

Artists, Dancers, Mariachi Entertain at Hispanic Gala

Photos by Rudy Rascon



Jesse Martinez



Miguel Martinez

In what persons that attended called a wonderful night that showcased the many talents of Lubbock artists, the Hispanic Gala held Thursday night provided much to hear and see. Featured at the event were guest artists Jesus

"Chuy" Martinez from Albuquerque, Miguel Martinez from Hobbs and Omar Rodriguez from Lubbock.

Other performers included El Mariachi Flores and the Ballet Folklorico Aztlan. The event was sponsored by Lubbock Power and Light.

News Briefs

Clinton Administration Grants to Fight Gang Activity and Youth Violence

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala today announced the award of \$2.8 million in grants to help six community coalitions fight gang activity and youth violence.

"These community programs give us a rare opportunity to help young people choose against gangs and break the cycle of violence," said Secretary Shalala. "This is the kind of investment in people that President Clinton has championed. But Congress has proposed eliminating this youth violence prevention program."

Funded under the Youth Gang Drug Prevention Program of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, the six community coalition grantees will develop action plans to concentrate resources on socially and economically isolated neighborhoods and identify the developmental needs of youth (ages 9-12) within their communities. The goals of the program include community and family involvement, as well as providing academic support and career opportunities for young people. More than 6,000 young people will be served through these grants.

Specific activities for young people will include afterschool and summer tutoring and programs for prevention of substance abuse, alcohol and tobacco use, and pregnancy. Youth will also participate in leadership activities, such as youth conferences and wilderness experiences. Job training and preparation, non-violent conflict resolution and mediation training will also be offered, as will referrals to health, mental health and social services.

Parents will also receive services from grantees, with training in parenting and leadership skills. The organizations will form parent support groups and provide parents with job training and search activities.

Each project will consist of a community-based consortium developed by the grantee which will involve all sectors of the community and organize community-wide events to promote families and pride in their neighborhood.

"The community is the central focus of all the grants and the coalitions aim to increase community support in addressing and reducing the problems of youth violence," said Mary Jo Bane, HHS assistant secretary for children and families. "The building of youth esteem to resist dangerous and destructive behavior and the involvement and preservation of the family are major goals of all the grants."

Clinic Helps In Public Housing

With health-care reform on the back burner in Washington, private and public organizations are crafting solutions to the problems that face the 37 million Americans who have no medical insurance, reports Associated Press.

At Sagamore Village public housing in Portland, Maine, that involves the creation of the first Women's Health Clinic, thanks to Brighton Medical Center, the University of Southern Maine and the Portland Housing Authority.

The clinic is funded by a \$15,000 grant from Brighton Medical Center, which also provides free lab tests and other services. The university provides the nursing practitioner and volunteer students.

The Women's Health Clinic is the newest component in an array of community health services offered at Sagamore. With a \$50,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Veto Hinges On Kids' Welfare

There are signs from the White House that President Clinton may yet oppose a Republican welfare overhaul bill he had previously indicated he would support, reports Associated Press.

Anticipating the scheduled release this week of an administration report showing the Senate bill could send at least a million children into poverty, Clinton said last week, "If I'm convinced that it's going to hurt children, I'm not going to go along with it."

The statement, made in an interview with black columnists on Wednesday, indicated a new sharpening of differences between Clinton and the GOP-controlled Senate, which the president praised in September for its "wisdom and courage" in crafting a welfare overhaul bill less stringent than the House version.

A final Office of Management and Budget analysis of the Senate bill's impact on children is scheduled to be released this week. Early estimates released by the Department of Health and Human Services in late October showed the legislation could put a million children into poverty, but liberal analysts called the estimate conservative.

"I would be very reluctant to sign a bill that I thought was really bad for children ... But I don't want to wed myself to the findings of a study I haven't read yet," Clinton said in Wednesday's closed roundtable discussion.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York and Children's Defense Fund president Marian Wright Edelman, a personal friend of the president and Hillary Rodham Clinton, have publicly appealed to the president to reject both the House and Senate bills.

"It would be a great moral and practical wrong for you to sign any welfare 'reform' bill that will push millions of already poor children and families deeper into poverty," Edelman wrote in an open letter to Clinton published Saturday.

Congressional negotiators are now trying to forge a compromise between the two versions.

Gingrich "Runs" In Today's Elections

A year after the upheaval of the midterm Congressional elections, most local races are still feeling the aftershocks of the revolution that brought conservative Republicans to power in Washington, reports The New York Times.

As the rhetoric of the Contract With America begins to be translated into real legislation - particularly plans to overhaul a variety of social programs that would have a significant impact on the region - many Democratic politicians are playing on the public's uneasiness with radical change.

Republican candidates, whether or not their offices have anything to do with Medicaid or welfare, are finding themselves defending proposals in Washington which may never become law.

The effects are most visible in New Jersey, where a radio advertisement for two Democratic candidates for the Gener-

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Lubbock, Texas

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

It's not very often that we publish guest commentaries.

Mainly because very few people bother to take pen in hand and write down what they always gripe about.

I received the following article this

week via fax and surprisingly it was a topic that I had hoped to address in this column. The writer says all that needs to be said and saved me a little time.

Private or Public Employees? Who is best for Government Jobs?

by Josue Murillo

The privatization revolution has begun. City officials across the country have taken on a mission to cut back expenses and the quickest and easiest way they have found is to privatize government jobs. To privatize is to allow private companies to do a job that city employees now do, supposedly by cutting some of the fat off the city budget while also improving services. The public sometimes feels that because city employees have job security, they tend to do a less than an adequate job in comparison to someone in the private sector. Published articles and books have supported the idea of privatization, stating that it is time to break the monopoly that cities hold on jobs, and allow the best bid from private companies to obtain them. The concept is fairly new and the evidence is not quite clear. The issue is unclear because analysis by other researchers (R. Miranda and A. Lerner 1995.) have found that "If there exists an idea common to both privatization theory and evidence, it is that a simple transfer of a service from a public monopoly to a private one is unlikely to yield improvements in either service quality or cost." This statement in simple English means that it is too early to establish that the private sector can do the job better and cheaper than city employees. The privatizing of city jobs will cause hundreds of families here in Lubbock to have to look elsewhere to help replace money they have lost. Sixty five individuals will have to look for

Continued Page 3

Budget Cuts to Hurt Hispanics

By Patricia Guadalupe

The so-called "Republican revolution" in Congress has been moving with such speed that the nation's 30 million Hispanics have yet to gain a clear picture of how the inevitable slashes in the federal budget will affect them.

English-language media prefer to talk about the political games being played and the revolution's impact on other groups. Most Hispanic members of Congress readily tell those who'll listen that the sweeping budget cuts approved in party-line votes Oct. 26-27 by both chambers could devastate a majority of U.S. Latinos.

"These vicious cuts proposed by Republicans will help pay for their 'crown jewel', a tax cut for the wealthiest," contends Rep. José Serrano (D-N.Y.) Adds Esteban Torres (D-Calif.), "It's a disaster. It hits a broad sector of the population, especially the children and older Americans."

The Budget Reconciliation Act, as both bills are now known, mandates a balanced budget by the year 2002 through wide-ranging cuts in social programs, including education, welfare and Medicare. Over the next seven years, they could amount to \$900 billion.

A House/Senate bipartisan conference committee is resolving differences in the chambers' proposals before sending the bill on to President Clinton. Clinton has said he will veto the measure if "these Draconian...cuts" are not reduced.

Elimination of the Earned Income Tax Credit, which provides low-income working families with tax refunds, is one provision that will cost

many Hispanics dearly. Last year, 26.3 percent of Hispanic households nationwide received EITC credits, making the Latino community one of the top beneficiaries of the program.

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, a cut in the EITC would force taxpayers earning less than \$30,000 to pay higher taxes, while households with incomes above \$350,000 would receive a refund through tax cuts averaging \$5,626.

