

El Español Se Asienta Con Poder e Influencia

Por Olivia P. Tallet

Houston - Renacimiento, reconquista, explosión, auge y palabras similares son los calificativos más frecuentes para explicar el empuje de la cultura latina en Estados Unidos durante esta década.

Con las previsiones demográficas en la mano para los próximos decenios, lo visto en los 90 puede ser tan sólo el preámbulo para un incremento inaudito de la influencia y presencia de lo hispano en Estados Unidos.

Para el escritor mexicano Carlos Fuentes lo ocurrido en esta década se puede considerar como "una reconquista silenciosa" de la comunidad hispana en Estados Unidos, que tiene el idioma como su principal herramienta.

Según la Oficina del Censo de EEUU, para el año 2000 la población hispana será de 31 millones de personas. En el 2020 subirá a 52 millones y llegarán a ser 96 millones en el 2050.

Para algunos especialistas, sin embargo, el total actual podría ascender a 40 millones tomando en cuenta a indocumentados, cantidad que sería similar a la población de España (39 millones) y superior a las de Argentina (34), Venezuela (23) o Canadá (31).

Pero detrás de las estadísticas mudas están la cultura que se han traído los latinos que llegan, y la que han logrado conservar los que siempre estuvieron: los antiguos mexicanos que con las guerras territoriales se convirtieron en estadounidenses a mediados del siglo pasado.

El idioma fue el vehículo de expresión cultural que más

sufrió durante tres o cuatro generaciones y muchos hasta perdieron el español.

"Cuando yo estaba en la escuela pública teníamos que pagar una multa si nos escuchaban hablar español o nos mandaban a la casa como castigo", recuerda el doctor Lorenzo Cano, Director Asociado del Centro de Estudios Mexicoamericanos de la Universidad de Houston.

Pero "todo esto comenzó a cambiar en los años 70 con los movimientos chicanos, el de los

puertorriqueños, los cubanos, y los que promovían la educación bilingüe", dijo.

Hoy, en grandes ciudades con altas concentraciones de latinos, "quiénes hable español puede manejar casi tan bien en la vida cotidiana como en inglés", comenta el profesor asociado del Departamento de Español de Rice University, Dr. Héctor Urrutibehetche.

Más del 50 por ciento de la población estudiantil en Nueva York, Florida, Texas, California y Chicago es hispana y muchos

han asistido a programas bilingües.

“Hablar español o saber algunas frases se está volviendo una moda entre sectores estadounidenses no hispanos y hasta es imprescindible para los candidatos a la presidencia el saber articular ideas en castellano, aunque sólo sean aprendidas de memoria.

La expansión en los medios de comunicación es, también, extraordinaria.

En el último lustro han aparecido numerosas estaciones

de radio y publicaciones periódicas en español, como las versiones de People, Newsweek, Teen, TV Guide, Vogue y Discover, entre otras, lo que demuestra la prosperidad de la industria editorial, aunque ésta no ha alcanzado en igual medida a la del libro propiamente.

Según el doctor Nicolás Kanellos, fundador y Director de Arte Público Press - la mayor editorial de literatura hispana en EEUU-, con 35 títulos publicados al año, la mitad del total.

"Si tuviéramos suficiente capital podríamos producir más, porque la gente está ahí. Nosotros recibimos más de 2000 manuscritos por año, pero no podemos publicarlos porque todavía no existe la infraestructura. Carecemos de suficientes librerías,

distribuidores". El escritor Tony Diaz, autor de "The Aztec Love God" y fundador del foro de literatura en Houston, Nuestra Palabra, confirma la opinión de Kanellos al señalar que "hasta hace poco muchos pensaban que no había un mercado para la literatura que hacen los latinos, pero eso es falso".

"Tenemos pocos libros para satisfacer la sed de esas personas por conocer literatura hispana. El principal problema es la falta de infraestructura para soportar esa literatura", dijo Diaz.

Según el doctor Kanellos, el idioma español es hablado o entendido hoy por casi 90 millones de personas en EEUU, incluidos angloajones.

Por ello, Kanellos asegura que se ha llegado a un camino de no retorno: "ya no es posible cambiar la dirección y evolución de la cultura hispana en Estados Unidos".

Tal vez la "reconquista silenciosa" de la que hablaba Carlos Fuentes ya no sea tan callada. El español resuena cada vez más y más fuerte.

U.S. Census Report Shows Dramatic Growth of Hispanic Population

By Jorge A. Bañales

Washington. - One of the most notable changes in U.S. society this century was the phenomenal growth of the Hispanic population, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics released Monday.

Since 1900, life expectancy in the United States has increased from 47.3 to 76.5 years, and Los Angeles, which now has a population of more than 3.6 million, replaced Chicago as country's second largest city, after New York.

The more-than-1,000 page Census Bureau report includes 1,447 statistical tables and dozens of graphs covering everything from "the cohabitation experience of women" to the causes of death and alcohol use.

Of the 76 million people who lived in the United States in 1900, 14.7 percent were immigrants. In 1997, with the

population at 267 million, immigrants represented nearly 10 percent.

In between the two dates, the origin of the newcomers has changed dramatically.

In 1900, 12.8 percent of immigrants were European, 0.3 percent Latin American and 0.2 percent Asian, whereas in the most recent census, 1990, 3.4 percent were Latin American, 2 percent were Asian and 1.7 percent European.

To illustrate the change, from 1901 to 1920, two million people entered the country from Italy and some 50,000 from Mexico, but from 1991 to 1997 the trend nearly reversed, with 1.8 million coming from Mexico and 54,000 from Italy.

Among the approximately 26 million immigrants in the United States in 1997, Mexicans were the most numerous - more than seven million - followed by Cubans, Dominicans and

Salvadorans, in that order.

In 1990, more than 198 million people spoke English at home and 18.4 million Spanish. French was the second language for 1.7 million people, German for 1.5 million, Italian for 1.3 million and Chinese for 1.3 million.

In 1998, there were 30.7 million Hispanics (including immigrants and their descendants) in the United States. Of those older than 25 years of age, 55 percent had completed high school and 11 percent had college degrees.

In contrast, 85 percent of whites and 76 percent of blacks had finished high school, while 25 percent of whites and 15 percent of blacks had graduated from college.

Of a total of 6.9 million Hispanic families, married couples accounted for 69 percent and single mothers, 23.2 percent.

