey of its membership on toncurs Nellie Gorbea-Díaz, president of the Latino Alumni Association of Princeton University.

"The trick is starting a national organization with volunteers, which is a challenge. When we started in 1988 we had a dedicated group of alumni officials question whether the challenge will stand.

"Because they are not using any federal or state money, I think their approach is, 'This

Immigration Continued From Page 1

"The worst part of the law is that it doesn't recognize that people can be rehabilitated," said Byron Park, an immigration attorney whose 37 cases of people eligible to stay under the old program have been reduced to one. "The second-worst part is that people who are deported are probably going to sneak back in."

A deportee who is caught in the United States can be jailed for 10 to 15 years.

INS general counsel David Martin, who wants to see the law modified, concedes nonetheless that the current law will speed deportation procedures and save money. Yet he added that the government should recognize that breaking some human ties, what lawyers call "equities," might be harmful.

Immigration attorneys and civil rights groups also worry

is money we raise; therefore, we can stipulate who it goes to," says Rocky García assistant director of alumni relations at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where the Hispanic Alumni Association has awarded nearly 80 scholarships in the last three years. "They are one of the more successful fund-raising groups. There is a commitment to this purpose."

Seton Hall's Morales feels that the success or failure of university alumni efforts to connect with communities of color will have important impacts beyond the lecture halls.

"It is an attractive market which now will begin to be attacked, for lack of a better term," Morales says. "They are not reaching out too effectively now. If the alumni don't help out, there will be a whole generation left out, especially the way the government is going now."

about the vague wording of the new law. INS offices around the country initially interpreted it to mean that any non-citizen who had been convicted of a felony must be deported, no matter how long ago the offense was committed.

Administrative law judge Bernard J. Hornbach has said he will throw out cases of non-citizens with criminal convictions that occurred prior to the new law. Other judges have not said what they will do.

Immigration lawyers and the INS are now are trying to get the law changed. The Senate version of an omnibus immigration bill that will be discussed in a House-Senate conference committee this week restores the ability of judges to waive deportation under special circumstances.

Sittin' Here Thinkin'

Will The Unabomber Trial Be A Hit?

by Ira Cutler

I wonder what the next national obsession will be, now that the OJ trial is gone and nearly forgotten? What is it that everyone will talk about over coffee in the morning, all across the country?

There is a chance that it may be the Presidential election but it, like the NBA finals and a Mike Tyson fight against anybody, is shaping up to be no contest at all. There is no team that can beat the Bulls, no fighter who can last with Tyson and Bob Dole is trying hard to make Dukakis look like an effective campaigner. People just cannot get interested in anything when the outcome is so obvious from the start.

The Republicans, to be sure, keep hoping that there will be a national obsession over Whitewater or some other Clinton embarrassment but it would have to be a pretty big scandal, and touch the President or his wife directly, to stand out among all the other one day stories. Then, of course, there are billions being bet that the Olympics will generate enthusiasm at the level that was achieved back when the USA hockey team won or that an Olympic hero will emerge that catches everyone's attention.

The best long shot bet, though, is that one of the bomber stories will catch fire -- that the spectacle of how the justice system deals with either the Unabomber or Timothy McVeigh will prove compelling enough to keep us glued to the screen, reading the newspaper and talking it up. How much excitement gets generated depends to a large extent on whether or not there is a televised trial and how big the media plays the stories, so there is an odd chicken and egg phenomena here -- if the media covers it we will talk about it. The media, more and more, makes things news rather than reporting on what is inherently important.

So far it looks like the media would really like it if one of the bombing trials turned out to be of OJ proportions and they are pushing it hard. One morning I saw an interview on the Today show with the Unabomber's brother's neighbor. She had never met the Unabomber, had never talked to the brother about the case but she told Katie Kuric that the traffic on her street was really being messed up by the reporters who were trying to get interviews with the brother. Katie thanked her for bringing that news to America. In my files I have stories about the two cases from every major publication and they keep running updates although nothing, it seems, is happening.

At the diner where I sometimes have breakfast I saw Arthur Bupkiss last week and he was trying to get a discussion going about who might break Babe Ruth's home run record. Mel, who is 77 years old and a little deaf, yelled that Roger Maris has now held the home run record for 35 years while Ruth only held it for 34. Mel thought it was time to start calling it Maris' record and that started up a discussion for awhile but it soon petered out.

The guys at the diner hate a silence -- in fact they hate it when less than two people are talking at the same time -- and it was no real surprise to me when the talk turned to the Unabomber. The diner crowd just loved the OJ Simpson trial and they keep trying to find something that comes close to taking its place in their lives.

Larry, as usual, had it all figured out.

"What we've got here is two guys", Larry said. "The Unabomber -- this Theodore Kaczynski guy -- is just plain nuts. He's going to the funny farm and he's never coming out. It's the other guy -- this Timothy McVeigh -- who is a bad dude. McVeigh isn't nuts and he just blows up a whole building of people to make some kind of point. " Larry thinks McVeigh is a great argument for the death penalty and he gets nothing but nods every time he says it.

Vinnie, who sees himself as a hard guy, is fascinated by the brother turns in brother sub-plot to the Unabomber story. Vinnie, whose own brother you would suspect ought to be turned in for something, wanted to talk about what crimes you would inform on your brother for if you were convinced he did them.

"Mass murder," Vinnie said. "I would definitely turn in any of my brothers for mass murder but I don't know what else. Not robbery, not theft. I don't know. What if you were OJ's brother and you knew for sure that he did it?"

Which turned the conversation back, for as long as I was there, to OJ and to murders that can be understood. The truth is that we all get it about jealous rage at some level. We understand about crimes of passion even as we condemn them. But not many of us can quite grasp how mailing letter bombs a few times a year to people you have never met can save the world from the damage of being overly technological. Or how blowing up federal buildings in Oklahoma that have day care centers in them will provide redress for the FBI burning down the compound in Waco. We do not have much history of political crimes in the United States of America, not much experience of terrorism and that makes these cases strange and maybe fascinating.

A generation ago, in another time of national tragedy, the country wondered if Lee Harvey Oswald's committing an assassination said anything about the rest of us -- whether this was evidence of a national flaw, of our being a violent people. We may hear some of talk about the deeper significance of these cases as well and my view is that both of these people and the acts they committed are evidence of very little. The real deal, I think, does not go beyond their own personal mental illness and/or criminality. When you have 250,000,000 people in a country you are going to get a lot of diversity and these guys are just out at the far end of a very broad weirdness continuum. They ought to be tried, if guilty found to be so and punished. We ought not spend too much time and national energy on it.

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

El Editor Newspaper

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Escasez De Agentes Literarios Hispanos Desilusiona A Escritores

Por Iván Díaz

Los agentes literarios hispanos todavía están por aparecer en la pantalla de radar del mundo estadounidense de las publicaciones -- y su ausencia limita a la expresión latina creadora profundamente. Ese es el resumen de los puntos de vista manifestados por las latinas y los latinos en el negocio.

Orlando Plaza, de 28 años de edad, poeta y escritor "nuyoricano", da salida a la desilusión común: "Los marcanos de los X-Files reciben más exhibición que nosotros. Hallar a un agente y editor latino es como encontrar a Waldo".

Ron Arias, escritor principal de la revista "People", con dos libros publicados a su crédito, lo evalúa así: "Ahora mismo, estamos probablemente donde estaban los negros hace unos 30 años".

La Biblia de los agentes literarios, "Literary Market Place" (El Mercado Literario), relaciona a cerca de 525 agencias, todas las cuales emplean a uno o más agentes. Ni una sola mención lleva un apellido hispano.

Igualmente desolado está el registro de la Asociación de Representantes de Autores, Inc. Entre su membresía de 284 personas no hay ningún hispano tampoco.

"No me sorprende", dice el director de la editorial Arte Público Press, Nicolás Kanellos. Arte Público, basada en la Universidad de Houston desde 1979, produce cerca de 30 libros con cubierta de papel y de tela anualmente, casi todos redactados por hispanos. Es una de las pocas casas editoriales dispuestas a mirar a los manuscritos no presentados mediante un agente.

"De todos los escritores cuyas obras hemos publicado, un tercio han tenido agentes. Ninguno era latino", dice Kanellos.

