

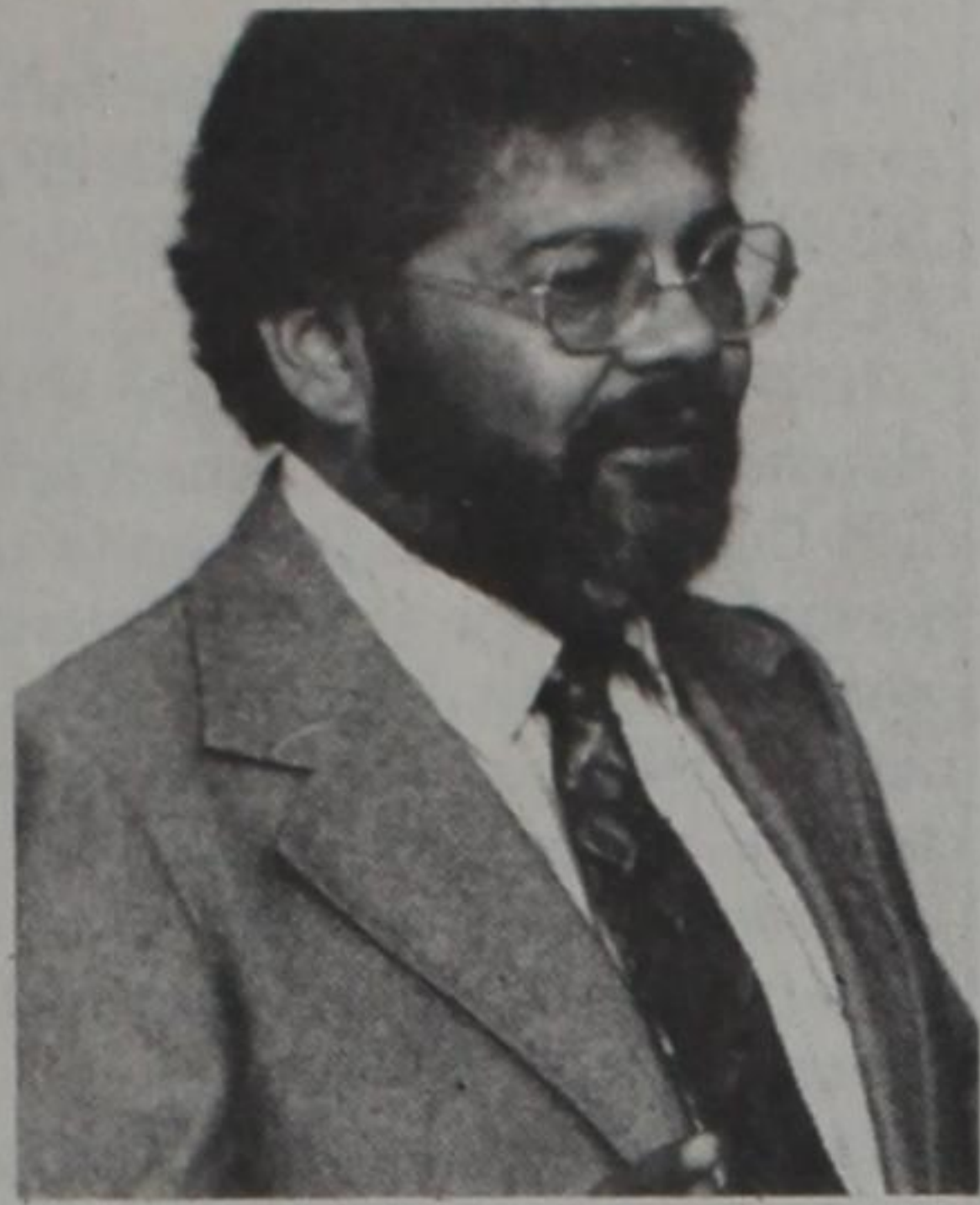
Call for Resignation

COMA Members Protest Actions

Bidal Agüero, founder and acting president of COMA along with COMA members held a press conference to discuss the proposed merging of COMA with the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (LHCC). The press conference addressed irregularities by LHCC that are allegedly in violation of the by-laws of the COMA, against the wishes of the members of COMA and threats of the filing of criminal charges against COMA members by the Chairperson of the LHCC, Paula Kay Montoya and members of their Board of Directors.

"In March of 1994, members of COMA voted at a general membership meeting to change the name of COMA to the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The vote was solely to change the name and specifically, as per a motion made by State Representative Delwin Jones, to keep the COMA logo on letterhead and all correspondence," said Agüero.

The statement issued by Agüero stated that in September of 1994 Montoya, decided with no consultation of the Board of Directors or the membership to file papers to establish a new organization



to be called the Lubbock Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (LHCC). Those papers were filed with the Texas Secretary of State on August of 1994. Identification numbers for the LHCC were completely different from those of COMA that were assigned in 1974.

"On Sept. 6 of 1994 a meeting was held at the COMA office at which Paula Kay stated that the LHCC and COMA were two different entities and that the election to be held on Sept. 9th, were to be conducted under rules established by the LHCC and would not follow rules as set forth and adopted by COMA since their last revision. COMA by-laws had routinely been revised as needed since its inception in

1974."

"At the Sept. 9th meeting COMA by-law as to eligible voters were ignored. Voting privileges of at least two persons, myself included, were denied because they had paid dues to COMA and not to the LHCC. My voting privileges were denied because I am a life time member of COMA and not officially a member of the LHCC according to the presiding parliamentarian at the meeting," said Agüero.

Information was provided to the media that a report from the Secretary of State's Office showed that due to failure of the LHCC administration to timely return form 9.01 COMA lost right to do business as a non-profit organiza-

tion on October 19, 1993 and that COMA's charter was forfeited in February 23, 1994.

Agüero also told the media that copies of the Certificate of Incorporation show the LHCC being incorporated on August 19, 1994.

"We understand that the COMA charter had been forfeited in the past because of not filing the appropriate forms and later reinstated. At no time had new forms to establish a new organization other than COMA been filed. One question must exist in our minds: Under what corporation or authority were we operating from Oct. 19, 1993 until August 19, 1994."

A group of members who in their minds believe that they are still members of COMA filed on September 19th with the Secretary of State to reinstate the COMA Charter and were granted such. On Sept. 20th the LHCC filed papers asking the Secretary of State to designate LHCC as the official agent of COMA and were granted such. According to the Secretary of State, designation of the official agent is granted to the last person or group filling out proper forms.

"Apparently, chairperson
Continued Page 5

News Briefs

Companies Hold Line on Wages

The New York Times reports pressure is building on companies to beef up wages for skilled workers who are increasingly in short supply. However, corporate America is so far resisting by turning away business, pushing employees to work more hours, or hiring unskilled workers at low wages and then training them. While this means a company's work force may operate less productively, the Clinton Administration has encouraged the practice as opening good jobs to the less skilled.

"There's a certain amount of stubbornness," said Tucker Hart, chief economist of Colorado National Bank, who surveyed companies in Denver, where labor shortages are increasing but wages are not. Employers say they cannot raise prices to cover higher wages. It's uncertain how long efforts to keep wages from rising faster than inflation can hold out, especially as economic growth quickens. Pay is already up in some cities, most notably Phoenix, where plumbers who earned \$10 an hour in January are now making \$13 or \$14.

However most analysts argue Phoenix is an exception and see corporate resistance to wage increases as much stronger than it was 15 years ago. Wages for non-supervisory employees, adjusted for inflation, rose in the 1970s, as the unemployment rate declined to a low of less than 6%. But the next time unemployment reached that low in the late 1980s, there was no corresponding response in hourly wages. Nor has one been much evident recently as unemployment reaches roughly the level of the late 1980s.

Electronic Welfare Woes in MD

Associated Press reports an investigation by the Agriculture Department's Food and Nutrition Service appears to contradict claims that electronic benefits transfer systems reduce fraud.

The study of how Maryland delivers welfare benefits with electronic banking found the new technology can make it easier to "launder" food stamps, and concluded that while EBT holds great promise to identify fraud, poor follow-up efforts by USDA may actually be encouraging additional trafficking.

In Maryland, which has the first statewide EBT system, recipients are given a card and the state credits payments to their accounts once a month. To buy groceries, recipients present the card to a grocer, who runs it through a tracking device. The recipient must then enter a personal identification number. To convert food stamps to cash, which is illegal, recipients go through the same procedure but the retailer gives them cash - usually 50 cents or 60 cents on the dollar.

Neal Flieger, a spokesman for the Food and Nutrition Service, said the report, which was "not a formal audit," illustrates one aspect of EBT, while other studies have found that it cuts costs and is a useful tool for catching stores involved in trafficking. The Clinton administration, which is pushing for a nationwide switch to EBT by the end of the decade, sought to downplay the significance of the report.

