Non-White Journalists Take Second Step Toward Unity

By JOSEPH TORRES

In the summer of '99, the second-ever Unity convention of the four major associations representing non-white U.S. journalists expects to draw more than 7,000 participants to Seattle.

As with the first Unity convention, held in Atlanta in 1994, the confluence is expected to brush on several common concerns, from major underrepresentation of nonwhite professionals in the nation's newsrooms to a constant stream of negative portrayals of non-white communities by the establishment press.

The Atlanta meeting, wellsupported by mainstream press corporations, drew 6,000 participants, including dozens of white media leaders. It was hailed an overwhelming success. But not much has occurred since then to im- ment. Unity hasn't grabbed prove the industry picture for "glaring headlines" since non-whites. The Unity or- '94, he says, but has quietly ganization itself has been made progress. Board turnolargely inactive. Some Unity critics, even of activity, he suggests. from within, have faulted the body for not taking imme- board is preparing to build

lic relations success to develop and pursue an aggressive, ongoing agenda.

Patrick Salazar, executive director of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, says Unity has yet to define itself clearly, as either an organization pursuing an activist agenda or a coalition that comes together periodically to sponsor a joint convention.

The '94 event came off only after months of often-contentious planning to interlock the goals of each group. When it was over, recalls Benjamin Soto, president of the Asian American Journalists Association, all parties left exhilarated but totally exhausted.

Unity '99 President Arthur Fennell, president of the National Association of Black Journalists, agrees to some degree with Salazar's assessver has contributed to the lack Now Unity's 13-member diate advantage of its '94 pub- upon its strengths as well as

address some new challenges.

On May 6 of this year, the board hired an executive di- For '99, a new plan for reverector to coordinate prepara- nue sharing has been worked tions for Unity '99. It chose out, Unity president Fennell Walterene Swanston, Unity explains. The associations '94 coordinator and former will split equally a large per-NABJ executive director. It centage of the gate. The rest will open an office at the Free- will be divided based on dom Forum's Arlington, Va., membership attendance. headquarters soon. Salazar says the NAHJ ex-

the Native American Jour- even in '99, in part because the nalists Association, promises Unity convention is being that more joint events will be staged in Seattle, the same held in '99 to encourage inter- city as this year's NAHJ conmingling and allow for vention. members of the groups to learn more about issues impacting one another.

One divisive issue in 1994 was how convention revenue was shared. The National Association of Hispanic Journalists almost pulled out of that convention in a dispute over the revenue-sharing formula based heavily on attendance. Annual conference revenues provide NAHJ with its largest single source of support, says Salazar, and its '94, expects Unity to become a Unity share after expenses was well below conference

monies it normally raises independently for its annual conventions.

Paul DeMain, president of pects to do no better than break

NAHJ opposed Seattle as the '99 site, preferring one in a city with significant Hispanic population. It was outvoted by the other three members.

Last year's NAHJ convention in Chicago netted close to \$200,000, and this year's convention is expected to surpass that by as much as 20 percent, according to Salazar. Ivan Roma, director of San Francisco State University's Center for Integration and Improvement of Journalism, more active coalition with Continued on Page 5

News Briefs

Report: Black Drivers More Likely to Be Searched

Black drivers stopped on Florida's Turnpike by a central Florida sheriff's drug squad are 6 1/2 times more likely to be searched than white motorists, the Orlando Sentinel reported this week.

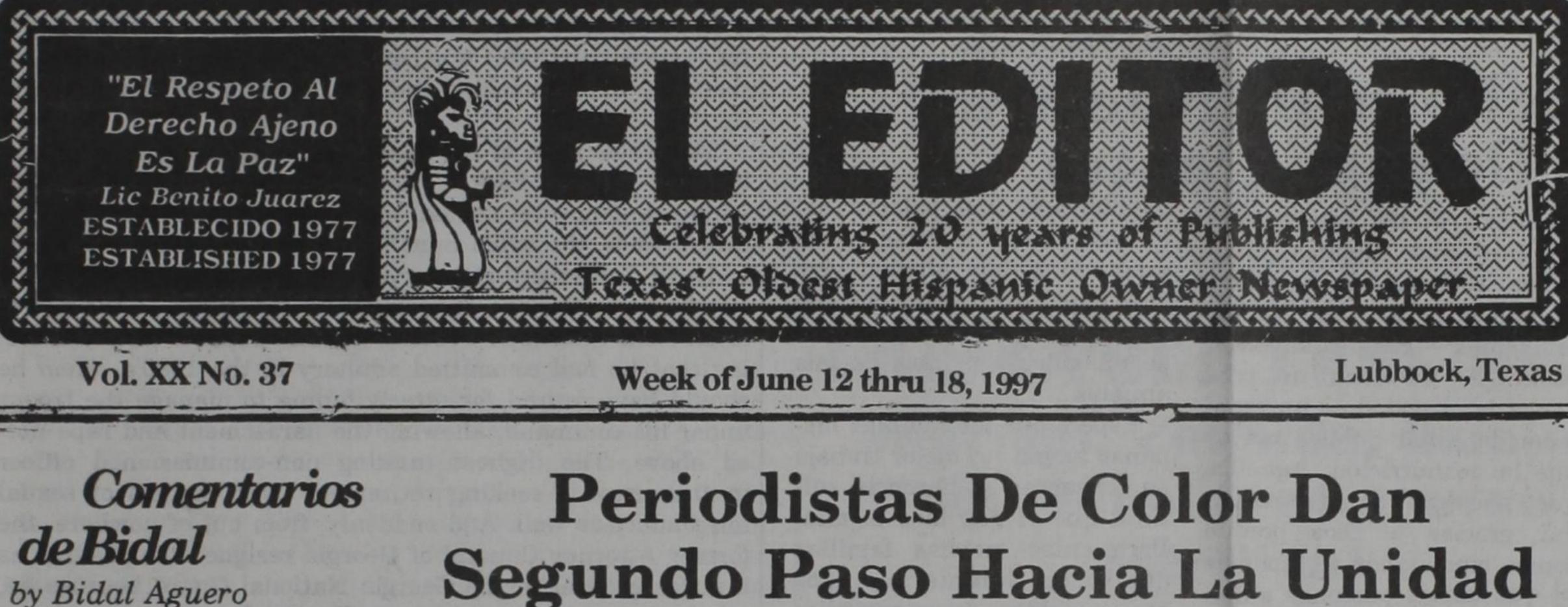
Blacks constitute only 16.3 percent of drivers stopped by Sheriff Kevin Beary's Criminal Patrol Unit, but they account for more than half of the searches and more than 70 percent of searches involving dogs.

The Sentinel said it reviewed records on more than 3,800 stops and nearly 500 searches by Beary's squad, which recently has been involved in two nationally televised events. One was the angry arrest of a black police major from the Miami area in April, and the other was a 100-mile chase in May of a black drug suspect who was wounded by deputies.

Beary denied race played a role. "We are not out there targeting any specific race," he told the Sentinel. "It's a case-bycase basis.

The study came at a time when many African-Americans protest what is known as the police practice of pulling over motorists for "Driving While Black."

The Sentinel said records of traffic stops by Beary's squad from January 1996 through April 1997 showed that 39.6 percent of black motorists were searched, compared with 6.2 percent of white motorists. Drivers listed as Asian, Hispanic or other ethnicities were searched 17.9 percent of the time.



I took a ride to West Lubbock this past Tuesday and had the opportunity to listen to

Segundo Paso Hacia La Unidad

Por JOSEPH TORRES En el verano de 1999, se espera que la segunda conven-

nos, todos los asistentes se marcharon contentos, pero tcompletamente agotados.

los ingresos, según explica Fennell, el presidente de Unidad. Las asociaciones divi-

More than 80 percent of the searches did not find any drugs, as with other highway drug units across the country, the newspaper said.

Clinton Consults Leaders on Race Issues

President Clinton met Tuesday with scholars and civil rights activists to hear their suggestions on a speech that will launch his campaign promoting racial harmony, reports Associated Press.

The president gathered 23 people to discuss the speech in which he will explain his vision for getting Americans to express their feelings on race. The group included grassroots activists, lawyers, religious leaders and academicians. Gay activists were not present; White House aides said privately Tuesday that the president's race initiative does not cover their concerns.

Among those invited were Antonia Hernandez, president of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, HN3451@handsnet.org, Nobel Prize winner Elie Wiesel, historian Taylor Branch, U.S. Civil Rights Commission chair Mary Frances Berry and NAACP president Kweisi Mfume

Also invited were sociologist William Julius Wilson, and professors Cornel West of Harvard University and Ronald Takaki of the University of California at Berkeley.

But those invited Tuesday are not necessarily those who will serve on the seven-member advisory board that will work closely with Clinton on his race initiative.

"Since he ultimately will take responsibility for the final product of this effort, he wants a smaller advisory group that he works with day in and day out in a direct capacity," White House Spokesman Mike McCurry said.

The plan involves appointing an advisory board which will conduct town hall meetings around the country, gathering information on Americans' racial sentiments. Clinton will compile that data into a report bearing his name The president also plans to hold once-a-month events on race, and will convene a White House conference on hate crimes in November.

Chancellor John Montford talk to a group of media executives about Texas Tech. Myold Suburu

seemed out of place in the Club House. Maybe I should have parked in the back since I did notice that there were Blacks and Chicanos working as waiters and cooks. I would guess that many of them drive Suburus, old Chevys and Fords but I can bet that none of them had fishing poles in the back as I did after a day long fishing trip at Buffalo Lake -- whose Board of Directors, I hear tell, have already decided on a replacement for Precinct 3 exrepresentative Isidro Gutierrez. And you guessed it ---it's another Lake resident.

Well back to my story about listening to Montford... We were invited to attend a breakfast - at which I really didn't expect to get huevos and eggs. To my dis-

ción de Unidad entre las cuatro asociaciones principales que representan a los periodistas estadounidenses de color, atraiga a más de 7,000 participantes a Seattle.

