

# CLINTON INAUGURATION -- HISPANICS WILL HAVE A BALL

By Carlos D. Conde

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Attention all Hispanics. If you have \$75 for a ticket and some extra bucks for travel, lodging and incidentals, you can come to Washington to dance the macarena and other hot rhythms at the Jan. 18 Hispanic Gala ball.

It's part of the three-day inaugural celebration that shifts the Clinton administration into its second term. The inauguration itself is Monday, Jan. 20.

Once upon a time there was no Hispanic ball. Most of the Latinos at inaugural social events were the waiters.

Things have changed. More and more Hispanics now attend one or more of the dozen official inaugural events, including the Jan. 19 presidential gala and the Jan. 20 parade, in addition to their own gala featuring Latino celebrities and entertainment.

In the past, the Hispanic venues were usually small, and the dance floor resembled the morning rush hour on the Tokyo subway. There were a lot of ruffled feelings; people who traveled to Washington with an invitation couldn't always get tickets because the gala had been oversubscribed.

Not this time, say the organizers -- events director Cristina Cabral and talent coordinator Lydia Torres. Ten thousand invitations went out to the Democratic faithful and they expect from 3,000 to 5,000 revelers to attend the black-tie affair. Many of the invitations are considered commemorative and will be no-shows, so there should be tickets and room for all, including Republicans, according to Torres.

Those who didn't receive personal invitations and still want to attend the gala can inquire about tickets by contacting the organizers at (202) 822-8880.

The site is the humongous Union Station rail depot a few blocks from the Capitol. It was

Clinton/Gore" campaign tour of 13 cities in eight states. Also mingling with the movers and shakers will be Democratic "supporters," the euphemism for the big-bucks corporate sponsors who are footing most of the bill for the event.

Celebrities? There will be many -- the real thing and some pretenders. The genuine include actors Jimmy Smits of "NYPD Blue," Esai Morales of "My Family/Mi Familia," and Mark Espinoza of "Beverly Hills 90210."

There's also comedian Joe Valez of HBO's "Laughfest," actress Liz Torres, salsa star Willie Colon, the Barrio Boyz rap group and none other than that "you-got-it, take-it-away" Tejano music TV host Johnny Canales.

Also invited to make an appearance since they're expected to be here for other official inaugural events are Hispanic celebrity-circuit regulars such as Ricardo Montalban, Edward James Olmos, Paul Rodriguez, Cheech Marin and Ruben Blades. Other possible attendees, according to the organizers, are actress Daisy Fuentes, singer Maria Conchita Alonso, director Gregory Nava and Jennifer Lopez, who portrays Selena, the ill-fated Tejano music queen, in the upcoming movie.

Then there's the entertainment. On the bill are the mariachi group and dancers Campanas de America, singer Nydia Torres, folkloric guitarist/singer Ismael Gallegos, Tejano music star Emilio Navaira and jazz musician Nestor Torres.

The ball is budgeted at \$300,000 or more. The official Inaugural Committee gives its blessing but no money. Pioneering the shortfall are corporate friends such as Coca-Cola, Nike, J.C. Penney, Southwestern Bell, beer companies and other deep-pocket supporters.

For those who can't make it, Spanish television chains Univision and Telemundo are expected to carry portions of the event.

Getting to Washington is half the task. Tickets may be easier to get than lodging and other services because the city experiences visitor gridlock. Think of the Super Bowl and New Year's Eve at New York's 42nd and Broadway rolled into one.

Supply and demand also makes it a mite expensive. A room resembling a broom closet easily tops \$200 at the upscale hotels, and suites for the high-rollers go into the thousands.

It's best if you have a friend in Washington with an extra room. Remember that Harry Truman once said if you want a friend in Washington, get a dog. However, during inauguration days, even Fido may become antisocial. Still, y'all come!

(Carlos D. Conde of Washington, D.C., has worked in journalism in Texas, Washington and Latin American and was a White House press officer under President Richard Nixon.)

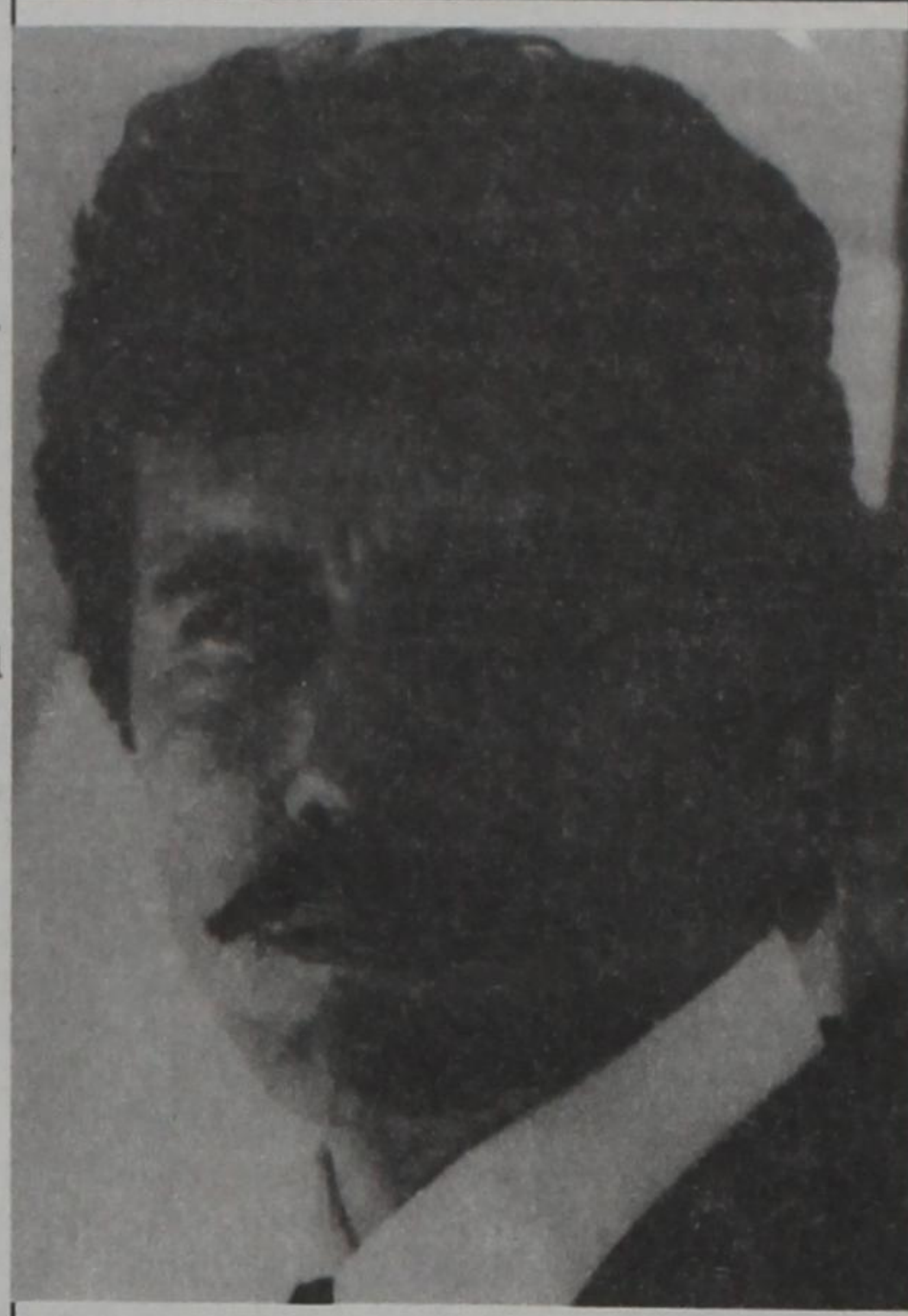


Hispanos quien asistaran la inauguración del Presidente Clinton este año bailaran al ritmo de La Macarena ademas de estar entre compania de varios artistas y politicos.

remodelado a few years ago to include a grand reception hall. There will be two dance floors and a speakers' platform for remarks by Latino dignitaries and President Clinton and Vice-President Gore, who have indicated they plan to do a drop-by.

Co-chairmen and honorees are outgoing Cabinet Secretaries Henry Cisneros and Federico Peña. The official host is the Hispanic Congressional Caucus, which includes new Hispanic congresswoman Loretta Sanchez of California. Sanchez leaped into celebrityhood by upsetting arch-conservative Robert Dornan in a hotly disputed Orange County race.

