

Hispanic Leaders join to show support

Hernandez Apladido Por Su Representación en Concilio

Mas de 200 personas se juntaron en una recepcion este pasado martes para dar apoyo al Consejal Victor Hernandez por su trabajo durante su ternura en el Consejo de la Ciudad.

Recientemente Hernandez ha estado bajo presion por alegaciones de que le dijo una maldicion al Alcalde Windy Sitton durante una junta.

Durante la recepcion oradores incluyendo muchos lideres de la comunidad y de las asociaciones de vecindad dijeron que Hernandez ha sido un representante bastante efectivo en abogar por la gente quien actualmente en el pasado no tenian ninguna clase de representacion.

"Estoy agradecido que ahora tenemos un representante que dice mas que "I second the motion," dijo Jesse Reyes uno de los activistas quien estaba presente.

Hernandez a quien se le termina su plazo este proximo

Mayo todavia no decide se buscara otro termino en el Consejo.

El dijo que cualquier decision que hiciera lo iba hacer por un termino

completo. Agrego que actualmente su estancia como Consejal le ha costado economicamente ya que ha tenido que aveces ignorar su negocio.

Nota que el Alcalde iba tener una funcion para recaudir dinero y que probablemente se iba juntar algunos \$50,000. "Notan que yo no les pedir dinero en esta funcion. Aveces pienso que alguien me hubiera llamado un nombre malo ami."

Entre las personas presentes estuvieron los oficiales electos a diferentes puestos dentro de la ciudad y el condado incluyendo Linda DeLeon y Kathyl Anderson, miembros de la Mesa Directiva de la Escuelas, el Comisionado de Condado Gilbert Flores y Marina Garcia, constatable del condado.

Al terminar Hernandez dijo que iba hacer su decision si buscar otravez el puesto durante el mes de Diciembre.



Over 200 persons attended the reception in honor of Councilman Victor Hernandez this past Tuesday. Those in attendance praise Hernandez for his outstanding representation on the Council.

"For once we have a representative who does more than just 'Second the Motion,'" said one supporter.

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

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Federal soldiers search the trunk of an American's vehicle recently in Baja California. Even tourists who flock to

Baja's popular beaches have been jolted by the sight of heavily armed soldiers.

Gatekeeper Has Opened Other Deadly Doors

By Claudia E. Smith

This fall marks the third anniversary of Operation Gatekeeper, the centerpiece of the Clinton administration's effort to combat illegal immigration into California. But

in all the hoopla about Gatekeeper's supposed success, not much has been said about its dark side: the strategy of pushing migrants eastward that has become increasingly deadly.

So far this year, the official body count is 75 -- and Border Patrol agents themselves wonder how many migrants are killed and never counted. At least 36 people died from exposure in the Tecate mountains and Imperial desert; another 20 drowned in the All American Canal separating Calexico from Mexicali. Many others have been found near death.

Gatekeeper's aim was to disrupt traditional border-crossing patterns between the ocean and San Diego's Otay Mesa, to move the traffic into some of the most punishing areas in the Southwest.

At first, its planners bet on mountains with peaks of up to 5,000 feet to help stop the migrants. INS Western regional director Gustavo de la Vina explained: "The idea was that the terrain was so difficult (migrants) would not attempt it."

That did not happen. Sixteen men and women froze to death this January trying to get over those mountains. "It shocked us," said de la Vina. Ob-

viously, not enough. Next, the planners bet on the desert, where temperatures can reach 120-plus degrees for days on end. During August alone, 13 migrants died of heat stroke.

In the face of this human toll, what has Gatekeeper accomplished other than getting illegal border-crossers out of the public eye? Although some migrants are deterred by the new strategy, most see no option but to take enormous risks. Record numbers are crossing the desert boundary with Mexico -- 400 percent more than at the outset of Gatekeeper. Researchers put the possibility of apprehension at only 20 percent to 30 percent. The recent Binational Study of the Migration pointed out that the possibility of apprehension can actually fall despite a build-up of agents and hardware if it makes more border-crossers turn to smugglers. And Gatekeeper has been a definite boon for smugglers.

The Border Patrol's worn-out response to criticism of a strategy that puts migrants in harm's way is to blame smugglers. Of course, those who take migrants on awful treks of up to 60 miles and abandon anyone who falls behind must be prosecuted to the hilt. But smugglers are not the

cause of illegal immigration, and crackdowns on them are not going to dry up the supply of guides. The potential payoff is too big.

No, there is no nice way to stop illegal immigration. The problem with Gatekeeper is over-reliance on border control efforts.

The moral dilemma lies in how far we will go to dissuade Mexico's poor from doing what for decades we encouraged them to do: come north by whatever means. Yes, efforts must be redoubled to urge those considering an illegal crossing to weigh very carefully their need for economic betterment against the risks. Unfortunately, such a message will not resonate with the average Mexican worker, who earns 26 pesos, or \$3, a day.

In this connection, another key indicator that Gatekeeper has had little effect is the continued availability of workers to industries heavily dependent on undocumented workers. A study done last year by the University of California at San Diego's Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies showed that more than 90 percent of San Diego employers in the suspect industries experienced no tightening of the la-

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News Briefs

SBA Chief: Welfare Ref Could Aid Labor Shortage

According to the head of the U.S. Small Business Administration, tough new welfare rules that would force people off public assistance could be the answer to the labor shortage facing small businesses, reports The San Francisco Chronicle.

"It's potentially a win-win situation, with small business being the 'work' part of the welfare-to-work equation," said Aida Alvarez. The SBA has established an office in Washington, D.C., to deal with the issue.

Alvarez's comments come at a time when federal and state welfare reform rules have limited public assistance to no more than five years, forcing many welfare recipients to find work.

Small businesses are the biggest job creators in the country. And San Francisco is a potential leader in moving people off welfare and into full-time jobs with its Small Business Network Initiative.

The initiative, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, begins next year in partnership with nonprofit groups. These organizations will provide training and support to workers coming off of welfare to improve job retention.

Small businesses in the United States have grown 47 percent between 1987 and 1996, according to a study by the National Foundation for Women Business Owners (NFWBO). Small businesses also employ more than half of all U.S. workers.

Although there's been a backlash against affirmative action in California, the SBA remains committed to providing assistance to minorities and women who don't have access to capital. "You've got to keep pace with where the business formation is happening," she said.

Between 1987 and 1996, black-owned businesses increased 83.5 percent; Hispanic-owned businesses jumped 148.9 percent; and businesses owned by Asian Americans rose 109.8 percent, said the NFWBO.

Women have also done well. During the same period, the number of women-owned firms increased 78 percent, and the number of minority women-owned firms rose 153 percent, according to the NFWBO.

The SBA last month pledged to provide \$2.5 billion in loan guarantees to Hispanic-owned businesses by the year 2000. Alvarez said similar announcements are planned for other minority groups as well as women.

Alvarez also reiterated her commitment to establishing certification programs for women and minority-owned businesses and increasing the visibility of the SBA's Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs).

Certification programs are used to make sure that women and minority-owned businesses are owned by women and minorities and not used as "fronts" by other businesses out to obtain loan guarantees or government contracts.

SBDCs are in every state and provide counseling, training and technical assistance to current and prospective small business owners. However, some SBDCs have been criticized for failing to reach enough women and minority entrepreneurs.

Alvarez emphasized her commitment to increasing government procurement opportunities for women and minorities. Of the \$200 billion in government contracts awarded every year, 21 percent is set aside for small business.

Of that 21 percent, about 6 percent goes to individuals who have been defined by the SBA to be socially and economically disadvantaged. This includes individuals with a net worth of less than \$250,000 each, and members of minority groups. However, less than 2 percent goes to women-owned businesses, far below the SBA's 5-percent goal.

The SBA is a pilot project called the Procurement Marketing and Access Network (PRO-Net), a state listing of small, disadvantaged and women-owned businesses on its Web site that are interested in obtaining government contracts. The listing helps procurement officers track down candidates.

Small Cost of Mental Health Parity

The New York Times reports a Rand Corporation study finds providing mental health coverage for workers on par with the insurance they receive for physical ailments would not greatly raise costs for employers.

The study, published today in the Journal of the American Medical Association, says eliminating the typical \$25,000 per year limit on mental health benefits would raise group insurance costs only about \$1 per enrollee a year. Author Roland Sturm acknowledged that the data are not representative for all industries or geographic areas. But even the most expensive changes he looked at would increase an employer's cost by no more than \$7 per enrollee a year.

Sturm examined cost data from 1995 and 1996. Previous studies that used older data found costs for parity up to eight times higher than Sturm's projections. Sturm said employers who based decisions on the older data might decide needlessly to drop mental health coverage when a new federal law takes effect on January 1.

The new law will generally prohibit employers from setting higher yearly or lifetime limits on health benefits for physical diseases than for mental illnesses. The new law does not require that mental health benefits be provided to employees. But if they are offered they must equal those for other ailments. The law exempts some small businesses.

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill said Mr. Sturm's study was "further evidence that equitable health insurance is affordable."

Studies on State of Nation's Health Care

U.S. NewsWire - The National Coalition on Health Care has released three separate studies on the state of the nation's health care system. The authors say the reports demonstrate Americans health care problems are very serious, and are growing worse.

Some of the studies' findings:

- One million Americans are being added to the ranks of the uninsured every year. Most of these people are workers and their children.

- Our health insurance safety nets and the employment-based insurance system are in jeopardy as more workers work in small-businesses and are hired as contractors or temporary employees.

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Caos Para Los Niños

Por James J. Lyons

Debe California trasladar sus estudiantes de la clase regular a salones de clase regulares después de un año de instrucción de inmersión en inglés?

Esa pregunta es el corazón del referendo sobre la educación bilingüe del millonario Ronald Unz. A todo parecer, los votantes de California tomarán una decisión al respecto en junio de 1998.

En un estudio inicial del Los Angeles Times sobre la iniciativa "Inglés por los Niños," un 80 por ciento de los encuestados contestaron "sí".

Cuando los detalles de la iniciativa se expliquen, yo creo que los votantes de California van a cambiar su respuesta a "no".

