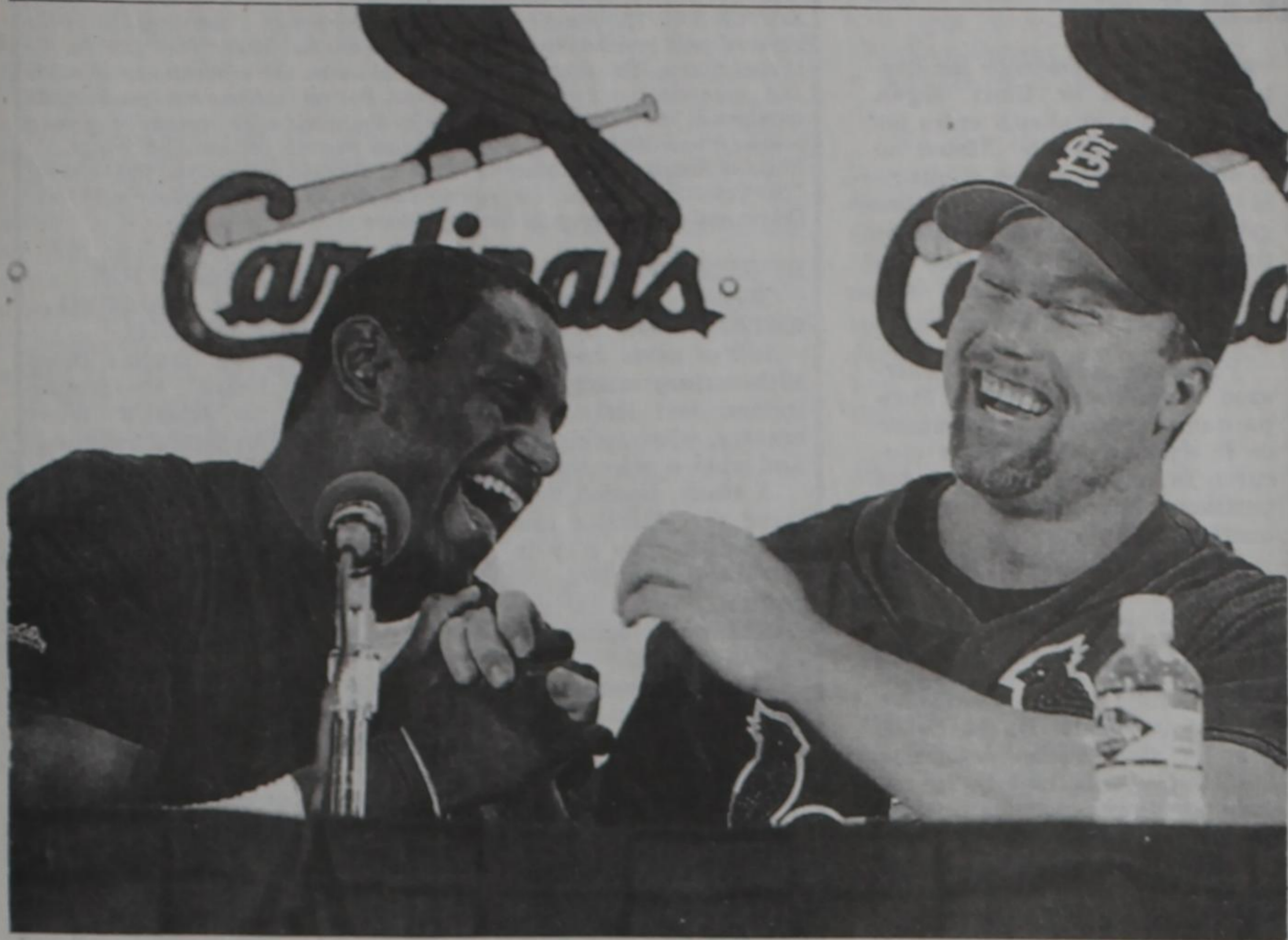


# Sosa- McGuire:



La carrera para ser el Rey de los Homeruns se intensificó el miércoles con Sammy Sosa pegando 2 para alcanzar a Mark McGuire quien antes estaban adelantado. Ahora se encuentran entablados con 65 cada uno con solo 3 o 4 juegos para terminar la temporada regular. (Ver historias en la pagina 5.)

# Tied At 65

(See Related Stories Page 5)

## News Briefs

### 1 in 3 Uninsured at Some Point

Nearly one in three Americans spent at least some time without health insurance over a 36-month period, the Census Bureau says in a new report. The analysis of health insurance in 1993-1995 found that 29 percent of the population, some 71.5 million people, lacked insurance for at least one month. Another 9.1 million people were uninsured for the whole period. Health insurance is often provided by employers, and the report noted that the people most likely to have continuous coverage were those who worked full time.

### Former Welfare Recipients Either Jobless or Still Poor

"Early Findings on Welfare and Well-Being," published by the National Coalition for the Homeless, and the Children's Defense Fund, reports disturbing results of welfare reform on families. The reports finds a large proportion of former welfare recipients have no work; among recipients who find work, the proportion receiving above-poverty wages is small and dwindling.

The study also found families who leave welfare increasingly cannot buy food or pay rent, homelessness has disproportionately increased among children, and appears to be concentrated among families who are former welfare recipients. A more complete report published in the near future will include additional findings on family well being and hardship, detailed recommendations, individual family's stories, and descriptions of positive practices by states.

The Census Bureau also recently issued its analysis of poverty in 1993-94 titled "Trap Door? Revolving Door? Or Both?" Among the findings of the report:

\* Approximately 40 million people were poor in 1994. This reflects an average monthly poverty rate of 15.4%. Only one-third of those who were poor in an average month of 1994 were poor for all of 1993 and 1994.

\* Children had the highest average monthly poverty rate 24.5 percent, episodic poverty rate of 32.4%, chronic poverty rate of 9.4%, and entry rate of 4.4% of any group.

\* Hispanics faced a higher risk of poverty but poverty was more likely to be transitory, while African-Americans faced a slightly lower risk of poverty but poverty was more likely to be persistent.

### Budget Group: "Wrong Time for Tax Cuts"

The \$80 billion tax cut bill passed by the House Ways and Means Committee last week is a bad idea that should be rejected when it reaches the floor of the House later this week. We simply can't afford these tax cuts at this time. President Clinton and House Ways and Means Democrats should be commended for their principled opposition to this fiscally unsound proposal.

We can't afford these tax cuts right now because:

(1) We Must Save Social Security: Nearly all of the budget surpluses over the next ten years are due to Social Security Trust Fund collections. Without these tax collections, our federal budget would still be in the red. Moreover, the Social Security Trust Fund is expected to go broke by the year 2032 if no action is taken between now and then to remedy long term shortfalls. We need to address these problems before we can even think about an across-the-board tax cut of any kind.

(2) We Must Address A Pending Nondefense Discretionary Spending Crisis: Nondefense discretionary (non-entitlement) spending -- that is, spending on everything from the environment to public housing, education, child care, health research, and criminal justice -- is expected to drop slowly but surely through 2002, when it will be about 5-15 percent lower than it is today, when adjusted for inflation. We need to address these shortfalls before we put tax cuts on the table.

(3) Taxes Have Already Been Cut And Are On a Downward Path: Finally, we don't need to cut taxes further right now because we have already done so. The 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton cut taxes by nearly \$100 billion over five years -- tax cuts that were paid for by deep cuts in spending on health care and other human needs programs. According to the Congressional Budget Office, even if Congress does nothing, as a share of the economy federal taxes are projected to fall slowly but surely over the next ten years, from 20.6% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in FY 1999 to 19.8% of GDP in 2008. Congress does not need to cut taxes even further.

### "Homeless Episodes" Prevalent Among Youth

As many as 1 in 13 adolescents in the U.S. is homeless for some period of time in the course of a year, researchers report in the September issue of the American Journal of Public Health.

In interviews with researchers, 7.6% of a nationwide sample of more than 6,000 adolescents said they had been homeless for at least one night during the preceding year.

"These findings suggest that youth homelessness is a national phenomenon that is much more common than is generally thought," write Dr. Christopher L. Ringwalt, of the Research Triangle Institute, in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, and colleagues.

Previous studies have suggested that homeless adolescents run an increased risk of medical problems, including infection with the AIDS virus and other diseases, drug and alcohol abuse, depression, prostitution, suicide attempts, and trauma.

"Many homeless youths have difficulty meeting basic needs, in large part because of the scarcity or inappropriateness of existing services and their lack of access to housing education systems, medical and mental health services and social welfare programs," Ringwalt and colleagues write.

To plan such programs, public health workers need data on the size and needs of homeless youths, the researchers point out. To estimate the extent of homelessness among adolescents in the US, they interviewed 6,496 youths, aged 12 to 17, who had been included in an earlier nationwide survey.

The researchers asked the youths whether they had spent one or more nights in homeless shelters, various other places not intended as dwellings, or areas where "their safety would be compromised," during the previous year.

About 3.3% of the adolescents interviewed said they had spent at least one night in a youth or adult shelter. Because data from US youth shelters suggests that fewer adolescents stay in shelters, however, this may be an overestimate, the researchers write. Another 2.2% of those interviewed said they had spent one or more nights in a public place, and an equal number said they had spent at least one night outside. About 1.1% reported spending at least one night with a stranger. Roughly 1% said they had spent one or more nights in an abandoned building, and 0.4% reported spending at least one night underground, the researchers report. Although the shelter figure may have been an overestimate, these rates appear to be "reasonable," the researchers report.

In general, boys were more likely to report having been homeless during the previous year than girls. But girls were more likely to report having spent at least one night with a stranger, according to Ringwalt and colleagues.

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

# EL EDITOR

Vol XXI No. 52

Week of September 24, to September 30, 1998

Lubbock, Texas

Established 1977 - Texas' Oldest Hispanic Owned Newspapers

## Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

David Gutiérrez officially announced for the position of Sheriff last week. David invited me to attend and I managed to get away for a few minutes from my scheduled fishing day. It was a hard decision but I've known David as well as his whole family for quite a while.