Como ocurrió con la primera convención de Unidad, efecparking lot of Lake Ridge tuada en Atlanta en 1994, se desde 1994, dice Fennell, pero espera que la confluencia re- ha hecho adelantos silenciopase algunos intereses com- sos. Los cambios en la memunes, desde la considerable bresía de la junta de direcsub-representación de profe- tores han contribuído a la falsionales de color en las re- ta de actividad, apunta él. dacciones de la nación, hasta Ahora, la junta de directores una corriente continua de de 13 miembros de Unidad representaciones negativas está preparándose para conestablecimiento.

La reunión de Atlanta, bien El 6 de mayo de este año, la apoyada por corporaciones de junta contrató a un director prensa de la corriente princi- ejecutivo para coordinar los pal, atrajo a 6,000 partici- preparativos para Unidad '99. pantes, incluyendo a decenas La misma seleccionó a Walde dirigentes de la prensa terene Swanston, coordinador blanca. La conferencia fué de Unidad D94 y ex-director elogiada como un éxito abru- ejecutivo de la NABJ. Unidad mador, pero desde entonces no '99 pronto abrirá una oficina ha ocurrido gran cosa para en los locales principales del mejorar la porspectos para pe- Freedom Forum, en Arlingriodistas de color en la indus- ton, Virginia. rancheros but at least steak tria. La propia organización

El presidente de Unidad '99, Arthur Fennell, presidente de la Asociación Nacional de Periodistas Negros (NABJ en inglés), concuerda hasta cierto punto con la evaluación de Salazar. Unidad no ha lograbrillantes" "titulares do

de las comunidades no blan- stuir sobre sus logros, así cas por parte de la prensa del como para enfocarse sobre nuevos desafíos.

Paul DeMain, presidente de de Unidad ha estado inactiva la Asociación de Periodistas

dirán en partes iguales un gran porcentaje de los honorarios de admisión. El resto se dividirá basándose en la asistencia de las membresías respectivas.

Salazar dice que la NAHJ sólo espera cubrir los gastos en 1999, en parte porque la convención de Unidad está siendo preparada en Seattle, la misma ciudad en que tendrá lugar su convención la NAHJ en este año.

La NAHJ se opuso a Seattle como lugar para 1999, prefiriendo otro emplazamiento que tuviera una mayor población hispana, pero los otros tres miembros no aceptaron esa propuesta.

La convención de la NAHJ en Chicago el año pasado tuvo un producto neto de cerca de \$200,000, y se espera que la de este año sobrepase esa cifra por un 20%, según dice Salazar.

Iván Román, director del Centro para la Integración y el Mejoramiento del Periodismo, de la Universidad del Estado en San Francisco, espera que Unidad llegue a ser

Report: Gingrich Envisions Contract 200

House Speaker Newt Gingrich is developing a single platform modeled on the 1994 Contract with America for the Republican presidential candidate and all Republican members of Congress to run on in 2000.

Gingrich told the Washington Times newspaper in an interview published Monday that he believed, "the whole team should run on a contract in 2000.

Gingrich told the paper, "the presidential ticket and the congressional ticket should have a single contract in 2000.

Any Republican presidential candidate would have to agree to sign the legislative pledge, which would be unveiled during the summer of the year 2000.

Details of the proposed new contract would be based on a sixpoint agenda of sustained economic growth, the elimination of capital gains taxes, the abolition of estate taxes, fighting drugs, boosting education and reducing teen-age pregnancy.

The 1994 Contract with America was signed by more than 300 Republican congressional candidates and promised that tax cuts, a balanced budget amendment, term limits, reduced government regulation, the line-item veto and other issues would be voted on during the first 100 days of their tenure.

GOP Tax Bill Gets

appointment I only had my choice of coffee and donuts, cereal in a box or fruit. The goal of the meeting was to try and convince us (the media) to start printing more positive news about Tech.

After giving his standard speech about what he is trying to do for Tech - make it into a first class University such as Texas and A&M -- raising money -- make the U.S. and the World realize that Tech is a first class research and learning institutiion -- raise money -- and provide an opportunity for students to get a first class education, Montford the opened discussion up to any questions from those attending.

Well you guessed it again, the first question -- "Why does Tech continually keep getting into trouble in our sports second program?" The question continued on the

Continued on Page 2

en gran medida.

agresivo y continuo.

Patrick Salazar, director dos. ejecutivo de la Asociación Nacional de Periodistas His- fué cómo se compartirían los panos (NAHJ en inglés), dice ingresos de la convención. La que Unidad tiene aún que de- NAHJ estuvo a punto de abanfinirse a sí misma con clari- donar aquella convención dedad, ya sea como organiza- bido a una disputa sobre la ción que prosigue un progra- fórmula de distribución de los ma de trabajo activista, o ingresos basaba en gran como una coalición que se re- medida sobre la asistencia de úne periódicamente para aus- miembors de cada organizapiciar una convención con- ción. junta.

produjo sólo después de meses pla fuente de ingresos para la de planificación, a menudo NAHJ, dice Salazar. El incontenciosa, para entretejer los objetivos de todos los grupos. Cuando finalizaron, recuerda Benjamín Soto, presidente de la Asociación de Pe-Asiático-Americariodistas

Norteamericanos Aborígenes Algunos críticos de Unidad (NAJA en inglés), promete han culpado a esa entidad por que habrá más acontecimienno aprovechar inmediata- tos conjuntos en 1999 para mente el éxito de relaciones animar la mezcla de grupos y públicas en 1994 y proseguir permitir que sus miembros con un programa de trabajo aprendan más sobre los asuntos que surten efectos sobre to-

Un asunto divisivo de 1994

Los ingresos de las confer-El acontecimiento de 1994 se encias anuales son la princigreso neto de Unidad '94 fué muy por debajo de el ingreso promedio de otras conferencias annuales de la NAHJ.

> Para 1999, se ha elaborado un nuevo plan para compartir

una coalición más activa con el tiempo.

Unidad ha llegado a involucrarse con el proyecto "News Watch" de dicho Centro, que comenzó el mes pasado. Este llevará cuenta de la información sobre las personas de color, los homosexuales y las lesbianas. También establecerá una página en la Internet y publicará una revista trimestral de 20 páginas que destacará las representaciones en los medios informativos, tanto positivas como negativas.

Unidad planea también poner en práctica un programa que examine la información sobre personas de color en cuatro ciudades seleccionadas. Además, ha firmado objetivos de diversidad con la Sociedad Estadounidense de Editores de Periódicos (ASNE en inglés), la Asociación de Periódicos de los Estados Unidos (NAA en inglés) y la Continued on Page 6

White House Criticism

The chairman of the House tax-writing committee Monday unveiled legislation to give Americans their first major tax cuts since 1981 and ran straight into Democratic and White House opposition, Reuters reported late yesterday.

While his position as chairman of the influential House Ways and Means Committee Chairman gives Rep. Bill Archer's plan political advantage, much wrangling is expected in the coming month over the \$85 billion five-year tax cut.

Archer's tax bill aimed to detail the tax part of the agreement to balance the budget over five years reached last month between congressional leaders and President Clinton.

"Tax relief and a balanced budget are on the way for the American people," said Archer, a Texas Republican, at a press conference

The bill offers tax relief for higher education, children, investments, and estates. It would cut individual income taxes by a net \$19.7 billion in 1998.

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said the Clinton administration had "serious concerns with significant parts" of Archer's bill and that it fell short of fulfilling a pledge to provide \$35 billion for education tax credits.

The most costly piece of the five-year tax package was a permanent tax credit for children under age 17 that would be \$400 in fiscal 1998 and \$500 after that. The cost over five years of that proposal would be \$71 billion and it was expected to cover 41 million children.

Rubin said he liked the "substantial" child tax credit but Continued on Page 6

El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, June 12, 1997

The Blessings of Our Immigrant Nation

By John Stark

for Washington state, a prelude to the Fourth of July holiday. A Hispanic family was among the dozens enjoying a picnic on the grassy shore of Lake Padden. As the two little girls ran down a slope toward the water, their parents shouted warnings: "Cuidate! No mojen sus zapatos."

Once out of earshot, the girls chatted happily in unaccented English.

An economic boom is bringing lots of newcomers to this lish very well. But look anywhere, and you'll see evidence of people being rapidly assimilated, like those little girls at the lake:

-- An acquaintance of mine who runs a sushi bar is more comfortable speaking Korean or Japanese, but he knows enough English to brag about his children's grades in U.S. universities. -- In the English as a Second Language program in our community college, recent Hispanic arrivals compete for classroom seats with Russians, Koreans, Ukrainians and Asian Indians. Yet some people still think survival of Englishthe speaking civilization is at risk here. To hear them talk, the United States is on the way to becoming another Yugoslavia, a patchwork of warring ethnic enclaves. A few of this state's politicians are always willing to float their canoes in this ooze of intolerance. In the last legistlative session, Republican Sen. Don Benton sponsored an amendment to the state constitution that would have designated English as the of-

It was an unseasonably ficial language. About two dowarm and sunny afternoon zen states already have such laws.

> Benton explained that he wanted to protect and perpetuate the English language, as if the language of Shakespeare, Mickey Mouse and Larry Flynt were a linguistic spotted owl in need of strenuous measures to save it from extinction.

The United States has always attracted immigrants, immigration always and creates some social problems. But these are problems we are state and nation, including lucky to have -- just as we are cultural heritage than mine many who don't speak Eng- lucky to live in a country where obesity is a greater public health concern than malnutrition. Those of us who were born here ought to thank God we are citizens of a country so many people want to get into, instead of a country people want to leave. Some of these new arrivals band together for security and cling to as much of their native culture as they can -- just as my grandparents danced the polka at a German club in Milwaukee, ate blutwurst and spoke German at home.