No creo que los californianos van a aceptar un dictamen inflexible del gobierno estatal que afectaría dramáticamente la educación de, no sólo los estudiantes LEP -- un cuarto de la población estudiantil, sino de cada uno de los 5.6 millones de pupilos en el sistema.

El carácter virtualmente permanente de esta camisa de fuerza como política pública va a insultar a los californianos votantes. De acuerdo al texto de la misma iniciativa, "Inglés por los Niños" no se puede modificar en la legislatura estatal, excepto a través de legislación aprobada por ambas cámaras con supermayorías de dos tercios y firmada por el gobernador.

Los votantes con edad y experiencia recordaron que hace apenas una generación, antes del inicio de la educación bilingüe en California, la mayoría de sus estudiantes latinos abandonaban la escuela antes de terminar el octavo grado.

Los votantes perceptivos verán más allá del reclamo categórico de Unz de que la educa-

ción bilingüe es responsable por el alto porcentaje de deserción escolar entre los latinos de California. En realidad, la vasta mayoría de los estudiantes latinos de California nunca han recibido instrucción bilingüe. Quizás, si más hubieran tenido acceso a ella, no se hubieran dado de baja de la escuela.

Los votantes de comunidades como Calexico saben que la educación bilingüe funciona. Noventa y ocho por ciento de los estudiantes de Calexico son hispanos, 30 por ciento son migrantes y el ingreso familiar promedio es sólo \$12,000. Setenta y ocho por ciento comenzó su experiencia académica con poco o ningún inglés. Sin embargo, la tasa de deserción escolar del distrito es la mitad de la del promedio estatal entre los estudiantes latinos. La educación bilingüe transformó las vidas de la juventud de la comunidad. Cerca del 80 por ciento de sus graduados de escuela superior continúan su educación con estudios postsecundarios.

Los padres de niños matriculados en los programas californianos en la vanguardia de la educación bilingüe de "ambas direcciones" van a rechazar el dictamen de Ingles-Solamente de Unz. Estos padres entienden que programas bilingües de calidad están preparando a sus niños -- de habla inglesa nativa y parlantes nativos de otras lenguas -- para los serios retos de la competencia global.

Pero lo más grave y preocupante para los votantes californianos va a ser el impacto de esta camisa de fuerza de Unz en los otros tres cuartos de la población estudiantil de California que es angloparlante.

Recuerde, la propuesta de Unz inserta 1.4 millones de estudiantes LEP -- que, según el juicio de cualquier investigador educacional con credi-

bilidad, no van a tener suficiente dominio del inglés tras nueve meses de instrucción en los salones de niños con completo entendimiento del inglés.

Recuerde, la inmensa mayoría de los pupilos LEP del estado están matriculados en programas de instrucción específicamente diseñados para ellos. Las cortes federales han confirmado la constitucionalidad de separar a los estudiantes LEP de los angloparlantes porque ello garantiza el acceso de los primeros al currículo de todas las materias. Casi todos estos programas especiales funcionan por no uno, sino varios años. Si adquirir una lengua fuera tan fácil, la mayoría de los californianos ya serían multilingües.

Para las elecciones de junio, los votantes van a haberse dado cuenta de que "Inglés para los Niños" es nada menos que una costosa receta para el caos en los salones de California.

Después de los nueve meses de inmersión estructurada en inglés de Unz, la mayoría de los estudiantes LEP no sólo continuarán siendo LEP, sino que van a estar atrasados en las materias generales respecto a sus compañeros de clase angloparlantes. A los niños les va a ser posible aprender muy poca matemática, ciencia, historia, o cívica durante esos meses de inmersión, especialmente si se les agrupa, como sugiere la iniciativa, por el grado de su limitación en inglés, en lugar de en base a su edad, su lengua nativa, o su instrucción previa.

Imagine el impacto de la iniciativa de Unz en su segundo año cuando 1.4 millones de niños sean transferidos a salones regulares. Cientos de miles de maestros, sin el adiestramiento ni la experiencia en educar estudiantes

LEP, que ya batallan con apoyar a los niños que saben inglés a alcanzar estándares académicos altos, de repente van a enfrentar diferencias imposibles en la preparación académica y el dominio del idioma de sus estudiantes.

¿Qué se supone que hagan? ¿Que no presten atención a las necesidades de instrucción de los estudiantes LEP? ¿O que bajen las metas académicas en sus salones para acomodar las destrezas de los niños LEP? La alternativa que escogen los maestros siempre va a ser la incorrecta. No van a poder ayudar a todos sus estudiantes a desarrollar su potencial al máximo.

Sin lugar a dudas, los costos reales, humanos y fiscales, van a crecer en el tercero y siguientes años. Incapaces de seguir el ritmo académico de sus compañeros angloparlantes, grandes números de estudiantes LEP van a ser retenidos en el mismo grado. Los profesores, los estudiantes retenidos y los contribuyentes van a terminar atrapados en un espiral de frustración y costoso fracaso académico.

Si duda de que se deseate este escenario, recuerde que el estudiante hispano promedio en California era retenido por más de dos grados académicos antes de que Ronald Reagan firmara la ley que eliminó la política pública de inglés solamente de las escuelas en 1967.

El proveer educación de calidad a los 5.6 millones de estudiantes matriculados en las escuelas públicas de California es una empresa enorme que no tiene remedios fáciles.

Si la propuesta de Unz remplaza la autoridad de las juntas de educación locales, habrá caos educacional, frustración y fracaso costoso.

(James J. Lyons es ejecutivo director de la National Association for Bilingual Education.)

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MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

By Jorge Antonio Renaud

Somewhere down an alley in Austin, Texas, wanders one of my brothers. He is cuffed to cocaine and pretends we do not know.

He tells lies, *mi hermanito*, and hauls his dwindling belongings from place to place. He reappears at odd hours, searching for shoes or a favorite shirt, then back away again.

Unless the Lord intercedes, my brother will soon be with me, watching the glint of the razor wire. Or he will be with *carnalito* Carlos, *el difunto*. However, this is not about the demons of one, but of the derelictions of many. We have another brother pursuing a Ph.D. at a Midwestern university; a California sister who recently earned an M.A.; another highly educated and accomplished *hermana* on sabbatical in Mexico, writing an opus.

My family has maniacally educated itself to better serve what remains of *El Movimiento*. We work rape hot lines, counsel teenage unwed mothers, mentor Chicano at-risk youth and faithfully boycott the odd fruit and vegetable. We write eloquently about a spectrum of Latino issues. We are, in short, a microcosm of concerned, activist, upward-bound Chicanos, give or take a black sheep or two.

Yet, our brother sinks, unheard and unheeded, his problems too intimate, best left to strangers lest we get splattered by the muck of his misery.

And I cannot help but believe that like my family, *mi raza* has a curiously scattershot approach when applying its grace. I cannot help but believe that this penchant -- de bendicir nuestros vecinos while our families implode -- contributes mightily to our seeming intractable dropout rates; to the soaring numbers of those among us with AIDS; to the groups of glue-sniffing, soon-to-be-tecatitos; to the proportion of us who are, have been or will be *pintos*.

I don't accuse us of not loving or not caring. I accuse us of suffering in silence -- over our *pobreza*, abuse, wife-battering, lost opportunities -- and then ignoring those who drown their pain in alcohol and drugs. We keep our distance in case we waken the echoes of our own agony. We offer help to strangers instead. We can comfort others without examining ourselves. Having no complicity in their problems, we can't be blamed.

Pulling my brother from his gutter means listening to his screams, to his reminder of things I did that may have led to his sorrow. And in my struggle to climb the assimilationist ladder, that is too much to bear.

We are making it, after all, against the same odds as she, or he, or they. So we turn away and look to *la comunidad*. To more distant, intellectual issues.

The evidence of this is in the wrinkles, scars and tattoos of those neck-deep in one-on-one counseling of our most desperate; it is always our ex-cons, our ex-addicts and our ex-prostitutes, those familiar with the searing loneliness of true desperation.

It is not wrong to volunteer for community outreach, to be Big Brothers or Big Sisters. But to make a difference, one with immediate relevance and personal resource, we need look no further than to those who share our names. If it is our shame that we helped build our brother's burden, let us do something other than write eulogies or compose corridos.

(Jorge Antonio Renaud is serving a 60-year sentence as a three-time offender in Texas state prison in Abilene, Texas.)

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LOS GUARDIANES DE MI HERMANO

Por Jorge Antonio Renaud

En algún lugar de los callejones de Austin, Texas, merodea uno de mis hermanos. Es adicto a la cocaína y finge que nosotros no lo sabemos.

Mi hermano dice mentiras y acarrea sus pertenencias que disminuyen de un lugar a otro. El reaparece a horas extrañas, buscando zapatos o una camisa favorita, y después se marcha otra vez.

A menos que el Señor intervenga, mi hermano pronto estará conmigo, observando el brillo del alambre de púas. O bien estará con su *Dcarinalito* Carlos, el difunto.

No obstante, ésto no se trata de los demonios de uno, sino de las faltas de muchos. Tenemos otro hermano que estudia para un doctorado en una universidad del Medio Oeste; una hermana una madre adolescente soltera, servimos de modelo a jóvenes chicanos en riesgo y boicotearnos fielmente frutas y vegetales extraños. Escribimos con elocuencia sobre un espectro de asuntos latinos. Somos, en resumen, un microcosmos de chicanos preocupados, activistas, en dirección ascendente, con una oveja negra o dos más o menos.

Sin embargo, nuestro hermano se hunde, sin ser oido ni atendido, porque sus problemas son demasiado cercanos a nosotros, porque es mejor dejarle a los extraños para que no resultemos sancionados por la basura de su miseria.

Y no puedo menos que creer que, como mi familia, *mi raza* tiene un curioso enfoque en disparar a voleo al aplicar su gracia. No puedo menos que creer que esta inclinación -- por bendecir a nuestros vecinos mientras nuestra familia sufre implosión -- aparenta poderosamente a nuestras tasas de abandono escolar, aparentemente inasibles; a la progresiva cantidad de aquellos de nosotros afectados por el SIDA; a los grupos que huelen pegamento y pronto serán adictos y tecatos; a la proporción de nosotros que somos, hemos sido o serán "pintos".

