

Teachers' Clash Has roots 400 Years Old

By Louis Aguilar

Next year marks the 400th anniversary of the Spanish arrival in what is now New Mexico. And the battle of two sisters in tiny Vaughn, N.M., tells just how much the legacy of race and ethnicity still remains unsettled at times there.

On July 7, the Vaughn school board voted 3-2 to fire high-school teachers and sisters Nadine and Patsy Cordova, charging insubordination. Both have taught in Vaughn for more than a decade.

Among their acts of alleged insubordination: teaching about the life of Cesar Chavez, showing the landmark documentary "Chicano, History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement" and allowing some students to form a MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan) group.

The controversy is almost a family affair. The Cordovas grew up in the town of 700, located about 120 miles east of Albuquerque, and two of the school board members are their cousins.

One, Marcy Cordova, voted in their favor. The other, Andy Cordova, grew up next to the sisters and led the charge to remove them. He still lives next door, but they don't talk much these days.



Andy Cordova maintains that the sisters were teaching political ideology, not history. When he saw them allow students to use the word "gringo" in a political cartooning assignment, he was convinced that racism was seeping into the classroom.

The school board's decision is not the final say in the case. It is being reviewed by state education officials, who could open up the case again. Further, Nadine has already filed a lawsuit to get her job back, and Patsy is expected to do so by the end of August. Both are receiving legal help from the Albuquerque office of the American Civil Liberties Union.

The case was followed so closely by some Chicano studies academics and others that comments on the matter by Vaughn residents during public meetings were posted on the Internet. On the night of the meeting that the board acted to fire the sisters, much media and more than 60 supporters from throughout the state swarmed into town. The sisters have received e-mail from as far away as New Zealand.

"It saddens, but, no, I guess it really doesn't surprise me," says Kathy Blackmer-Reyes, head of the National Association of Chicana/Chicano Studies. "The residents made

a conscious separation with American history and the role of Chicanos, as if the two had to be divided." Many New Mexico residents can trace their roots back to Spanish land-grant families that settled in the area 400 years ago. As is the case in Vaughn, some still prefer to be called Spanish or Hispano. Chicano is still too militant for many, academics say.

Chris Garcia, who teaches Chicano studies at the University of New Mexico, sees the Vaughn case as reflective in some ways of the unique history of New Mexico: "The Spanish began to settle here almost 200 years before there was a country called Mexico. And the Mexican flag flew here for only 40 years."

State tourism officials like to tout the state's long history of intersecting cultures of Latino, Native American and Anglo. The city of Santa Fe shows how that relationship continues to unfold. A steady influx of affluent Anglos who began arriving a decade ago has turned the town into a center of high-end Southwestern art and chic hotels and restaurants. In the process, the median price for a home has shot up to \$200,000, while wages remain 20 percent be-

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Derecho Ajeno
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Contienda de Maestras en Nuevo Mexico

Por Louis Aguilar

El año próximo señala el cuadringentésimo aniversario de la llegada de los españoles a lo que es ahora Nuevo México. Y la contienda de dos hermanas en el pequeño pueblo de Vaughn, Nuevo México, dice cuánto el legado de la raza y la etnicidad permanece todavía siendo inestable a veces allí.

Comentarios

de Bidal

by Bidal Aguerro

Sometimes it takes an actual experience to realize where you're at.

This past week, my family and I got to experience first hand what people in Mexico have to go through to just survive. As we visited for almost a whole week in Mexico City life for their populoso didn't really seem that different than any other big City. But as days went by, one could tell that the people of Mexico City not only have to put up with living in one of the world's biggest City but with the fact that they must struggle in order to survive. Low wages and high prices are a common fact. The dollar is fluctuates presently from \$7.50 to \$8.00 U.S. dollars. Most workers in the City get about \$30 per day. Gas is \$2.30 per gallon. A good meal costs about \$5. In rural areas workers make about \$300 to \$400 pesos per week. That figures to about \$45 U.S. dollars. Gas is still \$2.30 and most people eat at home or in little stores which charge \$2 pesos for a small taco.



Everywhere you go from here to Mexico City you see street work. I guess that means that the Mexican government is trying to improve their infrastructure in order to improve on the highly profitable visitors from the U.S. that would most certainly visit if Mexico was more accessible. We didn't see any RVs. Mexico is going through a change in government with the PRI continually losing power as they did in Mexico City this past election. Perhaps good times, or at least tolerable times are ahead.

Pico de Gallo

I thought I knew good Spanish and I guess I do in comparison to many Tejanos my age. That was until our friend Jorge, who spent the entire week with us, started talking to me. He's 16.

vo México. Y la contienda de dos hermanas en el pequeño pueblo de Vaughn, Nuevo México, dice cuánto el legado de la raza y la etnicidad permanece todavía siendo inestable a veces allí.

El 7 de julio, la junta escolar de Vaughn acordó por votación de 3 contra 2 despedir a las maestras de secundaria y hermanas Nadine y Patsy Córdova, acusándolas de insubordinación. Ambas han enseñado en Vaughn durante más de un decenio.

Entre sus actos de presunta insubordinación se hallan: Enseñar sobre la vida de César Chávez; mostrar el documental histórico titulado "Chicano: La Historia del Movimiento Méxicoamericano de los Derechos Civiles" y permitir que varios estudiantes formaran un grupo de MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan).

La controversia es casi un asunto de familia. Las Córdova crecieron en el pueblo de 700 habitantes, situado 120 millas al este de Albuquerque, y dos de los miembros de la junta escolar son sus primos.

Una, Marcy Córdova, votó a favor de ellas. El otro, Andy Córdova, creció cerca de las hermanas y dirigió la campaña para sacarlas. El vive todavía en la casa de al lado, pero ellos no hablan mucho en estos días.

Andy Córdova sostiene que las hermanas estaban enseñando ideología política, no historia. Cuando él vió que ellas permitían que los estudiantes usaran la palabra "gringo" en una asignación de caricaturas políticas, se convenció de que el racismo estaba infiltrándose en el aula de clases.

La decisión de la junta escolar no es la última palabra en el caso. Está siendo revisada por los funcionarios de enseñanza del estado, quienes podrían re-abrir el caso. Además, Nadine ya ha presentado una demanda judicial

ra recuperar su plaza, y se espera que Patsy haga otro tanto para fines de agosto. Ambas están recibiendo ayuda legal de la oficina en Albuquerque de la American Civil Liberties Union.

El caso ha sido seguido tan de cerca por algunos académicos de estudios chicanos y otras personas, que los comentarios sobre el asunto hechos por los residentes de Vaughn durante las reuniones públicas fueron insertados en la Internet. La noche de la reunión en que la junta escolar actuó para despedir a las hermanas, muchos miembros de los medios informativos y más de 60 partidarios de todo el estado se reunieron en el pueblo. Las hermanas han recibido comunicaciones de correo electrónico (e-mail) de apoyo desde tan lejos como Nueva Zelanda.

"Eso entristece, pero no, me imagino que en realidad no me sorprende," dice Kathy Blackmer-Reyes, directora de la Asociación Nacional de Estudios Chicanos. "Los residentes hicieron una separación consciente con la historia estadounidense y el papel de los chicanos, como si los dos tuvieran que ser divididos."

Muchos residentes de Nuevo México pueden seguir sus raíces retroactivamente hasta las familias con subvenciones territoriales españolas que se asentaron en la zona hace 400 años. Como es el caso en Vaughn, algunos prefieren todavía que se les llame españoles o hispanos. El calificativo de chicano es todavía demasiado militante para muchos, dicen los académicos.

Chris García, que es profesora de estudios chicanos en la Universidad de Nuevo México, ve al caso de Vaughn como que refleja de varios modos la historia singular de Nuevo México: "Los españoles empezaron a asentarse aquí casi 200 años antes de que hubiera un país llama-

do México. Y la bandera mexicana ondeó aquí durante 40 años solamente."

A los funcionarios estatales de turismo les gusta informar sobre la extensa historia del estado, de culturas entrelazadas de latinos, norteamericanos nativos y anglos.

La ciudad de Santa Fe muestra cómo esa relación continúa desenvolviéndose. Una corriente continua de anglos adinerados que empezó a llegar hace un decenio, ha convertido a la ciudad en un centro de arte del suroeste de alto vuelo, hoteles y restaurantes elegantes. En ese proceso, el precio mediano de una casa ha aumentado hasta \$200,000, mientras que los sueldos permanecen un 20 por ciento por debajo del promedio nacional.

Hacia 1990, los latinos y nativos no eran ya más la mayoría predominante en Santa Fe, por primera vez desde la llegada de los españoles. Algunos han recurrido a llamar a la ciudad "Santa Farsa."

La historia chicana está siendo puesta aún en el mapa de Nuevo México, mientras que otros estados, tales como California, la implantaron desde hace mucho tiempo en los planes de estudios de las escuelas públicas.

La Universidad de Nuevo México está trabajando con el sistema escolar del estado para determinar un plan de estudios históricos chicanos que será ofrecido a todas las escuelas públicas. García dice que él ve también menos conflicto sobre el asunto entre los latinos jóvenes.

Las hermanas de Vaughn pueden haber perdido sus empleos temporalmente, pero ellas "creen que todavía pueden ganar" a largo plazo, dijo Patricia Córdova.

Ambas están siendo invitadas a efectuar comparecencias para hablar en diversas conferencias académicas y ambas están considerando

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News Briefs

Will Cigarette Tax Curb Teen Smoking?

