

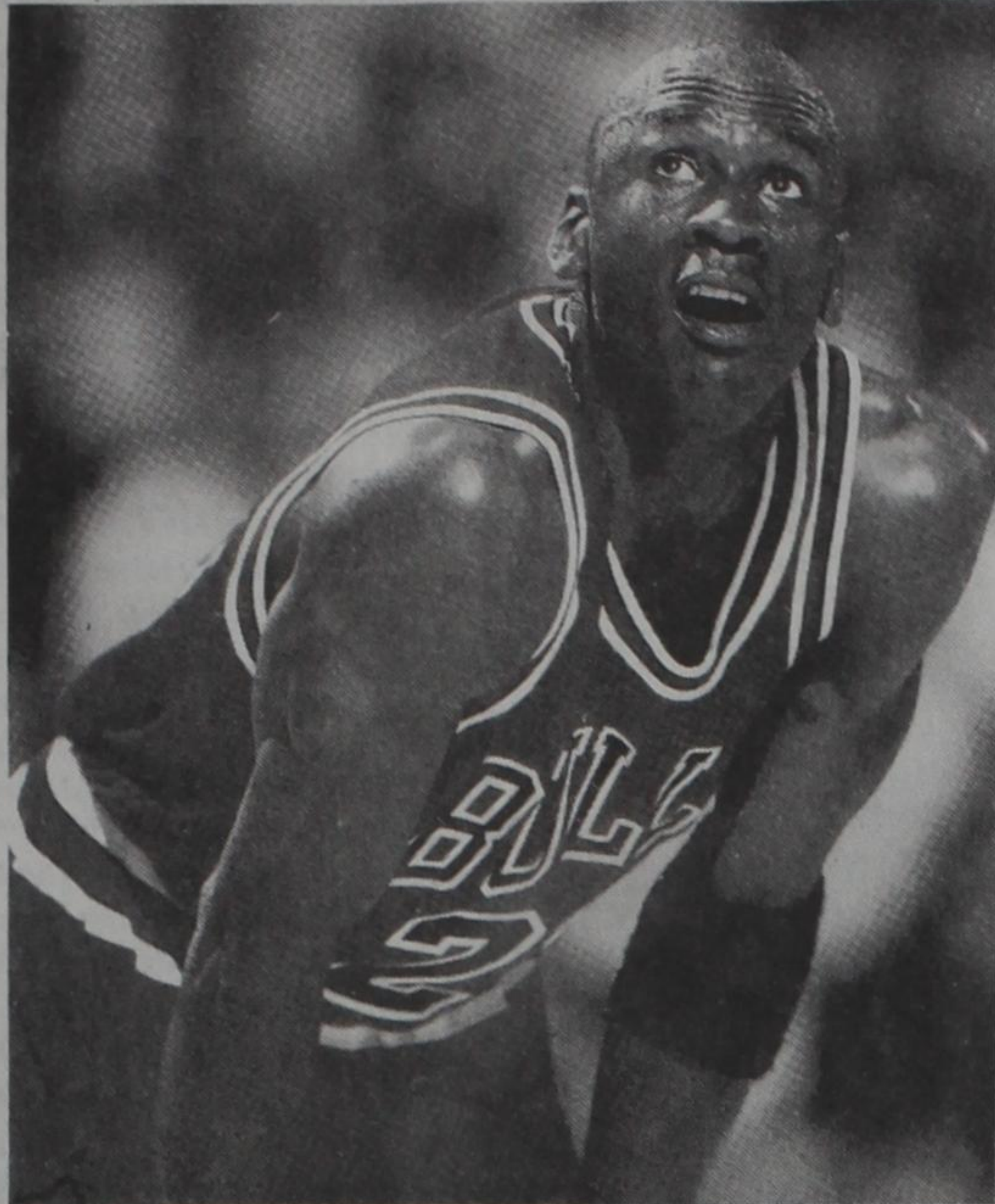
# Michael Jordan Retires

CHICAGO. Michael Jordan, an American folk hero who probably sold more T-shirts and sneakers than anyone in history, has defied expectation as he once seemed to defy gravity by deciding to quit basketball at the height of his powers.

Just as he had stunned opponents and fans around the world with his mind-boggling ability -- legs splayed as he soared over taller opponents, tongue sticking out as he zeroed in for a smashing dunk -- Jordan shocked the world with his sudden decision to retire.

The 30-year-old known as "Air Jordan" for his soaring feats, walked away from a \$25 million contract with the Chicago Bulls and jeopardized sponsorship deals worth up to \$50 million just one month before what would have been his 10th season.

Jordan, star of three successive NBA championship teams and twice an Olympic gold medal



winner, said he had reached the pinnacle of his career and that the death of his father had made him look closer at his own future.

His father, James, was shot dead after he pulled his car off a road in North Carolina last July so he could take a nap. Two young men have been charged in his murder.

"At some point in time you have to look at the future," said Jordan, who stressed that he felt he had nothing left to prove. "One thing (I learned) about my father's death is that it can be gone, it can be taken away from you at any time."

Jordan, who had often described his father as his best friend, said, his eyes watering: "He saw my father as his best friend, said, his eyes watering: "He saw my last game and that means a lot."

Bulls owner Jerry Reinsdorf said he believed Jordan was do-

Continued Page 4

# News Briefs

## House Approves \$71 Billion Ag Bill

AP reports that the House approved a \$71.6 billion Ag Department spending bill. The amount is \$10 billion higher than this year's spending bill but \$5.6 billion less than what the administration had requested. The savings from the administration request were primarily achieved through cutting a reserve fund for unforeseen food stamp expenditures and a difference in accounting for losses to the Commodity Credit Corp.

Spending for mandatory programs, including \$28 billion for food stamps and \$18 billion to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corp. for farm price support and other programs, account for most of the bill. \$3.2 billion is set aside for WIC, a \$350 million increase to bring in more pregnant women and eligible infants. It's the largest single discretionary increase in the bill. The bill also increases grants and loans for rural housing, water and sewer plants and other economic development. It includes funds to subsidize \$750 million in single-family housing loans.

## INS Nominee Considers Border Fee

The Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel reports that Doris Meissner, nominated for commissioner of the INS said that she would consider imposing a border-crossing fee to raise money for tougher enforcement of immigration laws.

In testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday, Meissner said she essentially backed the spirit of the proposal by Senator Dianne Feinstein, D-CA. "I have no philosophical objections to a border fee at all," Meissner said. She said, however, that practical problems would have to be resolved, such as how to collect various forms of currency.

In response to other immigration controversies, Meissner said that better trade ties with Mexico would help stem illegal immigration into the U.S. and she called for a balanced policy of screening undocumented immigrants while providing for those who desperately need asylum.

Both Republican and Democratic senators expect a swift confirmation for her.

## Census Bureau: Number Of Poor Jumps

AP reports that the Census Bureau found that the number of poor in this country jumped to 36.9 million last year, more than at any time since the John F. Kennedy was president. 1.2 million people were

added to the poverty rolls, a fact that analysts attribute to lingering unemployment amid a slow recovery from the recession. The poor accounted for about 14.5% of the population last year, up three-tenths of a point from 1991.

Robert Greenstein, executive director of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [HN0161] said poverty stayed high because the number of people without jobs was high. Unemployment last year averaged 7.4%, higher than the 6.7% record in 1991, the year the recession ended. The last time there were so many poor people was in 1962, when 38.6 million people lived below the poverty line. Because the population was smaller, the poverty rate that year was 21%.