It was no surprise that most of those attending were Republicans with a few others including Chicanos in the minority.

It kind of surprised me in that more support wasn't shown by minorities. Granted that David is saying that he is a Republican but we all need to remember that:

**DAVID IS RUNNING AS AN INDEPENDENT.**

To me it would make sense for Democrats to support his candidacy with hopes of him opening his mind and eyes to seriously look and compare the Republican philosophy to that of Democrats.

Contrary to popular thought, a Democrat can win in Lubbock -- just look at John Montford -- just don't look too deep, you might see a real Republican sneaking out.

It won't surprise me that Democratic support -- mainly minorities -- will make the difference in who is elected to the Sheriff's position and it going to take some real soul searching and analysis by the Gutiérrez camp as to how he should run for re-election. Will the Republican support really be there?

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

The City Council was scheduled to name persons to serve on the Market Lubbock organization this Thursday, at press time, I found out that the persons nominated by the Victor Hernandez who would have probably been more representative of the minority community than any other nominated by the other Council members, were rejected for lack of a second.

Not to prejudice the persons appointed, but lately it seems that persons appointed to the most important City and County Boards have been persons working for someone else and consequently more apt to not really take into consideration the needs of minorities and most assuredly someone who does not live in our community.

Perhaps it's time to get to single member districts when considering these appointments. I know a good lawyer.

## Fiestas del Llano Tienen Exito

Mas de 5,000 personas participaron este año en el anual celebración de las Fiestas del Llano que se llevaron cabo este pasado fin de semana.

Las actividades incluyeron un desfile donde organizaciones y escuelas publicas participaron con sus elegantes carros alógicos que reflejaban el proposito de la celebración.

Entre uno de los mas participados y entretenidos presentaciones fue la "Extravaganza Mexicana que fue presentada por El Ballet Folklorico Aztlan de Lubbock quien logro traer a un Ballet y un Mariachi desde la Ciudad de Juarez y El Paso.

El Mariachi y Ballet Paso del Norte dirigido por el Maestro Rodolfo Hernandez dio una presentación de dos horas de programa con danzas Olmecas, de Puebla, Veracruz, Chihuahua, el tiempo de la Revolución y terminando con la tradicional "Jarabe Tapatiyo" de Jalisco.

El programa fue presentado con la ayuda de el Consejo de la Ciudad de Lubbock como recomendado por la Alianza de Art de Lubbock.

### Hispanic Arts Month Events

Friday Oct. 3

Johnny G's Birthday Bash  
Crystal's NightClub with 6 Tejano Bands. Free with Donations being accepted for scholarships.

Saturday, Oct. 4

Chicano/Latino Poetry and Art featuring local artists and poets at Park Tower, 27 & Ave. Q, 14th Floor. Presented by Lubbock Centro Aztlan with cooperation of Hair Designs by Phil



Fotos por John P. Cervantez

### David Gutierrez Anuncia Para Puesto de Sheriff

El esperado anuncio oficial de la candidatura de David Gutierrez para el puesto de Sheriff se llevo a cabo la semana pasada. Gutierrez dijo durante su proclamación que el estaba dedicado de pelear fuerte en contra de la crimen en el condado de Lubbock. El dijo que aun los programas del defunto Sheriff Sonny Keese eran buenos, se necesita poner mas énfasis en la comunicación y en otras areas.

Gutierrez sera candidato independiente de ambos partidos Democraticos y Republicano.



Fotos por John P. Cervantez



**Se Organizan Grupos Para Protestar**

**Contra Nuevo Plan De 'Braceros'**

Por Mario Obledo

Una coalición de organizaciones nacionales efectuó una cumbre nacional latina sobre la legislación referente a "trabajadores invitados" en Washington, DC., en este mes. Cerca de 100 personas, procedentes de 15 estados, se reunieron con poco tiempo de aviso previo para enfrentarse a ésta, la amenaza más reciente para el bienestar de los trabajadores agrícolas de la nación.

La reunión cumbre fue necesaria porque, el pasado 23 de julio último, el Senado de los Estados Unidos aprobó una enmienda a un proyecto de ley anual sobre gastos que permitiría el que ciertas industrias, especialmente las de la agricultura, importaran a una cantidad ilimitada de "trabajadores invitados" (braceros) a los Estados Unidos.

La historia muestra que el último programa de "braceros", instituido en el de-

cenio de 1940, funcionó contra los trabajadores estadounidenses. Los soslayó al favorecer a los trabajadores que eran poco más que servidores esclavizados, mientras que deprimía a los jornales de la industria. Los "braceros" se arriesgaban a ser deportados si trataban de cambiar de empleadores, sin que importara cuán faltos de escrúpulos o injustos pudieran ser sus jefes, o si pedían mejores jornales, el mejoramiento de las condiciones de trabajo, alojamientos decentes o protección contra los insecticidas.

El nuevo programa de "braceros" del Senado, de muchos modos, es peor que la versión del decenio de 1940. De ser aprobado, sancionaría un sistema de mano de obra más ajustado a las épocas medievales y recompensaría a los cultivadores por crear una escasez artificial de trabajadores. Muchos cultivadores pagan jornales y tienen condi-

ciones de trabajo tan miserables que pocos trabajadores estadounidenses ven al trabajo agrícola como una alternativa.

No hay escasez de trabajadores agrícolas. Cindy Hahamovitch, catedrática adjunta de historia en de William and Mary College, señaló este mes en el Washington Post: "Si realmente hubiera una verdadera escasez de mano de obra hoy, los salarios agrícolas estarían aumentando".

Un informe publicado en 1995 por la Comisión de los Estados Unidos sobre la Reforma de la Inmigración concluyó: "Si la disponibilidad de trabajadores agrícolas ilegales se secara mañana (o si los cultivadores decidieran cesar de contratar trabajadores ilegales), el suministro de trabajadores agrícolas autorizados para trabajar es amplio, aún en los meses de mayor demanda de la cosecha".

Esto quedó demostrado nue-

vamente en un informe de la Oficina General de Contabilidad en diciembre de 1997. "No existe ahora escasez de mano de obra agrícola y es improbable para el futuro predecible". El mismo señalaba que tantos como 600,000 "extranjeros ilegales" se hallaban efectuando trabajo agrícola en los Estados Unidos.

Al fomentar un nuevo proyecto de ley sobre "braceros" en este año, el Senador Slade Gorton (repúblicano por el estado de Washington) argumentó: "Tenemos una situación que hace de casi todos los empleadores agrícolas infractores de la ley en los Estados Unidos, que necesitan mano de obra sobre base estacional". Gorton sabe, los cultivadores saben y el Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización sabe que los trabajadores indocumentados son empleados ampliamente en la agricultura por todos los Estados Unidos.

Dichos trabajadores desplazan a los residentes legales de los Estados Unidos que desean emplearse pero que esperan condiciones de trabajo y jornales razonables.

Las palabras "extranjeros ilegales" adoptan una significación diferente durante la cosecha, cuando se convierten en "nuestros trabajadores hispanos". En la mayoría de los estados, el devolverlos a sus lugares de origen no es una alternativa entre el 1x de abril y el 1x de noviembre.

El caso es que la agricultura se ha convertido en un negocio agrícola porque los cultivadores han tenido un suministro continuo de mano de obra extranjera barata y fácilmente explotable a la cual prefieren reclutar, aún durante las épocas de alto desempleo de los trabajadores estadounidenses.

Hoy, durante un crecimiento económico sin precedentes en tiempo de paz, la mayoría de las zonas agrícolas de la nación se hallan "aflijidas" por tasas de dos cifras de desempleo entre los trabajadores legalmente autorizados para trabajar.

Es irrefutable que hay una población considerable de trabajadores indocumentados esparcida por todo el país. Sin embargo, éstos forman todavía una fracción minúscula de la fuerza de trabajo de los Estados Unidos, aún cuando los estimados sean tan altos como de 2 millones. Y no todos los trabajadores indocumentados se hallan empleados en la agricultura. Muchos de ellos trabajan en las industrias del vestido, del envasado de carnes, la avícola, en hoteles y moteles y otras, que descansan predominantemente en la mano de obra de menor habilidad. Los trabajadores indocumentados, si es que hacen algo, ha sido exacerbar el suministro excesivo de mano de obra que ha ocasionado el que los jornales permanezcan es-

tancados o hayan disminuido en ciertas industrias, más notablemente la agricultura.

En verdad podría haber casos aislados en que pudiera existir una escasez de trabajadores temporalmente. Pero generalmente son los empleadores quienes la producen.

Ese es el caso en Mattawa, estado de Washington, donde los negocios agrícolas han sembrado granjas fruteras a razón de 1,000 acres de una vez en los años recientes. Allí, el estado ha dejado de reglamentar el crecimiento o de exigir que se haga disponible la vivienda u otra infraestructura. Además, la industria de los negocios agrícolas se ha negado a adoptar prácticas modernas de reclutamiento y empleo.

El resultado ha sido que los trabajadores deben viajar desde 20 hasta 2,000 millas para trabajar en la ahora próspera Cuenca del Río Columbia. Millares de hombres, mujeres y niños están "arracimados como sardinas... seis y siete congestionados en remolques de 8 x 12 pies-DD, como lo observó hace poco el Gobernador Gary Locke. Otros millares viven bajo planchas de cartón, cocinan en fogatas al aire libre y se bañan con agua de río o de regadío no purificada.

Somos una nación mejor que eso. Debemos eliminar las propuestas sobre "braceros" como soluciones para los problemas complicados de inmigración y mano de obra. Es importante que hagamos saber esto ahora a nuestros representantes en el Congreso.

(Mario Obledo, de Sacramento, California, es presidente de la Coalición Nacional de Organizaciones Hispánicas. El prestó servicios como presidente de la Cumbre Nacional Latina sobre la Legislación de Trabajadores Invitados.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1998. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

**Groups Organize To Protest New Bracero Scheme**

By Mario Obledo

A coalition of leaders from state and national organizations held a Latino summit on "guest worker" legislation in Washington, D.C., this month. Nearly 100 of them from 15 states gathered on short notice to confront this latest threat to the well being of the nation's farmworkers.