Congress is raising the tobacco tax this year, in part to keep teens from lighting up. But 15-year-old Suzanne Kane, hanging out with friends on a summer evening, laughs it off.

"Whether you're smoking to be cool or you're chain smoking, 15 cents is not going to make a difference," says the Washington teen-ager, reflecting skepticism not only among her peers but among lawmakers who wanted a higher tax but were forced to compromise.

The balanced budget plan President Clinton will sign Tuesday increases cigarette taxes by 10 cents in the year 2000 and another nickel in 2002 - much less than the 43 cents backers originally sought.

The money will help pay for a new children's health program. But the effort's twin goal - to reduce teen-age smoking by raising prices - may not fare as well.

"Part of the goal was to increase the tobacco tax so significantly that kids would stop buying cigarettes, and we didn't get that this year," said Rep. Nancy Johnson, R-Conn., who sponsored the tax in the House.

But Johnson argues that getting any cigarette tax increase through Congress was an important first step nevertheless. "We've broken through a barrier on this issue," she said. "When we need more money, that's where we're going."

Teen smoking has edged up in recent years after falling during the 1980s. Now, one in five teen-agers smokes and 3,000 teens pick up the habit each day. About nine in 10 adult smokers began smoking as teen-agers.

Health economists estimate that for every 10 percent increase in price, the number of teen smokers will drop by about 7 percent, and teens who keep smoking will smoke 6 percent less. That means a 15-cent tax translates to barely perceptible 5 percent fewer teen smokers.

Teen smoking will not drop significantly unless price increases are paired with tougher rules and other changes, says Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala. Looking for models, many point to California and Massachusetts, where smoking rates dropped after tax hikes combined with big anti-smoking efforts. Both states saw overall smoking rates drop, and teen rates stayed even as they climbed nationally.

In California, a 35-cent-a-pack tax increase was combined with a media campaign, restrictions on vending machines and laws prohibiting smoking in public places. One TV ad shows a woman smoking through a hole in her neck. Billboards parody the Marlboro cowboy, with one rancher telling the other: "Bob, I've got emphysema."

Cigarette prices vary widely because of differing state taxes, which range from 2.5 cents a pack in Virginia to \$1 in Alaska come this fall.

Nationally, prices may soon spike up by 50 cents to 75 cents if a proposed tobacco settlement is approved by Congress. Backers hope the increased prices - combined with restrictions on sales and ads - would help cut teen smoking by 60 percent in 10 years.

But teen-agers interviewed over the last week said they smoke because older friends and siblings do, and because it makes them feel sophisticated. "Smoking's a big bonding thing," said one teen-ager who didn't want her name used. Munching pizza with friends on a restaurant patio, she mentions actress Julia Roberts, who smoked through the recent hit "My Best Friend's Wedding." The actress, she said, looked "really good" with a cigarette.

Union: Teachers Should Redesign Pub Schls

The leader of the nation's second largest teacher's union says teachers should take the lead in shutting down and redesigning public schools that don't work, reports Associated Press.

"I propose that we do not defend or seek to perpetuate failing schools to which we would not send our own children," American Federation of Teacher's President Sandra Feldman said Sunday.

"Failing schools that you or I or the mayor or governor or any elected official wouldn't send our own children to must be turned around," Feldman told a meeting of 3,000 teachers in her first speech as president of the group.

"When states or superintendents do it unilaterally, they do it badly - rudely, crudely - getting rid of people instead of bad practices, putting in new people and keeping the same old programs," Feldman said.

Feldman also called for better early childhood education, state laws permitting firm discipline in the classroom, alternative settings for violent and disruptive students and clear academic standards grade-by-grade in every school.

The American Federation of Teachers, which has 940,000 members, has advocated peer review for public school teachers since it began such a program in Toledo, Ohio, in 1981.

"We can have competent, well-prepared teachers without eliminating due process, without eliminating tenure, and we can show them how," Feldman said.

The National Education Association, which represents 2.3 million teachers, earlier this month for the first time endorsed the idea that teachers should help evaluate the performance of their colleagues and aid in their dismissal.

Study: I.Q. Affected by Environment

Nurture edges out nature in determining a person's IQ, according to a new study that also finds a surprisingly important role for prenatal development in shaping human intelligence, reports Associated Press.

In an analysis combining more than 200 earlier studies, statisticians concluded that genes account for 48 percent of the factors that determine IQ.

That's less than most psychologists would estimate, said study author Bernie Devlin, and far enough below the figure cited by the controversial 1994 book "The Bell Curve" to undercut its authors' main conclusions.

"That number is way too small for their arguments to be of any great consequence," said Devlin, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Devlin's study, conducted with Michael Daniels and Kathryn Roeder of Pittsburgh's Carnegie Mellon University, also found that conditions during prenatal development

Lies, Half-Truths And Other Quaint Political Practices

By Charlie Erickson

Figures don't lie, but *liars* figure. I don't know where I heard that one. Back when I was in high school, Alfred Lord Tennyson told me, "A lie which is a half-truth is ever the blackest of lies."

Now I'll add one of my own: Lies travel farther and faster than truths.

The biggest whopper I've heard in a long time is the one Ron Unz, California's Silicon Valley man, uses to promote his statewide "English for the Children" referendum. Unz repeats it again and again: Bilingual education in California's public schools "has an annual failure rate of 95 percent."

By splurging up to half a million dollars on an initiative that he expects to make him a household name, the politically ambitious Unz plans to rid his state of bilingual education, just as others before him created Propositions 209 and 187 to purge California of affirmative action and to lock the children of undocumented immigrants out of its schools.

Unz claims that just 5 percent of the state's bilingual-ed students move on to English-only classes each year. Using his own convoluted contention

-- that bilingual programs have an obligation to "graduate" all incoming non-English-speakers in one school year as "English-proficient" -- he invents the 95 percent figure.

Reality check: For obvious pedagogical reasons, very, very few bilingual programs are structured to push their non-English-speaking pupils into an English-only curriculum in a single school year. Many emphasize learning two languages, not just English. And some of the very best -- such as one in California's Calexico School District -- continue all the way from kindergarten through high school, enabling graduates to learn and function fully in two languages as they prepare to step into our global society.

Expensive prep schools around the world charge parents bloated tuition fees to enroll their sons and daughters in quality bilingual programs, such as Calexico boasts.

In spite of its scholastic success rate and international acclaim, the Calexico method -- by politician Ron Unz's measure -- is the state's biggest disaster. A child who stays in the program for 12 years and is accepted to an Ivy League university -- as

several have been -- is a failure 11 times over, by Unz's definition.

Instead of using macro education issues to further his political ambitions, Silicon Ron should stick to his micro-chips.

The Lord Tennyson lie? In promoting his client Ron Unz in a July 6 Los Angeles Times column, writer Ruben Navarrete claimed that a Times poll reported that "83 percent of Latino parents ... favor English-language instruction as soon as their children begin school, while only 17 percent support native-language instruction."

Here's what the Times asked, and what 750 residents of Orange County responded:

Q: Which of the following do you prefer for students who speak limited English?

-- Mostly English, with some help in their native language. Total respondents: 59 percent; Latinos: 57 percent.

-- Only in English as soon as they enroll in school. Total respondents: 32 percent; Latinos: 26 percent.

-- Native language until they are ready to learn English. Total respondents: 7 percent; Latinos: 17 percent.

No ambiguity there. Just 26 percent -- not 83 percent per-

cent -- prefer programs with no native language instruction.

The Times should have read its own poll before publishing Navarrete's distortion of it. Shortly after that deception ran, The Wall Street Journal allowed it to be repeated in a July 24 column by Hal Netkin, whom it identified as a Los Angeles businessman.

Netkin embellished the poll result even more: "Indeed, 83 percent of Latino respondents to a Los Angeles Times poll last month said they oppose bilingual education."

If Unz's devious, dollar-fat referendum -- which will hurt thousands upon thousands of children -- gets on the California ballot in '98, chances of its passage are probably as good or better than were those of 209 and 187. And both those passed.

All used campaigns structured to exploit public ignorance and fear. As the man who wrote "Mein Kampf" told the world, "The great masses of the people ... will more easily fall victims to a big lie than to a small one."

(Charlie Erickson is publisher of Hispanic Link News Service, based in Washington, D.C.)

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Mentiras, Verdades A Medias Y Otras Practicas Politicas Raras

Por Charlie Erickson

Las cifras no mienten, pero los mentirosos idean. No sé dónde escuché eso. Por la época en que yo estaba en la preparatoria, Alfred Lord Tennyson me dijo: "Una mentira que es una verdad a medias es siempre la más negra de las mentiras." Ahora agregaré una de mi cosecha: Las mentiras viajan más lejos y más rápidamente que las verdades.

La más inverosímil mentira que he visto en mucho tiempo es la que está siendo propagada por Ron Unz, un hombre de Silicon Valley, California, al promover su referendo estatal titulado "Inglés para los Niños." Unz repite una y otra vez que "la enseñanza bilingüe en las escuelas públicas de California "tiene una tasa anual de fracaso del 95 por ciento."

Al despilfarrar casi medio millón de dólares en una iniciativa, que espera lo haga un nombre familiar en todas las casas, el políticamente ambicioso Unz quiere terminar con la enseñanza bilingüe en su estado, al igual que otros antes que él crearon las Proposiciones 209 y 187 para purgar a California de la acción afirmativa y sacar a los niños de inmigrantes indocumentados de las escuelas.