El describe los obstáculos: "La mayoría de los agentes

comienza como editores y proceden directamente de las casas editoriales. Si las agencias no están interesadas por contratar a cualesquiera latinos desde el comienzo, no va a verse salir a ningún agente latino".

Las editoriales cometen un gran error al dejar de contratar a editores latinos, dice él. "Ellos sub-estiman el valor de mercado de los latinos en los Estados Unidos como compradores de libros".

Haciéndose eco del lamento de Kanellos se halla Marie Arana-Ward, ex-editora auxiliar de Harcourt Brace & Co. y Simon & Schuster. Ahora ella es directora adjunta del suplemento dominical "Book World" (El Mundo de los Libros) del Washington Post. Ella recalca: "El tener un agente significa una diferencia enorme en el modo de negociar un contrato y de manejar al libro".

La escasez ayuda a explicar por qué ha habido tan pocos libros en el mercado literario con autores hispanos, o bien publicados por los mastodontes de la industria. También plantea la cuestión de cuántos presuntos autores vienen renunciando a su sueño de escribir "la gran novela hispano-americana".

Arias, de "People", hace esta conexión: "Un agente es la clave para conseguir el editor correcto y el conjunto adecuado". Su primer libro, "El Camino a Tamazunchale", una novela chicana precursora y de lectura "obligatoria" en los cursos de Estudios Chicanos, fue publicada primeramente en 1975 por una publicación trimestral minúscula en Reno, Nevada. El nunca recibió ni un centavo de ella. La novela fue recogida por otras dos prensas occidentales antes de que Anchor Books/Doubleday la comprara en 1992. En conjunto, ha disfrutado de más de una docena de impresiones.

Su último libro, "Cinco Con-

tra el Mar", la odisea de cinco pescadores costarricenses al garete en un bote de madera pequeño en el Pacífico durante cerca de cinco meses, fue publicado por Onyx/Penguin en 1990.

Arias concluyó los tratos del primer libro por su cuenta. Un agente no hispano, Reid Boates, lo representó en el siguiente después que él redactó un artículo de portada sobre las hazañas de los pescadores.

Nicholasa Mohr, a los 61 años autora de varios libros, cuenta sus experiencias con los agentes: "He tenido tres, pero ninguno ha sido latino. No he tenido ninguno en 10 años. Nunca encontré a ningún agente que simpatizara o fuera sensible con mi clase de trabajo".

Agrega el poeta y escritor Piri Thomas, de 68 años: "En el clímax de mi éxito con "Down These Mean Streets" (Por Estas Calles Malignas), nadie se me había acercado alguna vez sobre representación. El único agente que tuve fue mi esposa, que era abogada especialista en derecho constitucional. Ella murió".

José Antonio Burciaga, autor de cuatro libros y ganador del Galardón Nacional Hispano para Literatura de 1995, dice sencillamente de los agentes literarios hispanos: "Desearía conocer a algunos".

El presentar manuscritos a los agentes no latinos, agrega él, "plantea un problema, porque ellos no conocen ni reconocen nuestro trabajo. Ellos pueden ser muy insensibles hacia nuestro trabajo".

El columnista Juan González, del "New York Daily News", vendió su primer libro, titulado "Roll Down Your Window" (Baje su Ventanilla), basado en sus columnas, cuando un ejecutivo de la casa editorial Verso, de Londres, lo oyó hablar y lo animó a presentar su trabajo periodístico.

Representado ahora por un agente no hispano, González está terminando un tomo sobre la experiencia hispana en los Estados Unidos, fijado para su publicación por Viking a principios del año próximo.

Raúl Rivera, neoyorquino de 27 años que trabaja en su primera novela, está preocupado acerca de sus propias probabilidades. "La gente necesita recordar que el éxito de un escritor latino no significa que otros obtendrán una oportunidad justa".

Rafael Merino, haciendo fila en la ventanilla de la caja de la Librería Agueybana, de Nueva York, con un libro de poesía escrito por Julia de Burgos, se lamenta: "Sin agentes literarios latinos, muchos de nuestros futuros escritores pasarán inadvertidos y una gran parte de la historia mundial y literaria -- según nosotros -- nunca será dicha. No podemos dejar que suceda eso".

(Iván Díaz, de 27 años de edad, es un escritor por cuenta propia que vive en la ciudad de Nueva York. El está actualmente ofreciendo su primera novela, "Generation Zero" (La Generación Cero) y como muchos escritores de allá, está buscando un agente.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1996. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

ALGUNAS INDICACIONES PARA LOS ESCRITORES

Si usted es un(a) escritor(a) en busca de un agente, revise la publicación "Literary Market Place" en su biblioteca pública local. Esta publicación, de Reed Reference Publishing, puede ordenarse llamando al 1-800-521-8110. El costo es de \$16.95. Algunas agencias alientan ahora a los escritores latinos a presentar manuscritos. Es mejor enviar una carta de indaga-

ción primero. Entre ellas se hallan:

Lowenstein & Morel. Comuníquese con Barbara Lowenstein, 121 W. 27th. St., Suite 601, New York, NY. 10001. Teléfono: (212) 206-1630. FAX: (212) 727-0280.

L. Perkins Associates. Comuníquese con Lori Perkins, 5800 Arlington Ave., Suite 18-J, Riverdale, NY. 10471. Teléfono: (718) 543-5344.

Para obtener una lista de agentes miembros de AAR (Asociación de Representantes de Autores), envíe un cheque o giro postal o bancario

por \$5 y un sobre No. 10 con su nombre y dirección, así como franqueo postal, a: Association of AuthorsD Representatives, Inc., 10 Astor Place, 3rd. floor, New York, NY. 10003, o bien llame al teléfono (212) 353-3709. Los agentes miembros de la AAR no cobran honorarios de lectura. Si usted tiene una novela o un libro infantil, no envíe el manuscrito, sino una carta de indagación a: Dr. Nicolás Kanellos, Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston, TX, 77204-2090. Teléfono: (713) 743-2841. FAX: (713) 743-2847.

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Lack of Hispanic Agents Frustrates Writers

News Briefs

By Iván Díaz

Hispanic literary agents have yet to be spotted on the radar screen of the U.S. publishing world -- and their absence restrains creative Latino expression profoundly. That's the sum of views expressed by Latinas and Latinos in the business.

Orlando Plaza, 28-year-old Neuyorican poet/writer, vents the common frustration: "Martians on the 'The X-Files' get more exposure than we do. Finding a Latino agent and publisher is like finding Waldo."

Ron Arias, a senior writer at People magazine with two published books to his credit, assesses it, "Right now, we're probably where blacks were some 30 years ago."

The bible of literary agents, "Literary Market Place," lists some 525 agencies, all employing one or more agents. Not one listing carries a Hispanic surname.

Just as barren is the roster of the Association of Authors' Representatives, Inc. Among its membership of 284, there are zero Hispanics.

"I'm not surprised," says Arte Público Press publisher Nicolás Kanellos. Arte Público, based at the University of Houston since 1979, produces some 30 hard- and soft-cover books annually, nearly all written by Hispanics. It is one of the few houses willing to look at manuscripts not submitted through an agent.

"Out of all the writers we've published, about one-third have had agents. None were Latino," Kanellos says.

He describes the barriers: "Most agents start as editors

and come right out of the publishing houses. If agencies are not interested in taking any Latinos in from the beginning, you're not going to see any Latino agents coming out."

Publishers make a big mistake in failing to hire Latino editors, he says. "They underestimate the market value of Latinos in the United States as buyers of books."

Echoing Kanellos' views is Marie Arana-Ward, a former assistant editor at Harcourt Brace & Co. and Simon and Schuster. Now she's deputy editor of the Washington Post's Sunday "Book World" supplement. She stresses, "Having an agent makes a huge difference in how a contract is negotiated and how the book is handled."

The dearth helps explain why there have been so few books in the literary marketplace authored by Hispanics or published by the juggernauts of the industry. It also raises the question of how many would-be authors are giving up on their dream of writing the "great Hispanic-American novel."