National Council of La Raza President Raúl Yzaguirre says, "Congress is reducing the deficit by raising taxes on working families with lower incomes and cutting the taxes of families with higher incomes. That's not fair."

The budget proposal transforms both the Medicaid program for senior citizens and welfare for the poor from federally run programs to block grants issued to the states to use as they see fit. Over the next seven years, Medicaid could be cut by \$182 billion and Medicare by \$270 billion.

Warns Jane Delgado, president of the Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Services Organizations, "Many don't realize that this will actually make it more expensive to administer because the states will now have to set up the programs. It could also mean disproportionate health services depending on where you live."

Medicaid would be replaced with "MediGrants" for states to administer locally run health care assistance programs.

"Not only are these programs severely cut, but they no longer will be considered entitlements," states Rep. Xavier Becerra. "In effect, we're (the government) saying, 'You can't count on us.'"

Other proposed cuts include: \$17.6 billion from the Supplemental Social Security program and \$28 billion from Aid To Families With Dependent Children and other nutrition programs.

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Los Estados Unidos No Son Quebec...Mr. Gingrich

Por Victor Landa

En primer lugar, esto no es el Canadá. En segundo lugar, no somos quebecanos. En tercer lugar, la votación reciente acerca de la secesión en Quebec, en sus raíces, tuvo poco que ver con el bilingüismo.

El comentario del Presidente de la Cámara de Representantes, Newt Gingrich, sobre los peligros del bilingüismo a la luz de los acontecimientos del Canadá tiene más que ver con la España del siglo XV que con los Estados Unidos del Siglo XX. Fue durante el reinado de Isabel y Fernando, los Reyes Católicos, que se acuñó la frase "ver moros en la costa", que significación ver algún peligro donde no hay ninguno.

El Sr. Gingrich está "viendo quebecanos en la frontera", pero no hay ninguno. El peligro verdadero acerca del bilingüismo ya está dentro de nuestra frontera. Está en el modo de que insistimos en limitar nuestro punto de vista de lo que esta nación puede ser. El peligro real consiste en convertir al bilingüismo en un demonio, y con eso convertir en demonios a todos los que quieren hablar algún idioma que no sea el inglés.

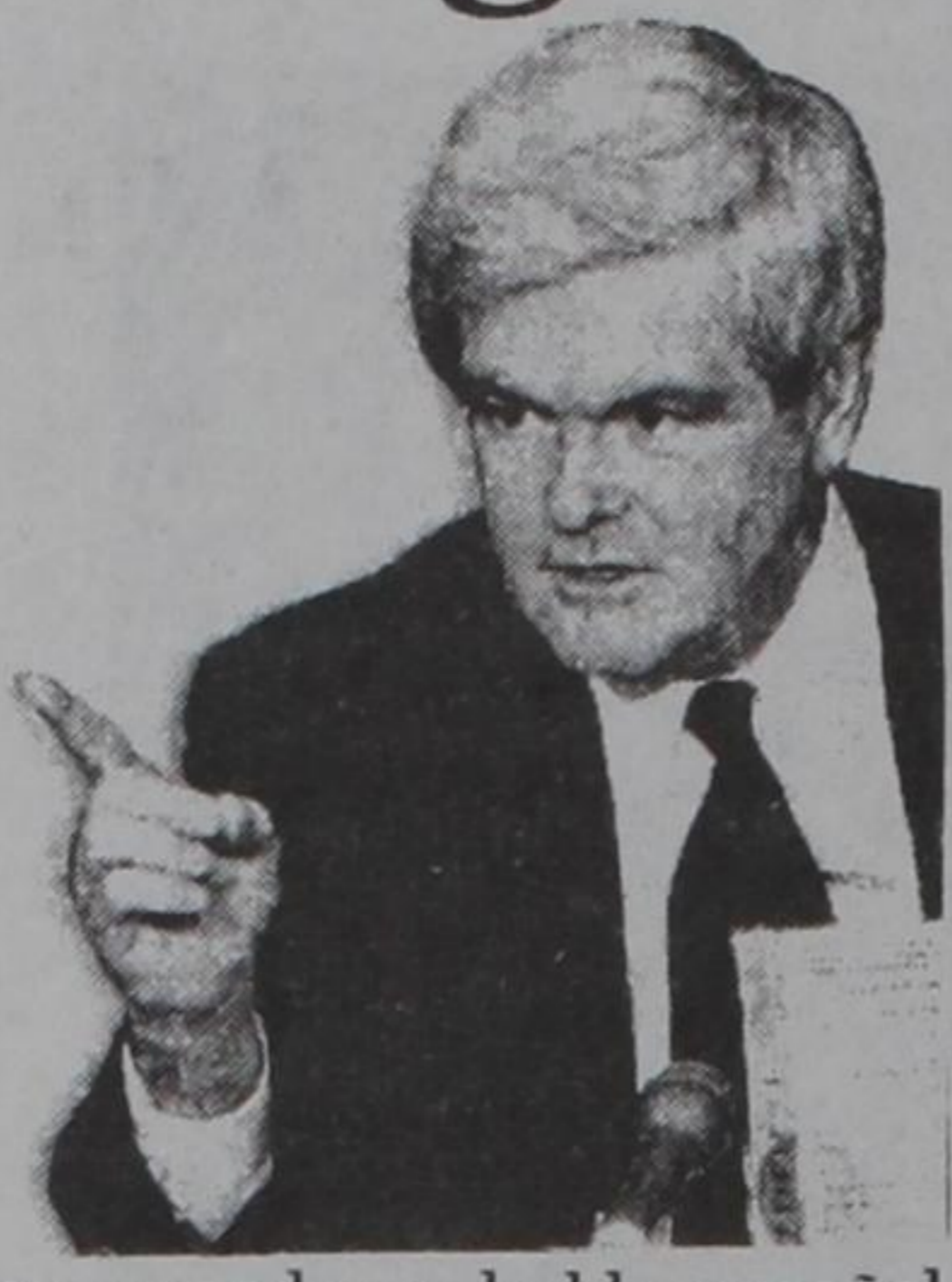
Hemos oído los argumentos

muchas veces. Estos son los Estados Unidos, dicen ellos, y aquí hablamos inglés. Y si empezamos a hablar más idiomas, muy pronto se disolverá nuestra unión y los Estados Unidos se desbaratarán por las costuras. Lo que se necesita es un idioma oficial común que nos una y nos fortalezca. Sólo miren a lo que está sucediendo en el Canadá. ¡Dios mío!

Pero la verdad, en cualquier idioma, es que los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica no están en peligro alguno de desbaratarse, al menos no por razón del bilingüismo. La verdad es que si el Sr. Gingrich y todos los que piensan como él aprendieran un segundo idioma, ellos comprenderían que los que hablamos un idioma distinto no estamos planeando ninguna separación. Y si entendieran esto, no tendrían miedo de nosotros.

La verdad es que lo que separa a un pueblo no es el multiculturalismo; es la falta de respeto. La verdad es que si los quebecanos hablaran inglés, su indignación no se habría desvanecido, y la votación habría ocurrido de todos modos.

La verdad es que no hay moros en la costa. La verdad es



que, cuando yo hablo español, no lo hago en murmullos, ni en esquinas oscuras, complotando en contra de aquéllos de quienes yo sé que no me comprenden. La verdad es que mi idioma me define, y soy un estadounidense. Y la certidumbre dentro de esta verdad es que cualquiera que me falte al respeto debido a mi cultura y a mi idioma/idiomas, le falta al respeto a la posibilidad de lo que tengo que ofrecer a mi país.

Cuando el bilingüismo y el multiculturalismo son afectados por la política de un modo que atemoriza, entonces se está engañando a todo el país, se le está faltando al respeto y dividiéndolo.

Lo que ha sucedido en Quebec es el legado de la falta de respeto y, sí, de la opresión, no del bilingüismo.

Las boletas electorales bilingües amplían a la democracia porque brindan a más electores la oportunidad de hacer una selección inteligente y porque aseguran el derecho al sufragio.