The Census Bureau said blacks and Hispanics were about three times more likely to be poor than whites. The poverty rate for blacks was 33%, and 29.3% for Hispanics. Both rates are slightly higher than 1991. Also reported by the Bureau, children were far more likely than adults to live in poverty. One child in five was poor. Among preschool children, one in four was poor. A child who lived in a household headed by a woman was more likely to be poor. The poverty rate for preschool children in female-headed households was 66%.

The Census report also said that people living in the South were poorer than in other regions. In the South, the poverty rate was 16.9%, compared to 14.4% in the West, 13.1% in the Midwest, and 12.3% in the Northeast. The report also found that the number of people without health insurance rose by 2 million to 37.4 million -- 14.7% of the population. Changes in the family and U.S. economy are making it harder for poor people to raise their standard of living, said Demetra Nightingale, a senior research associate at The Urban Institute, a Washington research group. That keeps the poverty rate high, she said.

## AMA Softens Criticism of Health Plan

The New York Times reports that the American Medical Association soften its criticism of President Clinton's health plan in Senate testimony today, saying it could even agree to overall national health care budgets if doctors were involved in setting them.

The AMA has called on its members to lobby patients against financial restrictions on health care, such as limits on the cost of insurance premiums and cuts in the growth of Medicare and Medicaid. So Senator Edward M. Kennedy, who heads the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, asked Dr. James S. Todd, the AMA's executive vice president, if the group was so dissatisfied that it could not work on developing the plan. Todd said, "Absolutely not. The need for reform is now. The President has provided a good foundation from which to start. We have found him to be responsive to some of the concerns which we have raised; we need to go forward with the President, with this committee and with the Congress and get it done."

Dr. Robert Graham, executive vice president of the American Academy of Family Practice rebuffed Republican senators who tried to get him to say that the President's plan involved limiting choices. He said the plan "maintains pluralism." Todd and Graham were two of five spokesmen for major organizations of doctors, hospitals and nurses who testified and praised the Clinton health plan in general terms, while raising particular concerns over whether it would provide enough money for nurses' training and whether Medicare should be integrated into the new health care system.

Continued Page 3

Established 1977  
El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz  
Lic. Benito Juárez

# EL EDITOR

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# Aún fuerte apoyo para NAFTA, algunos grupos todavía lo critican

Aunque la mayoría de grupos políticos y cívicos de México apoyan el Tratado de Libre Comercio (NAFTA en inglés) algunos grupos recientemente han criticado el tratado diciendo que se necesitan algunas aseguraciones antes de que el tratado sea aprobado.

Entre dichos grupos está un grupo de abogados estadounidenses y grupos ecologistas de México.

La agrupación de abogados sostuvo que un informe presentado por el Departamento de Estado de México no fue lo suficiente riguroso en revisar la situación de los derechos humanos en México, aparentemente para evitar conflictos a la aprobación de NAFTA.

El Comité de Abogados para los Derechos Humanos divulgó su informe anual titulado "Crítica: Una revisión de los Informes del Departamento de Estado sobre las Prácticas en Derechos Humanos en 1992" en el que sostiene que en México prevalecen la tortura, la violencia institucionalizada, el fraude electoral y la impunidad.

El documento presentó un análisis de los derechos de los trabajadores mexicanos diciendo que era útil ahora que esta por debatirse en el Congreso el NAFTA, suscrito entre México, Estados Unidos y Canadá.

Los activistas señalaron que el informe del Departamento de Estado "crea la impresión de que el gobierno (mexicano) no merece las críticas por las prácticas en derechos humanos en el área laboral."

"De hecho los trabajadores mexicanos continúan enfrentando el riesgo de la violencia física cuando intentan ejercer sus valores o su libertad de expresión y asociación durante disputas laborales".

"La omisión (del Departamento de Estado) despierta sospechas de que el análisis está subordinado a la postura a favor del NAFTA del gobierno, anterior del presidente, Bush," agregó el documento.

"El informe menciona superficialmente ciertos tópicos como las violaciones de los derechos de las mujeres y de los trabajadores así como el impacto del narcotráfico en la corrupción oficial y las violaciones a los derechos humanos", sostuvo el organismo.

Grupos ecologistas también

critica la apropiación de NAFTA y presentaron una denuncia ante la Procuraduría del Medio Ambiente para que se realice un estudio sobre el impacto ambiental de dicho tratado antes que entre en vigencia.

El documento fue entregado al procurador Santiago Onate Laborde, solicitándole "la evaluación de una institución de reconocida calidad moral" sobre el impacto al medio ambiente que traería la intensificación de la actividad industrial como producto del tratado.

"Solicitamos a través de la Procuraduría Ambiental se pida a la Secretaría de Comercio la suspensión de la firma, aprobación, ejecución y entrada en vigor del NAFTA...en tanto no se cuente con la evaluación de impacto ambiental correspondiente", señaló el documento.

Un miembro de la Red Mexicana de Acción Frente al Libre Comercio, Josee Arias Chávez, dijo que no están, dijo que no están en contra de un acuerdo comercial, sino de los daños que este pueda traer a la ecología.

"Vamos a empezar acciones jurídicas para intentar que el NAFTA se difiera y pueda ser una herramienta para el desarrollo conjunto que beneficie a toda la sociedad y no solamente a una minoría", sostuvo.

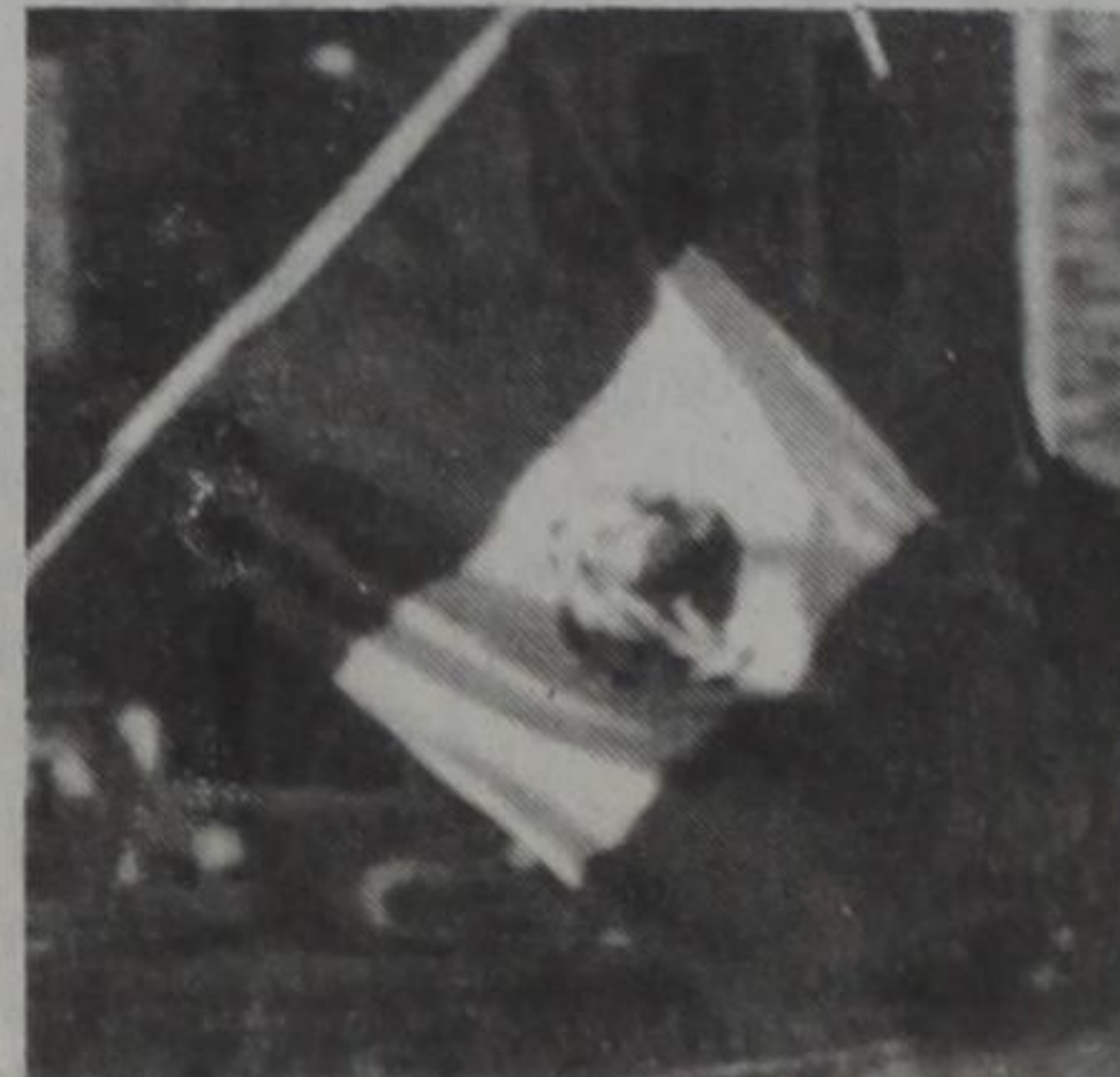
Arias Chávez sostuvo que no se trata de "secundar" el fallo interpuesto por el juez de la Corte de Distrito de Washington, Charles Richey, quien hace dos meses pidió un estudio de impacto ambiental en Estados Unidos.