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Consul Mexicano Satisfecho Por Suspensión de Fianza

Chicago. - El cónsul general de México en la ciudad de Chicago, Heriberto Galindo, expresó su satisfacción por la decisión del gobierno de su país de suspender el depósito de entre 400 y 800 dólares para los vehículos extranjeros que cruzen la frontera.

La medida, que originó amenazas de boicot a productos de México por parte de los mexicanos residentes en Estados Unidos, entró en vigor el pasado 1 de diciembre y fue suspendida anche por orden del presidente Ernesto Zedillo.

"Nos sentimos muy contentos porque hemos sido un eficiente canal de comunicación entre la comunidad residente en este país y el gobierno mexicano", afirmó Galindo en una conferencia de prensa celebrada hoy en el Consulado General.

La medida suspendida por el gobierno mexicano obligaba a todo conductor que cruzara la frontera a pagar un depósito al gobierno, el cual debía ser devuelto a su regreso al país.

El objetivo de la medida, según el gobierno mexicano, era evitar la importación irregular de vehículos extranjeros.

Al suspenderse la reglamentación, queda vigente el esquema anterior, lo que significa que quienes crucen en automóvil la frontera mexicana tendrán que pagar un impuesto de 16.50 dólares en tarjeta de crédito.

Aquellos que no tengan tarjetas de crédito se verán obligados a pagar una póliza de fianza adicional, de acuerdo al valor del vehículo, que podría ascender hasta 500 dólares.

Galindo señaló que el pedido de la comunidad para la suspensión de la medida, la evaluación económica y el hecho de que ya se habían reportado situación de



Días antes de que se aplicara el nuevo cobro, largas filas, maltrato de servidores públicos y falta de servicios eran algunos de los problemas con los que se enfrentaban quienes pretendían obtener permisos para internar sus automóviles a México.

corrupción en el proceso de expedición de permisos en la frontera, influyeron para que el gobierno de México suspendiera la imposición del depósito.

De acuerdo con el cónsul, continuarán vigentes las otras disposiciones del Programa Paísano, que aumentan lo que se puede pasar por la frontera a 300 dólares en artículos de regalo y a 20.000 dólares de dinero en efectivo.

Galindo aseguró que a pesar de que la

orden de Zedillo es la suspensión temporal de la medida, ésta no será implantada nuevamente durante la época navideña.

En 1998 ingresaron a México unos 662,000 automóviles con permiso temporal al país, de los que un 40 por ciento se quedó en territorio mexicano de manera irregular, según la Dirección de Aduanas de México.

En Estados Unidos viven y trabajan al menos 13 millones de mexicanos, y al menos 2 millones visitaron el país durante 1998.

Hispanic Chamber Sets Guest Speaker for Banquet



Newly elected officers of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce include (back: l-r) Eddie Guel, membership director; Henry Lara, small business development; Marilanda Carstan, treasurer; Hilda Cordero, education director; Alberto P. Cardenas, international and governmental affairs and Jim Gomez, publications director. (Front row l-r) Ester Sepeda, vice chair; Eva Garza, chair; Evalinda Garcia-Biava, secretary.

After having had the official election of officers this past week, Lubbock's Hispanic Chamber of Commerce announced that the Installation and Awards banquet has been scheduled for January 14, 2000 at the Holiday Inn Civic Center.

George Herrera, newly appointed President of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber has been selected as the main speaker for the event.

Herrera is to speak on the

Continued Page 5

Austin, Texas. - A southern Texas municipal judge became the center of controversy Friday for ordering individuals accused of crimes to take English classes without offering any reason why. Judge Joe Cardenas said he found it "unbelievable how many people in southern Texas cannot speak English." In this part of the state, where the majority of residents are Mexican, it is easy to survive without speaking English. However, the judge's decision was opposed by a number of activists who say the judge exceeded his professional capacity. Cardenas' decision applies to all of those convicted, regardless of their crimes or sentences. Commissioner Oscar Rios said he received complaints from people who feel intimidated by the decision. "I do not believe that a court is the proper place to order people to learn English. I suspect there is some sort of constitutional violation in this decision," Rios said. The judge, however, insisted that "I did not intend to shame or humiliate anyone with the suggestion that they take free English classes at the library."

United States Lawyers File Political Asylum Claim for Elian

By Marcelo Wheelock Miami. - Lawyers representing Cuban boatwreck survivor Elian Gonzalez filed a political asylum claim Friday for the six-year-old in an attempt to keep him from being returned to Cuba, as requested by his father who lives there, President Fidel Castro and tens of thousands of demonstrators. The team of five lawyers say the claim is based on "the rights granted to Elian when he reached U.S. soil, the same as granted to any other Cuban refugee." The child has been cared for by a great uncle and a cousin since he arrived in Miami and after he was rescued at sea following a tragic 24 hours in which his mother, stepfather and nine other Cubans drowned. The petition for political asylum was sent Friday by mail to Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) offices in Texas, one of the lawyers, Roger Bernstein, told EFE. The team of lawyers are offering their services for free to aid the relatives in Miami who oppose the boy's return. Sen. Robert Torricelli (Dem.-NJ) argued Friday for the child's future to be placed in the hands of a family court in Florida, under U.S. law, and not to the intimidations of Castro (President Fidel). "The United States "is a country based on law and we do not make exceptions to the law for political matters," the senator said, adding that if Elian's father in Cuba wants custody he should file a petition with U.S. authorities. "This is the law that applies for anyone who lives in the country and the law for everyone under similar circumstances. The law cannot be changed - it doesn't matter how many people Castro puts in the street (to protest)," Torricelli said. In Havana, tens of thousands of people filled the streets to protest Thursday for "the release" of the boy to the island. "The long struggle between the free United States and the dictatorship in Cuba is now being defined by a six-year-old," the senator from New Jersey said, who stressed that Elian's mother "wanted him to be free and gave her life for that." Meanwhile, Congressman Benjamin Gilman (Rep.-NY) said it was a "humanitarian case" and urged the Cuban government not to turn it into a "political affair." "We want the boy to have a good life in this country," the legislator said, speaking at a press conference held at a popular Little Havana restaurant in Miami. Congresswoman Ileana Ros Lehtinen (Rep.-FL), and the president of the Cuban American National Foundation's board of directors, Jorge Mas Santos, called on the boy's biological father, Jose Miguel Gonzalez Quintana, to travel to the United States to resolve the case. Cuban President Fidel Castro, however, insists that the father does not want to travel to Miami to argue for the custody rights for his son in a Florida court. (c) Agencia EFE S.A. What do you think? Post your thoughts about this story on our Web board.