No nos acuso de no querer o de no interesarnos. Nos acusó de sufrir en silencio -- acerca de nuestra pobreza, agresión, ataques a las esposas y oportunidades perdidas -- y después pasar por alto aquellos que ahogan su dolor en el alcohol y los narcóticos. Mantenemos nuestra distancia para no despertar los ecos de nuestra propia agonía.

En vez de éso, ayudamos a los extraños. Podemos consolar a otros sin examinarnos a nosotros mismos. Como no somos cómplices en sus problemas, no puede culpársenos.

Sacar a mi hermano de su cuneta significa escuchar sus gritos, su recordatorio de las cosas que yo hice que pueden haber contribuido a su tristeza. Y en mi lucha por subir la escalera de la asimilación, eso es demasiado pesado para cargar.

Estamos teniendo éxito, después de todo, contra las mismas probabilidades que ella, o él, o ellos. De que les damos la espalda y miramos a la comunidad, a los asuntos más distantes e intelectuales.

La evidencia de ésto se halla en las arrugas, cicatrices y tatuajes de los que están sumidos hasta el cuello en consejería individual de nuestros más desesperados; son siempre nuestros ex-predicadores, nuestros ex-adictos y nuestras ex-prostitutas, aquéllos que están familiarizados con la soledad estigmatizante de la desesperación verdadera.

No es incorrecto el ofrecerse de voluntario como portavoz a la comunidad, como Hermanos Mayores o Hermanas Mayores. Pero que haga una diferencia, que tenga relevancia inmediata y con recursos personales, no necesitamos mirar más allá de aquéllos que comparten nuestros nombres. Si nos avergüenza haber ayudado a construir la carga de nuestro hermano, hagamos algo que no sea escribir eulogías o componer corridos.

Chaos For The Children

By James J. Lyons

Should California's limited-English-proficient students be placed in regular, mainstream classrooms after one year of English-immersion instruction?

That's the question at the heart of millionaire Ron Unz's referendum on bilingual education. It is expected to be decided by state voters in June 1998. An early Los Angeles Times poll on his cleverly named "English for the Children" initiative found 80 percent of the respondents answering "yes."

Once the details are explained, I believe that California voters will change their answer to "no." I don't believe they will embrace an inflexible state dictate that will dramatically affect the education, not just of the one-fourth of the students who are limited-English-proficient,

but of each one of the state's 5.6 million pupils. They will be offended by the virtually permanent character of this policy straight-jacket. By its own terms, the "English for the Children" initiative cannot be legislatively modified except through a bill passed by both houses of the state legislature by a two-thirds "supermajority" vote and then signed by the governor. Older voters will recall that one generation ago, before the advent of bilingual education in California, a majority of its Hispanic students dropped out before completing the eighth grade.

Perceptive voters will see through Unz's absolutist claim that bilingual education is responsible for the high Latino drop-out rate. In truth, the overwhelming majority of California's Latino students have never received bilingual instruction. Maybe, if more had, they wouldn't have

dropped out.

Voters in communities like Calexico know bilingual education works. Ninety-eight percent of Calexico's students are Hispanic, 30 percent are migrant and the average family income is just \$12,000. Seventy-eight percent started out speaking little or no English. Yet the district's dropout rate is half the statewide average for Latino students. Bilingual education has transformed the lives of the community's youth. Nearly 80 percent of its high school graduates go on to post-secondary education.

Parents of children enrolled in California's pace-setting, two-way bilingual education programs should also reject Unz's English-only dictate. They know quality bilingual programs are preparing children -- both English speakers and native speakers of other languages -- for the rigorous challenges of global competition.

But most troubling to California voters will likely be the impact of Unz's straight-jacket initiative on the three-quarters of California's students who are English-speakers of other languages -- for the

years. Unable to keep up with their native English-speaking classmates, large numbers of LEP students will be retained in grade to "catch up" in their academic studies. Teachers, non-promoted students, and taxpayers will be caught up in a spiral of frustration and costly underachievement.

If you have any doubts about this scenario, recall that the average Hispanic student in California was held back more than two grades until Ronald Reagan signed the law scrapping the state's English-only school mandate in 1967.

Providing a quality education to the 5.6 million students enrolled in California's public schools is a tall order that does not admit to easy answers or quick fixes. If it supplants the authority of elected local school boards, the Unz initiative will create educational chaos, frustration and costly failure.

(James J. Lyons is executive director of the National Association for Bilingual Education.)

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Deportes

DOLPHINS CELEBRATE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF "PERFECT SEASON"; 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PAYTON RECORD ON TAP

This Monday in halftime ceremonies of their game against Buffalo, the Miami Dolphins will honor their "Perfect Season" team on its 25th anniversary. The 1972 Dolphins compiled a 17-0 record en route to the Super Bowl VII title for the NFL's only undefeated, untied championship season ever.

Another NFL anniversary is imminent. Twenty years ago -- on November 20, 1977 -- Chicago Bears running back WALTER PAYTON set the NFL single-game rushing record with 275 yards against the Minnesota Vikings in a 10-7 Bears victory. Payton finished the season with 1,852 yards and was named the league's MVP.

RACES GETTING TIGHT: FOUR DIVISIONS TIED FOR FIRST; 49ERS CAN CLINCH NFC WEST

It's not lonely at the top -- just look at four of the NFL's divisions.

There are first-place ties in the eastern and central divisions of both the AFC and NFC, including a three-way tie in the AFC East. The last time that many divisions were knotted at this stage of the season was in 1983 (AFC East and all three NFC divisions).

Only the AFC and NFC West boast clubs in sole possession of first place.

The lone division where the race for the title may be over is in the NFC.

West. The San Francisco 49ers (9-1) can clinch the division with a victory over the Carolina Panthers this week. It would be the Niners' 13th division title in the past 17 seasons. And it would be only the second time since the 16-game schedule was instituted in 1978 that a team (the Chicago Bears in 1985) clinched a division title by its 11th game.

Meanwhile, for most other clubs, "it's a big deal because you are up there in the hunt," says New York Giants defensive end MICHAEL STRAHAN.

"You hope to continue to win and hope some people continue not to win."

The Giants, tied with the Washington Redskins atop the NFC East with a 6-4 record, have won five of their past six after starting the season 1-3. They are one of the surprising stories of the season, along with their New York brethren, the Jets, tied for the lead in the AFC East with an identical 6-4 record.

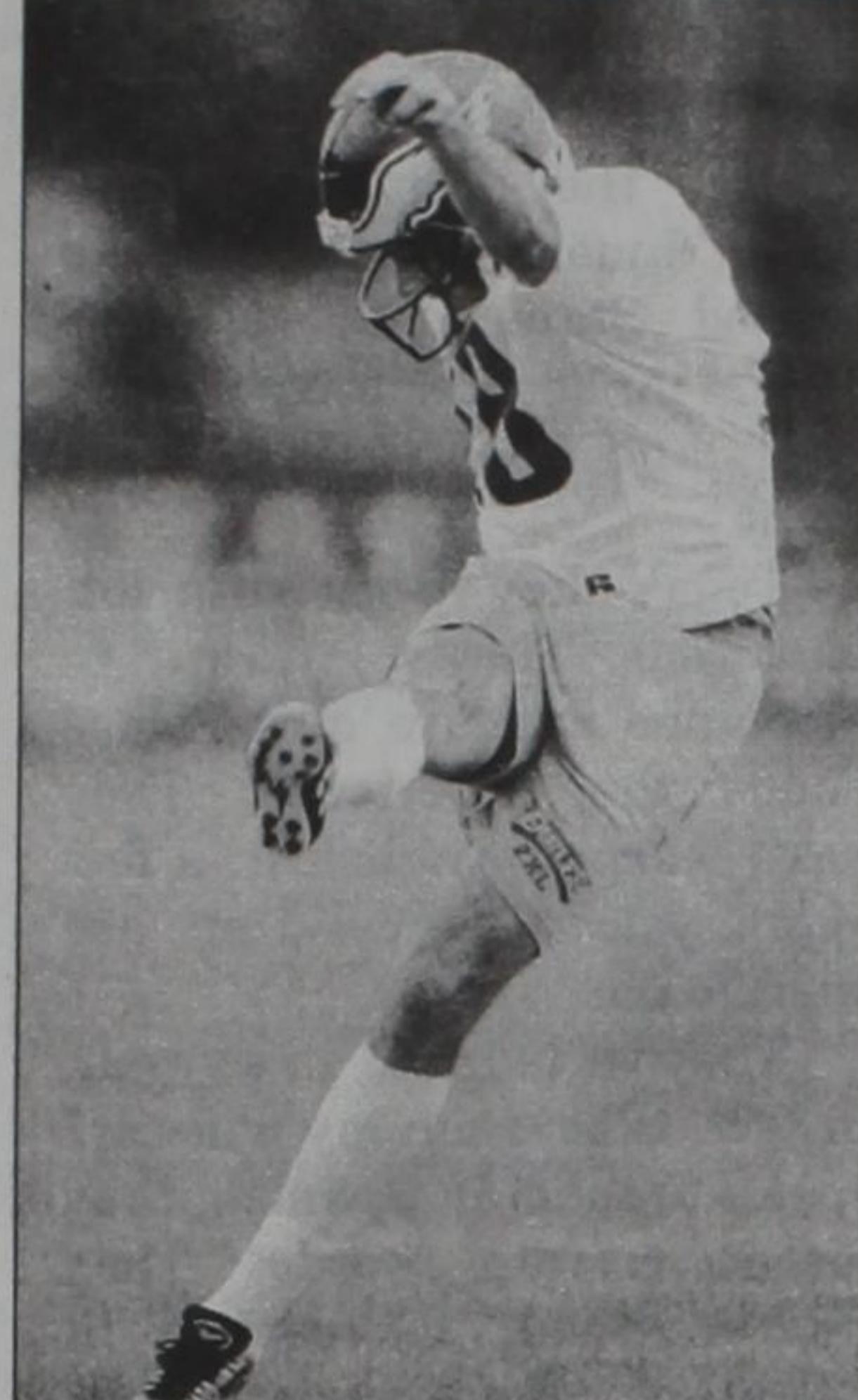
The Giants -- the most successful team in the NFC in the red zone with a 72.0 touchdown percentage -- have won all three division games they have played. Their division road toughens now, though, starting this week when they host the NFC East Arizona

Cardinals. Including that game, five of the Giants' final six contests are within the division.