Rep. Ron Wyden, (D-OR) said the Agriculture Department must resolve the issues raised by the report before it can implement a larger EBT program.

According to Ellen Haas, assistant secretary for food and consumer service at USDA, 40 states are planning or operating EBT food stamp projects. Haas, who was scheduled to speak to food stamp directors Tuesday in Baltimore, said the food stamp program is losing the public trust due to a growing perception of fraud and error. More than 27 million Americans collect food stamps, and 80% of benefits go to families with children. Haas noted that most recipients and grocers are law abiding and said USDA and state administrators must act aggressively to address trafficking, fraud and mistakes in the program.

Hillary Clinton to Keep Working for Reform

AP reports that Hillary Rodham Clinton promised Thursday not to give up the fight for universal health care.

"We've had some rough spots on the road, but this journey is far from over," she told future physicians at the George Washington University School of Medicine. "The future of this country, not just our health care system, depends upon us continuing our journey toward universal coverage."

She said she still hears the voices of the people she met over the past 20 months who cannot afford health care, and repeated that tens of thousands of families lose their insurance coverage each month. "When people keep asking me if I'm going to give up on health care reform, my answer is always the same," Mrs. Clinton said. "Why would I give up on America or the American people? I am the result of privilege. I am the result of good health. I am the result of a great education. Why would I not want to do what I could in any small way to make it possible for others to have the same opportunities that I have had over my lifetime?"

The White House has not yet decided on its health care strategy for 1995, but President Clinton said Monday he intends to keep pushing for reform. However, it is less clear what role the first lady will play.

Homeless Sue Cleveland

Associated Press reports four homeless men have sued police and the City of Cleveland for allegedly taking them from commercial districts and "dumping" them in remote areas. The federal lawsuit asks for a judgment ruling the practice illegal, a court order barring the practice and unspecified damages.

Cleveland Law Director Sharon Sobol Jordan said there was no city policy to move homeless people elsewhere. "I do not believe police are doing that," she said.

The four plaintiffs alleged they were picked up in an effort to "sanitize" the downtown area, and were taken in police cars to remote industrial neighborhoods, where they were left, in one case as much as fifteen miles away.

Kevin O'Neill, state legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union, said the lawsuit resulted from a two-year investigation.

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derecho ajeno
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EL EDITOR

West Texas' Oldest Weekly Bilingual Newspaper

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Week of September 29 to October 5, 1994

Lubbock, Texas

Cisneros On Hispanic Heritage

by Alberto Avendaño

Life Magazine called him the "Aztec god" and Esquire blessed him as the nation's "First Hispanic." In the 1980s his image blossomed to prominence and languished to retirement after he admitted an affair with campaign aide and now Lubbock resident Linda Medlar. Shortly after, President Clinton brought former San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros back in the public eye naming him secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Now Cisneros has a message: "The Hispanization of the United States of America."

Henry Cisneros delivered this message during the General Accounting Office's Hispanic Heritage Month in Washington, D.C., late last week.

"I do believe that the Hispanic heritage in the United States is going to become significant," he said. "It's just a matter of looking at the numbers and the demographics." About the numbers, Cisneros said that the Latino community is the fastest growing minority group in the States today.

In 1980, the Latino population in America was about 14 million, in 1990 it was 22 million. An increase of over 50 percent in a decade."

Most estimates say that by the year 2000 the Hispanic population will grow over 31 million people. But in addition to sheer size, Cisneros pointed out the location of this population.

"Hispanics will be very soon 25 percent of the population of the state of California," he said, "and 25 percent of the population of Texas. We've just talked about the two largest states in the country."

With numbers and demographics at hand, Cisneros proclaimed the "Hispanization" of America. He added that it did not mean that the States were going to become a Hispanic country, but that we will see dramatic changes in the visibility role of Hispanic-



Americans.

"The result will be political influence and political participation on a scale we've never seen before."

Cisneros gave the example of three women who made history about three years ago "in a population that has been accused on occasion of not being sufficiently sensitive to women's roles."

Cuban-American Ileana Ros-Lehtinen was elected congresswoman from the Miami area, Puerto Rican Miriam Santos was elected City Treasurer in the city of Chicago, and Mexican-American Gloria Molina was elected Supervisor of Los Angeles County. Cisneros added to the list Texas Attorney General Dan Morales.

"The next decade, we'll see Hispanics running for positions such as governor and senator in these key states," he said. "And I suspect before very long into the next century, a Hispanic candidate for the presidency of the United States."

Cisneros added that such a candidacy, if not a winner the first time out, would be an important break-through for the growing political momentum of the Hispanic population.

The leadership and organizational sophistication present today in the Latino community make the Housing secretary optimistic.

"Yes, there are differences between Latinos," Cisneros said. "Some are conservatives and some are liberal. But there are things in common and that's been noted by these leaders and organizations."

Things in common include an understanding of the importance of bilingual education and small business assistance.

Hispanization is also the result of history for Cisneros.

"There were Americans here in the Southwest before people arrived in Plymouth."

Santa Fe's, N.M., real name is "La Santa Fe de la Santísima Cruz de Jesús" (The Sacred Faith of the Holy Cross of Christ). "It's forgiven if you just call it Santa Fe," Cisneros said. A city like Amarillo, TX, means "Yellow" for the sunset they saw there; Pueblo is "Town"; Colorado is "Red." The second largest city in America

today is Nuestra Señora de los Angeles de la Purísima Concepción.

"Again, you're forgiven if you call it L.A.," Cisneros said.

Cisneros went on and on with examples that reflect the Hispanic heritage on what constitute the United States.

"I suppose the greatest evidence that I can cite you is that I am told that the year before last, at a Chicago Cubs baseball game, the great American hot dog was outsold by nachos. And I am told that last year ketchup, the great American condiment, was outsold by salsa picante. So I know

Continued Page 6

Cisneros Se Dirije Hacia Hispanos

La revista Life le llamo el "dios Azteca" y esquire le bendijo como el "Primer Hispano" de la nacion. En los 80 su imagen florecio y languidecio despues de admitir su aventura amorosa con Linda Medlar, la que fuera su ayudante de campana y que ahora reside en Lubbock. Poco despues, el Presidente Clinton devolvio al ex-alcalde de San Antonio a la arena publica nombrandole Secretario de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano. Ahora Cisneros tiene un mensaje: "La hispanizacion de los Estados Unidos de America."

Henry Cisneros promulgo este mensaje durante el acto de celebracion del Mes de la Herencia Hispana de la General Accounting Office en Washington, D.C.

"Creo que la herencia hispana en Estados Unidos va a ganar importancia," dijo. "Es solo cuestion de mirar los numeros y los datos demograficos."

Respecto a los numeros, Cisneros dijo que la comunidad latina es la minoria con mas rapido crecimiento del pais.

"En 1980, la poblacion latina en America era de 14 millones, en 1990 alcanzo los 22 millones. Un aumento de

mas del 50 por ciento en una decada."

La mayoria de las previsiones apuntan que para el ano 2000 la poblacion hispana crecera por encima de los 31 millones de personas. Pero ademas del simple tamano, Cisneros senalo la localizacion de esta poblacion.

"Los Hispanos pronto seran el 25 por ciento de la poblacion de California," dijo, "y el 25 por ciento de la poblacion de Texas. Estamos hablando de los dos estados mas grandes del pais."

Con cifras y datos demograficos a mano, Cisneros proclamo la "hispanizacion" de America. Anadio que esto no significaba que Estados Unidos se fuese a convertir en un pais hispano, pero que se produjeron dramaticos cambios en la visibilidad social y politica de los hispanos de America.

"El resultado sera influencia y participacion politica en una escala nunca vista."

Cisneros dio el ejemplo de tres mujeres que hicieron historia tres anos atras "en una poblacion que ha sido acusada de no ser suficientemente sensible al papel de la mujer."

Continua Pagina 6

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Junto Con Las Necesidades De Sus Residentes Dos Naciones Dan Forma A Una Frontera Singular

Por John Blackburn

A medida que caen los obstáculos al comercio entre los Estados Unidos y México, otros se levantan para ocupar sus lugares, especialmente a lo largo de la frontera internacional de 2,000 millas. Los informes relatan que los Estados Unidos están construyendo cercas más altas y reforzando las patrullas fronterizas. México exige más papeleo a los conductores estadounidenses y ha impuesto nuevos límites a sus propios compradores que regresan a su país.

Lejos de sugerir una contradicción de rompecabezas en la nueva época de la ampliación de los vínculos comerciales, los obstáculos sitúan al libre comercio dentro de un contexto más amplio que sopesa la utilidad de las relaciones más próximas contra una preferencia por la separación. Las cercas buenas han hecho buenos vecinos, con o sin NAFTA.