Vieques: El Alamo Puertorriqueño

Por Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo
Virtualmente todos los escolares se hallan familiarizados con la historia del Alamo; cómo los patriotas valerosos se enfrentaron a un ejército mexicano de superioridad abrumadora y sacrificaron sus vidas en una resistencia desesperada. El recuerdo de aquel heroísmo valeroso, se dice, produjo la independencia de Texas. Hoy, sin embargo, cuando "recordamos al Alamo," vemos que los latinos tuvieron una importancia mucho mayor para aquel acontecimiento que lo que un siglo de historia blanqueada querria hacernos creer.

El enfrentamiento entre la Marina de Guerra de los Estados Unidos y el pueblo de Puerto Rico sobre el bombardeo continuo de la municipalidad isleña de Vieques es una versión contemporánea del Alamo. Excepto que esta vez, el enemigo poderoso que está marchando contra los patriotas determinados son los Estados Unidos, no México. El establecimiento militar de los Estados Unidos y los congresistas que vecean la línea del partido han tratado de blanquear a la situación de Vieques, exactamente como lo hicieron los historiadores al pintar a la República de Texas como el logro de los anglo-americanos solamente.

El Senador Inhofe (republicano por Oklahoma) ha alegado que los puertorriqueños son anti-patrióticos por objetar a las prácticas de la Marina de Guerra, tales como la de emplear balas de uranio agotado y napalm (gasolina gelatinosa) en una isla tropical donde las brisas marinas llevan todos los residuos directamente al centro de la población. El pueblo de Vieques se enfrenta a un aumento súbito de los casos de cáncer -- un aumento del 27 por ciento por sobre las tasas normales. Es imposible continuar la industria pesquera o ampliar el desarrollo turístico en la isla, debido a la lluvia de proyectiles "vivos" y bombas que explotan. Siete de las once bahías bioluminiscentes del planeta se hallan en Vieques, con raras especies múltiples que dependen de esta ecología frágil.

Los puertorriqueños han decidido que el apoyo a las fuerzas armadas no tiene que asumir un papel pasivo respecto de la supervivencia de sus hijos

y la defensa de la creación de Dios.

Hace cerca de siete meses, la negligencia de la Marina en las maniobras resultó en la muerte de un civil puertorriqueño y heridas graves a otros. La Marina ofreció disculpas y algunas excusas, pero no hizo esfuerzo alguno para cambiar sus procedimientos. La indignación moral se encendió por todo Puerto Rico al pensar que la práctica de tiro al blanco continuaria sin descanso sobre una isla habitada. Cien dirigentes puertorriqueños están acampados ahora en la propiedad de la Marina en un acto de desobediencia civil. Ellos han permanecido firmes, a medida que el otoño se convirtió en invierno y el apoyo entre todos los puertorriqueños ha aumentado en cantidad e intensidad.

El Alamo puertorriqueño está defendido, no por las balas, sino por las armas de la rectitud moral. Mientras los patriotas continúan en la playa, las operaciones militares no pueden continuar sin matarlos. Además, personalidades públicas tales como el Representante Luis Gutiérrez, de Illinois, y Monseñor Álvaro Corrada del Río, Obispo de Caguas, han prometido unirse a la lista cada vez mayor de puertorriqueños dispuestos a arriesgar su seguridad propia a fin de mantener un muro humano de defensa para Vieques.

En su centro, el asunto trata de si los Estados Unidos adoptarán decisiones basadas en los derechos democráticos de sus ciudadanos o en el poder auto-interesado del complejo militar-industrial. La Marina alega que debe continuar bombardeando a Vieques a fin de preparar a las fuerzas armadas para defender a la democracia alrededor del mundo; de otro modo, el gobierno mediante el consentimiento de los gobernados podría perderse. Pero si la Marina infringe el consentimiento de los gobernados al llevar a cabo las maniobras sobre Vieques entre ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos, ¿cómo puede alegar el estar salvando al mundo? Yo podría plantear la pregunta en términos personales más estrictos:

¿A cuántos puertorriqueños está dispuesto a asesinar el Senador Inhofe para asegurarse de que la Marina

está preparada para el combate? Parece que las personas de buena voluntad de Washington están rompiendo filas con la Marina de Guerra. La Secretaría de Justicia, Janet Reno, ha informado al Presidente Clinton que la clase de fuerza militar necesaria para sacar a los defensores puertorriqueños de las playas de Vieques sería contraproducente.

Puede que durante esta temporada de Navidad de 1999, en los últimos días de un viejo milenio, el espíritu de paz y buena voluntad pueda evitar la amenaza sangrienta planteada por la determinación puerto-

riquena y la intransigencia militar sobre Vieques.

Es muy importante para el pueblo puertorriqueño que tantas personas como sea posible reconozcan la rectitud moral de su causa. La solidaridad entre los partidarios comprometidos es un escudo contra el poderío militar. Hasta la fecha, las organizaciones latinas tales como LULAC y el Consejo Nacional de la Raza han declarado su apoyo a la causa de Vieques. La Internacional Socialista de Europa ha proclamado su solidaridad. Cubanos tan divergentes ideológicamente como Fidel

Castro y el Representante al Congreso Federal Lincoln Díaz-Balart (republicano por la Florida) han dicho que la Marina debería cesar de bombardear a Vieques. Cualquier causa que pueda unir fuerzas tan diversas debe ser justa.

Vieques es un lugar de nacimiento remoto y aparentemente improbable para un movimiento de redención nacional, pero también el establo de Belén hace 2000 años era impropio para la Natividad de Jesucristo. Nuevamente, los pobres y los débiles de este mundo han sido escogidos para

confundir a los ricos y los poderosos.

(El Dr. Antonio M. Stevens-Arroyo, anteriormente vice-presidente del Comité del Estado de Nueva York para la Comisión de los Estados Unidos sobre Derechos Civiles, es Catedrático de Estudios Puertorriqueños y Latinos en la Escuela Superior de Brooklyn, Universidad Municipal de Nueva York, y director de la Oficina de Investigación para la Religión en la Sociedad y la Cultura, o RISC.)

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Vieques: The Puerto Rican Alamo

By Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo

Virtually every schoolchild is familiar with the tale of the Alamo: how brave patriots took on a Mexican army of overwhelming superiority and sacrificed their lives in a desperate resistance. Memory of that valiant heroism, it is said, brought about independence for Texas. Today, however, when we "remember the Alamo," we see that Latinos had a much greater importance to that event than a century of whitewashed history books would have us believe.

