

## Latino Leaders Predict Political Growth

By Fernando Trulin IV  
(Second of two parts.)

Although most U.S. Hispanic leaders are pessimistic about overall Latino gains in the year ahead, many believe that the community will become much more active -- and influential -- politically.

Fifty-two heads of Latino organizations and political office-holders participated in a Hispanic Link News Service survey conducted in mid-December on Latino prospects for 1996.

Asked about the potential significance of the Hispanic vote in the November presidential race, two-thirds said they expected it to be "very important," while one-third judged it "somewhat important." None felt it would be inconsequential.

While they constitute only 12 percent of the U.S. population, more than half of the nation's 31.8 million Hispanics are bunched in states deemed crucial to winning the White House: California, Texas, Illinois, New York, New Jersey and Florida.

Registration drives announced by Hispanic voter education groups in November set a goal of increasing Hispanic registered voter rolls from 5 million in the '92 pres-



AUSTIN, TX. El Representante Estatal Roberto Alonzo (Dallas), el nuevo Presidente del Partido Demócrata de Texas Bill White, la Representante Estatal Christine Hernandez (San Antonio) y el Representante Estatal Richard Raymond (Benavides) participaron en una junta de la mesa directiva de la organización recientemente formada "21st Century Democrats," o Demócratas del Siglo 21, realizada en Austin, Texas el pasado 11 de diciembre. Los Demócratas del Siglo 21 esperan reestablecer el partido Demócrata como el partido de las ideas y del progreso.

idential election to 6 million this year.

"We have the mass and numbers in these key states. We are the swing vote," claimed Raúl Yzaguirre, president of the National Council of La Raza in Washington, D.C.

"The winner will win by a

narrow margin and it's in this margin where we can make a difference," added Guillermo Rodríguez, executive director of the San Francisco-based Latino Issues Forum.

Asked their personal preferences in the presidential race, 40 of the survey respondents

opted for President Clinton. Others mentioned were Phil Gramm (2), Henry Cisneros (2), Jack Kemp, Mario Cuomo, Jesse Jackson and Jimmy Carter. Four declined to give an opinion.

Although none selected Sen. Bob Dole as their choice, all

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## News Briefs

### US Deports Record No. of Aliens

The United States deported a record 51,600 undocumented aliens during 1995, according to a government report, reports Associated Press.

"This is the largest number of undocumented aliens removed in one year since the INS has been keeping figures," Paul Risley, a spokesman for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, said Wednesday.

INS Commissioner Doris Meissner and Deputy Attorney General Jamie Gorelick scheduled a news conference Thursday to discuss the annual report, and to talk about a growing alien smuggling problem. The Washington Post reports in Thursday's edition that a report sent to the White House last month describes a "growing trade in human cargo" and says alien smugglers have become more sophisticated and aggressive.

Smugglers send thousands of Latin Americans and Asians into the United States through Central America each year, using bribery and a vast network of airlines, hotels and local officials to aid them, according to the INS.

### "Trailing Parents" a Problem for Baby Boomers

Just when corporations were getting used to the "trailing spouse" - the wife or husband whose career puts obstacles in the way of business moves - a new problem is cropping up. The graying of America is starting to create "trailing parents," who pose even bigger relocation hurdles, reports The New York Times.

Already an estimated 10 to 12 percent of the work force is responsible for caring for an aging relative, said Andrew Scharlach, a professor at the University of California at Berkeley. By 2020, Scharlach projects, one in three people will have to provide care for an elderly parent. The Conference Board, a business research group, estimates even more people will be affected - as many as 40 percent before 2000.

In an Atlas Van Lines study released in May, only 3 percent of the companies said they would move an elderly person who would not share the employee's home at the new location. In reality, though, these decisions are often made on an individual basis. But no matter who pays, moving elderly people to unfamiliar surroundings often causes problems. Whether they live with a child, in a nursing home, or on their own, they risk social isolation and increased dependence on their children.

Meanwhile, corporations are ever-eager for a mobile work force. In the Atlas Van Lines study, 80.9 percent of the 147 companies surveyed said they expected to transfer more employees in 1995 than in 1994. Sixty-two percent said they expected to move more people in 1999 than in 1994.

In another survey of employees at eight large companies conducted by Rodgers & Associates, a research firm in Boston, 37 percent of those who identified themselves as providing care for an elderly relative said they were not interested in relocating.

### Anti-Immigrant Mood Moves Asians to Organize

The recent establishment of The Asian American Association is an example of the growing political activity on the part of Asian-Americans in response to anti-immigrant sentiment and bills now moving through Congress to reduce immigration, reports New York Times.

The association's executive director, Qingsong Zhang, a Chinese immigrant, said: "We became concerned about what was going on in Washington, D.C. We all believe that if these bills become law, there will be a negative impact on the Asian community."

The AAA was established to, among other things, campaign against legislation that would drastically reduce the levels of legal immigration. Since midsummer, Asian-Americans have staged demonstrations in New York, San Francisco and D.C., initiated voter-registration and citizenship drives, taken out full-page advertisements in The Washington Post urging the defeat of the immigration bills.

"This is a very new concept for most Asians who are immigrants," said Daphne Kwok, executive director of the Organization of Chinese Americans, a Washington-based lobbying organization. "In their home countries, political participation was not done or was looked on with skepticism and sometimes fear."

Asian-Americans are particularly concerned about provisions in bills pending in the House and the Senate that would scrap the category that sets quotas of about 23,400 married children and 65,000 siblings of American citizens of all heritages who may enter the country each year as permanent residents. The bills would also turn away people who have already applied and have been waiting for entry, in some cases nearly 20 years.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service says more than 70 percent of the 260,414 married children awaiting entry and the nearly 1.6 million siblings are Asian.

### Budget Impasse Bogs State Spending Plans

State legislators across the nation convene this month as virtual captives of the budget impasse, with no idea how much federal money they will receive for Medicaid and welfare, how much flexibility they will have in spending it or how much state money they must contribute, reports The New York Times.

In addition, many states cut taxes in 1995, often with the same desire to reduce the scope of government as congressional Republicans have had. For the first time in a decade, the total amount of state tax cuts exceeded the amount of state tax increases. As a result, states will have difficulty if they want to make up a loss of federal money from their own treasuries.

Most state officials expected that by now, three months after the start of the federal fiscal year, Congress would have transferred federal money and decision-making power to the states. Instead, state legislators are convening without knowing whether they will receive lump-sum payments, or block grants of federal money. And they do not know whether the changes in Medicaid and welfare will be retroactive to Oct. 1, as some Republicans want.

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"El Respeto Al  
Derecho Ajeno  
Es La Paz"  
Lic Benito Juarez  
ESTABLECIDO 1977  
ESTABLISHED 1977

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## Dirigentes Latinos Pronostican Crecimiento En 1996

Por Fernando Trulin IV

Aunque la mayoría de los dirigentes hispanos se sienten pesimistas por los logros latinos en este nuevo año, muchos creen que la comunidad llegará a estar mucho más activa -- y tendrá más influencia -- políticamente.

Cincuenta y dos dirigentes de organizaciones latinas y funcionarios políticos participaron en una encuesta efectuada por Hispanic Link News Service a mediados de diciembre, sobre las perspectivas latinas para 1996.

Al preguntárseles sobre la posible importancia del voto hispano en la contienda presidencial de este noviembre próximo, dos tercios dijeron

que esperaban que fuera "bien importante", mientras un tercio la calificó de "algo importante". Ninguno creyó que no fuera importante.

Aunque sólo son el 12% de la población de Estados Unidos, más de la mitad de los 31.8 millones de hispanos se encuentran en estados que podrían ser críticos para ganar la Casa Blanca: California, Texas, Illinois, Nueva York, Nueva Jersey y la Florida.

Las campañas de inscripción de votantes anunciadas por grupos hispanos el pasado noviembre fijaron una meta de aumentar las nóminas de electores de 5 millones en las elecciones presidenciales de

1992 hasta 6 millones en este año.

"Tenemos el peso y las cifras en estos estados claves. Somos el voto decisivo", comentó Raúl Yzaguirre, presidente del Consejo Nacional de La Raza en Washington, DC.

"El ganador lo será por un margen estrecho y es en ese margen donde podemos ser una diferencia", agregó Guillermo Rodríguez, director ejecutivo del Foro de Asuntos Latinos con sede en San Francisco.

Al pedirles sus preferencias personales en la contienda presidencial, 40 de los encuestados optaron por el Presidente Clinton. Otros mencionaron a Phil Gramm (2), Henry Cisneros (2), Jack Kemp, Mario Cuomo, Jesse Jackson y Jimmy Carter. Cuatro no quisieron dar sus opiniones.

Aunque ninguno seleccionó al Senador Bob Dole, todos menos cuatro, dijeron que esperaban que él fuera el candidato del partido Republicano.

Al pedirles que pronosticaran cual partido tendrá la mayoría en Washington en 1997, los dirigentes estuvieron divididos.

"Los demócratas no pueden descartar el voto latino, dijo Linda Chávez-Thompson, vice-presidenta ejecutiva de la AFL-CIO. "Tenemos que asegurar que respondan a nuestros asuntos."

Aunque el sindicato no está de acuerdo con el Presidente Clinton sobre el TLC, se espera que haga una campaña vigorosa por él este otoño, debido a la amenaza que los dirigentes la borles perciben contra la clase trabajadora en el llamado "Contrato con America" del partido Republicano.

La congresista Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (republicana por la Florida) observó: "Aunque la mayoría de los hispanos tiende a respaldar los candidatos demócratas, los republicanos vienen ganando terreno lentamente. Los electores hispanos hecharán un vistazo

más cercano a nuestro partido esta vez".