The summit was necessary because on July 23 the United States Senate approved an amendment to an annual spending bill that would allow certain industries, predominantly agriculture, to import an unlimited number of "guest workers" (braceros) into the United States.

History shows that the last bracero program, instituted in the 1940s, hurt U.S. workers. It bypassed them in favor of workers who were little more than indentured servants, while depressing industry wages. Braceros risked deportation if they tried to change employers, no matter how ruthless or unfair their bosses might be, or if they asked for better wages, improved working conditions, decent living quarters or protection from pesticides.

The Senate's new bracero program, in many ways, is worse than the 1940s version. If approved, it would sanction a system of labor better suited to medieval times and reward growers for creating an artificial shortage of workers. Many growers provide such miserable wages and working conditions that few U.S. workers see agricultural labor as an option.

There is no shortage of farmworkers. Cindy Hahamovitch, associate professor of history at the College of William and Mary, pointed out in the Washington Post this month, "If there were truly a labor shortage today, farm wages would be rising."

A 1995 report issued by the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform concluded, "If the supply of illegal farmworkers dried up tomorrow (or if growers chose to quit hiring illegal workers), the supply of work-authorized farmworkers is ample, even in peak harvest months."

This was shown again in a December 1997 General Accounting Office report. It said, "A farm labor shortage does not now exist and is unlikely in the foreseeable future." It pointed to as many as 600,000 "illegal aliens" performing farm labor in the United States.

In promoting a new bracero bill this year, Sen. Slade Gorton (R-Wash.) argued, "We have a situation that makes a violator of the law out of almost every agricultural employer in the United States of America who need labor on a seasonal basis."

Gorton knows, the growers know, and the Immigration & Naturalization Service knows that undocumented workers are used widely in agriculture throughout the United States.

Such workers displace legal U.S. residents who want jobs, but they expect reasonable working conditions and wages. The words "illegal aliens" take on a different meaning during harvest when they become "our Hispanic workers." In most states, shipping them home is not an option between April 1-Nov. 1.

The point is, agriculture has become agribusiness because growers have had a steady supply of cheap, easily exploitable foreign labor whom they prefer to hire, even during times of high unemployment of U.S. workers. Today, during unprecedented peacetime economic growth, most major agricultural areas in the nation are "distressed" with double-digit rates of unemployment among authorized, legal workers.

That there is a sizable population of undocumented workers spread throughout the country is irrefutable. Yet they still make up a tiny fraction of the U.S. workforce, even if estimates go as high as 2 million. And not all undocumented workers are employed in agriculture. Many work in the garment, meat-packing, poultry, hotel/motel, and other industries which rely predominantly on less-skilled labor. The undocumented workers, if anything, exacerbate the labor oversupply that has caused wages to remain stagnant or to decline in certain industries, most notably agriculture.

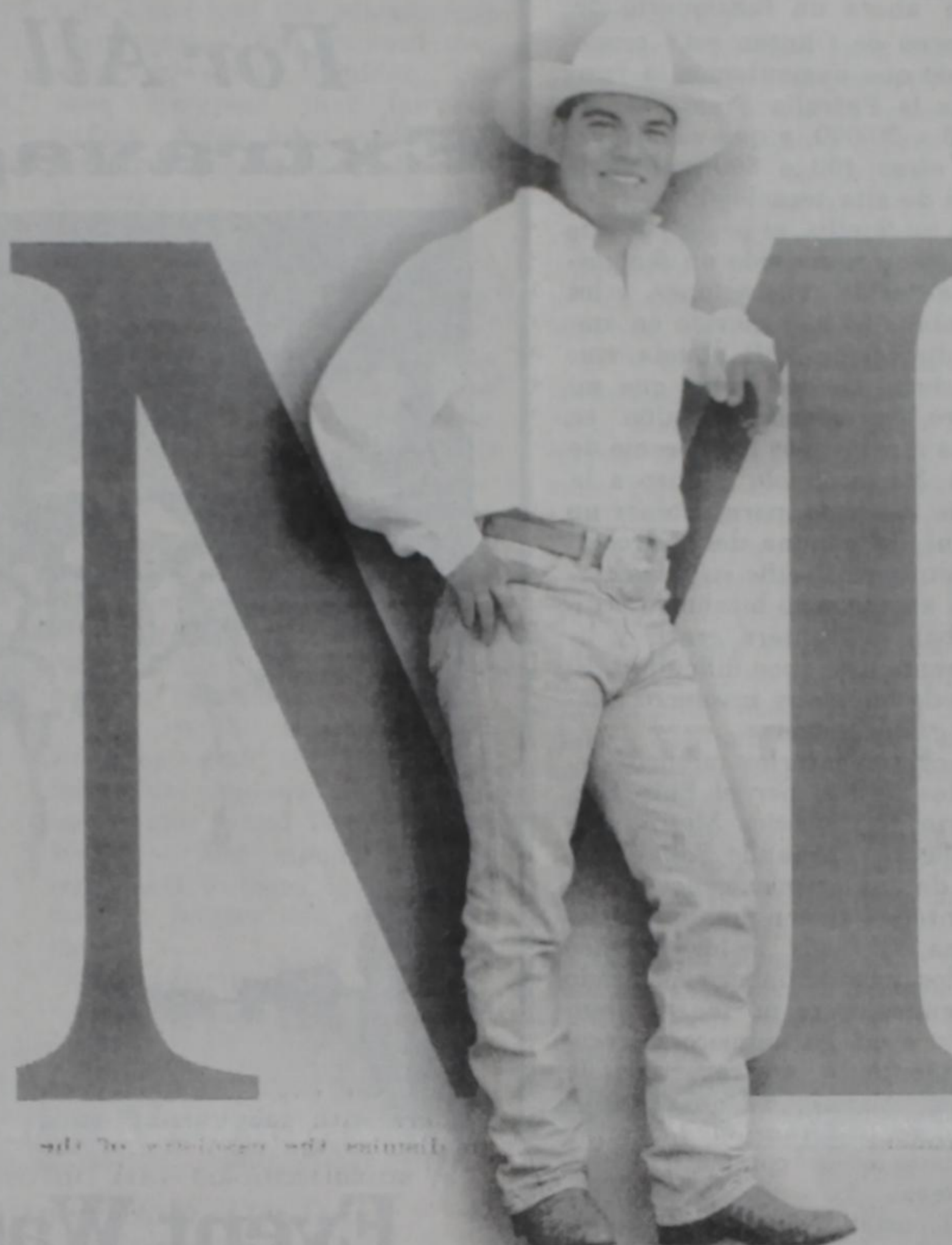
Certainly there might be isolated cases where a worker shortage could exist temporarily. But generally it is one of the employers' own making. Such is the case in Mattawa, Wash., where agribusiness has planted fruit orchards 1,000 acres at a time in recent years. There, the state has failed to regulate growth or require that housing and other infrastructure be made available. In addition, the agribusiness industry has refused to adopt modern recruitment and employment practices.

The result: workers travel from 20 miles to 2,000 miles ... to work in the now-prosperous Columbia River Basin. Thousands of men, women and children are "packed in like sardines ... six and seven crammed in 8-foot by 12-foot trailers," as Gov. Gary Locke recently observed. Thousands of others live under cardboard, cook over open-pit fires, and bathe with river or untreated irrigation water.

We are a better nation than that. We must reject bracero proposals as solutions to our country's complex immigration and labor problems. It is important that we let our representatives in Congress know this now.

(Mario Obledo of Sacramento, Calif., is president of the National Coalition of Hispanic Organizations. He served as chair of the National Latino Summit on Guest Worker Legislation.)