"Nuestro propósito es reiterar que la sociedad no esta conforme con los procesos de negociación del NAFTA y de los acuerdos paralelos", agregó, al referirse a los convenios referentes a normas laborales y ambientales negociados este mes.

Por su parte, el coordinador del Pacto de Grupos Ecologistas, Guillermo Antonio Pérez, dijo que la denuncia esta sustentada en la Constitución y pretende evitar que el acuerdo se convierta en una amenaza por "nuestro recursos naturales".

"Conocidos casos en la historia nos demuestran que al globalizarse el mercado o integrarse una región al mercado mundial, la planeación productiva se orienta de acuerdo a las necesidades del mercado mundial y no a su realidad ecológica, propiciando la destrucción de sus ecosistemas y ocasionando graves desastres ambientales", indicó el documento.

A su vez, el personaje enmascarado autodenominado Ecologista Universal Numero Uno, advirtió que "el NAFTA y los acuerdos paralelos



traerán graves consecuencias para México" debido a la "corrupción entre inversionistas y autoridades".

El activista, proveniente del estado sureño de Veracruz, donde se encuentra una planta nucleoelectrónica, agregó que la proliferación de ese tipo de instalaciones "perjudicaría gravemente a México".

El documento fue apoyado por el Frente Nacional Democrático de Abogados y otros 40 grupos.

Los ecologistas esperan la respuesta de la Procuraduría del Medio Ambiente en un plazo de dos semanas.

Si es aprobado por las legislaturas de México y Estados Unidos, el pacto debe entrar en vigor el 1 de enero próximo.

Según algunos analistas y políticos norteamericanos, en el Congreso estadounidense se avecina un fuerte debate en torno al pacto comercial por la oposición de algunos sectores por motivos laborales y ambientales.

# ¿QUE PASA?

## COMA Accepting Nominations

COMA, the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber is taking nominations for the categories of: Businessman of the Year, Businesswoman of the year and Member of the year.

The recipients of the awards will be acknowledged at COMA's Annual Installation Banquet scheduled to take place at the Holiday Inn Civic Center on October 15, 1993.

The nominees should be at least 51% owners of their business and a COMA member.

Please call the COMA office at 762-5059 with your nominee.

## Lubbock Housing Authority Resident Council

The Lubbock Housing Authority Resident Council will be hosting the First Annual Mr & Mrs. LHA Pageant, for boys and girls residing in the LHA Developments. The Pageant will be on Friday, October 15, 1993 at O.L. Slaton Auditorium, 1602 32nd at 7:30 pm. Admission is \$1 and all proceeds will be utilized by the Resident Council for future activities and other events for the residents. Everyone is invited to attend. For further information contact Carmen Lucio or Valencia Ellison at 762-1191 Ext. 209.

## Templo Cristiano Fall Festival

Everyone is invited to Templo Cristiano's Fall Festival to be held on Saturday October 9 from 9 am to 4 pm at the church located 3115 2nd Street. Come enjoy a day of games, prizes, music, food and fun for the whole family. There will also be a fashion show, arts

and crafts, volleyball and a flea market. For more information call Enoch Ramirez, pastor at 763-8903 or 744-4174.

## WT Native Association March

The 2nd annual memorial march scheduled for October 10 will start at the Texas Tech Museum at 8 am. Participants are asked to be there by 7:30. The second annual Cultural Arts show is scheduled for October 16th.

## Museum Features Portraits of Contemporary Mexican Artists

The Texas Tech Museum will host a new exhibition of photographs by Carole Patterson titled "Capturing the Spirit: Portraits of Contemporary Mexican Artists." The exhibit will be on display through Sept. 26 in Gallery Two of the museum. Represented in the portraits are writers and poets Carlos Fuentes, Elena Poniatowska and Nobel laureate Octavio Paz and others. Creative works in architecture, ceramics, weaving, choreography and other disciplines also are included in the photographs.

Margaret Sayers Peden's accompanying text in both English and Spanish, offers viewers biographical information, excerpts from conversations with these artist and literary quotations that further explore the artists' inspirations.

SEND YOUR INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR PUBLICATION TO EL EDITOR, QUE PASA, P.O. BOX 11250, LUBBOCK, TX, 79408

## Access -- What The Hispanic/Latino Community Needs In President Clinton's New Health Care Reform

by Francisco L. Castillon

As executive director of a health care association in Sacramento, California, every day I see and touch some of those patients who the media and politicians can only identify as "America's 27 million uninsured." These individuals all have names, faces and families. Above all, a significant percentage of them are Hispanics/Latinos.

As Americans, we should all applaud President Clinton for his tenacity and leadership in attacking the nation's health care crisis. It's an effort that has been long overdue. However, as Hispanics/Latinos, it is imperative that we raise serious questions about the potential impact the President's proposed health care reform plan will have on the poor and medically underserved in the nation's urban and rural communities.

Without questions, the pan's basic premise, that all Americans be covered by some form of health insurance, is outstanding. With escalating health care costs, the concept of universal coverage is an idea whose time has finally come. But for the nation's medically underserved, most of whom are low-income individuals, minorities and children, having health insurance is just not enough. The real key for these vulnerable populations in the health care equation is access.

President Clinton's proposed plan relies heavily on health care delivery may be fine for middle-class America, but they have an unfavorable record of service to poor, high risk and minority populations.

In addition, the President's concept of service delivery sets the stage for intense competition between various providers who will offer cost-effective services to the plan's proposed "alliances." Such competition will eventually kill off the small medical practices, public and minority communities. Thus, we may end up with many large Hispanic/Latino communities that are populated by individuals who have health coverage but nowhere to get for actual care.

It is therefore imperative that health reform address the issue of access for the nation's medically underserved. Adequate access to appropriate health care is indeed possible. For more than 30 years, the nation's network of community, migrant and homeless health centers has delivered quality primary and preventive health care to America's poor and medically underserved.