Two of those foes meet this week when the Redskins travel to Dallas to take on the third-place Cowboys (5-5).

Dallas, winner of the past five NFC Eastern Division crowns, is not conceding its title yet. One reason is its solid defense, rated second overall in the NFL (257.7) and with the top pass defense (153.0) in the league.

Their game against the Redskins -- who boast the No. 3 league passing defense



(160.0) -- will feature four of the top cornerbacks in the NFL -- Dallas' DEION SANDERS and KEVIN SMITH and Washington's DARRELL GREEN and CRIS DISHMAN. The start time for the game has been moved to 4:00 PM ET from 1:00 PM.

The NFC Central has two of the league's hottest clubs tied at the top -- the Green Bay Packers and Minnesota Vikings, both 8-2. The Vikings have won six in a row, the Packers five. Minnesota has posted its best record through 10 games since 1976 when it began 8-1-1 en route to qualifying for Super Bowl XI. They take on the division-rival Detroit Lions (4-6), in fourth place, three games behind the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (7-3).

The matchup will pit the conference's second (Vikings, 351.5) and fourth-ranked defenses (Lions, 331.9). The Vikings are led by quarterback BRAD JOHNSON, who has thrown for the most yards in the conference (2,430). The Lions are directed by quarterback SCOTT MITCHELL, with the fourth-most yards in the NFC (2,116). Both quarterbacks were schooled in the World League, Johnson with London in 1995, and Mitchell with Orlando in '92.

The Packers, with the NFC's No. 2 passing offense (230.5), travel to Indianapolis Sunday, where they will face the AFC's

The third-place Buccaneers, who have won 12 of their past 17 games, have a tough interconference game

They'll contend Sunday with an Oilers' double rush-



in Week 12 when they welcome the 6-4 New England Patriots, last year's AFC representative in Super Bowl, who are in a three-way tie for first with the Jets and Miami Dolphins.

The Jets, in first place

(albeit tied) this late in the season for the first time since they were in a three-way tie with Buffalo and Indianapolis in 1987, travel to Chicago to play the Bears Sunday. New York is led by its new starting quarterback GLENN FOLEY. In the face of massive blitzing by the Dolphins last Sunday, Foley completed 25 of 48 attempts for 322 yards. "Glenn stayed cool," said his left tackle, JUMBO ELLIOTT.

The Dolphins meet the AFC East fourth-place Buffalo Bills (5-5) in Miami this Monday night (ABC-TV, 9:00 PM ET) when they honor their "Perfect Season" 1972 Super Bowl VII champions.

One of these two teams has won eight of the past nine division titles (New England broke that streak last year). And it always seems to be a close one when they meet. Three of the past four games in the series have been decided by three points or less, including two weeks ago in Buffalo when the Bills won 9-6.

Dolphins quarterback DAN MARINO, who has thrown for more touchdown passes in November (103) than any other month, will face the AFC's



No. 1 pass defense (168.1). The game will also feature two of the top young rushers in the NFL. Dolphins' second-year running back KARIM ABDUL-JABBAR leads the NFL with 10 touchdowns (nine rushing, one receiving) and is ninth in rushing in the AFC with 561 yards. In eighth place in the conference is Bills running back ANTHONY SMITH, who leads all NFL rookies with 607 yards.

The AFC Central has two key games this week -- Tennessee at Jacksonville and Cincinnati at Pittsburgh. The Jaguars and Steelers are tied for first at 7-3. Right behind them in third are the Oilers at 5-5.

Jacksonville has won six of its past seven games against AFC Central rivals, including over the Oilers two weeks ago. The Jaguars begin a three-game division schedule, which will conclude their division play.

They'll contend Sunday with an Oilers' double rush-

ing whammy. Running back EDDIE GEORGE leads the NFL's No. 3 running game while being ranked fourth in the AFC with 982 yards. His running partner -- STEVE MC NAIR

-- is the only quarterback to be ranked among the top 20 rushers in either conference (414 yards with a 6.9-yard average).

"He's just like a running back," says linebacker JESSE ARMSTEAD of the Gi-



ants, against whom McNair rushed for 31 yards last week. "You're just not going to arm-tackle him."

McNair (6 of 6 for a 100.0 percentage) is tied for the best third-and-one rushing mark in the AFC, with Jacksonville running back JAMES STEWART posting the second-best percentage (7 of 8, 87.5).

The Steelers have won six of their past seven overall and five of their six division games this year, with only one left after this week, Tennessee in Week 17. They boast the NFL's second-ranked rushing game, led by JEROME BETTIS, the AFC's No. 2 rusher with 1,137 yards.

The major Week 12 matchup in the AFC West comes in Kansas City, where the second-place Chiefs (7-3) host the first-place Denver Broncos (9-1).

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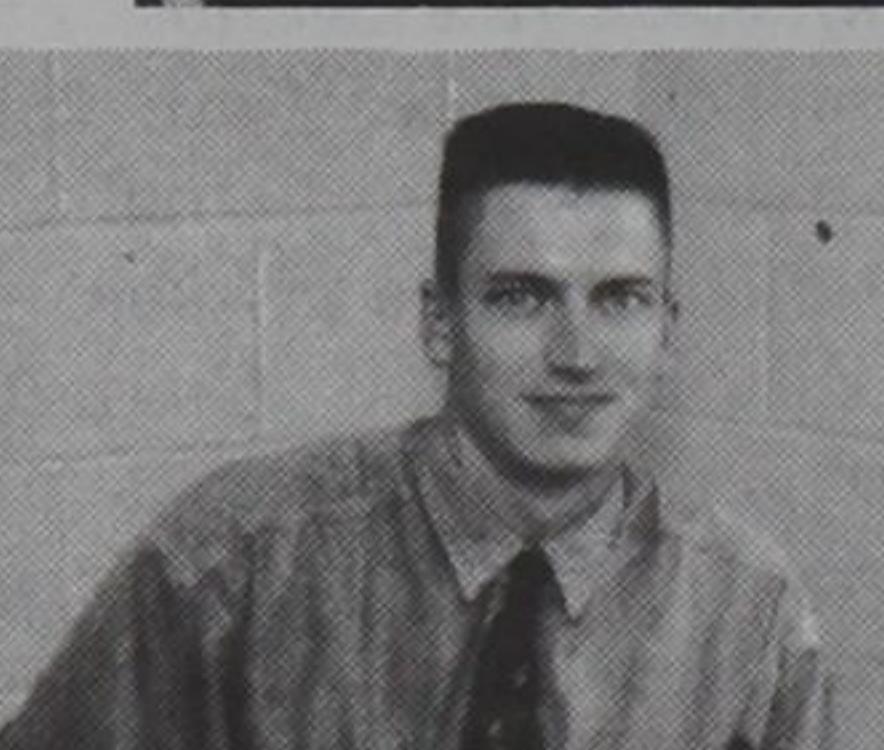
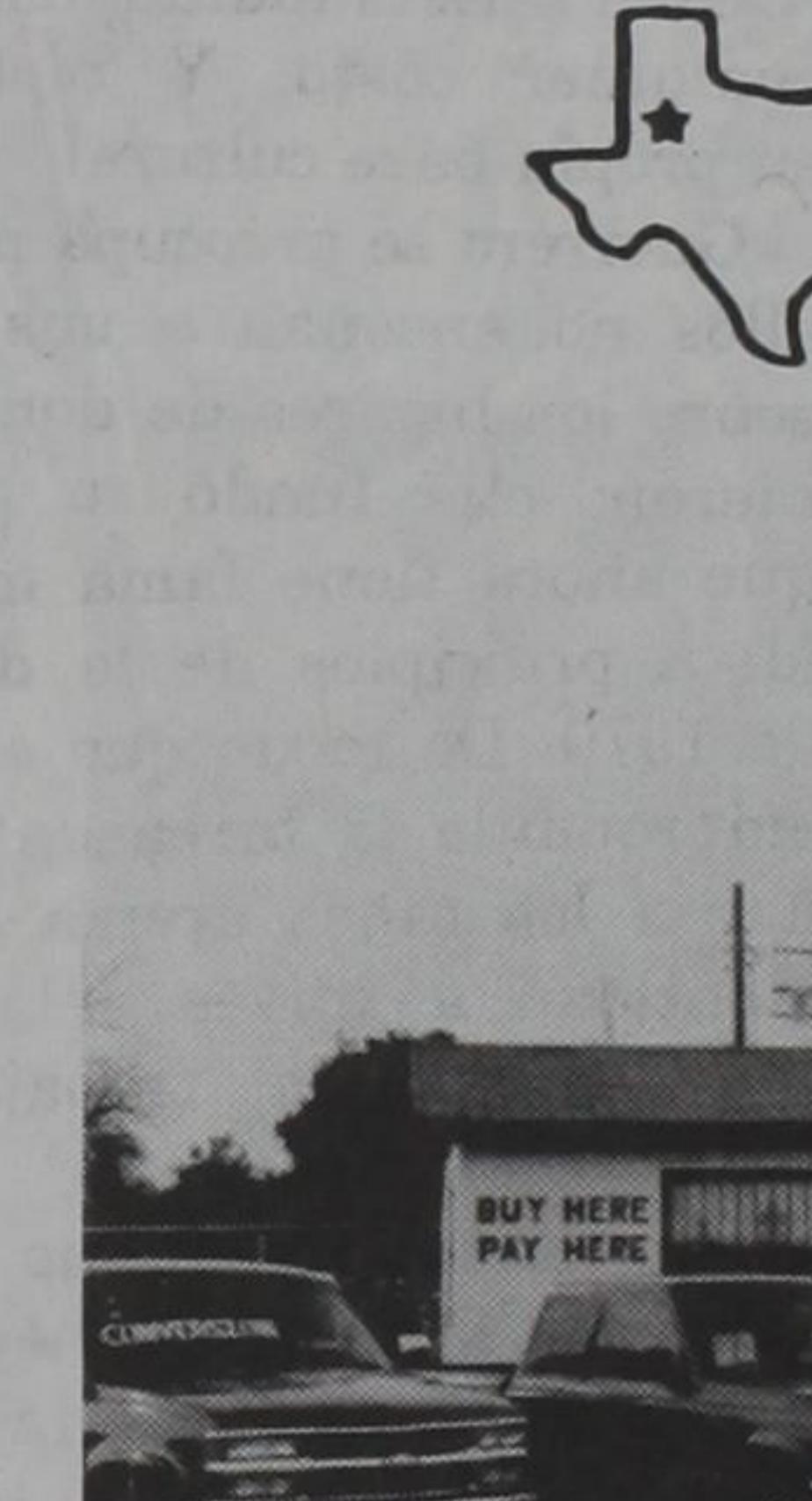
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Che Guevara,