In fact, the children and grandchildren of the new immigrants will be lucky if they can cling to any trace of their ancestral language, food and music against the onslaught of mass-produced U.S. culture. So much has been lost already. I don't speak a word of my grandparents' language, and I wonder if anyone alive knows how to make the flaky strudels that delighted me on childhood visits to my grandparents' house.

I hope Hispanic families do a better job of preserving their did. But among many families I knew during my years as a newspaper reporter in El Paso, Texas, the pattern of assimilation was similar. Grandparents spoke English with difficulty. Their children were fluent in English and Spanish. The third generation often exasperated the elders by refusing even to try to learn Spanish. Senator Benton argued that "official" English would save Washington state the \$1.5 million it now spends to print government pamphlets in foreign languages. But this socalled savings would only have made it more difficult to

assimilate immigrants, who will keep on coming no matter what language we use in our pamphlets.

If we want to keep foreign enclaves from forming, we ought to make it easier for immigrants to participate in our society. Most are eager to assimilate. The alternative is to present a hostile front, forcing them to band together in isolated ethic communities for protection. Isn't that exactly what "official English" supporters say they want to avoid? Perhaps their real intent is to keep the new arrivals safely segregated. In the end, Washington's "official English" measure died a quiet death after Republican Secretary of State Ralph Munro testified that the state's Pacific Rim trading partners would see it as racist. And that, Mu-

Thinkin' Khaki Sex by Ira Cutler

Sittin' Here

Page 2

Just five short years ago we were debating whether the military could adapt to, and learn to accept, homosexuality. Today, you have to wonder whether they can handle any kind of sexuality at all.

The signs of trouble are everywhere and they just keep getting worse. On top of the homophobic outrage and near revolution that "gays in the military" sparked, there was the Tailhook scandal in which hundreds of naval officers behaved like fraternity boys at their worst, the brutal reaction of male students when females tried to enter The Citadel, the charges of sexual harassment by drill sergeants at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds and, finally, the conviction of some drill sergeants for raping female recruits.

The military is good, as we know, at eradicating a problem in the most forceful of ways. We all saw them zap the Iraqis on CNN a few years ago and we were suitably impressed. Clearly, though, they are not subtle thinkers and, when they saw that they were in trouble over sex, they reacted militarily they tried to stamp it out altogether. In a moment of blind panic, hoping to put their fingers in all the holes in all of the dikes, the military decided to take on the scourge of adultery. They decided to make an example of a B-52 pilot who slept with a married man. That whole business, the now famous case of Lt. Kelly Flinn, was a combination of circus and farce. The Air Force sputtered and stammered and never could quite explain why this woman's private life was any of their business or why such behavior, while it was not exemplary, was anything like a punishable, career ending crime. 60 Minutes just ate the Air Force alive, made them appear ridiculous, and raised the ugly question of whether only female pilots are held so sexually accountable. The Air Force came back with the lame notion that it was not the sex, but lying about the sex, that they were punishing and not a soul on the planet bought The whole issue of sex and the military has gone absolutely crazy. Having backed themselves into a corner by punishing women for sexual misbehavior, and having been caught at it, the witch hunt is now in full flower and everybody is investigating everyone else's sex life in a Mc-Carthyesque frenzy. The commanding officer of the aforementioned Aberdeen Proving Ground retired after disclosing that he had committed adultery in the 1980's, when he should have retired for utterly failing to manage the troops under his command, allowing the harassment and rape noted above. The highest ranking non-commissioned officer in the army is seeking retirement over charges of sexual misconduct as well. And suddenly, from out of nowhere, the former Attorney General of Georgia resigned his position as a major general in the Georgia National Guard because he, too, had once been adulterous. The week-end warriors want us to know that they are both virile and sorry about it, just like the real soldiers. General Joseph Ralston, President Clinton's choice to be the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is fit to inhabit that office. Ralston, it seems, was for a time separated from Mrs. Ralston and, during that time, was not celibate. Mrs. Ralston, with whom he has long since been re-united, forgives him but the question is, should we? Adultery, it seems, is today's test of integrity for public officials -- replacing or adding to smoking marijuana and paying Social Security taxes for domestic help.

Comentarios

same subject and so did the

The "American way of life" survived that, and it will survive today's immigrants, too.

Por John Stark

Era una tarde inusualmente cálida y soleada para el estado de Washington, un preludio al día festivo del cuatro de Julio. Una familia hispana estaba entre las docenas de otras que disfrutaban de un día de campo en la costa cubierta de hierba del Lago Padden. Mientras las dos niñas corrían pendiente abajo, hacia el agua, sus padres les gritaron advertencias:todas pasan por alto: naciones "Cuídense! No mojen sus zanro observed, would be bad for business.

But the "official English" measure has been defeated before.

It is almost certain to come back again, here and in other states. Let's hope that common sense continues to prevail.

(John Stark, of Bellingham, Wash, is a free-lance writer.)

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Las Bendiciones De Nuestra Nacion De Inmigrantes

grantes, y la inmigración siempre crea algunos problemas sociales. Pero somos afortunados de tener estos problemas -- como también lo somos de vivir en un país donde la obesidad es un problema de salud pública mayor que la desnutrición. Aquéllos que nacieron aquí deberían dar gracias a Dios porque somos ciudadanos de un país al que tantas personas quieren entrar, en vez de un país del cual las personas quieren salir.

Algunos de estos recién llegados se reúnen en busca de seguridad y se aferran a sus culturas nativas como pueden -- igual que mis abuelos bailaban el polka en un "club" alemán de Milwaukee, comían cosas alarmantes como el "blutwurst" y hablaban el alemán en su casa. El "American way of life" sobrevivió a eso, y también sobrevivirá a los inmigrantes de hoy. En verdad, los hijos y nietos de los nuevos inmigrantes tendrán suerte si pueden aferrarse a algún rasgo de su idioma, sus alimentos y su música ancestrales, contra la arremetida de la cultura estadounidense de producción en masa.

no hablo ni una palabra del idioma de mis abuelos, y me pregunto si hay alguien vivo que haga los "strudels" que me deleitaban en las visitas de mi niñez a la casa de mis abuelos.

Espero que las familias hispanas hagan un mejor trabajo en conservar su herencia sultural que el que hizo la mía. Pero entre muchas familias que conocí durante mis años como reportero de un periódico en El Paso, Texas, la pauta de asimilación es similar. Los abuelos hablaban inglés con dificultad. Sus hijos hablaban inglés y español con soltura. La tercera generación a menudo exasperaba a los mayores al negarse siquiera a tratar de aprender el español. El Senador Benton argumentó que el inglés "oficial" ahorraría al estado de Washington el millón y medio de dólares que gasta ahora en imprimir panfletos gubernamentales en idiomas extranjeros. Pero este ahorro falso sólo habría hecho más difícil la asimilación de los inmigrantes, que continuarán viniendo sin que les importe qué idioma usemos en nuestros panfletos. Si queremos evitar que se formen enclaves extranjeros, deberíamos facilitar el que los inmigrantes participen en nuestra sociedad. La mayoría está ansiosa por asimilarse. La alternativa es presentar un frente hostil, obligándolos a conglomerarse en comunidades étnicas aisladas en busca de protección.

Now a huge controversy has erupted over whether or not

patos" third, fourth, fifth and after that I lost count.

I did manage to slip in a question about Tech's status as to the Hopwood decision, affirmative action, minority enrollment and scholarships.

Tech President Donald Haragan said that although Tech could no longer give scholarships based on race. the University was continuing to actively recruit minorities and to try and give scholarships taking into consideration socio-economic status in an effort to promote cultural diversity.

He concluded his statements by saying that minority enrollment would be down next year.

Montford added in responding to my question that a person to be positioned at the Chancellor level would soon be hired to give emphasis to cultural diversity.

Although Lubbock's minority community had input as to the candidates in the last administration, your guess is as good as mine if the raised concerns

Una vez fuera del alcance del oído, las niñas charlaron alegremente en inglés sin acento.

La prosperidad económica está trayendo a muchos recién llegados a este estado y a esta nación, incluyendo a muchos que no hablan inglés muy bien. Pero miren a todos lados y verán las señales de las personas que están asimilándose rápidamente, como aquellas niñas del lago:

-- Un conocido mío que administra un "sushi bar" se siente mejor hablando coreano o japonés, pero sabe suficiente inglés como para presumir las calificaciones de sus hijos en las universidades Estadunidenses.

-- En el programa de inglés como segundo idioma (ESL en inglés) de nuestra escuela superior comunitaria, los hispanos recién llegados compiten por pupitres en las aulas contra rusos, coreanos, ucranianos y punjabis.

Sin embargo, algunas personas todavía piensan que la during supervivencia de la civilizaseveral meetings will be ción de habla inglesa está en Mucho se ha perdido ya. Yo

electronically for federal student aid.

¿No es eso exactamente lo los partidarios que del

Much of this stems from the military culture which, out of long necessity, is not a very flexible or forgiving one. Rules are to be followed, immediately and without question and, in a battlefield situation, we would want it to be that way. The military is not a democracy, although it exists within one.

The military sex stories reflect the Puritanical, double standard values that are common in America, greatly exaggerated by macho swagger and a culture of physical confrontation and violence. The armed forces are, in the main, made up of young men with big guns, led by older men who have chosen a lifestyle that is built around power, obedience and the possibility of sudden death. Most of them have never lived for very long, as adults, in our changing civilian society. When you listen to high ranking officers trying to explain this stuff you realize that these people live in a very different world.

In addition, the military does not see itself as a normal employer there are no "off hours", no way to tell this particular employer that your private life is none of their business. This is an employer who, after all, can try you, convict you and execute you if you fail in your job. Being in the military -- the military would tell you -- is a full time thing, much like being a priest.