La enseñanza bilingüe asegura la calidad de nuestro futuro porque se atreve a preparar a una fuerza de trabajo instruida de un modo que aprovecha la ventaja del idioma y la cultura, no de un modo que las asfixia.

Lo que el Sr. Gingrich debería comprender es que el bilingüismo y el multiculturalismo tratan del respeto, y que el respeto es una de las principales columnas de apoyo de nuestra unión. Lo que él debería comprender es que el plan de usar al bilingüismo como tema político en las elecciones nacionales venideras es transparente y divisionista.

"No hay moros en la costa." Esto no es el Canadá, no somos quebecanos y las culturas y los idiomas no nos dividirán. Lo que si nos dividirá es la falta de respeto.

(Victor Landa es director de información de KVDA-TV, afiliada de la cadena Telemundo en San Antonio, Texas. Los comentarios de los lectores pueden enviarse a cargo de Hispanic Link News Service, 1420 "N" St. NW., Washington, DC. 20005.)

The United States is Not QuebecMr. Gingrich

By Victor Landa

In the first place, this isn't Canada. In the second place, we are not Quebecois. In the third place, the recent vote over secession in Quebec, at its root, had little to do with bilingualism.

House speaker Newt Gingrich comments about dangers of bilingualism in light of the events in Canada have more to do with 15th century Spain than they do with 20th century America. It was during the reign of Isabel and Ferdinand, the Catholic monarchs, that the phrase "Ver Moros en la costa" was coined. "Ver Moros en la costa" translates literally "to see Moors on the coast", but it carries the meaning of seeing danger where there is none.

Mr. Gingrich is "viendo Quebecois en la frontera" (seeing Quebecois on the border), but there aren't any. The real danger about bilingualism is already inside our border; it's in the way we insist on limiting our view of what this nation can be. The real danger is in demonizing bilingualism, and with it demonizing all those who would speak a language other than English.

We've heard the arguments many times. This is America, they say, and in America we speak English. And if we start speaking more languages pretty soon our union will dissolve, America will come apart at the seams. What's needed is one common, official language that will unite us and strengthen us. Just look at what's happening in Canada.

But the truth, in any language, is the United States of America is in no danger of coming apart, at least not because of bilingualism. The truth is that if Mr. Gingrich, and all those who believe as he does, were to learn a second language, they would understand that those who speak a different tongue aren't planning a secession. And if they understood this, they wouldn't be afraid of us.

The truth is that what tears a people apart isn't multiculturalism; it's lack of respect. The truth is that if the Quebecois spoke English, their indignation would not have vanished, and the vote would have happened anyway.

The truth is that there are no Moors on the coast. The truth is that when I speak Spanish, I

don't do it in whispers, in dark corners, plotting against those who I know don't understand me. The truth is that my language defines me and I am American. And the certainly within this truth is that anyone who would disrespect me because of my culture and my language (languages) disrespect the potential of what I have to offer to my country.

When bilingualism and multiculturalism are politicized in a way that frightens, then the entire country is being deceived, disrespected and divided.

What happen in Quebec is the legacy of disrespect, and

yes, of oppression, not of bilingualism.

Bilingual ballots expand democracy because they offer more voters the opportunity to make an intelligent choice and because they ensure the right of suffrage. Bilingual education ensures the quality of our future because it dares to prepare an educated work force in a way that takes advantage of language and culture, not in a way that stifles it.

What Mr. Gingrich should understand is that bilingualism and multiculturalism are about respect, and that respect is one of the principle

columns of support of our union. What he should understand is that the plan to use bilingualism as a political litmus test in the upcoming national elections is transparent and divisive.

"No hay Moros en la costa." This is not Canada, we are not Quebecois, and cultures and languages will not divide us. What will divide us is a lack of respect.

(Victor Landa is news director at KVDA-TV, The Telemundo affiliate in San Antonio, Texas. Readers' comments may be sent to him care of Hispanic Link News Service, 1420 N St. NW., Washington, D.C. 20005.)

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Unlikely Allies Battle Anti-Immigration

As Congress considers today some of the most severe anti-immigration measures since the 1920s, it is facing resistance from a surprising alliance of high-tech manufacturers, religious leaders, conservative think tanks, civil liberties organizations and tiny, grass-roots immigrant groups, reports The New York Times. In June, President Clinton endorsed a recommendation of the Federal Commission on Immigration Reform to cut legal immigration by one-third.

"Most of these groups have never worked together before," said Rick Swartz, a lawyer who started the National Immigration Forum and is instrumental in the current coalition. "Some of them may have found this difficult to imagine a year ago."

From Microsoft, which is fighting limitations on visas for foreign computer scientists, to the Roman Catholic Church, which is battling for the rights of political refugees, the coalition is giving some heft to the loosely organized opposition by immigrants, who belatedly realized that the mood of the country had turned against them.

It is a loose alliance, and each group has its own concerns with the Omnibus Immigration Bill, which is to be taken up by the House Judiciary Committee today, as well as with similar proposals in the Senate. The diversity of the opposition reflects the

broad sweep of the various congressional proposals, which began as an attack on undocumented immigration and were broadened to restrict legal immigration as well.

Manufacturers, insistent that they need foreigners with special skills to remain competitive, oppose attempts to limit visas used by U.S. companies to hire foreign engineers, computer programmers and scientists. Ethnic groups in cities across the country denounce a proposal that would cut the annual level of legal immigration by 30 percent and restrict their rights to bring their foreign relatives here. Church organizations and immigration lawyers oppose pending cuts in the number of refugees and the rights of people seeking political asylum.

And a proposed national computer system to enable employers to check the legal status of prospective workers has drawn opposition both from civil liberties groups, who fear it would lead to discrimination, and from anti-regulation libertarians and business groups, who see it as an expensive and invasive growth of government.

These groups do not speak with a single voice, nor do they have a single agenda. But opponents of the new restrictions seem to have pushed the Judiciary Committee to consider splitting the omnibus bill into two, one focusing on undocumented immigra-

tion and the other on legal.

Representatives have been lobbied from all sides. Both the Massachusetts Immigration and Refugee Advocacy Coalition and the Reebok Shoe Co. have lobbied Rep. Barney Frank, a Democrat of Massachusetts who serves on the Judiciary Committee. The National Association of Manufacturers, Intel and the Cato Institute, a conservative study group in Washington, have lobbied Rep. Lamar Smith, a Republican of Texas whose legislation contains the strong restrictions.

The strength of the activism by immigrants and business leaders was demonstrated last month when, on one day, about 300 immigrants went to Washington to lobby members of Congress against restricting the immigration of family members. The next day, representatives of 65 companies organized by the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Immigration Lawyers Association showed up to make similar arguments against imposing restrictions on visas for skilled and professional workers.

Microsoft disputes the contention that foreign workers were taking corporate jobs from Americans. They say 25 percent of their job openings last year - about 1,000 positions - remained vacant because qualified people could not be found, either here or abroad.



Sittin' Here Thinkin'

It Can't Hurt

By Ira Cutler

We seem to have stopped doing things because they are kind, or fair, or the decent thing to do. Somewhere along the way advocates for social programs started being expected to go beyond designing programs that simply meet people's needs. Today, they are expected to predict the long and short term outcomes of their efforts, and to produce a level of cost-avoidance that makes the program at least pay for itself.

For example, it is not enough today to run a youth program that kids enjoy and that their parents think is good for them. In addition, the pressure is on to show that the program reduces crime, or drug abuse, or teen pregnancy, and as a result its costs are more than offset by future public savings. It is as though we do not see the value in providing children with clean, safe, fun places to play and grow unless we can show that the expenditure will make them less likely to kill or rob the rest of us. The silly extension of this logic, I suppose, is to only provide these services to kids who can demonstrate a high degree of criminal leanings.