Para México, el temor desde que se estableció la nueva línea fronteriza después del final de la Guerra Mexicano-Americana en 1848 fué el movimiento de bienes; su entrada sin control amenazaba a las industrias nacionales y disminuía los ingresos por concepto de aranceles.

Para los Estados Unidos, las oleadas más recientes de migración sin control han enfocado las gestiones para remendar la cerca, especialmente durante las épocas difíciles en las que gana impulso la creencia de que los extranjeros se apoderan de los empleos domésticos.

Ambos países reconocen también que tenían mucho que ganar de la facilidad de acción recíproca en la frontera, para facilitar el comercio

y la resolución de problemas comunes que no reconocen líneas en el mapa. Muchos que viven a lo largo de la frontera comparten los lazos de la amistad, el parentesco y los intereses de comercio o profesionales que sufren bajo los gobiernos demasiado estrictos.

Para proseguir un equilibrio entre estos fines algunas veces contradictorios, los Estados Unidos y México ejercen la autoridad en la frontera, pero también dentro de una serie de zonas fronterizas contiguas. La línea fronteriza, a pesar de su capacidad para imponer una división rígida entre los dos lados, permite la acción recíproca. Aunque permitan un grado de contacto mayor, las zonas fronterizas mantienen algunas limitaciones sobre el mismo.

Aparte de la adhesión muy publicada al GATT (Acuerdo General sobre Aranceles Aduaneros y Comercio) y la aprobación de NAFTA (Tratado Norteamericano de Libre Comercio), México ha seguido durante mucho tiempo una estrategia de libre comercio a lo largo de la frontera para acomodar a sus ciudadanos. Al serle negado el acceso en el siglo XIX a los bienes estadounidenses baratos y abundantes, y por ser incapaz de obtenerlos de la parte central de México muy distante, los habitantes fronterizos mexicanos reaccionaron al mudarse hacia el norte de la línea o dedicarse al contrabando. Para rectificar esto, México permitió la entrada libre de aranceles de bienes de los Estados Unidos a una zona de 20 kilómetros a lo largo de la frontera.

Ambos gobiernos descansan en concesiones semejantes hoy. En el lado estadounidense, los mexicanos que ten-

gan un permiso para atravesar la frontera (Modelo I-186) pueden entrar a los Estados Unidos para comprar y permanecer hasta 72 horas dentro de una zona que se extiende a 25 millas de la división internacional. Los funcionarios estadounidenses de inmigración tienen acceso legal a los terrenos privados de esta zona para evitar la entrada de personas indocumentadas.

México permite a sus ciudadanos, al inscribirse para obtener placas distintivas de frontera para sus autos, conducir vehículos hechos en los Estados Unidos dentro de la zona de 20 kilómetros y evitar el pago de los derechos de importación normales. Los turistas estadounidenses que conducen hacia dentro de México pueden usar sus automóviles en la zona fronteriza sin necesidad de ningún papeleo.

Sólo cuando conducen hacia el interior, donde anteriormente la venta de incontables autos usados de los Estados Unidos ha trastornado a los mercados locales, deben ellos inscribir a sus vehículos. El requisito de que se empleen tarjetas de crédito para pagar este permiso temporal asegura que puedan cobrarse las multas si se descubre algún fraude.

Dichos controles sobre los vehículos datan del siglo XIX, cuando México exigía a sus ciudadanos que usaban carruajes y vagones de los Estados Unidos en la zona de 20 kilómetros que solicitaran un permiso y pusieran una fianza. Los residentes de los Estados Unidos que entraban, vagones se enfrentaban a iguales requisitos.

Una parte de la respuesta a esta paradoja aparente entre los vínculos mercantiles más

próximos y la administración más estricta en la frontera descansa en la diferencia entre las preferencias locales y nacionales.

La opinión de los fronterizos a quienes una cerca más firme evita deslizarse por encima de la línea para comprar, puede significar poco al burócrata de la capital que trata de proteger al interés nacional, incluyendo los contactos comerciales más amplios y los déficits de comercio.

El punto quedó ilustrado recientemente, cuando el presidente electo de México, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, oriundo de Mexicali, reconoció que su esposa, Nilda Patricia, se le había quejado de un límite de \$50 sobre artículos estadounidenses libres de aranceles en la zona fronteriza. Pasado por alto durante mucho tiempo a favor de un límite de \$300 libre de aranceles para los que viven por debajo de la zona de 20 kilómetros, el cumplimiento reciente de esa disposición provocó motines en los pueblos de la frontera.

El terreno común para la cantidad adecuada de rigidez o flexibilidad en la frontera es elusivo. Los reglamentos cambiaban a través del tiempo y en cada lugar. El uso de zonas fronterizas, sin embargo, representa una gestión para disminuir la fricción en la frontera en que dos países muy distintos se ajustan al equilibrio delicado entre sus necesidades de separación e integración.

(John Blackburn, de Tucson, Arizona, es un escritor por cuenta propia.)
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Needs of Border Residents, Two Nations Shape Unique "Frontera" Clinton's Cuba Policy Betrays It's People

By John Blackburn

As trade barriers fall between the United States and Mexico, others rise up to take their place, especially along the 2,000-mile-long international boundary. Reports tell of the United States building higher fences and beefing up border patrols. Mexico requires more paperwork from U.S. drivers and has imposed new limits on its own shoppers returning home.

Far from suggesting a puzzling contradiction in the new era of expanding commercial ties, the barriers place free trade within a broader context that weighs the usefulness of closer relations against a preference for separation. Good fences have made good neighbors, with or without NAFTA.

For Mexico, the fear since the new borderline was established after the end of the Mexican-American War in 1848 was the movement of goods; their uncontrolled entry threatened national industries and reduced tariff income.

For the United States, more recent waves of undocumented migration have focused efforts to patch the fence, especially during hard times when the belief gains momentum that foreigners take domestic jobs.

Both countries also recognize they had much to gain from ease of interaction at the border, to facilitate trade and the resolution of common problems that do not recognize lines on the map. Many who live along the border share bonds of friendship, kinship, and business or professional interests which suffer under overzealous administration.

To pursue a balance between these sometimes contradictory purposes, the United States and Mexico exercise authority

at the boundary, but also within a series of contiguous border zones. The borderline, despite its capacity to impose rigid division between the two sides, allows interaction. While permitting a greater degree of contact, border zones maintain some limitations upon it.

The much publicized joining of GATT and approval of NAFTA aside, Mexico has long followed a free-trade strategy along the border to accommodate its citizens. Denied access in the 19th century to cheap and plentiful U.S. goods and unable to get them from far-off central Mexico, Mexican borderlanders reacted by moving north of the line or by smuggling. To correct this, Mexico allowed the duty-free entry of United States goods into a 20-kilometer zone along the boundary.

Both governments rely on similar concessions today. On the U.S. side, Mexicans with a border-crossing permit (I-186) can enter the United States to shop and remain for up to 72 hours within a zone that extends 25 miles from the international division.

U.S. immigration officials have legal access to private lands in this zone to prevent undocumented entry.

México permite a sus nacionales, por registrarse por distintivos "frontera" license plates, a drive U.S.-made cars within the 20-kilometer zone and avoid the regular import duty. U.S. tourists driving into Mexico can use their cars in the border zone without filling out any paperwork.

Only when they drive to the interior, where in the past the sale of countless U.S. used cars has disrupted local markets, must they register their vehicles. A requirement that credit cards be used to pay for

the temporary permit ensures that fines can be collected if fraud is discovered.

Such controls on vehicles date to the 19th century, when Mexico required its citizens using United States carriages and wagons in the 20-kilometer zone to apply for a permit and post a bond. U.S. residents bringing wagons in faced similar requirements.

Part of the answer to this seeming paradox between closer commercial ties and stricter administration at the boundary lies in the difference between local and national priorities.

The opinion of those at the border who are prevented by a stouter fence from slipping over the line to shop may mean little to the capital bureaucrat looking after national interest, including broader commercial contacts and trade deficits.

The point was illustrated recently when Mexico's Presi-

dent-elect Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, a native of Mexicali, admitted that his wife, Nilda Patricia, had complained to him about a \$50 limit on tax-free U.S. goods in the border zone.

Long ignored in favor of a \$300 duty-free limit for those who live below the 20-kilometer zone, the new enforcement led to riots in border towns.

Common ground for the proper amount of rigidity or flexibility at the border is elusive. Rules varied through time and by place. The use of border zones, nonetheless, represents an effort to reduce the friction at the boundary where two very different countries adjust the fine balance between their needs for separation and integration.