As models of community based care, these centers have proven this nation can expand health care access for greater numbers of Americans while controlling costs. Today, 600 centers serve more than 7 million people at 1,500 ur-

ban and rural sites across the nation.

To achieve the goals of adequate access for all, the final health reform bill passed by Congress must contain a significant investment in the community health center model and other community-based primary care programs for the poor. While President Clinton's plan calls for a small, vaguely defined investment in expanding primary care, minorities, especially Hispanics/Latinos, should push for an even greater investment in expanding the primary care infrastructure in medically underserved areas.

It is also important that this investment be made directly by the federal government to the community rather than through State conduits. States should certainly be consulted in the process, but in order to safeguard access for low-income people, the federal government should control the process, setting guidelines and requirements to ensure quality health care.

America's current health care crisis has hurt the nation's poor and disadvantaged the most. Many in this group are Hispanic/Latino. While President Clinton's plan is a positive step forward, we need to make health reform work for all people -- giving all Americans a fighting chance for healthy and productive lives.

## Crazy Horse

By Stephen P. McIntyre

Henry Cisneros has used his power as head of HUD to seize the racist housing authority in Vidor, Texas and has stopped the building plans for the housing authority in West Dallas because it was just concentrating poor minorities in a large project one more time.

I wonder when he will make a trip to West Texas.

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- 10/8 1967 Che Guevara killed by CIA
- 10/10 1963 Attorney General Robert Kennedy approves an FBI wiretap on Martin Luther King
- 1973 Vice president Agnew resigned
- 1977 Nobel Peace Prize to Amnesty International and Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams, leads of the Peace People movement in N. Ireland.
- 10/12 1492 Columbus "discovers" America

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A few weeks ago the City Council packed up its bags and a few assistants and headed off to Ruidoso to discuss the future of Lubbock. Some press folks tagged along and reported back the goings on. They talked about incentive plans for the city workers, use of federal CDBG money, police substations, affirmative action employment policies... They talked about important things and it appears, that the press sat in on the deliberations. It also appears that there was little or no chance for citizens of Lubbock to observe, protest, comment, and discuss any of these matters during the days they were in New Mexico.

I believe that if I had jumped in my car and drove over to New Mexico and rented a room I could have attended the council sessions without any problem. But if the council goes off to Colorado or Arizona next time, not as many of the media will be able to go and few citizens, if any, will be able to attend. There is no question that it is nice to go to New Mexico. There is no question that getting away from Lubbock helps the creative juices flow. And there is no question that some good things came out of the meeting in Ruidoso. But, none of that is a good enough reason to have our local government meet in another state to discuss and debate very important city policy matters.

I agree with a lot of what the council is trying to do; more so than any other council I can recall. The hypocrisy, racism and games seem to be disappearing. There actually seems to be a spirit of openness and honesty down at city hall. No, I am not going to sue the city council or ask Travis Ware to prosecute the council. But someone who does not agree with some of the changes may do it.

The City Council of Lubbock should meet, debate, receive information, and make decisions in work sessions and council meetings that are open to all the people in Lubbock which means no more Ruidosos.

-80-

## Salud Para Todos

por Jane L. Delgado,  
Presidenta de la Coalición Nacional de Organizaciones Hispanas de Salud y Servicios Humanos

Si usted tuviera una industria que prestara servicios a 250 millones de personas, ¿establecería usted un sistema que dejara fuera a 4 millones de personas?

Se supone que la reforma de la atención a la salud asegure que aumentemos al máximo nuestros dólares de atención sanitaria al eliminar las ineficacias y modernizar la prestación de servicios.

Sin embargo, lo que vemos que se está proponiendo es el establecimiento de una nueva burocracia de la atención sanitaria enteramente nueva y de un sistema de cumplimiento para dejar fuera al 1% de la población. En vez de "Atención Sanitaria para Todos," el toque de clarín de la reforma de la atención sanitaria se ha convertido en "Atención Sanitaria para Algunos."

¿Qué pasó?

Lo que se suponía que abarcara la reforma de la atención a la salud era un debate público sobre el control de los costos, la expansión de la cobertura y la reforma de las cláusulas de exclusión en el seguro médico -- un debate que llevara al compromiso y a soluciones verdaderas.

En vez de eso, estamos oyendo acerca de la carga económica que los trabajadores que no son ciudadanos y que son indocumentados sitúan sobre el sistema de atención sanitaria de los Estados Unidos. El debate sobre las soluciones verdaderas ha dado paso a una búsqueda de chivos expiatorios.

Lo que sabemos acerca de

los trabajadores indocumentados y el uso que hacen de los servicios públicos no se compagina con la retórica cada vez más estridente que viene desde Washington y nuestras capitales estatales.

El hecho es que los trabajadores indocumentados aportan más por concepto de impuestos (sobre los ingresos, el Seguro Social, las ventas, la gasolina, etc.) que lo que usan en servicios públicos. Además, específicamente en lo tocante a los servicios de atención a la salud, el Departamento de Justicia de los Estados Unidos halló en 1986 que en los 12 meses antes de que los extranjeros legalizados llegaran a estarlo, sólo el 4% recibió atención hospitalaria sin compensación.

El dejar de amparar a los trabajadores indocumentados será una pesadilla administrativa y burocrática. Los trabajadores indocumentados son menos del 2% de la población de la nación. Sin embargo, muchas propuestas de reforma de la atención sanitaria procuran investigar el 100% de las visitas para atención a la salud a fin de identificar a este pequeño segmento de la población.

El costo de investigar a cada hombre, mujer y niño en cuanto a su situación legal cuando entran a un sistema de atención a la salud, desviará fondos de los servicios de atención sanitaria hacia la burocracia de la atención a la salud.

Este trámite de investigación fomentará también la discriminación contra todos los hispanos. De igual modo que las sanciones contra los empleadores a tenor de la Ley

de Reforma y Control de la Inmigración resultaron en la discriminación muy extendida en el empleo contra los residentes legales y ciudadanos, el crear un sistema de atención sanitaria de dos niveles que busque a los "estadounidenses" en oposición a los "no estadounidenses" hará aumentar la discriminación contra aquellos a quienes se perciba como que nos son "estadounidenses verdaderos."

Además, dicho sistema es una práctica mala de salud pública. El primer axioma de la salud pública es que cualquier sistema de atención a la salud debe prestar servicios a todos los miembros de una comunidad a fin de proteger la salud y el bienestar de esa comunidad.

Cuando un edificio está ardiendo, los bomberos no preguntan primero si las personas atrapadas en el edificio son residentes legales. Ellos apagan el incendio y salvan a las personas.

Hoy hay incendios de salud pública que arden en nuestras comunidades, y necesitan que se les apague. La reforma de la atención sanitaria no servirá bien a los Estados Unidos a menos que se reconozca este hecho fundamental.

El debate de la reforma a la atención sanitaria debería ser acerca de forjar soluciones y edificar sobre lo que ya funciona bien en nuestro sistema -- no acerca de hallar chivos expiatorios.

Los hispanos son una parte integral de al respuesta a los males de nuestra nación en materia de atención a la salud. Como el grupo racial/étnico que tiene mayores pro-

babilidades de carecer de seguro, tenemos lo más en juego en el resultado final del debate sobre la reforma de la atención sanitaria. El hecho que todos debemos comprender es que la reforma de la atención a la salud que sea exclusionaria no es reforma alguna.

(Jane L. Delgado, Ph.D., es miembro de la junta de directores de la Agenda Nacional de la Dirigencia Hispana.)