Unz alega que sólo el 5 por ciento de los estudiantes de enseñanza bilingüe del estado pasan a las clases únicamente en inglés cada año. Entonces, usando su propia afirmación intrincada de que

los programas bilingües tienen la obligación de "graduar" a todos los alumnos entrantes que no hablan inglés en un año escolar como "diestros en el inglés," él inventa la cifra del 95 por ciento.

Revisemos los datos: Por obvias razones pedagógicas, casi todos los programas de enseñanza bilingüe no están estructurados para empujar a los alumnos que no hablan inglés hacia cursos de estudios en inglés únicamente en tan sólo un año escolar. Muchos hacen énfasis en el aprendizaje de dos idiomas, no sólo del inglés. Y algunos de los mejores -- tales como el del Distrito Escolar de Caléxico, en California -- continúan desde el kindergarten hasta la escuela preparatoria, permitiendo a los graduados aprender y funcionar completamente en dos idiomas, a medida que ellos se preparan para adentrarse en nuestra sociedad global.

Las mejores escuelas preparatorias del mundo cobran a los padres colegiaturas infladas para inscribir a sus hijos e hijas en programas bilingües de calidad, tales como el que ostenta Calexico.

A pesar de su tasa de éxito académico y de la aclamación internacional, el método de Calexico -- por la medida del político Ron Unz -- es el mayor desastre del estado. Un niño que permanece en el programa durante 12 años y es aceptado en una universidad de la Ivy League -- como lo

han sido varios -- es, por la definición de Unz, un fracaso multiplicado por 11.

En vez de emplear a los asuntos de macro-enseñanza para adelantar sus ambiciones políticas, "Silicon Ron" debería apearse a sus micro-chips.

¿La mentira de Lord Tennyson? Al promover a su cliente Ron Unz en una columna del Los Angeles Times el 6 de julio, el escritor Rubén Navarrete alegó que una encuesta del Times informaba que "el 83 por ciento de los padres y las madres latinos ... favorecen la enseñanza en inglés tan pronto como sus hijos comiencen a asistir a la escuela, mientras que sólo el 17 por ciento favorecen la enseñanza en el idioma nativo."

He aquí lo que preguntó el Times, y lo que 750 residentes del Condado de Orange respondieron pronto:

¿Cuál de los siguientes (métodos) prefiere usted para los estudiantes que hablan inglés con limitación?

-- Principalmente inglés con alguna ayuda en su idioma nativo. Total: 59 por ciento. Latinos: 57 por ciento.

-- Sólo en inglés tan pronto como se matriculen en la escuela. Total: 32 por ciento; Latinos: 26 por ciento.

-- En la lengua nativo hasta que estén listos para aprender el inglés. Total: 7 por ciento; Latinos: 17 por ciento.

No hay ambigüedad alguna aquí. Sólo el 26 por ciento -- y no el 83 por ciento -- prefieren

programas SIN enseñanza en el idioma nativo.

El Times debería haber leído su propia encuesta antes de publicar la tergiversación de Navarrete sobre ella.

Poco después de publicarse ese engaño, The Wall Street Journal permitió que se repitiera en una columna del 24 de julio redactada por Hal Netkin, a quien identificó como un comerciante de Los Angeles.

Nektin lo embelleció aún más: "En verdad, el 83 por ciento de los que respondieron a una encuesta del Los Angeles Times el mes pasado dijeron que se oponen a la enseñanza bilingüe."

Si el referendo tortuoso y cargado de dólares de Unz -- que va en contra de la experiencia educativa y dañará a miles de millares de niños -- llega a figurar en la boleta de California en 1998, las probabilidades de que sea aprobado son, quizá, tan buenas o mejores que las que tuvieron las Proposiciones 209 y 187. Ambas fueron aprobadas.

Todas ellas emplearon campañas estructuradas para explotar la ignorancia pública y al temor. Como el hombre que escribió "Mein Kampf" dijo al mundo: "Las grandes masas de gente ... serán víctimas con mayor facilidad de una gran mentira que de una pequeña."

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ría de la Ciudad de México en 1995. Como todo inmigrante me había convertido en un extranjero en mi propio vecindario y un turista en mi tierra natal.

El nacionalismo es una batalla perdida aquí, pero la asimilación es algo que siento que debo evitar. Espero permanecer fuera del "melting pot," y sin embargo gran parte de lo que ya soy es una mezcla estadounidense. Sí, es O-R-T-E-G-A como los taco shells. Soy mexicano, mestizo con la maliche como madre y el tío Sam como padre postizo.

Me han llamado "compañía exótica." Me han dicho, "Estamos acostumbrados a pensar que México es el pobre y malvado vecino del sur, pero su cultura es interesante." Un señor nuyorquino en sus cincuentos especuló que la industria petrolera seguramente pagaba mi colegiatura universitaria, como si un mexicano educado nece-



Sittin' Here Thinkin'

Bad Guy Mistakes

by Ira Cutler

Summertime is time for going to the movies and I go to more than my share. The big movies today are not "epics" or "sagas," not movies like *Gone With The Wind*, *Lawrence of Arabia* or even the Godfather. Instead, the crowds flock to what are called "action-adventure" movies, the ones with the \$100+ million price tags in which blowing up everything in sight is an inevitable part of the plot.

Most movies are built on a well-known formula and structure. Familiar movie formulas include: sick person who overcomes tragic illness; boy meets girl, loses her, then gets her back; whodunit; monster kills lots of people but is ultimately subdued, and others. We know these formulas, we can see what is happening and what is going to happen, and that is exactly what we want. On a hot summer night at the movies we want to be frightened, amused, or entertained and we do not want to work too hard at thinking.

The action-adventure movie has a formula, too. These movies are essentially good guy versus bad guy - the bad guy wins in the beginning, the good guy wins eventually at the end. Along the way, all the predictable things happen, including a whole range of what I think of as Bad Guy Mistakes.

The classic Bad Guy Mistake, made at the critical moment of every action movie, is failing to kill the good guy in a simple, direct, reliable way when the bad guy has the chance. Instead, the bad guy leaves the good guy tied up and certain to die as the water rises, or the train is coming, or the bomb is counting down to explosion. We know, every single one of us sitting there in the dark munching popcorn, that the bad guy has just made a fatal mistake and we are confident that it will all come out alright.

Another Bad Guy Mistake, found in all the martial arts oriented action movies, is when there are 85 bad guys against one good guy and the bad guys come at him one, or at most two, at a time. Still another mistake, also quite common, is to assume - because the good guy wears glasses, or speaks softly, or is a minister who is slow to anger - that he is not also a Congressional Medal of Honor winning Green Beret with Rambo tendencies and skills. We know that the bad guy will pay dearly for that mistake before the film is over.

Good guys make Good Guy Mistakes, as well. They fall into traps that any fool could see through, they enter buildings where you just know the bad guys are lurking, and they fail, every single time, to get help. They never take heed of the ominous music playing in the background and they never turn around in time to see the bad guy who is about to hit them in the head. Good guys never seem to realize that their best friend is certain to die, unless he, too, is a major movie star and the film is a buddy film. Good guys always go back for the girl and they do not realize that she is one of the bad guys until long after it is plain to us.

In a now very popular Good Guy Mistake, they believe that the battered and broken bad guy is dead, when we all know that any minute now the bad guy will spring up again and have to be fully and completely killed again. "We sit there and we want to scream, "Look around, idiot, he is behind you!" and "Don't trust her!", but they never listen to us, do they?

Much the same sort of processes are at play in the world off-screen. I never know whether life imitates art or art imitates life, but I see our society making the same sort of obvious, formulaic mistakes that I see in the movies.

Of course, the stock market is going to crash - there is no plot that makes any sense if it keeps going endlessly up - and after it crashes everyone who has any real money and power will be found to have gotten out in time. And no, those millions of former welfare recipients aren't going to live happily-ever-after and the budget won't stay balanced, either - you can just see the Depression coming, as plainly as you can see that the dinosaurs will escape and go on a rampage.

Russia is only playing dead, lying on the floor with one eye open, lulling us into thinking we are in no danger and getting ready to pounce, just as soon as the music blasts in the background. Certainly John Huang is a spy for the Chinese government - he would not be on the screen so much if there was no story behind him - and he will not turn out to be the only one, either.

We watch these social and political events like just so many movies and we can see how they will turn out. Amazingly, the people in the play, the famous folks we read about in the papers and watch on television, cannot hear the ominous music, do not see the obvious plot-lines and are walking, blindly, into more than just one trap. For this show we do not get to sit in a dark theater, do not get to eat enormously over-priced popcorn and do not get to yell out, "Watch it!" and "Look out, she's got a gun!"

For me, this column is my way of screaming at the screen, of calling out when I think the danger is obvious but still unseen. "You idiots," I like to yell. "Can't you see it's a trap?" But they do not listen, either.

sitara a toda una industria de respaldo o nunca fuera lo suficientemente inteligente para conseguir becas. No hablemos de que la industria petrolera mexicana es propiedad del estado.

Solía pensar que luchaba una batalla distinta a la de Latinos Estadunidenses. Yo luchaba contra la ignorancia imperial y los Latinos luchaban por respeto e igualdad de derechos. Sin saberlo, el INS me empujó a reconsiderar. En algun punto todos pasamos o evadimos las inspecciones de la migra por razones similares.

Hace poco aprendí a escribir "Latino" con mayúscula. He leído sobre la nueva ley de inmigración, las reformas a programas de asistencia pública, la Propuesta 209, el status político de Puerto Rico. Si antes la pregunta en la solici-

tud para visa era un mensaje ambivalente, ahora se ha convertido en una fuerte advertencia; ahora se contra que me enfrente. Pero al mismo tiempo tengo demasiado invertido aquí como para negar la atracción de quedarme.

