

Los Estudiantes Universitarios Latinos Reviven el Activismo del Decenio de 1960

Por Christian R. González

Por lo menos siete recintos importantes de colegios y universidades, desde Nueva York hasta California, han experimentado las explosiones del activismo chicano/latino en este año escolar, que han hecho recordar a los decenios de 1960 y 1970. Los estudiantes han realizado protestas eficaces utilizando huelgas de hambre, manifestaciones y ocupaciones pacíficas de edificios.

Muchos ven a esta renovación como una reacción a la muerte del fundador de los Trabajadores Agrícolas Unidos, César Chávez. Siguiendo sus pasos, tres organizaciones de estudiantes emplearon las huelgas de hambre

para hacer énfasis sobre las demandas de programas de estudios étnicos, prohibición de uvas en el recinto y más profesores latinos.

Philip Múntez, director regional occidental de la Comisión Estadounidense de los Derechos Civiles, sugiere que los activistas están comenzando a cobrar sobre los objetivos no cumplidos del decenio de 1960. "Los estudiantes están diciendo: 'Obtengamos lo que ustedes nos prometieron y no han cumplido. Ellos están poniéndose más firmes y haciendo cosas que nosotros nunca hicimos'. Hispanic Link News Service ha identificado acciones importantes de protesta en este año escolar en dos universidades de Cali-

fornia, además de una en cada uno de los estados de Colorado, Michigan, Nebraska, Nuevo México y Nueva York. En muchos casos, los inconformes latinos pudieron ganar el apoyo del profesorado y de los grupos de mujeres o estudiantes que no eran blancos.

"Si se estudia al movimiento del decenio de 1960, la única parte del mismo que estuvo verdaderamente unificada fué cuando los recintos se reunieron para vocalizar sus preocupaciones", dice Yvette Chavarria, presidenta del capítulo para la Universidad de Georgetown del Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán, en Washington, DC. "De otro modo, hubo acon-

tecimientos esporádicos en California, Tejas y Colorado. Lo mismo viene ocurriendo ahora. Hay un aumento de la conciencia, y con ésta viene la vocalización".

Chavarria pronosticó que los demostraciones aumentarán en el próximo curso académico.

Una encuesta reciente efectuada por la Asociación Hispana de Colegios y Universidades (HACU en inglés) identificó a más de 400 organizaciones latinas en los recintos. La presidenta de HACU, Laudelina Martínez, cree que aún cuando la cantidad de activistas estudiantiles latinos pueda no haber aumentado mucho, su refinamiento y ca-

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News Briefs

\$25M for Public Housing Tenant Groups

AP reports that \$25 million will go to 300 public housing resident groups through the Tenant Opportunities Program, which helps tenants develop and manage social service or economic programs for their communities. Last year, funds were awarded to 95 groups. Next year, there will be \$60 million available for tenant groups.

Under the program, tenant associations can take on some aspects of managing their properties, help residents launch small businesses or start job-training programs or day-care facilities. "We don't want a handout, but are willing to work hard ourselves," said Ann Clark, of the District of Columbia Resident Counsel Advisory Board. "If you want to get rid of welfare, this is the way to go."

Cisneros provided a briefing Thursday on his overall strategy for public housing. The strategy, Cisneros said, was drawn from residents and operators of public housing projects who suggested, among other things, demolishing high-rise projects and replacing them with apartments that had small yards, separate entrances and floor plans with personalized touches. Cisneros proposed putting \$1 billion in public housing modernization money toward this effort and suggested that residents be given an option of living anywhere else they choose. He also recommended that unemployed residents be exempt from rent increases for 18 months after finding work.

Allegations of Abuse in FmHA Programs

AP reports that Dick Durbin, D-IL, chairman of a House appropriations panel, charged that the Farmers Home Administration section 515 program is providing "lavish developer subsidies at a tremendous cost to taxpayers." Durbin said an investigation of the program shows that some developers "routinely milk" the federal treasury for millions of dollars in subsidies and tax credits to build housing that could have been constructed much more efficiently.

Both the loan-tax credit program and the rental assistance program were created in 1949 to improve the quality of rural housing. Last year, \$540 million was appropriated for the builders' loan program and \$446 million for rental assistance. Among the problems: Delinquent loans; Poor maintenance and civil rights violations; Location of projects in areas with inadequate public utilities and poor access to shopping and other services; and mismanagement of capital reserve accounts within the program.

Durbin said one case of abuse has been turned over the Justice Department for further investigation, but he would not give details. He said Congress should continue a program to provide low-cost rural housing, but reform the two FmHA programs.

Children Committing Violent Crimes

The New York Times reports that the rate of violent crime committed by young people is growing in both urban and rural areas, and that many criminologists expect the trend to continue. FBI statistics show that arrests of people under 18 for violent crime rose 47% from 1988 to 1992, even though overall violent crime has leveled off since 1990 and the number of teenagers have declined.

Bureau statistics also show that the rate of arrests for violent crimes rose twice as fast for young whites as among young blacks. Still, young blacks were arrested at five times the rate of young whites for violent crimes. Both groups, however, accounted for an equal number of violent crimes. The high rate of violent crime among blacks is linked to their high rate of poverty, said Dr. Mark Rosenberg, director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the CDC. "This is an American problem," Dr. Rosenberg said. In studies that take poverty into account he said, "the differences in the black rate of violent crime and the white rate almost go away."

The availability of guns has been a major factor in the rise of killings by juveniles, criminologists say. But there is also evidence that young people are more violent today than a decade ago even without weapons. FBI statistics show that young people committed twice as many assaults without a weapon in 1992 as in 1982, 143,368 to 73,987. Violence among the young is also growing at a time when a generation of neglected children born to poor teenage mothers is coming of age. And although adults, primarily those in their 20's and 30's account for the majority of all crimes, criminologists say crimes committed by young people can escalate of control because kids tend to act impulsively.

"Kids are the most dangerous criminals out there," said Charles Patrick Ewing, a lawyer and forensic psychologist at SUNY at Buffalo, and author of "Kids Who Kill." He said "many older armed robbers will say, 'Give up the money, and let you go,' Dr. Ewing said. "A kid may or may not kill you depending upon the whim of the moment. Many kids feel they don't have anything to lose. So taking someone's life is not that big a deal."

Others blame our culture and the media. Dr. James Garbarino, a child psychologist who is president of the Erikson Institute for Advanced Study in Child Development in Chicago says, "Television gives (children) a script to use to play out their internal problems." He says, "They're like little sponges. They soak up everything around them. The little ones think, 'You shoot people and they get up.' The others think, 'You shoot them and things are taken care of.'"

The teenage population is expected to rise by as much as 20% in the next 10 years and to grow by an even greater percentage among poorer minority teens. "There will be trouble ahead," said James Alan Fox, dean of criminal justice at Northeastern University, "and the problem is we're not planning for it. We are obsessed with quick, easy solutions that won't work, like waiving juveniles to adult court at the expense of difficult solutions."

Head Start Funding Questions

The Washington Post reports that as President Clinton signed the Head Start bill yesterday, appropriations commit-

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Established
Establecido
1977
*El respeto al
derecho ajeno
es la paz*
Lic. Benito Juárez



EL EDITOR

West Texas' Oldest Weekly Bilingual Newspaper

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University Students Revive Activism of 60's

By Christian R. González

At least seven major college and university campuses from New York to California have experienced explosions of Chicano/Latino activism reminiscent of the 1960s and 1970s this school year. The

students have staged effective protests employing hunger strikes, marches and sit-ins.