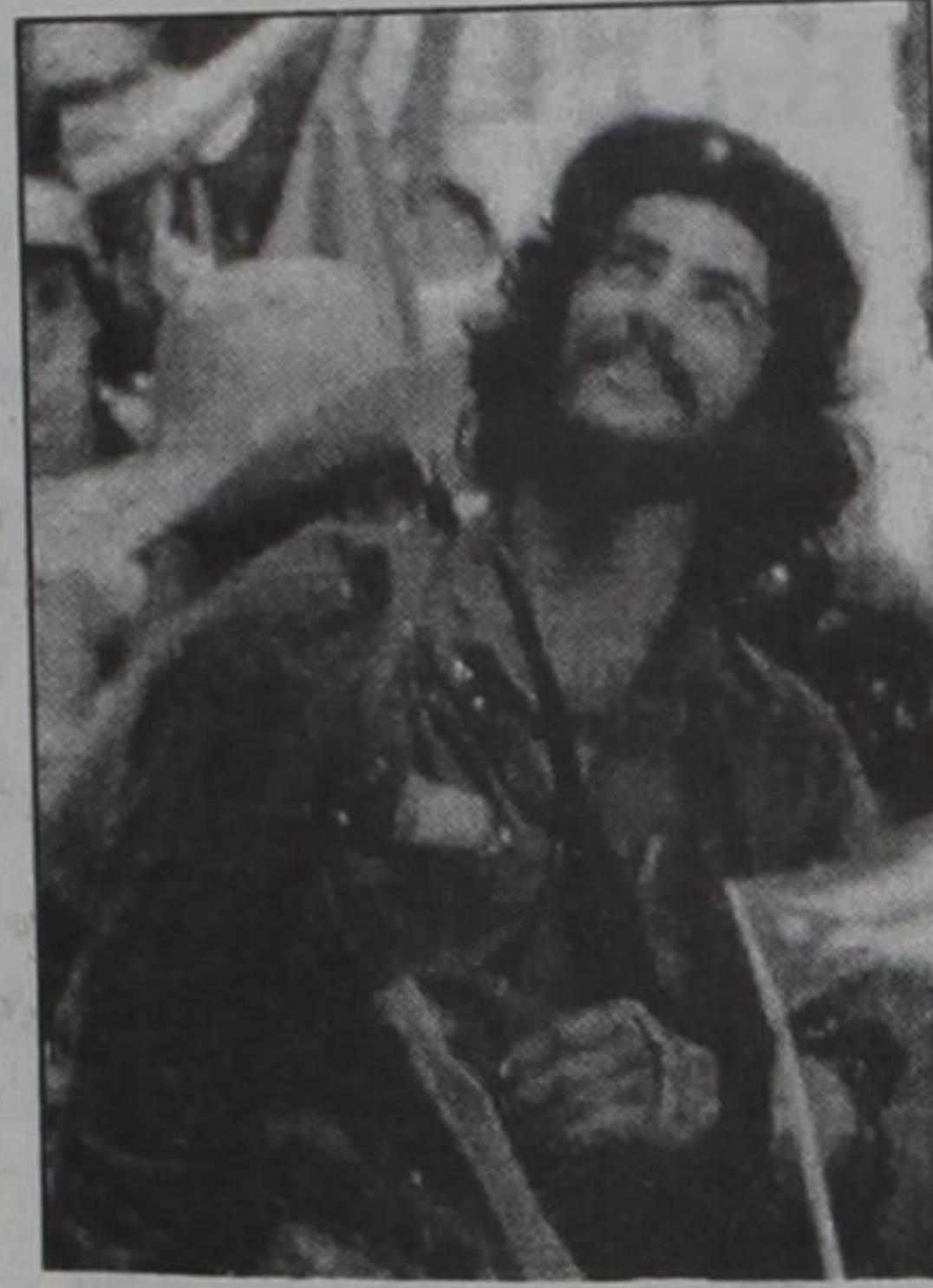
El Guerillero Que No Ha Muerto

La estoria comenzó años atrás y acabó el día nueve de octubre de 1967, en las selvas bolivianas. Ese día el guerrillero Che Guevara fue ejecutado. Un miembro del CIA estuvo presente, Félix I. Rodríguez, un cubano que trabajaba con el gobierno de Bolivia en la captura de la banda de guerilleros encabezada por Che.



Este fue el único retrato de Che el día que murió. El Mayor Niño de Guzmán del ejército Boliviano tomó el photo afuera de la escuela Higuera.

El fue uno de los líderes, junto a Fidel, Hubert Matos y Camilo Cienfuegos que iniciaron la batalla guerrillera contra el gobierno de Bautista. En 1959, la revolución cubana se llevó a cabo en manera civil en que no fue sangrienta. En este tiempo de transformación mundial, los líderes de la revolución cubana entraron de manera triunfal a La Habana y asumieron el poder, en un hecho histórico que despertó la atención mundial al mundo latino en las Américas.



Los Padres De Niños Chicanos Fomentan La Confusión Cultural

Por Joe Olvera

Cuando mis hijos, que estaban siendo criados por su abuela en Las Parras, Chihuahua, vinieron a vivir conmigo por primera vez en El Paso, Texas, tenían cierta mexicanidad que los hacía reaccionar hacia la vida de modo distinto a los chicos latinos nacidos en los Estados Unidos.

Ellos no podían hablar inglés para nada. Cuando ibamos a alquilar una película para verla en casa, ellos decían, "Papá, rénteme 'La India María'" o bien, "Papá, rénteme 'El Supermán'" con un fuerte acento chico sobre "mán".

Ellos estaban completamente asombrados ante un camión de bomberos, un carro-patrulla de policía, una ambulancia y, desde luego, un avión. Señalaban mucho con sus dedos a las cosas que no comprendían, y se asombraban de todo lo que los Estados Unidos ofrecía.

Su inocencia impresionó mi corazón y los quise más por eso.

Hoy ya ellos han crecido y madurado. Han volado en aviones y son bastante indiferentes a esa experiencia. Han aprendido inglés en pocos años, como acostumbran hacer los chicos.

Lo han aprendido tan bien, en realidad, que cuando mi esposa o yo les hablamos en

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En las alturas del poder en Cuba, Che Guevara fue ministro de industria, la agencia más importante entre el plan de gobierno establecido por los líderes cubanos. En el éxtasis anti imperialista ordenó producir un refresco para reemplazar a la Coca Cola; se esforzó en industrializar a Cuba; él mismo cortó caña porque decía que no estaba hecho para los trabajos de oficina. Tuvo bajo su responsabilidad, la marcha económica de la isla. Dispuso el cambio de moneda entre otras medidas que cambiaron la vida en la isla.

El dramático relato del Che Guevara que despierta fascinación: su espíritu de aventurero. Muchas veces este término puede tener un sentido peyorativo. Y el propio Che Guevara se ponía a buen recaudo cuando decía: "Me llaman aventurero y lo soy, pero de la clase que se juega la vida en ello".

Che nació en Rosario, Argentina, asmático, doctor en Medicina, emprendió en 1952 un recorrido por Sudamérica en motocicleta. Piloteaba una Norton 500 y los detalles se reflejan en su Diario en Motocicleta, que fue autorizado por el gobierno cubano para su publicación recién en 1995. El libro, revela su gusto por la seducción, la buena comida y tendencias burguesas. Si embargo, esa travesía muy al estilo de las realizadas por los jóvenes de los años 1960's. Esto marcó la vida profundamente al Che Guevara. Durante su paso por la selva del Perú, permaneció en un leprosario de la selva de dicho país y confesó que al ver los sufrimientos de los enfermos y las limitaciones de los médicos para atenderlos forjó su espíritu revolucionario.

El diario de Che en sus actividades en Bolivia revela todos los padecimientos de su última campaña y su ninguna posibilidad de victoria. Justamente ese hecho, la entrega a una causa perdida, es lo que más impactó de la vida de Guevara. Hay en ello un tono romántico que cautiva. Y por eso es difícil que lo cubra el olvido. También la muerte en la juventud contribuye de manera decisiva a crear el mito: Ahí están los caídos de Rodolfo Valentino, James Dean, Diana, Arthur Rimbaud.

El recuerdo siempre será el de una figura fresca, llena de posibilidades y en todo su esplendor. En cambio, comparese ahora al Fidel Castro encorvado, enfermo, cansado, tembloroso, con aquel desafante, juvenil y poderoso barbudo que surgió victorioso de la Sierra Maestra y hacia callar a un millón de personas poniéndose un dedo en los labios en señal de silencio.

familias como la mía, es Rosa Guerrero, que se está convirtiendo en una leyenda en Texas. Ella nos recuerda constantemente de nuestra rica mexicanidad a través de su "Ballet Folklórico International".

Su mensaje, en resumen, es que nunca debemos olvidar nuestras raíces.

Pero, caramba, eso es exactamente lo que está sucediendo. Demasiados mexicanos de los Estados Unidos tienen la vista fija en alcanzar el "Sueño Estadounidense" a cualquier costo. Y rechazan su propia base cultural.