Receiving special recognition at a pre-ball VIP reception the same night will be participants in the "Adelante Con



Edward Olmos will be one of the special guests to the Inaugural Ball for President Clinton

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## EL EDITOR

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## Llega Pancho Clos Este Domingo

Rumors that Pancho Clos was going to take a vacation this year mainly because people didn't come out to vote in the last election have proven to be false. But you can be sure that he's not going to bring any presents to all those that didn't vote.

"Even though I was thinking about not going to Lubbock, I couldn't blame the kids for what their parents didn't do," said Pancho Clos in an interview this past week. "I will ask to see voting cards from all the members of the G.I. Forum," he added.

This will be the twenty-fifth year that the American G.I. Forum, a Veterans Family non-profit organization will be celebrating the coming of Pancho Clos. Every year Pancho has brought bags of fruit and candy to the kids of the Lubbock community.

Pancho is first cousin to Santa Claus and helps Santa deliver gifts to kids on the southern part of the world including the Southwest United States. The event has spread to many towns in the Southwest but was originated in Lubbock according to members of the Forum.

In San Antonio the event became a City wide celebration when began there from a former Lubbock resident and member of the Forum Raul Sanchez. Now the event raises thousands of dollars for providing gifts to the needy.

This year in Lubbock, Pancho Clos will be arriving at Cavazos Jr. High School via helicopter or fire engine truck at 2:00 pm on Sunday December 22nd. An average of 1800 kids come to see Pancho Clos as he arrives from the South Pole.

Members of the G.I. Forum are especially thankful for the help from Lubbock Power and Light and Caprock Home Health Services for helping to have the project. Everyone is invited.

**Don't miss El Editor's Special Christmas Edition Next Week with Stories that everyone will enjoy! Reserve you space**

## La Inauguración De Clinton -- Los Hispanos Se Divertiran

Por Carlos D. Conde

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Atención, todos los hispanos. Si tienen \$75 para un boleto de entrada y algunos dólares adicionales para viaje, hospedaje e incidentales misceláneos, pueden venir a Washington a bailar la Macarena y otros ritmos calientes en el baile de gala hispano del 18 de enero.

Es parte de la festividad inaugural de tres días que adentra al gobierno de Clinton en su segundo término. La inauguración misma será el lunes 20 de enero.

Erase una vez en que no existía el baile hispano. La mayoría de los latinos en los acontecimientos sociales inaugurales estaban entre los meseros.

Las cosas han cambiado. Ahora cada vez más hispanos asisten a uno o más de la docena de acontecimientos inaugurales oficiales, incluyendo al baile de gala presidencial del 19 de enero y

al desfile del 20 de enero, además de a su propio baile de gala que destaca celebridades y diversiones latinas.

Anteriormente, los lugares hispanos acostumbraban a ser pequeños y el piso de baile se parecía a la hora del tránsito nutrido de la mañana en el tren subterráneo de Tokyo. Muchos sentimientos terminaban heridos: Las personas que viajaban a Washington con una invitación no siempre podían conseguir entradas porque el baile de gala se había sobrevendido.

Pero no esta vez, dicen los organizadores -- la directora de acontecimientos Cristina Cabral y la coordinadora de talento Lydia Torres. Se enviaron diez mil invitaciones para los demócratas fieles y se esperan de 3,000 a 5,000 asistentes al acontecimiento de "corbata negra". Muchas de las invitaciones se consideran conmemorativas y los asistentes no asistirán, de

modo que debería haber boletos y espacio para todos, incluyendo a los republicanos, según dice Torres.

Los que no recibieron invitaciones personales y todavía quieren asistir al baile de gala pueden averiguar sobre boletos comunicándose con los organizadores por el (202) 822-8880.

El lugar es el enorme depósito ferroviario de Union Station, a pocas cuadras del Capitolio. Fue remodelado hace unos cuantos años para incluir un gran salón de recepciones. Habrá dos pisos de baile y una plataforma de oradores para los saludos de dignatarios latinos, el Presidente Clinton y el Vice-Presidente Gore, quienes han indicado que se proponen asistir brevemente.

Los co-presidentes y homenajeados son los secretarios salientes del gabinete Henry Cisneros y Federico Peña. El anfitrión oficial es el Cauco

Hispano Congresional, que incluye a la nueva congresista Loretta Sánchez, de California. Esta saltó a la celebridad al derrotar al archiconservador Robert Dornan en una carrera en el Condado de Orange cálidamente disputada.

Recibirán consideración especial en una recepción para personas muy importantes, antes del baile esa misma noche, los participantes de la gira de campaña por 13 ciudades en ocho estados, titulado "Adelante Con Clinton/Gore". También se mezclarán con los impulsores los "partidarios demócratas", el eufemismo que designa a los auspiciadores empresariales con muchos dólares que están corriendo con la mayor parte de la cuenta del acontecimiento.

¿Celebridades? Habrá muchas -- verdaderas y algu-

## News Briefs

### Black-Owned HMO Targets Medicaid Clients

PrimeHealth, a new black-owned managed care company, caters to the patients it believes few plans want or know how to cater to properly - the poor, blacks, the self-employed, employees at small businesses and the uninsured, reports The Washington Post.

PrimeHealth was founded in 1995 by a group of black health care professionals, insurance and managed care experts and community leaders. In the six months since it began accepting patients, the health maintenance organization has enrolled almost 3,000 District recipients of Medicaid.

"What is refreshing about PrimeHealth is it isn't all about dollars and cents," said Abdul Alim Muhammad, a provider in the plan and director of the Abundant Life Clinic in the District. "PrimeHealth has indicated a willingness to embrace a population that others might consider high-risk."

Muhammad, who was head of the medical task force for the Million Man March, also applauded the HMO's second mission, which is to sign up black medical professionals, many of whom have been shut out of larger, managed care plans.

The HMO will make a special effort to address the diseases that largely effect the black community such as hypertension, diabetes and sickle cell anemia. PrimeHealth's network includes 600 doctors and dentists in the District and Maryland. It has contracts with 17 area hospitals.

PrimeHealth recently received approval from the state of Maryland to offer its plan to Medicaid recipients. Within the next 12 months PrimeHealth will enroll about 25,000 Maryland Medicaid patients. The HMO would like to expand to another six states in the next 18 to 24 months.

### Clinton Retains Nursing

The White House Tuesday quickly rejected a proposal to reduce inspections of federally funded nursing homes after the idea drew criticism from consumer groups and state officials, reports Associated Press.

Government data show more than two-thirds of nursing homes do not fully comply with federal standards. Federal officials said narrowing the scope of reviews would make it easier to target the worst cases.

White House Spokesman Mike McCurry said the administration is trying to find ways to better use dwindling resources in the effort to crack down on nursing homes. But the idea to streamline inspections never made it to the White House or the desk of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala for review, according to McCurry.

Critics said the streamlined inspections could put the elderly at greater risk of nursing home abuse. "These changes will, in effect, authorize drive-by surveys," said Ellen T. Reap, president of the national Association of Health Facility Survey Agencies.

Currently, about \$80 billion a year is spent on the care of some 1.6 million people in more than 17,000 nursing homes nationwide.

Nursing homes must meet federal standards to obtain payment from Medicaid and Medicare. Under current rules, state agencies inspect the homes for compliance and federal officials then inspect at least 5 percent of homes to verify the findings.

Under one proposal, inspectors would not be required to observe how medications are prepared and dispensed at nursing homes that score well in an initial survey.

### High Court: No Filing Fees for Poor

The Supreme Court ruled Monday that states may not require that poor people pay court filing fees to bring an appeal in parental visitation cases, reports Reuters.

The court, by a 6-3 vote, said a divorced Mississippi woman, Melissa Brooks, cannot be kept from appealing a ruling ending her visitation rights to her two children just because she could not pay more than \$2,300 in court fees.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg wrote for the majority that a state may not constitutionally condition appeals from trial court decrees terminating parental rights on the ability to pay the filing fees.

"Just as a state may not block an indigent petty offender's access to an appeal afforded others, so Mississippi may not deny (Brooks), because of her poverty, appellate review of the sufficiency of the evidence on which the trial court found her

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# En El Congreso, Kika Dio Un Definicion Diferente

Por Carlos D. Conde

Eligio (Kika) de la Garza, uno de los primeros hispanos en servir en el Congreso, se jubilará este mes después de 32 años de servicio. Un demócrata del Valle del Río Grande de Texas, él ingresó al cuerpo legislativo nacional en una época en que el movimiento latino estaba poniéndose de moda. El fue un legislador eficaz pero no impertinente, a veces el partidista y rara vez el defensor. Su filosofía dictaba su programa de trabajo.