Regresaré a México en Agosto y me quedaré por un mes. Recuperaré un poco del español que he perdido, pero me seguiré sintiendo incomodo en mi propia lengua. Renovaré mi vaga memoria de la Ciudad de México. Llenaré la solicitud para una visa y esperaré ocho horas en un galardon vacío hasta que le den el sello oficial a mi visa. Le daré mis documentos al INS y trataré de recordar la cara del oficial. Espero quedarme dos años más por nhlo menos, después de eso, INS dirá.

(Edgar Ortega Barrales, 19, nació en la Ciudad de México y estudia Filosofía en Amherst College, en Amherst, Massachusetts).

Voluntario Para La Fuga De Cerebros Mexicana

Por Edgar Ortega Barrales

La solicitud general para una visa de los Estados Unidos pregunta si ha tomado medidas para convertirse en un residente permanente. La pregunta es una advertencia al igual que una sutil invitación. La prohibición le confiere encanto a muchas cosas, pero esa pregunta era aun más atractiva porque quería contestar que "sí."

Mi "coyote," si le puedo llamar así, voló un Boeing 747 la mañana de Agosto 26 de 1995. Dejé México como parte de la "fuga de cerebros" -- joven y ansioso por salir del país en busca de oportunidades. Me convertí en un "problema" mexicano el segundo en que me fui.

Clase media urbana, un mestizo blanqueado a través

de las generaciones y los años aprendiendo inglés; mi inglés es casi perfecto. La mayoría de Latinos tienen la piel más oscura que yo y comen más chile. Soy un mexicano furtivo, un Latino inusual con disfraz de Anglo.

Con mis papeles en orden, cruzé la frontera sin que el oficial del INS examinara mi visa de estudiante con mucha atención. "Tienes que poner un guión entre tus dos apellidos, a menos que queiras perder uno de ellos," dijo el oficial. El guión, el famoso hyphen, empieza con tu nombre y después se multiplica.

Aún me considero mexicano y nada más, pero es difícil negar que mi auto-definición no ha cambiado después de dos años aquí. "Soy de México originalmente, pero estudio

en Massachusetts, y aprendí inglés en una escuela bilingüe en México," les digo a nuevas amistades.

"Originalmente" ... como si ahora fuera una copia carbón. Doy respuestas largas a simples preguntas porque, después de todo, incluso aquí, los inmigrantes tiene muchas que explicar.

"Hablar usted English?" dijo el oficial en mi segundo encuentro con el INS. Podría apostar que mi inglés es mejor que el suyo. Había respondido el formulario de inmigración incorrectamente. "Su domicilio es Amherst, Massachusetts, donde vive la mayor parte del año, no es México."

Vivía en un lugar que no reconocía como mi casa; mi "hogar" era una vaga memo-

Folk Art by Latin-American Women Featured at the TTU Museum

The exhibition "*Compañeras: Women, Art and Social Change in Latin-America* opens at the Museum of Texas Tech University on **August 10 in the Main Gallery**, Fourth Street and Indiana Avenue.

The Curator, **Betty LaDuke**, will introduce *Compañeras* at **2 PM** on Sunday in the Museum's Kline Room. Exhibition continues through September 28.

Compañeras is composed of folk art and photographs collected by Betty LaDuke, Professor of Art at Southern Oregon State College, during her journeys to Latin-America from 1981-1983. In each of the countries she visited, she interviewed, photographed, and made sketch book drawings of women artist in their home environment studios or commercial workshops. She found that throughout the Latin-American world women are now engaged in creating new art forms that are expressive of their changing roles and responsibilities within society.

Include in the exhibition are contemporary works from Chile, Peru, Grenada, Guatemala, Mexico, Cuba, Nicaragua, Peru and the San Blas Islands.

From Chile are embroideries about unemployment and political repression, smuggled out under the noses of government censors. From Peru are birthing dolls, a tradition begun during the Incan epoch. From Nicaragua come simple paintings reflecting the tropical land and hopes for the future. From Cuba are linoleum prints, burlap wall-hangings from Grenada, and poster-painting from Mexico. Some of the most striking artwork are by the Cuna Indians of the San Blas Islands off the coast of Panama.

The exhibit is toured by the Exhibit Touring Services, a program in the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences at Eastern Washington University. ETS is funded in part by the Washington State Arts Commission.

SATURDAY AT THE MUSEUM

The Museum of Texas Tech's Education Division is hosting Saturday workshops on "**Mask Making Techniques**" taught by local artist Lahib Jaddo during the month of August. The workshops are for children who will be in **grades 3-7** in the fall. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Workshop time are August 16, 1-3 PM, and August 23, 1-3 PM. The workshops will be in the Kline Room of the Museum located at Fourth Street and Indiana Avenue.

The Saturday At The Museum: Mask Making Workshops are presented in conjunction with the "*Mexican Masks of the 20th Century: A Living Tradition*" exhibition in the Main Gallery of the Museum. The exhibition includes 90 examples of masks that represent the predominant direction in Mexican mask making in this century.

The Saturday At the Museum workshops will include hands-on mask making for all participants, and will encourage adults to work closely with their children to create masks inspired by the exhibition.

The workshops are free of charge, but preregistration is required as class size is limited. For more information to request special assistance, and to register please contact the Museum's Education Division at (806) 742-2432, or e-mail to mxenl@pop.ttu.edu.

El Editor

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Editor/Publisher -- Bidal Aguero

Como Campeon De Los Inmigrantes, Giuliani Ha Recorrido una Gran Distancia

Por Miguel Pérez

Hace más de 10 años, un Fiscal Federal joven e impetuoso de Washington se sentó en las oficinas de la junta editorial de un periódico prominente de la ciudad de Nueva York. Yo me senté frente a él.

El estaba allí para explicar la interpretación dada por el gobierno federal a una ley de inmigración recién promulgada que imponía sanciones a empresarios que contrataran a inmigrantes indocumentados.

Yo estaba allí para determinar si el gobierno estaba consciente de las lagunas de dicha ley. A los defensores de los derechos de los inmigrantes les preocupaba que las sanciones contra los empresarios serían usadas por los operadores de talleres para explotar a sus trabajadores indocumentados aún más que antes. La ley daba a los empresarios faltos de escrúpulos una excusa para retener sueldos, en caso de que fueran multados por las autoridades federales.

A medida que yo manifesté estas preocupaciones, el fiscal de cara de piedra continuó recitando su discurso ensayado, prometiendo que el gobierno de Reagan haría cumplir la ley según estaba redactada, pero mostrando poca compasión por aquellos que pudieran resultar pisoteados.

Su actitud me preocupó, especialmente cuando se me había dicho que el joven fiscal tenía aspiraciones políticas y que él regresaría a su casa en Nueva York a fin de postularse para un cargo público.

Desde luego, eso fue meses antes de que Rudy Giuliani llegara a ser un fiscal federal super-estrella en la ciudad, y años antes de que él se convirtiera en alcalde de la ciudad. Parece como si hubieran transcurrido millones de años antes de que Giuliani surgiera el mes pasado como el principal defensor de los inmigrantes en la nación.

Rudy ha recorrido una gran distancia, y la política puede

tener algo que ver con eso. Al igual que el Gobernador de California, Pete Wilson, quien empleó el ánimo de la nación contra inmigrantes para postularse para la reelección, Giuliani está echando mano de la recién hallada simpatía hacia los inmigrantes legales ancianos e incapacitados que pueden perder los beneficios federales en este verano.

De modo que tenemos a un alcalde republicano en la costa oriental convirtiéndose en la antítesis de un gobernador republicano en la costa occidental. Pero lo que es más importante, tenemos un clima de tolerancia en vías de surgir que hace que sea políticamente más ventajoso el defender antes que atacar a los inmigrantes.

Cuando convocó una conferencia bipartidista de alcaldes de ciudades grandes en Ellis Island el mes pasado para denunciar la propuesta de ley de reforma de la asistencia económica pública, la cual niega sus beneficios a inmigrantes legales, Giuliani fue elogiado hasta por los demócratas liberales como "el principal campeón de los inmigrantes en la nación."

Para alguien que lo recuerda como el portavoz federal partidario de tomar medidas energéticas contra la inmigración ilegal, esa imagen puede ser difícil de vislumbrar. Pero reconozcámoslo: En su defensa de los inmigrantes legales y su crítica a la dirigencia de su propio partido sobre este asunto, Giuliani ha sido elocuente. Un verdadero campeón.

Durante meses, Giuliani ha estado empleando su posición de autoridad pública para decir que "el rechazo de ayuda federal a los inmigrantes legales necesitados es patentemente injusta y discutiblemente inconstitucional e inhumana".

Esas palabras fueron parte de una "declaración de principios" firmada por Giuliani y un grupo de funcionarios locales electos de toda la nación, que se reunieron para enfocar la atención nacional sobre el valor de la inmigración. "Los Estados Unidos se benefician inmensamente de los aportes económicos, culturales y sociales de los inmigrantes," hace notar su declaración.

La conferencia de dos días se pide la revocación total de las disposiciones anti-inmigrantes en la nueva ley. Giuliani dijo que, aunque algunos miembros del Congreso

están trabajando para revocar algunas de las disposiciones más ásperas de la ley, no obstante se necesita hacerse mucho más "para deshacer el daño que ellos hicieron."

Tratando de salvar la cara por ese daño, algunos republicanos del Congreso empezaron a porfiar sobre el restablecimiento de los beneficios, ya fuera a algunos de los ancianos o a algunos de los incapacitados. Giuliani dijo: "No puedo pensar en algo más indecoroso o inimaginable que hacer un trueque de los ancianos contra los incapacitados."