Many see the renewal as a response to the death of the United Farm Workers founder César Chávez. Following in his steps, three student or-

ganizations used hunger strikes to emphasize demands for ethnic studies programs, campuswide grape bans and more Latino faculty.

Philip Múntez, Western regional director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, suggests that the activists are calling due some unkept promises of the 1960s. "Students are saying, 'Let's get what you promised us that you haven't delivered.' They are getting tougher and doing things we never did."

There have been significant protest actions this school year at two California universities, plus others in Colorado, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico and New York. In many instances, the Latino dissidents were able to gain support from faculty members and women's or nonwhite student groups.

"If you study the movement of the 1960s, the only part of it that was truly unified was when the campuses came together to voice their concerns," says Ivette Chavarria, president of the Georgetown University chapter of the Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán in Washington, D.C. "Otherwise, there were sporadic events in California, Tejas y Colorado. The same is happening now. There is a growth in awareness, and with that comes vocalization."

Chavarria predicts the demonstrations will increase in the coming school year.

A recent survey by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities identified more than 400 Latino campus organizations. HACU President Laudelina Martínez believes that while the number of Latino student activists may not have increased much, their sophistication and ability to use the political system has.

"In the Southwest it used to be Chicano. Now it's Chicano/Latino. There is a consciousness to include Central Americans and other groups," she says, noting that students are lobbying more for curriculum changes than civil rights protections.

Ricardo Fernández, president of Lehman College in New York City, calls the resurgence "directly proportional to the level of economic distress that the system finds itself in -- or the level of opportunity that becomes available when you want to have a say in policy-making."

The protest actions included: -- At Stanford University, four Chicanos and one Chicano staged a three-day hunger strike over the Cinco de Mayo

holiday. They demanded reinstatement of Cecilia Burciaga, a prominent Latina associate dean whose position was eliminated; a Chicano studies degree program; a campuswide boycott of grapes; and a service center for the surrounding Hispanic community. After negotiations with administration officials, they were promised the Chicano studies program. The university agreed to the formation of a committee to review most of the other demands.

-- At the University of California-Santa Barbara, nine Chicanos ended a nine-day hunger strike May 6. They had sought a doctoral Chicano degree program, a community service center, the hiring of 15 full-time Chicano faculty members, and a campus ban on grapes. They won seven new faculty members to be employed by 1997-98. The doctoral program will be put on fast track for the academic senate to decide; grapes, as a menu item, will be banned;

the school will actively seek funding for a community service center; and a moratorium on cuts to the Equal Opportunity Program has been implemented.

"This is a victory, a small victory in a longer step we have to take to follow on each demand," said Abel Gutiérrez, chair of El Congreso, the coordinating student group.

-- At the University of Michigan, members of MEChA and Culturas de La Raza Unidas participated in demonstrations and protests. They sought a building named after Chávez, a mural depicting farm-worker life, Chicano/Boricua (Puerto Rican) studies, and a campus ban on grapes. They won \$250,000 in scholarship grant monies in memory of Chávez, a reading room in the main library named for Chávez, the mural and the ethnic studies.

Mónica Elicerio, treasurer of CRU, said the organization is pushing education on farm-worker issues by showing the UFW video "No Grapes." "We are unwilling to accept a 'no' on the grape boycott," she said.

The school will host a Sept. 23 conference for all Latino student organizations in the state. "We will draft a statewide agenda based on our concerns," she said.

-- At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, members of the Mexican American Students Association are continuing a boycott they launched Feb. 3 against the school's Of-

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Habla Aburto Martínez

Estado de México - Mario Aburto Martínez, asesino confeso del candidato presidencial oficialista Luis Donald Colosio, afirmó que cometió el crimen "de manera accidental", en la ampliación de sus declaraciones ante la Fiscalía que



investiga el caso.

Segun las autoridades, Aburto, de 23 años de edad, dijo ante un juez de la carcel de máxima seguridad de almoloya de Juárez, donde se encuentra recluso, de haber privado de la vida al licenciado Luis Donald Colosio de manera accidental al momento en que recibió una patada.

La Procuraduría General de la República informó que Aburto, "hizo imputaciones de conductas falsas, ya que expresó que un agente le transmitió un supuesto mensaje del presidente de la Republica (Carlos Salinas de Gortari), según el cual el presidente ofreció ayudarle a cambio de que declarase que un partido político le había pagado por cometer el delito".

La dependencia explicó que debido al cambio en las declaraciones de Aburto, se ordenó "ampliar la acción penal... por haber incurrido en imputaciones falsas que constituyen falsedad de declaración rendida ante la autoridad judicial".

De acuerdo a las investigaciones preliminares, Aburto disparó en dos ocasiones contra Luis Donald Colosio al finalizar un mitin proselitista en la ciudad fronteriza de Tijuana.

Uno de los tiros, que resultó fatal, fue hecho a quemarropa a la sien derecha y el segundo al costado izquierdo.

De acuerdo con las declaraciones de Aburto, el asesinato fue meramente accidental, pues al querer acercarse al candidato oficialista, alguien lo pateó, lo que le hizo perder el equilibrio, por lo que accionó accidentalmente el gatillo de su arma, una pistola calibre .38.

Aburto indicó que ya había dicho "toda la verdad" y amenazó que si ésta no era aceptada, entonces "comenzaría a mentir".

El presunto asesino puntualizó que había sido golpeado y amedrentado para que declarara cuestiones diferentes a la verdad. Sin embargo, insistió en declarar que el asesinato lo cometió él solo, sin ayuda, per que fue "accidental".

La Fiscalía comentó posteriormente que estas nuevas declaraciones de Aburto se contradicen en las primeras que realizó, por los que proseguirá la indagatoria para aplicarle todo el vigor de la ley.

Por otra parte, uno de los presuntos implicados en el asesinato de Colosio, el cual fue aprehendido y luego librado en relación al crimen, negó estar involucrado en el homicidio ocurrido el 23 de marzo.

Rodolfo Rivapalacio, miembro del gobernante Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI) en la ciudad fronteriza de Tijuana, dijo a la prensa que efectivamente "invito" a otros de los detenidos en el caso a participar en el operativo de seguridad de Colosio.

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El Inolvidable Richard Nixon, Desbaratador de Sindicatos

Por Dick Meister

Puedo verlo ahora. Es 1968. Está en una asamblea de la campaña presidencial, dejando caer alegremente uvas en su boca para significar su oposición al boicot contra las uvas de California -- el arma indispensable de los trabajadores agrícolas, la mayoría de ellos hispanos, que estaban luchando para escapar de las privaciones económicas y sociales graves.

Nada ilustra mejor la verdadera naturaleza de Richard Nixon. No era sino un ejemplo del apoyo firme que dió durante su carrera a los intereses comerciales agrícolas que sujetaban a sus empleados a las circunstancias de trabajo y de vida más miserables.

Otros pueden tener sentimientos mezclados sobre el legado de Nixon -- pero no los trabajadores agrícolas, ni cualquier otra persona a quien le preocupen la justicia y la equidad.