Otros entrevistados rechazaron eso. Al hacer notar que el llamado "contragolpe republicano" trajo a primera plana temas los tales como la inmigración y el inglés como único idioma, la mayoría de los dirigentes hispanos culparon al partido Republicano por la actual ola de sentimiento anti-hispano. También le dieron crédito, irónicamente, por la avalancha de solicitudes para ciudadanía estadounidense presentadas por inmigrantes que son residentes permanentes temen sus derechos sean cambiados por votos en Washington.

Según el Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización de los Estados Unidos (INS en inglés), hubo un aumento de 122% en las solicitudes de ciudadanía presentadas el pasado año fiscal. De 1.2 millones de solicitudes, medio millón ya han sido aprobadas ya y por lo tanto estos son elegibles para inscribirse y votar en este año.

Los republicanos hispanos, tales como la Representante Ros-Lehtinen, han hablado en contra de algunos de las propuestas del partido Republicano. "Yo voto según mi conciencia y la decisión de mis electores, sin atender a las etiquetas partidistas. Es muy lamentable que haya una ola anti-inmigrante recorriendo nuestras ciudades, nuestros estados y el Congreso", comentó ella.

Yzaguirre concurrió: "Se ha hecho difícil para los hispanos republicanos el defender el programa de su partido".

Un punto quedó claro por parte de casi todos los entrevistados: Más que nunca, los hispanos tienen un interés agudo en las elecciones de este año, y también una oportunidad sin precedente para participar. Si no se involucran, no tendrán a quien culpar, salvo a ellos mismos, si no están de acuerdo con los resultados.

Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corp., the nation's largest for-profit hospital chain that is the country's 10th-largest employer and wildly successful at turning financially ailing hospitals into money-makers, has been called by one competing executive, "the Pac-Man of the industry...rolling across the country announcing deals everywhere."

But some deals are raising legal questions. In Texas, one doctor filed a suit against the Nashville, Tenn.-based company, alleging Columbia/HCA made deals with local doctors, designed to ensure a steady supply of patients, that amount to illegal kickbacks. And in Florida, federal officials are investigating the timing of a job offer Columbia/HCA made to a hospital executive who allegedly devalued his hospital to orchestrate a sale to the for-profit chain.

Since so many not-for-profit hospitals are finding themselves in financial straits, many of them are contemplating a sale or merger with larger for-profit outfits that can streamline their opera-

tions and command economies of scale.

"Hospitals are under a financial gun as a result of managed care," says Brent Barnhart, an aide to Assemblyman Philip Isenberg, D-Sacramento. "In their haste [to find financial lifelines] they may give up on essential community health resources we may never be able to recapture." Isenberg has proposed added regulation of such hospital sales.

Last week Consumers Union charged that the Good Samaritan Hospital in San Jose, Calif. is being sold to Columbia/HCA for far less than it is worth, and has asked state officials to step in and delay the sale until a fair price can be determined. The consumer group said it had information that the health system's value is at least \$300 million or more. The sale price is important to the public when a not-for-profit hospital like Good Samaritan is sold to a for-profit organization, since state law requires money not used by nonprofit hospitals be returned to the local community in return for years of tax exemption.



# Una Promesa de Una Baja de la Guerra De Baja Intensidad de Mexico

Por Cecilia Rodríguez

El 25 de octubre, en lo que era una excursión sencilla a plena luz del día, fui violada y obligada a cometer sodomía por tres hombres armados en lo que se suponía que fuera una atracción para los turistas, los Lagos de Montebello, en el estado de Chiapas, México.

Por consejo de un trabajador de los derechos humanos y debido a las circunstancias sospechosas del asalto, salí de San Cristóbal al día siguiente. Presenté una queja ante la Embajada de los Estados Unidos el 31 de octubre en Ciudad México.

Cuando presenté la queja, pedí al vice-cónsul Nicholas J. Manning información. ¿A quién, o a qué oficina debería yo presentar la queja en Ciudad México?

El me dijo que, hasta donde él sabía, 1) Yo debería presentar un informe a la policía en el municipio donde ocurrieron los delitos; 2) El no recomendaría que yo regresara al estado de Chiapas.

Mi esposo le pidió entonces que enviara el informe a las autoridades policíacas adecuadas. El nos aseguró que lo haría y después comentó: "Aquí en México nunca ajustician".

A los Estados Unidos les gusta decir que son defensores de la democracia y la justicia. Soy ciudadana de los Estados Unidos y estoy interesada por ver si cualquier autoridad estadounidense tendría a bien desafiar la situación de impunidad en México, ya que

lo único que parece preocuparles es un ambiente "estable", capaz de proteger a los inversionistas de mucha fuerza.

Creo firmemente que el gobierno mexicano, así como el de los Estados Unidos, por lo menos se ocuparán de los procedimientos burocráticos y, en el peor de los casos y más probablemente, me acusarán a mí, como lo hacen con todas las mujeres, de histeria, exageración y exigirán detalles que no puedo recordar.

El cometido contra mí no es el primer delito sexual que haya ocurrido en aquella zona, y a menos que la guerra de baja intensidad que se lleva a cabo en contra del pueblo de Chiapas llegue a su fin, hay poca esperanza de que sea el último. Sé que hubo tres mujeres tzeltales que fueron violadas en un punto de control militar, y tres enfermeras violadas y casi muertas en el sitio de las charlas de paz, San Andrés Larrainzar.

¿Cuántas otras mujeres, cuyos relatos desconocemos, han sufrido a través de este infierno? ¿Mujeres que nunca han dicho nada públicamente debido a que temen por sus vidas?

He decidido hacer una declaración pública porque espero que mi experiencia ilustre la naturaleza brutal de la guerra de baja intensidad que viene librándose en Chiapas. Soy una evidencia más del uso de la violencia sexual como un arma dirigida específicamente contra las mujeres en esta guerra.

Es muy humillante el hacer esta declaración pública. Mi dolor y mi estigma serán material para la especulación y la burla públicas. El dolor de mi esposo, mis padres, mis hermanos y hermanas, así como de mis tres hijos, serán parte del dominio público. Si mi humillación pública no puede servir más que para exponer al público el horror que está sufriendose en México, entonces habrá valido la pena.

Pido justicia -- no de los gobiernos de los Estados Unidos y de México, porque ellos son cómplices en esta guerra -- sino de los pueblos de México y de los Estados Unidos.

Miren a mi sufrimiento y multipliquenlo por los cientos de mujeres, hombres y niños cuyas voces ustedes no parecen escuchar, que sufren a diario la humillación y el terror de una presencia militar que se propone sofocar las aspiraciones muy humanas de democracia, libertad y justicia.

Soy una baja de una guerra de baja intensidad sancionada y más que probablemente facilitada por el gobierno de los Estados Unidos. Soy una víctima de una situación de decaimiento social en la cual los periodistas, miembros de los partidos de oposición y cualquier civil desarmado ya no disfrutan más de seguridad y tranquilidad, aún a plena luz del día, y en la cual los que están en el poder no tienen más recurso que emplear el asesinato, el terror y la con-

spiración para ajustar sus propias diferencias.

Como ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos, no podemos ser también cómplices de esta guerra. No podemos abandonar a las comunidades indígenas atrapadas detrás de una barricada militar.

Les pido que recuerden siempre a las mujeres de México, que luchan por el derecho de ellas a estar seguras y a vivir en un país donde las demandas zapatistas de democracia, libertad y justicia sean una realidad.

Tengo una pregunta para aquellos hombres que me violaron: ¿Por qué no me mataron?

Fué un error el perdonarme la vida. Yo no me callaré. No detendré mi trabajo ni mis viajes a Chiapas, ni mi trabajo en los Estados Unidos como representante de los zapatistas.

Esto no me ha traumatizado hasta el punto de la parálisis. Seguiré el ejemplo de los otros millares de mexicanos que continúan trabajando por una verdadera democracia en México a pesar del peligro que ellos mismos y sus seres queridos corren, que dicen la verdad a pesar del sufrimiento físico y mental. Ustedes me han dejado con vida y de esto saldrá la fuerza para continuar trabajando.

(Cecilia Rodríguez, con sede en El Paso, Texas, representa al movimiento zapatista en los Estados Unidos. Ella publicó esta declaración pública el 3 de noviembre).

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## A Promise from a Casualty of Mexico's Low-Intensity War

By Cecilia Rodríguez

On Oct. 25, in what was a simple excursion in broad daylight, I was raped and sodomized by three armed men in what was supposedly a tourist attraction, the Lakes of Montebello in the state of Chiapas, Mexico.

On the advice of a human rights worker, and because of the suspicious circumstances of the assault, I left San Cristóbal the next day. I filed a complaint with the United States Embassy on Oct. 31 in Mexico City.

When I presented the complaint, I asked Vice Consul Nicholas J. Manning for information. Who or what offices should I file the complaint with in Mexico City?

He told me that as far as he knew, I should file a police report in the municipality where the crimes occurred; and that he would not recommend that I return to the state of Chiapas.

My husband then asked him to forward the report to appropriate police authorities. He assured us he would and then commented, "They never prosecute here in Mexico."

The United States likes to say it is a defender of democracy and justice. I am a U.S. citizen and I will be interested to see whether any U.S. authority will see fit to challenge the state of impunity in Mexico since the only thing they seem to care about is a "stable" environment able to protect high-powered investors.

I firmly believe that the Mexican as well as the U.S. government will at best busy themselves with bureaucratic procedures and at worst, and more likely, accuse me, as they do all women, of hysteria, of lying, exaggerating, and demand details that I am unable to remember.

Mine is not the first sexual crime to be committed in that area, and unless the low-intensity war being conducted against the people of Chiapas ends, there is little hope that it will be the last.

I know three Tzeltal woman were raped at a military checkpoint, and three nurses were raped and almost killed

at the site of the peace talks, San Andrés Larrainzar. How many other women whose stories we do not know have suffered through this hell? Women who have never said anything publicly because they fear for their lives.

I have decided to make a public statement because I hope my experience will illustrate the brutal nature of the low-intensity war being waged in Chiapas. I am one more piece of evidence of the use of sexual violence as a weapon specifically directed against women in this war.