Copyright 1998, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate

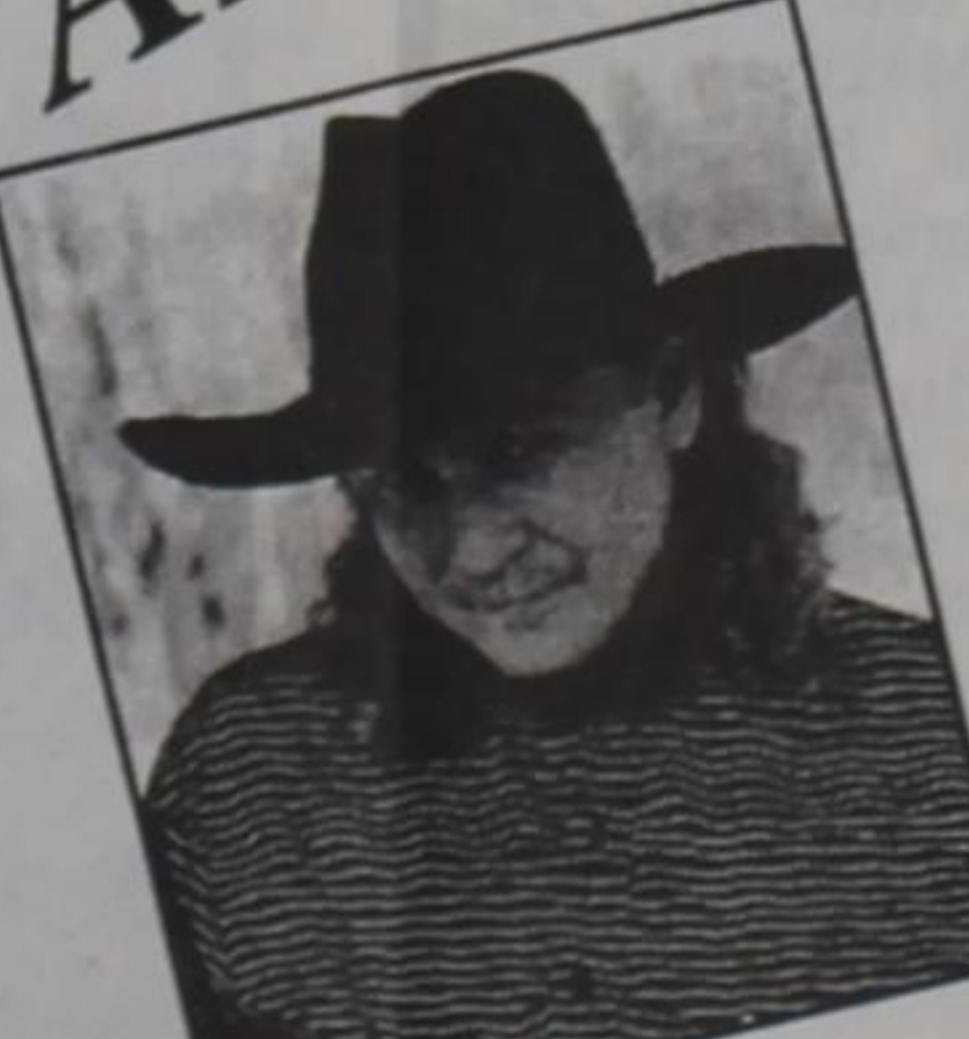


**Michael Salgado**  
At the  
**South Plains Fair**  
Listen to Magic 93 for  
More Info. on Tickets

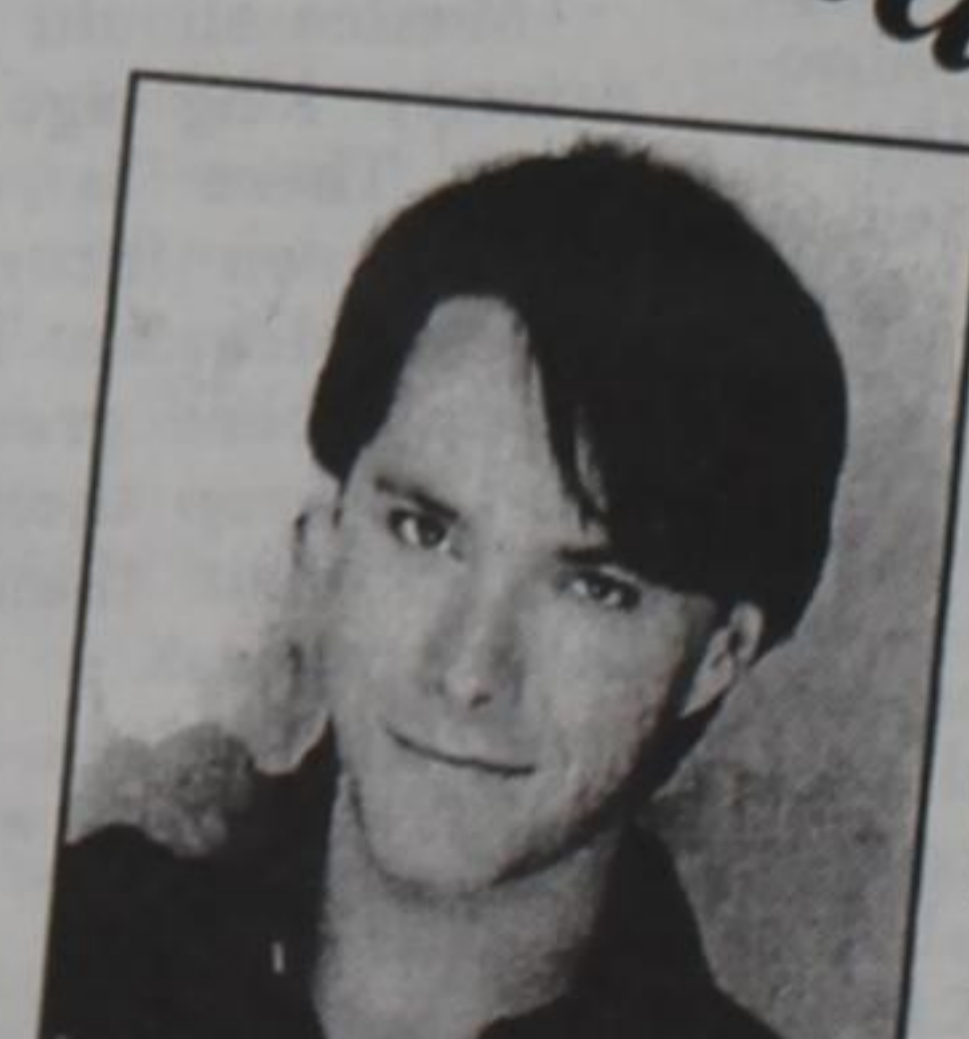
**Hispanic Heritage Month Events**  
Friday Oct. 3  
Johnny G's Birthday Bash  
Crystal's NightClub with 6  
Tejano Bands. Free with  
Donations being accepted for  
scholarships. Saturday. Oct. 4  
Chicano/Latino Poetry and  
Art featuring local artists and  
poets at Park Tower, 27 &  
Ave. Q, 14th Floor. Presented by  
Lubbock Centro Aztlan with  
cooperation of Hair Designs by Phil

**Sept. 26 - Oct. 3** **Y'All Come!**


**The 81st Annual Panhandle-South Plains Fair**



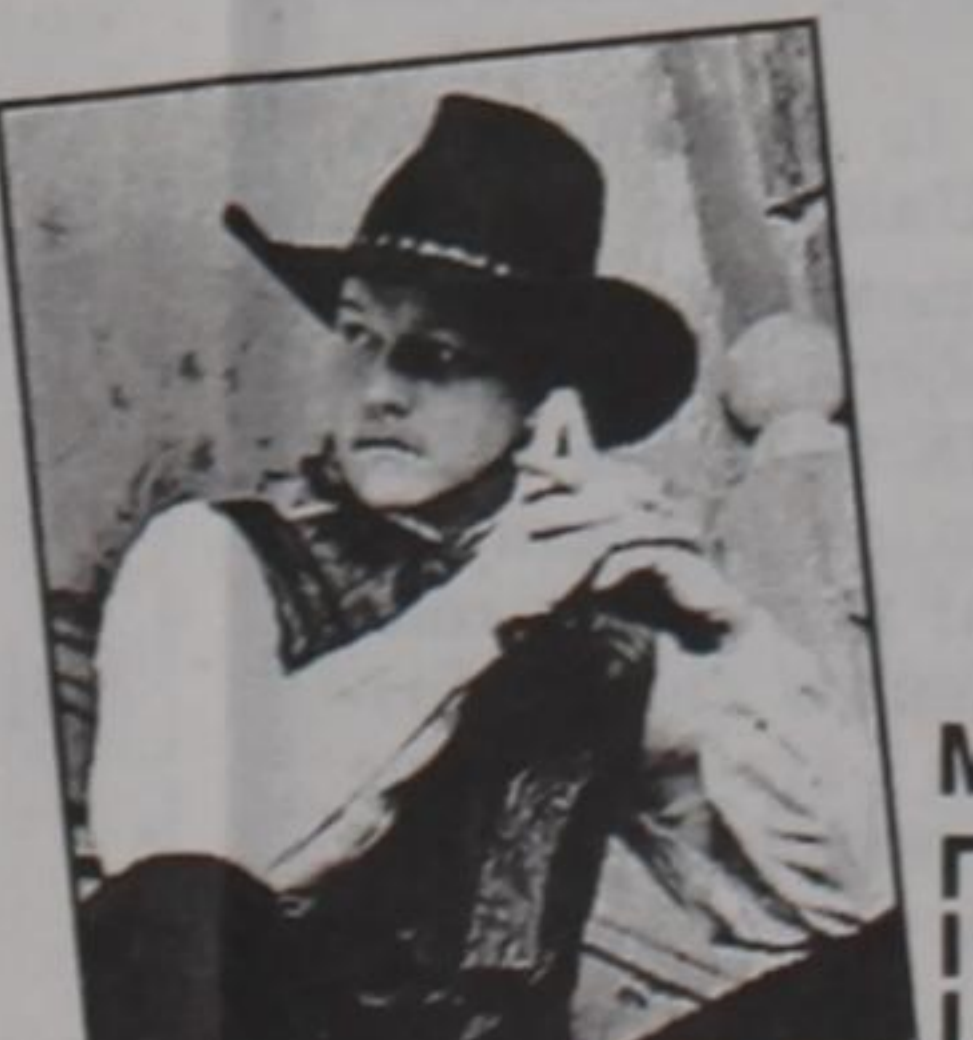
**TRACY LAWRENCE**  
Saturday, Sept. 26  
7p.m. only - \$12



**CHARLEY PRIDE**  
Sunday, Sept. 27th  
7p.m. only - \$12



**4HIM AND JACI VELASQUEZ**  
Saturday, Oct. 3  
7p.m. only \$12



**TRACE ADKINS**  
Wednesday, Sept. 30  
7p.m. only - \$12

**'98 COLISEUM SHOW TICKET LOCATIONS**

- \*LUSKEY'S WESTERN STORE  
2431 34TH ST. 795-7106
- \*RALPH'S RECORDS  
909 UNIVERSITY 763-6400  
3322 82ND 795-3322
- \*TEJAS WESTERN OUTLET  
5715 19TH ST. 793-6297
- \*SO. PLAINS FAIR OFFICE  
105 E. BROADWAY 744-9557

| ARTIST                | NO. | X PRICE | = COST |
|-----------------------|-----|---------|--------|
| TRACY LAWRENCE        | X   | \$12 =  |        |
| CHARLEY PRIDE         | X   | \$12 =  |        |
| TRACE ADKINS          | X   | \$12 =  |        |
| BRYAN WHITE           | X   | \$15 =  |        |
| 4HIM & JACI VELASQUEZ | X   | \$12 =  |        |

**COST OF ALL TICKETS**

HANDLING CHARGE \$1.00

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

\*GATE ADMISSION NOT INCLUDED  
Mail To: SHOW TICKETS  
BOX 208  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79408  
ENCLOSE A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**METHOD OF PAYMENT**

Check or Money Order payable to SHOW TICKETS

\_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# La Solucion Para El Dilema De La Inmigracion No Esta En La Frontera

Por Ronald Sal Panuco

Ella estaba de pie en el lado de Tijuana, en la frontera entre México y California, pasando el tiempo hasta que la costa estuviera libre. Eva Rosales Panuco, con docenas de otras personas, esperaba por el intervalo en que "la migra" cambiara el turno de trabajo.