The easy explanation for this hardball, business-like approach is that our society has become cold-hearted and tight-fisted and no longer wants to be kind or helpful. I believe that is to some extent true. But another part of the story is that we, the actors in the social policy field, helped to create this expectation by pretending that it was really possible to measure long term and discrete results. In order to justify funding for programs, or for this program rather than that, we created a lot of pseudo-science and claimed that we could prove things at a much higher degree of certainty than is true. The result is a system in which we now cannot admit that evidence is scant and shaky and we have to continue to pump up expectations about our ability to measure success. In a very telling moment, advocates got Headstart funded at enormously higher levels by suggesting that there was scientific evidence that it "worked". In doing so, they raised the standard of proof for funding everything else.

Just among us, let's admit that there is a world of difference between what we know and what we believe. Let's closely examine the notion that we can precisely measure the long term impact of progressive social interventions. The truth is that we really know very little about why Johnny becomes a killer while his brother Billy becomes a dentist. But while we may not be able to really prove that playing Little League baseball will keep Johnny from a life of crime, we do know that he will not be committing crimes during the time he is playing second base and that, whatever else playing ball might do, it can't hurt.

Most people believe that recreation contributes to the development of character and that kids learn valuable social skills in after-school activities. We know that playing ball is fun and believe that all kids should have an opportunity to have fun, as a privilege of being members of the richest society in the world. We know that well-to-do and middle class kids have a good deal of access to sports, recreation, and entertainment of all sorts and that, as parents, we would not have it any other way. But we also know that these resources are scarce in low income neighborhoods. Shouldn't that be a convincing enough argument to garner support for publicly funded after-school programs that are of high quality?

Despite the presence of a large and vibrant program evaluation industry, trying to prove "what works" leads to a dizzying and complex world of cause and effect, participant selection, control groups, Hawthorn effects, losing track of participants over time, margins of error, and inevitable informed guessing. Ironically, this enormous effort and expense is often intended to prove things that are already generally believed. Common sense says that kids do better in smaller classes with teachers who care about them, and that having positive things to do like sports and recreation is good for them, and that services over a long period of time is better than brief services, but we spend millions trying to prove these and other equally obvious propositions.

These things are generally believed, not because of studies that have been done, but because they make sense and square with the public's own reality and experience. In similar fashion, the public supports prisons and longer prison sentences because no amount of research will ever shake the idea that they are more safe with criminals locked up than on the streets.

We are getting gamed here and should recognize it. American public policy is based on people's common sense ideas about what is good, fair or valuable, not about the results of research or program evaluation. Billions of public dollars are spent annually in support of the belief that home ownership is a fundamentally good thing that enhances family strength, pride, and community connectedness, and no one is asking for evidence to support this middle and upper class benefit.

Every day, in both our public and private lives, we act on faith and common sense, without scientific proof. We buy breakfast cereals based on commercials featuring gray haired men in lab coats, cross our fingers, knock on wood, fund Star Wars, and believe that there is a relationship between the federal deficit and the economy. Only when we are speaking about public benefits to poor people do we suddenly become a nation of science-driven decisionmakers.

In the long run, we might be better off owning up to the fact that the world is an imprecise place and that we cannot fully measure all that goes on. We should learn from the Pope, who in New York recently spoke out for caring, concern and generosity just because people are in need. It can't hurt.

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'.

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Editor/Publisher

Bidal Aguero

The Gala for the Hispanic Arts



Photos by Rudy Rascon



Photos by Ricardo Agüero

NEWS

OF YOUTH

Young Poet Expresses Her Gratitude



(NAPS)—This moving poem was written by Sheena Mills, a nine-year-old patient at the Greenville Unit of Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children, about her stay there:

"There is a special hospital in which you'd like to stay; The nurses and doctors treat you in a special way. They take a ray of sunshine and mix it with some hope;

So once you get through surgery you will know that you can cope. They're all so very different, and yet they're all alike; They have that extra something that erases all the fright. I am very thankful for all that they give; I know that it's a gift from above. I am only one in a million that knows— 'Shriners' really spells LOVE."

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Comentarios

another job: The loss of income is only half the story because families will also lose the benefits that were once offered to them by the city. The most important ones being medical, dental, and retirement benefits.

If these benefits are stripped who will these families turn to? The answer in all probability are the state and federal governments. The taxpayer will not only pick up a "bill" for current families in need, but also for "new" families which cannot afford medical and dental expenses. As for retirement benefits, there would be none. The question we must ask ourselves is "Does the ends justify an unproven mean?" I conclude it does not. We must reexamine the privatization policy in order to determine what will not only benefit Lubbock today, but what will best benefit Lubbock tomorrow.

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Lubbock Centro Aztlan wants to thank the following for their support of the arts in the Hispanic Gala.
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What can Lubbock Gain from the Sale of LP&L?

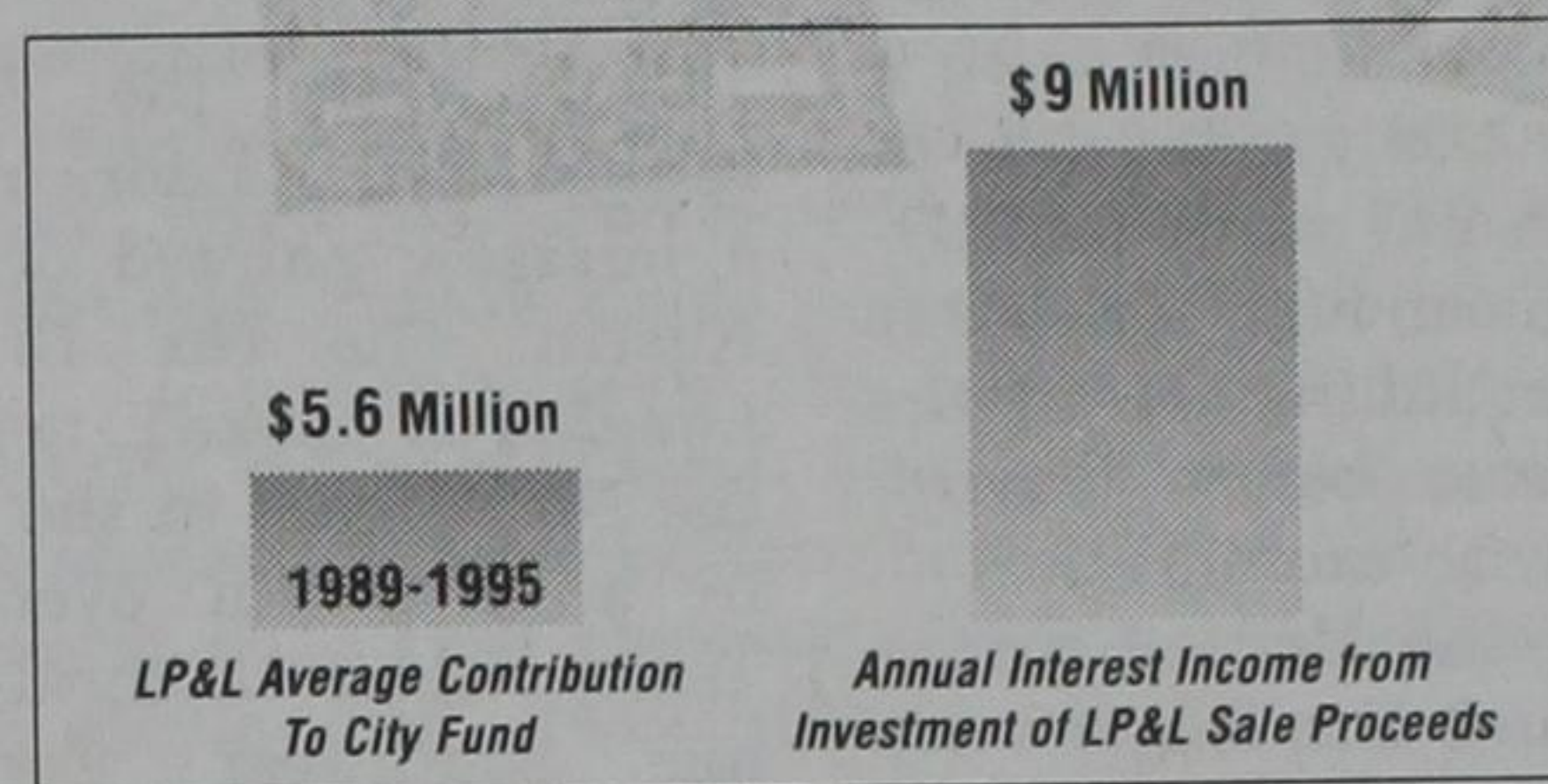
"\$11 million in new revenues"

Lubbock stands to gain increased revenues and economic development activities, without losing any level of service or the low electric rates you've come to expect.