Guerrero se preocupa porque ellos no enseñan a sus hijos sobre los lugares de donde vinieron; ella fundó su ballet, que ahora tiene fama mundial, a principios de la década de 1970. De modo que ella ha emprendido la tarea de enseñar a los niños acerca de su identidad a través del baile.

"Soy afortunada, trabajo con Dios. El es chicano, usted sabe. El me mantiene positiva, a pesar de lo negativo que me rodea," dice ella. Hoy hay más de 50 ballets folklóricos mexicanos en El Paso solamente. Pero cuando Guerrero empezó, había resistencia a tales grupos.

Ella recuerda, "Cuando sugerí por primera vez a un director musical de una escuela secundaria que la misma debía tener un grupo de "mariachi", él casi se desmayó. Y dijo, "No sea ridícula. Si ellos quieren oír música de mariachi, que vayan a México. Y esto venía de un chico. ¡Qué es sorprendente, entonces, sobre que nuestros hijos estén alejándose de sus raíces?"

Guerrero culpa a "todos los

mensajes negativos que ellos reciben acerca de México... las vibraciones. Desde luego, las escuelas no están haciendo mucho por rectificar la situación, para hacer que los niños chicanos se sientan orgullosos. De modo que eso les toca a los padres y las madres.

"Pero, ¿cómo puede suceder eso, cuando algunas veces los mismos padres y madres están avergonzados de ser mexicanos?" pregunta Guerrero.

"Los chicos afroamericanos están teniendo que "buscarse sus raíces. Nuestros niños chicanos las tienen aquí, pero no las conocen."

Guerrero teme que los niños mexicanoamericanos estén asimilando lo peor de ambas culturas. En la llamada "cultura estadounidense," ellos están cayendo en la trampa del capitalismo, el darwinismo social y la avaricia, y "olvidándose de sus abuelitos," de la "familia." Ellos necesitan encontrar un equilibrio. Necesitan alejarse de la creencia de que "no más mis chicharrones truenan."

"Nosotros somos nuestra propia tapiz. Todos aportamos bellamente al tejido de nuestras vidas -- cultural e idiomáticamente, en fe, en espiritualidad. Empero, entre nuestros hijos, hay una cierta vergüenza."

"Sólo los padres y las madres pueden hacer que eso cambie. Y deben hacerlo. Por el bienestar de los mismos niños."

(Joe Olvera es columnista de "The Frontier Voice" en El Paso, Texas.)

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Chicano Parents Foster Children's Cultural Confusion

By Joe Olvera

When my children, who were being raised by their grandmother in Las Parras, Chihuahua, first came to live with me in El Paso, Texas, they had a certain Mexicanness about them that caused them to react differently to life than did Latino kids who were U.S.-born.

They couldn't speak English at all. When we rented a movie cassette to watch at home, it was "Papa, rénteme 'La India María,'" or "Papá, rénteme 'El Supermán,'" with a heavy Chicano accent on "mán."

They were awestruck at the sight of a fire truck, a police car, an ambulance, and, of course, an airplane. There was much finger-pointing at things they didn't understand, amazement at all the United States had to offer. Their innocence touched my heart and I loved them more for it.

Today they've grown a lot, matured. They've flown in airplanes and are quite blasé about the experience. They have learned English in a few short years, as children are wont to do.

They've learned it so well, in fact, that when my wife or I speak to them in Spanish, they forget certain words. They find it easier to respond in English. Sometimes they laugh at their mother's attempts to speak "el inglés." They're into Mickey Mouse, Walt Disney, rap, the Dallas Cowboys -- no longer "los Vaqueros de Dallas," no longer "El Chapulin Colorado," he of the "se aprovechan de mi nobleza" fame. Their heroes are black, because blacks are cool.

It helps that Julieta is Mexican and that she still speaks Spanish. Otherwise they would have forgotten that cultural root, too. It's good that every summer she takes them to see the family in Las Parras, an "ejido" -- communal farm -- a few miles from Saucillo, Chihuahua.

Julieta doesn't let them forget all the good things about Mexico. Nor do I. How can I when the late, great artist Manny Acosta used to say that I was more Mexican than piñole -- a Mexican chocolate concoction?

One El Pasoan who understands well the conflicting border culture experiences of love and rejection and confusion that families such as mine encounter is Rosa Guerrero, who is becoming a Texas legend. She constantly re-

minds us of our rich mexicanidad through her International Ballet Folklórico. Her message, in brief, is that we must never forget our roots.

But, alas, that's exactly what is happening. Too many mexicanos in the United States are set on reaching for the American Dream at any cost. And they reject their own cultural base. That they don't educate their children about where they came from concerns Guerrero, who started her now-world-famous ballet in the early '70s. So she has taken on the task of teaching the children about their identity through dance. "I'm lucky. I work with God. He's Chicano, you know. He keeps me positive despite all the negatives around me," says Rosa.

Today there are more than 50 Mexican folkloric ballets in El Paso alone. When Guerrero started, there was resistance to such groups. She remembers, "When I first suggested to a music director at one high school that it should have a mariachi group, he almost fainted. He said, 'Don't be ridiculous. If they want to hear mariachi music, let them go to Mexico.' And this was from a Chicano! Is it any wonder then that our children are turning away from their roots?"

Guerrero blames "all the negative messages they get about Mexico...the vibrations. Of course, the schools aren't doing much to correct the situation, to make Chicano kids proud. So it's up to the parents."

"But how can that happen when sometimes the parents themselves are ashamed of being Mexican?" Guerrero asks. "African-American kids are having to find their roots. Our Chicano kids are already here, but they don't know it."

Guerrero fears that Mexican-American children are assimilating the worst of both cultures. In the so-called American culture, they are falling into the trap of capitalism, social Darwinism and greed, and "forgetting their abuelitos, la familia." They need to find a balance. They need to get away from the belief that "nomás mis chicharrones truenan." "We are our own tapestry. We all contribute beautifully to the fabric in our lives -- culturally, linguistically, in faith, in spirituality. Yet among our own kids, there's a certain shame."

"Only parents can change that. And they must. For our children's sake."



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News Briefs

- Millions of Americans are injured and tens of thousands die each year because of serious quality problems in our health care system.

- Total health spending will increase by 50 percent in just the next five years and double to two trillion dollars only five years later. This is adversely affecting the standards of living of America's middle class.

NCHC says all Americans - especially working middle-class families - and millions of small businesses are seriously affected by the large and growing problems in quality, cost and coverage, and that none of the problems will lessen with the policies currently in place.

Study: Neglect Hinders Child Development

Researchers report that parental care makes such a lasting impression on an infant that maternal separation or neglect can profoundly affect the brain's biochemistry, with lifelong consequences for growth and mental ability, reports The Los Angeles Times.

Children raised without being regularly hugged, caressed or stroked - deprived of the physical reassurance of normal family attention - have abnormally high levels of stress hormones, new research on Romanian orphans raised in state-run wards shows.

Moreover, new animal research reveals that without the attention of a loving caregiver early in life, some of an infant's brain cells may simply commit suicide. While the growing brain naturally prunes cells during development - losing up to half by adulthood - the neurons in the neglected animals died at twice the rate as those animals kept with their mothers.

"What we found shocked us," said psychologist Mark Smith at the Du Pont Merck Research Labs in Wilmington, who analyzed the effects of maternal deprivation in laboratory animals. "Maternal separation caused these cells in the brain to die."

"The effects of maternal deprivation may be much more profound than we had imagined," he said.

Scientists have known for decades that maternal deprivation in infancy can mark children for life with serious behavioral problems, leaving them withdrawn, slow to learn and prone to chronic illness. But a range of new research, presented yesterday at a meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, reveals for the first time the biochemical consequences of emotional neglect on the developing brain.

"It has been known for a long time that early experience is able to shape the brain and behavior," said Ron de Kloet, an expert on stress and the endocrine system at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. "Only recently have we been able to go into the brain and measure what is actually happening in early experience."

It is the relationship between parental care, the neurobiology of touch and the chemistry of stress that lies at the heart of the new insights in how a newborn brain takes shape.

Researchers said that neglect can warp the brain's developing neural circuits so that they produce too much or too little of the hormones that control responses to stress, causing permanent changes in the way an organism behaves and responds to the world around it.

In infants, high levels of stress can impair growth and development of the brain and the body.

In animal studies, "the presence of the mother ensures these stress hormones remain at a nice low level," said Michael Meaney at the Douglas Hospital Research Centre in Montreal.

New laboratory research by Meaney and other neuroscientists highlights the long-range biochemical consequences of neglect and the effect of maternal care on the development of brain regions that control responses to stress.

Studies with laboratory animals show that the simple act of a mother licking her pup triggers a surprisingly subtle chain of biochemical events inside the infant's brain. As the mother physically comforts her newborn, it stimulates the production of key biochemicals that inhibit production of a master stress hormone called CRH.

To determine whether these new insights also apply to humans, researchers are assessing the changing brain chemistry of children and the attention they receive from their primary caregiver, be it mother, father or day-care worker.

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Organizacion Pan Americana Da Un Premio

Por Agustín Blázquez

La Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS) es una de las docenas de instituciones internacionales localizadas en Washington, D.C., que a pesar de haber estado funcionando por décadas, no es tan conocida al público estadounidense.

La OPS fue creada en 1902. Como la voz regional de la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS), promueve y coordina los esfuerzos de sus 38 países miembros en la continente americano y el Caribe para combatir enfermedades y fomentar la salud física y mental. En su misión se incluye el reconocer y premiar la excelencia en el campo de la salud.

Honrando su misión, este otoño OPS otorgó el 25 de septiembre su Premio 1997 por Administración al Dr. Eduardo Bernabé Ordaz, director del Hospital Siquiátrico de La Habana, mejor conocido como "Mazorra". Daniel Epstein, Oficial de Prensa de la OPS, declaró que este premio anual fue otorgado al Dr. Ordaz en reconocimiento por sus "esfuerzos pioneros en el establecimiento de programas de rehabilitación y la humanización del cuidado hospitalario de personas que sufren enfermedades crónicas."

Interesante. No, mejor dicho, asombroso!

El Dr. Ordaz es director vitalicio de Mazorra, un hospital notorio por usar grandes dosis de drogas sictotrópicas y electrochoques para castigar disidentes políticos.