(John Blackburn, of Tucson, Ariz., is a free lance writer.)
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Study on Anti-Drug Program DARE

AP reports that a new study brings into question the effectiveness of the program DARE or Drug Abuse Resistance Education, in which one of about 18,000 policemen provide drug prevention information to more than 5.5 million children in more than half of the nation's public school districts. Some critics question the program's emphasis on self-esteem and personal rights, and the wisdom of bringing police into classrooms.

In an 18-month study by the Research Triangle Institute in Research Triangle Park, NC, researchers concluded that DARE imparts a considerable amount of knowledge but has only a small impact on students' drug use. They also concluded that interactive drug programs, which involve more student participation, work on average three times better than DARE in getting students to stop taking drugs or preventing them from starting.

The researchers analyzed eight previous studies that surveyed more than 9,000 children immediately after they took the DARE program. They also measured knowledge about drugs, social skills, attitude toward the police, attitudes about drug use, self-esteem and drug behavior. Institute Director Jeremy Travis said the results should be interpreted cautiously because they involved limited studies and because drug use is low among elementary school children.

FCNL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

This message contains information and action suggestions on the UN CONVENTION ON WOMEN, CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN AFRICA, CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM and HAITI.

UN CONVENTION ON WOMEN. On September 29, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved passing the UN Convention on Women to the full Senate for action. The formal name for this document is the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women. In order to ratify it, the full Senate needs to give advice and consent by a two-thirds majority vote. President Clinton would then complete the ratification process—a process that began with the signature of President Jimmy Carter in 1980.

The UN Convention on Women is a lengthy document that protects human rights and fundamental freedoms in political, economic, social, cultural, and civil fields. The Convention had bipartisan support in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. A few senators have expressed the view that the Convention on Women might be read to guarantee a woman's right to abortion. To respond to this, Senator Jesse Helms (NC) has attached language that says the Convention should not be construed to reflect or create any right to abortion. FCNL has examined the Convention carefully. Our reading is that the Convention ensures access to health care services, including those related to family planning, and services connected with pregnancy and post-natal care. The UN Convention on Women, in totality, is a significant statement denouncing discrimination against women. To date, it has been ratified by more than 130 other countries. FCNL supports the ratification of the Convention on Women. (If you would like to have a copy of the UN Convention on Women, contact the FCNL office and request document R-4122-FOR.)

ACTION: Please send a message to your two senators. Urge that a vote be taken on the UN Convention on Women before Congress adjourns this fall and ask your senators to vote in favor of the Convention.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN AFRICA On Wednesday, September 28, Senator Paul Simon (IL) held a hearing on the African Conflict Resolution initiative. This legislation was reported out of the full Foreign Relations Committee on Thursday the 29th. Last week FCNL had urged action on this issue, and it has moved forward. Our thanks to those of you who made some calls.

Earlier, this legislation, introduced by Rep. Johnston (FL), was passed by the House. The bill "authorizes assistance to promote the peaceful prevention and resolution of conflicts in Africa." It affirms the critical role of Africans in addressing the root causes of Africa's crises.

Specifically, the legislation authorizes \$26.5 million to: (1) strengthen conflict resolution mechanisms in the Organization of African Unity and in smaller, regional organizations, (2) support education and training in conflict resolution of African Unity and in smaller, regional organizations, (2) support education and training in conflict resolution and peacekeeping by civilian and military personnel, (3) help reduce the size of armies and return military troops to civilian life, and (4) support non-governmental organizations engaged in mediation. The bill does not require NEW money. Funds are shifted from the Economic Support Fund, military education and training accounts, and the Development Fund for Africa. We understand that the Clinton administration supports this initiative.

FCNL is hoping for a vote on the Senate floor at the beginning of next week. If passed the Senate version will still need to go back to the House for approval before October 7, when Congress is scheduled to adjourn.

ACTION: It is coming down to the wire. Please CALL your senators. Urge them to vote "yes" on the African Conflict Resolution legislation. This legislation represents a good first step toward changing the way the United States responds to conflict in Africa.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM LOSES. Sadly, the effort to enact campaign finance reform in this session of Congress ended on Friday, September 30. The Senate failed to muster enough votes to permit formation of a House-Senate conference committee to move the bill on to final passage. Years of efforts to change the system by which candidates obtain money to run their election campaigns have not succeeded. There is more than enough blame to go around, among politicians, special interests, and apathetic citizens. Nevertheless, there are plenty of others who are determined to tackle this problem again, with vigor and new approaches, in the next Congress.

ACTION: Write and thank your senators and representative if they were among those who voted and worked consistently for campaign finance reform, and encourage them to continue to do so in the next Congress. Special appreciation is in order for Senators Mitchell (ME) and Boren (OK) for their efforts on this legislation. During the election campaigns in the weeks ahead, be sure to ask your candidates for Congress whether they will work actively and vote for campaign finance reform next year.

From the 9/23/94 Update:

HAITI. Friends Committee on National Legislation commends the process of negotiation that averted a U.S. military invasion of Haiti last week-end. We recognize that the agreement signed by Haiti's army-installed president, Emile Jonassaint, and by former U.S. president Jimmy Carter is far from perfect. However, the process of transition has begun in Haiti and violence has thus far been limited. Some members of Congress will introduce resolutions in the coming days that will require U.S. troop withdrawal by a certain date and will call for other nations to help bear the cost of the U.S. intervention. FCNL cautions against congressional actions which may disrupt the sensitive, ongoing negotiations in Haiti. Certainly the U.S. should not ask the international community to pay the price of this unilateral U.S. intervention.

ACTION: Send the following messages to your members of Congress. (1) Congress should support negotiations that restore democracy and return President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to Haiti. (2) U.S. troops should be replaced by a UN-directed multilateral force and then by a civilian presence, but the transition must be done in an orderly way that does not endanger the people of Haiti. (3) Haitian refugees who are currently kept at Guantanamo Bay and other safe havens should not be sent back to Haiti until the military leaders have stepped down and the safety of civilians is assured. (4) Economic sanctions should be lifted.

To follow these and related issues on a regular basis, read the FCNL WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER. 245 Second Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002

News Briefs

House Acts On Indian Affairs

Associate Press reports the House moved Monday to streamline the recognition process for Indian tribes and reform the American Indian Trust Fund.

The Indian Federal Recognition Administrative Procedure Act, passed by voice vote, is designed to reduce the costs and time involved when tribes petition the government for federal recognition. It establishes a Commission on Indian Recognition to take over the work now done by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and sets time guidelines for considering petitions.

There are now 545 Indian tribes recognized by the federal government and thus eligible for aid from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Many groups dissatisfied with current the BIA recognition process take their petitions to Congress in hopes of quicker action. A separate bill would prevent the BIA from withdrawing recognition of a federally recognized Indian tribe or Alaska native group without congressional approval.

A third bill would create a new office within the Interior Department to ensure reform of the American Indian Trust Management, giving tribes easier access and more control over trust funds and allowing more options for investment of funds. The federal government has held funds in trust for Indians since 1820, with the BIA now controlling more than \$2.1 billion in such trusts.

The House also authorized a memorial in Washington to honor American Indian veterans. The Native American Veterans' Memorial would be created by the National Museum of the American Indian, a new Smithsonian Institution Museum that is due to open in 2001. All bills still need Senate action.

Immigration Panel's Verification Plan

The Cox News Service reports that the federal Commission on Immigration Reform is preparing to present its recommendations on how to curb undocumented immigration in the U.S. Among the suggestions to be unveiled Friday is a worker verification system to be tested in five states. It would give employers access to data bases to help them check the legal status of job applicants. However, civil rights and immigration advocates say the plan would violate the civil and privacy rights of people in the U.S.

"They are framing the verification idea as gently as they can, saying that they are just testing it in a few states," said Cecilia Munoz, senior immigration policy analyst at the National Council of La Raza (HN2263), one of the representatives who met recently with administration officials. "What they are not saying is that you can't test a system without creating a nationwide data base. They are talking about a multibillion-dollar investment that will take years if not decades to get into working order. And what they are also talking about is people's ability to get a job based on data that may not always be reliable."

Under the 1990 Immigration Act of 1990, the administration also has a Friday deadline to complete its own immigration recommendations. However, an administration official said late Thursday that its document was still in draft form. He said representatives of the Justice Department, the Domestic Policy Council and the Office of Management and Budget had not reconciled their differences. The most sensitive issue was the worker verification proposal, he said.

Congress asked for Friday's interim reports from the immigration commission and the administration, as well as final ones due in 1997, to assess the social and economic impact of the legislation. Although the original plan had been to study documented immigration, recent controversy over undocumented immigrants has prompted the Commission on Immigration Reform to put the question of undocumented immigrants at the top of its agenda.

Martin Luther King's Legacy Threatened by Apathy

The Orlando Sentinel reports that Coretta Scott King said that violence and apathy in this country has threatened the legacy of Martin Luther, King Jr.