The confrontation between the U.S. Navy and the people of Puerto Rico over the continued bombing of the island municipality of Vieques is a contemporary version of the Alamo. Except this time, the mighty foe marching on stalwart patriots is the United States, not Mexico. The U.S. military establishment and the congressmen who mouth the party line have tried to whitewash the Vieques situation, just as historians did in picturing the Texas Republic as the achievement of only white settlers.

Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.) has claimed that Puerto Ricans are "unpatriotic" for objecting to Navy practices such as using depleted uranium bullets and napalm on a tropical island where sea breezes carry every residue right into the heart of the town.

The people of Vieques are confronted with a sudden rise in cases of cancer -- an increase of

27 percent over normal rates. It is impossible to continue the fishing industry or expand tourist development on the island because of the rain of live bullets and exploding bombs. Seven of the planet's 11 remaining bioluminescent bays are in Vieques, with multiple rare species dependent on this fragile ecology.

Puerto Ricans have decided that support of the armed forces does not have to take a back seat to the survival of their children and defense of God's creation.

Some seven months ago, the Navy's negligence in maneuvers resulted in the death of a Puerto Rican civilian and serious injuries to others. The Navy offered apologies and some excuses, but made no effort to change its procedures. Moral outrage flamed all over Puerto Rico at the thought that target practice would continue unabated on an inhabited island. About a hundred Puerto Rican leaders are encamped on Navy property in an act of civil disobedience. They have remained steadfast as summer turned into winter. Support among all Puerto Ricans has grown, in numbers and intensity.

The Puerto Rican Alamo is defended not by bullets, but by the arms of moral righteousness. As long as the patriots on the beach remain, the military operations cannot continue without killing them. Public personalities -- such as Illinois Congressman Luis Gutierrez and

Alvaro Corrada, the bishop of Caguas -- have pledged to join the growing list of Puerto Ricans willing to put their own safety at risk in order to maintain a human wall of defense for Vieques.

At its core, the issue is about whether the United States will make decisions based on the democratic rights of its citizens or on the self-interested power of the military-industrial complex. The Navy claims it must continue to bomb Vieques in order to prepare the armed forces to defend democracy around the world; otherwise, government by the consent of the governed could be lost. But if the Navy violates the consent of the governed by carrying on the maneuvers on Vieques among U.S. citizens, how can it claim to be saving the world?

I could pose the question in more starkly personal terms: How many Puerto Ricans is Senator Inhofe willing to murder in order to ensure that the Navy is battle prepared?

It appears that people of good will in Washington are breaking ranks with the Navy. Attorney General Janet Reno has informed President Clinton that the kind of military force required to remove the Puerto Rican defenders from the beaches of Vieques would be counterproductive.

It may be that during the Christmas season of 1999, in the last days of an old millennium, the spirit of peace and good will may avert the bloody threat posed by Puerto Rican

determination and military intransigence over Vieques.

It is very important to the Puerto Rican people that as many persons as possible recognize the moral righteousness of their cause.

Solidarity among committed supporters is a shield against military might. To date, Latino organizations such as the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and the National Council of La Raza have declared support for the cause of Vieques. The Socialist International in Europe has proclaimed its solidarity. Cubans as divergent in ideology as Fidel Castro and U.S. Rep. Lincoln Díaz-Balart (R-Fla.) have said the Navy should stop bombing Vieques. Any cause capable of uniting such diverse forces must be just.

Vieques is a remote and seemingly unlikely birthplace for a movement of national redemption, but then the stable in Bethlehem 2000 years ago was also unseemly for the Nativity of Jesus Christ. Once again, the poor and weak of this world have been chosen to confound the rich and powerful.

(Dr. Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo, formerly vice-chairman of the New York State Committee for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, is professor of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies at Brooklyn College, City University of New York, and director of the Research Office for Religion in Society and Culture.)

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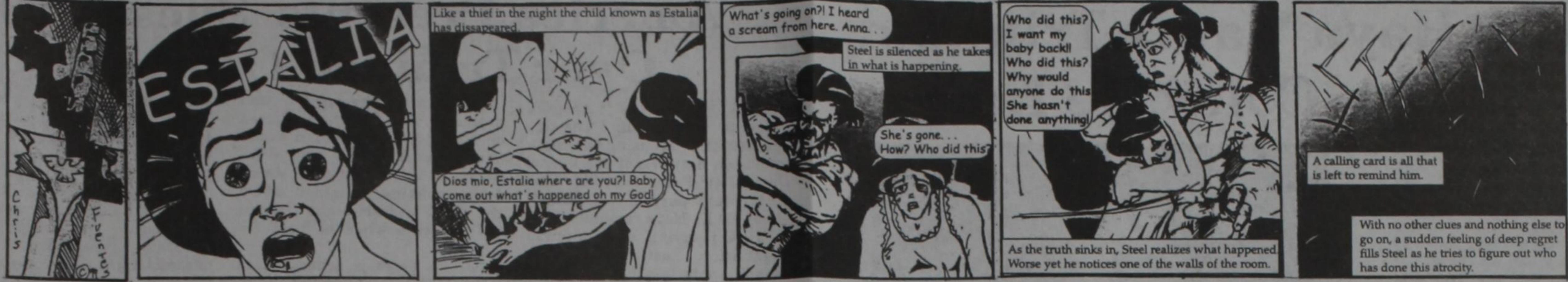
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U.S. Moves To The Latin Rhythm of Generation Ñ

By Rocio Ayuso

Los Angeles, - The Latin rhythm has imposed itself in all areas of the U.S. culture thus creating a new Generation "Ñ" (pronounced EN-yay) raised on American rock, but with an Hispanic accent.

Puerto Rican singer Ricky Martin is the first name anyone hears when speaking of this year's U.S. Hispanic explosion.

This social phenomenon goes beyond this young singer's success and is due to the increasing presence of a new generation of Hispanics with the desire and talent to succeed.

The U.S. media has described the phenomenon as "Latin fever" and the "Latin American explosion."

The increase over the last few years in the number of Hispanics in this country also contributed to this phenomenon. According to the U.S. census, Hispanics' numbers have grown by 38 percent since 1990, making them the fastest growing minority group in the United States.

Today Hispanic Americans number about 31.5 million and



demographers expect that by 2005 they will become the largest minority group in the country.

The importance of Hispanics is not only measured by their

numbers but also by their economic power as the number of middle class Hispanics continues to grow.

Hispanics in the United

Hispanic Chamber from Page One

ever growing influence of the Hispanic population on the economy. "It's the numbers," says Herrera enthusiastically. "It's a young population, which means it's a population of consumers who will be here for a long time. We are offering corporate America a very young and very long-term consumer base."