Sin embargo, el libro "The Politics of Psychiatry in Revolutionary Cuba," de Charles J. Brown y Armando M. Lago, publicado en 1991, documenta 31 casos de abusos siquiátricos en Mazorra. Dos apéndices presentados ante la Comisión de Derechos Humanos de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra (1992 y 1993) documentaron 40 casos más. La Asociación Siquiátrica del Sur de La Florida, en 1995, documentó aproximadamente 100 casos nuevos entre los balseros detenidos en la base de Guantánamo. Y en 1996, la oficina de Investigación de Radio Martí documentó 200 casos más. Esto hace un total de 371 casos.

El Dr. Lago observó que en la antigua Unión Soviética, con trescientos millones de habitantes, se documentaron 300 casos de abusos siquiátricos contra disidentes políticos (1 por millón). Mientras tanto, en Cuba, con once millones de habitantes, 371 es un contraste escandaloso (1 por cada 30,000).

En 1991, el Dr. Lago se reunió con el entonces presidente de la OPS, Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo, y le pidió que enviara una carta a Cuba pidiendo respuesta sobre los cargos presentados en su libro. La OPS rehusó hacer nada al respecto. En 1992, el representante de la OPS en La Habana, Dr. Miguel Marquez, auspició un seminario ensalzando a Cuba en los campos de los derechos humanos y la siquiatría. El Dr. Lago protestó ante la farsa al oficial del Departamento de Estado de EE.UU. que supervisaba las operaciones de la OPS, y según el Dr. Lago, "me ignoraron."

Además, en enero de 1996, el Dr. Ordaz no permitió la visita a Mazorra de la Asociación Siquiátrica Americana.

Para asistir al recibimiento del premio de la OPS, el Dr. Ordaz recibió una visa de EE.UU. y voló a Washington, D.C. Es notable que el Departamento de Estado dé una visa a una persona con los antecedentes del Dr. Ordaz, cuando con frecuencia rehusa dar visas a ex-prisioneros políticos y a sus familiares que han sufrido lo indecible bajo la tiranía de Castro. Las visas son negadas con frecuencia a disidentes. Por ejemplo, en 1993, Martha Beatriz Roque,

actualmente encerrada en las mazmorras de Castro, fue invitada como oradora principal a la reunión anual de la Asociación para el Estudio de la Economía Cubana pero le fue negada la visa. La congresista de La Florida, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, en carta al presidente Clinton condenó el premio de la OPS al Dr. Ordaz. Ella también escribió al actual director de la OPS, Sir George A. O. Alleyne, sobre el premio otorgado al Dr. Ordaz, diciendo, "Es vergonzoso que un individuo que ha venido usando sus conocimientos médicos en favor de una dictadura totalitaria, sea premiado por su brutalidad." Y urge la revocación de su premio.

Esto no es histerismo de los cubanos exiliados en este país. Imagínese si la OPS hubiera premiado a un doctor nazi. Con toda razón, los judíos del mundo hubieran puesto el grito en el cielo. Si existe la justicia en el mundo, me parece que la OPS debe pedir disculpa, explicar su insensibilidad y revocar este premio.

(Agustín Blázquez de Silver Spring, Maryland, es un escritor por cuenta propia. Jaums Sutton le ayudó a preparar esta columna.)

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EL EDITOR

Pan American Health Organization Bestows An Unusual Award

By Agustín Blázquez

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is one of dozens of Washington, D.C.-based international bodies that are at best fuzzy names to the U.S. public, even though they've been around for decades.

PAHO itself was created in 1902. A regional voice of the World Health Organization (WHO), it promotes and coordinates the efforts of its 38 member-countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean in combatting diseases and fostering physical and mental health. Its mission includes recognizing excellence in the field.

Toward that end, this fall PAHO presented its 1997 Award for Administration to Dr. Eduardo Bernabé Ordaz, the director of the Havana Psychiatric Hospital in Cuba known as "Mazorra."

PAHO press officer Daniel

Epstein explained that the honor was afforded Dr. Ordaz in recognition of "his pioneering efforts in establishing rehabilitation programs and humanization of hospital care for persons suffering from chronic illness."

Interesting. No, make that astonishing!

Dr. Ordaz is director-for-life of Mazorra, a hospital notorious for using heavy doses of psychotropic drugs and electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) to punish political dissidents. The 1991 book "The Politics of Psychiatry in Revolutionary Cuba," by Charles J. Brown and Armando M. Lago, documented 31 cases of psychiatric abuses in Mazorra. Two addenda to the United Nations Human Rights Commission report in Geneva (1992 & 1993) presented 40 more documented cases. The South Florida Psychiatric Association found approximate-

ly 100 additional cases in 1995 among the balseros -- raft refugees -- detained at Guantánamo. And in 1996, the office of research at Radio Martí found 200 more documented cases. That makes a total of 371 known cases.

Dr. Lago observed that in the former Soviet Union, with a population of 300 million, there were 300 well-documented cases of psychiatric abuse against political dissidents (1 per million), while in shocking contrast, Cuba, with 11 million inhabitants, recorded 371 cases (1 per 30,000).

In 1991, Dr. Lago met with PAHO's then-director, Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo, and asked him to send a letter to Cuba asking for answers to the charges in his book. PAHO refused to do anything about it.

In 1992, PAHO's representa-

Continued Page 6

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

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CLASIFICADOS

LEGAL NOTICE

The Lubbock/Garza Service Delivery Area (Job Source+) is releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Job Training Partnership Act, Title IIB, Summer Youth Employment and Training Program 1998. Job Source+ is seeking proposals for educational, vocational, and work programs for economically disadvantaged youth. Release of the RFP makes no commitment nor does it obligate JobSource+ to fund any proposal.

Proposal packets will be available beginning Friday, 11/21/97, weekdays from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., from the Job Source+ office, 1218 14th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79401, 806/765-5038 (or Relay Texas 1-800-735-2988 for the hearing impaired). Deadline for proposals is Monday, 1/5/98, at 5:00 p.m. A pre-proposal conference will be held at the JobSource+ office (1218 14th St.) Thursday, 12/4/97, at 2:00 p.m., to answer potential proposers' questions. Equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.

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Fiber Glass Systems, a leading mfg. of fiberglass reinforced pipe & tubing, has an excellent opportunity for a Mfg. Engineer at our Big Spring facility.

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Aviso De Solicitud

Eagle Picher Industries, Inc. ha solicitado de la Comision de Conservacion de Recursos Naturales de Tejas (TNRCC o Texas Natural Resource Conservation commission) una enmienda al Permiso de Calidad de Aire Numero 8005 para autorizar la modificacion de una SURFACE COATING AND DEGREASING en 1802 East 50th Street, Lubbock condado de Lubbock, Tejas. La facilidad modifica da va a emitir los siguientes contaminantes atmosferico; materia en particulas, compuestos de carbono y productos de la facilidad modificada puede solicitar una audiencia.

Si el solocotante demuestra que la facilidad modificada va a cumplir con todos los requisitos de calidad de aire aplicables, el solicitante cualificara para recibir una enmienda. El objeto de la audiencia sera limitado a los requisitos de calidad de aire aplicable, que no incluyen asuntos tales como calidad de agua, ruido, seguridad de trafico o zonas municipales. El TNRCC no puede celebrar una audiencia si se determina que las bases de una peticion de audiencia por una persona que puede ser afectada son irrazonables. Razones por las cuales una peticion de audiencia sobre una enmienda de permiso se considerara ser irrazonables incluyen (pero no estan limitadas a) una enmienda que no resulte en un aumento en las emisiones permitidas y que no resulte en la emision de un contaminante atmosferico que no se haya emitido previamente, a no ser que el TNRCC determine que la historia del cumplimiento de las leyes del solicitante justifica que se celebre una audiencia. Si se celebra una audiencia, esta sera un proceso legal semejante a un juicio civil en una corte de distrito estatal.

Para solicitar una audiencia, usted debra proporcionar lo siguiente: (1) su nombre (o, para un grupo o asociacion, un representante oficial), dirección postal, numero de telefono durante el dia, y numero de fax, si hay; (2) el nombre del solicitante y el numero del permiso; (3) la oracion en ingles "I/we request a public hearing"; (4) una descripcion breve y especifica de como los miembros del publico en general; y (5) la localizacion de su propiedad en relacion a la facilidad.

Peticiones de audiencia o comentarios sobre la solicitud deberan recibirse por escrito en la Oficina del Chief Clerk, MC-105, TNRCC, P.O. box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, entro de 30 dias despues de la segunda publicacion de este aviso. Este aviso se publicara en 6 Noviembre, 1997 y en 14 Noviembre, 1997.

Copia de la solicitud puede ser revisada o copiada en el TNRCC, Oficina de Calidad de Aire, 12124 park 35 Circle, Edificio C, Austin, Tejas 78753. Los documentos de al solicitud e informacion adicional pueden obtenerse de TNRCC Lubbock Regional Office, Air Program at 4630 50th Street, Suite 600, Lubbock, Texas 79414-3509, telephone (806) 796-7092. Miembros individuales del publico que deseen inquirir sobre la informacion contenida en este aviso, o inquirir sobre otras solicitudes de permiso o procesos de permiso de la agencia, deberan telonear a la Oficina de Asistencia Publica de TNRCC, libre de cargos, al 1-800-687-4040.

From Page Four (4)

tive in Havana, Dr. Miguel Marquez, sponsored a seminar praising Cuba's efforts in the fields of Human Rights and Psychiatry. Dr. Lago complained of the travesty to the U.S. State Department official in charge of supervising PAHO's operation. According to Dr. Lago, "I was given the runaround."

In January 1996, Dr. Ordaz refused to allow the American Psychiatric Association to visit Mazorra.

In order to attend PAHO's annual award presentation in Washington, D.C., Dr. Ordaz was given a U.S. visa. It is remarkable that the State Department would issue a visa to a person of Dr. Ordaz's background while it often denies visas to former political prisoners and their families who suffered dearly under Castro's tyrannical rule.