En una ciudad en que la mitad de la población es inmigrante, o hijos de inmigrantes, la postura de Giuliani a favor de los ellos, probablemente tiene motivaciones

políticas. Sin embargo, cuando los políticos defienden a los inmigrantes para ganar votos -- en vez de usarlos como conejillos de Indias para incitar el odio -- hay razón para optimismo. El clima anti-inmigrantes en la nación podría estar encaminándose hacia días más suaves.

(Miguel Pérez es columnista del Bergen Record en Bergen, Nueva Jersey.)

De La Primera

regresar a la escuela en Albuquerque.

Pero al final, las maestras oriundas de Vaughn esperan que no tengan que irse de su pueblo natal. Patsy dice: "Ambas queremos todavía realmente enseñar aquí. Todavía nos encanta estar aquí."

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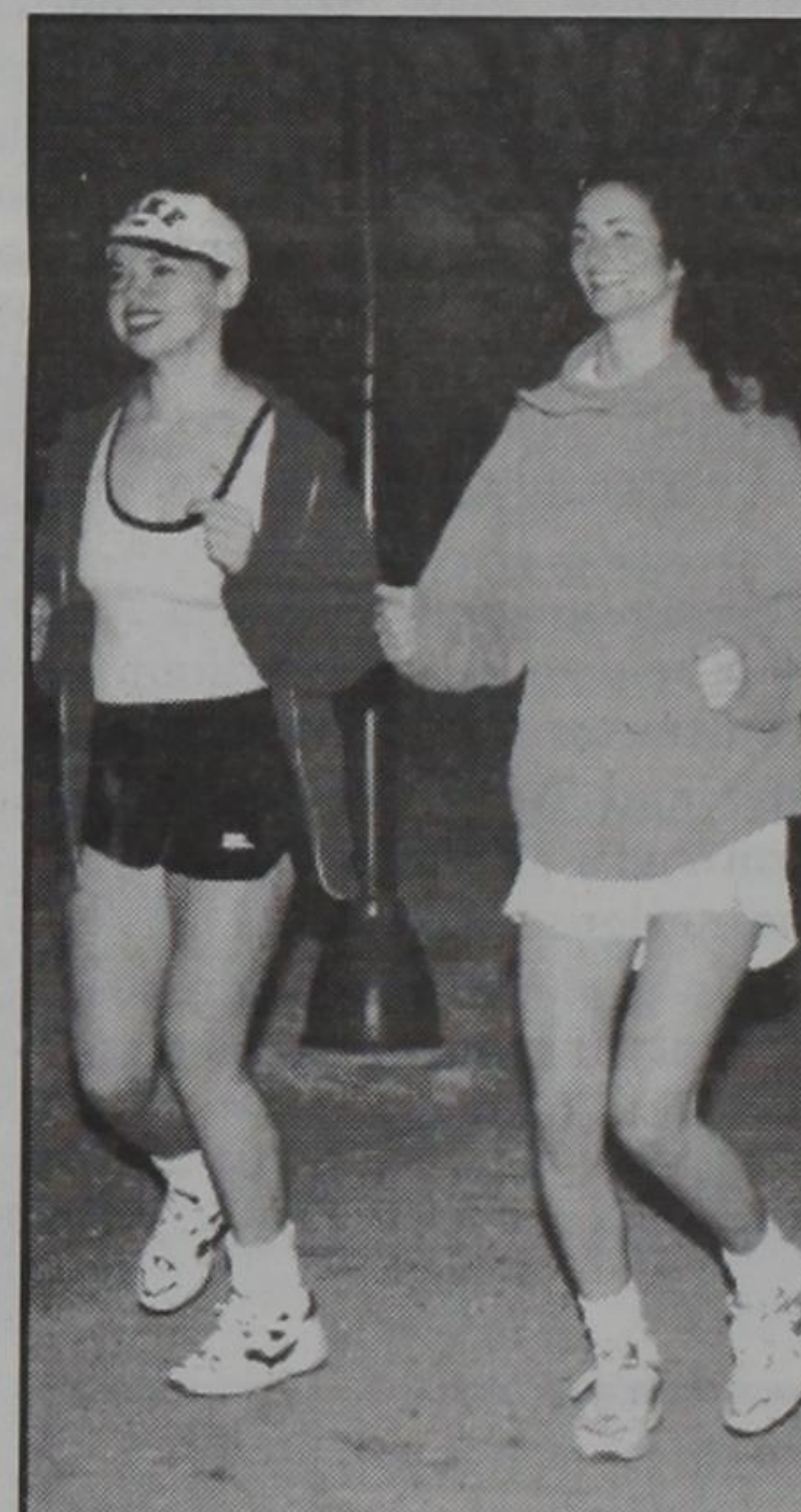
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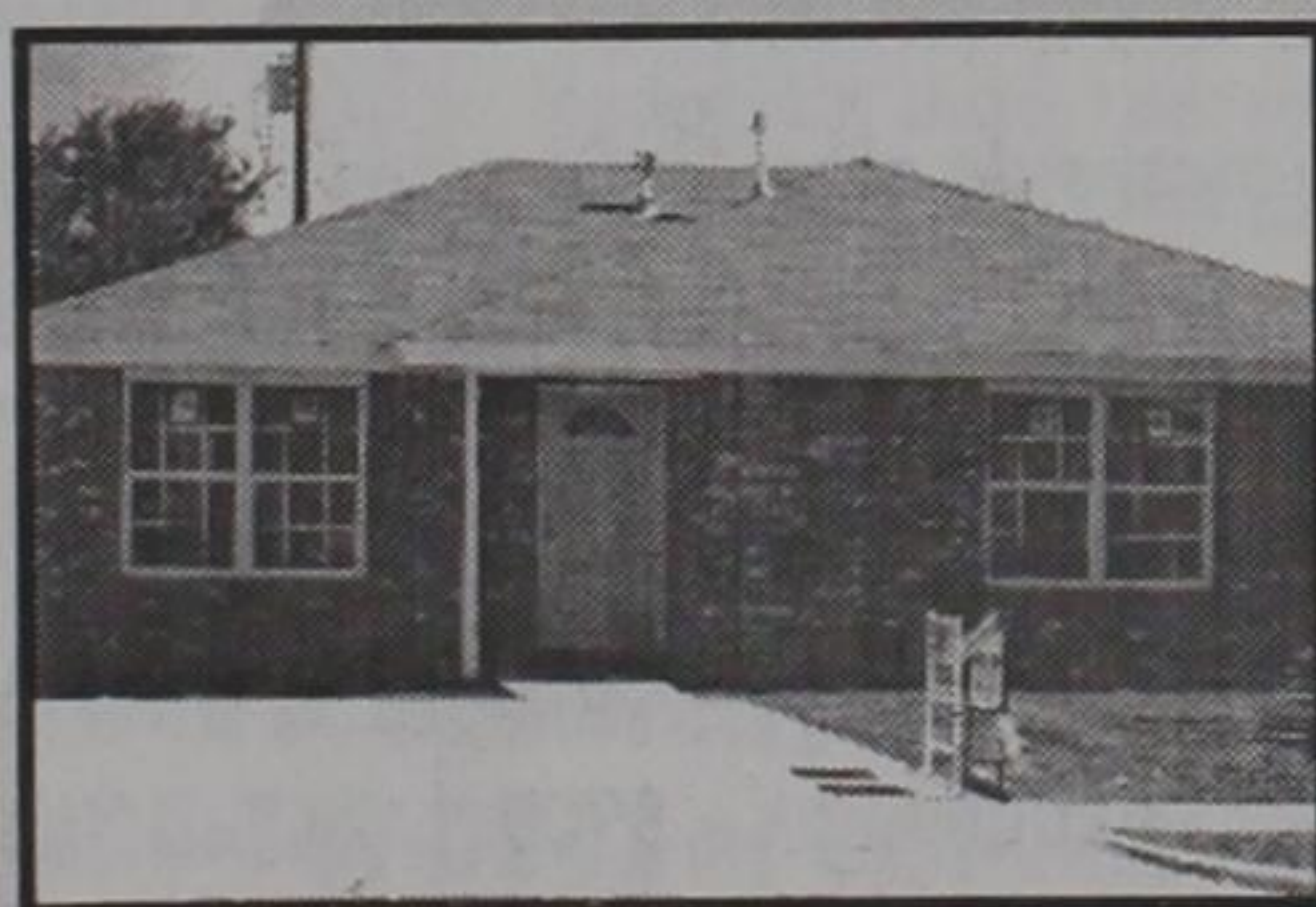
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Secretaria Ejecutiva Olivia Reyes con cuatro miembros del Consejo de la Ciudad quien sirvio por 18 años. De izquierda a derecha antes Alcaldes B.C. "Peck" McMinn, Alan Henry, Olivia, la Alcalde Windy Sitton, Miembro del Consejo T.J. Patterson. La Sra. Solis fue honrada por su muchos años de servicio durante una recepción que se llevo acabo la semana pasada.

Olivia Reyes Becomes Executive Direct of SUPERCENTER

In her 18 years as Executive Secretary/Executive Appointments Secretary for the City Council, Olivia Reyes has worked for seven different Mayors and 18 different members of the city Council. Past Mayors Olivia has served include bill McAlister, acting Mayor E. Jack Brown, Alan Henry, B.C. "Peck" McMinn, David Langston, Acting Mayor Alex "Ty" Cooke and current Mayor Windy Sitton.