This will mark the 25th anniversary of the Chamber since its inception.

"We hope that every Corporation in Lubbock will choose to attend this very special event so that they can hear the facts as to the evergrowing market that is the Hispanic community," said Ester Sepeda a member of the Board.

Tickets for the event will be \$25 in advance until the 10th of January when they will go up to \$30. Reserved tables are still available for those businesses wishing corporate tables.

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Members of the 25th Anniversary Awards and Installation Banquet Committee include (front l-r) Olga Riojas-Aguero, Edna Martinez, Esther Sepeda and Gilbert Flores, (back row l-r) Carmen Vige, Robert Dominguez and Eddie Guel.

States do about 383 billion dollars worth of business in this country yearly.

The presence of Generation Ñ is also obvious on the Internet with sites such as quepasa.com, oyeme.com, or picosito.com.

"Hispanic homes are possibly the largest growing sector of Internet users," said UCLA professor Jeffrey Cole.

Harry Pachon from the Tomas Rivera Institute said another factor that positively has an impact on the increase of the Hispanic influence is an increase in education, increasing access to positions of power and, therefore, increased social influence.

Newsweek magazine said in an issue dedicated to this year's Hispanic explosion that everything Hispanic is in style, sweeping the nation and making history.

Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek, Jennifer Lopez, Penelope Cruz and Edward James Olmos are some of the Hispanic entertainers with which the American public has familiarized itself in recent years.

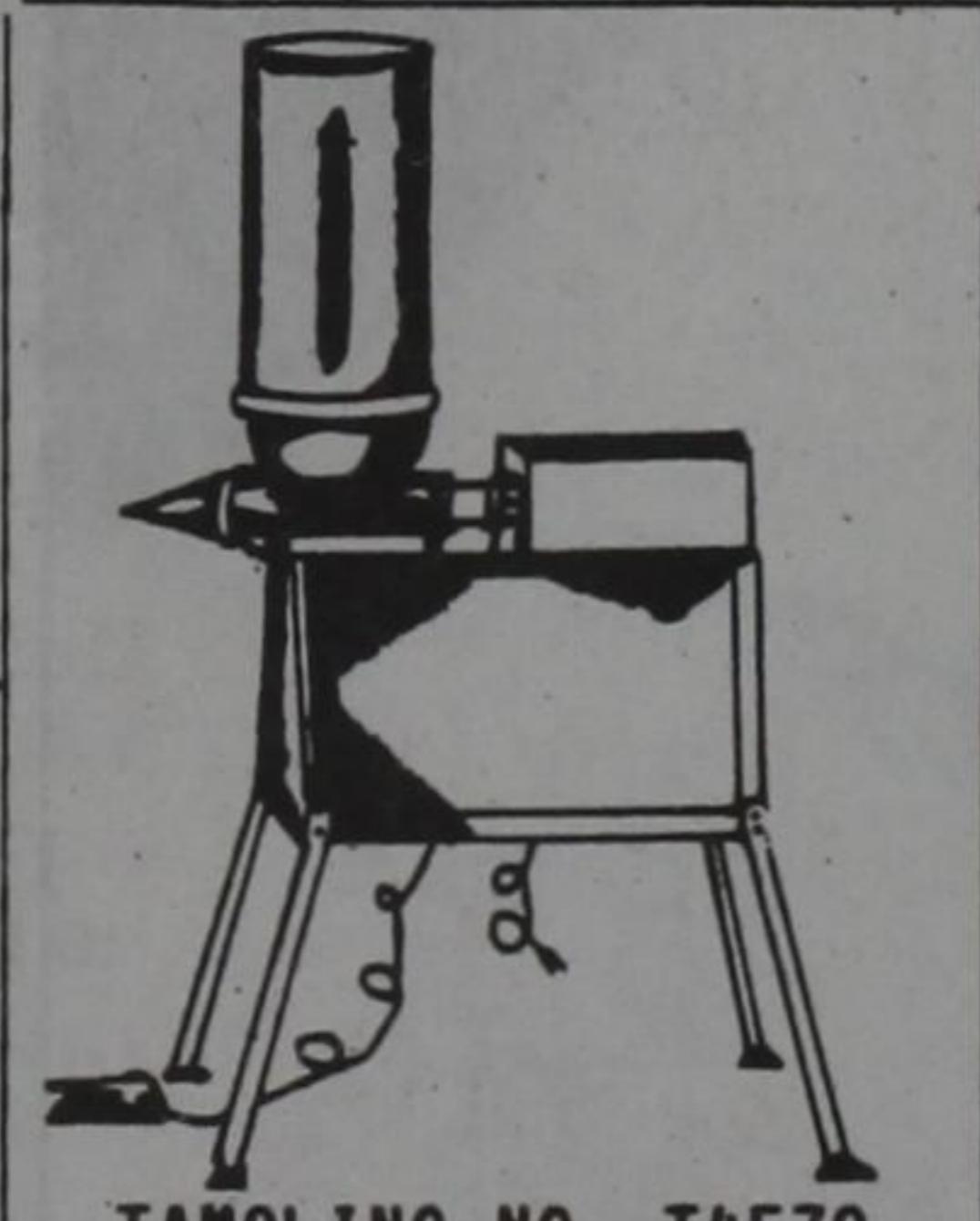
The Martin phenomenon that swept over the Grammy Awards has been followed by other successful Hispanic artists such as Enrique Iglesias, Chayanne, Shakira and Marc Anthony.

Despite the fact that this new generation's symbol is the "Ñ," a letter unique to the Spanish language, this explosion does not always translate into an increased use of Spanish.

Ricky Martin as well as Enrique Iglesias owe much of their U.S. success to their ability to sing in English and function successfully in both cultures.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

The City of Lubbock's annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) and Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) performance reports are available for review for the next fifteen (15) days in the Community Development Office (Room 107) in the Administrative Building, City Hall, located at 1625 13th Street. The offices are open from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Monday through Friday persons may drop by to review the information during this time. If assistance or an alternate time is needed or for additional information please call the Community Development office at 775-2301.



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A Frank Garcia
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Lubbock, Texas 79408-0207
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A la siete de la mañana.

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PENSAMIENTOS DEL PREDICADOR
Por Pastor: Frank García
Lubbock, Texas

LOS MAGOS DEL ORIENTE

Y COMO FUE NACIDO JESÚS EN BETHLEHEM DE JUDEA EN DÍAS DEL REY HERODES, HE AQUÍ UNOS MAGOS VINIERON DEL ORIENTE A JERUSALÉN, MATEO 2:1.