Su enfoque del boicot fué típico del enfoque tortuoso de Nixon a los asuntos políticos en general.

El boicot se encaminaba a obligar a los cultivadores de uvas a permitir que los empleados votaran acerca de si querían ser representados por un sindicato que negociaría con los cultivadores para fijar sus circunstancias de pago y de trabajo.

Nixon, no obstante, declaró que el boicot era innecesario -- e ilegal -- porque "tenemos leyes en los libros para proteger a los trabajadores que de-

seen organizarse ... una Junta Nacional de Relaciones Laborales para supervisar imparcialmente la elección de los agentes de la negociación colectiva y para salvaguardar el derecho de los organizadores".

Lo que no dijo Nixon fué que los trabajadores agrícolas están excluidos de esas leyes. El, en efecto, había sido miembro de un sub-comité congresional que había recomendado la continuación de su exclusión después de las audiencias celebradas durante una huelga de trabajadores agrícolas en California 19 años antes.

Pero la verdad no era de mucho interés para Nixon. El estaba mucho más interesado en respaldar a sus aliados contrarios a los trabajadores y en apoderarse de una oportunidad para criticar a su opositor presidencial demócrata, Hubert Humphrey, por apoyar "la infracción de la ley" al considerar al boicot como el único modo de que los trabajadores obtuvieran el derecho a la sindicalización.

Como presidente, Nixon no pasó por alto la exclusión de los trabajadores agrícolas de la Ley Nacional de Relaciones Laborales. El había dicho durante la campaña que "la ley debe aplicarse a todos por igual". Una vez electo, él maniobró para aplicarla en efecto a los trabajadores agrícolas al invocar la disposición contra los boicots secundarios. Eso evitó que los miembros de los sindicatos agrícolas que estaban com-

prendidos en la ley piquetearan y de otro modo trataran de hacer que los supermercados dejaran de vender uvas.

Las gestiones de Nixon eran parte de una campaña que se centraba en una "Ley de Protección de los Alimentos para los Consumidores", presentada con su respaldo entusiasta por un amigo muy especial de los negocios agrícolas, el Senador George Murphy, republicano de California.

La medida fué descrita exactamente por el Representante Phillip Burton, demócrata de San Francisco, como "uno de los peores proyectos de ley para desbaratar a los sindicatos en el siglo XX". El mismo habría ilegalizado el boicot, habría ilegalizado el ir a la huelga en cualquier momento que pudiera perjudicar a un cultivador y habría situado a las relaciones laborales agrícolas bajo el control de una junta presidencial.

El proyecto de ley fracasó, pero les sucedió lo mismo a los proyectos de ley presentados por los demócratas para extender la Ley Nacional de Relaciones Laborales en su total a los trabajadores agrícolas.

Las ventas nacionales de uvas continuaron disminuyendo mientras tanto. Eso impulsó a Nixon a acudir a su Departamento de la Defensa,

que encontró que tenía el deber patriótico de aprovechar la disponibilidad de grandes cantidades de uvas a precios rebajados.

En el espacio de un año, las compras de uvas del departamento aumentaron en más de 4 millones de libras, en parte debido a un aumento del 350% en los embarques a las tropas estadounidenses que se hallaban en Viet-Nam. Ese volumen se elevó a 2.5 millones de libras -- suficientes uvas como para suministrar ocho libras a cada miembro de las fuerzas armadas.

Nixon se mantuvo inmutable durante todo su tiempo en la Casa Blanca. El también trató después de socavar a los boicots contra el vino y la lechuga, a las huelgas posteriores, a todas las tentativas de los trabajadores agrícolas para ganar los derechos básicos concedidos desde hacía mucho tiempo a los demás trabajadores, los derechos básicos que todavía se les denegaban.

Por eso, Richard Nixon merece que se le recuerde, pero no con honor.

(Dick Meister, escritor de San Francisco, es co-autor de "A Long Time Coming: The Struggle to Unionize America's Farm Workers" -- Macmillan.)

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The Unforgettable Union Busting Richard Nixon

By Dick Meister

I can see him now. It's 1968. He's at a presidential campaign rally, gleefully plopping grapes into his mouth to signify his opposition to the California grape boycott -- the essential weapon of farm workers, most of them Hispanic, who were struggling to escape severe economic and social deprivation.

Nothing better illustrated the true character of Richard Nixon. It was but one example of the firm support he gave throughout his career to the agribusiness interests who subjected their employees to the most miserable of working and living conditions.

Others may have mixed feelings about Nixon's legacy -- but not farm workers, and not anyone else who's concerned with justice and equality.

His approach to the boycott was typical of Nixon's devious approach to political issues generally.

The boycott was aimed at forcing grape growers to allow employees to vote on whether to be represented by a union that would bargain with the growers on setting their pay and working conditions.

Nixon, however, declared that the boycott was unnecessary -- and illegal -- because "we have laws on the books to protect workers who wish to organize ... a National Labor Relations Board to impartially supervise the election of collective bargaining agents, and to safeguard the right of organizers."

What Nixon did not say was that farm workers are excluded from those laws. He, in fact, had been a member of a congressional subcommittee that had recommended their continued exclusion after hearings held during a farm-workers' strike in California 19 years earlier.

But the truth was not of much interest to Nixon. He was far more interested in backing his anti-worker allies and in seizing an opportunity to condemn his Democratic presidential opponent, Hubert Humphrey, for supporting "lawbreaking" by considering the boycott as the only way for farm workers to win union rights.

As President, Nixon didn't overlook the farm-workers' exclusion from the National Labor Relations Act. He had said during the campaign that "the law must be applied

equally to all." Once elected, he moved to, in effect, apply it to farm workers by invoking the provision against secondary boycotts. That kept members of non-farm unions that were covered by the law from picketing and otherwise trying to get supermarkets to quit selling grapes.

Nixon's efforts were part of a campaign that centered on a "Consumer Food Protection Act" introduced with his enthusiastic backing by another very special friend of agribusiness, Republican Sen. George Murphy, the song-and-dance man from California.

The measure was described accurately by Democratic Rep. Phillip Burton of San Francisco as "one of the worst union-busting bills of the 20th century." It would have outlawed the boycott, made it illegal to strike at any time a grower could be hurt and put farm labor relations under control of a presidential board. The legislation failed, but so did bills by Democrats to extend the National Labor Relations Act in its entirety to farm workers.

Domestic grape sales meanwhile continued to plummet. That prompted Nixon to call on his Department of Defense, which found it had a patriotic duty to take advantage of the availability of large quantities of grapes at lowered prices.

Within a year, the department's grape purchases shot up by more than 4 million pounds, partly because of an increase of 350 percent in shipments to U.S. troops in Vietnam. That volume rose to 2.5 million pounds -- enough grapes to provide 8 pounds to each and every serviceman and woman.

Nixon remained steadfast throughout his entire time in the White House. He also tried to undermine later wine and lettuce boycotts, the later strikes, all of the farm-workers' attempts to win the basic rights long granted other workers, the basic rights still denied them.

For that, Richard Nixon deserves to be remembered, but not with honor.

(Dick Meister, a San Francisco writer, is co-author of "A Long Time Coming: The Struggle to Unionize America's Farm Workers" -- Macmillan.)