Olivia leaves her position to become the Director of the new Arnett Benson/Rogers Supercenter, effective Aug. 4th. She will oversee the operations at the Supercenter and develop and organize new programs and services. she will be seeking the guidance and assistance of the neighborhood associations and other organizations in the area to implement programs that serve the greatest number of citizens at the Supercenter.

FARM AID '97 TICKETS ON SALE AUGUST 9

Tickets for the Oct. 4 Farm Aid '97 concert at Texas Stadium in Dallas, TX will go on sale Saturday, Aug. 9 at 10 a.m. CDT. Tickets are \$50, \$30, and \$17.50 (plus a service charge) and will be available through Ticketmaster.

The Farm Aid '97 star-studded line-up will feature extended sets from Farm Aid founders Willie Nelson, Neil Young, John Mellencamp Dave Matthews Band, John Fogerty and Allman Brothers Band.

The all-day musical extravaganza also will include special performance by John conlee, Ricky Skaggs, Joe ely Asleep at the Wheel and Jimmie Dale Gilmore. Additional artists will be announced.

"Farm Aid is proud and grateful for the support of these talented artists in the struggle to save america's family farmers," said Farm Aid president Willie Nelson. "Farm Aid '97" will offer music fans a unique opportunity to see top artists from a variety of musical styles playing together on the same stage."

Farm Aid '97 marks a return engatgement for Farm Aid in Texas Stadium. farm Aid V was held in Texas Stadium in march , 1992. Farm Aid executive director Caroly Mugar said Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and Texas Stadium have been extremely supportive of Farm Aid's efforts to help farm families in Texas and acreoss the nation.

Farm Aid was founded in 1985 to raise public awareness about the plight of the American family farmer and to provide assistance to those families whose livelihood depends on agriculture . In the past 12 years, Farm Aid has granted more than \$13 million to over 100 farm organizations, churches and service agencies in 44 states.

National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Programs
Lubbock Independent School District
1997-98 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

The Lubbock Independent School District offers free or reduced-price meals for children from families whose income is at or below guideline levels. Parents are encouraged to purchase pre-paid meal tickets for their child at any school in the district.

Eligible families may apply at each campus at the beginning of the school year. Foster children are also eligible for the benefits.

A letter from Superintendent Curtis Culwell, containing information on the free or reduced-price meals, will be distributed to students to take home to parents. All programs of the U.S. Department of Agruculture are available to everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, or handicap. If anyone believes that they have been discriminated against, they should write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

Under provisions of the free or reduced-price meal policy, all applications will be reviewed by the local Director of Food Services at 3501 Avenue G. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing for a hearing to appeal the decision. The request should be directed to Darwin Hilliard, Executive Director of Purchasing and Contract Services, 1628 19th Street, telephone 766-1098. The school district's policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure.

The following income guidelines will be used to determine the eligibility for free or reduced-price meals:

1997-98 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Household size	Annually		Monthly		Weekly	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$10,257	\$14,597	\$855	\$1,217	\$198	\$281
2	\$13,793	\$19,629	\$1,150	\$1,636	\$266	\$378
3	\$17,329	\$24,661	\$1,445	\$2,056	\$334	\$475
4	\$20,865	\$29,693	\$1,739	\$2,475	\$402	\$572
5	\$24,401	\$34,725	\$2,034	\$2,894	\$470	\$668
6	\$27,937	\$39,757	\$2,239	\$3,314	\$538	\$765
7	\$31,473	\$44,789	\$2,623	\$3,733	\$606	\$862
8	\$35,009	\$49,821	\$2,918	\$4,152	\$674	\$959
For each additional family member add this amount	\$3,536	\$5,032	\$295	\$420	\$68	\$97

Tex-Mex Y Español, Puro Sonidos Que Rebotan En Mi Celda

Por Jorge Antonio Renaud

Déjenme que les cuente sobre la noche que se cayeron los "chingles" y me encendieron el "lightbulb".

El otro día, un conocido criticó el español "impuro" que usan mis amigos. El español verdadero, decía con desdén, sólo se habla en España. La versión que nosotros los "texans" hablamos es inferior.

Le dije, como es mi costumbre, que pureza no significa calidad, que la calidad la dicta la primera regla del idioma, la facilidad de comunicación.

Pero ésta es una respuesta fácil. Inevitablemente, me han influenciado las teorías sociales de gente como Earl Shorris. En su libro Latinos, Shorris asevera que para razonar plenamente, para explicar con precisión y ser verdaderamente entendido, uno debe poder pensar claramente en por lo menos un idioma. El dice que la superficialidad del Tex-Mex deja a uno sin una base lingüística sobre la cual construir una estructura conceptual sólida.

Estaría de acuerdo, si uno fuera filósofo, que trata únicamente con conceptos y abstracciones. Pero en el mundo cotidiano del mestizo Estadounidense, la confluencia del inglés y el español crea una brusca y rica realidad, en lugar de pasividad intelectual. Esto se me ocurrió recientemente mientras escuchaba a Roberto Zamora manosear su acordeón como Jimi Hendricks lo hubiera hecho de haber nacido en Durango, México, y no en Seattle, Washington. A media canción, la señal de radio se desvanció. El acero de mi celda

distorciona la recepción de radio y a menudo me encuentro con antena en mano buscando una onda perdida.

Cundo encontré la señal nuevamente, Zamora había sido remplazado por un anuncio de una constructora que se especializa en la reparación de techos con "chingles" podridos que dejan los techos "leakiando". Por un precio moderado, la constructora también tiraría asfalto en su "driway".

El spanglish, a la deriva en un mar de español impecable, me incomodó. Curiosamente, me avergonzaba; como si mi maestra de tercero de primaria, que me pegaba por hablar español, me observara frunciendo.

Pero mientras más escuchaba, mejor me sentía. El locutor introdujo conjuntos de Oaxaca y le dedicó una canción a John de Chihuahua. De vez en cuando, dejaba caer palabras extrañas sin titubear, pintando imagenes sorprendentemente vividas.

Entonces entendí lo que debía haberle dicho a mi conocido elitista: Tex-Mex no es un idioma sino un puente y una fuente. Todos los días escucho dialectos del español. En prisiones tejanas, mexicanos juegan "soccer" con "southamericans", cholos urbanos se juntan con "nuyoricans" y todos juegan "baseball" contra "cubans" presumidos.

Todos comparten algo: quieren aprender inglés. Incluso entre friends evitan el armonioso español y hablan en un inglés quebradizo que, sin embargo, mejora constantemente.

Sí, la mezcla es una perversión. Su español es música

armoniosa y al mezclarlo con un inglés indecoroso, los resultados pueden ser espantosos.

Pero el spanglish no hace a nadie analfabeta ni superficial. La etimología está repleta de maromas y giros según las necedidades del locutor, cada palabra es brutalmente transformada hasta dejarla irreconocible.

Mis amigos no temen experimentar con frases nuevas. Estrenan palabras nuevas como si fueran escudos, insertando con audacia conjunciones improbables en cualquier conversación.

El inglés es el idioma de sus sueños. Todo lo que son, y lo que han sido, está implícito en la despectiva pregunta, "Speak English?"

Sí, lo hablan: una palabra aquí, una frase practicada allá. Lo aprenden de la radio, la televisión, el patio de recreación o periódicos viejos que pasan de mano en mano.

La profundidad de un idioma, y su variado vocabulario de donde nace una riqueza conceptual, se prestan a meditaciones metafísicas. Pero un lenguaje puro, por definición, no puede crecer. Como el perro callejero que vuela para agarrar un "frisbee" mientras su cosin, perro de raza, tropieza porque tiene las pier-nas muy rígidas, el mestizo es vital porque no teme intentar --y quizá fracasar-- a adaptarse al mundo vertiginoso.

Así que "wáchate" por que se caen los "chingles". No te vayas a "frikear" mano, estamos "speaking what we need".

(Jorge Antonio Renaud esta cumpliendo una condena a 60 años en la prisión estatal de Abilene, Texas por su tercer delito.)

From Page 1

low the national average. By 1990, Latinos and Native Americans were no longer the dominant majority in Santa Fe -- for the first time since the Spanish arrived. Some have resorted to calling the town "Santa Fake."

Chicano history is still being put on the map in New Mexico, while other states, such as California, have long ago implemented it in public school curriculums.

The University of New Mexico is working with the state school system to determine a Chicano history curriculum that will be offered to all public high schools. Garcia says he also sees less conflict about the issue among young Latinos.

The Vaughn sisters may have temporarily lost their jobs, but they feel like they may still win in the long run, said Patricia Cordova.

Both are being invited to speak before various academic conferences, and both are considering going back to school in Albuquerque.

But in the end, the Vaughn natives hope they don't have to leave their hometown. Says Patsy: "We both still really want to teach here. We still love it here."

(Louis Aguilar, of Washington, D.C., is editor of the national newsweekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report.) Copyright 1997. Hispanic Link News Service. Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Read It First In El Editor

Ahora puede darle a
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Cada año el FHA ayuda a casi un millón de personas a conseguir préstamos para tener su casa. De hecho, el FHA se creó para ayudar a las familias que no podían darse el lujo de comprar su propia casa. Con financiamiento asegurado de FHA, su pago de entrada podría ser igual a unos pocos meses de alquiler. Y usted no necesita ni un crédito perfecto ni un trabajo con alto

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\$60,000.....	\$2,500	uisitos. Y en
\$90,000.....	\$4,000	algunos casos,

es posible que sus pagos mensuales no sean mucho mayores que su alquiler. Pídale detalles a cualquier agente de bienes raíces o institución de préstamos. O llame al 1-800-CALL FHA. Y vea lo fácil que es tener su casa propia.