## Resolution To Immigration Dilemma Isn't At The Border

By Ronald Sal Panuco

She stood on the Tijuana side of the Mexico-California border, biding time until the coast was clear. Eva Rosales Panuco, with dozens of others, awaited the break when the migra changed work shifts.

When it came, she ran like the wind.

My 48-year-old mother still recounts this terrifying episode in her life to me: Led by a coyote -- smuggler/guide -- she hiked into the hills behind San Ysidro, scurrying on foot for about three hours before coming to a safe-house. She had left me, her infant son, back home in Nayarit with her mother as she tried to reach California and resurrect her life.

That happened in the spring of 1973. Her first two attempts to cross had been foiled. But her third try was the charm.

The coyote's fee was \$250. Today, coyotes charge up to 10 times that amount. Though it wasn't easy then, it was nowhere as difficult as it is today. Operation Gatekeeper, with its new technology and beefed-up patrol at the Tijuana-California border, has made it nearly impossible.

The alambristas -- the fence-jumpers -- are moving farther east, deeper into the Sonora desert that transverges the neighboring countries. They are also dying. So far this year nearly 100 men, women and children have succumbed in that region during their flight to el norte. But the migrants still come, so Clinton administration officials are proposing that we bolster the Border Patrol force from 7,000 to 20,000 and construct another 400 to 500 miles of high-tech fencing.

In my family, disregarding the border, with members moving back and forth, has been a phenomenon for generations. My grandmother came for a while in the early '40s to pick cotton in Texas. My great-grandfather did it at the turn of the century, for a paycheck from Southern Pacific Railroad. My grandmother and great grandfather crossed free and freely. My mother's trip involved greater risk and expense.

Recent public comments by Mexico Undersecretary of Migratory Services Fernando Solís Cámara that undocumented Mexicans have a "legitimate goal" in coming to the United States may have stunned some, but they didn't surprise anyone in my family. Nor did his admission to a Mexico City reporter that Mexico has no intention of trying to stem the flow at the border.

Solís Cámara spokesman Juan Lozano amplified his boss's remarks to me, "They are very hard workers and very brave -- people with dreams. We're losing a great part of our population. Although Mr. Cámara is absolutely sensitive to the deaths at the border, what he has tried to emphasize is that Mexico is a country of freedom."

The response by Dan Stein, who heads the anti-immigrant Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), was predictable: "Those concerned with the plight of aliens who relentlessly breach our borders should direct their protests to the main culprits for these tragic and unnecessary deaths -- the complicit

When she reached the moment, she carried on like the wind.

My mother of 48 años de edad me repite este episodio aterradorante de su vida: Dirigida por un "coyote" -- contrabandista y guía -- ella caminó por las lomas detrás de San Ysidro, escurriéndose a pie por espacio de tres horas antes de llegar a una casa segura.

Mexican government, which has been conspicuous in its refusal to discourage illegal border crossings.

Earlier this year, the United States and Mexico announced a binational effort to reduce border deaths by posting signs in Spanish warning migrants about the risks.

Such messages carry as much weight as former First Lady Nancy Reagan's old "Just Say No" to drugs admonition to U.S. youth.

Mexico's improving but still woeful economic condition requires massive action to deal with its infrastructure and its development into a democracy that can exist next door to the world's most powerful and attractive nation.

Using history as a guide, the United States should not prevent Mexicans from seeking a better life here. Nineteenth century Mexico didn't bar-wire its northern border to wall out westward-bound U.S. settlers or keep European immigrants from trying to seek a better life in Mexican Territory.

Applying 20th century political reality, the United States can modify the influx of Mexicans while protecting and respecting those who come to work and aid our economy.

Until some economic and social balance between neighbors is achieved, migrants will continue to flee north, accepting whatever risks. The "East German solution" -- walls and guns -- offers an illusion, not a resolution. Because of our two nations' historical, cultural and economic ties, the value of Mexican Americans like me to the United States is unique. We are an asset to both countries.

Carlos Salinas de Gortari, Mexico's president from 1988-1994, predicted that this bilingual, bicultural mass of Mexican Americans -- now estimated at 18 million -- will be instrumental in changing the face of Mexico.

As they link the neighbors culturally and socially, they -- particularly the immigrants -- inject capital a critical level south of the border, sending billions of dollars to relatives.

The United States gains not just from the labor infusion Mexicans provide to the service industries and agribusiness, but it is supplying us the human conduits to Latin America and the rest of the world, representatives in the global marketplace and at diplomatic tables.

The United States has been instrumental in reviving the economies of more distant nations, including those of World War II adversaries Germany and Japan. After the Korean War, we assisted South Korea to jump-start its economy. We pumped billions into strengthening and arming Israel.

Mexico should have been the priority long ago. So why not now? There is still time. It might keep future generations of the Mexican branch of my family where groups like FAIR want to keep them and where I can go visit them and admire their progress.

(Ronald Sal Panuco of Washington, D.C., is a reporter with the national journal Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

Copyright 1998, Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate

González y López continuarán huyendo hacia el norte, aceptando el riesgo que sea. La "Solución de Alemania Oriental" -- con sus muros, fuerzas militares y ametralladoras -- ofrece una ilusión, no una resolución.

Debido a los vínculos históricos, culturales y económicos de nuestras dos naciones, el valor de los mexicanoamericanos para los Estados Unidos es singular. Somos un beneficio para ambos países.

Carlos Salinas de Gortari, que fué Presidente de México entre 1988 y 1994, pronosticó que esta masa bilingüe y bicultural de mexicanoamericanos -- que se esti-

De modo que los "alambristas" -- los que saltan por sobre las cercas -- de hoy están mudándose más hacia el este, más profundamente en el desierto de Sonora, que atraviesa los dos países vecinos. También se están muriendo. Hasta ahora, en este año, casi 100 hombres, mujeres y niños han sucumbido en esa región durante su huida al norte. Pero los migrantes siguen viniendo.

Y ahora un funcionario del gobierno de Clinton está proponiendo que aumentemos la fuerza de la Patrulla Fronteriza de 7,000 a 20,000, y que construyamos otras 400 a 500 millas de cerca de alta tecnología.

En mi familia, el pasar por alto a la frontera ha sido un fenómeno de varias generaciones, y los miembros se han movido en ambas direcciones. Mi abuela vino por cierto tiempo antes que mi madre, recogiendo algodón en Texas a principios del decenio de 1940. Mi bisabuelo lo hizo a la vuelta del siglo, para obtener un cheque de nómina del Ferrocarril Southern Pacific en Texas.

Mi abuela y mi bisabuelo atravesaban la frontera gratis y libremente, con poca dificultad. El viaje de mi madre involucró riesgo y gastos mayores.

Los comentarios públicos recientes hechos por el Sub-Secretario de Servicios Migratorios de México, Fernando Solís Cámara, de que los mexicanos indocumentados tienen una meta legítima al venir a los Estados Unidos, pueden haber asombrado a algunos, pero no me sorprendieron a mí. Ni tampoco su reconocimiento, a un reportero de Ciudad México, de que México no tiene la intención de tratar de detener la corriente en la frontera.

El portavoz de Solís Cámara, Juan Lozano, me amplió las observaciones de su jefe. "Ellos son trabajadores muy ávidos y valerosos -- personas con sueños. Estamos perdiendo una gran parte de nuestra población. Aunque el Sr. Solís Cámara es absolutamente sensible a las muertes en la frontera, lo que él ha tratado de enfatizar es que México es un país de libertad".

La reacción de Dan Stein, que dirige la Federación para la Reforma de la Inmigración a los Estados Unidos (FAIR en inglés), fué predecible: "Los preocupados por las dificultades de los extranjeros que atraviesan incansablemente nuestras fronteras, deberían dirigir sus protestas a los principales responsables de estas muertes trágicas e innecesarias -- el gobierno mexicano cómplice, que ... ha sido conspicuo en su negativa a desalentar a los que atraviesan la frontera ilegalmente".

A principios de este año, los Estados Unidos y México anunciaron una gestión binacional para disminuir las muertes en la frontera, situando letreros en español para advertir a los migrantes sobre los riesgos del viaje.

Esos mensajes llevan tanto peso como la antigua admonición de la entonces Primera Dama Nancy Reagan a los jóvenes: "Sólo digan que no a los narcóticos".

La situación económica de México, que mejora pero todavía es deplorable, exige una acción impresionante para hacer frente a su infraestructura y su desarrollo hacia una democracia que pueda existir al lado de la nación más poderosa y atractiva del mundo.

Si se usa la historia como guía, Estados Unidos no debería evitar que los mexicanos busquen una vida mejor aquí. El México del siglo XIX no ponía alambrado de púas en su frontera del norte para dejar fuera a los colonos estadounidenses que se dirigían al oeste, ni para evitar que los emigrantes europeos procuraran una vida mejor en territorio mexicano.

Al aplicar la realidad política del siglo XX, los Estados Unidos pueden modificar el influjo de los mexicanos mientras que protejan y respeten a los que vienen a trabajar y ayudar a nuestra economía.

Hasta que se logre algún equilibrio económico y social entre los vecinos, la corriente de migrantes procedente de México no se detendrá. Los Panucos,

ma ahora en 18 millones de personas -- servirá de instrumento para cambiar la cara de México.

Ya que enlazan a los vecinos cultural y socialmente, ellos -- especialmente los inmigrantes -- inyectan capital al nivel más crítico al sur de la frontera, enviando miles de millones de dólares a sus familiares.