The public just does not understand why, in a peacetime, state-side situation, this should be so. Perhaps that is the good that may come out of all this perhaps these stories will lead to a more mature discussion of what should be private, what should be relevant to job performance and what should just be left alone. Meanwhile, the military is out of control. These people, whose only job is to fight wars, do not have enough to do and all that free time is getting them into trouble. The next thing you know some woman will charge that the commander-inchief dropped his pants and propositioned her. Ira Cutler, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irreverant, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, self-important company. He promises us a Monday column most weeks. More recently Ira has become involved in communicating in another way, through speeches which he calls Standin' Here Talkin'.

considered under administration.

The move to hire this person was initiated about a year ago in the previous administration only to have it put on hold when Robert Lawless resigned. I can attending several recall meetings to meet prospective candidates. I was told that a professor from Denver was offered the job but he turned it down because the University refused to give tenure to his wife who is also a professor -professors.

Whoever is hired, it will be a sight for sore eyes after reviewing the telephone list of top executives at Tech and not finding any names such as Sanchez, Martinez or Garcia.

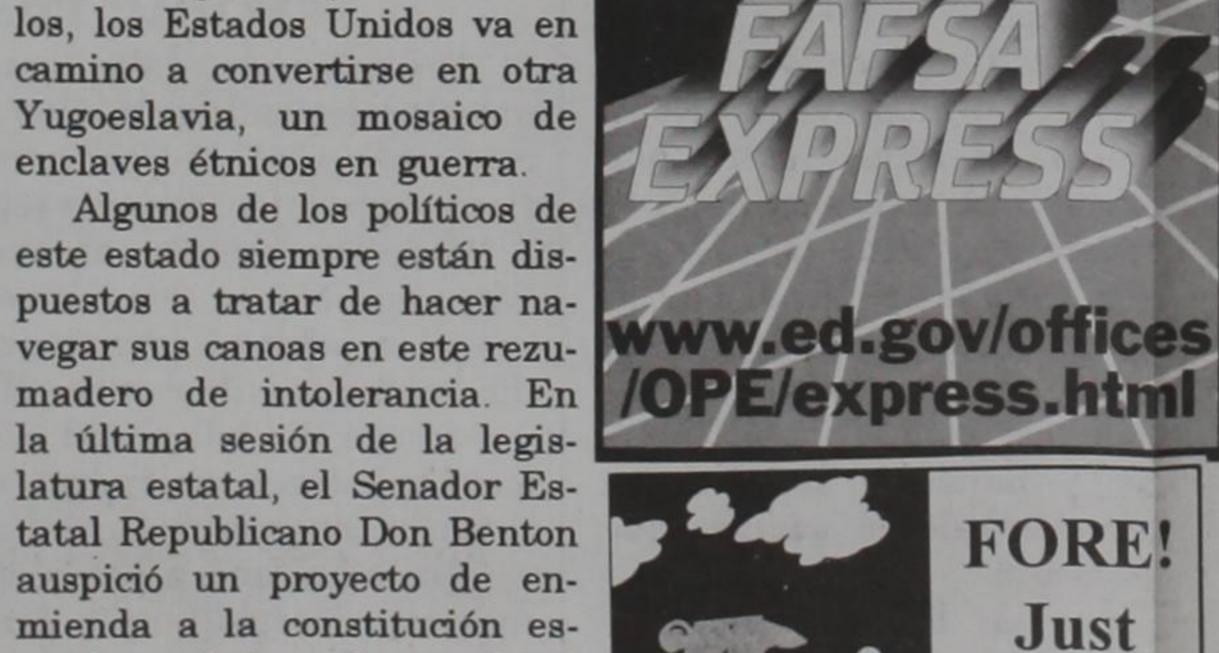
questions followed as to sports. Don't get me wrong, I love sports too but is that all that really concerns us?

this peligro aquí. Según dicen ellos, los Estados Unidos va en camino a convertirse en otra Yugoeslavia, un mosaico de enclaves étnicos en guerra.

Algunos de los políticos de este estado siempre están dispuestos a tratar de hacer navegar sus canoas en este rezula última sesión de la legislatura estatal, el Senador Estatal Republicano Don Benton auspició un proyecto de enmienda a la constitución estatal que habría designado al so much for Tech trying to inglés como idioma oficial de recruit quality minority este estado. Dos docenas de estados tienen ya esas leyes.

Benton explicó que él quería proteger y perpetuar al idioma inglés, como si el idioma de Shakespeare, el Ratón Miguelito y Larry Flynt fuera una lechuza moteada idiomática After my question more necesitada de medidas extremas para salvarlo de la extinción.

> Los Estados Unidos siempre ha atraído a muchos inmi-



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"inglés oficial" dicen que quieren evitar? Quizá su verdadera intención sea la de mantener a los recién llegados segregados seguramente.

Al final, la medida del "inglés oficial" del estado de Washington murió una muerte tranquila, después de que el Secretario de Estado, el republicano Ralph Munro, declaró que los asociados comerciales del estado en el Borde del Pacífico la verían como racista. Y eso, según observó Munro, sería malo para los negocios.

Pero la medida del "inglés oficial" ha sido derrotada antes.

Es casi seguro que regrese nuevamente, aquí y en otros estados. Esperemos que continúe predominando el sentido común.

(John Stark, de Bellingham, estado de Washington, es un escritor por cuenta propia.)

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El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, June 12, 1997

Swapping Language And Culture With Mexico - Who Wins?

by Bárbara Renaud González

GUANAJUATO, Mexico --I'm just a Chicana. My mother is Mexican, and my father is Texan. So don't blame me for my field of vision.

But here's what I see happening here in Mexico:

First, the gringos are winning the battle on Spanish. It seems that every Mexican under age 30 wants to speak English; they feel it's supergood to know it, to pretend they know it or to speak to U.S. turistas in their native language.

Some Mexicans are so enamored of English, they think it's superior to Spanish. It's a class thing, the rich in Mexico who have access to English immersion.

The irony is that in the United States, the opposite is true. It is the child of the poor Mexican who has access to both l'anguages. But thanks to NAFTA, Spanish is fast becoming a commodity, the privilege of businessmen and college students who take a semester in Cuernavaca. English is now required, and Spanish is for sale. Words are the real weapons, and whoever has more is the victor. Though English is gaining by the day in Mexico, Mexicans still have the cultural read newspapers, and they like a healthy discussion of politics. Don't play Maratón (Trivial apy.

Wayne, Elizabeth voke them. John Taylor and El Rambo.

Mexican cultural repertoire includes Greek mythology, Catholicism (which is another world, with its novenas, oraciones, festivals) and feathlered serpents.

We know the Pilgrims. So do they.

But don't worry, we're about even when it comes to where all this will take us. I'm talk- el orgasm. Divorce is on the pretender que lo conoce o habing about social change. Mexicans are imitating our bad habits, and we're absorbing some of their better ones. The mexicanos like a good pizza, los donuts and packaged nachos when they go to el cineplex to see "El regreso de

and they are familiar with fied to the end. But don't pro- Por Barbara Renaud González

We norteamericanos are Soy una chicana solamente. How many of us have seen forced to be liberal because of "Tizoc" or recognize María the Bill of Rights. Mexicans Felix or Pedro Infante? The are naturally fascist because of their history. However, our civil rights movement has pushed them into feminism and a tolerance for homosexuality -- which I thought I tán ganando la batalla sobre would never live to see in el español. Mexico.

> versity and in national polit- lar inglés; ellos sienten que ics. They're reading books on es "super-bueno" conocerlo, rise, and machos are suffer- lar con los "turistas" estadouing. Self-help books abound, nidenses en su idioma natal. and so do the talk shows.

other. ...

if the United States and Mexi- que tienen acceso a la inmerco could get together, we would sión en inglés. have a perfect world. But that means we would have to see dos Unidos lo opuesto es vereach other as equals, not bet- dad. Son los hijos de los mexter. Not less. Que lástima! icanos pobres quienes tienen Because whoever wins this acceso a ambos idiomas. war, loses.

En El Cambio De Idioma Y Cultura Con Mexico - ¿Quien Gana?

where the state is a second a subscript of the second second second

GUANAJUATO, México --Mi madre es mexicana y mi padre es tejano. De modo que no me culpen por mi punto de

vista. Pero he aquí lo que veo que está pasando aquí en México: Primero, los "gringos" es-

Parece que todo mexicano Las mujeres are in the uni- menor de 30 años quiere hab-

Algunos mexicanos están Are you dizzy yet? Now, if tan enamorados con el inglés, only we would talk to each el cual creen que es superior al español. Es un asunto de My mother always said that clase, de los ricos de México La ironía es que en los Esta-Pero, gracias a NAFTA, el español está llegando a con-

vertirse rápidamente en un

semestre en Cuernavaca. El abras son las verdaderas ar- queros como Café Tacuba. mas, y aquel que tenga más Ellos les gusta el café inde ellas sera el vencedor.

mexicanos tienen aún la ventaja cultural. Ellos no ven tanta televisión; la mayoría y a Salma Hayek. de ellos lee el periódico y les able sobre la política.

No jueguen al Maratón (el equivalente de Trivial Pursuit) con ellos. Ellos conocen su historia y la nuestra por igual. Ellos ven a México como una parte del mundo, no a México como el mundo.

producto de conveniencia y na pizza, los donuts y los privilegio de los hombres de nachos envasados cuando negocios y estudiantes uni- van al cineplex para ver "El versitarios que estudian un Regreso de Jedi." Y nosotros, en este lado, estamos saboreinglés se exige ahora y el es- ando las flautas de pollo pañol está a la venta. Las pal- cuando escuchamos a los ro-

stantáneo y la Diet Coke. No-Aunque el inglés viene ga- sotros estamos jugando al nando por día en México, los soccer. Ellos esta'n oyendo a Sting y IceT. Y nosotros hemos descubierto la quebradita

Es como si nos persiguiéragusta una discusión salud- mos mutuamente en círculos y cambiáramos de lugares a veces. Nosotros no tenemos hijos; a ellos les gustaría tener más si pudieran costearlo. Nosotros vamos a la terapia debido a nuestro padre alcohólico; ellos han perdonado a sus padres por mucho más que

Jedi." And we on this side are munching down flautas de pollo as we listen to los rockeros like Cafe Tacuba.