No se sabe quiénes fueron estos sabios. Ignoramos su nombre, así como su domicilio. Solo se nos dice que vinieron "del Oriente." No podemos decir si eran Caldeos o Árabes. Y no sabemos si adquirieron algunas noticias de la venida de Cristo por las diez tribus, que fueron llevadas cautivas, o por las profecías de Daniel, no lo sabemos. Algunos dicen que eran reyes, otros dicen que no. Quizá algunos piensan que eran reyes por lo que dice el libro de Isaías Cap. 60, y en otros lugares de la Escritura. "Y andarán las gentes a tu luz y los reyes al resplandor de tu nacimiento." "y sus reyes conducidos" "Inclinados a tierra te adorarán." "Y sus reyes le servirán." "Y conocerás que yo Jehová soy el Salvador tuyo, el fuerte de Jacob." Quizá por esta escritura algunos creen que estos eran reyes. Pero la Escritura no lo dice. Importa poco quienes fueran. Lo que más nos interesa es la instrucción abundante que nos suministra esta narración. Porque estos versículos nos demuestran que puede haber verdaderos siervos de Dios en lugares donde no esperábamos encontrarlos. Pues Jesús tiene a muchos "ocultos," semejante a estos sabios. Su historia puede ser tan poco conocida en el mundo, como la de Melchizedek, Jetro y Job. Pero sus nombres están escritos en el libro de la vida, y se hallarán con Cristo el día que él aparezca. Pues es bueno acordarnos de esto y no debemos mirar alrededor de la tierra y decir temerariamente, "Todo es estéril." Pues las gracias de Dios no están circunscritas a ciertas localidades y familias. Porque el Espíritu Santo puede conducir almas a Cristo sin ayudas de medios exteriores. Algunos hombres pueden nacer en lugares oscuros de la tierra como estos Magos, y sin embargo como ellos llegar a ser "sabios para la salvación." En este mismo instante puede haber algunos encaminándose al cielo, de quienes la iglesia y el mundo nada saben. Pues florecen en lugares escondidos como el lirio entre las espinas. Pero Cristo los ama, y ellos aman a Cristo. (Es bueno acordarnos de esto.)

OTRO EJEMPLO MARAVILLOSO

Es un admirable ejemplo de fe. Criaron en Cristo sin jamás haberle visto. Creyeron en él cuando los escribas y fariseos permanecieron incrédulos. En todo el volumen de la Biblia no leemos de un caso de fe superior a este. Creámonos a Cristo como ellos lo hicieron.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Lubbock Habitat for Humanity will receive sealed bids until December 17, 1999, 5:00 p.m. CST at our offices at 2910 - Avenue N for the following projects:

Paving Demolition & Removal for Canyon View Subdivision; 500 - North Avenue U

After the expiration of the time and at the place as noted, all bids will be opened privately. Bidders will be notified of the results of the bidding process on December 21, 1999 before 5:00 p.m.

This project will be paid in part by funding from the Community Development Block Grant received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The project must comply with all applicable Federal laws and Regulations including the payment of Federal minimum wages under the provisions of the Davis Bacon Act, equal opportunity and under Section 3, Affirmative Action and Executive Order 11246.

The agency reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Beginning December 13, 1999, plans and specifications may be obtained at the office of Lubbock habitat for Humanity at 2910 - Avenue N, between the hours of 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Servicing Coordinator Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau Lubbock, Texas

Responsibilities: Meeting and event planning, handle all pre and post convention correspondence, report and maintain accurate records of group histories, develop promotional material, attend off-site events such as welcome receptions, pre-convention meetings, press conferences, maintain list of planning resources such as entertainers, venues, suppliers and speakers.

Qualifications: Organization and public relations skills required. Hotel or hospitality industry background preferred but not required. Computer skills to include Microsoft publisher, Microsoft Word, Excel and Internet.

Salary: Negotiable, plus benefits

Mail Resume to: Debbie Iseral, Executive Director Martket Lubbock, Inc. 1301 Broadway, Suite 200 Lubbock, Texas 79401

Equal Opportunity Employer

Receptionist/Sales Secretary Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau Lubbock, Texas

Responsibilities: Basic clerical duties that include answering telephones, greeting customers and assisting the sales department with their proposals and lead sheets.

Qualifications: Computer experience in Microsoft Office (Word and Excel)

Salary: Negotiable, plus benefits

Mail Resume to: Debbie Iseral, Executive Director Martket Lubbock, Inc. 1301 Broadway, Suite 200 Lubbock, Texas 79401

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De La Hoya Wants Trinidad, But It's Coley He Has

NEW YORK - Oscar De La Hoya wants a rematch with Felix Trinidad, but says he won't chase the man who outpointed him on Sept. 18.

"They made a wrong move by thinking they had all the power because they won the title," De La Hoya said Tuesday. "They think I need Trinidad. I don't need Trinidad."

The remarks were made during a news conference announcing De La Hoya's 12-round welterweight match against Derrell Coley Feb. 26 in Madison Square Garden to be televised by HBO.

De La Hoya said he would like to fight Trinidad in June and would take less money than the IBF-WBC welterweight champion. If, however, the fight doesn't happen, he said he could fight Shane Mosley, a former lightweight champion; Ike Quartey, a former welterweight champion; or Vernon Forrest.

Had De La Hoya beaten Trinidad, he would have been faced with making a WBC mandatory title defense against Coley (34-1-2, 24 knockouts). When he lost, he was made the WBC's top contender and Coley was dropped to No. 2.

Should Coley beat De La Hoya, it remains to be seen whether Trinidad will give him a title shot.

The Feb. 26 fight isn't the title match Coley has sought, but it is the kind of fight for which he has longed.

"I'm getting more than \$1 million," he said.