People's Arias makes this connection: "An agent is key in getting the right editor and the right packaging." His first book, "The Road to Tamazunchale," a pioneer Chicano novel and "must" reading in Chicano Studies courses, was first published in 1975 by a tiny literary quarterly in Reno, Nevada. He never received a penny from it. The novel was picked up by two other small Western presses before Anchor Books/Doubleday bought it in

1992. Altogether, it has enjoyed more than a dozen printings.

His last book, "Five Against the Sea," the odyssey of five Costa Rican fishermen adrift on a small, wooden boat in the Pacific for nearly five months, was published by Onyx/Penguin in 1990.

Arias concluded the first book deals on his own. A non-Hispanic agent, Reid Boates, represented him on the latter after he wrote a cover story on the fishermen's exploit.

Nicholasa Mohr, at 61 the author of several books, tells her experiences with agents: "I've had three but none have been Latino. I haven't had one in 10 years. I've never found an agent who would be sympathetic or sensitive to my kind of work."

Adds 68-year-old poet/writer Piri Thomas: "At the height of my success with 'Down These Mean Streets,' no one had ever approached me about representation. The only agent I had was my wife who was a constitutional law attorney. She passed away."

José Antonio Burciaga, author of four books and winner of the 1995 National Hispanic Award for Literature, says simply of Hispanic literary agents, "I wish I knew some."

Submitting manuscripts to non-Latino agents, he adds, "presents a problem, because they don't know or recognize our work. They can be so insensitive to our work."

New York Daily News columnist Juan González sold his first book, "Roll Down Your Window," based on his columns, when an executive

of the London publishing house Verso heard him speak and encouraged him to submit his journalistic work.

Now represented by a non-Hispanic agent, González is completing a tome on the U.S. Hispanic experience, scheduled for release by Viking early next year.

Raúl Rivera, a 27-year-old New Yorker working on his first novel, is worried about his own chances. "People need to remember that the success of one Latino writer doesn't mean that others will get a fair shake."

Rafael Merino, standing in line at the cashier's stand at New York's Agueybaná Book Store with a book of poetry by Julia de Burgos, laments: "Without Latino literary agents, many of our future writers will go unnoticed and a large part of world and literary history -- according to us -- will never be told. We can't let that happen."

SOME TIPS FOR WRITERS

If you are a writer looking for an agent, check out Literary Market Place at your local public library. The LMP, by Reed Reference Publishing, can be ordered by calling 1-800-521-8110. It costs \$169.95.

Some agencies now encourage submissions by Latino writers. It's best to submit a query letter first.

Among them:
Lowenstein & Morel. Contact: Barbara Lowenstein, 121 W. 27 St., Suite 601, New York, N.Y. 10001. Phone: 212-206-1630. Fax: 212-727-0280.

L. Perkins Associates. Contact: Lori Perkins, 5800

Continued on Page 7

GOP Move On Mental Health

Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., says Republicans intend to scuttle a Senate-passed health care provision requiring insurance companies to provide parity for treatment of mental illness, reports Associated Press.

Kassebaum said a final compromise on the bill was likely instead to contain a provision calling for a study of the proposal for parity for mental health.

Deletion of the provision would be a bitter blow to mental health advocates, who succeeded in inserting the language in legislation designed to expand access to health insurance to millions of Americans. Republicans have been meeting informally on the health care measure, and another session was set for late Tuesday.

Private GOP negotiations have proceeded on the measure against the backdrop of a fierce political struggle revolving largely around a demand by some Republicans for inclusion of medical savings accounts. The House-passed measure provides for these tax-exempt medical savings accounts.

Democratic officials said Kennedy had proposed several days ago to Dole the creation of temporary medical savings accounts, demonstration projects that would be subject to several conditions or expire on a fixed timetable.

These officials indicated that House Democrats had not agreed to the proposal Kennedy was circulating. One senior House GOP aide said lawmakers there were unlikely to be satisfied with the so-called demonstration projects.

Many Republicans opposed the provision, however, and a Congressional Budget Committee report recently estimated as many as 800,000 people could lose insurance if the government required that mental illness be treated the same as physical illness.

Medicare Bankrupt by 2002

Medicare trustees are to report Wednesday that the system's hospital fund is going broke even faster than previously expected, reports Associated Press.

In their report a year ago, the trustees predicted the hospital fund would be broke by 2002. But preliminary reports from the trustees since then and an estimate from the Congressional Budget Office now predict bankruptcy by 2001. The report has prompted the head of American Hospital Association to call for an independent citizens commission to find a solution.

Under the AMA's plan, a full-time commission on Medicare would evaluate the funds needed to maintain current commitments. Then Congress would set a target for how much it wants to spend on the program. The commission would hold public hearings and translate the congressional target into recommendations for a benefits package and provider payments.

Medicare costs about \$200 billion a year and is composed of two funds. The one commonly referred to as Part A pays for hospital expenses and is fed by payroll taxes on working Americans. The fund known as Medicare Part B pays for doctors' visits. It gets money from monthly premiums paid by Medicare beneficiaries and the federal Treasury.

Part A, although it still has a large surplus, its expenses began to exceed its income in 1995 because of rising health costs and a larger elderly population. The Clinton administration and Republican Congress are not far apart on agreeing to reductions to Part B, but Part A remains an area of dispute.

More Girls Than Women Battered During Pregnancy

The Spring '96 issue of Passages, a publication of the Emergency Shelter Program, cites a March of Dimes report showing a relationship between domestic violence, teenage pregnancy, and perinatal problems.

According to the fact sheet, battering prior to pregnancy is the primary factor of battering during pregnancy, and teen-age girls (age 13-19) are more likely than women to have experienced battering in the year prior to their pregnancy. In one study, 62% of pregnant teenagers had been victims of molestation, attempted rape, or rape before their first pregnancy. Further, the fact sheet notes that teenagers are at higher risk than women for battering during pregnancy, with one study finding that 20% of teen-agers had been battered during pregnancy.

Studies show that battered women of all ages enter prenatal care later in their pregnancy than non-battered pregnant women, with as many as 20% waiting until the third trimester to begin care. Women and teens who are battered while pregnant are up to 4 times more likely than non-battered women to deliver a low-birthweight infant. And statistics show children growing up with constant exposure to violence are likely to exhibit a host of problems: anxiety; depression; aggressively or dangerous play; inhibition; concentration and memory problems, and resultant poor school performance.

Report: Anti-Drug Plans Need Follow-Up

Drug prevention programs for students are effective, a study says, but the results fade without booster sessions in upper grades when peer pressure to use drugs intensifies, reports Associated Press.

Forty-seven of the most commonly used school drug prevention programs were profiled in a report released yesterday by Drug Strategies in Washington, D.C.

Mathea Falco, president of Drug Strategies, said parents should investigate drug prevention programs at their children's schools to determine whether they are effective. According to the study, the best programs:

- Help students recognize their anxiety and stress about using drugs as well as the external pressures they face from peers, advertising and social forces.
- Develop personal, social and refusal skills to resist these pressures.
- Teach students that using drugs, tobacco and alcohol is not the norm, even if many of their classmates are using them.
- Provide information about the short-term and long-term consequences of using alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

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Vendedoras de Flores de Hawaii Hacen Visita a Antonita

Por Cristóbal S. Berry-Cabán

Antonio Mattei Lluveras dislocaba su árduo itinerario rara vez. En este día de Hawaii de 1901, sin embargo, él terminó sus negocios temprano para componer un mensaje en una tarjeta postal que compró para enviarla a su casa en Puerto Rico.

Hombre del renacimiento antes de su época, Mattei tenía habilidad con las palabras y los idiomas. El hablaba francés, aprendido de su padre; inglés, aprendido del Sr. Morse, aquel inventor estadounidense excéntrico que, durante la juventud de don Antonio, vivía cerca de él; y un poco de catalán, adquirido de su madre elegante.

De su padre, nacido en Córcega, él había heredado la propiedad de tierras. En esta propiedad, entre las mayores de Puerto Rico, se cultivaban café y caña de azúcar en abundancia.

Después de 400 años de gobierno colonial español, Puerto Rico era ahora parte de los Estados Unidos. La Guerra Hispano-Americana, declarada en 1898, había terminado en menos de seis meses. Don Antonio vio al cambio con agrado, creyendo que la isla prosperaría bajo la bandera de los Estados Unidos. Otras islas, incluyendo a Hawaii, fueron traídas dentro de la órbita estadounidense durante aquella época.