She spoke before the national commission, a federal agency, and about 25 state holiday commissions, that are discussing how to promote the Martin Luther King holiday, Jan. 16, as a day for community service. Stressing the necessity of teaching non-violence, King expressed sadness that years after her husband's assassination, his ideas are "trampled so shamelessly ... we focus on his call to dream, even as we ignore his example of action. We applaud his call to non-violence even as we hunt down and kill each other in cold blood."

King is the chairwoman of the national commission, which was scheduled to finish its work this year but was extended until 1999 through the signing of the Martin Luther King Holiday and Service Act by Congress. The commission has sponsored such activities as the "Living The Dream" program, which has introduced more than four million schoolchildren in America to King's ideas of non-violence. But much of the organization's emphasis has been on commemorative activities.

Now, the commission plans to shift its emphasis to more action-oriented projects, mainly encouraging people to join in community service projects, said Lloyd Davis, executive director of the federal commission. He also said the commission will try harder to reach out to other races, because in the past "the King holiday was seen by many as a holiday exclusively for African Americans."

Diez y Seis: Long Ago, Far Away

By Mercedes Lynn de Uriarte

Another dieciséis has come and gone. The festivities were colorful and fun, but it may be time to ask why the only Latino celebrations that we invest so much time and money in mark events so long ago and far way.

We mark these occasions in Mexico, where I grew up, but we have more heroes, too. Both Cinco de Mayo and September 16th commemorate incidents that occurred in Mexico in the 1800s. Where are the celebrations of our contemporary Chicano, Mexican-American or Latino heroes? Those that might inspire contemporary courage so needed to comfort the social and political inequities of today?

Sometimes when we memorialize events that are too distant, we redefine or romanticize them. For example, although Father Hidalgo called for justice and equality, the War of Independence in Mexico certainly did not bring about any significant changes for the indigenous, colonized people.

Indeed, its conclusion in 1821 may be seen as the beginning of one of the most rigid and hostile class- and race-based periods of discrimination. Among the main issues of contention between Mexico and Spain were the laws that denied Spaniards born in Mexico -- known as Creoles -- the right to hold powerful political positions and limited their economic opportunity.

These were some of the most discussed complaints among the elites who ultimately benefited from the changes that emerged from the peace of 1821. Under Spanish law, only those born in Spain could move into decisive positions of power. Once Mexico achieved its independence, Creoles stepped into the power positions vacated by the Spaniards. But things did not change for half of Mexico's



population. The Indians were denied roles in public life.

In 1823 Agustin de Iturbide declared himself emperor. The conservative regime he initiated did not differ significantly from the system imposed by Spain, except that it allowed the freedom to import capital and goods from abroad. He lasted only a short time. The federal republic that followed proclaimed a constitution that copies many features from the United States, but its vision was limited to the document. The social, economic and legal realities did not change.

No notable strides were made toward establishing a system of democratic principles or social revolutionary reforms. Indigenous people continued to be excluded from economic opportunity; they were held in labor relations that ensured bondage as difficult to overcome as any slave system. In fact, the brutal regime of Porfirio Diaz (known as the Porfiriato and enforced by military thugs who behaved as death squads) lasted from 1876 to May 25, 1911, when Diaz was forced to flee.

The Porfiriato led to the first real revolution in the Western Hemisphere, the 1910 Mexican Revolution. Among the many grievances against that regime by Mexicans were the many generous labor advantages Diaz granted to foreign investors, who also were

allowed to exploit indigenous labor and -- along with Mexican elites -- take over their land and export huge amounts of mineral wealth.

The only railroad system built in Mexico was built by North American millionaires and ran south to north for this purpose.

Peasant leaders Emiliano Zapata and Pancho Villa figured prominently in the 1910 Revolution, as did the first democratically elected president of Mexico, Francisco Madero.

Indeed, if it is democracy and a struggle for justice that we seek to celebrate, the heroes of the 1910 Revolution are

much closer to the mark. It makes you wonder why we don't celebrate this sort of conflict. Or why we mask the results of 1821 by ignoring the need for the 1910 war.

The Revolution sparked one of the largest periods of Mexican immigration to the United States, so many Mexican Americans can trace their presence here to that time, just as many can trace their U.S. heritage to the day that the United States took over half of Mexico's territory in the settlement of the 1846-to-1848 war with Mexico that gave us Texas and the Southwest.

Both 1848 and 1910 are important dates in Mexican-American history, but so is the civil rights movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

Dieciséis is a nice, safe, feel-good holiday. But perhaps it is time also to begin celebrating events closer to the time and place of the ongoing struggle for justice that affects today's Latino youth.

(Mercedes Lynn de Uriarte, formerly an editor at the Los Angeles Times, is now a professor of journalism and Latin American studies at the University of Texas, Austin.)
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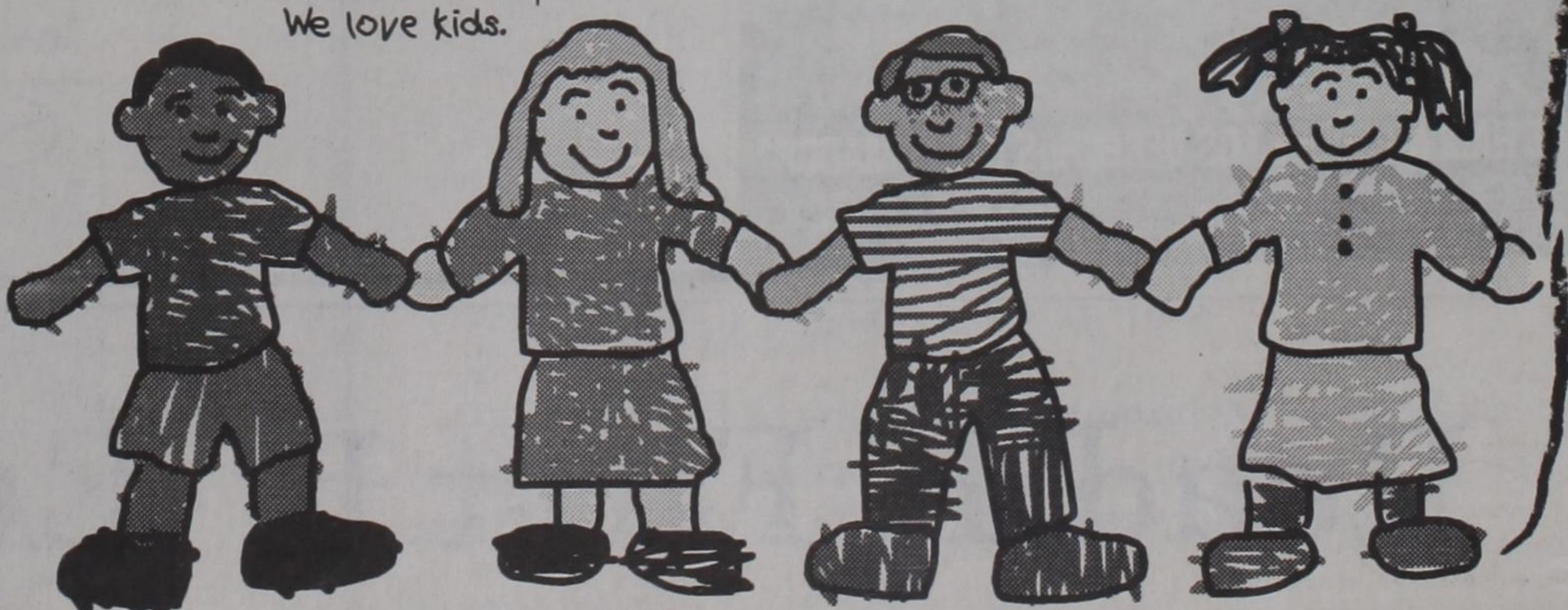
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Texas Tech Tackles the Rice Owls Saturday on TV

LAST TRIP FOR SIX WEEKS: Texas Tech will pack its bags for the last time until Nov. 19 when the Red Raiders tangle with the Rice Owls Saturday in Houston. Kickoff is 12:07 p.m. at Rice Stadium and the game will be televised by the Raycom TV Network. This will be the final conference game between the two schools in Houston.

ANOTHER HIGH SCORING AFFAIR?: If recent history is any indication, this one should be a shoot-out. In the last nine meetings between these two schools, an average of 61 combined points has been scored, with the winning team tallying at least 29 points in each contest.

THE SERIES: Texas Tech leads the overall series, which began in 1942, by a 24-19-1 count. It's much more lopsided in Southwest Conference matchups as Tech leads 23-10-1. Rice has split the last four games against the Raiders, though, winning both in Houston. In fact, the Raiders trail in games played at Rice 13-12-1.