It is very humiliating to make this public statement. My pain and stigma will be material for public speculation and mockery. The pain of my husband, my parents, my brothers and sisters and my three children will be part of the public domain. If my public humiliation can serve no other purpose than to expose to the public the horror being endured in Mexico, then it will be worth it.

I ask for justice -- not from the governments of the United States and Mexico because they are complicit in this war -- but from the people of Mexico and the United States. Look into my suffering and multiply that by the hundreds of women, men and children whose voices you do not seem to hear, who suffer on a daily basis the humiliation and terror of a military presence which intends to suffocate the very human aspirations for democracy, liberty and justice.

I am a casualty of a low-intensity war sanctioned and more than likely facilitated by the government of the United States. I am a victim of a state of social deterioration in which journalists, opposition party members and any unarmed civilian no longer enjoy safety and tranquility, even in broad daylight, and in which those in power have no more recourse than to use assassination, terror and conspiracy even in the settling of their own differences.

As citizens of the United States, we cannot also be complicit in this war. We cannot abandon the indigenous com-

munities trapped behind a military barricade.

I ask you to remember always the women of Mexico, to fight for their right to be safe and secure and to live in a country where the Zapatista demands for democracy, liberty and justice are a reality.

I have a question of those men who raped me: Why did you not kill me? It was a mistake to spare my life. I will not shut up. I will not stop my work or travel to Chiapas or my work in the United States as a representative of the Zapatistas.

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but four said they expected him to be the GOP nominee. When asked to predict which party would run things in Washington in '97, the respondents were divided.

"The Democrats can't take the Latino vote for granted," Linda Chávez-Thompson, executive vice president of the AFL-CIO, said. "We must make them accountable to our issues."

While the union is constantly at odds with President Clinton on NAFTA, it is expected to campaign vigorously for him this fall because of the threat to the working class its leaders perceive in the GOP's "Contract With America."

U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla.) observed: "Although the majority (of Hispanics) tend to support Democratic candidates, the Republicans are slowly gaining ground. Hispanic voters will be taking a closer look at our party this time."

Others who were interviewed challenged that. Noted that a "Republican backlash" brought issues such as immigration and English-only to the forefront of the national political debate, most Hispanic leaders blamed the GOP for the current wave of anti-Hispanic sentiment. They also credited it, ironically, for the surge in citizenship applications filed by permanent-resident immigrants who are fearful that their rights are being traded for votes in Washington.

According to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization

This has not traumatized me to the point of paralysis. I will follow the example of the other thousands of Mexicans who continue to work for a true democracy in Mexico in spite of the danger to themselves and their loved ones, who tell the truth in spite of physical and mental suffering. You have left me my life and from this will come the strength to continue to work.

(Cecilia Rodríguez, based in El Paso, Texas, represents the Zapatista movement in the United States. She released this public statement Nov. 3.) Distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Service, there was a 122 percent increase in citizenship applications in the last fiscal year. Out of 1.2 million applications, half a million have already been approved and are thus eligible to register and vote this year.

Hispanic Republicans such as Ros-Lehtinen have spoken out against some of the GOP-proposed policies. "I vote my conscience and the decision of my constituents regardless of party labels. It is very lamentable that an anti-immigrant wave is going through our cities, states and Congress," she commented.

Yzaguirre concurred, "It has become difficult for Republican Hispanics to defended the GOP agenda."

One point was made clear by nearly all those interviewed: More than ever before, Hispanics have a major stake in this year's election, and they have an unprecedented opportunity to act. If they don't get involved, they will have no one to blame but themselves if they don't like the results.

(Fernando Trulin is a reporter with Hispanic Link News Service in Washington, D.C.)

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## Sittin' Here Thinkin'

### Arthur's New Year

By Ira Cutler

It was late in the evening by the time I shut the office down for 1995. I signed off the computer, left an answering machine message that I would be gone until next year and closed the door that separates my home from my work.

I felt relieved but a little sad. Ending a year always brings on a complex set of mixed feelings for me. There are could-have-beens and should-ifs but fortunately there are also glad-that-I-did and glad-that-I-didn'ts that tend to balance it out. Like most people I have had some awful years, some really good ones and a lot that were mixed. I had a great year in 1995 and I am ready to close it down because I also have good expectations for 1996. I am, as they say, on a roll. Knock wood.

I walked to the diner rather than brush the snow off my car and scrape the ice off the windshield. It was well past dinner time but the diner is the one place that is always open. And as I turned the corner I saw the snow on the ground, the light flurries still coming down and the neon DINER sign blinking on and off. DINER, then blank, then DINER again. It painted a Jimmy Stewart in Bedford Falls sort of picture as I trudged through the snow and cold. The diner was a warm place where I could get food and coffee and I could just sit and think.

I stomped the snow off my boots and sat down at my usual small table in the nearly empty place. Connie, the only black waitress in this otherwise white diner, was working and I am sure that there was a cook in back but that was all for diner staff. In the big round booth up ahead, which in the morning was always taken by Arthur Bupkiss and his friends, there was a family that looked like gypsies or some sort of eastern Europeans. Three generations of brightly clothed folks who looked like they had been at a wedding and who spoke a loud and rapid language that I could not identify.

I looked around and was surprised that I was the only customer in the diner except for the gypsies and Arthur Bupkiss. I had never seen Arthur in the diner at night. Sitting there alone and at right angles to him I had a better and clearer view of him than is normally the case. Arthur, by the way, looks a lot like Robert Duval looked ten years ago.

As loyal and long time readers know, Arthur was forcibly retired from the finance department of a large multi-national corporation when it was gobbled up by an even larger corporation. He lives alone on his early-out pension and severance, hangs out at the diner in the mornings, shoots the breeze with his friends and, for most of 1995, lived the OJ trial rather than his own life. Mrs. Bupkiss, who is said to bear an uncanny physical and temperamental resemblance to Marcia Clark the OJ prosecutor, is long gone.

It was eerie to be sitting there with just the gypsy family and Arthur. The gypsies were so alive -- one I took to be the grandfather did not stop tickling and kissing the giggling little children. Other various family members were in animated conversations which seemed to overlap and to get progressively louder. Arthur, on the other hand, sat looking blankly out into space over a cup of coffee while I ate a reuben sandwich and fries and pretended to be reading a three week old Business Week magazine. The truth was that I was looking at Arthur. I found myself no longer thinking about my year gone by and my year up ahead but instead thinking about and wondering about Arthur's years.

Arthur is going nowhere, as best I can tell. He has been some things in the past: a husband, an executive, maybe a father -- I am really not sure whether he has kids. At one time he must have been a young man on the rise. And here he is sitting in a diner and staring blankly and I do not think he knows at all what next year will bring. This is a guy who has had his ass kicked and he has not yet recovered. He has been kicked and the experience has caused him to go over the critical line that divides the human race into two groups: those who make things happen in their lives and those who have things happen to them.

This line is rarely talked about but I have come to believe that it is both real and important. The line is defined by something like mastery or confidence or nerve. Which side you are on decides whether you go on stage and sing and expect that the crowd will love it while another person, with as good or better a voice, sings only in the shower. It has a lot to do with explaining why some people roll with life's punches while others lean into the punches and are destroyed. It explains why some poor people, with no experience or expectation of controlling their own history, cannot imagine getting a good job or going to college or opening a business. But on the other side of the line another person, just as poor and sometimes from the same neighborhood or family, becomes the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

I think it has a lot to do with very early life messages from parents, teachers and others who either tell you that you can control what is around you and up ahead of you, or you cannot. Are you told that fate, and people in power, will determine your future or that you will determine it by the force of your will? Arthur, as I viewed him, used to consider himself in control but has now become too beat up to imagine life that way.

I was immersed in this world where I was thinking about Arthur, and me, and my year up ahead, when all of a sudden my trance was shattered because Arthur Bupkiss, for the first time ever, spoke to me. He just leaned over, three booths away but at an angle where we could clearly see each other, and asked me how it was going.

"Real good," I said. "How about you?"

"I'm getting there," he said. "You mind?" he asked as he slid into my booth. I made a wave that said no, by all means, join me.

"You know, I have often wondered about you," he said. "I see you in the morning, in here all by yourself, and I see that you are writing in your notebook and on scraps of the menu and stuff and I wonder -- what is this guy writing about all the time? And so I thought I'd ask you. If you don't mind."

I lied. I could not tell him, could I, that I write about him and his friends for a computer online service about health and social services? I felt caught in the act of something -- invading the privacy of the diner? -- and so I told him a story about reports for consulting projects and, as I saw his eyes glaze over with boredom, I could see that my writing would never interest him again. I made it so boring that it was not even a story for him to tell Vinnie and Larry. Whatever he thought I was writing that might be interesting, like movie scripts, had turned out to be dull indeed.

And just as I became dull in Arthur's eyes, he became even more interesting in mine. Connie stopped by the table, her coat on now because Sylvia had replaced her, and asked Arthur if he was ready to go. And I saw, close up across the booth, some life in Arthur's Bupkiss' pale blue Robert Duval eyes.

I did not know what was going on between them, maybe he was just giving her a ride to the train station. I do not know who else in the diner crowd knew anything at all about this. Suddenly though I was filled with hope for Arthur. Connie has enough grit and determination to move the world and Arthur, I suddenly realized or maybe imagined, adores her.

"Gotta go," he said and as they left he held the diner door open for her and off they went into the snowy Bedford Falls night and into next year.

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

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# 1995 Fue Un Año Agridulce Para Los Artistas Hispanos

Por Antonio Mejías-Rentas

Para los hispanos de la farándula, 1995 fué un año cargado de triunfos sobresalientes y de tragedias.

Dos latinos talentosos que ganaron su reconocimiento póstumo como super-estrellas y una ola de películas con temas latinos que hallaron apoyo crítico y popular, compartieron el escenario en el año agridulce.