En Hawaii, el azúcar era el rey, cultivado bajo un sistema de plantaciones. Ese sistema exigía mano de obra barata, y se envió a los reclutadores desde Hawaii para convencer a las familias puertorriqueñas para trasladarse a Hawaii y trabajar en los amplios cañaverales de Hawaii. Les ofrecieron transporte, una casa para la familia, servicios médicos gratis, \$15 al mes y un saco de harina de trigo por 26 días de trabajo

al mes sin ausencias.

Don Antonio había llegado a Honolulu acompañando a un pequeño contingente de puertorriqueños. Aunque él era rico, sus compañeros de viaje eran pobres. Se desconocen sus razones precisas para el viaje. Quizás él estuviera interesado por el proceso de la cosecha de azúcar en esta tierra distante; quizás se veía a sí mismo como reclutador.

La hija de seis años de don Antonio, Antoñita, quedó atrás en la aldea de Yauco. A diferencia de sus dos hermanas y un hermano, ella compartía una relación especial con su padre.

La tarjeta postal de don Antonio iba dirigida a Antoñita. Estaba adornada con una fotografía de colores brillantes de 13 vendedoras de flores, cada una con una cesta de frutas y una vasija de hojalata llena de flores rosadas y azules. Las mujeres compartían una expresión solemne y cada una llevaba un largo "lei" de flores. Estos collares, hechos comúnmente de claveles, botones de "kika", de jazmines o de orquídeas, se dan como símbolos de bienvenida o despedida.

En el lado de la postal para el mensaje, Mattei contestaba a una carta que él había recibido de su casa relatándole la tristeza de la niñita.

A las 2:30 de la tarde, el sello de la tarjeta postal recibió su primer mata-sellos: Junio 22 de 1901, Honolulu, Islas de Hawaii. Así empezó el viaje de 17 días de las vendedoras de flores por barco, ferrocarril y nuevamente un buque, hasta San Juan.

Allí, la tarjeta fue contramarcada una vez más: San Juan, Puerto Rico, Julio 9 de 1901. Once días después, llegó a su destino -- Yauco, un pueblecito del suroeste de Puerto Rico. Hasta que el huracán de San Ciriaco atravesó a Puerto Rico el 8 de Agosto de 1899,

destruyendo 3,000 vidas y ocasionando daños a las cosechas de café por valor de \$7 millones, Yauco había reinado entre las capitales cafetaleras del mundo.

La carta que don Antonio había recibido de su casa le decía que en una salida a una pequeña aldea vecina, el cabello de Antoñita se había infectado de piojos, a pesar de su limpieza cuidadosa.

Sin ceremonias, ella se vio obligada a renunciar a las guedejas largas y flotantes que había lucido desde su nacimiento. Ella recibió poca simpatía de sus iguales. Su único aliado natural, su padre, estaba a distancia de

destruyendo 3,000 vidas y

Don Antonio no podía reemplazar las trenzas de su hija. Pero sí podía enviarle una tarjeta postal. Por último, él encontró a las vendedoras de flores.

"Mi queridísima hija", escribió él. "Sé que ya no puedes hacerte más trenzas, porque te cortaron el cabello. Esa es la razón de que te haya enviado a todas estas vendedoras de flores, que tienen la orden de hacer una bella corona de flores para vendértela. He ordenado a estas vendedoras de flores de Kanaka que no te cobren demasiado por ella, para que no tengas que sacar todos tus centavos de tu alcancía.

"Ve a ver a tu mamá y dale un beso de mi parte.

"Tu papá, A. Mattei".

Desde luego, Antoñita nunca recibiría en realidad la corona de flores. El regalo estaba en las palabras, el deseo llevado a través de los océanos en una sencilla tarjeta postal.

Antoñita, la abuela de mis primos, los Emmanuelli, apreció la belleza de las palabras de su padre durante el espacio de su vida. Después de su muerte, los miembros de nuestra familia siempre en dispersión nunca permitieron que la postal fuera destruida. Ellos la entregaron junto con otros recuerdos de Antoñita de una generación a otra.

La postal, que me fué entre-

gada hace 15 años, permanece en mi poder con las solemnes vendedoras de flores, junto con algunos cientos de otras tarjetas postales que Antoñita recibió en ocasiones especiales y días festivos durante su juventud.

Y las nuevas generaciones de vendedoras de flores recorren las calles de Honolulu, siempre alerta, pidiendo a alguien que compre su mercancía.

(Cristóbal S. Berry-Cabán es presidente de Atlantic Resources Corp., firma de consultoría y apoyo sobre salud y enseñanza, de Reston, Virginia.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1996. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Hawaii's Flowers Vendors Pay Visit To Antonita

By Cristóbal S. Berry-Cabán

Rarely did Antonio Mattei Lluveras disrupt his arduous schedule. On this Hawaiian day in 1901, however, he concluded his business early to compose a message on a postcard he purchased to send home to Puerto Rico.

A Renaissance man, Mattei had an ability with words and languages. He spoke French, learned from his father; English, learned from Samuel Morse, that eccentric American inventor who during don Antonio's youth lived nearby; and a smattering of Catalan, acquired from his elegant mother.

From his Corsican-born father he had inherited land holdings. On this acreage, among the largest in Puerto Rico, coffee and sugar cane grew abundantly.

After 400 years of Spanish colonial rule, Puerto Rico was now part of the United States. The Spanish-American War, begun in 1898, had ended in less than six months. Don Antonio welcomed the change, believing that the island would prosper under

the U.S. flag. Other islands, including Hawaii, were also brought within the U.S. orbit during that time.

In Hawaii, sugar was king, cultivated under a plantation system. That system demanded cheap labor, and recruiters were sent out from Hawaii to persuade Puerto Rican families to immigrate and work the vast Hawaiian cane fields. They offered transportation, a house for the family, free medical services, \$15 a month and a sack of flour for 26 work days a month without absences.

Don Antonio had arrived in Honolulu accompanying a small contingent of Puerto Ricans. While he was rich, his traveling compatriots were poor. His exact reasons for the trip are unknown. Perhaps he was interested in the sugar crop process in this distant land; perhaps he envisioned himself as a recruiter.

Left behind in the little village of Yauco was don Antonio's 6-year-old daughter, Antoñita. Unlike her two sisters and brother, she shared a special relationship

with her father.

Don Antonio's postcard was addressed to Antoñita. It was adorned with a brightly colored photograph of 13 flower vendors, each with a basket of fruits and a tin pail filled with pink and blue flowers. The women shared a solemn expression and each wore a long flowered lei. These necklaces, commonly made of carnations, kika blossoms, jasmine blossoms or orchids, are given as tokens of welcome or farewell.

On the card's message side, Mattei responded to a letter he had received from home telling of his little girl's sorrow.

At 2:30 in the afternoon, the stamp on the postcard received its first cancellation: June 22, 1901, Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands. Thus began the flower vendors' 17-day voyage by ship, rail and ship again to San Juan.

There the card was stamped once more: San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 9, 1901. Eleven days later it reached its destination -- Yauco, a small town in southwestern Puerto Rico. Until the hurricane San Cir-

iacio cut through Puerto Rico on Aug. 8, 1899, claiming 3,000 lives and destroying \$7 million in coffee crops, Yauco had reigned among the coffee capitals of the world.

The letter don Antonio had received from home advised him that on an outing to a small neighboring village Antoñita's hair had become infested with lice, in spite of her careful scrubbing.

Unceremoniously, she was forced to give up the long, flowing locks she had worn since birth. She received little sympathy from her peers. Her one natural ally, her father, was oceans away.

Don Antonio couldn't replace his daughter's locks. But he could send her a postcard. Finally he came upon the flower vendors.

"My dearest daughter," he wrote. "I know that you can no longer make braids, because they cut your hair. This is why I've sent you all these flower vendors, who are commanded to make a beautiful crown of flowers to sell to you.

Continued on Page 6

Diez compañeros de la fundación San Antonio Alamo Iron Works se juntaron para jugar LOTTO. Cada uno puso \$2 y al fundir sus fondos ganaron \$18.4 millones.