RAYCOM TV: In its 11th season of carrying Southwest Conference football, Raycom will be televising its 31st Red Raider contest and third Tech-Rice clash. The Raiders held on to win in Houston 38-36 in 1988 and Rice kicked a last-second field goal to win 29-27 in 1985. In the four previous televised games between these two teams in Houston, Texas Tech has yet to lose. In addition to the 1988 game, Tech won 30-10 in 1984, 38-15 in 1968 and tied 6-6 in 1964.

STUBBING TOE AT RICE: The last two trips to Owl territory have been disasters for the Red Raiders. In 1990, Rice won 42-21 and two years ago Rice easily prevailed 34-3. In 1992, Rice forced five turnovers, returning two pass interceptions for touchdowns and needing only one yard for another after blocking a punt. Rice won the return yardage battle 181-6.

SPIKE ON TEXAS A&M GAME: "You don't get many opportunities against the highly ranked teams and I guess that's what makes this loss so disappointing. But I'm really proud of our team. They played hard and well. We fired our best shot. We just couldn't quite get it done. We bounced back after the blocked punt. That tells you something about the character of this team. We just have to make more plays."

SPIKE ON RICE GAME: "A lot of times you wonder what a loss like that (to A&M) will take out of your team. I'll be very surprised if we don't bounce back with a good attitude this week. We are going to need to because Rice will be hard to beat. Ken Hatfield always has his teams ready to play. They've had an extra week to get ready for this game, too."

SCOUTING THE OWLS: Until the season-opening loss to Tulane, Rice had won 10 of its previous 12 home games. Featuring a spread option offense, Rice rushed for 373 yards in its last game (two weeks ago vs. Iowa State). That's the most on the ground for a Rice team since 1987. Running back Byron Coston has big-play capabilities, averaging 8.8 yards on 20 carries. The defense has been stout, allowing three opponents to convert only eight of 37 third-down attempts and the special teams have blocked punts in each of the past two games.

NO TROUBLE SCORING: Taking up the slack for a young offense has been no problem for the Texas Tech defense. Three times this season a Raider defender has reached the end zone with ball and that hasn't happened in Raiderland since Texas Tech entered the Southwest Conference in 1960. Point producers for the defense so far this year are linebacker Zach Thomas, who returned an interception 34 yards for a touchdown against New Mexico, line-



man Sean Johnson, who recovered a fumble in the end zone (after a sack by Byron Wright) against Oklahoma and linebacker Marcus Coleman, who took an interception 17 yards in for six against Texas A&M. In the last 34 years, Tech has not had a defense score three times in a season.

MORE ON THE DEFENSE: "Rolling Out the Hits" is the theme of the 1994 Texas Tech football team and they have been doing just that during the first half of the season. With A&M totalling 288 yards in total offense last week and SMU netting 293 the week before, the Raiders held consecutive conference opponents to under 300 yards in total offense was the first time since 1984 (Rice and Texas) and

first time in back-to-back games since 1987 (Colorado State and Lamar). It was the lowest yardage total by A&M against Tech since 1984 (266yards) and only the second time the Raiders have held the Aggies to under 400 yards in total offense in the past 10 years.

ZEBBIE DOING FINE: Despite playing against nationally-ranked teams three of the last four weeks, freshman quarterback Zebbie Lethridge is holding his own. For the season, the Z man has completed 56 of 113 passes for 603 yards for four TDs and two interceptions. He has a streak of 61 consecutive passes without an interception dating back to the OU tilt.

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COMA

Deiz y Seis: Lejano, Olividado y Menudo Inadecuado

Por Mercedes Lynn de Uriarte

Paula Kay had at this time recanted claims of not being COMA and is now saying that COMA and LHCC were one in the same. Last week a letter was sent to members of COMA and LHCC calling for a meeting to be held on Oct. 12th to merge COMA and LHCC. Another question. If COMA and LHCC are the same organization, why is there a call to merge?" said Aguero

"At a meeting held this past Tuesday by the LHCC, we have learned that Paula Kay insisted that criminal charges be filed against members of COMA who acted in the best interests of COMA and filed for the reinstatement of the COMA charter. The problems that have been created by Paula Kay and the current board of directors of the LHCC have created confusion, turmoil and anger among members. The problems created by Paula Kay have put the mission COMA, which is to promote and help small businesspersons and specifically Hispanic businesses in jeopardy. During the 20 year history of COMA, the organization has worked and struggled to survive and has continued to work toward their mission by providing seminars, workshops and educational programs for minority businesspersons and has worked to help underprivileged children to continue their education in order to succeed. This press conference has been called to try and bring some order to the organization. We first of all condemn the actions of Paula Kay in threatening member of COMA with criminal charges for actions taken to preserve an organization with the prestige and history of COMA. We call on members of COMA and the LHCC to immediately call for the resignation of Paula Kay, who in our minds has put here personal agenda before the mission of COMA. We call on members to have elections using rules and by-laws as established by COMA and to work toward the betterment of the Hispanic community," Aguero said in closing.

Otro Dieciséis ha llegado y se ha ido. Las festividades fueron coloridas y divertidas, pero puede ser hora de preguntarse por qué las únicas festividades latinas en que invertimos tanto tiempo y dinero señalan acontecimientos de hace tanto tiempo y tan lejanos.

Señalamos estas ocasiones en México, donde crecí, pero tenemos otros héroes también. Tanto el Cinco de Mayo como el 16 de Septiembre conmemoran incidentes que ocurrieron en México en el decenio de 1800.

¿Dónde están las festividades de nuestros héroes contemporáneos chicanos, méxicoamericanos o latinos? ¿Aquéllos que podrían inspirar al valor contemporáneo tan necesario para consolar a las desigualdades sociales y políticas de hoy?

Algunas veces, cuando conmemoramos acontecimientos que están demasiado distantes, volvemos a definirlos o los convertimos en románticos. Por ejemplo, aunque el Padre Hidalgo pedía justicia e igualdad, la Guerra de Independencia de México en verdad no produjo cambios importantes para los pueblos indígenas colonizados.

Por cierto que su conclusión en 1821 puede verse como el comienzo de uno de los períodos de discriminación basada en la clase y la raza más rígidos y hostiles. Entre los asuntos principales de controversia entre México y España se hallaban las leyes que negaban a los españoles nacidos en México -- conocidos por "criollos" -- el derecho a ostentar plazas políticas poderosas y que limitaban su oportunidad económica.

Estas fueron algunas de las quejas más debatidas entre los grupos selectos que se beneficiaron en última instancia de los cambios que surgieron de la paz de 1821. A tenor de la ley española, sólo quienes habían nacido en España podían ocupar las plazas decisivas del poder. Una vez que México logró su independencia, los criollos se adentraron en las plazas del



poder desocupadas por los españoles. Pero las cosas no cambiaron para la mitad de la población de México. A los indígenas se les negaron los papeles de la vida pública.

En 1823, Agustín de Iturbide se declaró a sí mismo emperador. El régimen conservador que él inició no difería de modo importante del sistema impuesto por España, salvo que permitía la libertad de importar capital y bienes del extranjero. El duró sólo poco tiempo. La república federal que siguió proclamó una constitución que copia muchos rasgos de los Estados Unidos, pero su visión estuvo limitada al documento. Las realidades sociales, económicas y legales no cambiaron.

No se hizo ningún progreso notable hacia el establecimiento de un sistema de principios democráticos o reformas sociales revolucionarias. Los pueblos indígenas continuaron siendo excluidos de las oportunidades económicas; se les mantuvo en relaciones laborales que aseguraban la servidumbre, tan difícil de vencer como cualquier sistema de esclavitud. En verdad, el régimen brutal de Porfirio Díaz (conocido por el Porfiriato y hecho cumplir por los guapetones militares que se comportaban como escuadrones de

la muerte) duró desde 1876 hasta el 25 de mayo de 1911, cuando Díaz fué obligado a huir.

El Porfiriato llevó a la primera revolución verdadera del Hemisferio Occidental, la Revolución Mexicana de 1910. Entre las muchas quejas contra aquel régimen por parte de los mexicanos estaban las muchas ventajas laborales generosas que Díaz concedió a los inversionistas extranjeros, a quienes se permitió igualmente explotar a la mano de obra indígena y -- junto con los grupos mexicanos selectos -- apoderarse de sus tierras y exportar cantidades enormes de riqueza mineral. El único sistema ferroviario construido en México fué establecido por millonarios norteamericanos y corría de sur a norte para este fin.

Los dirigentes campesinos Emiliano Zapata y Pancho Villa figuraron prominentemente en la Revolución de 1910, como también lo hizo el

primer presidente de México elegido democráticamente, Francisco Madero.