La noticia que acaparó la primera plana fué el asesinato, el 31 de Marzo, de la super-estrella de la música Tejana, Selena, de 23 años de edad, muerta a tiros por una empleada sólo a pocas semanas de haber recibido el premio mayor de la música tejana. Miles de fanáticos se congregaron en su ciudad natal de Corpus Christi para llorarle, esta aún vivía al lado de sus padres, en el vecindario donde se crió.

Después de su muerte, las ventas de sus álbumes aumentaron en un 600%. Su disco "Dreaming of You (Sonando Contigo)", lanzado póstumamente -- que incluyó la canción titular cantada en inglés, el cual se

había esperado lanzaría su carrera al mundo angloparlante -- debutó en el verano en lo más alto de las listas de ventas.

Yolanda Saldívar, de 32 años de edad, fué declarada culpable de matar a Selena, cuando la cantante se le enfrentó para pedirle explicaciones sobre presuntas malversaciones de fondos de la estrella.

La muerte de Selena enfocó la atención de la proliferación de armas de fuego y el uso de los estereotipos negativos sobre los latinos. Grupos nacionales pidieron que se boicoteara al animador radial Howard Stern, quien hiciera observaciones ofensivas sobre Selena y la cultura mexicana después de la muerte de la cantante.

También se recordó póstumamente en 1995 al actor puertorriqueño Raúl Juliá, quien murió en octubre de 1994. Una de sus últimas actuaciones -- en el canal de cable HBO, "The Burning Season" -- le ganó tres de los principales premios del medio: Un Emmy, un Golden Globe y un

CableAce.

Tanto Juliá como Selena fueron recordados en las distintas ceremonias de entrega de premios, desde los Oscars hasta los de Imagen.

El año señaló también "el final de un viaje largo y extraño" para el guitarrista de "rock" Jerry Garcia, fundador del grupo "Grateful Dead". El murió el 9 de agosto de un ataque cardíaco en un centro de rehabilitación en el norte de California. Una gira de otoño de dicho grupo fué cancelada inmediatamente y -- como lo esperaban muchos de sus fanáticos -- los demás miembros de grupo anunciaron en diciembre que el conjunto se disolvería.

Con los éxitos de taquilla de tres películas, los cineastas latinos presentaron un caso sólido en 1995 para el uso del talento hispano en películas que tratan temas latinos.

La más sobresaliente fué "My Family/Mi Familia", del director Gregory Nava, que debutó el Cinco de Mayo con el promedio nacional taquillero más alto para ese fin de semana. Las estrellas fueron Jimmy Smits, Edward

James Olmos y Esaí Morales. Esta relataba la historia de tres generaciones de una familia mexicanoamericana en el este de Los Angeles.

El triunfo más importante de "Mi Familia", sin embargo, fué el de eclipsar en la taquilla a "La Familia Pérez". Esta película contrató estrellas Anglos para contar sobre los inmigrantes cubanos de Miami. Fué criticada duramente por los grupos latinos cuando se estrenó el pasado mayo.

Otras películas latinas que tuvieron éxito en 1995 fueron "Desperado", de Robert Rodriguez, la continuación con un presupuesto alto de su aclamada, "El mariachi" y (Un Paseo por las Nubes "A Walk in the Clouds"), que regresó a Anthony Quinn a la pantalla en una historia sobre los vinateros mexicanos de California.

(Antonio Mejías-Rentas es el editor de la sección "espectáculos" del diario La Opinión, de Los Angeles, al igual que ser editor de artes y espectáculos del semanario nacional Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

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## Emilio Navaira habla de Selena aunque lo tenga prohibido!

Monterrey, Nuevo León - Aunque Abraham Quintanilla le prohibió a Emilio Navaira hablar sobre su hija Selena, el cantante lo hizo para que la gente sepa el sentimiento que actualmente le embarga a él y a su Grupo Rio por su muerte.

"Yo me siento muy mal de que el día que ella murió, se me relacionara con su muerte. Pero eso es muy común en este ambiente, Nos relacionaron porque los dos somos Texanos y por el duelo que hicimos. La gente aprovecha cualquier cosa para hablar de más", indicó.

El Rey del rodeo agregó que es la falta de privacidad lo que menos le gusta de su carrera.

"Es precisamente eso del ambiente o mi carrera lo que no me gusta. No se como decir la palabra. Como que te quita algo de tí, de privacidad. Yo disfruto mucho la musica porque me gusta demasiado, pero el que digan mentiras de tí es lo que no me gusta", expresó.

Navaira explicó que en varias ocasiones el padre de Selena le a llamado para pedirle que no comente más sobre su hija, porque desea hacer un filme sobre su vida, pero él le a indicado que es algo muy difícil porque no le dejan de preguntar.

"Esto nunca va a acabar porque siempre van a estar preguntando. Él (Quintanilla) piensa que yo hablo de Selena porque quiero levantar mi música country con el nombre de ella, pero no. Nosotros la extrañamos mucho porque era como nuestra hermana", afirmó Emilio

Agregó que es debido a ese cariño y admiración que sentían por la desaparecida cantante, el que no descartan que en un futuro puedan realizar un álbum en su memoria "mas que nada porque se lo merece".



## A Bittersweet Year For Hispanic Entertainment

By Antonio Mejías-Rentas

For Hispanics active in the field of entertainment, 1995 was a year layered with landmark triumphs and tragedy.

Two gifted Latino performers who earned their long-deserved super-star recognition posthumously and a wave of Latino-themed movies that found critical and popular support shared the stage in the bittersweet year.

The news that captured page one was the March 31 assassination of 23-year-old tejano superstar Selena, shot by an employee only weeks after sweeping the Tejano Music Awards. Thousands of fans flocked to her native Corpus Christi, Texas, to mourn the singer, who still lived next door to her parents in the neighborhood where she had been raised.

After Selena's death, sales of her albums increased 600 percent. Her posthumously released "Dreaming of You" -- which included an English-language title track that had been expected to launch her crossover into the pop arena -- debuted at the top of the charts in the summer.

Yolanda Saldívar, 32, was convicted of shooting Selena when the singer confronted

her with apparent discrepancies in the star's financial ledger. Saldívar had been working for the young singer.

Selena's death focused attention on the proliferation of handguns and on the use of negative Latino stereotypes.

can actor Raúl Juliá, who died in October of 1994. One of his last performances -- on HBO's "The Burning Season" -- won him three of the industry's top awards: an Emmy, a Golden Globe and a CableAce.

Both Juliá and Selena were remembered with special mentions at award ceremonies throughout the year, ranging from the Oscars to the Imagen awards.

The year also marked "the end of a long, strange trip" for rock guitarist Jerry Garcia, founder and guru of the Grateful Dead. He died Aug. 9 of a heart attack at a drug rehabilitation center in Northern California. A fall tour of the Dead was immediately canceled and -- as had been expected by legions of Deadheads -- remaining band members announced in December that the group would disband.

With the box office successes of three motion pictures, Latino filmmakers made a strong case in 1995 for the use of Hispanic talent in Latino-themed films.

Most outstanding was Gregory Nava's "My Family/Mi Familia," which debuted on Cinco de Mayo with the highest national per-screen average for that weekend. The movie starred Jimmy Smits, Edward James Olmos and Esaí Morales. It told the story of three generations of a Mexi-



El verdadero móvil del asesinato de Selena no ha sido establecido aún.

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O Positive	██████████	██████████	██████████
A Negative	██████████	██████████	██████████
A Positive	██████████	██████████	██████████
B Negative	██████████	██████████	██████████
B Positive	██████████	██████████	██████████
AB Negative	██████████	██████████	██████████
AB Positive	██████████	██████████	██████████

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The most significant triumph of "Mi Familia," however, was overshadowing "The Pérez Family" at the box office. The latter movie used non-Latino stars to portray Cuban immigrants in Miami. It was panned by Latino groups when it opened in May.

Other successful Latino films in 1995 were Robert Rodríguez's "Desperado," the

high-budget follow-up to his acclaimed "El Mariachi," and Alfonso Arau's "A Walk in the Clouds," which brought Anthony Quinn back to the screen in a story about Mexican winery workers in California.

(Antonio Mejías-Rentas is managing editor of the entertainment section "Espectáculos" in the Los Angeles daily newspaper La Opinión and arts and entertainment editor of the national news weekly Hispanic Link Weekly Report.)

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### Lubbock's Number 1 Newspaper Call 763-3841

#### News Briefs from Page 1

Proponents of block grants say states can get along with less federal money if they have more freedom to decide how it is spent. But for many, there also will be less state revenue.

In 1995, according to a report to be issued this month by the National Conference of State Legislatures, 25 states cut taxes by a combined total of \$2.1 billion, while 14 states increased taxes by a combined total of \$910 million.

## CA Gov May Deliver Alien to White House Steps

California Gov. Pete Wilson tried to embarrass President Clinton on Wednesday, warning that if the federal government did not pay California for incarcerating undocumented immigrants who break the law he would deposit a shackled inmate on the doorstep of a federal lockup in the next few weeks, reports The Los Angeles Times.

Wilson's threat came on the same day that the White House, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and an interagency working group all issued reports painting a grim picture of undocumented immigration and signaling increasing concern over the issue.

Wilson aides said if the inmate is turned away, the prisoner would be returned to state authorities and the governor would consider legal action against the federal government. Officials said the lawsuit would seek reimbursement of about \$400 million that the state estimates it spends annually to incarcerate more than 16,000 undocumented-immigrant prisoners.

California currently has about 140,000 prisoners in custody at an annual cost to the state of about \$21,885 each. Wilson already lost a federal court decision on a suit he filed seeking reimbursement for the state's cost of providing services to undocumented immigrants including incarceration of prisoners, education and health care. The suit is currently on appeal.

Last spring, Wilson appealed to sympathetic House Republicans for money to help pay the state's cost of incarcerating undocumented immigrants. Congress subsequently passed an amendment that included about \$280 million for California, about \$120 million short of the state's estimated need.