Premio: \$18,430,863.37

Números Ganadores: 4 12 14 21 49 50

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La Primera Llamada Telefónica: Bernie le habló a Josie, Josie a Joe, Joe a Ted, Ted a Carlos, Carlos a Miguel, Miguel a Concepción y así sucesivamente.

Lugar Donde Compraron Su Boleto: Una tienda de autoservicio.

Lo Bueno De Haber Ganado: "Poder compartir un momento tan especial con amigos".



"Ahora lo que tenemos en común no es sólo hierro sino también plata".

LOS GANADORES DE LA FUNDACIÓN ALAMO IRON WORKS



YA HAY MÁS DE 200 MILLONARIOS. TÚ PODRÍAS SER EL PRÓXIMO.

Chavez Prepares for De La Hoya Trinidad vs. Whitaker

LAS VEGAS - He's smaller, slower and a decade older than Oscar De La Hoya.

But Julio Cesar Chavez brings one big intangible into the ring when he fights for the 100th time as a pro Friday against the undefeated challenger.

"Remember, I'm the warrior in the ring," Chavez said. "If I have to absorb punches to win the fight, I will do it."

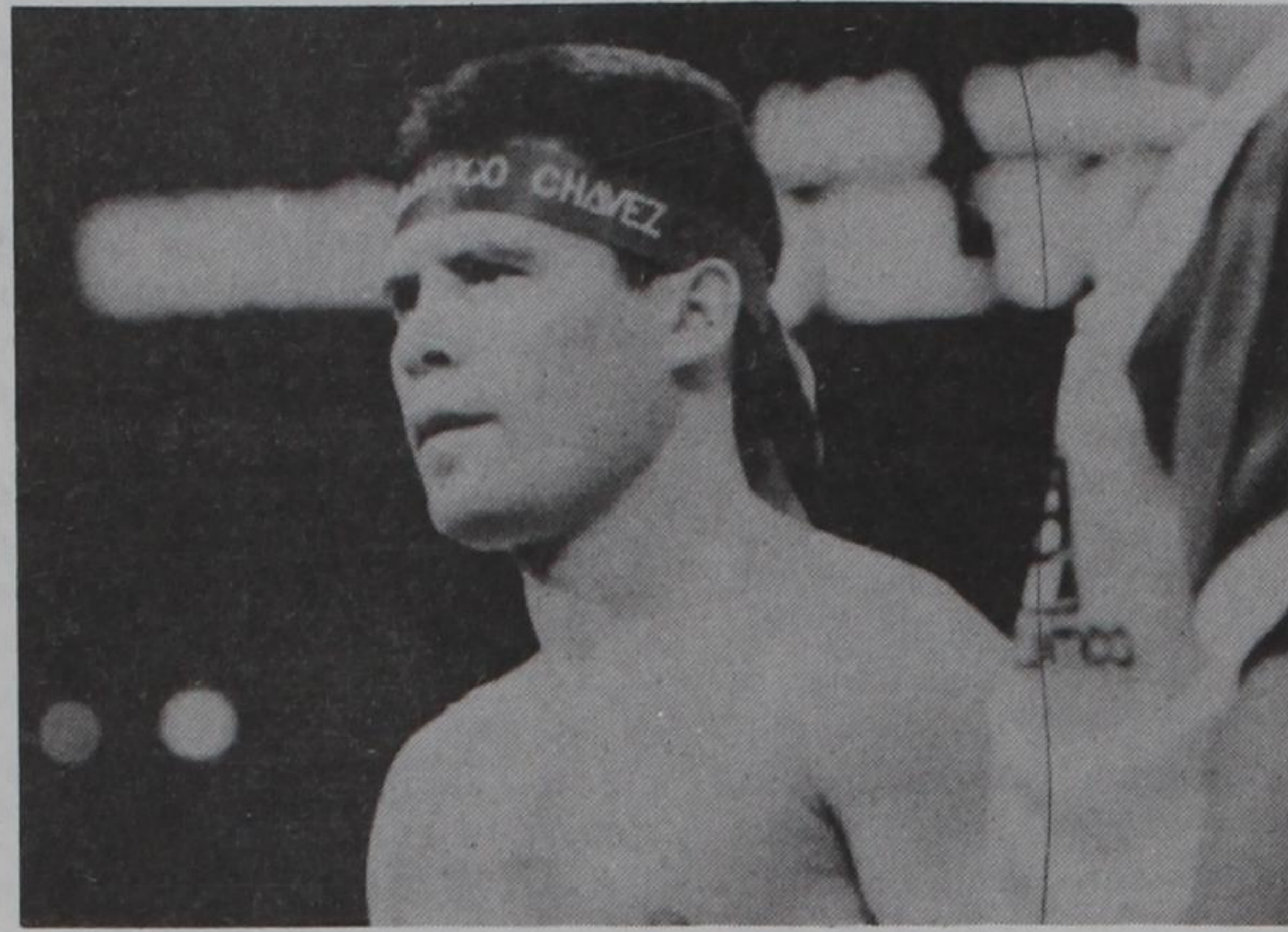
The willingness of Chavez to take punishment may be critical to his hopes of retaining his WBC 140-pound title in the biggest fight of a remarkable 16-year career.

Many believe the only way Chavez can beat De La Hoya is to get inside and turn the fight into a slugfest.

"I like it, I like it," Chavez said of the possibility of a brawl. "If he's going to come out boxing, I will do that. But if I see I can't win by boxing, I'm just going to give everything I have out in the ring."

The 33-year-old Chavez says he is in the best shape of his boxing career following a strenuous training camp preparing for the many problems De La Hoya figures to give him in the ring. Two weeks before the fight, he was already down to 143 pounds, evidence of how seriously he is taking the bout.

Chavez, who has shown



signs in recent fights of slipping, even gave up his renowned taste for beer midway through a March tour promoting the fight. He claims to be both stronger and quicker than he has ever been for a fight.

"Some of the people want to retire me, but I feel younger and very strong still," Chavez said. "I'm going to continue to fight until my body won't hold up anymore."

Part of the lure of staying in the ring is the \$9 million Chavez is guaranteed for Friday's fight against the Olympic gold medalist who is undefeated in 21 pro fights. De La Hoya will be guaranteed \$8.9 million, and both fighters

will each get 35 percent of any revenues beyond that.

But Chavez also carries the national pride of Mexico into the bout against De La Hoya, who grew up in Los Angeles but is of Mexican heritage.

Chavez is a 2-1 underdog in the city's sports books, but figures to be a huge favorite to the partisan crowd of more than 15,000.

Thousands more will watch in arenas, theaters and bars across the country in a fight that will be shown on home pay-per-view only in a few selected areas. In Mexico alone, some 1 million seats are available at \$10 each, while places like the Anaheim Arena have already sold out at prices ranging from \$30 to \$50.

"The people are with me because of my record and what I've done. Besides that, I'm an authentic Mexican," Chavez said. "He's not an authentic Mexican. He is an American."

In De La Hoya, Chavez faces a taller and faster fighter who has shown remarkable power in stopping 19 of his 21 opponents.

Chavez has always had trouble with quick fighters, as witnessed by his loss to Frankie Randall and his disputed draw with Pernell Whitaker. He is 97-1-1.

In the Randall and Whitaker fights, Chavez seemed unable to change his style to adapt to his opponent, something he said he can do against De La Hoya.

"I've never been a fast fighter, but I'm going to be faster in this fight," Chavez said. "I will also hit harder than I have before."

De La Hoya, who has studied tapes of almost every Chavez fight, doesn't believe he can change styles so late in his career.