La carrera de Kika refutó al mito de que todos los hispanos son liberales y que, por lo tanto, todos los legisladores hispanos también lo son. La entidad "Americans for Democratic Action", que ha estado calificando los historiales de votación de los miembros del Congreso desde 1947, da a Kika un 36 por ciento en toda su ejecutoria respecto al cociente liberal, caracterizándolo indiscutiblemente conservador.

Kika no se disculpa por ello. Sus logros están grabados a lo largo y ancho de todo su distrito fronterizo, en carreteras, represas, enseñanza, servicios públicos, conservación del ambiente, beneficios a veteranos y, en lo más importante de todo, la fuente de vida de la zona, el sector de la agricultura, por el cual él merecidamente se enorgullece.

En 1981, él se convirtió en el primer legislador hispano que encabeza un comité importante de la cámara de representantes, al ser nombrado presidente del Comité de Agricultura de la Cámara. Dejó la plaza en 1994, cuando los republicanos se convirtieron en el partido mayoritario.

Un elemento que falta en el resumé de actividades de Kika

es un papel activo en los asuntos latinos. Nunca llegó a ser un líder ni portavoz de causas hispanas, como algunos le instaron para que fuera.

Presidió el Cauco Hispano Congresional desde 1989 hasta 1991, pero este grupo es principalmente una sociedad de fumadores que se reúne periódicamente, más para intercambiar información que para elaborar estrategias sobre la legislación que afecta a los hispanos.

Kika dice que ese cuadro está tergiversado. "He sido tan sensible a las necesidades de los hispanos como cualquiera, pero no lo hice dándome golpes de pecho en la cúpula del Capitolio ni desfilando por la calle con un estandarte."

"El trabajar en el proyecto de los derechos civiles fue personalmente significativo para mí, porque yo había sido discriminado anteriormente. Cuando se aprueba una ley, es una ley nacional que beneficia a todos, no sólo a los mejicanos. Aprobamos una ley sobre la enseñanza. Los hispanos se beneficiaron igual que todos los demás que habían sufrido abusos e indignidades. Lo mismo ocurre respecto a la igualdad en las oportunidades de empleo, en la salud, la acción afirmativa y el bilingüismo."

El agrega: "En mi distrito, el 80 por ciento de los electores son hispanos, de modo que es evidente que ellos darían forma a mis deliberaciones y a mis votos, porque los estoy representando. Muchas personas y organizaciones se convierten en representantes profesionales de las minorías, pero yo no soy uno de ellos."

Una de sus últimos actos

como congresista fue votar en favor del proyecto de ley de reforma en la asistencia pública. Aquí, de nuevo, él fue fiel a su filosofía, usando la perspicacia política que le permitió ser elegido 16 veces sin oposición seria.

Votó por este proyecto de ley porque las personas comunes que van a trabajar todos los días y pagan impuestos estaban exasperadas con los abusos del sistema de asistencia pública en los cupones para alimentos, la Ayuda para Niños Dependientes y nuestra incapacidad para rectificarlos. A todas partes a las que iba en mi distrito, las personas me detenían y me preguntaban cuándo íbamos a poner fin a esos abusos.

Kika se enfada ante la sugerencia de que ese voto probablemente iba contra el bienestar de su electorado, primordialmente hispano. "Es incorrecto clasificar a todos los hispanos como recipientes de asistencia pública," dice él. El piensa que el proyecto de ley tiene defectos aún, pero dice que a él se le dió la seguridad de que los mismos serían rectificados en el próximo Congreso.

Kika no ofrece ningún discurso de despedida, excepto para decir que es hora de irse. Está cansado de Washington, del Congreso y de la vida pública. Sus días como legislador fueron los de otra época, una en que la civilidad y el decoro, y hasta un poco de buena voluntad, reinaban. Ahora sólo hay gritos de "ustedes, demócratas pone-y-malgasta impuestos", y "ustedes, republicanos inútiles," dice él.

Y, en sus palabras, "a los jóvenes 69 años", está listo para irse a su casa en Mis-

sion, Texas, a la práctica privada del derecho y a disfrutar de algunas de las cosas de cada día que la vida pública no permite.

Kika ha edificado vínculos sólidos con México, siendo miembro del Grupo Inter-Parlamentario de Estados Unidos y México desde 1966 y en calidad de presidente representando a Estados Unidos desde 1978. Buena preparación para un cargo de embajador después del Congreso, como en México? Kika dice que no está interesado.

"Si el Presidente Clinton me dice que me necesita en alguna capacidad, no podría decir sencillamente "no," agrega él, "pero no estoy buscando nada."

En esta etapa de su vida, Kika parece realizado, contento. Se fue de Mission, Texas, a una edad temprana para asistir a la universidad, a prestar servicio militar y después sumirse en una carrera pública que comenzó en la Cámara de Representantes de Texas en 1953. Regresa a su casa con el conocimiento de que sirvió bien y fielmente a la gente de su distrito y a su país.

Puede que los elogios no estén a la altura de sus aportes. Aunque él siempre ha cubierto un intelecto agudo tras una personalidad de chico poblaro, Kika sabe que sus hechos como legislador nacional le sobrevivirán por largo tiempo. Para él, eso es un suficiente tributo.

(Carlos Conde, de Washington, DC., ha trabajado en el gobierno y el periodismo en Texas, Washington, D.C. y la América Latina.)

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# In Congress, Kika Gave 'Advocate' A Different Definition

By Carlos D. Conde

Eligio (Kika) de la Garza, one of the first Hispanics to serve in Congress, retires this month after 32 years. A Democrat from Texas' Rio Grande Valley, he entered the national legislative body at a time when the Latino movement was coming into vogue. He was an effective but unobtrusive legislator, at times the partisan and seldom the advocate. His philosophy dictated his agenda.

Kika's career rebutted the myth that all Hispanics are liberal and, therefore, so are all Hispanic legislators. The Americans for Democratic Action, which has been grading Congress members' voting records since 1947, gives Kika a lifetime 36 percent on the liberal quotient, stamping him as a bona fide conservative.

Kika has no apologies for this. His accomplishments are etched throughout his border district in highways, dams, education, public services, conservation, veterans benefits, and most of all, the area's lifeline, the farming sector for which he is deservedly proud.

In 1981, he became the first Hispanic legislator to head a major committee when named chairman of the House Agricultural Committee. He relinquished the post in 1994 when the Republicans became the majority.

One element missing from Kika's resume is a pro-active role in Latino issues. He never became a point man or spokesman for Hispanic causes, as some had urged him to do.

He did serve as chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus from 1989 to 1991, but this group is mostly a smokers' club which meets periodically, more to trade information than to broker strategy on legislation affecting Hispanics.

The picture is distorted, Kika says. "I have been as sensitive as anyone to the needs of Hispanics, but I did not do it pounding my chest on the Capitol dome or marching down the street with a banner."

"Working on the civil rights bill had a personal meaning to me because I have been discriminated against in the past. When you pass a law, it's a national law that bene-

fits everyone, not just the (ital) mejicanos. (unital) We passed an education bill. Hispanics benefited, just as all the others who have suffered abuses and indignities did. It's the same for equal employment, health, affirmative action and bilingualism.

"In my district, 80 percent of my constituents are Hispanic, so it's obvious they would shape my deliberations and my vote because I am representing them. A lot of people and organizations become professional minority representatives, but I am not one of them."

One of his last acts as a congressman was to vote for the welfare reform bill. Here again, he was true to his philosophy, using the political acumen that got him elected 16 times without serious opposition.

"I voted for this bill because the ordinary people who go to work every day and pay taxes were exasperated with the abuses in the welfare system in food stamps, in Aid to (Families with) Dependent Children and in our inability to correct it. Everywhere I went in my district, the people stopped me and asked when were we going to stop this abuse."

Kika bristles at the suggestion that this probably went against the well-being of his largely Hispanic constituency. It's wrong to categorize all Hispanics as welfare recipients, he says. He considers the bill still has deficiencies, but says he was assured they would be corrected in the next Congress.

Kika offers no valediction except to say it's time for him to leave. He's tired of Washington, of Congress and of public life. His lawmaking days were of another era where civility and decorum, and even a bit of good will, reigned. Now it's shouts of "you tax-and-spend Democrats" and "you no-good Republicans," he says.