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Crazy Horse

By Stephen C. McIntyre

It is starting to look like that the Northeast Overton site for the proposed new arena is the choice of the powers-that-be. It was reported in Sunday's Avalanche-Journal that such a move would displace 500 households. I lived in North Overton for several years. It is not populated by rich folks. The 10% or so who own their homes will be bought out, but the rest of the folks are renters. While the owners will get the money, the 450 or so households that rent will get nothing except the opportunity to pack their bags and search for affordable housing for their families. It should be noted that it was also reported on Sunday that the head of the Housing Authority believed the hundreds of renters would be eligible to be placed at the top of the waiting list for rental assistance since they would be displaced.

It sure looks like the deal is being done by the powers-that-be.

All of this raises some questions. Isn't the housing authority waiting list already closed for this year because there are so many folks applying for rental assistance? Will those people already on the list be knocked off? After we bulldoze all that old housing in Northeast Overton, where will the renters go to find affordable housing to rent? Is it being build somewhere? Why would anyone spend money to buy up people's homes and then tear them down just to build a controversial arena when it can be built on vacant land and save millions? Why...?

"Homeless: Information on and Barriers to Assistance Programs Providing Foreclosed Property." Free (202)512-6000.

"Developing Affordable Housing: A primer for CHDOs (and other CDC's and Not-for-profit Organizations). Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. \$32, (512)475-1245.

When you get a chance send a letter to your local elected minority officials and community leaders. They need to know that you support them when they stand up against the powers-that-be in Lubbock. It takes guts to do the right thing. But even the strongest of our minority leaders may weaken under the enormous pressures to compromise or to turn a blind eye to something that is wrong.

Write them a letter when they speak out or when they stand alone on a vote. Write them a letter to tell them you appreciate their courage, integrity, and honesty. Do it once a month. Do it tonight.

Watch "I'll Fly Away" at 7:00 on Monday nights on PBS, Channel 5.

- 5/15 1969 People's Park uprising, Berkeley, Ca.
- 1970 Mississippi highway patrolmen kill two and wound 11 at Jackson State College.
- 1972 Nixon's lawyer, Charles Colson, proposes breaking into George Wallace-attacker Arthur Bremer's apartment and planting left-wing literature.
- 5/16 1970 Armed Forces Day protests closes 23 military bases.
- 5/17 1954 Brown v. Board of Education
- 5/19 1925 Malcolm X born
- 1942 Order issued preventing Japanese-American evacuees from leaving relocation camps.

As the story was told by Saul Alinsky, a young seminarian asked him. "Mr. Alinsky, before we came here we met and agreed that there was one question we particularly wanted to put to you. We're going to be ordained, and then we'll be assigned to different parishes, as assistants to reactionary, old pastors. They will disapprove of a lot of what you and we believe in, and we will be put into a killing routine. Our question is: how do we keep our faith in true Christian values and everything we hope to do to change the system?"

That was easy according to Alinsky, He answered, "When you go through that door today, just make your own personal decision about whether you want to be a bishop or a priest, and everything else will follow."

My father will be retiring in a couple weeks. My mom and dad have worked hard all their lives to care for my brothers and I and, more important, to teach us to work hard, tell the truth, and do the right thing. For the most part they were successful, perhaps to a fault. anyway, they have earned a rest. But only for a little while. They will be spending more time passing on their lessons to their grandchildren.

"This Old House"

Midnight, that old clock keeps ticking.
The kids are all asleep and I', walking the floor.
Darlin' I can see that you're dreaming,
....

This old house of ours is built on dreams
And a business man don't know what that means.
There's a swing outside the kids play on every day
and tomorrow morning a man from the bank's
Gonna come and take it all away

by Neil Young

Stephen c. McIntyre is a Lubbock lawyer.

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Smithsonian's Weak Focus on Hispanics

The New York Times reports that a task force says the Smithsonian Institute has done poorly in hiring and promoting Hispanic people and has virtually ignored Hispanic contributions to U.S. art, culture and science.

The 15-member panel, which was appointed by the institute, said the Smithsonian "displays a pattern of willful neglect toward the estimated 25 million Latinos in the United States." Nine percent

of the U.S. population is Hispanic and they were the first Europeans to settle in the Western Hemisphere, yet the Smithsonian has no museum or permanent exhibition that highlights Hispanic-American art, culture or history, said the task force. The panel also found that only 2 of the institutions' 145 museum curators are Hispanic and that Hispanic employees constitute less than 1% of the Smithsonian's top management. Their report also noted that no Hispanic person ever served on the institution's governing body.

NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE

by Eliseo Solis

Oligarchy - A government in which a small group exercises control, especially for corrupt and selfish purposes.

More on Montford

Senator John Montford's efforts to dictate the political direction for Lubbock is alarming; even more alarming is his role in trying to dictate who should represent the Chicano community. Let's review some history. Around 1985, a group of community leaders (Oligarchy) and elected officials were transported to a Legislative session in Austin by the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce. The issue of the East-West freeway was discussed and I expressed my opposition because of how, in my opinion, it would ruin "El Barrio" thereby diluting our political clout. Note: The East-West Freeway will probably be renamed the John T. Montford Freeway eventually. We'll have to wait 15 to 20 years to see if this will come to pass. This along with other issues, such as my opposition to the Prison in east Lubbock, my attacks on his protégé Travis Ware etc., caused me to lose favor with the Honorable, resulting in the manipulation of one Gilbert Flores. Deny it as he so whiningly does, an eyewitness was present when Flores and Montford were discussing the trip to Austin.

Now I understand that Councilman Victor Hernandez made some remarks about the East-West Freeway that did not please the Senator, therefore; his (Montford) active support of the other candidate in the runoff, Richard Lopez. This coupled with the Senator's aloof and unconvincing opposition to the appointment of Ramon Gallegos to the District Court bench should cause us to review our unconditional and blind support to someone whose support for our Chicano community is not reciprocal. Someday we might review Montford's voting record in Austin to confirm if in fact, he does vote favorably for Chicanos. Correct me if I'm wrong but he voted against a proposed settlement of the District Court case that would have given Lubbock the single-member scheme for electing judges. Even more disgusting though, are the reported actions by Senator Montford's houseboy, Lorenzo Sedeño Jr. Sedeño, it seems, is going around spouting the rumor that Gallegos is trying to blackmail Montford. Could this really be true? ...Somebody help me!

Victor Hernandez deserves more of a chance to prove his capabilities, but the fact still remains that the City of Lubbock is without any Chicanos at the management level. Of the twelve managing positions, all are occupied by anglos, two by anglo females. A most outrageous facet of this issue, was the fact that when an opportunity offered itself for the city to rectify this injustice, a blatant affront to our community took place. When two Hispanic candidates were the finalists for the Managing Director position of Community Development, the City under the cover of re-organization and without prior evaluation, placed these departments under the Health Department in a clever move to deny "Hispanic" representation at the Managing Director level. Does this make any sense? Once again, Somebody please help me!

El propósito de los discursos contenidos en esta columna, no son para desprestigiar a individuos o instituciones. Nuestra comunidad tiene el derecho de exigir representación equitativa y sin condiciones. Muchos de nuestros líderes y electos se han metido a lo que se llama eufóricamente "la Política" con uno o dos propósitos: 1) para sentir el orgullo de poder ser reconocidos públicamente y llamados "honorable" o 2) avanzar las propias carreras u oportunidades económicas a costas del bienestar de la comunidad. Sin duda, lo anterior ocurre, pero cuando esas razones existen como prioridades singulares y resultamos acomodados a la oligarquía, hay es donde nos joden.