They are into instant coffee and Coke de dieta. We are playing soccer. They are listening to Sting and IceT. And we have discovered la quebradita and Salma Hayek. It's as though we keep chasing each other in circles and somewhere we switched places. We don't have any children; they would love to have more if they could afford advantage. They don't watch it. We are in therapy because as much TV, more of them of our alcoholic fathers; they have forgiven their padres for much more than this because they know that family is ther-

Pursuit) with them. They know their history and ours, dividualism has made us altoo. They see Mexico as a part ienated, depressed and suspiof the world, not Mexico as the cious. Mexicans think collecworld. tively, and they depend on Mexicans know their Can- each other. They are generous tinflas and Charlie Chaplin, to a fault, laugh with gusto Silvio Rodríguez and John and trust the gringos. Being Lennon. They have heard the puritans that we are, we jazz, they've seen the Dallas don't know how to cry, so we Cowboys, and they know who get revenge. Mexicans cry, Che Guevara and Martin but they also go to church as Luther King were. Most have though they mean it. They seen "Gone With the Wind," shun violence and are digni-

(Bárbara Renaud González, of San Francisco, is a free-lance writer.)

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Los mexicanos conocen a su Cantinflas y Charlie Chaplin, a Silvio Rodríguez y a John Lennon. Han oído jazz, han visto a los Dallas Cowboys y saben quiénes fueron Che Guevara y Martin Luther King. La mayoría ha visto "Lo que el Viento se Llevó" ("Gone with the Wind") y están familiarizados con John Wayne, Elizabeth Taylor y Rambo.

¿Cuántos de nosotros hemos visto "Tizoc" y reconocemos a María Félix o a Pedro Infante? El repertorio cultural mexicano incluye la mitología griega, el catolicismo (que es otro mundo con sus novenas, oraciones y festivales) y a las serpientes emplumadas (Quetzalcóatl).

Nosotros conocemos a los Peregrinos. También los conocen ellos.

Pero no se preocupen; estamos parejos cuando se trata de a dónde nos llevará todo esto. Estoy hablando del cambio social. Los mexicanos están imitando nuestras malas costumbres y nosotros estamos

esto, porque saben que la familia es terapia.

El lado malo de nuestro individualismo nos ha hecho enajenados, deprimidos y sospechosos. Los mexicanos piensan colectivamente y dependen unos de otros. Son generosos hasta el exceso, se ríen con gusto y confian en los gringos.

Por ser los puritanos que somos, no sabemos llorar, de modo que buscamos la venganza. Los mexicanos lloran, pero también van a la iglesia como si lo toman en serio. Ellos rehuyen a la violencia y son dignos hasta el final. Pero no los provoquen.

Nosotros, los norteamericanos, nos vemos obligados a ser liberales debido a la Carta de los Derechos. Los mexicanos son naturalmente fascistas debido a su historia. Sin embargo, nuestro movimiento de los derechos civiles los ha empujado hacia el feminismo y la tolerancia de la homosexualidad -- lo cual yo pensaba que nunca viviría para ver en México.

Las mujeres estan en la uniabsorbiendo algunas de sus versidad y la política nacionmejores costumbres. A los mexicanos les gusta una bue-

Carlos Flores se puso a brincar de gusto cuando se enteró de que él y sus compañeros de trabajo de la fundición Alamo Iron Works habian ganado LOTTO Texas.

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El Editor. Lubbock. Tx. June 12, 1997

Despite Illness, Jordan Soars

SALT LAKE CITY - Remember, he is Michael Jordan. The NBA's greatest player has done it again.

Sick in bed all day with a viral infection, so ill his teammate Scottie Pippen wondered if he could get his uniform on, Jordan took the Chicago Bulls to the brink of another NBA championship.

"Sometimes you've got to come out and do what you've got to do," Jordan said. "We wanted it real bad, and me as a leader had to do my best, and hopefully the team would have to rally around me."

Before the game, he couldn't stand up without being nauseated or dizzy. But on Wednesday night, Jordan scored 38 points, 15 in the final quarter, and led the Bulls to a 90-88 victory over Utah, sending the NBA Finals back to Chicago with the defending champions up 3-2 in the best-of-7 series. The Bulls can win their fifth NBA title of the '90s with a victory at home Friday night. "In the fourth quarter, I don't know how I got through that," Jordan said. "I was just trying to gut myself through it." Even when Jordan failed, he turned it into success. After he missed the go-ahead foul shot with less than a minute to go, he scrambled for the loose ball and sank a 3-pointer that put the Bulls ahead for good 88-85 with 25 seconds to play. Jordan called it his best performance, considering the degree of difficulty. "I almost played myself into passing out," he said. "I came in and I was almost dehydrated and it was all just to win a basketball game."

Pippen, long accustomed to Jordan's achievements, said he'd never seen his teammate so sick.

"And the effort he came out and gave us was just incredible," Pippen said.

Before the game, Chicago coach Phil Jackson worried about how much Jordan would be able to play.

"He said, `Let me play, and I'll regulate my minutes and I'll let you know how I'm doing out there," Jackson said, "and he played 44 minutes. That's an amazing effort." Jordan said his energy level

was down all night, and he was on automatic in the final minutes.

"Once I got in the act, I didn't have time to think about it," he said. "It was more or less instincts." The Jazz, stunned by their first home loss in 24 games, had no idea Jordan wasn't feeling well. "I don't think he was sick," said Bryon Russell, who tried to guard Jordan most of the night but left him for a doubleteam on the crucial 3-pointer. "Did he look sick to you guys?" On the bench, Jordan did. In the first half, when he got a breather, sweat beaded on his head like a windshield in a rainstorm. He seemed to pick his spots. He had just four points in the first quarter as Utah raced to a 13-point lead. The lead hit 16 before Jor-17 second-quarter dan's points brought the Bulls back. In the third quarter, Jordan managed just four points. Then came the fourth-quarter

to eruption.

At the start of the game, the Bulls' dynasty seemed on the verge of crumbling. Jordan was sick. Dennis Rodman was in trouble with the NBA front office again, this time for his anti-Mormon comments. And the Jazz fanatics were loudly anticipating crowning a remarkable home season with their biggest victory yet.

The Jazz raced to a 16-point lead early in the second quarter. But they were under no illusions that the Bulls were finished.

"When you get down like that from the start and have any competitive spirit in you, you dig in a little bit deeper and fight a little bit harder," John Stockton said.

No one is more competitive than Jordan.

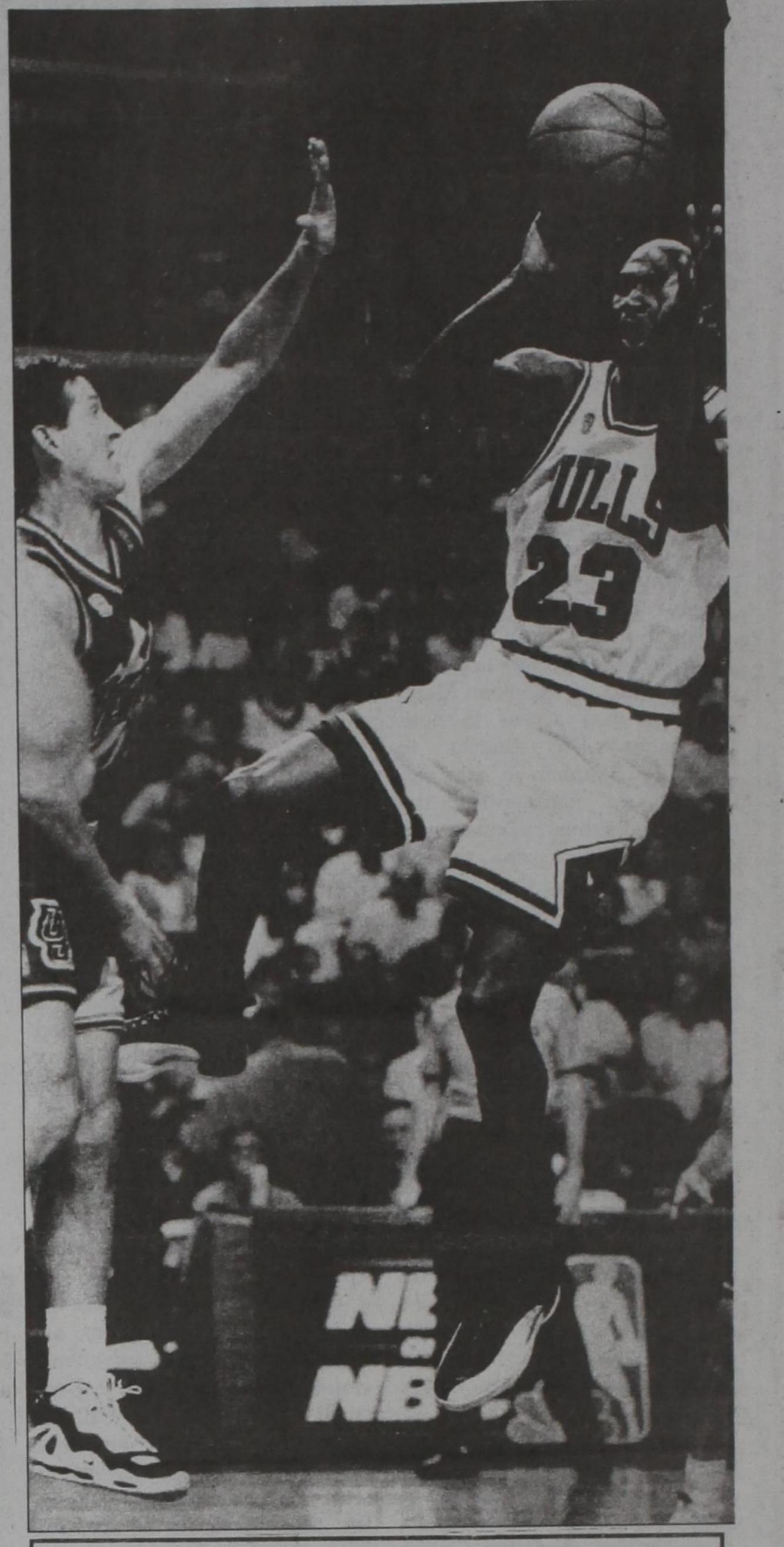
Jazz, meanwhile, fell apart like a cheap watch when a victory in the Delta Center, where they had lost only three times in 51 games, would have brought them within one win of the title.