Investing The Purchase Price Would Pay Big!

In addition to receiving **\$143 million** for LP&L, Lubbock would retain LP&L's \$35 million cash reserve. The city could pay off LP&L bonds and still have enough money to create a \$150 million interest-bearing trust fund.

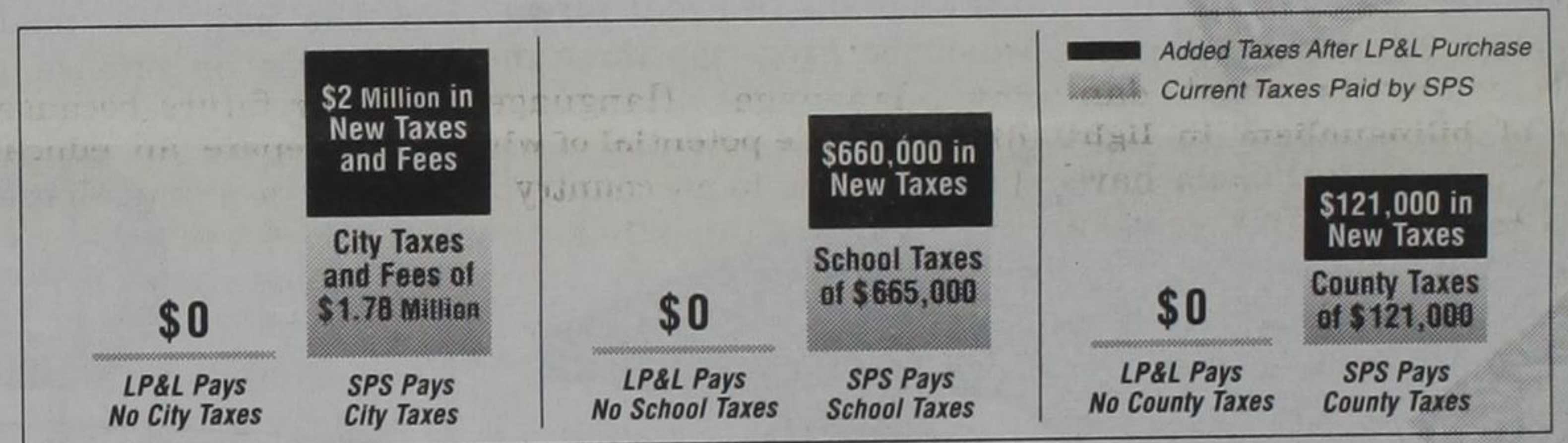
Even a nominal six percent return would net the city **\$9 million** in interest income each year. LP&L's average annual contribution to Lubbock's general fund over the last six years amounted to just \$5.6 million.



Taxes Paid By SPS Would Increase!

As a city-owned entity, LP&L pays no taxes.

As an investor-owned utility, SPS currently pays taxes and would pay even more taxes on property it would acquire when buying LP&L. The increased fees and taxes paid by SPS to the city, schools and county would stack up like this:



Texas Tech Would Receive A 20% Discount!

In compliance with new regulations, SPS would give Texas Tech University a 20 percent discount which cannot be recovered from other ratepayers. That discount would amount to a savings of about \$1.2 million annually for Tech.

An Economic Development Team Would Be Formed!

SPS would funnel about \$1 million normally spent on competition into creating an intensified economic development program for Lubbock.

SPS Electric Rates Will Remain Low!

SPS has dropped its electric rates 26 percent in the last eleven years! And not just in Lubbock, but in every community SPS serves — whether competition exists in that community or not.

SPS is making moves today to become even more efficient in its operations so that it can compete with a global marketplace that is quickly moving towards deregulation.

Ask For Your Right To Vote On This Issue!

In July, the Lubbock City Council appointed an independent citizens task force to study the sale of LP&L. They reviewed the facts, and recommended that the city council put the issue before the voters of Lubbock.

Soon, the city council will decide whether to follow the committee's recommendation.

You have a right to vote on this issue. Contact your city council member to make sure you have the opportunity.



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El Editor's LATEST **Deportes - Sports** LO MAS RECIENTE

Entertainment

Tech In Last SW Conference Game

"When you win, you forget it in about 10 minutes. But the agony of defeat will linger and linger if you let it." Texas Tech football coach Spike Dykes on getting ready for TCU after losing to Texas last week.

End of an Era: The Texas Tech Red Raiders (5-3, 2-2 in SWC) will host the TCU Horned Frogs (6-2, 3-1 in SWC) in the last Southwest Conference game in Lubbock Saturday. Kick off has been moved to 12:07 p.m. in order to be televised regionally by the Raycom TV Network. The Red Raiders will put an eight-game home winning streak and a school-record seven-game home SWC winning streak on the line. Tech's longest overall winning streak since entering the Southwest Conference in 1960 is 11 in 1973-74. It also will be the last home game for 15 seniors.

Thirty-five years of tradition: The Southwest Conference truly has served as a springboard for the Texas Tech athletic program. The Red Raiders have grown from fledgling program in the Border Conference to one of many heavyweights in the power-laden Big 12 Conference. In between are 35 years (1960-95) of Southwest Conference football that produced many exciting memories. Those come to an end in Lubbock Saturday in a run of 132 SWC games in Jones Stadium.

Last year Texas Tech's dream of winning the outright Southwest Conference championship came crashing to an end when TCU rallied in the last quarter to win 24-17. Tech, which clinched a tie for



the title the day before when Texas beat Baylor, was burned by 89 and 62-yard touchdown passes from Max Knake to Jimmy Oliver. Tony Rogers hit a key 41-yard field goal to tie the game 17-17 but the Frogs came right back with a seven-play, 69-yard drive to career-high 247 yards and Byron Hanspard had 108 yards rushing, including 94 in the third quarter before leaving the game with an injury.

Scouting the Horned Frogs: TCU features the league's top quarterback in Max Knake, who is on the verge of breaking into the SWC's Top 5 in the four major career passing categories. He completes 60 percent of his passes, the majority of which go to receiver John Washington. His 39 receptions this season is just one short of SWC leader Mike Adams of Texas. The Frogs have one of the nation's top kickers in Michael Reeder, who has nailed 15 of 16 field goal attempts this season and 26 of 31 in his two-year career. Two of the Frogs top three re-

ceivers (Chris Brasfield and Jason Tucker) are questionable with injuries, and star running back Andre Davis is sitting out his fourth and final game due to NCAA suspension.

Last week: the No. 23-ranked Red Raiders ran into a buzzsaw painted orange in Austin. The No. 13-ranked Longhorns looked more like the No. 1 team in the country in a 48-7 win over Texas Tech. Zebbie Lethridge saw his Southwest Conference record streak of pass attempts without an interception end at 211 when his third attempt was picked off in the first quarter. The Red Raiders, who were No. 4 in the nation in takeaways, could not prevent Texas from scoring 28 points off four Tech turnovers.

Spike on Texas Game: "Texas played extremely well. Give coach Mackovic credit. He had his team ready to play and I didn't. We just didn't play as well as we had in the past. We made some mistakes on offense and our

defense couldn't put pressure on them. It's tough to lose a game in which there is so much riding."

Spike on TCU Game: "TCU has proven they are a good team and they have a great quarterback in Max Knake. They might have the best offense in the Southwest Conference. They are still playing for a championship. We have a nice winning streak at home (eight) that will be at risk. When you have adversity you have to grow and improve. I think we will. I think we'll play good against TCU."