Los Estados Unidos aprovechan, no sólo de la infusión de mano de obra que proporcionan los mexicanos a las industrias de servicio y los negocios agrícolas, manteniendo bajos los costos y alta la producción, sino que cada vez en mayor medida están proporcionándonos los conductos humanos hacia la América Latina y el resto del mundo, representantes en el mercado global y en las mesas de la diplomacia.

Los Estados Unidos han sido un instrumento para revivir las economías de naciones más distantes, incluyendo a las de sus adversarios de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, Alemania y el Japón. Después de la Guerra de Corea, ayudamos a Corea del Sur a poner en marcha nuevamente su economía. E invertimos miles de millones de dólares para fortalecer y armar a Israel.

México debería haber tenido la prioridad hace mucho tiempo. De modo que, ¿por qué no ahora? Todavía hay tiempo. Podría mantener a las generaciones futuras de la rama mexicana de mi familia donde los grupos como FAIR quieren mantenerlos, y donde yo pueda ir a visitarlos y admirar sus adelantos.

(Ronald Sal Panuco, de Washington, D.C., es reportero del semanario nacional Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

## Ballet Folklórico Aztlan de Lubbock Says Thank You Lubbock & Surrounding Towns For All Your Support!! Extravaganza Mexicana



Event Was A Great Success!!

Sponsored By

**United**  
Supermarkets

Patrocinada Por United Super Markets

This program produced through a grant by the City Councils as recommended by the Lubbock Arts Alliance



The Group Is PROUD to Have Recieved the 2nd Place Award Winners of the Fiesta Parade for it's Float on Saturday!

**Lo Mejor En Comida Mexicana**

**MONTELONGO'S RESTAURANT**  
3021 Clovis Rd - 762-3068

# El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, September 24, 1998 For Baseball Fans, It's Sosa-prising to See Him In The Chase

by Michael O. Collazo

As the summer days turn to fall on another year in America, Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa stand among Roger Maris and The Babe as they shatter the record that has been so coveted for so long.

The great McGwire, indeed, is no surprise to the brass ring. Many expected him there and some would like to see him in the spotlight alone.

But a flashing Dominican from San Pedro de Macoris longed for a glimpse of the spotlight.

Still, talk of two record-breakers -- or someone other than McGwire -- as cheapening Roger Maris's record has riddled sports radio and the newspapers. Does it really matter who breaks the record?

Apparently it does. Certainly the media expected, if anyone, Mark McGwire's rocket-launching lumber or even Ken Griffey's lightning-quick stick would threaten seriously the 37-year-old record. Last year, both of them made late-season runs at 61. And with another expansion year coming, they were the odds-on favorites.

Meanwhile, Chicago Cubs Rightfielder Sammy Sosa -- who some considered overrated and undeserving of his recently-signed, multi-million dollar contract -- was expected to strike out too much and hit his usual 30-plus homeruns. But Sosa -- who, mind you, started playing baseball just in his teens -- instead improved his eye at the plate and laid low in the ankle-high grass at Wrigley Field, unassuming and without a ticket in the Roger Maris Sweepstakes.

As Opening Day arrived, Big Mac and Junior started their celebrated assault early, clubbing homerun after homerun in April and May. Sosa, on the other hand, struggled relatively out of the gate, arriving on the first day of June 14 homeruns behind McGwire. No one thought anything of him. He was considered a non-factor.

Then on June 15, he launched three shots in one



Sammy Sosa no necesita favores.

game. Then on June 19, he hit two. The next day, he hit two more. All of a sudden, Sosa had to be taken seriously. By mid-July, reporters started to ask him of his homeruns, started to grudgingly associate him with McGwire's formerly one-man show. Always flamboyant and easy-going, Sosa took the newfound attention in stride. The more the merrier, he figured. He was just having fun.

On August 19, now with the baseball world and the country knowing his name, Sosa did the unthinkable -- he passed the Big Mac, hitting a homerun onto Wavlin Avenue to one-better McGwire's homerun total. It was short-lived, however. McGwire took two Chicago Cub pitchers deep and re-claimed the lead in The Chase.

Since that sun-sparked day in August, Sosa has caught up once more, only to see -- as Sosa himself predicted -- McGwire again take hold of sole possession of the lead.

But what Sosa is doing this year should not be considered a cheapening of Maris's record.

Many baseball fans wanted

McGwire or even Griffey, Jr. to ride alone into the sunset, with their magical bat slumped over their powerful shoulder. But Sosa disrupted that fairytale ending. Some have scoffed his accomplishments as unequal to McGwire's Herculean performance.

Sosa's homers have been wind-aided, critics say. He plays in a matchbox stadium that cheapens his numbers, some theorize. But Sosa's shots have passed the power litmus test. Close to 40 of his moon shots have traveled 400 feet or more. Wrigley Field's uncompromising winds can be a foe as well as a friend to would-be homeruns. Sosa has been in the midst of a playoff race and has hit homeruns to keep himself and his team in The Chase.

Few wanted Sammy in this situation. Still, he has arisen from the shadows of Big Mac and Junior -- and The Babe and Maris -- and stands stoically right next to them, as he kisses his two fingers and pounds his chest.

Vaya, Sammy.

# It Was A Good Week For The Cowboys

If this was the best that the NFC East had to offer, then go ahead and give the Cowboys the NFC East division title.

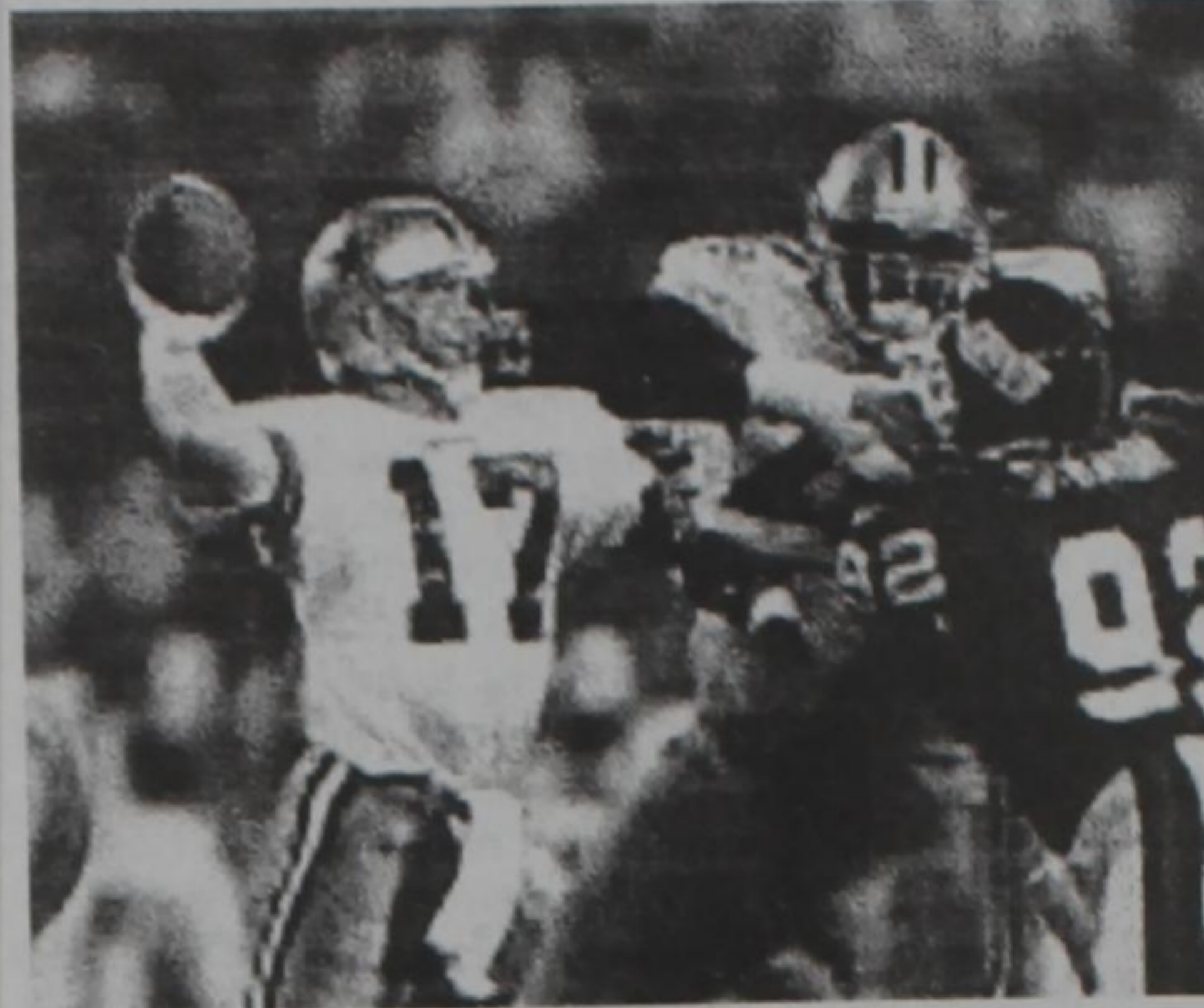
Playing on the road with a backup quarterback, and a running game that struggled, the Cowboys still stomped the defending NFC East champion Giants 31-7 on Monday Night Football.

was make the throws he could make," said Gailey, whose game-plan called for Garrett to make short passes in the flat with an occasional deep ball. "I was impressed with the way that he handled the ball. He did not make mistakes with the football or throw into crowds. He threw deep when he had to, he saw the field real well. His percent-

Leon Lett, Randall Godfrey, and Omar Stoutmire had sacks. Kenny Wheaton and Kevin Mathis added interceptions. In all, the Cowboys defense held the Giants to 252 yards of total offense, including 56 rushing.

It's early. But where is that NFC East championship ring?

UPON FURTHER REVIEW: The Giants had just tied the game at 7-7 when Jason Garrett turned in the biggest play of the game. On 3rd-and-10 from his own 20, Garrett hit Billy Davis with an 80-yard touchdown pass. The score was more Davis than



Cowboys cornerback Deion Sanders personally did the jig on the Giants.