En verdad, si lo que procuramos celebrar es la democracia y la lucha por la justicia, los héroes de la Revolución de 1910 están mucho más próximos al objetivo. Eso le hace a uno preguntarse por qué no celebramos esta clase de conflicto. O por qué enmascaramos los resultados de 1821 al pasar por alto la necesidad de la guerra de 1910.

La Revolución provocó uno de los períodos más extensos de inmigración mexicana a los Estados Unidos, de modo que muchos méxicoamericanos pueden trazar su presencia aquí hasta aquella época, de igual modo que muchos pueden trazar su herencia estadounidense al día en que los Estados Unidos se apoderaron de la mitad del territorio de México en el acuerdo de la guerra de 1846 a 1848 con México, que nos dió a Texas y al Suroeste.

Tanto 1848 como 1910 son fe-

chas importantes en la historia méxicoamericana, pero también lo es el movimiento de los derechos civiles de los decenios de 1960 y 1970.

El Dieciséis es un feriado bueno, seguro, para sentirse bien. Pero quizás si sea hora también de empezar a celebrar los acontecimientos más próximos a la fecha y el lugar de la lucha que continúa por la justicia, y que afecta a la juventud latina de hoy.

(Mercedes Lynn de Uriarte, que fué antes editora de The Los Angeles Times, es ahora profesora de periodismo y estudios latino-americanos en la Universidad de Texas, recinto de Austin.)

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VOLUNTARY RECALL OF CIGARETTE LIGHTER

As a voluntary/precautionary measure based on a small number of consumer complaints involving burns, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company has announced a nationwide recall of a recently distributed unique lighter. The lighter is:

CAMEL Metal Match Lighter — This lighter was distributed in retail stores with a two-pack purchase of CAMEL cigarettes beginning in August 1994. The lighter, designed to function as a relightable match, looks like a small pack of cigarettes and features CAMEL designs.

Consumers who possess the "CAMEL Metal Match" lighter must stop using it and either dispose of it or contact R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company immediately for directions on how to properly return the lighter. **DO NOT RETURN THE LIGHTER WITHOUT FIRST CONTACTING THE COMPANY.** The two methods for contact include:

1. Send your name and address by October 31, 1994, to: CAMEL Metal Match Returns, P.O. Box 7, Winston-Salem, NC 27102.
2. Call 1-800-887-4579 with your name and address. The 800 number will be operational Monday through Friday, between 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 Midnight ET, until October 31, 1994.

Consumers will be provided postage-paid mailers in which to return the lighters. For returning a lighter or lighters, consumers will receive one \$5.00 check to cover their inconvenience.

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Cisneros

La cubano-americana Ileana Ros-Lehtinen fue elegida al Congreso en el area de Miami, la puertorriquena Miriam Santos fue elegida Tesorera de la ciudad de Chicago y la mejico-americana Gloria Molina fue elegida Supervisora del Condado de Los Angeles. Cisneros anadio a la lista al Fiscal General de Texas Dan Morales.

"La proxima decada veremos hispanos corriendo por puestos como gobernador y senador en estos estados clave," dijo. "Y sospecho que al principio del siglo que viene, tendremos un candidato hispano a la presidencia de los Estados Unidos."

Cisneros anadio que tal candidatura, aunque no fuese ganadora a la primera, significara un importante paso para el momento politico de la poblacion hispana.

El liderazgo y el nivel de organizacion presente en la comunidad latina llenan de optimismo al Secretario de la Vivienda.

"Si, hay diferencias entre los latinos," dijo Cisneros. "Unos son conservadores y otros liberales. Pero los lideres y las organizaciones saben que hay cosas en comun."

Entre esas cosas en comun se incluye el entendimiento de la importancia de la educacion bilingue y el apoyo al pequeno negocio.

La hispanizacion es tambien el resultado de la historia para Cisneros. "Ya habia Americanos en el Suroeste antes de los que llegaron a Plymouth."

El nombre real de Santa Fe, N.M., es "La Santa Fe de la Santisima Cruz de Jesus."

"Se perdona que solo le llamen Santa Fe," dijo Cisneros.

Amarillo, Texas, significa "Yellow," por las puestas de sol que alli vieron; Pueblo es "Town," Colorado es "Red." La segunda ciudad mas grande de america hoy es Nuestra Senora de los Angeles de la Purisima Concepcion.

"De nuevo, se perdona si solo le llaman L.A.," dijo Cisneros.

Cisneros puso un ejemplo tras otro para reflejar la herencia hispana que constituye Estados Unidos.

Supongo que la mayor evidencia que puedo citarles es que hace dos anos, en un juego de baseball de los Chicago Cubs, se comieron mas nachos que "hot dogs." Y el ano pasado las ventas de salsa picante superaron a las del ketchup. De manera que esta claro que estamos aqui."

Cisneros hablo de la creciente influencia de la cultura hispana en Estados Unidos y cito la obra de Garcia Marquez e Isabel Allende, y peliculas que incluyen "La Bamba" y "Como Agua para Chocolate," y la musica de Gloria Estefan y Julio Iglesias.

Cisneros senalo al NAFTA para explicar como la economia destruye estereo tipos, mostrando a las elites del comercio americano y mejicano negociando.

"De pronto, descubrimos que un mejicano no es solo alguien que llega por la noche para cruzar a escondidas un puente el El Paso," dijo Cisneros.

Sobre el tema de la inmigracion, Cisneros dijo que esta es la unica nacion de la tierra que se renueva a si misma "con la pura energia de la gente que viene aqui a trabajar."

Por ultimo anadio que "nuestro credo nacional habla con confianza de los fundamentos de esta nacion: 'Una nacion bajo Dios, indivisible, con libertad y justicia para todos.' Yo tengo gran confianza en esta nacion y en ese credo. Que si lo seguimos y les damos a todos su oportunidad de contribuir, entonces ninguna poblacion, y ciertamente no la de los Hispanos, es una poblacion de la que temer. Ellos vienen a construir, a crear, a buscar mejores cosas para sus hijos y, en el proceso, a construir una America mas fuerte."

Services to runaways and at-risk youth & their families

Each year 1000 youths are reported runaways in Lubbock. Three of the latest cases occurred after they visited the South Plains Fair.

The runaways have different reasons, some related to gangs that give the teen a sense of belonging. But most truant and runaway behavior result from family problems.

Case example: a 14-year-old boy living with his mother may think his mother is too strict, so he decides not to come home after the movies. The mother makes a report to the police and once that happens, the teenager gets so afraid of the consequences that he stays away longer. So two or three days go by before finally he is found.

"When he's back home, we'd like to be present to offer the service to them," says Catholic Family Service supervisor Palmira Perea-Hay. "To say, 'we are here to help you resolve what brought about this first incident.' To help through the counseling and through the classes so that you don't have this happen again."

Funded through the Texas Department of Protective Regulatory Services and Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C., CFS serves all people regardless of faith. It provides four counselors in Lubbock, two in Plainview

and one in Brownfield, all of them with a B.A. level and most of them bilingual.

The goal of the CFS At-Risk Program is to reduce and prevent the problems of truancy and running away by providing timely and appropriate short-term services to youth and their families.

"It's not that the kid is bad, it's not that the parent is bad," Perea-Hay says. "It's just that they are not communicating and they don't know how to help them to do that."

Typically what happens is that the counselors at school would identify a teenager who has problems at home or in attending school. They will refer the families to CFS for an appointment.

"We offer them some skill building, so they might be able to go through the rest of the teen years without having serious problems," says counselor Jo Hightower. "We teach them how to cope with problems, self-esteem, different things that build up a person. A lot of these kids have not had any values, have not grown up with families that had a mom and a dad, and everything that comes with the structure of a home."

These homes are most of the time torn with survival needs

and other pressures from society. On the other hand, society does not train people to be parents. Once people feel the need to be trained, CFS offers classes for parents to learn to communicate better, to listen to and to exercise authority with teenagers.

"Many parents are unable to learn these skills unless they go through a class and get out some of the frustration they feel," Perea-Hay says.

Perea-Hay adds that she is a "firm believer in prevention." She believes in the use of schools in the early grades to provide a firm foundation for parents who also learn how to take care of kids.

"It's not the role of the school to educate the parents," Perea-Hay points out. "However, we would do a lot better if we did use the institutions that we already have in place to be able to do prevention work, so that we don't end up with a bunch of kids in jail."

CFS meets on a regular bases with Lubbock ISD, the Police Department and Children's Protective Services. They are currently co-sponsors of "Padres con Poder" (Parent Empowerment Program), a presentation that will take place Oct. 18, at Cavazos Jr. High School, presented by social worker and sociologist Lupe Casares.

Cisneros

that we have arrived." Cisneros talked about the increasing influence of the Hispanic culture in the United States and cited Garcia Márquez and Isabel Allende's writing, and movies that include "La Bamba" and "Like Water for Chocolate," and the music of Gloria Estefan and Julio Iglesias.