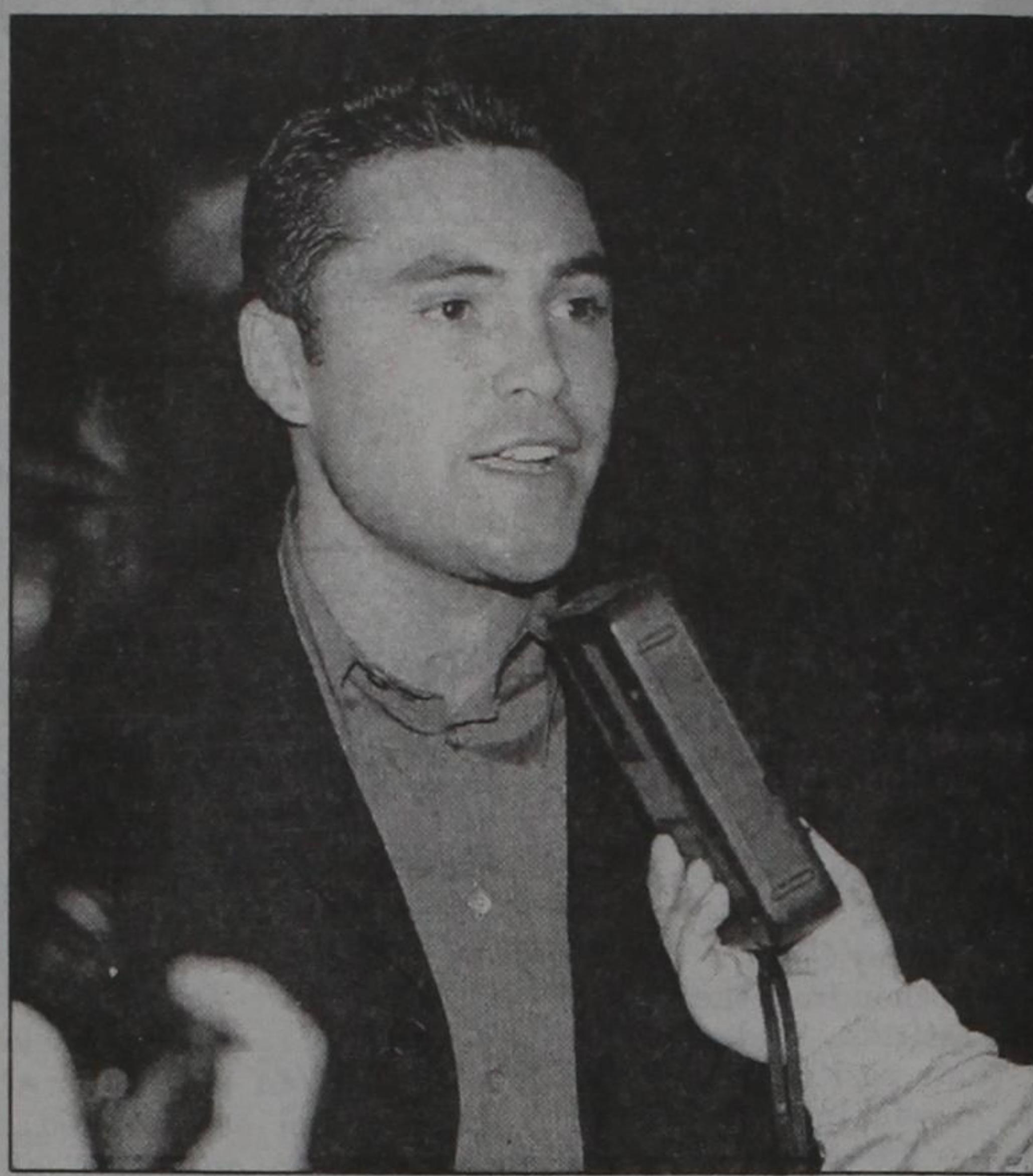
De La Hoya said he would want a Trinidad rematch at 147 pounds. Trinidad has indicated he plans to move up to the 154-pound class. The day after he beat De La Hoya, it was announced he would challenge WBA junior middleweight champion David Reid for Showtime.

HBO, however, claimed it has the right to Reid's next fight, and the match fell through. On Tuesday, America Presents, Reid's promoter, filed suit against HBO in federal court in New York, according to lawyer Jethro Eisenstein, representing America Presents.

The suit accuses HBO of blocking a Reid-Trinidad fight so it could pursue a De La Hoya-Trinidad rematch. Dan Goossen, president of America Presents, maintains Reid has no contract with HBO.

"It's not my fault that David Reid's fight with Trinidad fell through," said De La Hoya, who has taken up singing and recently recorded an album.

Coley has a contract with America Presents, but said he has signed a one-fight deal with



Associated Press

U.S. boxer Oscar De La Hoya speaks with reporters before the start of a news conference announcing his bout with Derrell Coley on Feb. 26.

promoter Bob Arum to meet De La Hoya. Whether he signed with the blessing of American Presents is another matter.

"Oscar was a shining star before the Trinidad fight and he's still a shining star," said Lou DiBella, senior vice president of HBO Sports.

"I know he thinks he's a great boxer," Coley said. "I don't know if he thinks he's a singer or what. I hope he leaves his miniskirt at home and brings his boxing gloves. I hope he comes to fight."

De La Hoya (31-1, 25 knockouts) was roundly criticized for staying away from Trinidad in the final three rounds of the fight. De La Hoya

lost all three rounds on two official cards and two of three on the third. Trinidad won a majority decision, winning by one point and two points, respectively, on two cards. The third judge scored it a draw.

"That fight beat me off," Coley said. "For them to be considered the best fighters in the world, you have to be ashamed that somebody said that."

"I'm coming out (against Coley) with a different style," De La Hoya said. "I can't let the judges handle it. I'm coming out with anger. No more boxing. It's very sad people don't appreciate boxing anymore."



A Nicole Rodriguez la mató un chofer borracho cuando ella salía a jugar con una amiguita vecina.

¿Qué se debe hacer para impedir que un amigo maneje borracho? Lo que fuere necesario. Los amigos no dejan a sus amigos manejar borrachos.



Santa Claus points to a festive coaster, urging Texans not to drink and drive during the holidays. Hundreds of restaurants and bars across Texas have teamed up with the Texas Department of Transportation to spread the responsible driving message. Eighty-three Texans died last December in alcohol-related crashes. (Photo by Alan Pogue)

America Presents Sues HBO Over Trinidad Contract

NEW YORK -- America Presents filed suit Tuesday against HBO, accusing the cable television network of blocking a challenge to the WBA junior middleweight title March 6 on Showtime. Trinidad added Oscar De La Hoya rematch.

"HBO is trying to use a purse negotiation last-refusal that doesn't apply to a Reid-Trinidad fight to block that fight and force the fight that it wants," said Jethro Eisenstein, attorney for America Presents, Reid's promoter.

"I can't comment on a lawsuit I haven't seen," said Lou DiBella, HBO vice president for sports. "But I do have the right to negotiate for David Reid's fights."