In 1993, for example, Martha Beatriz Roque, currently in Castro's dungeons, was invited to be the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE). She was denied a visa.

In a letter to President Clinton, U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla.) condemned PAHO's award to Dr. Ordaz. She also wrote to PAHO's current director, Sir George A.O. Alleyne, about the award, saying, "It is an embarrassment that an individual who has used his medical knowledge to further a totalitarian dictatorship be rewarded for his brutality." Ros-Lehtinen has urged the revocation of Ordaz's award.

In a Sept. 30 letter to her colleagues on Capitol Hill, she presented three cases of psychiatric abuses at Mazorra, commenting, "How an international health organization that received millions in American taxpayer monies every year can reward the director of this hospital is incomprehensible."

The congresswoman urged her colleagues to co-sign the letter, asking for the revocation of Dr. Ordaz's award. Why would an organization such as PAHO select Dr. Ordaz for such an award? I have inquired, but received no reply. Is the spreading concern about this an overreaction of the Cuban exiles? Imagine if PAHO had given an award to a Nazi doctor. Rightfully, Jews the world over would have been outraged.

If there is justice in the world, PAHO must apologize, explain its insensitivity and revoke the award.

(Agustin Blazquez, a resident of Silver Spring, Md., and native of Cuba, is a free-lance writer. Jauma Sutton assisted him in researching this column.)

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From Page One

bor pool. In fact, nearly 25 percent reported an increase of immigrant job applicants.

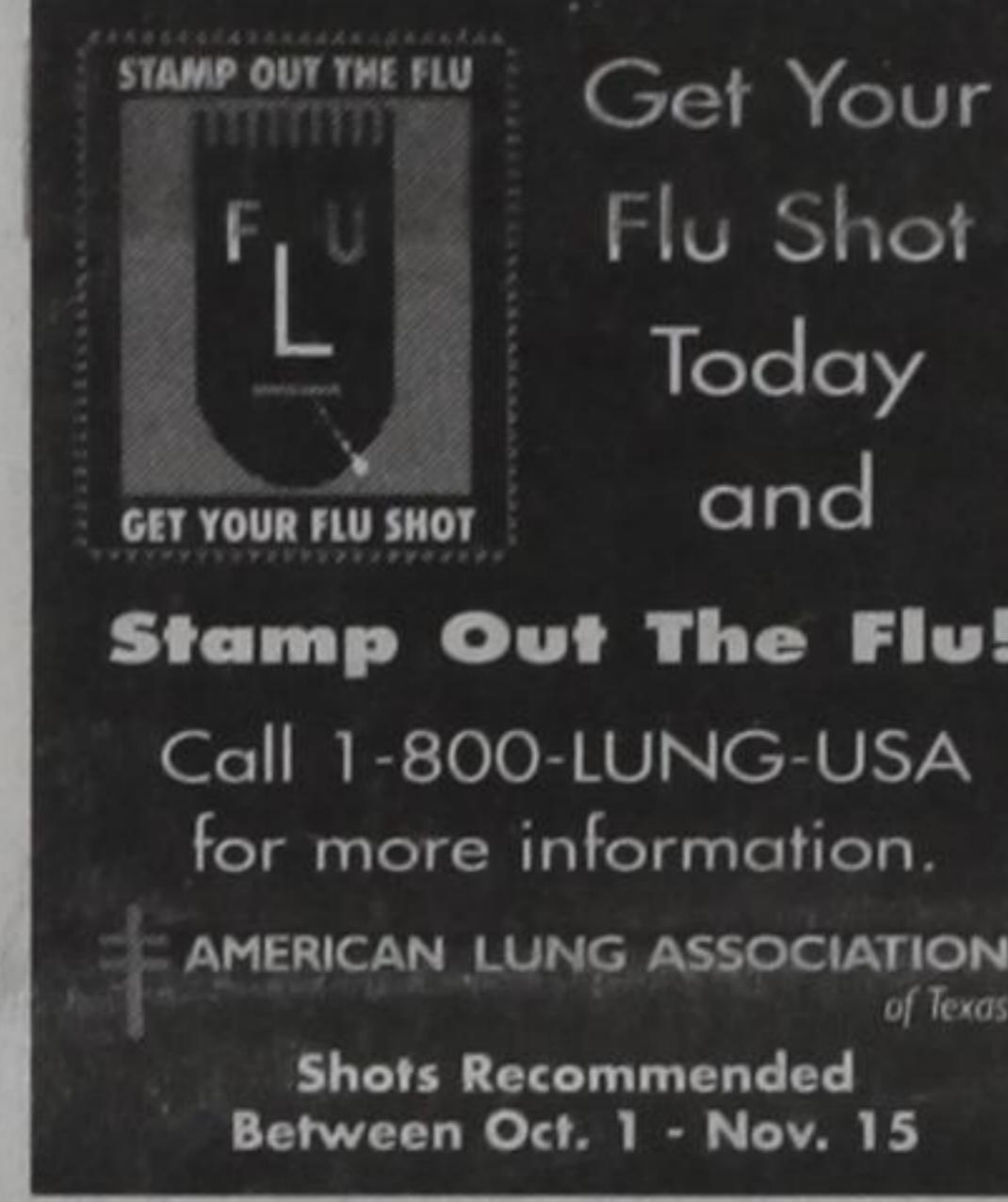
It is hardly news that jobs are the attraction. So is anything much being done to target employers who reap great profits from hiring undocumented workers and violate myriad laws in the process? In San Diego of all places, that should not be hard. Yet Alan Bersin, U.S. Attorney for Southern California who doubles as the Clinton administration's border czar, has mostly ignored the immigration magnet. Not a single employer has been prosecuted in 1997.

The national figures are also pretty pitiful. Surely, putting employers in the government's sights is a more humane (not to mention, effective) strategy for enforcing the rule of law at the border.

We cannot seal the border -- something that even the Border Patrol concedes. The result of the latest tactic -- shifting 130 Border Patrol agents to the El Centro sector for the next couple of months -- may well be to drive migrants deeper into the vast desert expanse.

In short, while Mexico's much-touted economic recovery continues to bypass its poor and they continue to meet our needs for cheap and disposable labor, every night countless groups will set out along the most dangerous stretch of the border. The prospect for the next months and years is appalling.

(Claudia E. Smith is an attorney in the Oceanside office of the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.)



EN LA LOTERÍA DE TEXAS CREEMOS EN DARLE OPORTUNIDAD A TODOS.

Una compañia que está bajo contrato con la Lotería de Texas está buscando compañias de propiedad minoritaria (HUB Historically Underutilized Businesses) certificadas por el Estado de Texas y con experiencia en las siguientes áreas:

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Por favor responda por escrito a:

Melissa Villaseñor-Dye
Minority Development Coordinator
Texas Lottery-GPP
P.O. Box 16630
Austin, TX 78761-6630



Rayito de Luz

por Sofia Martinez

Durante mucho tiempo hemos rezado repitiendo oraciones que alguien preparó; pero no ponemos el verdadero interé en lo que decimos. Porque al repetir algo, ese "algo" se convierte en una formula mecánica, vacía, sin vida y sin calor.

El Espíritu Santo nos está enseñando hoy en día que ya no son los tiempos de "rezar", nos está enseñando a "orar", que no es repetir, sino hablar, dialogar con Dios espontáneamente, libremente, como un hijo habla con su Padre.

Orar significa: Contar con la existencia de Dios, ponerse en la presencia de Dios, reconocer su poder y encenderse a El. Significa presentar ante Dios la alegría y la miseria del mundo, significa oír la Palabra de Dios y responder a ella, en fin, orar significa "vivir con Dios".

Los discípulos de Jesús eran Judíos creyentes, que rezaban las antiguas oraciones del Pueblo de Dios y le alababan como rey y Señor, poderoso, grande y santo, cuando le dijeron a Jesús: Señor, enséñanos a orar, Jesús les dijo que podían llamar "Padre" a Dios. Jesús mismo oraba diciéndole "Abba", "Padre", que es la palabra con que los niños de Palestina llamaban a su padre.

(Mc. 14, 36) (Rom. 8, 15-16) (Gal. 4, 6).

Jesús nos enseña a orar, pues El es el ejemplo más grande de un hombre de oración. En los momentos grandes de su vida, se retiraba a orar. Se notaba, sobre todo, lo directa y sencilla que era su oración.

En esto vemos lo mucho que nos engañamos si descuidamos nuestro diálogo con Dios y dedicamos todo el tiempo al trabajo diario. (Luc. 18, 1. Col. 4, 2.I Tes. 5, 17). Necesitamos orar todos los días, y, a todas horas.

Trees and Bulbs Program

The City of Lubbock and the Arnett Benson Neighborhood Association invites everyone to participate in the 1997 Trees and Bulbs Program.

All homeowners and renters located within the Arnett Benson Neighborhood (Clovis Highway to 4th Street and Indiana to University) will receive one 6 to 8 foot shade tree and tulip bulbs for an application fee of \$5.00!

The sign up will be only for one night, November 20, 1997 at 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the old church hall of Our lady of Grace which is located at 3118 Erskine. First come, first serve basis.

Also the City of Lubbock Community Development Department will be providing Neighborhood Block Watch Signs at no charge for any new or existing Block Watch Group! For more information on forming a Watch or on receiving signs call 775-3088.

Our Lady of Grace Guadalupano Banquet

Our Lady of Grace will hosting its 15th Annual Guadalupano Banquet Dinner & Dance on Saturday, November 15, 1997. The event will be held at the Christian Renewal Center which is located on 4th & Toledo. Dinner is scheduled to be from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and the dance will be at 8:00-12:00 midnight. There will be a \$7.50 charge per person. Music will be provided by Johnny G., Los Lasadores, & Mi Tequila.

The event is being sponsored by: Ramon Gallegos-Attorney at Law; El Editor Newspapers; Rhodes Cafe de Johnny G; and Hon. Aurora Chaires Hernandez-Justice of the Peace Pct. 3.

El Editor Call & Subscribe 763-3841



EN LA LOTERÍA DE TEXAS CREEMOS EN DARLE OPORTUNIDAD A TODOS.

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TEXAS
LOTTERY