Earlier this month, Clinton vetoed a \$27.3 billion appropriations bill that included the state reimbursement for undocumented-immigrant inmates. White House officials said the appropriations bill for the departments of Commerce, Justice and State was almost \$4 billion less than Clinton requested and it ordered deep cuts in programs he favors.

House officials said the bill is expected to be resubmitted to the White House with the state reimbursement. A Wilson news release Wednesday said the governor was "outraged" that Clinton had vetoed the funding and insisted that Reno's office respond by scheduling a negotiation with California representatives.



# El Editor's LATEST Deportes - Sports LO MAS RECIEN

## 49ers Play Does Their Talking

SANTA CLARA, Calif. - The Green Bay Packers are taking it personally.

Green Bay coach Mike Holmgren says his "win it all" declaration was just an expression of confidence in the play of the Packers, but the 49ers have tacked Holmgren's words on a bulletin board in their locker room.

"A lot of people do a lot of talking, and in previous games during the season you've seen what happened with people that do a lot of talking," said San Francisco linebacker Lee Woodall, a reference to the 49ers' upset

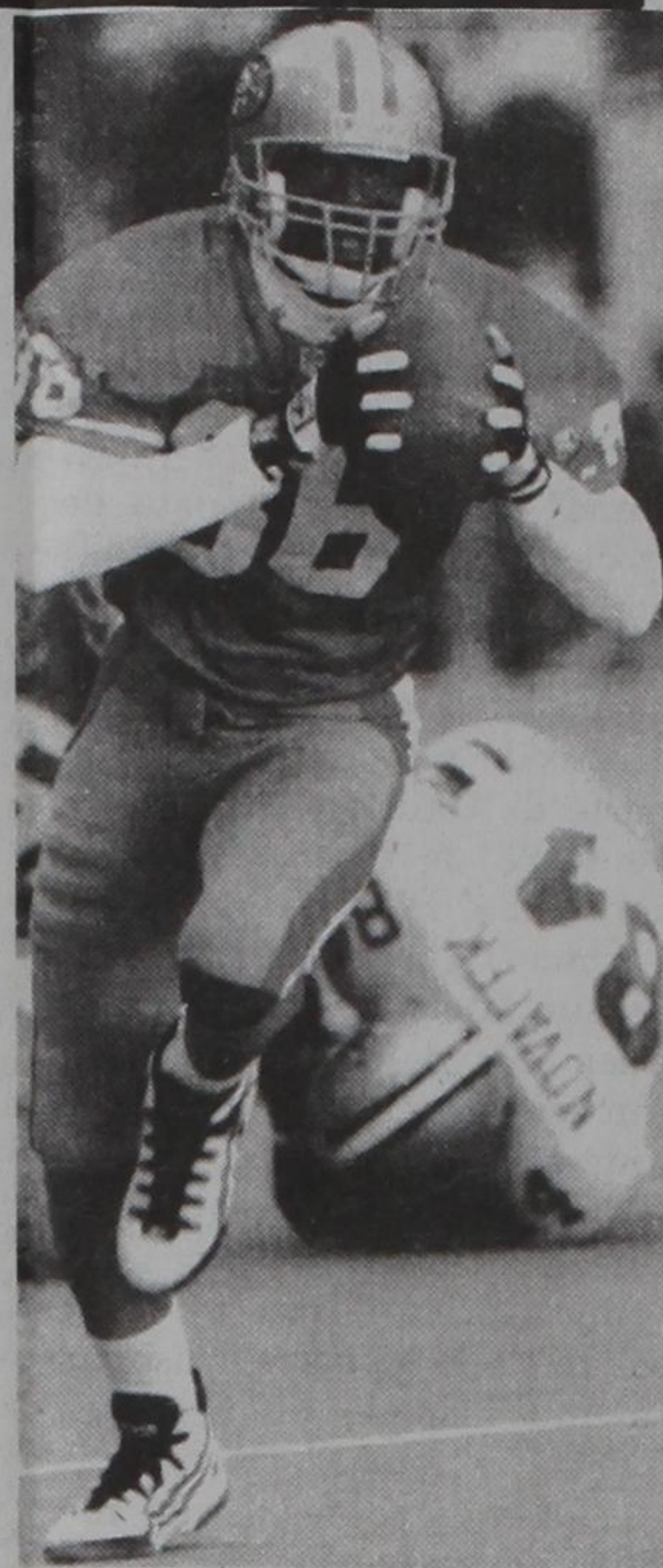
win at Dallas in November.

"We don't let our mouths speak for ourselves. We let what we do on the field speak for us," Woodall said Wednesday. "I don't think you've heard anyone in our locker room say, 'We're going to win it all. We're going to smash 'em. We're going to kill 'em.' We're not like that."

"We're more laid back and say, 'Hey, whatever you say, you've got to back it up.' Like they say, actions speak louder than words. Their words may be loud right now, but their actions are going to have to be a lot louder."

Holmgren, the 49ers' offensive coordinator before leaving San Francisco in 1992 to become Packers coach, made the comments in the aftermath of the Packers' 37-20 playoff victory over Atlanta last weekend.

"Somebody asked me if I thought we could get all the way to the Super Bowl, and of course, being the head coach of a team and we just won a big game, I said, 'Hey, we're going to win 'em all - why not?'" Holmgren said via a conference call. "I concluded my remarks by saying you still have to beat the two teams that



## Chávez dice que sería difícil seguir con King

Ciudad de México - Julio César Chávez se enteró de las declaraciones de Don King e inmediatamente decidió al rudo.

"La verdad es muy difícil que yo siga trabajando con King

porque las cosas entre los dos no están marchando del todo bien", indicó el campeón superligero del Consejo Mundial de Boxeo que se abstuvo de participar en el homenaje a José Sulaimán por su 20 años al frente de ese organismo.

Chávez insistió en que los problemas que tiene con el promotor de los cabellos canosos erizados se desprenden de las declaraciones que él hizo durante el juicio que se le siguió a King en la ciudad de Nueva York.

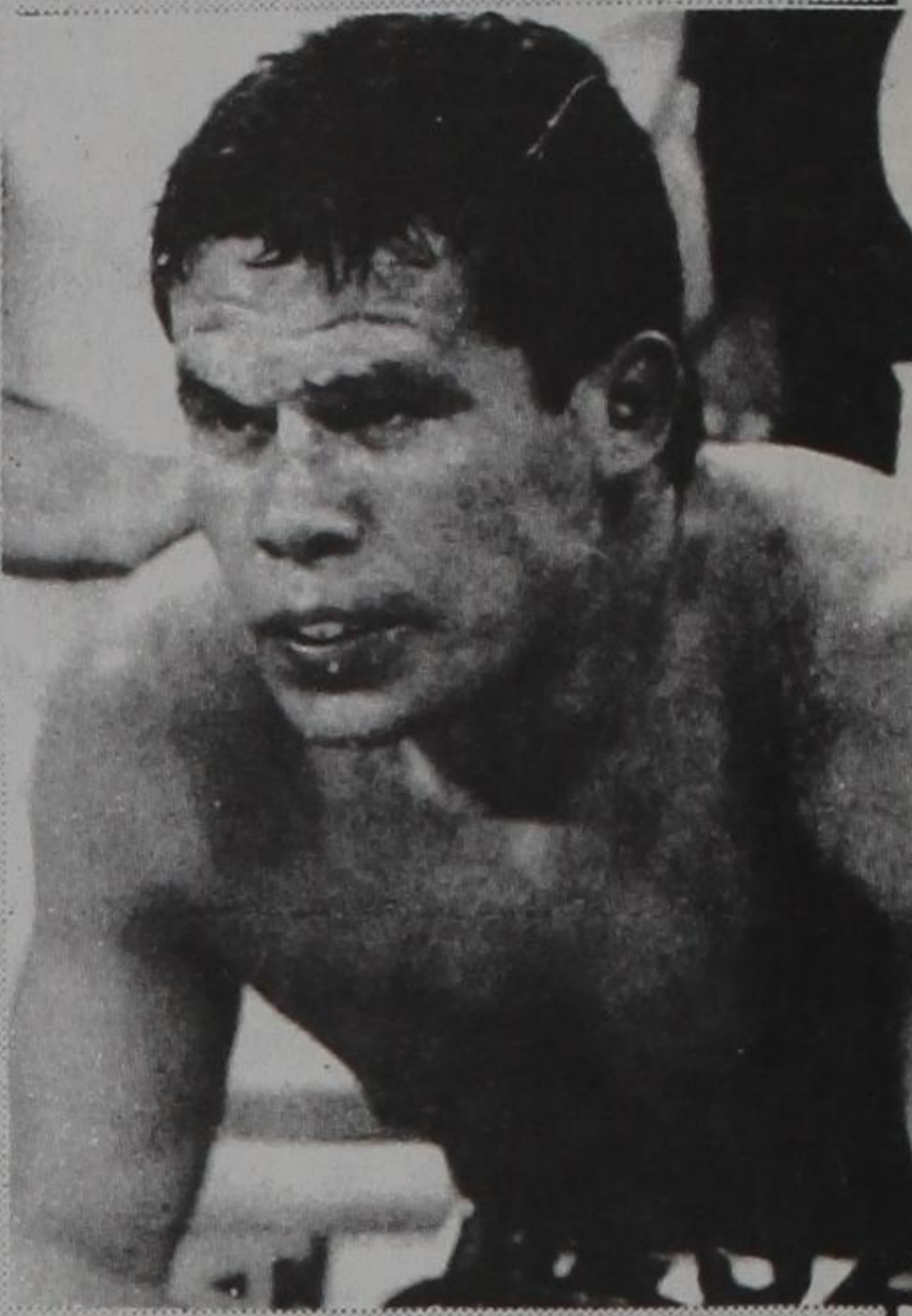
"Yo sólo dije la verdad porque no me podía echar la culpa de algo que no hice y que me podía llevar a la cárcel. Esto molesto mucho a King y entonces toda la relación entre ambos se vino abajo", sostuvo Julio César.