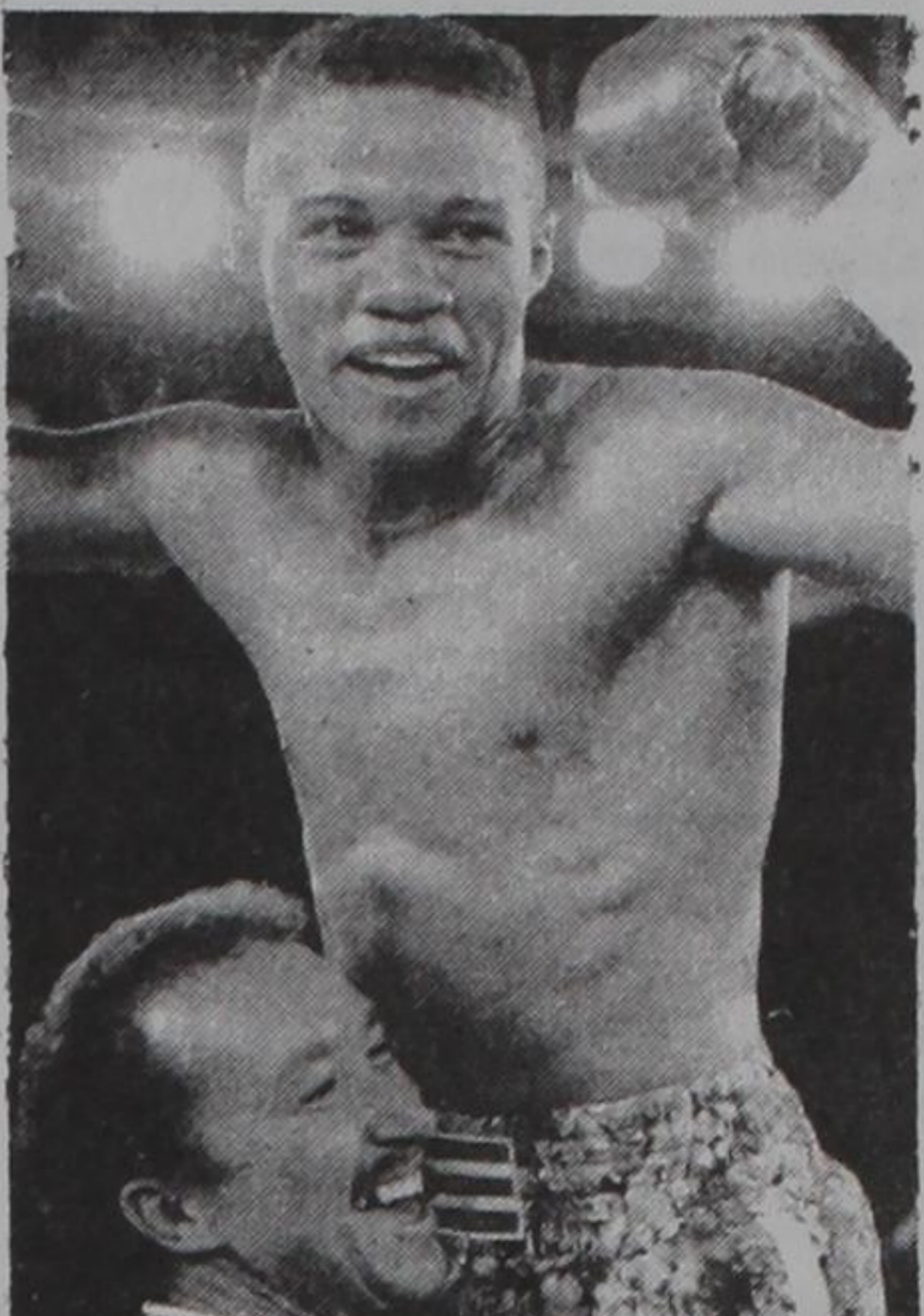
"He's had 99 fights," De La Hoya said. "And now for this fight he's claiming he's faster and stronger. I guess he's trying to psyche me out."

San Juan, Puerto Rico - El promotor estado-unidense Don King ofreció 4 millones de dólares a Pernell Whitaker, campeón welter del Consejo Mundial de Boxeo, por un combate unificatorio ante el puertorriqueño Félix Trinidad, quien en días pasados retuvo su título con un espectacular nocaut ante Freddie Pendleton.

"Mi oferta para Whitaker es de cuatro millones de dólares sin opciones, lo que significa que si gana el combate puede seguir bajo la dirección de Lou Diva", dijo King.

explicó que la oferta la hizo directamente al manejador de Whitaker, Dubva. Por su parte Trinidad dijo que la gran ilusión de su vida es poder enfrentarse a Whitaker, para determinar quién es el mejor peso welter del mundo.

"Mi meta es unificar el campeonato con Whitaker



porque estoy seguro que lo puedo vencer", dijo Trinidad, invicto en 29 combates profesionales con 25 nocauts.

King no reveló la cifra que recibirá Trinidad, per promotores locales creen que será idéntica a la de Whitaker. Trinidad defendió exitosamente el campeonato por novena vez al noquear fulminantemente al estadounidense Pendleton con un gancho de izquierda al hígado.

El ex-campeón superligero cayó de espaldas y no pudo levantarse, mientras el árbitro Richard Steele le contaba los 10 segundos.

King cree que en la actualidad Trinidad es el mejor pugilista del mundo y explicó que de no materializarse rápidamente el pleito ante Whitaker, intentará que su pupilo defienda la corona frente a Frankie Randall.

El CMB exigió hace tres semanas a Whitaker que conceda un pleito de desquite al puertorriqueño Wifredo Rivera, al que venció en San Martín por decisión dividida.

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for county commissioner precinct. 3

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From Page 5

I've ordered these Kanaka flower vendors not to charge you too much for it, so you don't have to take out all your pennies from your bank.

"Go see your Mama and give her a kiss from me.

"Your Daddy, A Mattei."

Of course, Antoñita would never actually receive the crown of flowers. The gift was in the words, the wish carried across spacious oceans on a simple postcard.

Anton-Ita, the grandmother of my cousins, the Emmanuellis, cherished the beauty of her father's words throughout her lifetime. After her passing, members of our ever-dispersing family never let the postcard be destroyed. They handed it and other of Antoñita's keepsakes down from generation to generation. Passed on to me 15 years ago, the postcard with the solemn flower vendors remains in my possession, along with some hundred other tarjetas postales Antoñita received on special occasions and holidays during her youth.

And new generations of flower vendors traverse Honolulu's streets, ever alert, beseeching someone to buy their wares.

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Dusty Diamonds Softball Parks In Slaton, Texas - June 22 & 23
Men's and Co-Rec- C/D teams
State USSSA Qualifier

\$110 entry fee - Limit 40 teams - Hit Your Own USSSA Balls, USSSA Rules - Uniforms and Numbers not Required But Recommended
Call Your Home Runs at Plate
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Prizes Include: Windbreakers for all coaches entered by June 17th, Trophies 1-4; Long Sleeve Shirts - 1st ; T-shirts 2-4th; Bat gloves 5th, Caps - 6th, Golden Glove & MVP; Other prizes for individual players
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Un Rayito De Luz

por Sofía Martínez

Dios tiene en su mano el alma de todo ser viviente y el soplo de todo carne de persona". (Job 12, 10). Toda vida humana, desde el momento de ser engendrado en el vientre de la madre hasta la muerte, es sagrada, porque la persona ha sido amada por sí misma a imagen y semejanza de Dios vivo y santo.

Causar la muerte o causársela a sí mismo es gravemente contrario a la justicia, a la esperanza y a la caridad. Matar o matarse está prohibido por el quinto mandamiento.

Desde que fuimos engen-

drados en el vientre de la madre tuvimos derecho a la vida. El aborto es una cosa cruel, gravemente contraria a la ley moral. La Iglesia Católica castiga con una pena canónica llamada excomunión a los que cometen ese delito contra la vida humana. Porque han de ser tratados como personas desde el momento en que son engendrados. el embrión debe de ser defendido, atendido y cuidado medicamente como cualquier otro ser humano.

La eutanasia voluntaria es un homicidio, no importa cual sea su forma y sus motivos. Es gravemente contraria a la dignidad de cada persona y también es contraria al respeto de Dios.

El escándalo es una falta muy grave cuando se induce a que otra persona peque. Son crímenes las prácticas deliberadamente contrarias al derecho de las personas (Exodo 20, 13. Deut. 5, 17).

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PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR

POR PASTOR FRANK GARCÍA

Lubbock, Texas

VOSOTROS SOIS LA SAL DE LA TIERRA

Vosotros sois la sal de la tierra;
Y si la sal perdiera su sabor,
¿Con qué será salada?
No vale más para nada.
Mateo 5:13.