At, in his words, "a young 69," he's ready to go home to Mission, Texas, to practice law and enjoy some of the everyday things that public life dis-

allowed. Kika has built strong ties with Mexico, having served on the U.S. Mexican Interparliamentary Group since 1966 and as its U.S. chairman since 1978. Good prepping for a

post-Congress ambassadorship like Mexico? Kika says he's not interested.

"If President Clinton tells me he needs me in some capacity, I couldn't very well say no," he adds, "but I am not looking for anything."

At this stage of his life, Kika seems fulfilled, contented. He left Mission, Texas, at an early age to attend college, serve in the military and then plunge into a public career that started in the Texas House of Representatives in 1953. He's going home knowing that he served the people

## Inauguración From Page One

nos pretendientes. Los legítimos incluyen a los actores Jimmy Smits, de "NYPD Blue," Esaí Morales de "My Family/Mi Familia," y Mark Espinoza de "Beverly Hills 90210." Estará también el comediante Joe Valez del programa "Laughfest" de HBO, la actriz Liz Torres, la estrella de la salsa Willie Colón, el grupo de rap Barrio Boyz y nada menos que el anfitrión de la música tejana por televisión, Johnny Canales, conocido por su dicho: "You got it, take it away" (Ya lo tienes, llévatelo).

También invitados para hacer una aparición, ya que se espera que estén aquí para otros acontecimientos inaugurales oficiales, están los regulares del circuito de las celebridades, tales como Ricardo Montalban, Edward James Olmos, Paul Rodríguez, Cheech Marin y Rubén Blades. Otros posibles asistentes, según los organizadores, son la actriz Daisy Fuentes, la cantante Maria Conchita Alonso, el director Gregory Nava y Jennifer López, quien personifica a Selena, la desaparecida reina de la música tejana, en la esperada película.

Entonces viene la diversión. En la cartelera están el grupo de mariachis y bailarines "Campanas de América", la cantante Nydia Torres, el guitarrista y cantante folklórico Ismael Gallegos, la estrella de música tejana Emilio Naivaira y el músico de jazz Néstor Torres.

El presupuesto del baile se encuentra en \$300,000 o más. El Comité Oficial de Inauguración da su bendición, pero no

in his district and his country faithfully and well.

Maybe the accolades won't match his contributions. Although he has always masked a sharp intellect in a homeboy personality, Kika knows his deeds as a national legislator will long survive him. For him it's sufficient tribute.

(Carlos Conde of Washington, D.C., has worked in government and journalism in Texas, Washington, D.C., and Latin America.)

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da dinero. Aportarán la diferencia los amigos empresariales, tales como la Coca-Cola, Nike, J.C. Penney, Southwestern Bell, las compañías cerveceras y otros partidarios de bolsillos profundos.

Para los que no puedan asistir, se espera que las cadenas televisoras en español, Univisión y Telemundo, transmitan partes del acontecimiento.

El llegar a Washington es la mitad de la tarea. Los boletos pueden ser más fáciles de obtener que el alojamiento y otros servicios, porque la ciudad se convierte en una congestión humana. Piensen en el Super Bowl y la esquina de la calle 42 y Broadway, en Nueva York, combinados en un solo lugar.

La ley de la oferta y la demanda también hace que sea bastante costoso. Una habitación del tamaño de un cuarto para escobas valdrá fácilmente \$200 o más en los hoteles de clase alta, y las "suites" para los ricos llegarán a los miles.

Es mejor si tiene algún amigo en Washington que ponga de una habitación extra. Recuerden que Harry Truman dijo una vez que, si quiere tener un amigo en Washington, consígase un perro. Sin embargo, durante los días de la inauguración, hasta Fido puede llegar a ser antisocial. No obstante lo dicho, vengan todos!

(Carlos D. Conde, de Washington, D.C., ha trabajado en periodismo en Texas, Washington y la América Latina, y fué funcionario de prensa de la Casa Blanca en tiempos del Presidente Richard Nixon.)

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# Sittin' Here Thinkin'

## The Play's The Thing

by Ira Cutler

I read recently that movie studios now make more money from the sale of doodads -- action figures, coloring books, video games, T shirts, CD roms and assorted stuff -- than they do from the movies themselves. This is particularly true with the "family pictures" that turn otherwise nice children into incessant pests who demand, as a symbol of Christmas and parental love, models of sword carrying, multi-colored, evil-fighting, bi-pedal turtles.

The very purpose of the movie is now less to entertain than it is to advertise. If a character in a dramatic scene stops and sips a Coke, it is no longer for any dramatic effect that the pause may bring. Rather, it is because Coca Cola (check out the visibility of the label) paid for the space.

Baseball games were originally televised because more people wanted to see them than could get to the ballpark. Now the World Series is never played in the daytime because prime time attracts bigger tv audiences. In basketball and football they have "tv time-outs" during which the game, the thing that used to be at the center, stops so that the television stations can do an advertisement for some product. Sports teams make far more money from television than at the ballpark and they, too, clean up on the doodads.

Then, too, the boundary line has been blurred between the personal lives of participants and the events they are engaged in. During the 1996 Olympics we were endlessly bombarded with stories about things like the near fatal illness of some pole vaulter's mother and saw more soap opera than pole vaulting. If you follow sports, particularly professional sports, you can now learn far more about the ballplayer's salary, marital discord and addictions than you can about his jump shot, fast ball or place-kicking skills. The game is no longer the thing -- the story is about the lives of the players and you cannot tell a ballgame from a daytime talk show.

This turn-about, this phenomena where the central purpose of things has become secondary, is unfortunately not limited to sports, movies and children's toys. The same sort of blurring of purpose has invaded politics and other matters that used to have substance. Hence, we are told about Hillary Clinton's hair style, Newt Gingrich's lesbian sister and Bill Clinton's under-shorts as though these things mattered even a little. We get confused about what is central, what is at the core of things, and we are distracted by the sidebars and fluff. There is such a thorough mixing of substance and appearance that we may be losing the ability to tell what is real and important.

This may have to do with the advent of television and how it turned the relationship between spectacles and spectators around. David Brinkley wrote in his memoirs that, at the height of his popularity, he could not go to news events such as political campaign rallies because people would pay more attention to him than to the speakers. At first, Brinkley notes, the television cameras went to national political party conventions to see and report on the important matter of the nomination of Presidential candidates. The convention was the real thing and the television coverage fitted itself into the event. Now the political parties only hold such conventions, which were made obsolete by primary elections anyway, because they may attract television coverage. If last year's ratings are repeated, we may have seen the last of the floor signs and people saying "Mr. Chairman, the great state," and delegates in funny hats who look like they only get out of the house every four years.

On the legal front, one of the oddest things about the OJ Simpson trial is that it was held in downtown Los Angeles, rather than in Brentwood where the murders occurred. Apparently the District Attorney could have had it either way and chose to hold the trial downtown, where there were certain to be more African-Americans in the jury pool. A sense of fair play, a concern about racial consistency between defendant and jury? Nope. The decision, which may very well have determined the ultimate verdict, was made because only the downtown courtroom had enough space and facilities for the press. The pursuit of justice was secondary to coverage.

All of this distorts our sense of what is real. Is a news event -- a war in an out of the way region of the world, a plane crash in someplace like Turkey with no Americans aboard, an election in a country we do not care about -- real if the media ignores it? The incredible ongoing blood bath in Rwanda, for most of us, only happens on the days when it is reported and the media has clearly lost interest. Our foreign policy only responds to catastrophes that Americans know and care about, and they only know about it if they saw it on Oprah. If a war happens and no one sees it on tv, was anybody killed?

The Presidential debates were reviewed like stage performances and the candidates are critiqued for their delivery and style. "Was he believable?" substituted for "was he telling the truth?" After the debates you would see a bunch of talking heads sitting around a table talking about Clinton's non-response to Dole's charge about scaring the elderly on Medicare. "The President's tactic was to deflect the issue, blah, blah", just like "do you think he will throw more screen passes in the second half?" No talk about whether the elderly should be scared about Medicare -- that is a substantive issue and we no longer focus on substance.

The national election campaign was reported as though it were a political strategy game, rather than about important issues. Fred Thompson, a two year Republican Senator from Tennessee, is now considered a leading future Presidential candidate because, as a successful movie actor, he has played admirals and judges and other leaders and he looks, talks and acts believable. Political commentators have become more like movie critics and movies who, as we know, are all about selling doodads.

In a world where communication skills are more valued than the quality of the ideas, in the television era at the end of the second millennium, we are firmly focused on the fluff and on the doodads. Do you know where I can get one of those neat wind up Bill Clinton talking dolls or the US Congress T-Shirts or the anatomically correct Supreme Court Justice action figures? Only eight more shopping days until Christmas.