Agregó que su versión dada en el juicio también le provocó problemas con José Sulaimán.

"el se puso de lado de Don King y se puso en contra mía. Por eso decidí no asistir a su homenaje. ¿Para qué? Dice no me estima, pues entonces que se vaya al demonio", agregó.

Luego añadió. "Quiero que quede bien claro que yo estimo mucho a King. El me ha dado a ganar mucho dinero, pero yo también a él. Sin embargo la verdad perdura simplemente".

Sobre su pelea contra El Mago González que volvió a anunciar King, dijo: "Yo creo que esa pelea no se va hacer porque las diferencias con King no son amistosas, sino económicas".



## EAGLES-COWBOYS UPDATE

### Injury update

Tight end Jay Novacek practiced Wednesday for the first time since injuring his right knee nearly two weeks ago, and Switzer was optimistic about his availability for Sunday.

Novacek had arthroscopic surgery performed on his right knee two days before Christmas and missed the team's final regular-season game against Phoenix. He originally was scheduled to practice Thursday but felt good enough to take the field a day early. Switzer said Novacek was limited in what he could do but looked good.

Defensive tackle Russell Maryland (right foot, toe sprain) and backup tight end Eric Bjornson (lower abdominal strain) also worked out Wednesday. Switzer said, "Russell was better today," and he hopes to use Maryland as part of the defensive line rotation against Philadelphia. Switzer, however, said Bjornson wasn't moving as well as he did in Tuesday's practice.

All three players remain questionable for Sunday's game.

—David Moore

### Cunningham leaves

Randall Cunningham left the Eagles early Wednesday morning to be with his wife, who is expecting their first child.

Cunningham was playing pingpong with receiver Fred Barnett when he was paged and told to head to Las Vegas, Nev., where he lives in the off-season.

"He'll be back late Thursday or Friday," coach Ray Rhodes said. "It shouldn't disrupt his preparation."

—Jean-Jacques Taylor

### Secret antagonist

Philadelphia coach Ray Rhodes reacted indignantly when asked Wednesday whether he was responsible for sending a sympathetic floral arrangement and a condescending message attributed to him that has been displayed in the Cowboys' locker room the past two days.

The flowers seemed a transparent attempt by somebody affiliated with the Cowboys to inspire Dallas players for Sunday's NFC playoff semifinal with the Eagles.

"I didn't send any flowers," Rhodes said. "That is a bunch of bull. I don't do those kinds of things."

Said Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman: "Another one of Bruce Mays' motivational tactics, I'm sure."

Mays is the Cowboys' director of operations who prepares a bulletin board for Dallas players.

—Ed Werder

### Vocal majority

Several Dallas players have issued a plea to the fans to turn up the volume at Texas Stadium for Sunday's game against Philadelphia.

"We want the fans to be rowdy," running back Emmitt Smith said. "We need fans like Kansas City fans, who are loud from the opening kickoff until the fourth-quarter whistle blows."

"If they want to be part of this thing, then be part of it. They come out there in their prom dresses, when they should be out there in Cowboy outfits with pompons."

Smith went on to say that the Cowboys' 12th man, "doesn't know when to yell." Even coach Barry Switzer joined the chorus Wednesday, saying his coaches wanted him to mention the need for the crowd to get into the game.

"We've got the home-field advantage. Let's use it," Switzer said. "Let's have our crowd get into it. I'll tell you, Philadelphia's crowd got into it. They definitely were a factor. Let's wake them up. It's time to play."

—David Moore

### Peete has flu

Quarterback Rodney Peete, who has been battling the flu all week, said he thinks the worst is behind him.

"I first felt a little sick on Monday," said Peete, "and Tuesday I felt worse. Tuesday was a real tough night, but hopefully it'll be gone by Thursday."

—Jean-Jacques Taylor

really have established themselves, Dallas and San Francisco. I had a smile on my face and I did not say I'm guaranteeing victory or whatever was written. I like our team right now, and if someone asks me that question I'm going to respond in a positive manner."

Still, the 49ers, who are seeking to defend their Super Bowl title, seemed to take offense, and they expressed surprise Holmgren would say anything before the game that could even be construed as remotely inflammatory.

"We're not going to make that mistake. We have to respect our opponent," San Francisco guard Jesse Sapolu said. It's also the kind of thing you'll never hear from the 49ers, Sapolu said.

"It's just not accepted in this locker room," Sapolu said. "We wouldn't pull a Lomas Brown around here. No need for it."

Brown, a tackle for Detroit, had "guaranteed" a Lions' playoff victory over Philadelphia, which then defeated Detroit 58-37.

Strong safety Tim McDonald said the 49ers wouldn't be drawn into a war of words with the Packers.

"You can talk about it all week long until you're blue in the face, but the game is played on Saturday and that's when we'll respond, by the way we play," McDonald said. "We've heard that kind of talk all year. We'll just line up Saturday."

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Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

La Resurrección de los muertos.

Antes de Cristo los hebreos creían en una resurrección del pueblo de Dios más nacional que individual...

El profeta Daniel (12,2) habla mas de un despertar personal, que de una resurrección personal. el texto de Job 19, 25-27 no respalda la resurrección en el sentido cristiano, como a primera vista parecería...

Jesús corrige las ideas

falsas acerca de los resucitados, aclarando que en el más allá ya no habrá problemas de ninguna clase como los hay en la tierra...

También aclara Jesús que hay dos clases de resurrección: Una espiritual, que es la que ahora nos ofrece Dios por medio de Su Hijo Jesucristo, que murió por nosotros en la cruz...

Buenas nuevas

Por Pastor Frank García

"Porque hay un Dios, asimismo un mediador entre Dios y los hombres, Jesucristo hombre" 1 Timoteo 2:5 Preguntar: ¿Si es que hay un Dios, por qué dicen las Escrituras que hay muchos dioses? lo dicen, porque las Escrituras son la verdad, y es verdad que hay muchos dioses; como también es verdad que hay muchas religiones, hay muchas religiones muy grandes y muy antiguas. Como también es cierto que hay muchos dioses, no muy grandes, pero sí, muy antiguos...

los dioses." Y que los dioses que algunas gentes tienen son ídolos, hechos de plata y oro obra de manos de hombre, que tienen boca y no hablan, ojos y no ven, y que como ellos son todos los que los hacen." V.15-18. Por ejemplo yo, 48 años pasados, 1947, antes de conocer al Dios Verdadero de Juan 17:3., yo me le arrojaba a cualquier santo. Pero un día se me cumplió el refrán mexicano "¿Para que confiar en santos, habiendo tan lindo Dios?" Cuando yo clamé a Dios, él me mandó a este "mediador Jesucristo hombre" fui a él y él perdonó mis pecados. La Escritura dice: "Porque él salvará a su pueblo de sus pecados" Mateo 1:21. Estas son "buenas nuevas."

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ASISTENCIA

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News USA

(NU) - Hoy en día es común ver empleados incapacitados en todo tipo de ocupación. Este cambio significativo se llevó a cabo en pocos años. Pero ha pasado una eternidad desde la imagen triste de "Tiny Tim".

Aunque las actitudes y leyes que protegen a las personas incapacitadas son factores importantes, existen otras razones para el éxito en la entrada de personas incapacitadas a la fuerza laboral. Entre éstas se encuentran mejoras en las técnicas de tratamiento, empleados de rehabilitación altamente adiestrados, avances tecnológicos y artefactos diseñados y fabricados con materiales de la era espacial.

Por ejemplo, en el campo de la manufactura de extremidades artificiales o piezas prostéticas técnicas avanzadas y materiales de alta tecnología, tales como epoxia y fibras de carbón han creado extremidades artificiales livianas y funcionales con cubiertas cosméticas similares a la piel. La expansión en el conocimiento de las propiedades de ciertos materiales y la fabricación de nuevas técnicas han tenido el mismo efecto en los bragueros.

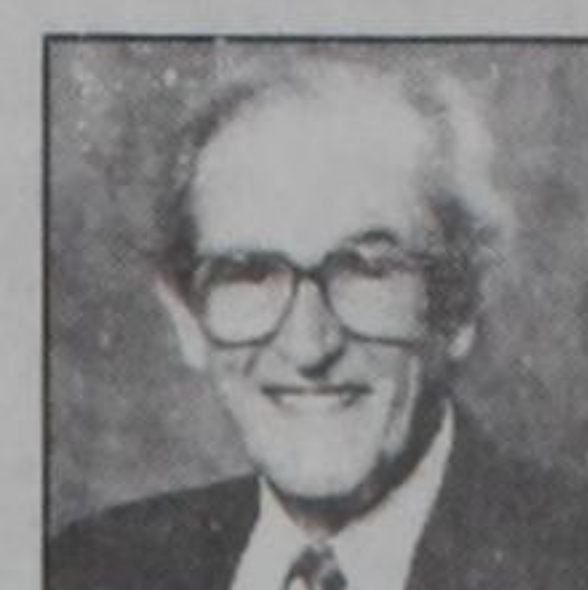
Los profesionales médicos que han demostrado que tienen las destrezas necesarias para la administración de estos artefactos avanzados y la educación apropiada pueden ser certificados en protésica por la Junta

Americana de Certificación ("American Board for Certification" o "ABC"). Luego de ser certificados, éstos deben seguir su adiestramiento en nuevas técnicas y completar requisitos académicos. ABC provee listas de profesionales médicos certificados para el público en general.

El Dr. Ian R. Horen, Director Ejecutivo de la Oficina Nacional de Protésica, indica que la competencia clínica, la educación constante y el adiestramiento profesional son requisitos para el cuidado de calidad al paciente en esta compleja profesión de salud. Sin embargo, la certificación de ABC es voluntaria. Menos de 3,000 profesionales médicos en toda la nación tienen la prestigiosa certificación de la junta.