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News Briefs From Page 1

significantly affect a person's intelligence. That suggests that inadequate prenatal care may explain why poorer people and blacks generally score lower on IQ tests. The findings are in Thursday's issue of the journal *Nature*.

The statisticians combined the results of 212 earlier studies that compared the IQs of twins, siblings or parents and their children. Then the researchers constructed a set of statistical models, or predictions, to determine which one best fit the accumulated data.

The best-fitting model was one that included genetic effects, environmental effects such as being raised in the same or different households and prenatal conditions.

Many of the 212 earlier studies had found a strong genetic component to intelligence by showing that identical twins raised apart have remarkably similar IQs. But the new study weakens that conclusion somewhat by showing that fraternal twins - who are different genetically - also have more similar IQs than siblings.

The mere fact that they occupy the same womb at the same time accounts for 20 percent of the similarity between twins, decreasing the relative significance of genes. Even for siblings who aren't twins, being carried by the same mother at different times explains 5 percent of the similarity in IQ.

"The implication would be that the in-utero environment has a profound effect on IQ in the general population," said University of Minnesota psychologist Matt McGue. "It will stimulate people to think about prenatal factors in a way they hadn't before."

Planned Parenthood Banned at Texas Concert

While activists pushing a variety of causes have set up booths for years at rock concerts, the inclusion of Planned Parenthood in the Houston stop of the all-women summer music tour Lilith Fair brought some tense moments before showtime over the weekend, reports Associated Press.

The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion has a policy of barring those promoting "contentious issues" from setting up booths at the venue. Planned Parenthood's platform - supporting access to birth control and abortion - proved too controversial.

Pavilion officials had informed Pace Concerts, which booked Lilith Fair, that Planned Parenthood would not be allowed to set up at the Woodlands, Texas, amphitheater just north of Houston.

But the message never made it to Lilith Fair officials, who have included space for Planned Parenthood booths at every stop on the nationwide tour featuring Sarah McLachlan, Joan Osborne, Jewel, Emmylou Harris and Lisa Loeb.

"Places like the Pavilion make millions off young people who come to the Pavilion to hear music that's often sexual in nature and at a time when they're interested in sex and sexuality," said Susan Nenne, spokeswoman for Planned Parenthood in Houston. "And it's irresponsible for them to make money off these young people yet deny them access to information about sexual responsibility."

After Planned Parenthood officials were turned away Sunday, artists from one of this summer's most popular tours held a pre-concert news conference to show their support for the group.

Only after Osborne and McLachlan threatened a future boycott of the amphitheater did Pavilion officials allow Planned Parenthood a booth, where birth control information, voter registration cards and condoms were distributed.

Healthcare Corp. Settles With Patients

Tenet Healthcare Corp. reportedly will pay \$98 million to former patients who accused the company and affiliated doctors of imprisoning them in psychiatric hospitals to obtain insurance benefits, reports Associated Press.

The deal, which resolves lawsuits brought by 680 former patients in two Texas state courts, also calls for doctors to pay \$20 million. The New York Times reported today, citing unidentified people familiar with the terms.

Tenet, the nation's second-largest for-profit hospital chain, reached the settlements in recent weeks, the newspaper said. In their lawsuits, the former patients said they were abused, even put in restraints for weeks at a time and rarely released until their insurance benefits dried up.

The cases involved activities that occurred under former management of the company, then known as National Medical Enterprises. In 1994, the company's psychiatric unit admitted to paying kickbacks and bribes to doctors for referrals from at least 1986 through 1991 and paid \$375 million in fines and penalties.

Tenet is now out of the psychiatric hospital business. The Santa Barbara, Calif., company said the settlement resolves most patient claims against it, though some 300 similar cases are pending.

'Christi' Villarreal Wins Poetry Contest

Lydia Christine "Christi" Villarreal of Wolfforth and a student of Frenship Jr. High School was recently named to be a semi-finalist in the North American Open Poetry Contest. Her Poem "To Chase Wallden" will be entered into the Final Competition held in Winter 1997.

In view of Christi's unique talent her poem will be published in the Forth coming anthology Diamonds and Pearls. (Scheduled for publication in February 1998). The poetry anthology will showcase today's most talented poets and songwriters.



Christi is the daughter of Raul and Enedina Villarreal and will be a seventh grader at Frenship. She is a member of the gifted and talented class. She currently is working on several short stories and wrote her first short story "Team Work" in Kindergarten.

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A Volunteer For Mexico's 'Brain Drain'

By Edgar Ortega Barrales

A question on the general visa application to enter the United States asks whether you have taken steps toward becoming a permanent resident. The question is both a warning and a subtle invitation.

Prohibition adds allure to many things, but that question was more enticing because I was tempted to answer yes. My *visita*, if I may call *like that*, *from a Boring 747* from Mexico City to Dallas on the morning of Aug. 26, 1995. I left Mexico as part of the "brain drain" -- young and eager to leave the country in search of better opportunities. I became a Mexican "problem" the second I left.

Urban, middle class, a whitened mestizo through the generations and years of learning English, I now speak nearly perfect English. Most Latinos have darker skin than I and eat more chile. I'm a stealth Mexican, an unusual Latino in an Anglo disguise.

Fully documented, I crossed the border with the INS official who barely glanced at my student visa. "You have to put a hyphen between your two last names unless you want to lose one of 'em," he told me.

The hyphen starts with your name and then proliferates.

I still consider myself Mexican and nothing else, but it's hard to deny that the way I define myself hasn't changed after two years here. I'm originally from Mexico, but I

study in western Massachusetts, and I learned my English in a bilingual school in Mexico. I tell new acquaintances.

Originally ... as if I now were a plagiarized copy. I give long answers to simple questions because, after all, even here, we immigrants have a lot of explaining to do.

"Hablar usted English?" asked the official on my second encounter with INS. I could bet my English was better than his. I had filled out my immigration form incorrectly.

"Your domicile is Amherst, Massachusetts, where you spend most of the year, not Mexico," he said.

I lived in a place I didn't call home; "home" was a weathered memory of Mexico City in 1995. I became what all immigrants are: foreigners in their own neighborhoods and tourists in their native lands.

Nationalism is a lost battle here; yet assimilation is something I feel I have to fight. I hope to remain outside the melting pot, but so much of me is already a U.S. alloy. Yes, that's O-R-T-E-G-A, like *the taco shells*. I'm a Mexican *mestizo*, whose mother was *la malinche*, whose surrogate father was Uncle Sam.

I've been called "exotic company." I've been told, "We're accustomed to thinking of Mexico as the poor, evil neighbor in the South, but its culture is interesting." A 50-year-old white man in New

York speculated that oil money was paying for my college tuition, as if educated Mexicans were only products of millions or never bright enough for scholarships. Let alone that the oil industry in Mexico is entirely state-owned.

I used to think I was fighting a different struggle from U.S. Latinos. I was fighting imperial ignorance, while Latinos fought for equal rights and respect. Unknowingly, the INS pushed me to reconsider. At some, we all passed or evaded the scrutiny *of la migra* for similar reasons.

I learned to capitalize "Latino" only very recently. I have read about the new immigration law, welfare reform, Proposition 209, the status of Puerto Rico. If the visa application was an ambivalent message before, now it is a stern warning; I know what I'm up against. Yet at the same time, I have too much vested here to deny the attraction of staying.

I will go to Mexico in August and stay there for a month. I will recuperate some of the Spanish I've lost, yet remain uncomfortable in my native tongue. I will update my memory of the city and look forward to my return trip to Massachusetts. I will fill out a visa application and wait eight hours in a large empty room for its official approval. I will give my documents to INS and remember the face of the official. I expect to be here for two more years at least. After that, INS will tell.

Losophy major at Amherst College in Amherst, Mass. He was born and raised in Mexico City.)



Un Rayito De Luz

Por Sofia Martinez

El Espíritu Santo es la tercera persona de la Santísima Trinidad: Solamente un Dios en tres personas distintas: Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo). El Espíritu Santo es Dios como nos enseña la Santa iglesia Católica diciendo en su Credo que el Espíritu Santo debe ser adorado juntamente con el Padre y el Hijo.

La misaverdad se nos esena en la Biblia que le da al Espíritu Santo el nombre de dios. Cuando San Pedro reprendió a Ananías y a Safira por haberle mentido al Espíritu Santo, les dijo: No le han mentido a los hombres, sino a Dios.

El Espíritu Santo procede del Padre y del Hijo; como nos lo enseñan estas palabras del Salvador: "Cuando venga el consolador, ese Espíritu de verdad que procede del Padre y que yo les enviaré, dará testimonio de mí."

El Espíritu Santo es igual en todo al Padre y al Hijo; como ellos, es todopoderoso, es eterno, y su perfección y su grandezza y su sabiduría son infinitas.

el Espíritu Santo se llama Santo, porque es Santo por naturaleza y porque (si le dejamos) nos hace santos. el es: primero, Don de Dios, porque es el don más precioso que Dios no haya hecho a la humanidad. Segundo: es Consolador, porque nos consuela en nuestras aflicciones; y, tercero, es Espíritu de oración, porqu nos ayuda a orar bien.