What seemed like a near-unreachable goal early in the year is within reach as Texas Tech looks to have one of the nation's largest attendance increases after the TCU game. The Red Raiders need a crowd of 41,641 to increase last year's attendance by 25 percent. That would average out to 40,040 per home game, well above last year's average 32,032.



Something to Smile About...Upward Bound volunteer Julio Arroyo stands with Lee Ann Perkins of Rhino Promotions to help present two free tickets to the upcoming Sinbad Comedy Concert in the Lubbock Auditorium on November 16th. Receiving the Sinbad tickets are Texas Tech Upward Bounders Mia Johnson and Chester Nesbitt. The tickets were awarded in recognition of the students' good attendance records.



El señor John H. Costello, vicepresidente ejecutivo superior de mercadeo de Sears, Roebuck and Co. (a la derecha), y el señor Gilbert Dávila, director de mercadeo para grupos étnicos de Sears (a la izquierda); compartieron el escenario con Gloria Estefan durante una conferencia de prensa efectuada en Miami Beach, Florida. En la presencia de los corresponsales de la prensa mundial, el señor Costello anunció el auspicio de Sears de la gira concierto "Evolution" de 1996 de la lanzadora Estefan. En el mismo evento también se celebró el lanzamiento del más nuevo álbum en español de Gloria, Abriendo Puertas.

Gloria Estefan presentará su concierto durante el mes de Julio en Dallas, Houston, San Antonio y El Paso.

El Editor

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Elderly Poor Hit Twice by Health Care Cuts

Numerous health care experts and advocates for the poor say that the financially pressed and often frail elderly, vulnerable to cuts in Medicare and Medicaid programs, will become the legislation's most affected victims, reports the Washington Post.

Studies have shown that nearly a million older Americans living in poverty stand to lose some of their health coverage if these changes become law.

"For them it's a double whammy," said Ron Pollack, executive director of Families U.S.A., an advocacy group. "They could lose Medicaid eligibility at a time when the Medicare expenses that Medicaid used to cover for them are going up.

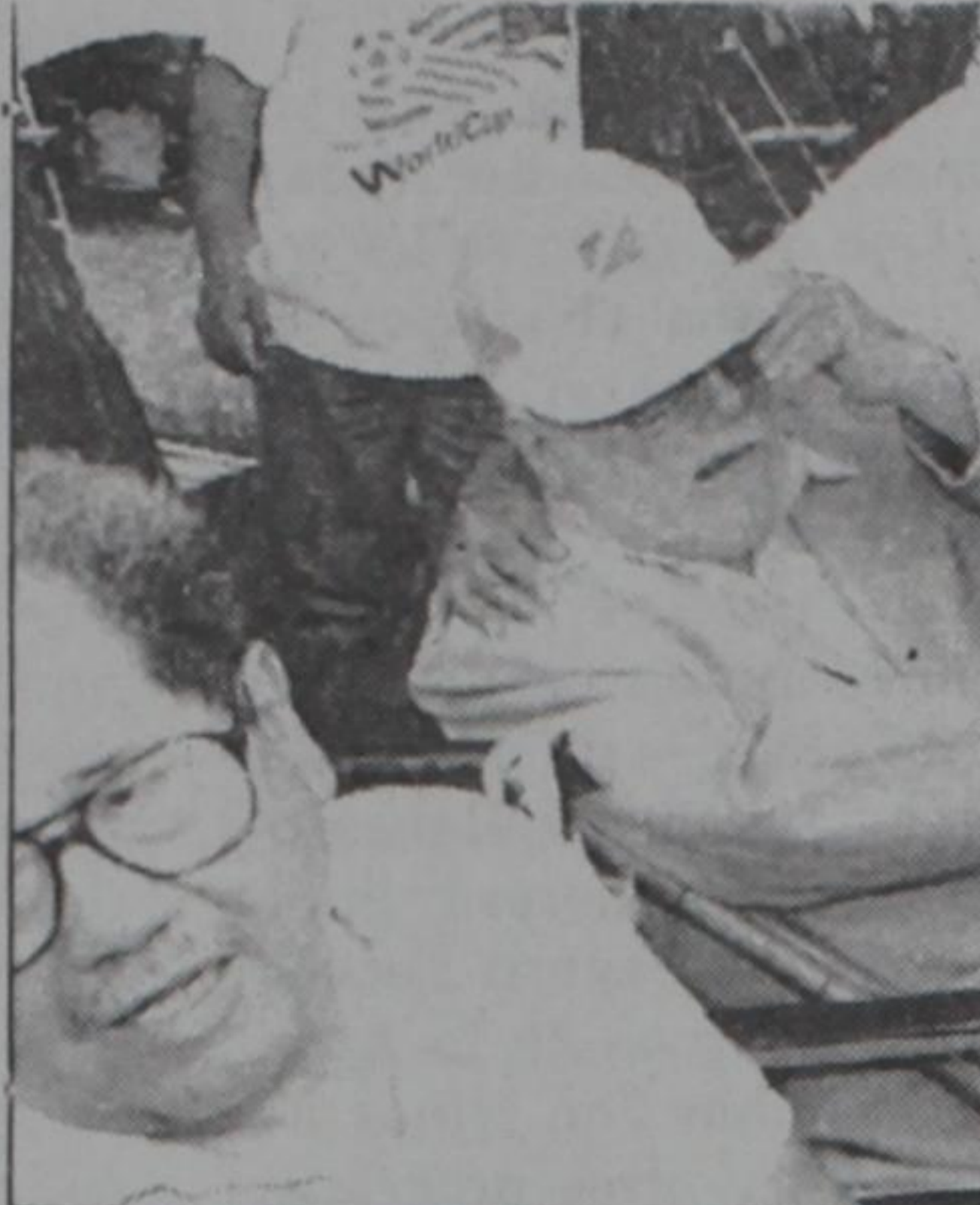
If they couldn't afford them before, how will they afford them now?"

Medicare pays for doctor visits, but premiums, co-payments to doctors and annual deductibles are now covered under a special Medicaid program. The program, the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary program, or QMB, has required since 1990 that states pay those Medicare costs for beneficiaries who are barely above the poverty line, which is about \$7,400 for a single person and about \$10,000 for a couple.

But neither program covers medi-

cine.

"I'm 80 years old and I'm barely making it," said Mrs. Irma Valentine, who volunteers time at the Self-Help Senior Center in Latimer Gardens, the public housing project where she lives, in exchange for warm meals. "I'm miserable and I'm scared. If they ask me to give up anymore, what would I take it away from? From nothing?" She does without arthritis pain killers and hemorrhoid medications because neither program covers those.



The Republican Medicare plan raises beneficiaries' co-

payments, deductibles and premiums and encourages them to join cost-saving managed care plans. By signing on for such a plan, the Republicans argue, older people with limited resources would no longer have to pay a portion of each doctor visit or a minimum amount before their benefits kicked in.

The Medicaid plan, meanwhile, ends mandatory benefits for the very poor and gives states fixed grants that they would decide how to divide among their neediest residents.

Whether states would put as much

money as the federal government now requires into covering gaps in the Medicare coverage for the elderly poor is very much an open question.

"Even if you had a combination of Mother Theresa and Albert Einstein administering these programs, the proposed cuts are so deep that needy people will lose eligibility," said Stan Dorn, managing attorney for the National Health Law Program, a public interest law center in Washington and Los Angeles that focuses on low income health issues.

Being forced to cut back on the medical attention they get, Dorn said, will have deadly consequences for the elderly poor. "The death certificate may say 'Cause of Death: Heart attack,'" he said. "But the real cause will be Medicaid and Medicare cuts."

A study by the Urban Institute, a Washington-based research group, found that even assuming that state governments achieve a higher level of cost efficiency in their managed care programs, nearly a million poor older Americans could lose their Medicaid eligibility in the next seven years.