## "Hermanthe First" Reigns Again

by Antonio Stevens Arroyo  
(c) 1993, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

"The first" is associated so often with his name that some might think of Hermán Badillo more as royalty than as a political figure. The Puerto Rico-born New Yorker was the first Puerto Rican to become a borough president in New York City, the first to be elected to the U.S. congress, and the first to be appointed deputy mayor of New York City.

But after Badillo's three unsuccessful runs at mayor, rumors were that Badillo was finished as a major political leader in New York, even though he came ever so close to winning the mayor's post in a city larger than most states. (Once he was done in by an African American political club that expected Hispanics to back black candidates, but refused to support a Hispanic candidate.)

In 1993, Hermán the First has returned to prime-time politics. For the November elections that might unseat Democratic incumbent David

Dinkins, he has joined the ticket of Republican mayoral aspirant Rudy Giuliani as candidate for the important post of city comptroller -- a combination of secretary of state and treasurer.

Badillo is a fusion candidate, running simultaneously for the post with endorsement from the Republican and Liberal parties. Ever the optimist, he ran for the Democratic nomination as well. He came within 4 percent of winning that primary.

Los Angeles just turned out a tired Democratic Party leadership in its mayoral election; it is possible that New York will dot the same. The Latino vote in New York, largely composed of Puerto Ricans, will determine the outcome, according to Pablo Guzmán of the Village Voice. Dinkins needed 60 percent of the Latino vote to eke out a narrow 2 percent win over Giuliani four years ago. Political pundits believe that if Badillo can bring just 20 percent of the Puerto Ricans to Giuliani, beleaguered Dinkins will likely be turned out of office.

Puerto Ricans have become the largest ethnic group in New York City and are now poised to gain major political clout. Latinos are likely to replace African Americans as the largest "minority."

So why has Badillo returned to politics supported by a Republican? Shouldn't Puerto Ricans present a solid front with the Democrats, rather than divide their vote? Questions such as these have dogged Hermán Badillo since he entered political life thirty-some years ago. When he challenged the Democratic Party thirty-some years ago. When he challenged the Democratic Party big-city machine in the 1960s, he was too liberal for the non-Hispanic establishment. When he was an elected official in the 1970s, he was too conservative for Puerto Rican militants. Out of office in the 1980s, he was called a "has-been."

When the Badillo of the 1990s gets around to writing his political memoirs, he may confess that his major mistake was that he read his role as "the first" to mean that he

## Salud Para Todos - Health for All

by Jane L. Delgado,  
President, National Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Services Organizations

If you had an industry that served 250 million people, would you set up a system that would screen out 4 million people?

Health care reform is supposed to ensure that we maximize our health care dollars by eliminating inefficiencies and streamlining the provision of service. However, what we see being proposed is the establishment of an entirely new health care bureaucracy and enforcement system to screen out 1.5 percent of the population. Instead of "Health Care for all," the clarion call of health care reform has become Health Care for Some.

What happened?

What health reform was supposed to encompass was a public debate on

cost control, expansion of coverage, and reform of exclusionary clauses in health insurance -- a debate that would lead to compromises and real solutions.

Instead, we are hearing about the financial burden that non-citizen, undocumented workers place on the U.S. health care system. The debate on real solutions has given way to a search for scapegoats.

What we know about undocumented workers and their use of public services does not square with the increasingly shrill rhetoric coming from Washington and our state capitals.

The fact is that undocumented workers provide more in taxes (income, Social Security, sales gasoline, etc.) than they use in public services. Moreover, specific to health care services, the U.S. De-

partment of Justice found in 1986 that in the 12 months before legalized aliens became legal, only 4 percent received uncompensated hospital care.

Not covering undocumented workers will be an administrative and bureaucratic nightmare. Undocumented workers are less than 2 percent of the nation's population. Yet many health reform proposals seek to screen 100 percent of health care visits to identify this small segment of the population.

The cost of screening every man, woman and child for legal status when they enter a health care system will divert funds from services to bureaucracy.

This screening process will also foster discrimination against all Hispanics. Just as employer sanctions under the Immigration Reform and Control Act resulted in the wide-

spread employment discrimination against legal residents and citizens, creating a two-tier health system that looks for "Americans" vs. "non-Americans" will exacerbate discrimination against those perceived not to be "real Americans."

Moreover, such a system is bad public health practice. The first tenet of public health is that nay health care system must serve everyone in a community to protect the health and well-being of that community.

When a building is burning, fire fighters do not ask first if the persons trapped in the building are legal residents. They put out the fire and save the people.

Today there are public health fires burning in our communities, and they need to be put out. Public health threats such as tuberculosis and measles do not recognize boundaries

of citizenship or legal status. health care reform will not serve the United States well unless this basic fact is recognized.

The health care reform debate should be about forgoing solutions and building on what works well in our system -- not finding scapegoats.

Hispanics are an integral part of the answer to our nation's health care ills. as the racial/ethnic group most likely to be uninsured, we have the largest stake in the final outcome of the health reform debate. What we must all understand is that exclusionary health care reform is no reform at all.

(Jane L. Delgado, Ph.D., is a member of the board of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda.)

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# Does Gephardt Hafta Fight NAFTA?

By José de la Isla

U.S. House majority leader Richard Gephardt's opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement is a source of real worry to the Clinton administration. NAFTA may still win without his support, but the Missouri Democrat's position will influence many votes and cause further division in an already fractured debate.

Back in January 1990, when a Democratic victory over a popular George Bush seemed hopeless, Gephardt was part of a trade delegation to Mexico that included house Agriculture Committee chairman Kika de la Garza (D-Texas). They met with U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte and Mexico agriculture secretary Carlos Hank Gonzales to discuss trade and the exchange of farm technology and information.

Common market ideas were in the air, as the Europeans, who had embraced the free trade concept for their continent 33 years before, were about to put their efforts to plebiscites

in the member countries. Gephardt's statement at the end of the meeting was telling. The time was not yet right, he said, for a North American free trade zone to offset the effects that the European Economic Community might have on the Americas. Referring to U.S. negotiations, he said, "It took three years of long, hard negotiations with Canada, and they're the country most like the United States in the world."

His words were almost prophetic; the United States and Mexico would engage in free trade talks for almost that long before a draft agreement was reached. At long last, key members of Congress recognized they were in the same continent.

Few other members of Congress were alerted as early as was Gephardt about developments such as NAFTA. He was in a position to know. Later, after negotiations began, he complained that the loss of tariff revenues necessitated charging fees on imports, an indirect way

to levy tariffs.

Even with President Clinton's insistence that labor and environmental interests be protected in the parallel agreements, Gephardt voiced a shrill complaint. Attacking a lack of planning, he expressed "serious reservations" whether those revenues lost from tariffs could be made up. Nor did he think the plan provides enough money for displaced worker retraining and border environment clean-up.

Whatever merit these and other reservations might have, they don't have enough substance to hold up or defeat NAFTA. After all, the European Community has set precedents for incorporating poor, low-wages countries with more prosperous ones. And to Mexican ears, the giant sucking sound is that of U.S. products heading south to take away their hard-earned pesos.

Of various political persuasions, 12 U.S. Nobel laureates in economics have concluded that NAFTA is a net positive for the United States.

Realistically, NAFTA's opponents, including Gephardt, must have a basis in politics rather than economics as their guiding light. Racist and nativist public attitudes that can influence politics, originally identified by U.S. Hispanic leaders as barriers to NAFTA, are just now being seen as valid by some establishment analysts.

George Baker, executive secretary of PEOFMEX (the Consortium for Research on Mexico) adds another insight. Writing in the New Mexico Historical Review, Baker says that "on the plane of border infrastructure" a free trade agreement with Mexico is "the first major revision of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo."