En estos versículos el Señor Jesús trata de dos asuntos El uno es el verdadero carácter que los verdaderos cristianos deben conseguir y mantener en el mundo. El otro es la relación entre las doctrinas de él mismo y las del Antiguo Testamento. Los cristianos verdaderos deben ser en este mundo como la sal. Esta tiene un gusto propio y peculiar, enteramente disimilar que cualquiera otra cosa. (A lo menos así era en los tiempos de Cristo) Al estar mezclada con otras sustancias la sal las preserva de corrupción. Y comunica una porción de su gusto a todo lo que se comunica con ella. Y útil es, mientras conserva su sabor; de otro modo no. ¿Somos cristianos verdaderos? Entonces he aquí nuestro puesto y sus deberes.

LOS CRISTIANOS VERDADEROS

Los cristianos verdaderos tienen que ser en este mundo como la luz. Porque una propiedad de la luz consiste en ser absolutamente distinta de las tinieblas. La chispa más pequeña se puede ver inmediatamente en un cuarto oscuro. Y de todas las cosas creadas, la luz es la más útil. Pues sirve para fertilizar, para guiar, y para dar ánimo. Además fue la primera cosa creada. Y sin ella el mundo sería un vacío tenebroso. Así que ¿Somos nosotros cristianos verdaderos? Entonces, tomemos otra vez nuestra posición y responsabilidades. En verdad que Dios quiere que nosotros entendamos por medio de estos dos símbolos, que debe haber algo marcado, distinto y peculiar en nuestro carácter.

SI SOMOS CRISTIANOS VERDADEROS

Si somos cristianos verdaderos, nunca nos conviene pasar la vida de ociosos, pensando y obrando como otros, esto es si nos proponemos a ser reconocidos por Cristo como su gente. ¿Poseemos la gracia? pues ésta debe ser vista. ¿tenemos el Espíritu? Entonces debe haber fruto. ¿Poseemos algo de la religión salvadora? Entonces necesario es que haya entre nosotros y los que solamente piensan en las cosas del mundo, una notable diferencia en cuanto a hábitos, gustos y propensiones de la mente. Muy evidente es que ser verdadero cristiano consiste en algo más que en ser bautizado y el frecuentar los templos.

LA SAL Y LA LUZ

La sal y la luz indican claramente una singularidad ya del corazón y de la vida, ya de la fe y de la trácica. Y preciso es que nos atrevamos a ser singulares y distintos del mundo, si intentamos a ser salvos. La relación entre la enseñanza de nuestro Señor y la del Antiguo Testamento se aclara por él en una sola frase admirable. Dice: "No penseis que he venido para invalidar la ley o los profetas; no he venido para invalidarlos, sino para cumplirlos." Mateo 5:17

Study Props Up Hispanic Stereotype And Challenges It

By Joseph Torres

The stereotype is that Latinos are immigrants. It's an image that offends many Hispanics, but a major new study provides fresh stock to feed the perception.

In a three-year research project, the Ford Foundation-funded Latino Urban Policy Agenda looked at Latinos in five urban areas where they are most visible -- Los Angeles, New York, Miami, Chicago and Houston. Together, the five house more than half of the nation's Hispanic population.

The study reveals that the central cities in four of the five contain more immigrant Latinos than U.S.-born ones. Only in Houston do native Hispanics outnumber their foreign-born cousins.

Preliminary findings of the study, designed to provide urban policymakers with data that will increase their effectiveness in working with their growing Latino populations, were released during LUPA's May 29-30 conference in Arlington, Va.

One of its directors, Harry Pachón, president of the Claremont, Calif.-based Tomás Rivera Center, made clear his hope that political and business leaders will no longer place U.S. Latinos in any type of monolithic box and that

they will use breakouts such as the study is developing between immigrants and U.S. natives in their public and corporate planning.

The study examines 88 neighborhoods in the surveyed cities, identified several distinct differences between Latino immigrants and native-born Latinos in the communities it surveyed, as well as differences between Latino national-origin groups. Among them:

-- EDUCATION: U.S.-born Latinos are more likely to have completed high school.

-- YOUTH: 50 percent of U.S.-born Latinos are under age 18.

LUPA's efforts are guided by the Latino Institute, Cuban American National Council, Institute for Puerto Rican

Policy, and the Tomás Rivera Center.

Angelo Falcón, president of the IPRP in New York, says the data will provide lawmakers and community organizations with essential profiles of the Latino neighborhoods they serve.

An executive summary of the study, including recommendations, will be released this summer, with the final report due out around the end of the year, according to Millie Rivera, executive director of the Chicago-based Latino Institute.

Guarioné Díaz, president of the Miami-based Cuban American National Council, points out that many U.S.-born children of immigrants in that city are developing bilingual fluency and that they constitute an invaluable resource to the United States as it competes in the global marketplace.

The Carnegie Corporation of New York also helped fund the study.

(Joseph Torres is a reporter with Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C.)

For further information on the report, contact Sylvia Puente, director of public policy and advocacy for the Latino Institute at: 228 Wabash Ave., 6th floor, Chicago, IL 60604. (312) 663-3603.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED GAS RATE CHANGE

On May 31, 1996, Energas Company filed Statements of Intent to change its gas rates with each incorporated city listed below. The proposed changes will take effect no sooner than 35 days after filing. Each city may suspend the proposed effective date for an additional 90 days.

The company proposes to increase rates to General Service (residential and commercial), Small Industrial Service, Large Gas Air Conditioning and/ or Electric Generating Gas Service, and the Air Conditioning Rate Rider. Additionally, the company is proposing to offer a new service, General Service-State Institutions, to state agencies. The company may implement a different rate design than proposed provided the increased revenue does not exceed that specified herein.

The proposed changes are expected to increase the company's annual revenues by approximately 7.6 percent or \$7.7 million. The proposed changes could affect approximately 200,000 gas consumers in the following communities:

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Anton	Levelland*	Ralls
Big Spring*	Littlefield	Ropesville
Bovina	Lockney	Seagraves
Brownfield*	Lorenzo	Seminole
Buffalo Spring Lake	Los Ybanez	Shallowater
Canyon*	Lubbock*	Silverton
Coahoma	Meadow	Slaton
Crosbyton	Midland*	Smyer
Dimmitt	Muleshoe	Springlake
Earth	Nazareth	Stanton
Edmonson	New Deal	Sudan
Floydada	New Home	Tahoka
Forsan	Odessa*	Timbercreek Canyon
Friona	O'Donnell	Tulia
Hale Center	Olton	Turkey
Happy	Opdyke West	Vega
Hart	Palisades	Wellman
Hereford*	Pampa*	Wilson
Idalou	Panhandle	Wolfthor
Kress	Petersburg	
Lake Ransom Canyon	Plainview*	

*The level of revenue increase in these communities constitutes a "major change" as defined by state law.

Copies of the filing are available at the Energas Office at 5110 - 80th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79424, and your local Energas Office.

ENERGAS

The Housing Authority of The City of Lubbock, Texas ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: June 20, 1996
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Lubbock Housing Authority
1301 Broadway
Lubbock, Tx 79401

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain input from the city residents in reference to the Comprehensive Grant Program 5 Year Comprehensive Plan and Application to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for fiscal year 1994. Total funds being allocated for 1994 are \$934,667.00. All residents are encouraged to attend this hearing. A copy of the Comprehensive Plan and Annual Submission will be available for review from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. prior to public hearing at the address below. Persons can also submit written comments prior to public hearing to:

Housing Authority of The City of Lubbock
1301 Broadway, Lubbock, Texas

For further information please call Quincy White (Interim) Executive Director at (806) 762-1191.