Los doctores que trabajan en cuidado médico de rehabilitación refieren pacientes a especialistas en protésica. Estas referencias provienen de ortopedistas y fisiatras. Estos especialistas se dejan llevar por las indicaciones desarrolladas por el equipo de rehabilitación del paciente.

Los profesionales en protésica examinan al paciente, tomando en cuenta sus capacidades físicas y necesidades médicas para tratar de fabricar artefactos que ayudan a las personas con retos físicos a vivir vidas plenas y productivas.



EN FAVOR DE LA VIDA

Como Reaccionar Cuando su Amigo Está Muy Enfermo

Por: Dr. Jack D. Gordon

(NU) - Uno de los momentos más difíciles de la vida es cuando un amigo le informa que padece de una enfermedad seria o mortal.

Cuando usted se encuentra en esta situación, es natural que se sienta abatido. Usted no sabe qué decir o hacer. El miedo de no saber que hacer puede impedir que usted le brinde el amor y apoyo que su amigo necesita desesperadamente.

Aquí presentamos algunas sugerencias que le pueden ayudar y que fueron recopiladas de los comentarios de personas con enfermedades mortales:

Se honesto conmigo. Yo puedo notar cuando tus sentimientos o acciones no son sinceras. Los gestos y el lenguaje corporal te delatarán.

Ríe conmigo y llora conmigo. Deja que exprese emociones intensas. Me siento mucho mejor cuando muestro mis verdaderos sentimientos.

No sientas lástima por mí. Tu comprensión me ayudará a preservar mi orgullo y dignidad.

Tócame. Yo quiero ser aceptado a pesar de mi apariencia. Por dentro, soy la misma persona de siempre.

Deja que hable de mi enfermedad cuando lo desee. El hablar me ayuda a expresar mis sentimientos para poder enfrentar lo que me está pasando.

Deja que me quede en silencio cuando lo desee. A veces no tengo suficiente energía y deseo tu compañía en silencio. Tu presencia puede ser de mucho apoyo.

Continúa con tus llamadas y visitas. El apoyo consistente es más

valioso que el poner toda la atención al principio.

Ofrece tu ayuda para cuidar a mis hijos. Los niños necesitan un resceso de mi enfermedad y los momentos privados con mi cónyuge son muy valiosos.

Ven de compras conmigo. Sorprender a mi familia con regalos inesperados me produce satisfacción.

Brinda apoyo a mi familia. Yo estoy enfermo(a), pero ellos también están sufriendo. Ayúdalos a desahogar su ira.

Continúa siendo mi amigo(a). No permitas que mi enfermedad borre todos los momentos bonitos que hemos compartido. Somos amigos y puedes admitir que también es difícil para ti.

En el futuro, esta columna le presentará otras sugerencias que le ayudarán a tratar con enfermedades, pérdidas y sufrimientos. Mucha de la información proviene de las propias personas con enfermedades mortales.

Si su iglesia o sinagoga desea usar esta información debe solicitar permiso a la Fundación del Hospicio ("Hospice Foundation").

La Fundación del Hospicio es una agencia de beneficencia pública dedicada a la enseñanza de la filosofía de los hospicios. Para más información llame gratuitamente al 1-800-854-3402 o escriba a Hospice Foundation, Dept. NU 4 S.E. 3rd Ave., #1220, Miami, FL 33131

Jack D. Gordon es Presidente de la Fundación del Hospicio y Ex-senador del estado de Florida.

EN EL HOGAR

Problemas ... Soluciones ... Mejoras

News USA

(NU) - Para los dueños de hogares que han pagado una pequeña fortuna por instalaciones eléctricas sencillas, la idea de interruptores eléctricos de pared o timbres inalámbricos es tentadora.

Y para las personas con pisos que rechinan constantemente, un sistema de reparación simple sería ideal.

De hecho, productos para corregir éstos y otros miles de problemas están disponibles en el mercado. El truco es encontrarlos. Finalmente, se han recopilado alrededor de 300 inventos útiles en un catálogo.

El nuevo catálogo "Mejoras" ("Improvements") es publicado regularmente. Lectores del catálogo han descubierto productos tales como un aparato para localizar el cortacircuitos correcto sin tener que

adivinar, y un atomizador que se esmera con cualquier movimiento para evitar la formación de grietas en las paredes.

Ellos también encontraron un químico que evita que la madera se pudra y restaura la integridad de su estructura. También incluye un surtidor de agua de alta velocidad para limpiar las tuberías tapadas con la presión del agua de su hogar.

Estos productos hacen que las tareas que puede hacer usted mismo sean más atractivas. El editor y presidente del catálogo, Coy Clement, asegura que muchas personas que nunca han hecho reparaciones dirán: "Esto parece fácil. Estoy dispuesto a intentarlo". "Improvements" está disponible gratuitamente al llamar al 1-800-642-2112, Dept. NU.

SEGURIDAD

Cómo Disminuir la Exposición de sus Niños al Plomo

News USA

(NU) - La salud de sus niños puede ser afectada por la exposición al plomo.

El plomo en el agua potable se ha convertido en una preocupación seria. Sin embargo, el 90 por ciento de la exposición de plomo en los niños proviene de otras fuentes, tales como pinturas caseras y tierra. Según la Asociación Nacional de Agua Rural ("National Rural Water Association"), su sistema local de agua está haciendo lo posible para disminuir la exposición de plomo en el agua potable. Sin embargo, usted

también puede ayudar siguiendo los siguientes pasos.

Deje correr el agua siempre. Cuando abra la llave del agua deje que el agua corra por uno o dos minutos antes de usarla para beber o cocinar.

Asegúrese de que usa agua fría. Nunca use el agua caliente de la llave del agua para cocinar o preparar fórmula de bebés.

Revise las tuberías de su hogar. Inspeccione las tuberías para ver si tienen plomo en las soldaduras o tubos.

SERVICIOS GRATUITOS

Información a Través de Llamadas Telefónicas

News USA

(NU) - ¿Es usted una de las millones de personas en búsqueda de trabajo? Responder a anuncios de periódicos todavía funciona. Sin embargo, su resumé tiene que resaltar entre los demás debido a la extrema competencia del mercado de empleo actual. La compañía "National Ad Search Inc." publica un periódico semanal de 88 páginas con más de 2,000 anuncios de empleos de 75 periódicos de la nación, y consejos para una búsqueda de empleo exitosa. Para obtener una edición gratuita del "National Ad Search", llame al 1-800-992-2832. (News USA).

La Biblia es un libro que ha permanecido vigente por décadas. Para información sobre el trabajo de la Sociedad Americana de Biblia ("American Bible Society") y de su programa de radio "El Libro Abierto" ("The Open Book"), llame al 1-800-322-4253. (News USA).

La Red Federal de Información ("Federal Information Network, FIN") ayuda a inversionistas a encontrar propiedades federales ejecutadas a precios módicos. El servicio incluye propiedades residenciales, comerciales y lotes de terrenos. Para información de cómo suscribirse a "FIN", comuníquese con la Red de Información de Negocios ("Business Information Network"), una compañía privada que maneja esta red del gobierno. Llame al 1-800-9000REO. (News USA).

El sistema de procesamiento de voz digital "Digital Express", creado por la compañía "Dictaphone", permite que los policías procesen reportes de DWI en 45 minutos. Lo que representa un ahorro de más de dos horas. Para más información, llame al 1-800-447-7749. (News USA).

La compañía de salud y ejercicios "Form-You-3 Body Improvement Center" ha añadido dos nuevos servicios a su programa de bajar de peso: un programa de ejercicios y bronceados en interiores. Para información sobre oportunidades de franquicias de "Form-You-3 Body Improvement Centers", llame al 1-800-525-6315. (News USA).

Científicos de la compañía "Innovative Formulations Corporation" han desarrollado un nuevo material para techos de efectividad energética para uso comercial y residencial. Este techado de bajo costo disminuye las cuentas de calefacción y aire acondicionado. También es fácil de usar e instalar, sea por profesionales o dueños de propiedades. Para información gratuita sobre el nuevo material para techos, llame al 1-800-346-7263, extensión NR. (News USA)

Por tercer año consecutivo el programa para personas con epilepsia "Parke-Davis Epilepsy Scholarship Program" demostrará que los estudiantes con epilepsia pueden lograr éxito académico y llevar vidas normales y activas. En abril de 1994, 14 ganadores compartirán \$42,000 en becas por logros académicos y en actividades extracurriculares. Las solicitudes para las becas de 1994 deben ser completadas para el 1 de marzo de 1994, y las puede obtener llamando al 1-800-972-7503. (News USA)

Para obtener información sobre seguros médicos suplementarios para personas mayores de 50 años, llame al Programa de Seguros de Salud de Grupo de la AARP ("Group Health Insurance Program") al 1-800-523-5800, operador 185. (News USA)