With that statement, the historical context comes into sight. The treaty was responsible for defining borders and influencing commercial, economic and even social and cultural relations for almost 150 years. NAFTA might do the same, with Latinos of the advantageously locat-

ed border states in the best positions to leverage it.

Many other venues will benefit, but few are as privileged as the Southwestern states. The displacements caused by Guadalupe Hidalgo in the 19th century have been counterbalanced by immigration and the ascent of political representation in the 20th.

Some NAFTA opponents sound like infectious *envidia* (envy) carriers. Others may fear success. Now that the '60s generation is well into middle-age, many have forgotten they were once visionaries. They could fail to grasp the moment, as Gephardt did in 1990.

They have forgotten the talk around the table at the student union, arguing the fine points about asserting OUR rights under the treaty. Maybe, in an indirect way, that time has come.

(José de la Isla, of Houston, Texas, is author of "The Rise of Hispanic Politics," to be published next year by Denali Press.)  
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# ¿Tiene Gephardt Que Atacar a Nafta?

Por José de la Isla

La oposición del dirigente de la mayoría de la Cámara de Representantes de los Estados Unidos, Richard Gephardt, al Tratado Norteamericano de Libre Comercio (NAFTA en inglés) es una fuente de verdadera preocupación para el gobierno de Clinton. NAFTA puede ganar aún sin su apoyo, pero la postura del demócrata pro Missouri ejercerá influencia sobre muchos votos y ocasionará una división ulterior en un debate ya fracturado.

En enero de 1990, cuando una victoria demócrata sobre un George Bush popular lucía sin esperanzas, Gephardt fue parte de una delegación de comercio a México que incluyó al presidente del Comité sobre Agricultura de la Cámara, Kika de la Garza (demócrata por Texas). Ellos se reunieron con el Embajador de los Estados Unidos, John Negroponte, y con el Secretario de Agricultura de México, Carlos Hank González, para tratar del comercio y del intercambio de tecnología e información agrícolas.

Las ideas del mercado común estaban en el aire, a medida que los europeos, que habían abrazado al concepto del libre comercio para su continente 33 años antes, se hallaban a punto de someter sus gestiones a plebiscitos en las naciones afiliadas. La hora no era la correcta todavía, dijo él, para una zona norteamericana de libre comercio que compensara los efectos que la Comunidad Económica Europea pudiera tener sobre las Américas.

Refiriéndose a las negociaciones de los Estados Unidos, él dijo: "Se necesitaron tres años de negociaciones largas y difíciles con el Canadá, y éste es el país que más se parece a los Estados Unidos en el mundo."

Sus palabras fueron proféticas; los Estados Unidos y México se empeñaron en charlas sobre libre comercio durante casi el mismo espacio de tiempo antes de que se lograra un acuerdo preliminar. Por lo menos, los miembros del Congreso reconocieron que estaban en el mismo continente.

Pocos otros miembros del Congreso fueron puesto sobre aviso tan temprano como lo

fué Gephardt acerca de los acontecimientos tales como NAFTA. él estaba en posición de enterarse. Más tarde, una vez que empezaron las negociaciones, él se quejó de que la pérdida de ingresos por concepto de aranceles exigía cobrar derechos de importación, que son una manera indirecta de cobrar aranceles.

Aún con la insistencia del Presidente Clinton de que se proteja a los intereses de los trabajadores y a los ambientales en los acuerdos paralelos, Gephardt manifestó una queja estridente. al atacar a la falta de planificación, él expresó "reservas graves" acerca de si podrían recuperarse los ingresos por concepto de aranceles que de si podrían recuperarse los ingresos por concepto de aranceles que se perdieran. Ni tampoco creía él que el plan asignaba suficiente dinero para el re-adiestramiento de los trabajadores desplazados y la limpieza ambiental de la frontera.

Cualesquiera méritos que puedan tener estas y otras reservas, no tienen substancia bastante como para retener o derrotar a NAFTA. Después de todo, la Comunidad Europea ha sentado precedentes para incorporar a países pobres con jornales bajos con otros más prósperos. Y para los oídos mexicanos, el más temido ruido es el de los productos estadounidenses encaminándose hacia el sur para quitarles sus pesos, ganados con mucho trabajo.

De entre las diversas persuasiones políticas, 12 ganadores estadounidenses de Premios Nobel en materia de economía han llegado a la conclusión de que NAFTA es una ganancia neta positiva para los Estados Unidos.

En realidad, los opositores de NAFTA, incluyendo a Gephardt, deben tener una base en la política antes que en la economía como su luz orientadora. Las actitudes públicas racistas y nacionalistas que pueden influir sobre la política, identificadas por los dirigentes hispanos de los Estados Unidos como obstáculos para NAFTA, están siendo vistas sólo ahora como válidas por algunos analizadores del establecimiento.

George Baker, secretario ejecutivo de PROFMEX (el

Consortio para la Investigación sobre México) agrega otro punto de vista. al escribir en la revista "New Mexico Historical Review," Baker dice que "sobre el plano de la infra-estructura fronteriza," un tratado de libre comercio con México es "la primera revisión importante del Tratado de Guadalupe Hidalgo."

Con esa declaración, el contexto histórico queda a la vista. el tratado tuvo la responsabilidad de definir las fronteras e influir sobre las rela-

ciones comerciales, económicas y hasta sociales y culturales durante cerca de 150 años. NAFTA podría hacer lo mismo, con los latinos de los estados fronterizos ventajosamente ubicados en las mejores posiciones para ejercer influencia sobre el mismo.

Muchas otras jurisdicciones se beneficiarán, pero pocas se hallan tan privilegiadas como los estados del suroeste. Los desplazamientos ocasionados por el Tratado de Guadalupe Hidalgo en el siglo

XIX han sido compensados por la inmigración y el ascenso de la representación política en el siglo XX.

Algunos opositores de NAFTA suenan como portadores infelices de envidia. Otros pueden temer al éxito. Ahora que la generación de decenio de 1960 está bien adentrada en la edad mediana, muchos de sus miembros han olvidado que una vez fueron visionarios. Ellos podrían fallar en echarle mano al momento, como lo hizo Gephardt en

1990.

Ellos han olvidado la charla alrededor de la mesa en la asociación de estudiantes, argumentando los puntos delicados sobre la afirmación de nuestros derechos a tenor del tratado. Puede que, de un modo indirecto, la hora haya llegado.

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JORDON FROM PG. 1

doing the right thing. "He's living the American Dream," Reinsdorf said. "The American Dream is to reach a point in your life where you don't have to do

anything that you don't want to do and can do everything that you do want to do. We respect his decision."

Jordan was like a dream on the court.

At 6 feet six inches he was a ball-handling guard who

could play like a giant inside, yet burn rivals with his delicate touch from long range.

He captured the fancy of millions of young fans, the target of ad campaigns offering fantasies of "Be Like Mike" and became a central figure in

basketball's international boom.

He showed how special he was as a freshman at North Carolina when he sank a game-winning jumper over huge Patrick Ewing in the final seconds of the 1982 national college championship game.

In 1984, Jordan conquered the world as the leading scorer on the Bobby Knight-coached U.S. Olympic team in Los Angeles -- the last group of collegians to capture Olympic basketball gold.

Eight years later, Jordan made a triumphant return to the international stage as the brightest star of the Dream Team collection of NBA heroes that galloped to Olympic gold in Barcelona.

Along with the joy of three championships in a row with the Bulls and seven successive NBA scoring titles that matched the legendary Wilt "The Stilt" Chamberlain, came controversy.

Questions about Jordan's gambling left him feuding with the media at times.