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

## El Editor Newspapers

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# El Editor

# Olmos llevará a Chiapas al cine!

Varias veces se ha entrevistado con Marcos en plena selva!

LOS ANGELES, California.- El actor Edward James Olmos dijo que mantiene su objetivo de realizar una película basada en el problema de los indígenas Chiapanecos, a quienes visita cada tres meses para conocer a fondo su situación y tratar de ayudarlos.

El protagonista de cintas como Santana ¿Americano Yo?, Con Ganas de Triunfar, Mi Familia y Selena, dijo que de hacerse la película sobre Chiapas, trabajará con Robert Young, realizador de muchas de las producciones independientes más grandes de Hollywood.

Ormos se entrevistó hace pocos meses con el Subcomandante Marcos y con funcionarios del gobierno de México para tratar de entender más a fondo la problema que aqueja a los indígenas.

"Yo conozco al Subcomandante Marcos: hemos hablado y hemos tratado de encontrar como atraer la atención al problema que él trata", explicó.

"Yo estudio los valores de Ghandi. Para mí usar el rifle y la violencia es una cosa que mata a muchos inocentes principalmente.

Muchos de ellos están ahora muriendo de hambre por los prejuicios y las discriminaciones que hay en contra de ellos", afirmó.

El actor de origen latino dijo que le interesa el pueblo Chiapaneco porque son parte de la historia de la humanidad.

"Pero si comienza la guerra, se va a poner peor. En la guerra de 1910 murieron millones de mexicanos peleando un hermano contra otro", agregó.

Olmos comentó que la cultura indígena es la raíz y se debe entender así para hacer justicia a la discriminación a la que están sometidos los indígenas. "Yo fui hace unos meses a México para atraer la atención al problema de los indígenas de Chiapas. Yo voy cada dos o tres meses, cuatro



El Subcomandante Marcos ha explicado en varias ocasiones el dilema actual de Chiapas al actor de origen latino Edward James Olmos.

o cinco veces por año" indicó. "Voy para entender el sufrimiento de los indígenas. Para mí la cultura indígena es nuestra raíz", añadió Olmos.

El actor y productor que fue nominado al Oscar por su actuación en la cinta Stand and Deliver (Con Ganas de Triunfar), afirmó que las pláticas que ha tenido con el gobierno mexicano están

encaminadas a encontrar una verdadera democracia en el país.

"He estado hablando con el gobierno de México y de Estados Unidos para solucionar Estas problemas antes de que vayan a ser más fuertes. Hablamos de los cambios que necesitan para sostener a toda la humanidad entera.

"Hay una diferencia entre los que tienen y los que no tienen en México, que deja a muchos desesperados. Lo que tenemos que hacer es cómo efectuar cambios para que de veras haya democracia en ese país y al mismo tiempo dar un nivel más alto de vida para los que no tienen nada", agregó.

Dijo que aún no escribe una historia sobre el conflicto Chiapaneco, ya que lo considera muy difícil.

"He tratado de entender cómo hacer la historia para llevarla a todos los pueblos del mundo, pero es muy difícil", admitió.

Olmos trabaja en este proyecto con su socio Robert Young, de 72 años y quien ha producido, dirigido y escrito cintas importantes en Estados Unidos.

"Hemos visto desde siglos pasados que hemos destruido totalmente la raíz de las culturas que nos han conquistado y lo que vemos es el sufrimiento de la humanidad después de que se destruye su raíz.

"Hacer esto es como destruir la raíz de un árbol y luego tratar de entender como va a crecer, cómo va a sostenerse; Eso no se puede, se muere", expresó el actor.

Las culturas indígenas son muy importantes para entender la humanidad, añadió el actor que el 17 de septiembre pasado estrenó en los Estados Unidos la película Caught, en la que comparte créditos con la latina Maria Conchita Alonso.

## News Briefs

unfit to remain a parent," she said.

Ginsburg said the high court has recognised a narrow category of civil cases in which the state must provide court access without regard to a person's ability to pay the fees.

She said the record shows appeals are few in parental visitation cases and it would not impose an "undue burden" for the state to pay for the fees. About 30 states already have taken that step for poor people.

Ginsburg said fundamental rights were at stake in the appeal, with Brooks "endeavoring to defend against the state's destruction of her family bonds and to resist the brand associated with a parental unfitness (determination)."

She said the ruling would affect only parental visitation cases, not all other civil actions, even other domestic relations matters such as divorce or paternity lawsuits.

Brooks' parental rights were terminated in 1994 after a court battle with her former husband, Sammy James, who had remarried and sought to make his new wife the children's adoptive mother. He charged Brooks had abused the children.

A trial court found Brooks was unfit. When she sought to appeal, she was told she had to pay \$2,352 for a transcript of the court hearing and filing fees. She was unemployed and did not have the money.

### Mayors to Meet Clinton on Welfare Reform

President Clinton meets with a delegation of U.S. mayors today to discuss urban policy and the budget, reports Reuters.

In recent weeks mayors from some of the larger U.S. cities have expressed concern about the impact of welfare reform and budget cuts on the urban poor. A U.S. Conference of Mayors annual report issued Monday found that the number of hungry and homeless people in U.S. cities rose in 1996. The mayors warned the situation could worsen in coming months as a landmark welfare law takes effect.

### Once-Reluctant States Now Move to Welfare Reform

States once reluctant to change their welfare systems are now devising ways to push aid recipients into the jobs at the heart of the new welfare law, reports The New York Times.

Even states with strong liberal traditions, like West Virginia, Hawaii and Minnesota, and states that have long lagged in grappling with welfare policy, like Texas and South Carolina, are charging ahead out of concern that if they do not act now to shift people into the work force, it will be much more difficult later, when the economy turns sluggish.

The plans being drawn include offering employers wage subsidies and relocating recipients to areas where they can find jobs. But critics say that many states, in their haste, are forcing people into dead-end jobs. They also say that drops in the welfare rolls resulting from a good economy will be precarious and that a downturn will make it even more difficult to find work for people now on welfare, who are often unskilled, uneducated and inexperienced.

And the critics still contend that the law is flawed in that it requires states to create new programs to encourage jobs without providing money for training or placement.

Many state officials continue to complain about the law's toughest provisions, including cutting off the federal welfare benefits of people who have not found a job within two years, and of most recipients after a total of five years on welfare. And it is not clear how many of the new programs being devised will be certified by the federal government, a necessary step to get financing, or whether they will even work.

But interviews with dozens of state welfare officials at a conference here this week - one of the first large gatherings of officials since the new law passed in July - show that beyond Wisconsin, Michigan and Massachusetts, which have attracted wide attention for their efforts on welfare policy, many other states are now embarking on previously untried programs.

And, the interviews show, state officials have accepted the new approach to welfare: that the goal is to put people in jobs, any jobs, with less emphasis on whether they hold a future.

### Study on Smoking, Cancer and Kids

A study says that men who smoke can pass on a risk of cancer to their children, reports Reuters.

Researchers at the University of Birmingham say that smoking damages sperm and men who smoked 20 or more cigarettes a day had a 42 percent increased risk of having a child with cancer.

The study, which did not consider a mother's smoking, showed that men who smoked between 10 and 20 cigarettes a day had a 31 percent increased risk compared to non-smokers.

"This new study gives a compelling reason for men who smoke and want children to quit," said an official of the Cancer Research Campaign, which sponsored the research.

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### Texaco Agree to Include Hispanics

WASHINGTON, - A coalition of national Hispanic groups said on Wednesday Texaco Inc has agreed to include Hispanic workers in the company's diversity plan.