Another report by Project HOPE, a Washington think-tank that studies health issues, found that nearly 60 percent of people eligible for Medi-

aid's QMB program did not receive benefits because they did not know about the program or did not realize they qualified.

Each state would decide who it con-

for example, at times and places that are inconvenient or inaccessible to the disabled.

The Republican plan does not require that all the poor elderly be covered.

What is more, advocates said, the Republican plan does not provide either a framework or a budget for monitoring the quality of managed care programs.

What Orpha Andrukite hears about the plans debated in Washington has not reassured her that the coverage she now gets is safe. If she does fall off the Medicaid rolls, she says, she might as well "fall off the face of the earth." She is 70, and after working more than 30 years a practical nurse, she now lives on \$484 a month in Social Security benefits and \$17 in food stamps in an apartment in southeast Washington.

Until now, she has been covered by Medicare, with Medicaid picking up her out-of-pocket expenses, including most of the costs of the seven prescriptions she takes for a variety of illnesses, among them diabetes, osteoarthritis and spasms. But if she is asked to spend any of her own money, she said, she will have to cut out the pills or the doctor visits.



Asociación Nacional de la Educación dice "No" a las Iniciativa de Inglés Solamente

La Asociación Nacional de la Educación dijo hoy a un sub-comité congresional que las iniciativas de legislación que piden el Inglés Solamente son una "forma de control del pensamiento y otra carga inadecuada que se coloca sobre los maestros y las escuelas.

"El Inglés Solamente da aliento a las fuerzas contrarias a los inmigrantes", afirma la NEA. "Estas fuerzas disfrazan al Inglés Solamente en la retórica de la unidad nacional, pero una ley federal, en verdad, pondría

en tela de juicio el patriotismo de los que todavía están aprendiendo inglés y los convertiría en extranjeros". Eso pone a las escuelas en una situación difícil -- dado que ellas enseñan los valores de la tolerancia y el respeto.

Ya se exige de los maestros que actúen como consejeros, enfermeros y trabajadores sociales -- además de enseñan los valores de la tolerancia y el respeto.

Ya se exige de los maestros que actúen como consejeros, enfermeros y trabajadores so-

ciales--además de enseñar. La añadidura del papel de "policía idiomática" los distiende aún más y denigra a su trabajo más crítico de instruir.

Una ley de Inglés Solamente hace difícil el que las escuelas preparen a los estudiantes para los empleos del futuro -- un futuro cargado de tecnología con oportunidades económicas que se extienden cada vez más allá de las fronteras de este país. La diversidad del idioma es un elemento clave de la capacidad

de los Estados Unidos para competir, señala la NEA. Tal ley es contraproducente para los intereses de los negocios o de la empresa privada.

Ampliando su disgusto para dichas propuestas, la NEA dice que dicha ley es intrusa para la "santidad e intimidad del hogar, donde la oración, los sueños y el amor familiar se manifiestan en el idioma natal de una persona".

En una declaración escrita presentada al Sub-Comité sobre la Niñez Temprana, la Juventud y las Familias, del Comité sobre Oportunidades Económicas y Educativas, la NEA dice que tales medidas, en su peor aspecto, descarrilarían la educación de muchos estudiantes, evitando su transición de los programas bilingües a las clases de la corriente principal. Una ley de Inglés Solamente resultaría en la clase de intrusión que llevó a un juez estatal de Texas a ordenar a una madre, en un caso de custodia de niños, a hablar sólo en inglés a su hija en la intimidad de su hogar".

La NEA dice que las propuestas de Inglés Solamente no se ajustan a la realidad. "Las personas que viven en los Estados Unidos comprenden y aceptan la importancia económica de saber inglés, y no necesitan de una ley para obligarles a aprenderlo. Un informe de 1990 de la Oficina del Censo indica que el 94 por ciento de los residentes de los Estados Unidos ya hablan inglés. Lo que está fuera de equilibrio, apunta la NEA, es que la demanda de oportunidades para aprender inglés sobrepasa con mucho a los servicios disponibles. Las listas de espera para la enseñanza del inglés tienen millares de nombres en lugares como Los Angeles y la

ciudad de Nueva York. Una ley de Inglés Solamente crearía obstáculos para aprender inglés, al eliminar la educación bilingüe y los programas de Inglés como Segundo Idioma (ESOL en inglés), dice la NEA.

La NEA cree que todos los estudiantes de las escuelas públicas de los Estados Unidos deben ser hábiles para hablar, leer y escribir el inglés. Pero los maestros, los padres,

las madres y las escuelas que trabajan juntos al nivel local están mejor capacitados para determinar que clase de aprendizaje debe ocurrir. Lo que hace una ley de Inglés Solamente es "usurpar las gestiones locales al involucrar al gobierno federal en las relaciones entre los maestros y los padres, los maestros y los estudiantes, y los padres con sus hijos.

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Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

N Jesús está a la puerta del corazón de cada uno de nosotros y nos está invitando a participar con El de Su nueva vida. Solamente espera que le abramos. El está llamando. Nunca va a forzar la puerta. Va a entrar hasta que cada uno le abra voluntariamente la puerta de su corazón. El ha estado allí otras veces. Escúchalo hoy. No endurezcas tu corazón. Invítalo a entrar. No vas a perder, sino, vas a ganar mucho.

Un famoso pintor estaba mostrándoles a sus alumnos su último cuadro, que acababa de terminar para que le dieran su opinión. Y, los alumnos comenzaron a decir: El contraste de colores es maravilloso. La composición es perfecta. El rosotro de Jesús parece que

está vivo. Todos hablaban de lo positivo. Pero de pronto uno de ellos dijo: Maestro, esa pintura tiene un gran defecto, porque la puerta no tiene cerradura...

Pero ese no es defecto, dijo el maestro... La puerta de la casa donde Jesús está tocando no se puede abrir por fuerza, sino, solamente por dentro. Por eso, no tiene cerradura...

Jesús no forza a nadie. Cada uno debe abrirle libremente. Ojalá que hoy escuches Su voz y que no endurezcas tu corazón. Hoy es el gran día que se te presenta. Abre la puerta de tu corazón. Hoy es el gran día que se te presenta. Abre la puerta de tu corazón a Jesucristo, que quiere entrar, e invítale a pasar hasta lo más profundo de tu ser.

Muchas veces has abierto tu corazón a tanta gente que te prometía felicidad. Dale una oportunidad a Jesús. No vas a perder nada, nomás esas tristezas, esos problemas y esas angustias que te hacen sufrir ahora y esas cadenas que te esclavizan. (Apocalipsis o Revelaciones 3,20).

Lo Que No Sabemos Los Hispanos Sobre Los Recortes al Presupuesto Les Perjudicara

Por Patricia Guadalupe

La llamada "revolución republicana" en el Congreso ha estado moviéndose con tal velocidad que los 30 millones de hispanos de la nación tienen aún que obtener una visión clara de cómo los recortes inevitables del presupuesto federal les afectarán.

Los medios informativos en inglés prefieren hablar sobre los juegos políticos que se están efectuando y el efecto de la revolución sobre otros grupos; la mayoría de los miembros hispanos del Congreso comentan que los recortes aprobados por voto mayoritario en los días 26 y 27 de octubre podrían devastar a una mayoría de los latinos de los Estados Unidos.

"Estas rebajas nocivas propuestas por los republicanos ayudarán a pagar por su mas importante programa, una rebaja de impuestos para los más ricos", dice sarcásticamente el Representante José Serrano (demócrata por Nueva York).

Y agrega el Representante Esteban Torres (demócrata por California): "Es un desastre. Esto afecta a un amplio sector de la población, especialmente a los niños y los residentes mayores de edad."

La Ley de Reconciliación del Presupuesto, como se conoce a ambos proyectos de ley, requiere un presupuesto balanceado para el año 2002 mediante recortes de amplio alcance en los programas sociales, incluyendo la educación, asistencia pública y Medicare. Durante los próximos siete años, podrían ascender a \$900,000 millones.