Read It First In EL EDITOR Call: 763-3841

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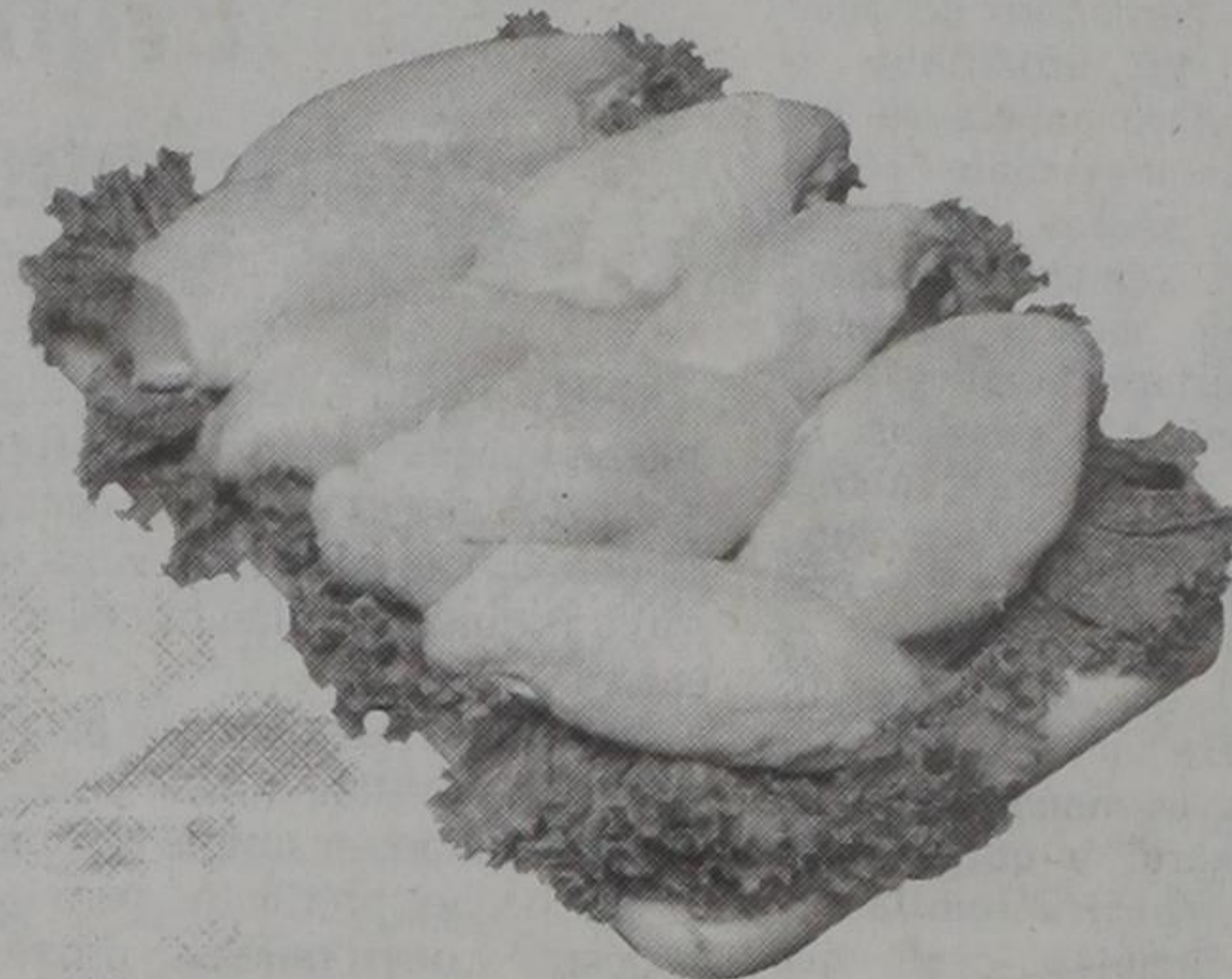
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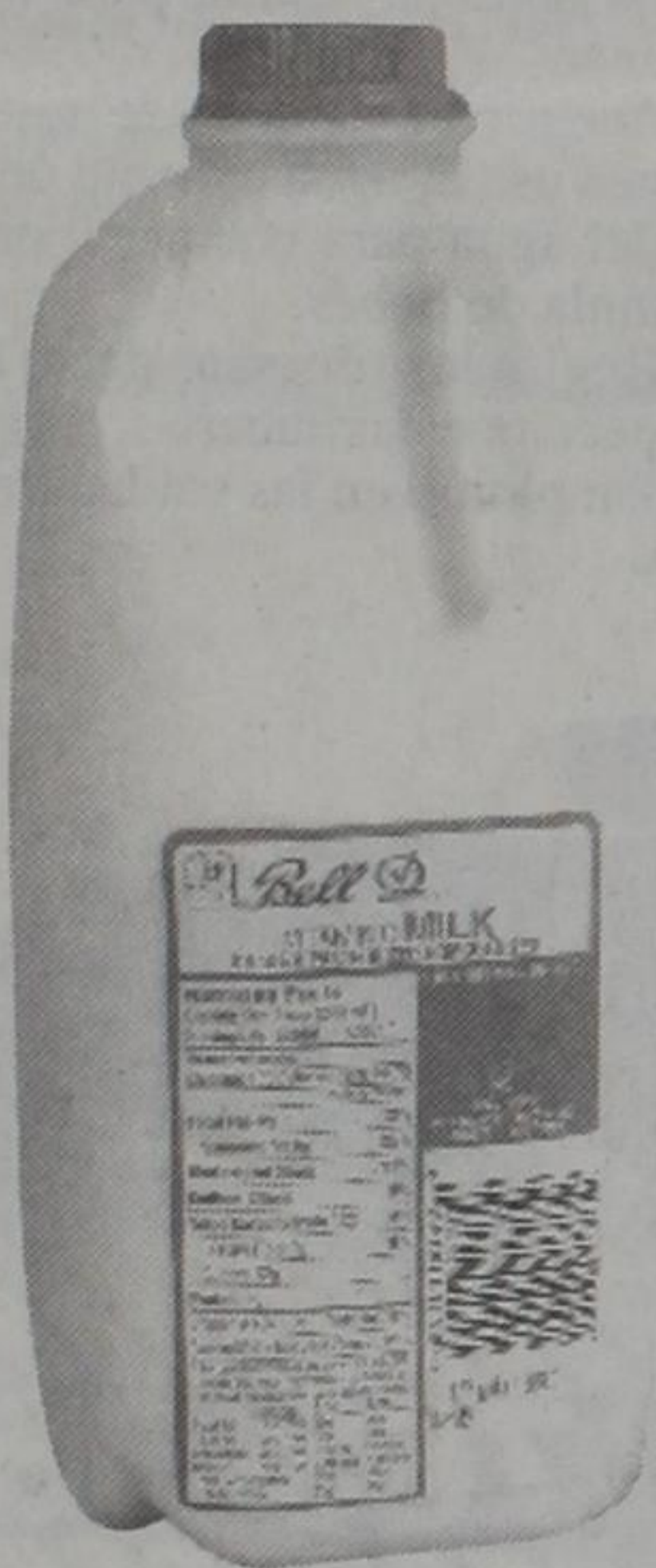
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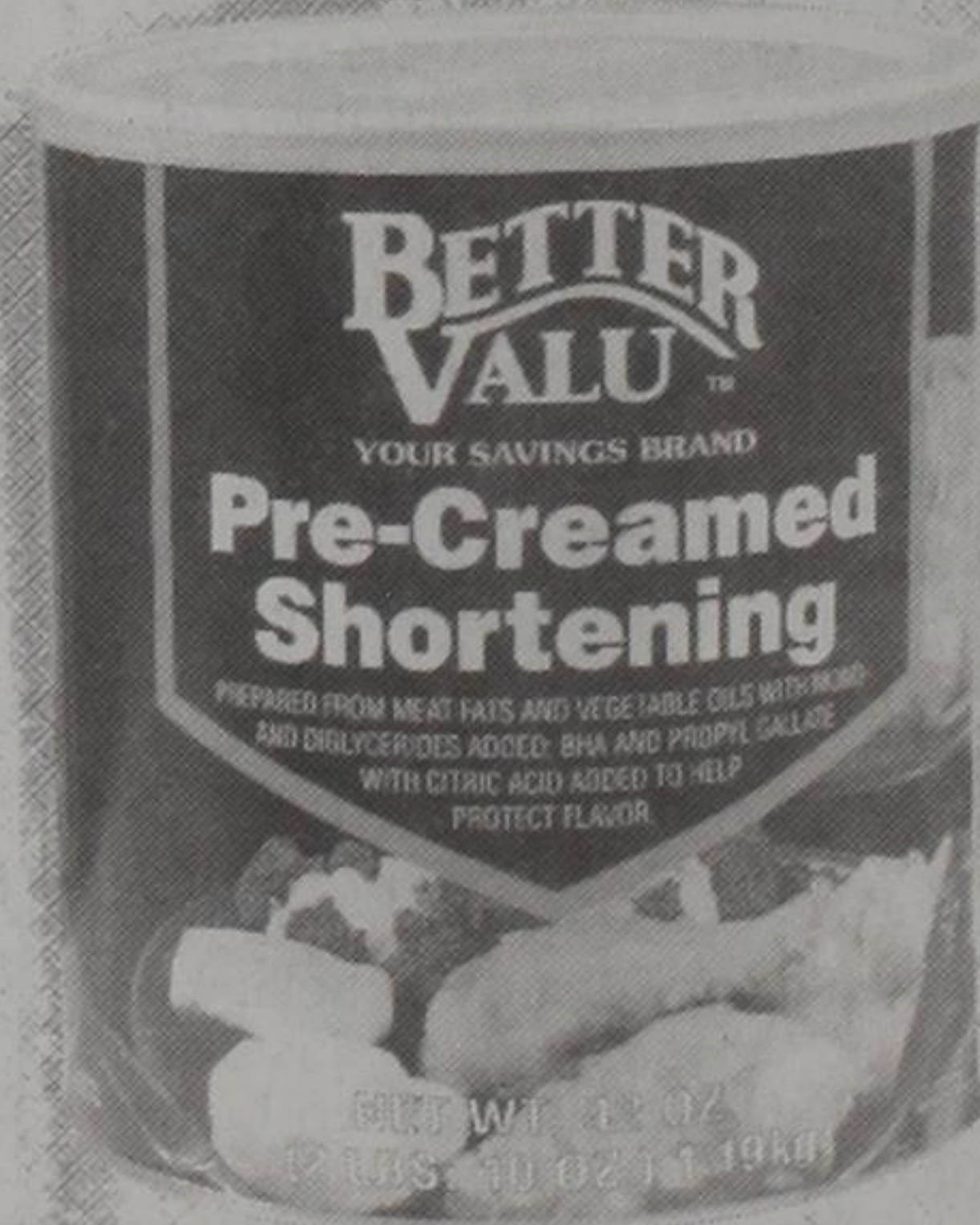
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