He cut himself off from reporters during the championship playoffs earlier this year after stories about a reported

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Continued Page 6

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## Hillary: Gun Tax to Finance Health Plan

The Washington Post reports that Hillary Rodham Clinton told Congress that "speaking personally," she would support a tax on guns and ammunition to raise money for health care reform and to highlight the link between violence and health costs. "I'm all for it," she said in response to a suggestion by Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., that Congress should impose a 25% sales tax on pistols to "tax directly the purveyors of violence."

The topic came up during the first lady's third day of testimony on Capitol Hill. She was appearing before the Senate Finance Committee chaired by Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-NY.

## Poor Pay More for Goods & Services

The San Francisco Chronicle reports that a consumer group studied the cost of food, health care and banking for low-income consumers and their middle class counterparts, and found that middle class consumers pay less for goods and services.

"It's much, much harder to be a poor consumer," said Judith Bell, co-director of the West Coast office of Consumers Union, which published the report after conducting research in several West Coast cities. Not only do poor consumers have less money, she said, but they often pay more for what they get compared with the middle class.

For example, a family of four living in Rockridge, a generally affluent area of Oakland, CA, can buy a month's worth of basic food items for as little as \$264.95. Whereas in poorer West Oakland, the same groceries can cost \$388.69, a full 28% higher. "Our items do tend to be more expensive," acknowledged the manager of West Oakland's "Acorn Super" market. He said a high level of theft and the cost of tighter security caused the price discrepancy.

Banking can also be more costly. According to the study, West Oakland has no banks or savings-and-loans institutions. This forces low-income customers to rely on expensive check-cashing operations, that often charge up to 21% of the face value of a check.

Consumers Union also found that the poor pay more for health care. It noted that because the poor often were unable to afford health insurance, they put off treatment for many medical problems. When conditions become critical, they are often forced to turn to expensive emergency services.

## Study: Disabled Youth Abused

AP reports that a new nationwide study of maltreatment among children with physical, mental or emotional disabilities found that disabled children are physically abused at twice the rate of other children, sexually abused at nearly twice the rate and emotionally neglected at almost three times the rate. Overall, children with disabilities are maltreated at 1.7 times the rate of other kids.

The study, done by the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect of the Department of Health and Human Services found that in all but 14% of cases studied involving a disabled child, the maltreatment was either committed or permitted by a child's primary caretaker, who is generally the mother, the study said. The report also found that maltreatment often causes children to develop a disability. More than half of all children who were neglected developed a disability, as well as 62% of children who were sexually abused, 48% who were emotionally abused and 15% who were physically abused.

The study was based on reports of maltreatment involving 1,834 children. The maltreatment was substantiated by child welfare agencies. "Children are vulnerable. But children with disabilities are the most vulnerable," said Sen. Christopher J. Dodd, who sponsored 1988 legislation requiring the federal study. "It's terribly disturbing to realize that children with disabilities are being maltreated to such a high degree."

Dr. Edward Schor, associate professor of pediatrics at Tufts Medical School, and Dr. James M. Perrin, associate professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, agreed that caring for a disabled child can be expensive, stressful and physically exhausting. Parents may also become isolated from friends, family and their community. Perrin, chairman of the American Academy of Pediatrics' committee on children with disabilities, also believes the risk of abuse increases when parents don't bond with a newborn, a problem for sick babies hooked to all sorts of hospital equipment.

## Variations in Health Spending in the U.S.

The New York Times reports that the federal government issued new data that shows huge variations in health care spending around the country. The statistics, compiled by the Department of Health and Human Services and published in the journal Health Affairs, show that President Clinton's health care reform proposal would affect states in different

ways. One goal of his plan is to reduce variations in medical spending and growth.

Katharine R. Levit, said, "Per capita spending for hospital and physician services and for prescription drugs ranged from a high of \$2,112 in New England to a low of \$1,567 in the Rocky Mountain region in 1991, a difference of 35%." Spending in California on hospital care, doctor's services and prescription drugs was \$58.1 billion in 1991, 51% higher than New York, where it totaled \$38.5 billion. Both states accounted for one-fifth of all spending in the country.

Levit said that personal income appears to be the most important factor influencing the level of health care spending in a state. People with high incomes tend to spend more on health care than people with low incomes. In addition, the study, said high levels of health care spending may reflect the presence of large numbers of doctors, specialists and a high concentration of elderly people. But some disparities have no easy explanation. "The frequency of hysterectomies, coronary bypass operations and other surgery varies widely, even in population groups of similar age and income."



## Un Rayito De Luz

Por Sra. Sofia Martinez

Jesucristo nos enseña como deben de ser las buenas obras que debemos hacer: Que no practiquemos la religion "nomas para que la gente nos vea" porque, si lo hacemos asi, nuestro Padre que esta en los cielos no nos va a dar ningun premio. Por eso, cuando ayuden a los pobres, no lo publiquen a los cuatro vientos, como lo hacen los hipocritas en las reuniones y en las calles para que las gentes hablen bien de ellos. Le aseguro que con eso ya tienen su premio. Cuando ustedes ayudan a los necesitados, no se lo cuenten ni siquiera a sus amigos mas intimos; haganlo en secreto. Y su Padre, que esta en los cielos, que ve lo que hacen en secreto, les va a dar su buen premio". (Mat 6.6, 1-4).

Y, cuando nos enseña a orar dice: Cuando ustedes oren, no sean como los hipocritas, que les gusta orar parados en las esquinas para que los mire la gente. Les aseguro que con eso ya tienen su premio, porque todo lo que buscan es el juicio

de las gentes. Pero tu, cuando ores, entra en tu cuarto, cierra la puerta y ora a tu Padre, que te esta mirando lo que haces en secreto. Y El te va a dar tu premio. Y cuando ores no repitas palabras inutiles, como lo hacen los paganos, que se imaginan que entre mas hablen mas

caso les va a hacer Dios. No sean ustedes como ellos, porque tu Padre ya sabe lo que ustedes necesitan, desde antes de que se lo pidan. Ustedes deben de orar asi: Padre nuestro que estas en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre, Venga a nosotros tu reino. Hagase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia, y perdona nuestras ofensas como tambien nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación, y libranos del mal.

Porque si ustedes perdonan a otros el mal que les hagan, su Padre que esta en cielo les perdonara tambien a ustedes; pero si ustedes no perdonan a otros, tampoco su Padre les perdonara. (Mat. 6,5-15).

Oración para papa y mama: Señor, danos la gracia de poder enseñarles a estos hijos que tu nos diste para que te amen como Verdadero Padre de ellos, y que tengan confianza a ti. Que les enseñemos a ser santos, que hagan tu voluntad. Que les enseñemos que no sirve para nada ganar todo el mundo, si pierden sus almas. Y que les enseñemos que amarte es la cosa mas importante que pueden hacer. (1 Cor. 13).



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trip to the gaming tables in Atlantic City early in the morning on the day of a game.

A former golfing buddy of Jordan wrote a book claiming to have won \$1.25 million from wagers with him.

The league investigated various charges of impropriety but the superstar was never sanctioned.

Jordan said he was proud of his achievements and of the spectacular growth of the NBA.

"I think the league has gone from where some people had a

lot of doubts about the personalities and image to where it's probably the most watched professional sport there is," Jordan said. "That means a lot to all the guys who played in that era, especially myself."

Jordan said he would not rule out the prospect of "un-retiring" but underlined his happiness with the decision to step away.

"There are still a lot of things for me to achieve. I've been very selfish in my career," Jordan said. "Now it's time to be a little more selfish about my family and get back to a normal life -- as best as I can."