Un comité bipartidista de la Cámara y el Senado está actualmente resolviendo las diferencias en las propuestas antes de enviar el proyecto de ley al Presidente Clinton. Este ha dicho que vetará la medida si "estas rebajas draconianas" no se disminuyen.

La eliminación del Crédito Fiscal por Ingresos, que dispone reembolsos de impuestos a las familias de ingresos bajos es una medida que costará mucho para los hispanos. El año pasado, el 26.3% de familias hispanas del país recibieron este crédito, haciendo de la comunidad latina uno de los principales beneficiarios del programa.

Según la Agencia Presupuestaria Congressional, una organización no partidista, una rebaja de ese crédito sobre impuestos obligaría a los contribuyentes que ganan menos de \$30,000 a pagar impuestos más altos, mientras que las familias con ingresos por encima de \$350,000 recibirían un reembolso mediante rebajas de otros impuestos por promedio de \$5,626.

El presidente del Consejo Nacional de La Raza, Raúl Yzaguirre, dice: "El Congreso está disminuyendo el déficit al aumentar los impuestos a las familias que trabajan y tienen ingresos menores, y rebajar los impuestos de las familias con ingresos más elevados. Eso no es justo".

La propuesta presupuestaria transforma tanto el programa de Medicare para los ciudadanos de avanzada edad como la asistencia pública para los pobres, de programas administrados por el gobierno federal, a una entrega de fondos en bruto a los estados para que las usen como lo estimen adecuado. Durante los próximos siete años, el Medicaid se reduciría en \$182,000 millones y el Medicare en \$270,000 millones.

Y advierte Jane Delgado, presidente de la Coalición de Organizaciones Hispanas de Salud y Servicios Humanos: "Muchos no se dan cuenta de que esto será más costoso de administrar, porque los estados tendrán ahora que establecer los programas. Tam-

bién podría significar un cuidado desbalanceado de los servicios de salud, dependiendo de dónde uno viva".

El Medicaid sería reemplazado por "MediGrants" para que los estados administren programas de ayuda a nivel local.

"No sólo quedan estos programas gravemente rebajados, sino que ya no se les considerará como obligación del gobierno", dice el Representante Xavier Becerra. "En efecto, (el gobierno) está diciendo: 'Ustedes no pueden contar con nosotros'".

Otros recortes propuestos incluyen: "\$17,600 millones del programa de Ingreso Suplementario del Seguro Social y \$28,000 millones de la Ayuda a las Familias con Niños Dependientes y otros programas de nutrición.

El programa de subvenciones mediante comprobantes para ayudar con los alquileres para familias de bajos ingresos, conocido como Sección 8 y administrado por el Departamento Federal de Viviendas y Desarrollo Urbano se disminuye drásticamente dentro de la medida.

El proyecto de ley elimina el plan federal de Préstamos Directos a Estudiantes propuesto por Clinton, para que el gobierno federal expida préstamos a los estudiantes en vez de servir de garante de los establecimientos prestamistas.

También incluye un recorte a impuestos de \$245,000 millones, un crédito sobre impuestos federales de \$500 por niño, la eliminación de un período de gracia para los préstamos a universitarios y la suspensión del programa conocido como "Goals 2000" del Presidente Clinton que pretendía reformar el sistema educativo.

El apoyo federal a la enseñanza bilingüe sufrirá un recorte agudo. La Oficina de Enseñanza Bilingüe y la

de Asuntos de Idiomas Minoritarios dentro del Departamento Federal de Educación se eliminarían.

La ley elimina a través de los próximos 10 años la llamada Sección 936 del código federal de impuestos, que proporciona créditos sobre impuestos para compañías estadounidenses farmacéuticas y de alta tecnología con fábricas en Puerto Rico.

En gran medida, las funciones del Departamento Federal de Comercio se eliminan bajo la propuesta, y sus departamentos, incluyendo a la Agencia para el Desarrollo de Negocios Minoritarios, se consolidan bajo un sólo cuerpo independiente.

La Agencia gubernamental de Información (USIA por sus siglas en inglés), que administra a Radio Martí y Televisión Martí, quedaría dentro del Departamento de Estado, aunque TV-Martí recibiría más de \$100 millones para convertir su señal de VHF a UHF.

La propuesta para reforzar las sanciones económicas contra Cuba, conocida por "Ley de Libertad y Solidaridad Democrática de Cuba de 1995", aprobada por el Congreso estadounidense el mes pasado, también forma parte de la legislación presupuestaria.

(Patricia Guadalupe es la editora del semanario nacional Hispanic Link Weekly Report. El reportero Fernando Trulin IV, ayudó con la investigación de esta columna.)

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News Briefs

al Assembly opens with the sound of gunfire and an announcement that "Newt Gingrich is targeting Bergen County."

All 80 seats in the Assembly are up for election, and both national parties have put money into the races, which have cost a record \$7 million.

GOP Would Make Child Tax Credit Retroactive

Republicans are discussing making a proposed \$500-per-child tax credit at least partly retroactive to 1995, reports Associated Press.

Legislation passed by the House and Senate provide the tax break effective Jan. 1, 1996. But making it retroactive - possibly to Oct. 1, 1995 - would mean taxpayers would realize some benefit when they fill out their tax returns next April, at the beginning of the 1996 election year.

The proposal has political appeal because Republicans could trumpet the cut as an early benefit of their legislative program, before the impact of the spending cuts sinks in. The price tag for making the child credit retroactive to Jan. 1, 1995, is more than \$20 billion in the Senate bill, which would be less generous than the House-passed measure.

Working Poor Need Earned-Income Tax Credit

Tax relief for Jill Dotson and millions of other people who supplement slender paychecks with the Earned Income Tax Credit would be reduced or eliminated under Republican budget-balancing measures, reports Associated Press.

To buy her four boys Christmas presents and school clothes, Dotson lets some bills slide at the end of year, knowing she can count on her tax credit in the spring to catch up on her debts.

"I'll have to go looking for places that give away toys or something for kids," said Dotson, 38, who doesn't know how she would adjust to reduced aid. "I damn sure won't be able to have Christmas."

Under the current program, Dotson would receive more than \$1,800 for the 1996 tax season, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (HN0026), which analyzed her return. The Senate Republican plan would cut her credit to about \$1,450 in 1996, the center said, and over the measure's seven years, she'd lose a total of \$4,300.

The tax credit was created 20 years ago during the Ford administration and hailed by President Reagan as "the best anti-poverty, the best pro-family, the best job creation measure to come out of Congress."

Republicans said Dotson's 1996 tax credit would be slightly higher than the center's estimate, and that any difference in the earned income credit she receives could be offset by a \$500 per-child credit proposed by the GOP.

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AVISO
Latinos en el estado de Tejas han sufrido, en creciente, hostilidades e intimidación por sus empleadores por el uso del Español en el trabajo. Muchos negocios tambien han adoptado reglas que prohíben a los empleados hablar en Español en el trabajo.
El Título VII de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964 protege a las personas contra la discriminación en el empleo por razon de hablen Ingles exclusivamente durante horas de trabajo puede violar el Título VII, menos que el empleador demuestre que es necesario para el buen funcionamiento de su negocio. Segun las reglas de la Comision Federal de Igualdad de Oportunidades de Empleo (EEOC), para mostrar una necesidad de negocio, un empleador debe establecer que la regla es necesaria para un seguro y eficiente cumplimiento del trabajo.
El Fondo Mexicoamericano para la Defensa Legal y La Educación (MALDEF, siglas en Ingles) y el Proyecto de Derechos para Inmigrantes Reguiados del Comite de Abogados paa los Derechos Civiles son organizaciones que promueven y protegen los derechos civiles de los latinos que viven en los Estados Unidos.
Si usted siente que sus derechos estan siendo negados por las reglas de "solamente-ingles" en el trabajo, en violacion del Título VII de al ley de Derchos Civiles de 1964, por favor llame al (210) 224-5476 o 1-800-646-1237. MALDEF y el comite de Abogados para los Derechos Civiles quieren su asistencia para identificar estos violadores.

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