Eisenstein told The Associated Press the suit is against Time Warner doing business as HBO and it was filed with Judge Richard Casey in federal court in Manhattan.

America Presents and promoter Don King announced on Nov. 14 that Trinidad would challenge Reid for the WBA junior middleweight title March 6 on Showtime. Trinidad added the WBC welterweight title to his IBF title when he beat De La Hoya.

De La Hoya is scheduled to fight Derrell Coley on Feb. 26 in Madison Square Garden, with the winner to get a mandatory WBC challenge against Trinidad. A news conference announcing the fight was held today at the Garden.

De La Hoya is ranked No. 1 by the WBC, and Coley, who has been promoted by America Presents, is ranked No. 2. De La Hoya became No. 1 after losing to Trinidad.

If De La Hoya had beaten Trinidad he would have had to make a mandatory defense against Coley. Presumably, if

Reid had not entered the picture, Trinidad would have had to defend against Coley unless he relinquished the WBC title.

On Dec. 3, Coley signed to fight De La Hoya for promoter Bob Arum on HBO. That violated America Presents' contract right, according to Dan Goossen, president of America Presents.

"Right now they're announcing a fight they've done illegally," Goossen said.

Goossen also said that before it was announced Reid would fight Trinidad, HBO said "they had no rights to David Reid. They said, 'Go ahead and be a Showtime fighter.'

"The man (Goossen) was quoted in the newspapers admitting the Trinidad-Reid fight fell through because Coley wouldn't step aside," DiBella said.

Univision To Honor Most Notable Hispanics of the 20th Century

Miami, - The Spanish-language television network Univision announced Friday that it will honor outstanding Hispanic personalities of the 20th century in art, music, literature, cinema, science and sports in an upcoming show to be aired Dec. 19.

Univision, headquartered in Miami, said Friday in a press release that the "1999 Hispanic Gala" will bring celebrities from Europe and the Americas together in a special show taped

live in Spain at Sevilla's Cartujo Auditorium.

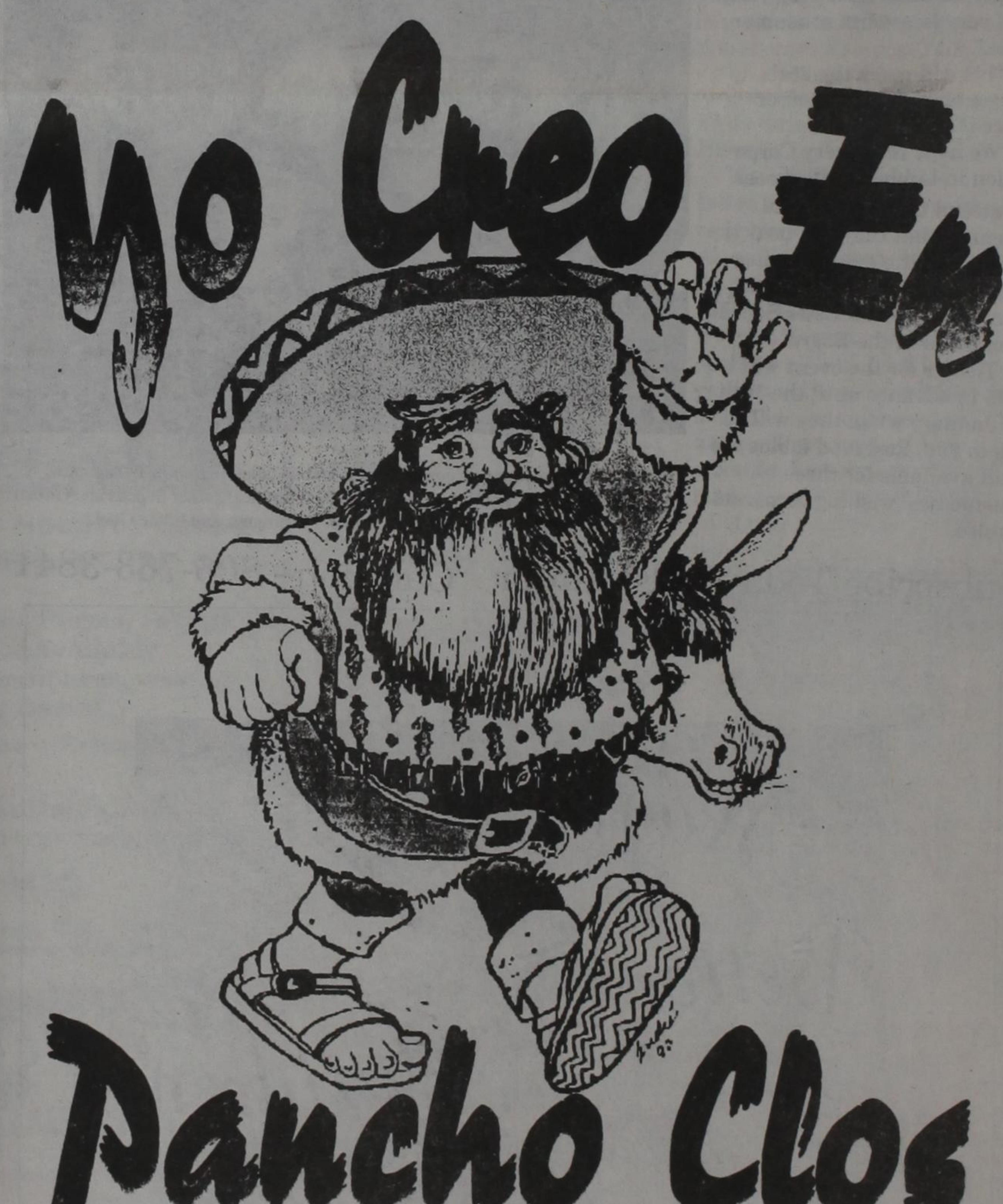
The gala, to air in the United States on Dec. 19, will honor Spanish painters Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dali, Mexican painter Frida Kahlo, the Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges, Colombia's Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Mexican writer Octavio Paz, and others.

Chilean poets Pablo Neruda and Gabriela Mistral along with Spaniard Federico Garcia Lorca will also be among the Spanish-language personalities honored.

Also to be honored will be former Nobel Peace Prize winners Rigoberta Menchu from Guatemala and Oscar Arias from Costa Rica, along with actors Antonio Banderas from Spain and Puerto Rico's Jennifer Lopez among others.

Amor 'te celebrities participated in the upcoming Gala, performances will be given by Spanish singer Enrique Iglesias as well as Colombian singers Shakira and Carlos Vives.

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