Battle Lost but a War Won for South Africa's Blacks

By James Flannery

BLOOD RIVER, South Africa, May 18 (Reuter) - Tribal warriors with spears lost to superior-armed white forces at Blood River but it turned out to be just one battle in a war that blacks finally won in South Africa.

This is the desolate place that gave the world the Afrikaner word "laager," a defensive circle of wagons that turned out to be more a closed state of mind than a military doctrine.

A humiliating defeat here for blacks dogged South Africa's majority population during white rule. But it inspired the liberation struggle of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress which took power in all-race elections last month.

War memorials litter South Africa's colonial battlefields, like Blood River, but hardly any honour the "other side" - valiant black fighters.

"I think in the next couple of years we shall see the appearance of solid tributes to black military feats," says military historian David Rattray, an expert on the Zulu wars.

At present the victories and defeats of South Africa's warrior tribe of Zulus, the nation's largest black group still with a pivotal role, go without much public acknowledgement.

Grandiose marble, stone and steel relics pay tribute just to the white troops, Afrikaner and British, slain in clashes of the West's 19th century "scramble for Africa."

To the closed-minds of white supremacists, heroism was for European soldiers - their opponents were merely "bloodthirsty savages," honoured in only a couple of places, at Rorke's Drift, a British victory, and at Ulundi, where the British finally smashed the Zulu nation.

Among the most extraordinary memorials in the world



CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA.. "South Africa, we love you, our beautiful land," sang the crowd as the nation first black president of South Africa, Nelson Mandela was sworn in after emerging from prison four years ago. Mandela, who is 75 years old, has promised a South Africa for all its people, black and white.

"Our plan is to create jobs, promote peace and reconciliation and to guarantee freedom for all South Africans. We place our vision of a new constitutional order for South Africa on the table, not as conquerors, prescribing to the conquered," he said.

is a full-scale metal reconstruction, on the sunbaked plains of Kwazulu-Natal, of a Boer fighting laager.

Built to last centuries, here is a colossal ring of 64 replica ox-wagons, made of cast-steel, overlaid with bronze - an almost unbelievable sight on remote grassland in the former Zululand, about 350 km (210 miles) southeast of Johannesburg.

This is a well-spring for Afrikanerdom, marking a so-called Day of the Vow when Boer trekkers pledged eternal dedication to God if granted victory over their Zulu foes.

They had just a week to wait. They drew their wagons lashed together into a tight circle on the banks of the Ncome river, a tributary of the Thukela. And at dawn on December 16, 1838, they were attacked by 10,000 Zulu warriors.

Backed by cannons, the Boers, each armed with five

muskets reloaded by their wives, dispersed the warriors, killing 3,000 Zulus. Only three of 470 trekkers were wounded, none fatally.

Not a single Zulu got closer than 10 metres (yards) of the laager. In three hours of carnage, the adjacent river ran red with blood - hence the name given by the Boers, Blood River.

It confirmed their belief in a God-given destiny in pushing into a Promised Land - though some historians doubt the authenticity of the vow which made December 16 the most sacred day in the Afrikaner calendar.

True or false, there is nothing at the Blood River monument to honour the extreme bravery of spear-carrying Zulu warriors, cut down by superior weapons in repeated charges.

It was an early milestone in a series of settler wars, ending in the 1879 British victory

at Ulundi, capital of the Kwazulu former black homeland. The battles marked one of history's greatest challenges offered by an indigenous population to advancing Europeans.

Now, with the assumption of power of the black majority, the war - from these bush battlefields through townships such as Sharpeville past conquerors' instruments of oppression like apartheid - is

over. "The European conquest has been reversed," wrote white South African editor Ken Owen. "The voting undid the outcome of nine frontier wars and innumerable skirmishes. The Great Trek was stripped of symbolism..."

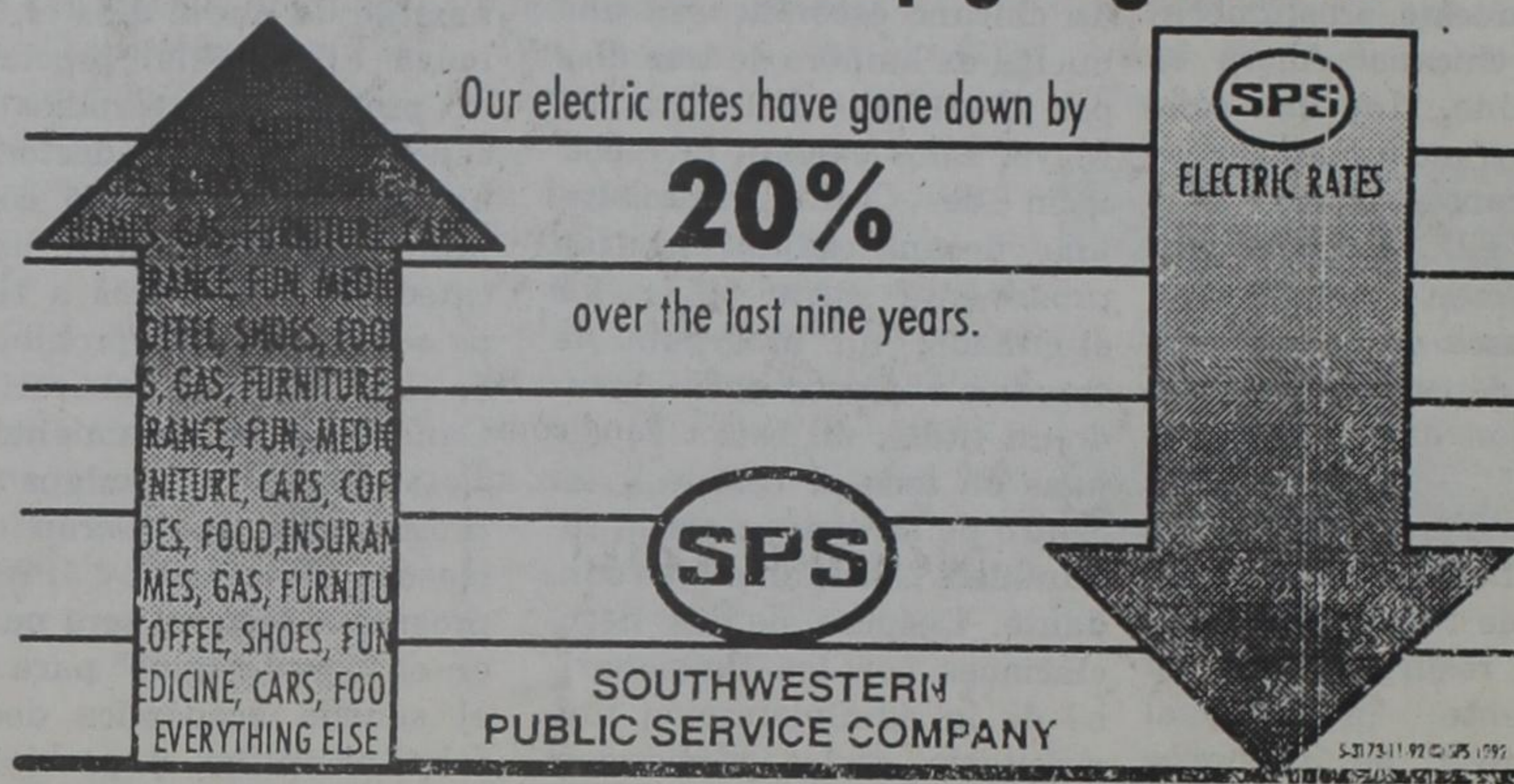
"This election has liberated black South Africans, not only from the oppressions of apartheid, or even from white rule, but from a crushing history of three centuries of defeat and humiliation."