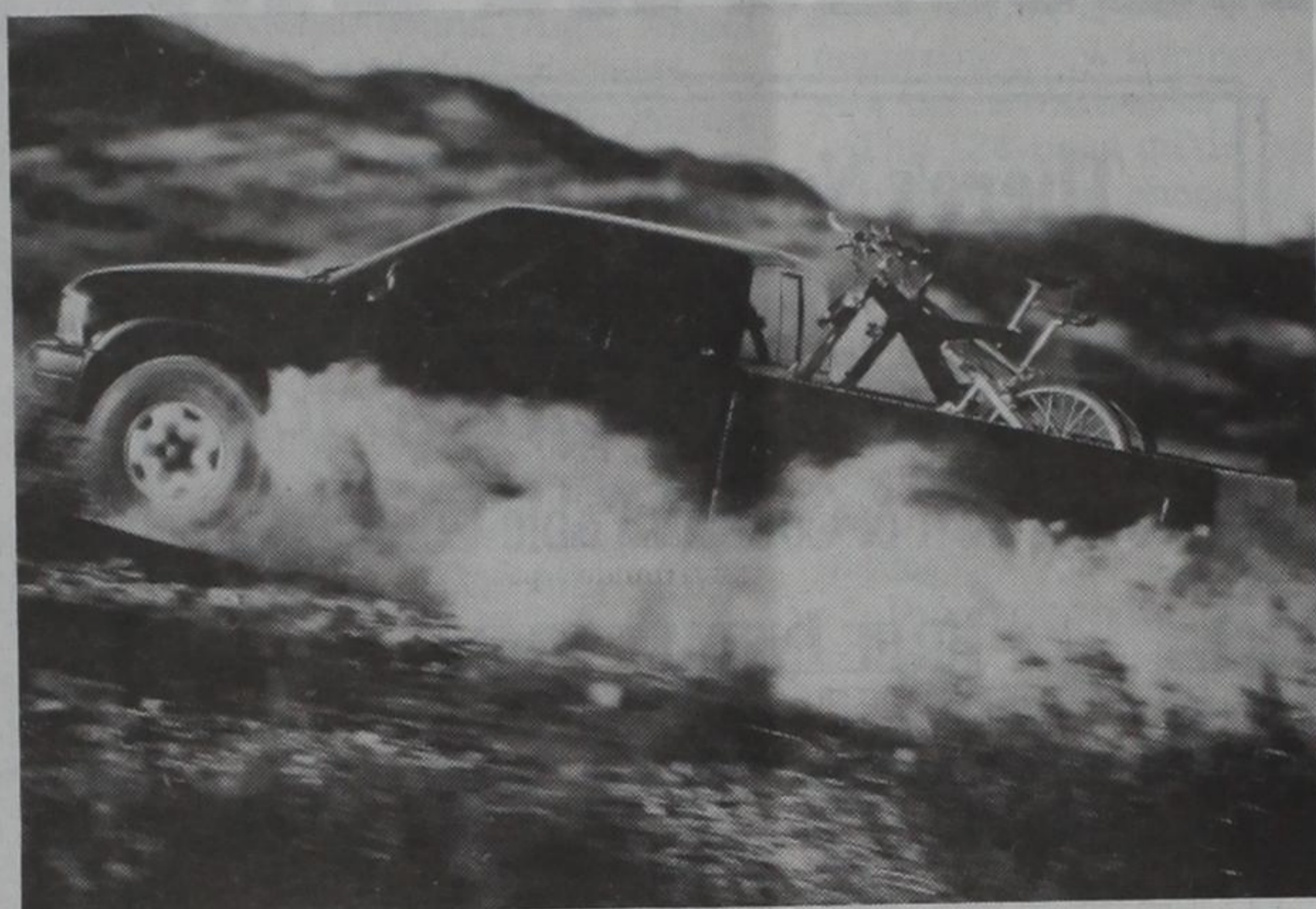
The Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility, or HACR, said its group of 11 organizations met with the president of Texaco USA, Glenn Tilton, and other Texaco executives to discuss the company's policies on Hispanics.

Texaco settled a civil suit last month with 1,400 black employees for \$115 million. These employees also received salary increases.

As a result of the settlement, the company is reviewing its human resource and diversity policies and practices.

HACR said the company would be addressing the concerns would be addressed and the company would establish a long-term relationship with HACR.

No one at Texaco was immediately available for comment.



Chevrolet S-10 Pickup Named 1997 Truck of the Year By NAHP

### VISTA Presents New Show

LOS ANGELES, -- VISTA L.A. presents a special show this Sunday, December 22nd at 4:30 p.m. on ABC-7 that looks back at the year's events for Latinos in 1996. It was landmark year for Latinos making their voices heard at the voting polls, on college campuses and even a march on Washington.

Profiles of the new Orange County congresswoman Loretta Sanchez and other new Latino elected officials will be featured in this special VISTA L.A. Year in Review show. In sports U.S. Olympic Softball Gold Medalist Lisa Fernandez, U.S. Figure Skating Champion Rudy Galindo and World Boxing Champion Oscar De La Hoya make their mark. In entertainment the great

Mariachi singing legend Lola Beltran passes away and a teenage Mariachi singer from Hacienda heights debuts with a hit album.

All this and much, much more in an inspiring and entertaining look back at the highlights of the year. Join Eyewitness News anchor Laura Diaz and reporter Henry Alfaro for a unique and compelling Latino perspective on the year 1996.

In addition to this special broadcast, VISTA L.A.'s Year in Review Show will air at its regular time Sunday, December 29th at 11:30 p.m.

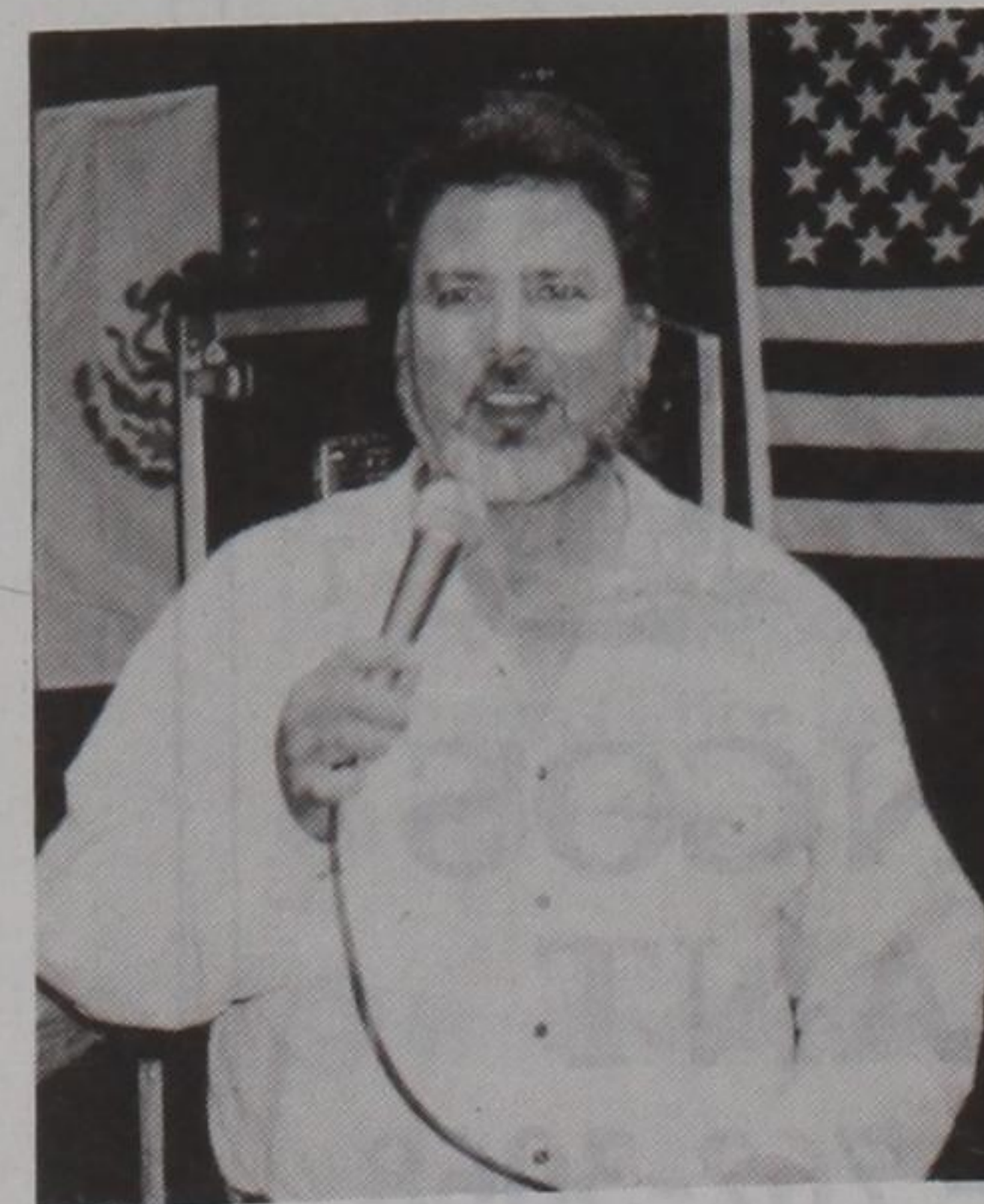
VISTA L.A. is an ABC-7 Public Affairs program. ABC-7 in Los Angeles, is an ABC owned station.