Cisneros singled out a trade agreement like NAFTA as an example of how economics help destroy stereotypes by showing the Mexican and American business elites dealing with each other.

"Suddenly, we find that not every Mexican is someone who arrives at night sneaking across a bridge in El Paso," Cisneros said.

About the immigration issue, Cisneros said that this is the only nation on earth that renews itself "with the raw energies of people who come here to work."

Finally, he added, "Our national creed speaks with great confidence about the fundamentals of what this nation is: 'One nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all.' I have great confidence in this nation and that creed. That if we follow that and give everyone an opportunity to contribute what we can, then no population, and certainly not Hispanic-Americans, is a population we need to be afraid of. They come to build, they come to create, they come to seek better things for their children and, in the process, to build a stronger America."

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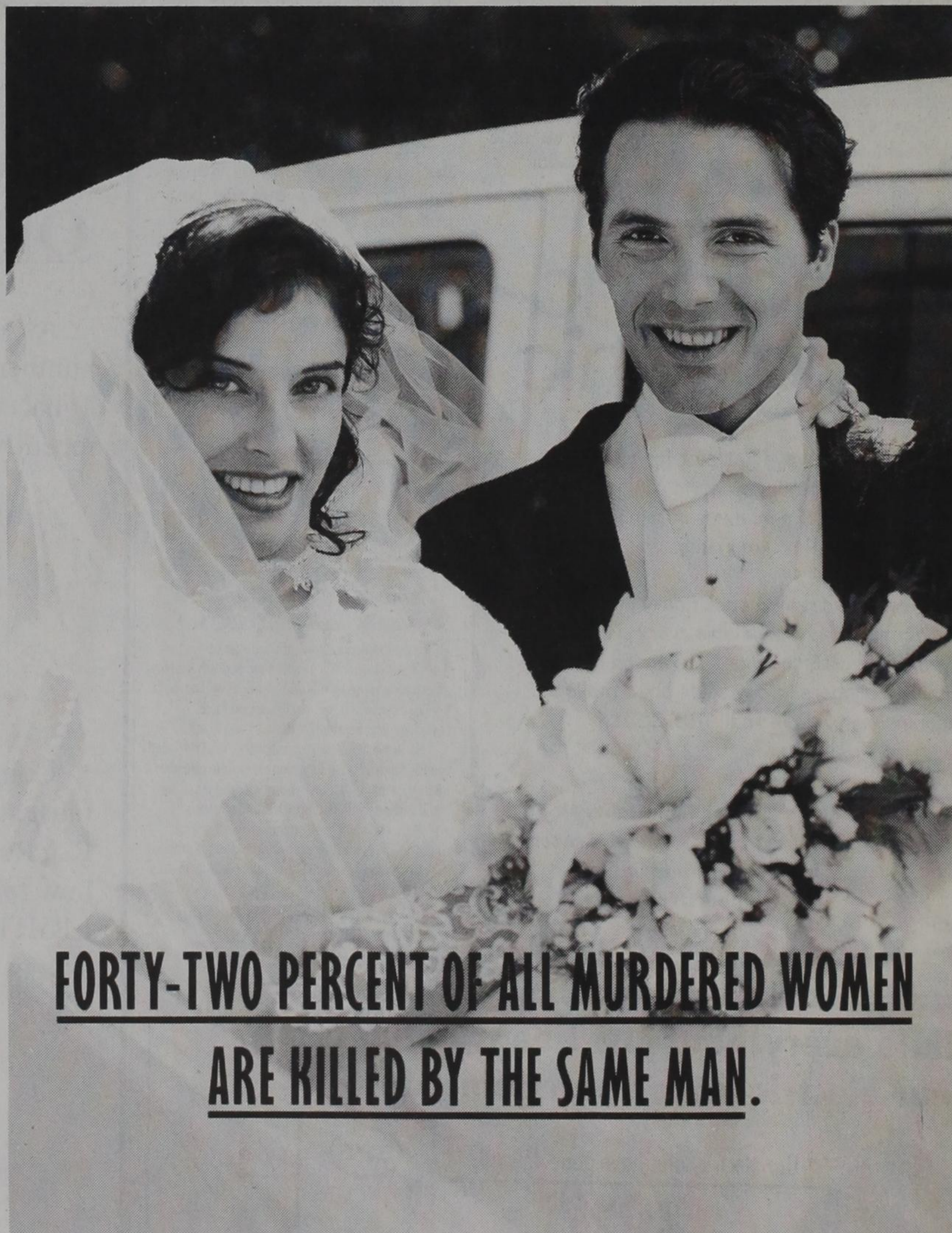
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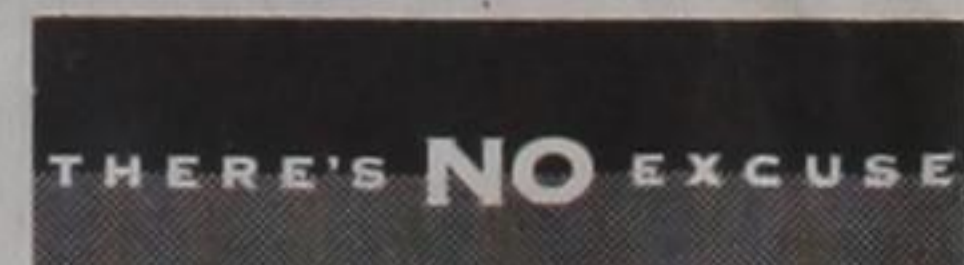


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Un Rayito De Luz

Por Sofia Martinez

El nombre de Dios era tenido tan sagrado por los judios, que nunca lo pronunciaban. Por eso buscaban otros nombres, como "el Eterno", "El Mas Alto", Etc. Si, acaso, en el Antiguo Testamento aparece en nombre de "Yave", nadie se atrevia a pronunciarlo en voz alta. Esto era señal de gran respeto que le tenían al Creador y Señor.

Con la venida de Jesucristo sucedió un cambio completo, pues El vino para en senarnos una nueva relacion con quien es nuestro Padre, por eso el nombre de Dios es usado normalmente por los Cristianos Catolicos. En Exodo 20,7 se nos dice: "Yave no dejara sin castigo al que tome en vano su nombre".

Nombrar a Dios en forma irrespetuosa demuestra una actitud, y una forma de pensar y de actuar contraria al amor que le debemos como Creador y como Padre.

Si entré los latinoamericanos es raro escuchar una blasfemia, no es raro escuchar que se mencion el nombre de Dios en los juramentos, aunque Jesucristo nos ponga en guardia contra ello cuando dice: "No juren en forma alguna, ni por el cielo que es el trono de Dios, ni por la tierra que es el escabel de Sus pies; ni por Jerusalen, que es la ciudad del gran rey; ni juren tampoco por su cabeza, porque no pueden hacer un solo cabello ni blanco ni negro. Que su modo de hablar sea si, si, o no, no. Lo que pase de alli es cosa del maligno". Mat. 5,34-37.

Han pasado casi dos mil años y la gente no ha entendido esta sencilla ensenanza de Jesucristo, y prefieren reforzar consus jaramentos lo que afirman, como si no tuvieran seguridad en ellos mismos ni confianza en los otros. Por eso es que con mucha frecuencia algunos, dudando de otros, les exigen asi: "Juralo por Dios, o por tu madre". Cuando se hace un juramento de esta clase hay que entender que se esta fallando contra el segundo mandamiento. Es tambien una forma de tomar el nombre de Dios en vano.

Otra cosa es cuando juramos "ante Dios" que algo es cierto, como se hace en los tribunales o en las ceremonias de ciertos cargos, en donde nos comprometemos ante Dios a ejercerlo honestamente. La diferencia parece insignificante, pero es real, porque el juramento que se hace "por Dios", en forma ligera, no es una declaracion solemne de que se dice la verdad "ante Dios", porque en este ultimo caso se esta ante un asunto serio y el nombre de Dios no es motivo de juego ni se utiliza vanamente.

Seria pecado grave el perjurio, que es cuando hemos hecho un juramento ante Dios actuando con engano. A esto podria compararse las prome-

sas que se hacen a Dios, sobre todo en momentos de apuro, y, que despues nos olvidamos de cumplir, como si pudieramos jugar con ellas, como si fueran juguetes. (Exodo 20,7).

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24: Porque él se considera a sí mismo, y se va, y luego olvida cómo era.

25: Mas el que mira atentamente en la perfecta ley, la de la libertad, y persevera en ella, no siendo oidor olvidadizo, sino hacedor de la obra, éste será bienaventurado en lo que hace.

26: Si alguno se cree religioso entre vosotros, y no refrena su lengua, sino que engaña su corazón, la religión del tal es vana.

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