"Blood River and Ulundi are merely lost battles in a victorious war, mere setbacks, like Dunkirk for Britain or Pearl Harbour for Americans."

Already here the mystique of the "Vow" seems on the wane. On a public holiday it drew only a few visitors. Zulu children sold carvings of buffaloes, their spread horns marking the classic Zulu tactic of frontal assault and encirclement.

The whites in their laager, despite superior weapons and resources, finally were overtaken by greater numbers.

While everything just keeps going up, our electric rates keep going down!



Aburto - Viene de la Primera

El candidato presidencial fue abatido durante un mitin proselitista en el barrio pobre de Lomas Taurinas.

Otras tres personas además de Aburto permanecen detenidas por ayudarlo a matar a colosio; Tranquilino Sánchez Venegas, Vicente Mayoral Valenzuela y el hijo de éste, Rodolfo Mayoral Esquer. Dos individuos más son buscados aún por las autoridades.

Según Rivapalacio, los miembros del comité municipal del PRI le pidieron coordinar parte del operativo de seguridad por lo que reunió a varios ex agentes de la Policía Judicial del estado de Baja California, entre ellos a Mayoral Valenzuela, quien le pidió que incluyera también a su hijo.

Agregó en un principio se le dijo que el mitin se iba a llevar a cabo en una zona residencial nueva de Tijuana, pero finalmente fue cambiado a

Lomas Taurinas, a lo que se opuso alegando que la zona era "muy insegura".

Explicó que rindió un informe indicando que era riesgoso realizar la manifestación en el lugar planeado, debido a que se encontraba en una barranca a la que sólo hay acceso por un puente frágil de madera.

Sin embargo, asegura que le respondieron: "Olydate de todo eso. La coordinación de (la ciudad de) México ya dijo que ahí va a ser y ahí va a ser".

Rivapalacio fue puesto en libertad cuando un juez determinó que no había pruebas suficientes para inculparlo. Sin embargo, la suprocuraduría especial que investiga el caso ha dicho que presentará nuevas evidencias para que sea reaprehendido.

Colosio fue sustituido en la candidatura por el que fuera su coordinador de campaña, Ernesto Zedillo.

and United Mexican American Students, the organizations that coordinated the strike.

-- At the University of New Mexico, Mechistas coordinated citywide demonstrations and marches the week of Cinco de Mayo. They marched to city hall to protest police abuse and to the school board to protest what they called a discriminatory public school dress code. They were successful in achieving a grape ban earlier this year.

-- At Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., students held a sit-in at an art exhibit just before the Thanksgiving break to protest the defamation of Latino art at that exhibit.

(Christian R. González is a reporter with Hispanic Link Weekly Report in Washington, D.C.)

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Student Activism

from Page 1

office of Multicultural Affairs for its failure to hire more Latino staff, and to protest a lack of sensitivity toward Latino issues.

-- At the University of Colorado, Boulder, 38 students ended a five-day hunger strike April 22. They sought tenure for a professor who had been denied it, Chicano studies, and immunity for teachers who helped students in their protest. The president of the college system has promised to push for Chicano studies, agreed that faculty would be granted immunity and that she would review the denial of tenure.

"We had the faculty support. But now (some) teachers want to leave because of the racial tension - which was the catalyst for doing this," said Bernadette Spinks, one of the fastest and member of MECHA



El trabajo del National Council of La Raza, el U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc., y el Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, es esencial para el progreso de nuestras comunidades. Es por ello que la compañía R.J. Reynolds Tobacco está comprometida a ayudar a crecer a estas organizaciones. Y en ninguna otra área es más visible este apoyo que en el Programa de Carteles de Servicio Público de R.J. Reynolds.

Este programa pone a disposición de estas organizaciones cientos de carteles de muy alta visibilidad en docenas de ciudades de costa a

costa. El resultado simplemente es que se luce más el trabajo de desarrollo comunitario que realizan día tras día.

Esta es solamente una de las muchas maneras en que R.J. Reynolds, en cooperación con varias empresas de carteles y anuncios, demuestra su continuado compromiso al progreso de la comunidad Hispana.

Claramente un compromiso que trabaja para todos nosotros.

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Bora exige el retorno de los "foráneos" de E.U.

Washington - Mientras Estados Unidos se prepara para su partido inaugural el 18 de junio contra Suiza en la Copa Mundial-94, el entrenador Bora Milutinovic esta presionado para que se integren a la selección tres de sus hombres clave que m juegan en Europa.

John Harkes, Tab Ramos Y Eric Wynalda forman el núcleo del atae del equipo per no han jugado ni un solo partidos juntos desde julio del anno pasado cuando se efectuó La Copa Estados Unidos.

Después de lograr una impresionante actuación contra Moldavia, Estados Unidos sufrió un revés al caer derrotado 2-1 frente a Islan-



Bora quiere que Eric Wynalda, John Harkes y Tab Ramos se integren a la selección de E.U. con el arquero Tony Meola.

Segun fuentes la Federación de Futbol de Estados Unidos también agregó al poderoso equipo alemán de Bayern Munich en su programa de encuentros antes del mundial. E.U. y enfrentará al tres veces campeón de Europa el 21 de mayo en Cleveland, Ohio. El entrenador de Munich es el exjugador de la selección alemana y del Cosmos de Nueva York, Franz Beckenbauer.

Bora Milutinovic está exigiendo la repatriación de los jugadores "foráneos" 45 días antes del comienzo de la copa Mundial para poder observar un posible equipo titular en los partidos de preparación.

Harkes juega por el Derby County en Inglaterra y Ramos, que pertenece al Real Betis de España, deben participar en la post-temporada de sus equipos lo que podría tenerlos jugando en Europa hasta el 30 de mayo, sólo 19 días antes del comienzo de las fi-

nales del campeonato mundial.

Wynalda renunció como capitán del equipo de segunda división de la Liga Alemana, Saarbruecken, y pidió al club quedar en libertad para poder entrenar con la selección estadounidense en Mission Viejo, California. La temporada alemana termina el 11 de junio, con los primeros tres equipos avanzando a la primera división de la Bundesliga. Saarbruecken está en el séptimo lugar, seis puntos detrás del tercero.

Harkes podría estar jugando hasta fines de mayo, si Derby County tiene éxito y es promovido a la división de honor. Derby County está sexto en la primera división, con los dos primeros adjudicándose la promoción automática. Los equipos del tercero al sexto lugar participan en una "rueda chica" hasta el 31 de mayo.