Sanders' 59-yard punt return for a touchdown broke a scoreless tie in the second quarter, his 55-yard reception set up the game-clinching touchdown in the third quarter, and his 71-yard interception return for a touchdown in the fourth quarter capped off a 31-7 Cowboys blowout.

It was his most dominating performance in a Cowboys uniform, and the first time he had scored two touchdowns in the same game in his career. And to think, he had to leave the game after the first touchdown because of dehydration. This performance, as gut-wrenching, and as electrifying as it was, had to be what team owner Jerry Jones had in mind when he gave Sanders a \$35 million contract that included a record \$13 million signing bonus.

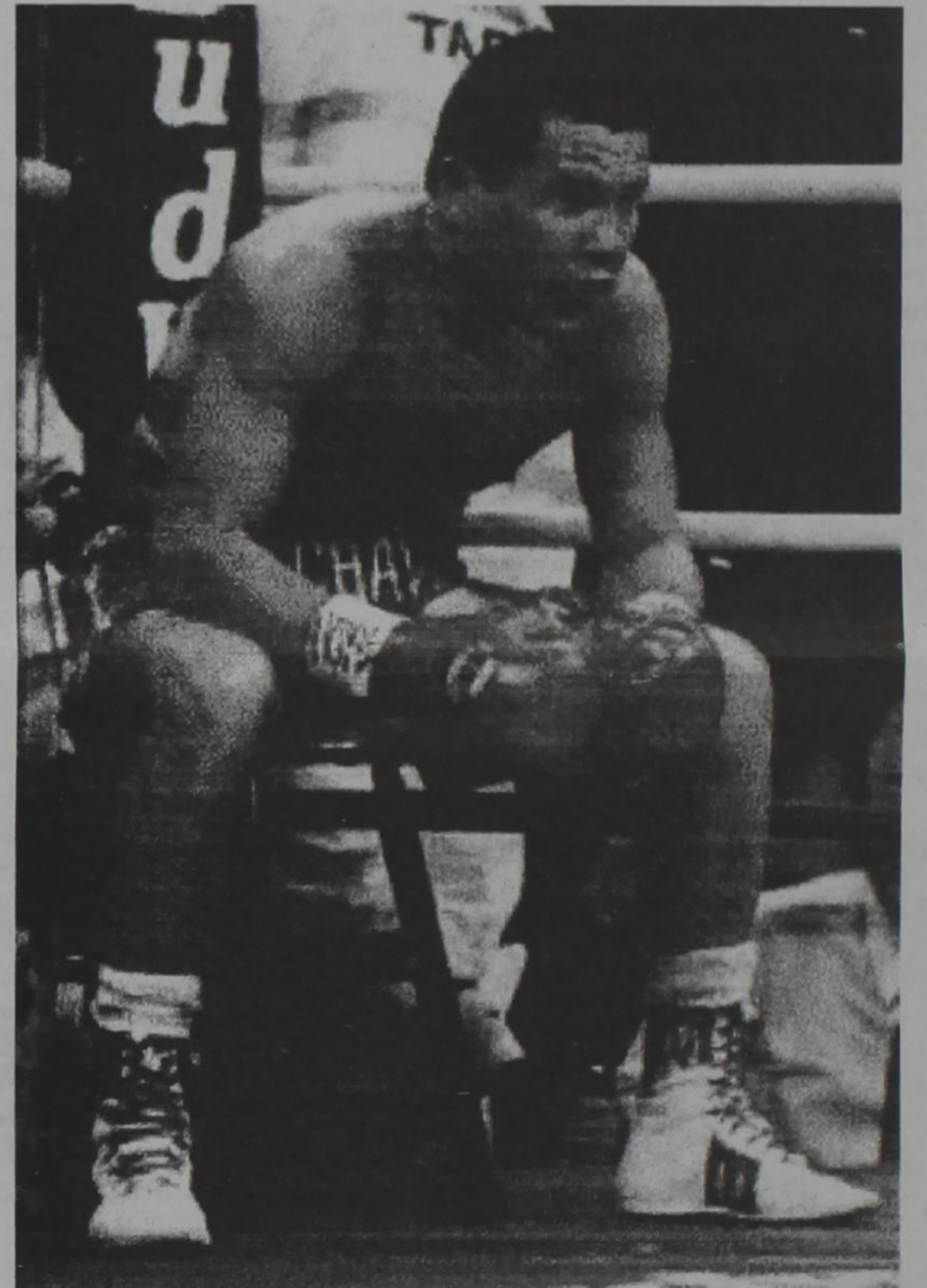
"That was an impressive display -- he is really an outstanding athlete," Cowboys coach Chan Gailey said.

But this was about more than Sanders in a game that gave the Cowboys sole possession of first place in the NFC East.



Garrett. Davis beat the Giants' zone coverage with a slant pattern, caught Garrett's pass at the 38-yard line and sprinted the rest of the way for the score which put the Cowboys ahead for good. The Giants could have stopped the play for a gain of about 20 yards. But Giants safety Tito Wooten over ran the play and collided with his defenders, instead of Davis, who went into the end zone untouched.

# Boxing-Chavez Wants Another Title Fight



MEXICO CITY, Sept 22 (Reuters) - Mexican boxing legend Julio Cesar Chavez, bloodied for the second time by Oscar de la Hoya in a welterweight title bout last week, said on Tuesday he wants another shot at a title, this time in the super lightweight division.

Chavez sent a letter to the World Boxing Council asking for the chance to fight the winner of the November 28 bout between Mexican Miguel Angel Gonzalez and Russian Konstantin Tsyu for the WBC's super lightweight title.

The 36-year-old Chavez failed to answer the bell after eight rounds against De la Hoya in

their WBC welterweight title fight last Friday in Las Vegas, dropping his record to 101-3-2.

Following the loss to De la Hoya, Chavez said he planned to fight on December 18 against American Vince Phillips for the International Boxing Federation's welterweight crown.

But on Tuesday Chavez indicated he preferred to fight in the super lightweight division.

"That is my ideal weight," the ageing six-time world champion said.

WBC President Jose Sulaiman said the organization would review Chavez's request at its next convention starting October 25 in Johannesburg.



Jason Garrett, playing in place of the injured Troy Aikman, showed he can play mistake-free football and guide the Cowboys ship until Aikman returns. Garrett completed less than 50 percent of his passes (12 of 28), but he did not throw any interceptions and he was not sacked. And when he needed to make the big throw, he did. His 15-yard throw to Billy Davis turned into an 80-yard touchdown play, giving the Cowboys the lead for good (14-7) after the Giants had tied the game at 7-7 in the second quarter.

"What we asked Jason to do

## Disability Advisory Committee Vacancy

The Lubbock Public Transit Advisory Board would like to announce a vacancy on the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC). The DAC is a subcommittee which reviews policies and regulations and advises the Lubbock Public Transit Advisory Board on issues related to the provision of public transportation provider for the City of Lubbock.

All interested individuals willing to serve on this committee may submit a letter of interest before October 15, 1998 to Citibus, P.O. Box 2000, Lubbock, Texas 79401. These individuals must be available to meet with the Lubbock Public Transit Advisory Board on October 20, 1998 at 11:30 a.m. If you have questions, please contact Karen O'Connor at Citibus (806) 767-2380 ext. 222.

## Lubbock's Newest Tejano Band

*Luis Rodriguez y Evolucion*

is now available for weddings, quinceañeras, or any occasion. Great music. Reasonable rates. Contact:

**Evolucion Enterprises**

806: 793-5989 Fax 806: 793-8426

Email smunizl262@aol.com

## Texas Tech Football En Español

Play By Play With Mario Montez

### 1998 Texas Tech Football Schedule

| Date     | Opponent                    | Time      |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Sept. 5  | Texas-El Paso               | 6 p.m.    |
| Sept. 12 | at North Texas (Irving)     | 6:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 19 | Fresno State                | 6 p.m.    |
| Sept. 26 | at Iowa State               | 1 p.m.    |
| Oct. 3   | Baylor                      | 6 p.m.    |
| Oct. 10  | • Oklahoma St. (Homecoming) | 6 p.m.    |
| Oct. 17  | at Colorado                 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 24  | at Texas A&M                | 1 p.m.    |
| Oct. 31  | Missouri (Family Day)       | 1 p.m.    |
| Nov. 14  | • Texas (Senior Day)        | 1 p.m.    |
| Nov. 21  | at Oklahoma                 | 2:30 p.m. |

All times Central. Some game times will change for television. • denotes Big 12 game. Home games in bold.

Exclusive coverage of Texas Tech Red Raider football in Spanish this season on Magic 93.7. For the first time ever. Marion Montez has the play by play call beginning 15 minutes before kick off. It's only on Magic 93.7. Your exclusive voice for Red Raider football.

Sponsored by:

**Pioneer United**  
SUPERMARKETS

4402 Ave Q

**Scoggin & Dickey Auto Parts**

## LHCC

### Golf Tournament

The Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 26, at the Island Oaks Golf Course in Idalou.

The tournaments' entry fee will be \$50.00 which includes green fees, golf cart, prizes, food and beverages.

### Snickers Candy Route

50 Locations. \$800-\$1200  
Solid monthly income  
Cost \$2995.  
www.vendingroutes.com  
1-800-963-6123

## LABOR READY

Necesitamos Empleados!  
Toda clase de trabajos como tamaleras, construcción, distribución, restaurante y trabajo domestico. Si de veras quiere trabajo llama a 741-1494 o pase a 1704 Broadway Lubbock

## City of Lubbock-Community Development Department Request for Applications (RFA)

from interested agencies, organizations, or individuals within the County of Lubbock interested in applying for FY 1999:

### Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Funds

Applications to address: 1. a Self Sufficiency program to transition low income out of poverty; 2. a Transportation program to provide a means for low income people to access training opportunities in the evening; 3. a Youth Program that will deter them from one or more of the following: school drop-out, teen pregnancy, and or juvenile crime.