# Read It First In EL EDITOR Call: 763-3841

### Employment

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'Herman The First' From Page 1

was "the best." Seen as cold and aloof when most Puerto Ricans are warm and emotional, Badillo, who stands over 6 feet tall, often has allowed his confidence in his own political judgment to make political decisions alone and then expect all other Puerto Rican leaders to support him.

This tendency is exacerbated by his generational senior-

ity over U.S. Congress members Nydia Velázquez and José Serrano, Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer and a host of Puerto Rican professionals who direct major city agencies. At times, Hermán The First has treated them almost as if they were still the kiddie corps of Puerto Rican community activists he met in the 1960s.

Serrano or Ferrer both have been mentioned as eventual candidates for mayor of New

York, the one prize that has eluded Badillo.

Just as grandparents often have better relations with their grandchildren than they had with their own sons and daughters, Badillo may eventually help even younger grass-roots leaders coming into politics. While the established figures rival his position as spokesperson for the Puerto Rican community, the newcomers could use his support as an elder statesman. If

elected comptroller in November on a fusion ticket, Badillo would be in a position to groom this younger crop of Latinos for leadership roles.

Whatever the outcome, Badillo seems to enjoy this campaign that, win or lose, is likely to be his hurrah. Much like the distance runner after a long marathon race who takes on the victory lap in the stadium to the approval of a roaring crowd, he is basking in the rewards of a remarkable 30 years in politics.

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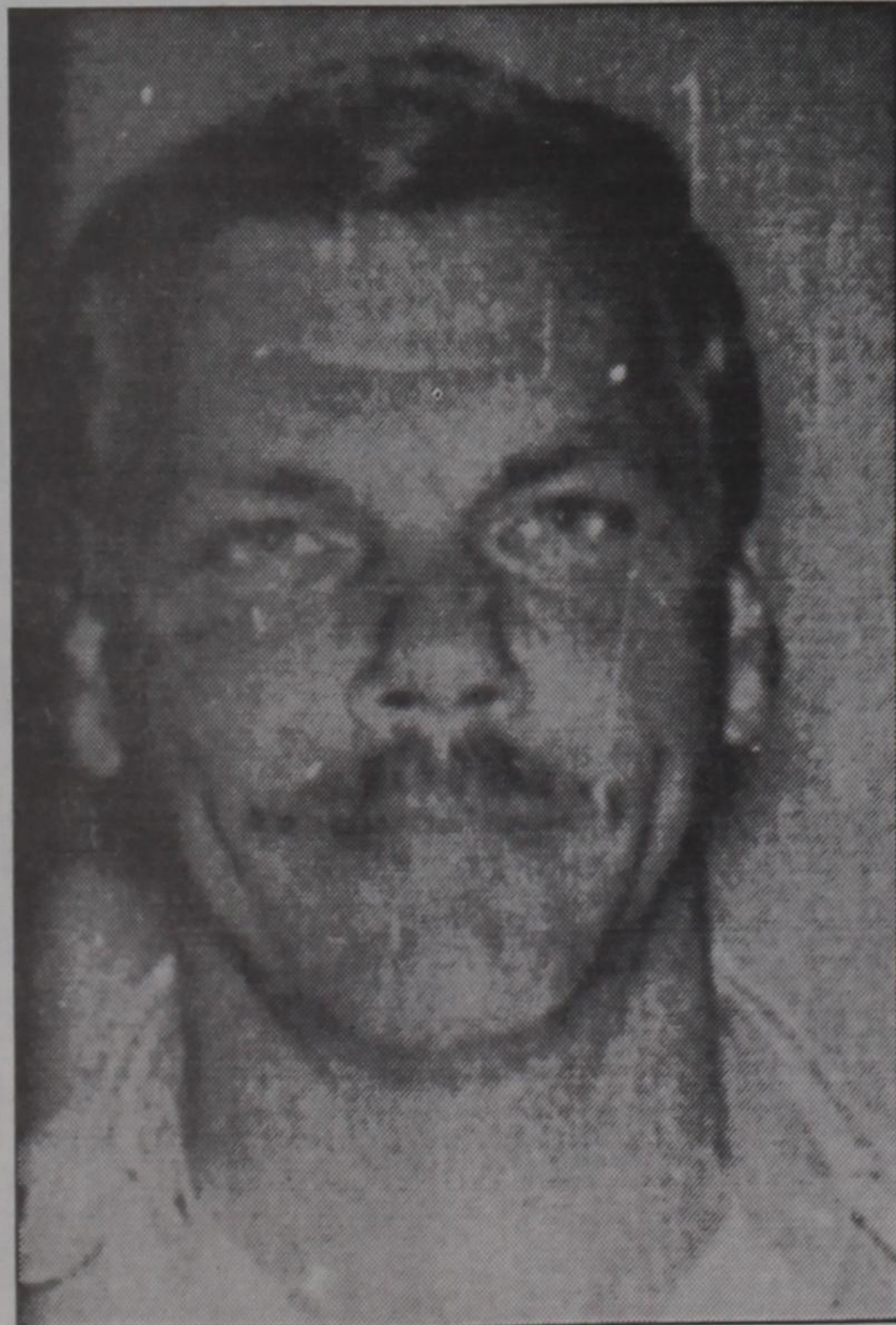


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### JOE DAVID ALLUMS, II

W / M, DOB: 9-17-52, 5'11", 210, brown hair, hazel eyes. Sexual Assault, Sodomy, Parole Violation, Kidnapping, Attempted Murder, Theft, Aggravated Kidnapping. Also Known As: Randy L. Storie, 09-17-52. Last Known Address: Harris County.

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**Betty Crocker Layer  
Cake Mix**

Asst. 18-18.5 oz. **.88**

**Parkay  
Margarine  
Quarters**

Regular or Lite

1 lb. **2 for \$1**

**Borden  
Milk**

Homogenized, Hi Protein or Lite Line

gallon jug **\$1.98**

**Sunny  
Delight  
Drinks**

Plus Calcium, Mango or Citrus Punch

64 oz. **.98**

**Del Monte  
Vegetables**

Corn, Green Beans or Spinach

Asst. 12-17 oz.

Sliced Beets, carrots, Whole Potatoes, Sauerkraut or Mixed Vegetables

16 oz.

# 3 for \$1

**Hy-Top  
Pizza**

Asst. 7 oz. **.68**

**Fine Fare  
Corn on  
the Cob**

8 ct. **\$1.18**

**Fine Fare  
Whipped  
Topping**

8 oz. **.58**

**Fine Fare Sliced  
Strawberries**

10 oz. **.88**

**Ultra Cuddles  
Diapers**

Medium 24 ct. or Large 32 ct. **\$3.98**

**Gillette Series  
Shave Cream/Gel/Concentrate**

**Gillette Sensor  
Cartridges**

5 ct. **\$3.49**

**Gillette Disposable  
Razors**

Asst. 5 ct. **\$1.89**

**Nabisco Original  
Fig Newtons**

16 oz. **2 for \$4**

**Washington Extra Fancy  
Red Delicious  
Apples**

Snack Size

# .59

lb.

**United  
Extra Lean  
T-Bone  
Steak**

lb. **\$3.99**

USDA Choice lb. \$4.49

**New Red  
or  
White Rose  
Potatoes**

3 lbs. **\$1**

**Farmland  
Extra Tender  
Pork  
Steak**

lb. **\$1.49**

Farmland Extra Tender Boneless Pork Strips lb. \$4.49

**United Extra Lean  
Super Valu Pak  
Chuck  
Roast**

Blade Cut

# \$1.09

lb.

Single Pak lb. \$1.19