Real Betis está tercero en la segunda división de España con los dos primeros avanzando a la primera división. El tercero y el cuarto juegan una rueda de definición con los equipos situados en el 17 y el 18 lugar de la primera división. Esto significa que Ramos podría estar en España hasta el 25 de mayo.

Ganaron \$250,000 en subvenciones para becas en memoria de Chávez, un salón de lectura en la biblioteca principal que llevará el nombre de Chávez, el mural y los estudios étnicos.

Mónica Elicerio, tesorera de CRU, dijo que la organización está impulsando a la enseñanza sobre los asuntos de los trabajadores agrícolas al mostrar la cinta de video del Sindicato de Trabajadores Agrícolas Unidos titulada "Uvas No". "No estamos dispuestos a aceptar un "no sobre el boicot contra las uvas", dijo ella.

La escuela servirá como anfitrión para una conferencia, el 23 de septiembre próximo, para todas las organizaciones estudiantiles latinas del esta-

States Propose Strict Welfare Laws

The Los Angeles Times reports that some state welfare experiments are more stringent and radical than the administration's package. A Wisconsin program, for example, will enable the state to impose a two-year time limit for welfare benefits without guaranteeing jobs.

Other state welfare experiments call for a family cap which denies additional cash benefits to mothers who have babies while receiving welfare payments. States say it will save money, but critics argue that it will hurt children. The provision has been so controversial that the decision on whether to include it in the federal reform plan has been left to the president.

MA Gov. William Weld's welfare reform plan would force able-bodied people to work within within 60 days of receiving their first public assistance checks. Job training and education programs would be available only to participants who also work at least 25 hours a week. If private sector jobs cannot be found for welfare recipients, they will be offered community service work.

Massachusetts' version is just one of 20 initiatives now under review by the administration. Since January 1993, the administration has approved waivers for welfare experiments in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

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"En el Suroeste, acostumbra a ser chicano. Ahora es chicano/latino. Hay una conciencia para incluir a los centro-americanos y a otros grupos", dice ella, y los estudiantes vienen cabildeando más en busca de cambios en los planes de estudios que por la protección de los derechos civiles.

Ricardo Fernández, presidente de Lehman College en la ciudad de Nueva York, califica al resurgimiento de "directamente proporcional con el nivel de trastorno económico en que se encuentra el sistema -- o con el nivel de oportunidad que llega a estar disponible cuando se quiere tener parte en la adop-

ción de los cursos de acción".

Las acciones de protesta incluyeron:

-- En la Universidad de Stanford, cuatro chicanas y un chicano escenificaron una huelga de hambre de tres días por el feriado del Cinco de Mayo. Ellos exigían la reposición de Cecilia Burciaga, una decana adjunta latina prominente cuya plaza fué eliminada; un programa de estudios chicanos para obtener un título; un boicot de las uvas en todo el recinto y un centro de servicios para la comunidad hispana circundante. Después de las negociaciones con los funcionarios de la administración universitaria, se les prometió el establecimiento del programa de estudios chicanos. La universidad estuvo de acuerdo en la formación de un comité para revisar la mayor parte

de las otras demandas.

-- En la Universidad de California, recinto de Santa Bárbara, nueve chicanos pusieron fin a una huelga de hambre de nueve días el 6 de mayo. Ellos habían procurado un programa de estudios chicanos con título de doctorado, un centro de servicio comunitario, la contratación de 15 catedráticos chicanos a tiempo completo y una prohibición de las uvas en el recinto. Ganaron el nombramiento de siete nuevos miembros del profesorado que serán empleados hacia 1997 y 1998; el programa doctoral será puesto en el "carril rápido" para que el senado académico decida sobre el mismo; se prohibirán las uvas como renglón del menú; la escuela procurará activamente fondos para un centro de servicios comunitarios y se ha puesto en práctica

una moratoria sobre las rebajas al Programa de Igualdad de Oportunidades.

"Esta es una victoria, una pequeña victoria en un paso más largo que tenemos que dar para continuar atendiendo a cada demanda", dijo Abel Gutiérrez, presidente de El Congreso, el grupo coordinador estudiantil.

-- En la Universidad de Michigan, miembros de ME-ChA y de Culturas de la Raza Unidas (CRU en inglés), participaron en manifestaciones y protestas. Ellos procuraban que se diera a un edificio el nombre de Chávez; un mural que presentara la vida de los trabajadores agrícolas; estudios chicano/boricuas (puertorriqueños) y una prohibición sobre las uvas en el recinto.

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News Briefs

tees were scrambling to find even a small portion of the money to pay for this and other major domestic initiatives proposed by Clinton and authorized by Congress.

Constrained by budget limits, they predicted that financing for many domestic programs will fall short of what Clinton proposed in his budget, including the \$700 million increase he outlined for Head Start. "This isn't the year of the scapel; it's the year of the carving knife and we're cutting meat from the bone," said Rep. David Obey, D-WI, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

Senator Tom Harkin, D-IA, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, said his subcommittee could finance only 18 cents for every dollar Clinton has proposed. In the last budget, Harkin's subcommittee was able to finance 29% of Clinton's request for new spending for the current year.

Although administration officials and members of Congress predicted that the bipartisan support for Head Start will help it fare better than other programs, Harkin expressed skepticism. "There won't be a disproportionate share for Head Start or anything else" if it means cutting programs like LEAP or breast and cervical cancer research, he said.

Kennedy Panel Works on Health Plan

AP reports that Sen. Edward M. Kennedy is trying to win bipartisan support in the Labor and Human Resources Committee for his health plan, but four of the committee's seven Republicans plan to introduce a total of 91 amendments to the first section of the proposal when the committee begins debating it today. The amendments range from removing employer mandates to excluding abortion from the basic benefits package.

Kennedy found support Tuesday when Sen. John Breaux, D-LA, the co-sponsor of the Managed Competition Act, indicated for the first time that he could support a requirement that employers pay most of the cost of insurance for their employees if they have 10 or more workers.

Senate Republicans, however, dismiss the significance of any bill created by Kennedy's committee. "If there's going to be a health care bill, it's going to have to go through the Finance Committee," which is more conservative than Kennedy's committee, said Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-UT, who serves on both committees.

But the Finance committee is still far from putting together a bill.

Sen. Harris Wofford, D-PA, said the bill that emerges from Kennedy's committee could "reshape the debate" even if it only draws one Republican vote. There already is broad Republican support for the idea of making insurance-purchasing cooperatives voluntary, he said.

Poverty Among Asian-Americans

Reuters reports that a study released today shows that many families of Asian Pacific descent are mired in poverty. "For every Asian Pacific American household with an annual income of \$75,000 or more, there is roughly another with an annual income below \$10,000," the report said. The 300-page study was conducted by the LEAP Asian Pacific American Public Policy Institute in Los Angeles and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center.

1990 Census data show that Asian Pacific Americans comprise about 3% of the population but account for 7% of U.S. scientists and engineers, the survey said. But 14% of Asian Pacific Americans lived below the poverty line in 1989, about one-and-a-half times higher than the proportion of non-Hispanic whites. The gap was even greater in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland and New York, where 60% of all Asian Pacific Americans live. In these cities, their poverty rate was about twice as high as that for non-Hispanic whites, 13% compared to 7%.