But the Jazz could not overcome Chicago's defense and their own mistakes.

All three of their big offensive weapons - Karl Malone, Stockton and Hornacek failed to come through. Together, Utah's big three were 2-for-10 from the field in the fourth quarter.

"I don't practice lying," Malone said. "I'm really heartbroken as a player in a position like this."

Chicago's defense kept Malone away from the basket. The league's MVP scored a team-high 19 points, but was



Page 4

"We had made a lot of mistakes, but I didn't have the energy to yell at people," Jordan said. "I just had to sit back and wait until our defense kicked in and for some of the guys to get over their nerves and fight our way back into it."

Pippen struggled through a 5-for-17 shooting night, but had 17 points and 10 rebounds. On defense, he swarmed all over the floor, and on offense was able to take advantage of the smaller Jeff Hornacek a few times on post plays.

It was the threat of that play that freed up Jordan for his big 3-pointer.

Toni Kukoc emerged from hibernation to make 3-of-4 3pointers. Luc Longley had 12 points on 6-for-7 shooting.

The precision offense of the

just 1-for-6 from the field in the second half and scored only one point in the fourth quarter.

"We forced Malone a couple of feet out from where he's much more comfortable shooting the ball," Pippen said, "and it made the difference."

Stockton made a crucial 3pointer with 3:05 to play, but he had just five assists for the game, and only one in the final period.

"When we don't do what we're supposed to do as a group, we end up taking a lot of outside shots, fadeaways, desperation shots," he said.

Now the Jazz must rise from crushing disappointment to try to force the series to a seventh game.

Jordan will have two days to try to improve his health. Pippen isn't sure he wants Jordan to feel a whole lot better.



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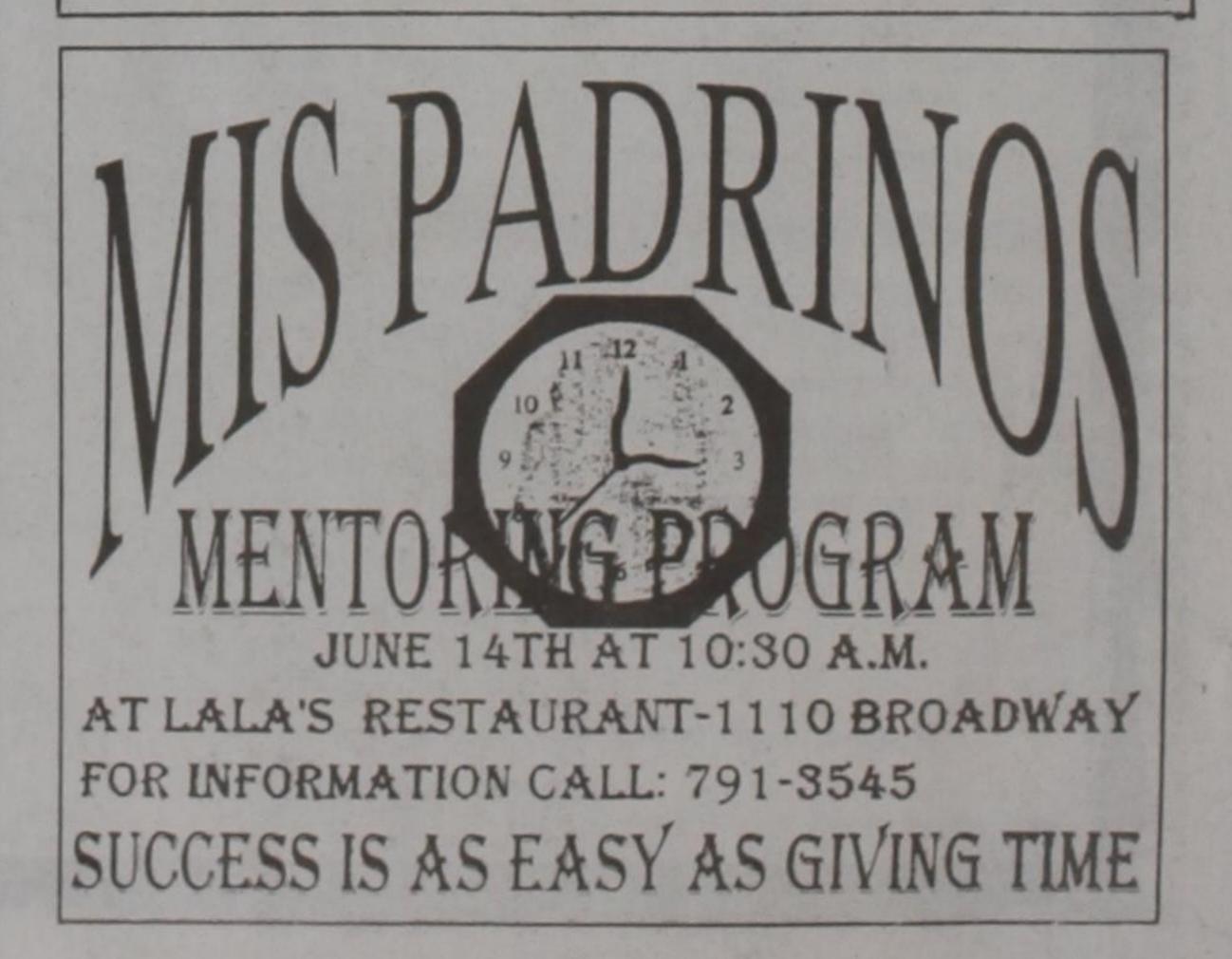
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El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, June 12, 1997

Encontrando A Mi Padre

Por LOUIS AGUILAR

Escuché a mi padre antes de verlo nuevamente después de 23 años.

El había gritado algo en la calle a su segunda esposa, mientras ella cruzaba la puerta de su casa en San Luis Potosí, México. Ella estaba ansiosa de contarle sobre el inesperado visitante de los Estados Unidos que esperaba en su sala. Era la misma voz atronadora y enojada, que me había atemorizado cuando era niño.

Mientras él entraba a su casa, yo eperaba rígidamente. Mi mandíbula y mis puños estaban apretados. Aún a los veinte años, soñaba con este momento y me imaginaba

del calor intenso dentro de las fábricas y de los frios inviernos de Detroit.

Sus hijos, especialmente yo, hablábamos un idioma que él escasamente conocía. El venía de una cultura que no parecía tan fresca como la tierra de los "Big Macs" y de "G.I. Joe". El era muy ti'mido en lugares pu'blicos, avergonzado de su acento. El acostumbraba caminar dentro de nuestra casa como si estuviera en una jaula. El bebía tanto como pudiera.

A menudo, él se balanceaba alrededor de nuestra cocina en un estupor alcohólico, aullando con su música ranchera, pretendiendo ser feliz. Algo siempre lo provocaba y pronto se disparaba. Fué durante uno de esos episodios que él disparó unas cuantas balas de su revólver. La recamara de mi madre estaba exactamente sobre la cocina. Cuando vino la policía, saltaron sobre él y lo sujetaron contra el piso. Su cara feroz estaba tan roja como el demonio. El gritaba sin diria nadie especificagirse mente, gritaba que los iba a matar a todos.

la. Su cara está sólo a pocas pulgadas de la mía.

Le digo que me pegue si quiere hacerlo, pero que si lo hace nunca volverá a verme. Le digo que vine porque quería conocer a sus otros seis hijos, pero que todo eso no ocurrirá si le vuelvo a oir hablar de mi madre de ese modo nuevamente.

El gruñe y se da vuelta. Entra arrolladoramente en su cocina, donde lo veo beber una copa de alcohol.

El regresa a la sala, se sienta y empieza a llorar. Me siento como que estoy flotando sobre la sala, transcendiendo un temor profundamente arraigado, del cual ya no tengo que huir.

Finding My Father

by LOUIS AGUILAR

I heard my father before I saw him again after 23 years.

He had shouted something on the street to his second wife as she paced outside the door of their home in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. She was anxious to tell him of the unexpected visitor from the United States waiting in his living room. It was the same booming, angry voice that had shot fear through me as a child.

As he entered his home, I stood rigid. My jaw and fists were clenched. Even in my early 20s, I daydreamed about this moment and I imagined lunging for his throat. Then I would unleash all those deep tears I have never allowed to

public places, ashamed of his accent. In our home, he used to pace around like it was a cage. He drank as much as he could.

So often, he would sway around in our kitchen in a boozy haze, howling to his ranchera music, pretending he was happy. Something always triggered him and soon he'd just go off.

It was during one of those episodes that he fired off a few rounds from his gun. My mother's bedroom was right above the kitchen.