Published in the El Editor Newspaper on the following dates: June 8, 1996,
June 9, 1996,
June 15, 1996,
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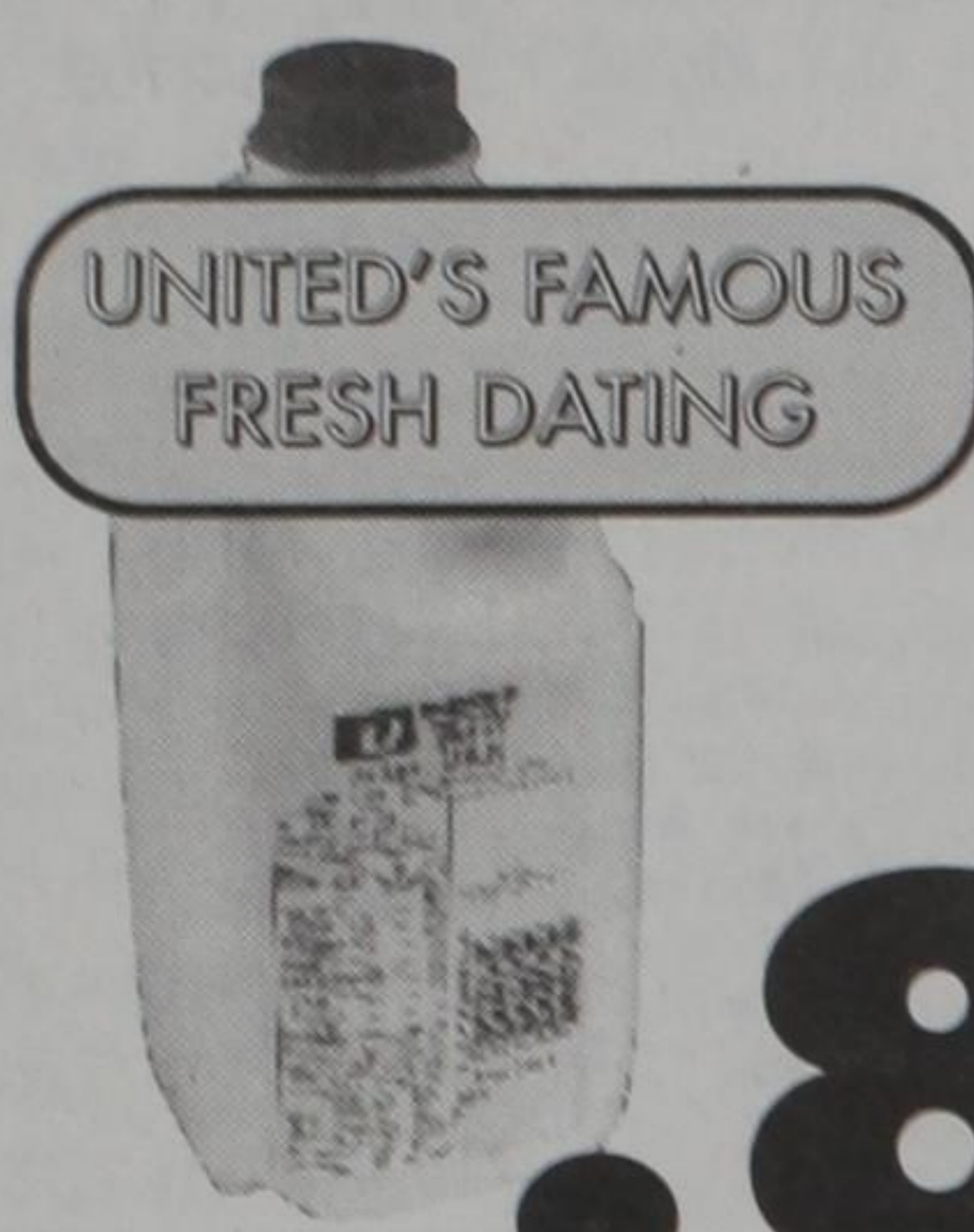
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UNITED PREMIUM QUALITY EGGS

Extra Large 18 Count



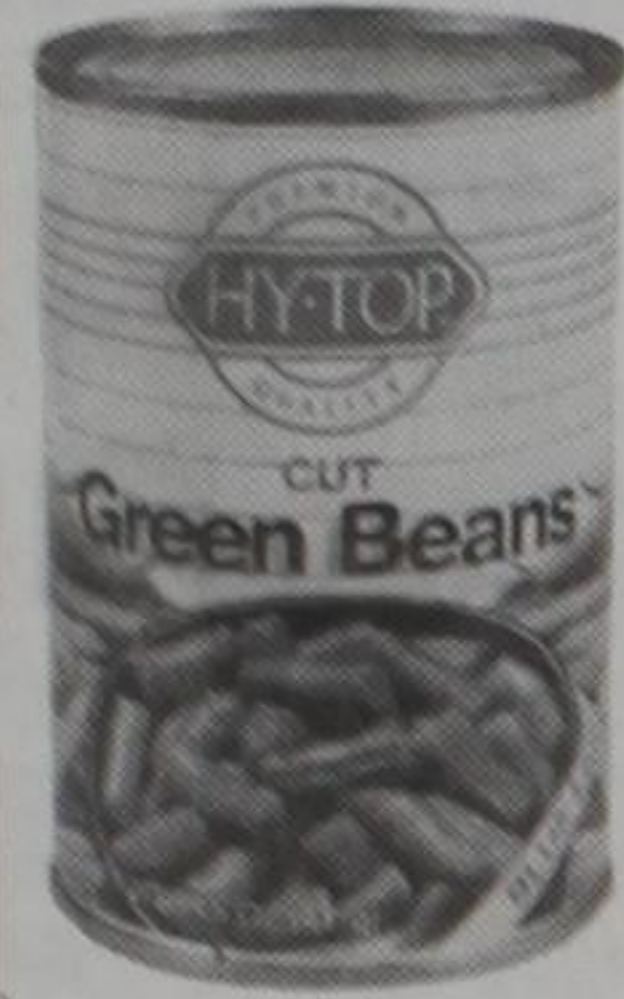
.98



PARKAY MARGARINE

Regular or Light 1 lb. Quarters

.38



HY-TOP PREMIUM QUALITY VEGETABLES

Corn: Golden Whole Kernel or Cream Style; Cut Blue Lake Green Beans; Sweet Peas 14.5 - 15 oz.

3 \$1

For



Smuckers Grape Jelly 32 oz. .98

UNITED PREMIUM QUALITY WHITE SANDWICH BREAD

24 oz.

.58



GUY'S POTATO CHIPS

Plain, Wavy or Ridgies All Varieties Prepriced \$1.59 6 oz.

.78



HY-TOP PREMIUM QUALITY FOAM PLATES

50 ct.

Zee Napkins 60 ct. 2 for \$1

\$1.38



DAILY'S LITTLE HUG DRINKS

Orange, Grape, Cherry, Punch or Blue Raspberry 8 oz.

.10



NESTLE'S ICE CREAM NOVELTIES

Baby Ruth, Crunch or Butterfinger 6 ct.

\$1.98



SECRET or SURE DEODORANTS or ANTI PERSPIRANTS

Wide Solids Regular, Unscented or Fragrances 2.7 oz.

\$1.99

Snack Size



CALIFORNIA NEW CROP PEACHES or NECTARINES

4 lb. Bag

\$1.98

Sunkist



CALIFORNIA SUNKIST VALENCIA ORANGES

Medium Size

2 \$1

LBS.



Boneless ROUND STEAK

Super Valu Pak Center Cut

Regular Pak lb. \$1.39

\$1.29

LB.



Boneless SIRLOIN TIP STEAK

Super Valu Pak

Regular Pak lb. \$2.09

\$1.99

LB.



CHICKEN BY GEORGE

Marinated Chicken Breast, Mesquite, Teriyaki, Cajun or Lemon Herb 4 oz.

Hormel

2 \$3

For

WIN A 1996 RED CORVETTE!

It's Hot! It's Here! United Supermarkets is ready to heat up the summer with our Corvette and Cash Giveaway! Each week until September 27th one name per store will be drawn on Saturday. This lucky person will win a \$100 gift certificate from United, plus automatically become a semifinalist to win our Red Corvette valued at \$42,224.00. Promotion good in all Lubbock, Brownfield, Lamesa, Levelland, Littlefield, Plainview, Post, and Slaton United Supermarkets. No purchase necessary. See store for details.



FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING THESE QUALITY CARDS



WED 5 THU 6 FRI 7 SAT 8 SUN 9 MON 10 TUE 11

PRICES GOOD THRU JUNE 11TH IN LUBBOCK, SLATON, POST, LEVELLAND, LITTLEFIELD AND BROWNFIELD No Sales to Dealers • Quantity Rights Reserved We Accept Food Stamps and WIC Cards