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# Richardson Named to U.N. Post

By GEORGE GEDDA

WASHINGTON - He's had a memorable week. Just last Sunday, he spent five hours under a mango tree in southern Sudan, miles from the nearest paved road, negotiating the release of three Red Cross workers.

On Friday, the trappings were more elegant: a ceremony at the White House where he was tapped by President Clinton as America's next envoy to the United Nations.

Adaptability is one of the traits Rep. Bill Richardson will bring with him when, assuming Senate confirmation, he goes to the United Nations as the successor to Secretary of State-designate Madeleine Albright.

Persuasiveness is another characteristic of the seven-term Democratic congressman and global trouble-shooter.

Last Sunday, the Sudanese rebel negotiators were demanding \$100 million in ransom for the Red Cross workers, including one American. Richardson talked them down to five tons of rice, four Jeeps, nine radios and a survey of health conditions in the region.

He also can be persuasive among his constituents in New Mexico's 3rd District. They re-elected him to an eighth term last month with 67 per cent of the vote.

After he was nominated Friday by Clinton, Richardson said he welcomed the challenge of dealing with such issues as peacekeeping, development, the environment and human rights.

"It's an agenda that matters to our interests, to our people, to those from around the world who look to us for leadership," he said. "To the peoples of the developing world of Africa, Asia, and Latin America, I hope to be your bridge."

On at least one foreign policy issue, Richardson has disagreed sharply with the administration: He opposes the U.S. embargo against Cuba.

His nomination was announced just minutes after the U.N. Security Council agreed to the appointment of Kofi Annan, the Ghanaian who heads U.N. peacekeeping, as the next secretary general.

Richardson is chief deputy whip for House Democrats and is a member of the House Intelligence Committee. But he is less known for his legislative talents than for his travels to improbable places as a kind of ambassador-at-large to the rogue states of the world.

Just 10 days before his visit to Sudan, Richardson, 49, escorted an American prisoner

out of North Korea. It was the second time in two years that he came back from North Korea accompanied by an American detainee.

Last year, he negotiated the release of two Americans held by Iraq. He also won freedom for an American woman facing life in a prison in Bangladesh. This past January, he persuaded Cuban President Fidel Castro to set free three political prisoners.

Richardson has a knack for winning the trust of those with whom he negotiates, no matter how wide the cultural chasm. On his latest mission to North Korea, the authorities there implored him to stay an extra day so he could fill them in on official thinking in Washington. He declined.

He has a cardinal rule in dealing with a foreign adversary: Always show respect.

Another tool is tenacity. After he was freed last Sunday in the Sudan with Richardson's help, John Early of Albuquerque, N.M., said, "The guy can raise the dead and walk on water. He's like a pit bull, he grabs hold of your ankle, locks his jaw and you have to give in or be willing to carry him around on your ankle."

In Sudan, Richardson was dealing with rebels who represent a non-Islamic Sudanese minority. He pointed out that he, too, represents a minority in the United States as the offspring of an American father and Mexican mother.

In announcing the nomination, Clinton praised Richardson as "one of our nation's most prominent and proud Hispanic leaders." And Richardson switched briefly to Spanish in his remarks, pledging to "represent the Hispanic community with pride."

### Gov't Releases Education Goals for Future

An Education Department report released Monday set priorities for education research into the next century, including digital family rooms for computer learning and adult classes for developing job markets, reports Associated Press.

According to the report, "Building Knowledge for a Nation of Learners: A Framework for Education Research 1997," the public school system teaches information, but few skills to effectively use it. The report set seven top educational research priorities:

Improving pre-kindergarten learning programs to take advantage of what researchers know is a person's primary development period.

Improving education at all

levels to promote not only high academic achievement, but also problem-solving abilities, creativity and the motivation for further learning. This could involve getting out of the classroom to teach skills in real-world settings.

Ensuring effective teaching by improving teacher preparation and expanding the supply of potential teachers by promoting career-long professional development.

Strengthening schools, particularly middle and high schools, to engage young people who have different needs. This means exploring the use of charter schools -- publicly funded but privately run -- and "being willing to test some of our most firmly held beliefs and assumptions about schools."

"Does every child need 12 years of schooling?" the report asks. It also questions whether students should be allowed to take more or less than four years to complete high school and it suggests eliminating senior year and reallocating that funding to

preschool and early education.

Preparing diverse populations, including immigrants, to participate fully in American society.

Promoting learning in informal and formal settings by using out-of-school experiences to boost in-school achievement.

Understanding the changing requirements for adult competence in civic, work and social contexts, especially among the poor who can't afford high tech education. Already "digital family rooms" with computer access exist in communities such as New York City's Lower East Side, an East Palo Alto, Calif., neighborhood and at a housing project in Washington, D.C.

"Public schools should become, in spirit and in practice, more public," the report said. "They need to be more inclusive in their improvement efforts; more committed to meeting the needs of learners, their families, and communities; and more responsive to the evolving priorities and concerns of the nation as we move into a new century."

# Time Warner-Fox Settle On SuperBowl

NEW YORK - Time Warner and Rupert Murdoch's Fox television have set aside their smoldering feud and agreed to let 1.5 million anxious cable subscribers see the Super Bowl next month.

The deal, announced Wednesday by both companies, ends a dispute that threatened to pull Fox stations in Austin, Texas; Tampa, Fla.; Kansas City, Mo.; Milwaukee; and Detroit off the air at Super Bowl time. Exactly which company made what concessions remains unclear.

"Time Warner Cable is pleased that Fox has dropped its threat to force several of our cable systems to remove Fox network programs from their channel line-ups on January 1," Time Warner said in statement.

Fox parent News Corp. confirmed the agreement, a renewal that can be canceled by either side on 45 days notice. But Fox has denied it threatened to remove the stations, saying instead it was Time Warner that dangled the possibility of pulling the broadcasts.

Feuding between the two entertainment powerhouses has been going on for some time, dating to Time Warner Inc.'s decision not to carry the fledgling Fox News Channel on its cable systems. It is airing MSNBC instead.

Fox sued Time Warner, arguing it broke an agreement to carry the channel. Time Warner denies that. Time Warner vice chairman Ted Turner returned fire verbally, comparing Murdoch to Adolf Hitler and calling him a "disgrace to journalism."

Caught in the middle were football fans in the five cities hit with the possibility of having to pull out the old "rabbit ears" antennae, subscribe to a satellite TV service or go elsewhere to watch the game.

"I'll be hacked at both of them," Todd Baker, a University of Texas student and football fan, said Tuesday as the blackout threat loomed. "It looks bad. Especially because it's two big companies. There has to be a way to work it out."

Fox brought more public attention to the dispute Monday and Tuesday, running newspaper ads saying that Time Warner was forcing it to pull the local stations off Time Warner cable systems on Jan. 1 because the cable operator wouldn't renegotiate contracts

to carry the stations.

For its part, Time Warner said it was Fox that was threatening to cut off the signals, a retaliation for Time Warner's decision not to carry the Fox News Channel.

Time Warner, the nation's second-largest cable company had filed a lawsuit in Florida to force Fox to honor contracts allowing it to air the stations through 1999. One of the contracts, Time Warner spokesman Michael Luftman said Tuesday, states the company will have access rights to network-owned stations at least through 1999.

Time Warner says that contract applies to the five local stations in question because Fox has agreed to buy them from New World Communication Group. The deal is expected to close early next year.

In its statement Wednesday, Time Warner discussed the lawsuit:

"We are confident the court will agree with us that our existing Fox contracts give Time Warner Cable the right to continue carrying Fox signals from the stations they are purchasing from New World," the company said.

"It remains to be seen whether this first step will lead to a solution of our fundamental differences with Fox over our retransmission consent agreements," it continued.

Fox, however, has disputed Time Warner's take on the situation. Fox says it should be somehow compensated for allowing Time Warner to air the station's signals, particularly since the five stations will be new additions to Fox's network-owned holdings.

"Based upon advice of counsel, Fox continues to believe its legal position relating to the contract dispute regarding retransmission consents is fully supportable and that it will prevail in the pending legal proceedings," News Corp. said in its statement.

"The arrangement to continue retransmission was agreed to by Fox in the expectation that its dispute with Time Warner can be resolved permanently and amicably."