La santidad del Espíritu Santo es diferente a la de los antos que honramos, porque: El es Santo por sí mismo porque es Dios, mientras que los Santos que honramos, han llegado a ser santos por la gracia de Dios. El Espíritu Santo es infinitamente Santo. El bajo bvarias veces visiblemente a la tierra. Así, bajó en forma de paloma sobre Nuestro Señor Jesucristo el día de su bautismo, y sobre los Apóstoles y Discípulos en forma de lenguas de fuego el día de Pentecostés. (Hechos 5, 1-10) (Juan 14, 16-17) (Jn. 16, 4b-8). (Hechos 2, 1-13).

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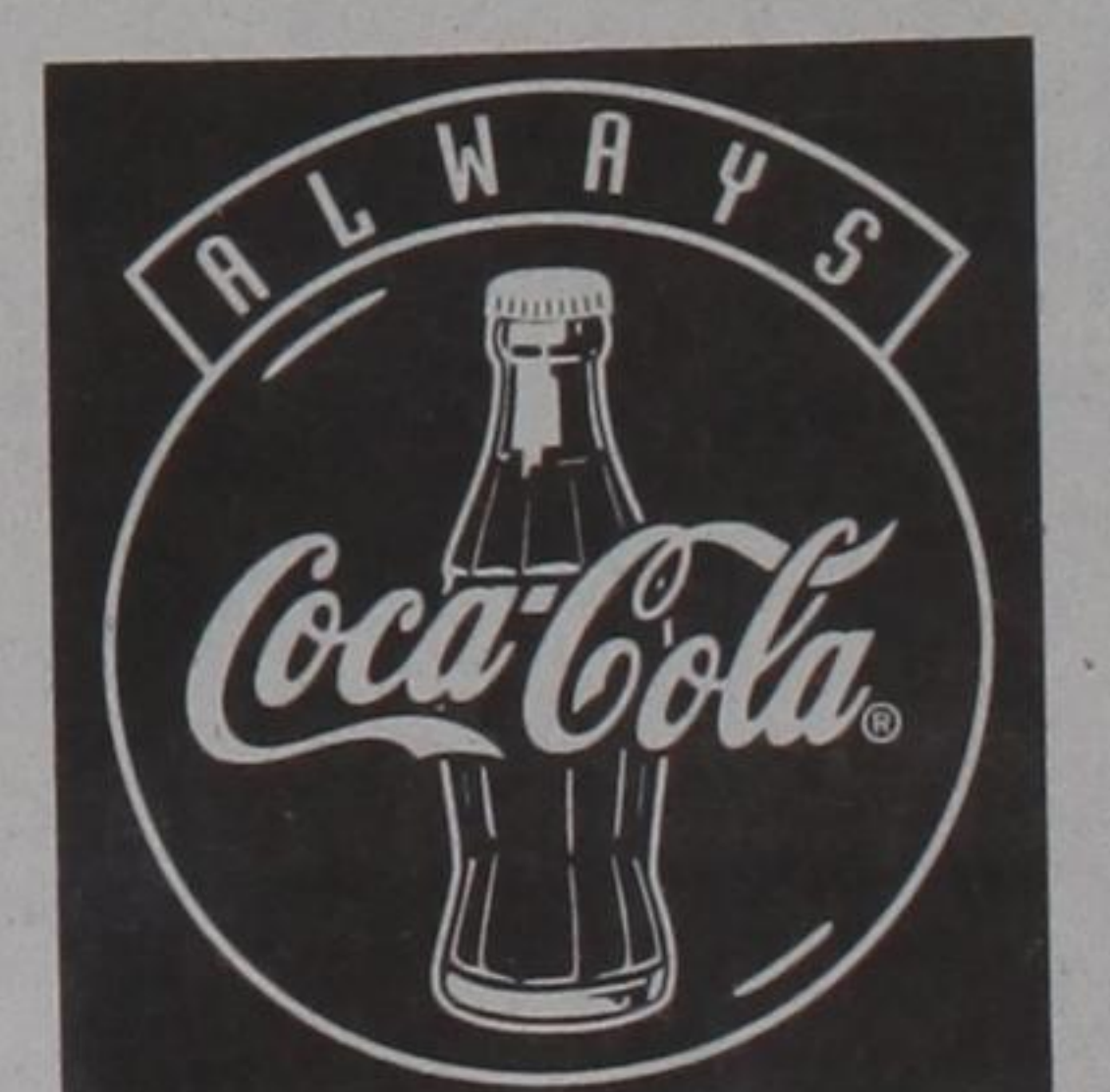
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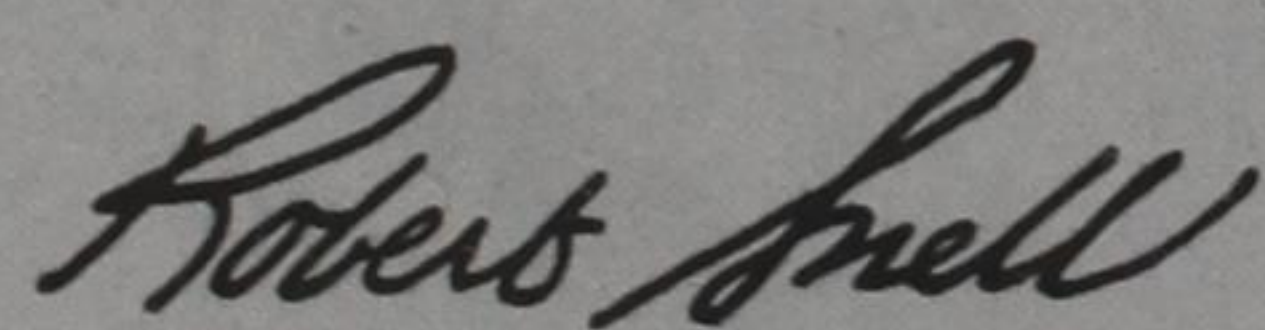
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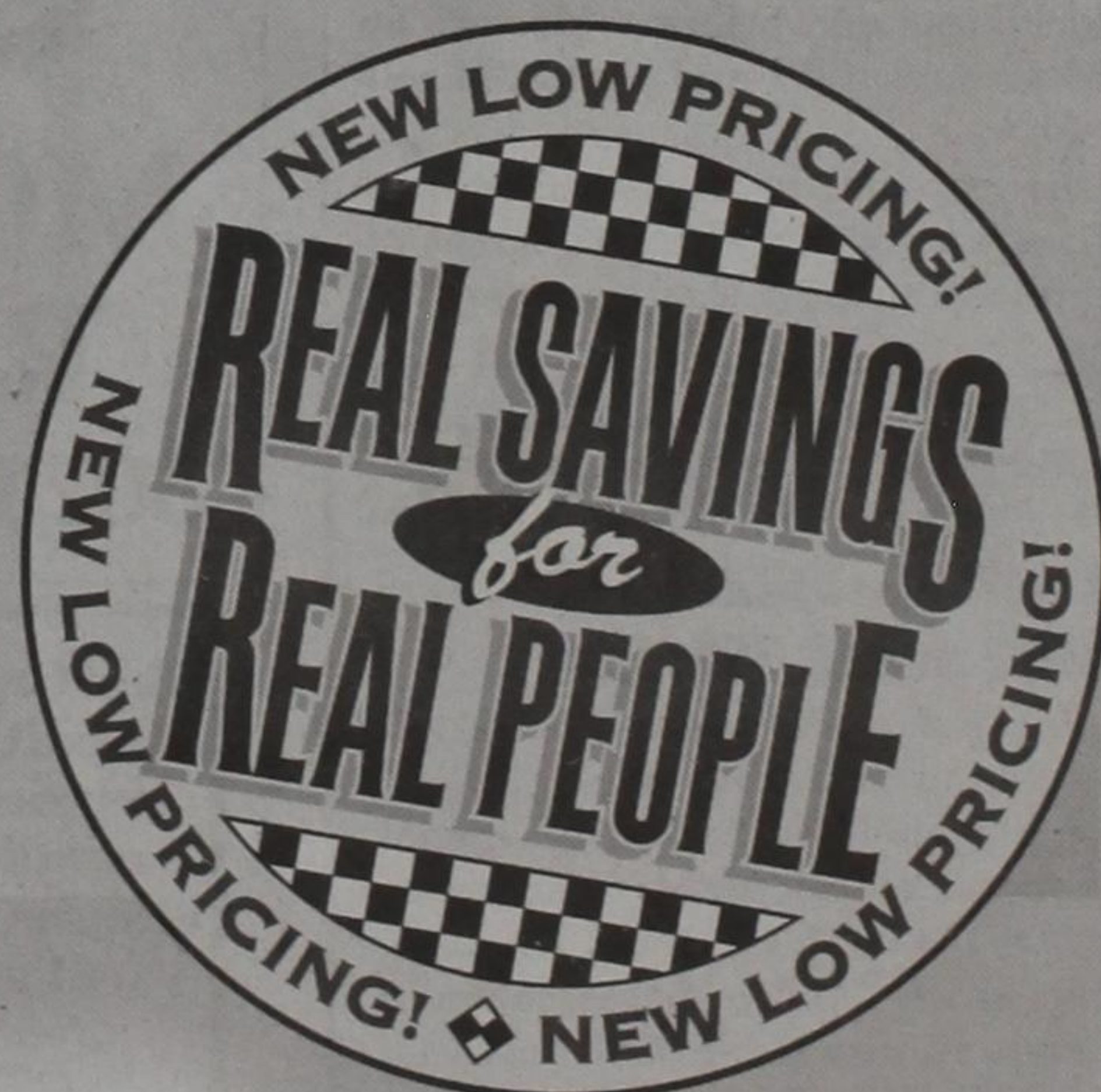
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