Details and applications will be available in the Community Development Department 1625 13th Street, Lubbock, Tx 79401 806-775-2301

All Applications Are Due By October 9, 1998

To:

Community Development  
1625 13th Street, Room 107  
P.O. Box 2000  
Lubbock, Tx 79457

No late applications will be accepted. Funding starts 1-1-99.

# Despite Funding Rise, Poor Still Without Child Care

(Washington, DC; September 22, 1998) When the demand for child care assistance exceeds the available federal and state child care funds, the group most likely to be left without assistance is low-income working families with no connection to the welfare system, according to "Child Care Assistance Under Welfare Reform: Early Responses by the States," by Sharon K. Long, Gretchen Kirby, Robin Kurka, and Shelley Waters, a new report from the Urban Institute's Assessing the New Federalism project.

The \$600 million increase in federal funds for child care and additional funding commitments by many states, provides sufficient money to serve half of the low-income children needing child care assistance. Before the enactment of federal welfare reform two years ago, funding for child care assistance was sufficient to cover only one-third of eligible children.

Each of the 13 states studied (Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin) have more than adequate funds to serve the welfare population, but only a few of these states have been able to serve all of the non-welfare low-income families seeking child care assistance, largely by investing more state dollars.

Two important areas of state choice that affect the size and cost of child care programs are determining who receives child care assistance and who pays for it.

Income eligibility limits establish a family's qualification for child care assistance. For example, Wisconsin, which has done more than any other state to guarantee child care to all eligible families, has lower income eligibility limits.

Funding priorities determine which eligible families will be served first. States have a strong incentive to con-

tinue giving priority to welfare families for two reasons. First, federal welfare funding is contingent on states moving welfare recipients to work and providing child care is critical to a state's success. Second, federal law requires that states use a large portion of their child care funds to assist families either connected to the welfare system or at risk of being on welfare. Since states expect demand from the at-risk group to increase as welfare rolls fall, program administrators are hesitant to commit significant additional child care funds to assist the working poor.

Reimbursement rates paid to child care providers have generally increased under welfare reform. Nine of the 13 states studied increased rates for child care centers. Three states (Colorado, Massachusetts, and Michigan) reduced rates for child care centers, while New Jersey did not change the reimbursement rate.

To stretch child care dollars further, as well as to ensure family responsibility for child care, many states are stressing increased cost-sharing with parents. Florida and Wisconsin require copayments from all families receiving subsidies, including families on public assistance. Unfortunately, high copayments can lead families to leave their jobs or choose less costly, less satisfactory child care.

In contrast to the limited changes in program design, the study states have made more significant changes in the administration of child care assistance. Even prior to welfare reform states began building seamless systems of child care assistance (consolidation of administration in a single state agency; creating a single point of entry for families seeking assistance; standardizing applications, policies and procedures; establishing a single waiting list; and eliminating gaps in assistance as families switch programs). Six states (Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Michigan, Texas, and Wisconsin) had established fully seamless child care systems prior to federal welfare reform. Since passage of federal welfare reform, four states (California, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Washington) have moved to consolidate child care assistance within a single agency.

# Open Your Heart Open Your Home

Michael wants a room of his own. Jamie wants a family where she and her two siblings can stay together. Rory, a teenager, wants a family who will love her forever and ever. Like many children these children have dreams. Unlike many children these children dream of having a family of their very own.

Michael, Jamie and Rory personify the children in our area and in Texas who are legally free for adoption. They hold tightly to their dream of a permanent family. You can help their dreams come true by becoming an adoptive parent, by giving these children a permanent home.

Children in the conservatorship of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services come from all ethnic backgrounds. They have diverse needs. Many of them are older and many of them

are part of a sibling group needing to be placed together. Regardless of their circumstances they all want a family to call their own!

Children in the conservatorship of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services come from all ethnic backgrounds. They have diverse needs. Many of them are older and many of them are part of a sibling group needing to be placed together. Regardless of their circumstances they all want a family to call their own!

Because of the critical need for foster and adoptive parents TDPRS, Children's Protective Services is holding a special Information Meeting to present information and answer questions about how to adopt children from the agency. This special Information Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 29 at TDPRS Office, 57th and Avenue P, in Lubbock. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm. Please ask your friends and relatives to join you in learning more about becoming a foster/adoptive parent. For additional information call 762-2680.

# Mas Fotos de la Fiesta



**La Familia es importante.**

Manténganse usted y su familia saludablemente. Llame a la Asociación Americana de Diabetes al número gratis **1-800-DIABETES** (1-800-342-2383) y obtenga información sobre la diabetes hoy mismo.

**JOHN P. CERVANTEZ INSURANCE AGENCY**  
 1904 E. AUBURN LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79403 (806) 744-1654  
 Life, Group, Health, Individual and Dental, Medical Annuities, IRA, Disability Income (Seguros de Vida y De Hospital) Member Life Underwriters

**Lawn Service**  
 Mow, edge, fertilize. No job is to small. Free estimates!!!

Call Tim Riojas 792-0106 Monday thru Friday after 5:30p.m. Anytime Saturday!

Call Joe Adam Riojas 793-9093 Monday thru Friday after 5:30p.m. Anytime Saturday!

# News Briefs

## Health Care Spending to Double in Next Decade

Spending for health care in the United States will double over the next decade, reaching \$2.1 trillion by 2007, according to government projections published today.

The nation's medical bill largely held steady in the last few years, as many consumers switched to managed care and thus held down costs. But a new report by the Health Care Financing Administration said bills are going to rise a little more rapidly again starting this year.

Insurance companies and consumers will see bigger jumps in health bills than Medicare, said the study appearing in this month's issue of Health Affairs, a journal published by the charitable group Project HOPE.

Why? Largely because in recent years, employers have switched to managed care, "scouting around for the most inexpensive plans they could find," HCFA chief actuary Richard Foster explained. "This can only go so far."

Eighty-five percent of working Americans already are covered by managed care, so the quick savings of a switch in health care systems are almost gone, he said. Also, HMOs until now have worked with very low profit margins - something that will have to change if they are to stay in business, Foster said.

But costs are increasing, not just because of inflation but because new-and-improved medical technology simply costs more, he noted. At the same time, the Balanced Budget Act is strictly restraining federal health care spending for Medicare and Medicaid, making government payments to doctors and hospitals tighter.

In a reflection of the situation, the government's Office of Personnel Management announced last week that premiums for health insurance programs covering some 8.7 million federal employees, dependents, retirees and others will rise by an average of 10.2 percent next year -- the largest jump in a decade. The study found:

--Health care spending will rise from \$1.035 trillion in 1996 to \$2.133 trillion in 2007. In 1996, consumers paid \$552 billion through private insurance, out-of-pocket payments or other private sources, while Medicare, Medicaid and other government programs shouldered \$483 billion of the cost. By 2007, private sources will account for nearly \$1.15 trillion and government will provide \$987 billion.

--Spending per person will jump from \$3,759 in 1996 to \$7,100 in 2007.

--Hospitals will get a smaller share of the pie, accounting for 30 percent of health expenditures by 2007, compared with 35 percent in 1996, as the trend continues toward more outpatient care.

--Americans will spend more on prescription drugs, \$171 billion in 2007 against \$62 billion in 1996, as prices rise and people buy more drugs.

Despite significant changes in the market and policy environment, major safety net hospitals and clinics so far have been able to maintain their commitment to the uninsured, according to a new Occasional Paper from the Urban Institute's Assessing the New Federalism project.

While several factors are making it harder for safety net providers to provide care to the uninsured, "Public Policy, Market Forces, and the Viability of Safety Net Providers" by Stephen A. Norton and Debra J. Lipson finds that very few have closed and none of the major providers have reported reductions in their capacity to care for the uninsured.

The authors identify three primary reasons for the resilience of these health care providers. First, factors that exert pressure on the safety net -- the emergence of a highly competitive market, sudden reductions in Medicaid patient revenues, or large decreases in state and local subsidies -- have not all occurred simultaneously in one place. Second, safety net providers have successfully responded to the changing market. In most cases, the response of safety net providers differ little from their market counterparts. Third, federal and state financial support has ensured that the safety net remains intact. When federal and state funding has been insufficient, local communities have supported the safety net.

Although safety net health care providers have been able to survive the dramatic changes in the health care marketplace, the authors question the long-term stability of these facilities and their continued provision of care to the uninsured. The implicit cross-subsidy of care for the uninsured continues to erode under pressure from Federal, state and private payers' desire for low cost care. The number of uninsured continues to increase. Recent positive trends -- six years of unprecedented growth in the economy, declining rates of growth in health care costs, effective responses by safety net providers to market changes, and increases in Federal, state and/or local subsidies -- are unlikely to continue forever. Perhaps the largest unknown is the impact of changes in safety net provider behavior on their commitment to the uninsured. Attempts by safety net providers to reduce costs may affect their ability to provide comprehensive services to the uninsured.

Assessing the New Federalism is a multi-year project designed to analyze the shifting responsibility for social programs from the federal government to the states. The project, conducted by the Urban Institute in collaboration with Child Trends, Inc., analyzes changes in income support, social services, and health programs in child and family well being.

**José Del Giudice, M.D. Rheumatologist**

**It's time to welcome Lubbock's newest specialist.**

Methodist Medical Group is proud to welcome **Dr. José Del Giudice** as its newest board certified rheumatologist. Dr. Del Giudice joins Dr. David Mills and Dr. Naga Bushan in their rheumatology practice. He was previously in private practice in Beaumont, Texas.

Dr. Del Giudice welcomes many types of insurance, including Medicare. Se habla español.

For an appointment, please call **788-8075**

Lubbock Diagnostic Clinic Building 3506 21st St. Suite 201

Methodist Medical Group is an 87-physician group affiliated with Covenant Health System. For information on physician referrals, please call 784-1280.

A Member of Covenant Health System

**IT'S TIME FOR**

**El SIDA afecta a todos**

**Conviértete en un mensajero de salud en tu comunidad.**

Para información acerca del Programa Hispano sobre el VIH/SIDA, comunícate con tu capítulo de la Cruz Roja Americana.