While Fox isn't necessarily looking for channel space for the Fox News Channel or cash payments, the company has said it wants to negotiate a "fair deal." Time Warner compensates cable networks for their signals, but not local stations seen for free by non-cable subscribers.

# EL EDITOR NEWSPAPERS

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### Las Posadas en Barrio Guadalupe

Members of the Guadalupe Neighborhood Association together with Lubbock Centro Aztlan united to produce this year's celebration of the traditional Posadas. Also joining in the celebration were Iglesia Bautista Templo, the St. Joseph CYO and Our Lady of Grace Choir. The production was made possible in part by a grant from the Lubbock City Council as recommended by the Lubbock Arts Alliance.



## Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

Los trabajadores no deben tomr nada de los bienes de sus patronos, bajo ningún pretexto; y si lo toman, le agregan al robo el "abuso de confianza". Esta prohibición en, no solo a los sirvientes, sino también a los trabajadores de cualquier categoría, en el comercio y en la industria. Al robar a sus patronos le agregan el robo a la ingratitud, abusando de la confianza que se les tiene.

Los patronos y dependientes, han fijado de común acuerdo los sueldos y demás condiciones del contrato de trabajo, y están obligados a cumplirlo, si los amos exigen un trabajo

más de lo convenido en el contrato, los trabajadores pueden, y deben, reclamar una justa compensación o acudir a la autoridad legal, pero "no les permitido robar" aquello a que creen que tienen derecho, ni quebrantar de un modo violento al contrato, por medio de huelgas repentinas e ilícitas que puede perjudicar tanto a los patronos como a los trabajadores y a la sociedad en general. Por más pobre que seas no puedes tomar lo ajeno para aliviar tus necesidades, sino perderlo, pidiendo limosna. Se exceptúa de esta regla el caso de extrema necesidad: el pobre podría entonces, "sin pecar", tomar lo que necesite para alimentarse; pero, si en esta forma no es culpable ante Dios, siempre se verá en problema con la justicia de la ley humana. "Los bienes mal adquiridos nunca son de provecho; orque suelen conducir a un fin miserable".

El Santo Cura de Ars San Juan María Vianey, decía: "Conozco dos medios de empobrecerse: trabajar en día festivo y tomar lo ajeno".

(Exodo 20.8, v20:15)

## Guide to Top 25 College For Hispanics

WARREN, Mich., The Chevrolet Motor Division and Hispanic magazine have teamed up, for a second year, to produce and distribute the "1996 Guide to the Top 25 Colleges for Hispanics," a comprehensive bilingual reference book for college-bound high school students and their parents.

More than 45,000 guides have been distributed free to over 200 high schools across the country with large Hispanic student populations.

"Chevrolet realizes that education is one of the most important issues facing our country today," said Chevrolet General Manager John G. Middlebrook. "Choosing a college can seem like an overwhelming and complicated process, and often students don't realize the vast resources available to them.

"We are again pleased to work with Hispanic magazine to provide a special resource for young people who are motivated to continue their education," Middlebrook added. "This guide is a way to acquaint high school students with the unique educational

experiences available at some of our nation's institutions with long traditions of leadership in the Hispanic community."

Hispanic magazine is responsible for the research and editorial content of the college guide, which is featured in the magazine's November issue, now on newsstands.

The 134-page guide includes information on choosing a college and how to apply for admission and financial aid. Twenty-five colleges and universities are profiled in state-by-state groups. The booklet also includes a listing of scholarships and eligibility requirements.

In addition to distribution through high schools, the "1996 Guide to the Top 25 Colleges for Hispanics" is available directly from Hispanic magazine by writing Hispanic, 98 San Jacinto Blvd. #15, Austin, TX 78701.

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### PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR

POR PASTOR FRANK GARCÍA  
Lubbock, Texas

#### VOSOTROS SOIS LA SAL DE LA TIERRA

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

En estos versículos el Señor Jesús trata de dos asuntos El uno es el verdadero caracter que los verdaderos cristianos deben conseguir y mantener en el mundo. El otro es la relación entre las doctrinas de él mismo y las del Antiguo Testamento. Los cristianos verdaderos deben ser en este mundo como la sal. Esta tiene un gusto propio y peculiar, enteramente disimilar que cualquiera otra cosa. (A lo menos así era en los tiempos de Cristo) Al estar mezclada con otras sustancias la sal la preserva de corrupción. Y comunica una porción de su gusto a todo lo que se comunica con ella. Y útil es, mientras conserva su sabor; de otro modo nó. ¿Somos cristianos verdaderos? Entónces he aquí nuestro puesto y sus deberes.

#### LOS CRISTIANOS VERDADEROS

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

#### SI SOMOS CRISTIANOS VERDADEROS

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

#### LA SAL Y LA LUZ

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

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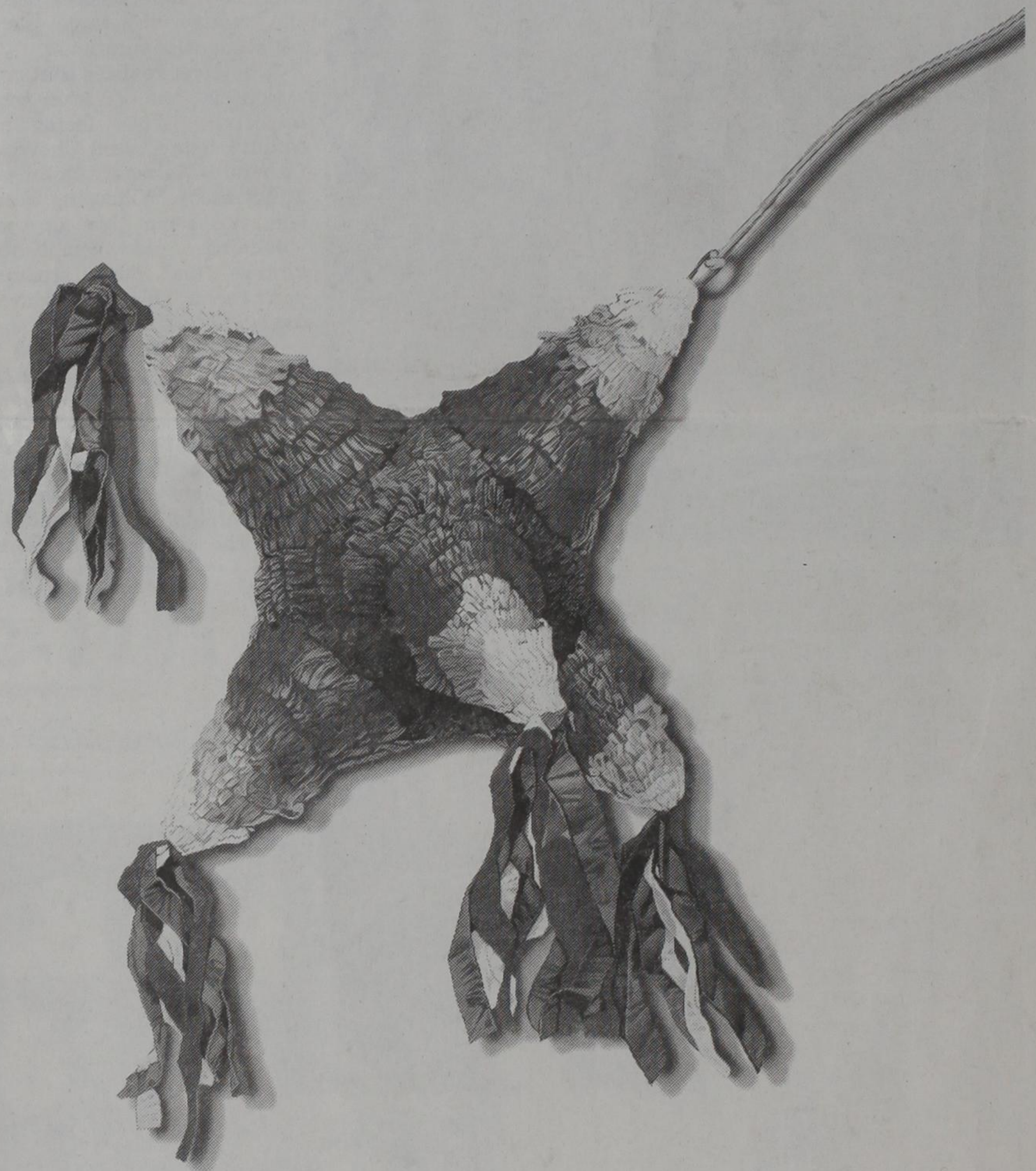
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