When the cops came, they pounced on him and pinned him to the floor. His raging face was as red as the devil. He was yelling to no one in Page 5

his life story, I know exactly what my friends and lovers mean. He tells me lies and gives weak excuses. When I ask tough questions there is defensiveness in his voice and his eyes boil with rage. What strikes me is how clearly I can see the pain within him

He begins to talk disparagingly about my mother. My mother is one of my heroes. Her stability and strength are my inspiration. Tell me your story, not hers, I tell him. He keeps talking trash and I stand up. His fists are already cocked even before he jumps out his chair. His face is inches from mine. My God, how long has this look been in my family?

I tell him to hit me if he wants, but if he does he'll never see me again. I tell him I came wanting to know his six other children, but all of that is off if I hear him talk about my mother like that again.

He grunts, then turns away. He storms into his kitchen where I watch him take a shot, of alcohol. He comes back to the living room, sits down and begins to. cry. I feel like I'm hovering over the room, transcending a deep-seated fear that I no longer have to run from.

lanzándome a su garganta. soltaría todas Entonces aquellas lágrimas profundas que nunca había permitido correr.

Ahora tengo 31 años de edad. Recibí mi Licenciantura y he tenido una carrera bastante éxitosa. Todavía me siento emocionado por todas las oportunidades que hay delante de mí, y estoy muy agradecido por mi vida.

Sin embargo, en el fondo de mi alma, permanecen la tristeza y el hacia mi padre. Cuando yo tenía ocho años, él abandonó a sus seis hijos y a su esposa y nunca volvió a comunicarse con nosotros. Ahora es de febrero de 1997 y no quiero traer conmigo este dolor sin resolverlo.

El entra a su sala llena de de su nueva retratos "familia" -- otra esposa y seis hijos más en San Luis Potosí. En un destello, mientras me aferro a mi apariencia apretada, siento el gozo de mirar a alguien que luce exactamente como yo.

Su cabello permanece maravillosamente espeso. Su sonrisa ilumina toda su cara y lo cen que ven surgir en mí el humorístico. lucir hace Mientras camina hacia mí, siento un flujo extraño de júbilo, porque ahora soy más padre durante dos horas, bomalto que lo que él. La última bardéandolo con preguntas, vez que lo ví sólo le llegaba a haciéndole contarme la hisla cintura.

Nunca volvió a poner un pie en aquella casa. Regresó a San Luis Potosí para vivir de su pensión de la General Motors.

Yo solía pretender que no tenía nada en común con mi padre. Pero empecé a beber cuando tenía 12 años de edad y sólo fué hasta hace poco que dejé de hacerlo en exceso. Me convertí en pandillero, porque encontraba su brutalidad y tristeza absolutamente atractivas

La universidad y la carrera me salvaron de todo eso. Desgraciadamente, las personas a quienes amo mucho me dienojo y el dolor ocasionales, y que eso los asusta. Después de hablar con mi toria de su vida, sé exacta-Después de estrecharnos las mente lo que quieren decir manos, él pregunta: "¿Nos mis amigos. Me dice mentiras y da malas excusas. Cuando le hago preguntas dificiles, hay una actitud defen-Primero, la sonrisa abando- siva en su voz y sus ojos hierna su cara y retrocede rápida- ven de cólera. Lo que me immente. Después vuelve a son- presiona es lo claramente reir. Tentativamente me pone puedo ver el dolor que hay El empieza a hablar con menosprecio sobre mi madre. Admiro mucho a mi madre. Su estabilidad y su fuerza son Mi padre es un mexicano mi inspiración. Dime tu historia, no la de ella, le digo. El troit para trabajar en las fáb- continúa hablando insensateces y me pongo en pie. Sus puños ya están apretados aún

flow. Me marcho poco después. Nos estrechamos las manos y

prometo escribirle. En este Día de los Padres, he dado a mi padre el mejor regalo que puedo para nosotros dos. Ya no lo veo como un mónstruo ni como un fantasma. Me permitiré a mí mismo verlo como un ser humano complicado -- exactamente como a todos los demás en esta vida loca.

From **Page One**

time.

Unity has become involved with the Center's News Watch project, launched last month. It will track news coverage of people of color and gays and lesbians. It will also set up a home page and publish a quarterly 20-page magazine highlighting both positive and negative media portrayals.

Unity also plans to implement a program examining coverage of people of color in four target cities. Additionally, it has signed diversity goals with the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the Newspaper Association of America and the Radio-Television News Directors Association. It sponsored a town hall meeting during the Hispanic group's convention in Chicago last year and is scheduled to hold another in the same city during the black journalists' convention next month. Roman sees projects such as News Watch helping forge a stronger and more active working relationship among the groups. Still wary on some matters, Salazar points out that Unity, in spite of its complex planning and occasional conflicting interests, has already produced the nation's first successful joint multiethnic convention. "There is," he says, "no other working partnership like it."

I'm 31 now. I'm college-educated. I've had a pretty successful career. I still get excited by all the opportunities in front of me and am so grateful for my life.

Yet in the pit of my soul, burning rage and sadness toward my father remain. When I was eight, he walked out on his wife and six kids and never communicated with us again. I no longer want to carry that unresolved pain in me.

He enters his small living room that is full of pictures of his new "family" -- another wife and six more children in San Luis Potosi. In a flash, as I cling to my tight veneer, I experience the joy of looking at someone who looks just like me.

His hair remains wonderfully thick. His smile lights up his whole face and makes him look playful. As he walks toward me, I feel a strange rush of glee because I am taller than he is now. The last time I saw him I reached his waist.

particular that he was going to kill them.

He never set foot in that house again. He returned to San Luis Potosi to live off his General Motors pension.

I used to pretend I had nothing in common with my father. But I starting drinking when I was 12 and it's only recently that I stopped doing it heavily. I became a homeboy because I found their wildness and sadness absolutely alluring

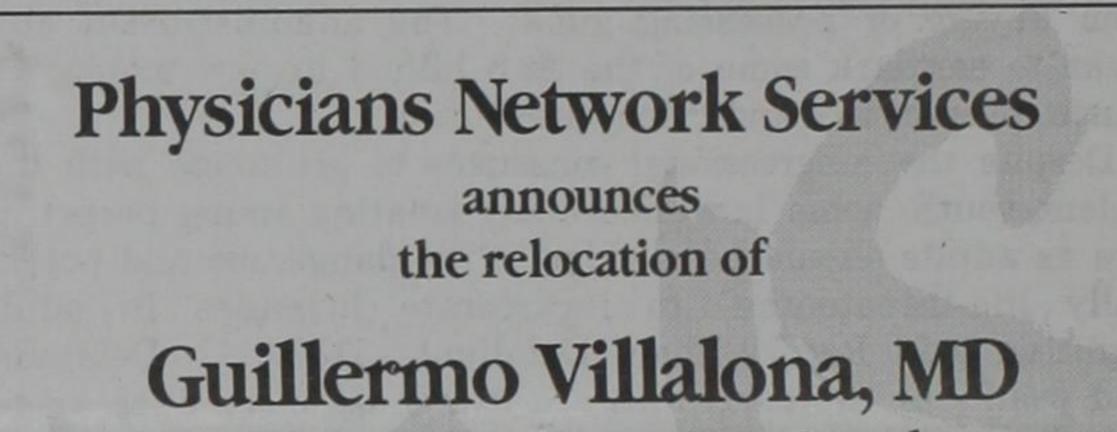
College and career saved Unfortunately, people me. whom I love very much tell me they see the occasional rage and pain surface in me, and it makes them afraid.

After talking with my father for two hours back in February, peppering him with questions, making him to tell me

I leave shortly afterwards. We shake hands and I promise to write him.

On this Father's Day, I have given my father the best gift I can both of us. I no longer view him as a monster or a ghost. I will allow myself to see him as a complicated human being -- just like everyone in this vida loca.

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



conocimos en Detroit?"

Sí, nos conocimos, le digo, y le digo mi nombre también.

la mano en el hombro. Yo dentro de él. mantengo mis brazos cruzados y no me muevo.

No recuerdo mucho sobre él, porque no quería recordar.

analfabeta que emigró a Dericas de automóviles. El se quedó allí durante casi 30 años. El se quejaba siempre antes de que él salte de su sil-

After we shake hands he asks: "Did we know each other in Detroit?"

Yes, we knew each other, I say, and I tell him my name.

First, the smile leaves his face and he backs up quickly. Then he smiles again. Tentatively he puts his hand on my shoulder. I keep my arms folded and don't move.

I do not remember much about him because I did not to want to remember.

My father is an illiterate Mexican who migrated to Detroit to work in the auto plants. He stayed for almost 30 years. He always bitched about the intense heat inside the plants and the bitter cold of Detroit winters.

His kids, particularly me, spoke a language he barely knew. He came from a culture that did not seem as cool as the land of Big Macs and G.I. Joe. He was so meek in

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El Editor, Lubbock, Tx, June 12, 1997 News Briefs

opposed the fact it would computed after the earned income tax credit for the working poor. "That would adversely affect a lot of relatively poor or low-income working people," he said.

Rubin said Archer's construction of education initiatives, worth \$31 billion through 2002, such as the HOPE scholarship to provide tax credits for college would "tend to disadvantage the less-well-off in our society."

Archer's proposal would give a 50 percent tax credit for higher education expenses of up to \$3,000, while the president had proposed a straight \$1,500 tax credit

Democrats that Archer will have to deal with on his committee criticized the plan. Rep. Charles Rangel of New York who is the ranking Democrat on House Ways and Means said: "He's just pushed this envelope so far to the right."

Rangel said after seeing the bill he was not sure any of the Democrats would vote for it if the president opposed it.

Archer's package included about \$47 billion in revenue increases over five years from airline ticket taxes, departure fees and ethanol tax credit reduction. Also Archer proposed imposing a federal tax on income earned by Indian tribes from commercial activities including gaming.

Treating Juvenile Offenders as Adults

Associated Press reports that, as the U.S. crime rate subsides, the Clinton administration and Congress are preparing to confront juvenile offenders with tougher sanctions.

LULAC 263 Wins 2000 LULAC State Convention

On May 22-25, 1997, Lubbock LULAC Council 263 journeyed down to the 68th Annual LULAC State Convention in Odessa, Tx. LU-LAC 263's mission was to bid for LULAC State Convention to be held in the year 2000. That mission was accomplished, the LULAC state delegation voted to have the state Lubbock. convention in Texas. LULAC Austin was defeated for the convention site. On four different occasions LULAC 263 has bid and won the site for the LULAC state convention. "We are a perfect four and zero", states National Vice-Presi-Past dent. For The Southwest, Che-Morazlez. There were vo about 260 delegates from all over the state to vote for this convention site. The Lubbock Convention and Tourism Bureau and other local organizations assisted in the effort. The State convention held many workshops and events for the betterment of the Hispanic community, of which all were very well attended. Workshops were held on topics and issues such as information on Affirmative Action acts, HUD-First Time Homeowners programs, Southwest Voter Registration recruiting. Immigration Reform and Regulations acts, and Social Security Law Status seminars. Council 263 in Lubbock's largest and oldest LULAC council. the main purpose for LULAC is assist and defend civil rights issues and to raise for scholarships. money council 263 awards eight scholarships annually. Also, Council 263 sponsors a Young Readers Program, a summer reading enrichment program for first, second, and third graders. This is the first LU-LAC Young Readers Program to be held in West Texas.



por Sofia Martinez

Navidad, la "misión imposible" se vuelve realidad. Navidad es celebrar la llegada de Nuestro Liberador. Es ver que la aurora comienza a levantarse en medio de la oscuridad. No es por casualidad que los cristianos la hayan hecho coincidir con las fiestas de los Romanos, cuando la noche alcanzando se más larga duración, comienza a hacerse mas chica para dar lugar a que los días vayan siendo más largos. Los Cristianos Católicos, reconociendo en Cristo la luz del mundo, celebrar la comenzaron a "Navidad" como la victoria del día sobre la noche, la victoria del bien sobre el mal, y la victoria de la vida sobre la muerte. La Navidad, que celebramos entre esferitas y luces, es realidad celebrar la en "locura de Dios" que se pierde en su pasión por la humanidad hasta unirse a nuestra carne y ... morir. Navidad es, el comienzo de un temerario rescate, es la lucha de Jesucristo, vencedor del diablo, es dios que se hizo hombre, para que todos nosotros nos hagamos hijos de Dios. Y esta no es película, ni es un cuento. Esta es la verdadera historia de Dios que, por amarnos vino a rescatarnos hasta dar la vida en la cruz. Es una historia que al final nos toca decidir a nosotros: o permanecer prisioneros, o correr el riesgo de la libertad y del amor. Encontrar "la vida" entrando en amistad con dios y con nuestros hermanos, o permaneciendo "en la muerte" dejándonos engañar por ilusiones satánicas. Navidad es

From Page 3

al. Ellas leen libros sobre el orgasmo. El divorcio va en aumento y los machos están sufriendo. Los libros autoterapia abundan, al igual que los "Talkshows".

¿Todavía no están mareados? Ahora bien, si sólo nos habláramos mutuamente. ... Mi madre decía siempre que, si los Estados Unidos y México pudieran unirse, tendríamos un mundo perfecto. Pero eso significa que tendríamos que vernos como iguales, ni mejores, ni peores. Qué lástima!

Porque cualquiera que gane esta guerra, perderá.

(Bárbara Renaud González, de San Francisco, es una escritora por cuenta propia.)

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Read It First

From Page 1

Asociación de Directores de Radio y Televisión (RTNDA en inglés).

Igualmente auspició una reunión pública durante la convención del grupo hispano en Chicago el año pasado, y tiene fijado realizar otra en la misma ciudad durante la convención de periodistas negros el mes próximo.

Román ve que los proyectos tales como "News Watch" ayudan a forjar una relación de trabajo más sólida y más activa entre los grupos.

Todavía cauteloso respecto algunos asuntos, Salazar señala que Unidad, a pesar de su planificación complicada y de intereses ocasionalmente en conflicto, ha producido la primera convención multi-étnica con éxito en este país. "No hay", dice él, "ninguna otra asociación trabajando como ésa".

(Joseph Torres, de Washington, DC., es corresponsal de Hispanic Link News Service.) Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1997. Distribuído por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

A House-passed bill would automatically transfer most youths 14 and older to adult court for federal violent crimes and serious drug offenses. To persuade states to try more juveniles 15 and older as adults, the bill offers \$1.5 billion in incentive grants over three years. To get the money, states would have to increase penalties gradually on young repeat offenders and keep juvenile records, potentially making them public and ending the practice of expunging juvenile records on adulthood.

Sen. Jeff Sessions, (R-AL) a sponsor of the evolving Senate bill, said he objects to juveniles sharing cells with adults. But he wants federal requirements eased to prevent release of young offenders when juvenile cells are not available. An aide to Attorney General Janet Reno said rule changes last December alleviated many of the problems rural jurisdictions had finding space for young offenders.

The Clinton administration opposes the Republican plan to overturn longstanding federal policy requiring states receiving certain federal funds to separate incarcerated juveniles from adults. But the administration itself wants to ease the transfer of violent youths to adult federal courts. The administration also wants to require safety locks be sold with every firearm, a provision opposed by the National Rifle Association, and seeks to bar people with juvenile felony convictions from buying or possessing guns. The administration also seeks to earmark some of the \$1.5 billion in new money for courts, prosecutors and crime prevention.

Despite the congressional consensus to get tough with the violent youth, some lawmakers say treating young perpetrators as adults should be avoided. "It's dangerous and potentially life-threatening" to incarcerate juveniles in adult facilities, said Rep. William Delahunt, (D-MA). Delahunt said youths in adult facilities are five times more likely to be sexually assaulted, two times more likely to be beaten by staff, 50% more likely to be attacked with a weapon and eight times more likely to have attempted suicide than those in juvenile housing. According to AP, minors were responsible for 14% of the nation's violent crimes two years ago, up from 10% in 1980.

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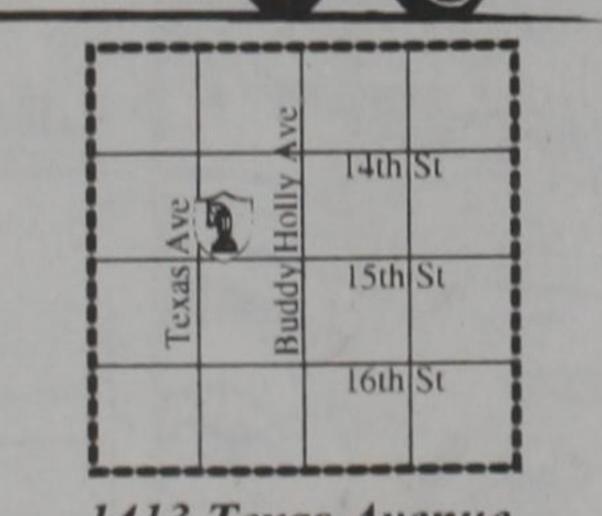
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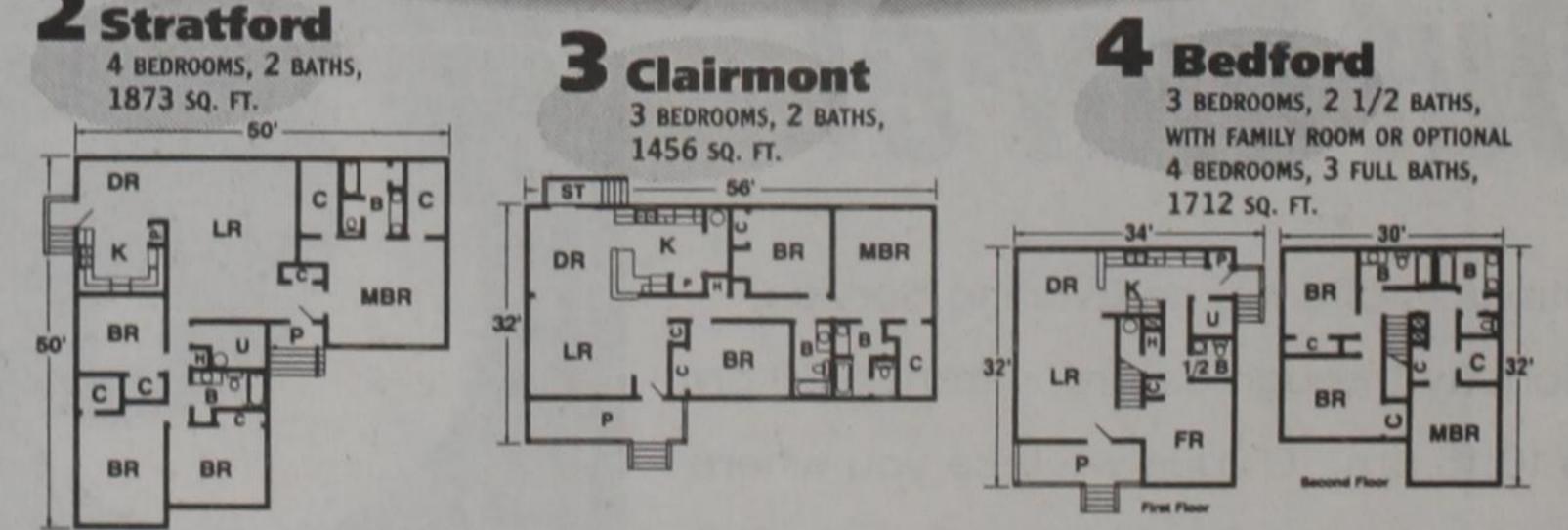
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