The report said changing immigration policies brought in highly educated groups from Asia and the Pacific as well as the poor and unskilled. Nationally, 23% of Asian Pacific Americans, age 25 and over, have less than a high school degree, it said. Hindering the advancement of many is limited English-speaking ability, lack of transferable skills and "differential" treatment based on race, the study said. While Southeast Asians make up 13% percent of the total Asian Pacific population, refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia account for up to 87% of all Asian Pacific Americans on welfare, it said.

Study: Fewer Teens Having Sex

The Mercury News Service reports that slightly more than one-third of high school students in a recent telephone poll said they were sexually active. The figure is down from 54% reported in a 1990 federal study, but it is unclear whether the decline in teen sexual activity is accurate. Fewer teenagers may be willing to report sex when called at home, than when filling out a written questionnaire at school and enclosing it in a sealed envelope, as in the previous study.

Nonetheless, the survey found: 54% of sexually active teenage respondents said they should have waited; 72% of those who reported sexual intercourse or oral or anal sex said they did it in the homes of their parents or their partner's parents; Six in 10 believe their parents know about their sexual behavior; 81% of sexually active boys said that "sex is a pleasurable experience," vs. 59% of girls; 46% of girls said they "really feel good about their sexual experiences so far," as compared to 65% of sexually active boys. 503 students in grades nine through 12 participated in the survey.

The report, "Teens Talk About Sex" is available for \$12 from the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States. Write to: SIECUS Publications, 130 W. 42nd Street, Suite 2500, New York, N.Y. 10036.

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Minorities Encouraged to Strive for Better Education

Imagine being born in the United States and having people continually ask you, "What country are you from?" As a Mexican American who grew up in the border town of Laredo, Texas, I was asked that question many times after transferring to the University of Texas Austin from Laredo Community College.

That feeling of being an outsider in my own country--while trying to be successful on the inside--is one that a lot of Hispanic students in higher education experience today. Like many Hispanic students, I started out at a nurturing community college where I had a lot of contact with good professors who encouraged me with the world where I was raised. My professors expressed so much confidence in me and encouraged me to go on to a mainstream college. But it was challenging when I arrived at the University of Texas--and just the opposite of my junior college experience. UT was big and impersonal, and I struggled with my thick accent, the subtleties of the English language, and with feeling like an outsider. Yet even at such a large school, there were professors who took the time to propel me onward. I graduated from the university and eventually received a doctorate. But sadly, I am the exception to the rule.

Consider these statistics: For every 1,000 Hispanic students who enter the educational system, only 70 graduate from college. These figures are even more tragic in western and southwestern states, Florida, New York, New Jersey and Illinois, where as few as 25 Hispanic teenagers out of 1,000 enter college, according to the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities.

The Census Bureau predicts that by the year 2050, the U.S. popula-

tion will be divided evenly between minorities and Anglos. Hispanics will eclipse African Americans as the U.S. population to 14 percent in 2010 and 23 percent in 2050.

As the United States becomes more culturally diverse, the erode without expanded minority-participation in higher education. Considering that Hispanics will represent almost one-quarter of this country's brain power by the year 2050, finding new ways to recruit and retain Hispanic students at the college level now is crucial to the future success of American Society.

This is not a small problem, nor are there ready-made answers. As a professor of biology at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, for the past eight years, and as a Mexican American who had my own struggles in school, I have had the opportunity to gain insight into some of the challenges awaiting both students and teachers of color in the American educational system.

During my years in teaching, it has become clear to me that all students--need personal encouragement and mentoring from teachers and parents if they are truly to succeed in school. Parents must encourage their children to read at a very young age, and they must keep learning themselves for their children to place a high value on education. As parents, we must assume the responsibility to raise the expectations and dreams of our children, to create a tradition of education in our families where one did not previously exist.

Teachers must not just teach, but must also commit themselves to serving their students as leaders, mentors and prodders--to encourage their students to reach for the stars if they are shooting for the sky, to always shoot higher in their goals than what they think they can

reach. Teachers must also understand that ethnic, rural and first-generation college students are going to experience a different kind of struggle in their reach for higher education than mainstream students. Taking just a few minutes of time during the semester to analyze how an individual student is doing and to encourage him or her might be called hand-holding by some. I call it teaching.

For their part, minority students must seek out others and learn to brave enough to ask for help from their professors without being embarrassed to do so. And they need to subjugate all the racial and social pressures they will face in mainstream colleges to the single-minded pursuit of academic excellence. Minority students who have made it through the educational system and who are now doing important work in their own careers must give back to others who are coming along behind them by raising funds for students scholarships, lecturing in their home communities, and finding innovative ways to galvanize the next generation to even greater achievements.

Institutions of higher learning also must direct their efforts toward raising the academic expectations of minority students. At Southwestern University, innovative programs have been implemented in the last decade to recruit and retain bright minority students:

The Lorenzo de Zavala (LDZ) Youth Legislative Session encourages Hispanic teenagers to go to the best colleges in the country. Founded by SU alumnus Ernesto Nieto, this Hispanic leadership conference for top high school students has been so successful at Southwestern that it has spread to 16 states, and has included more than 10,000 participants. Over 99 percent of LDZ students gain ad-

mission to the nation's top colleges, 90 percent complete their undergraduate degrees and nearly 70 percent continue to pursue postgraduate studies.

The National Hispanic College Registry at Southwestern provides a central listing of U.S. universities that offer excellent programs for Hispanic students.

Vamos Juntos provides college-level courses for local school district teachers, nurses and administrators to help them better understand the needs of their Hispanic students, whose academic problems sometimes stem from poor English-speaking abilities or from not understanding or accepting the differences between their culture and the Anglo culture.

Southwestern's minority representation has risen from six percent in 1983 to 20 percent in 1993. Most of SU's increase in minority enrollment over the past 10 years has been in Hispanic students, from 3.3 percent in 1983 to 12.5 percent in 1993. Institutions all across the country are now developing similar programs and must continue to do so.

In short, we must all work together--institutions, teachers, parents and minority students themselves. Unless minorities are encouraged to strive for a better education, and until ever level of society is involved in their struggle to succeed, this brain drain will have a detrimental impact on the United States' economic health. Without far greater minority representation in our colleges and universities, America will one day find itself among the ranks of the Third World.

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Un Rayito De Luz

Por Sra. Sofia Martinez

"Yo soy el buen pastor". Las ovejas deben de conocer a su pastor como el pastor conoce sus ovejas. Jesus se identifica a si mismo como "el buen pastor". Y para mostrar que no se trataba de palabras, les hace ver sus razones: conoce a sus ovejas, y sus ovejas le conocen a el; ademas, esta dispuesto a dar su vida por sus ovejas porque le importan; y le importan todas, tanto las que estan dentro del corral como las que estan afuera.

El pastor malo es todo lo contrario. No le importan las ovejas; esta con ellas no porque las quiere y se preocupa por ellas, sino por que le pagan y tiene que cumplir con esa obligacion, porque no le queda mas remedio... Por eso, si llega el momento del peligro para sus ovejas o para el, las abandona.

Al decirnos Jesus que el es Buen Pastor, en primer lugar nos habla de cercania, de interes personal, de conocimiento y de entrega a sus ovejas. Y esas ovejas somos nosotros. Si, mis hermanos: Jesucristo sigue estando muy cerquita de nosotros y nos conoce hasta lo mas profundo del corazon, y nos acepta tal y como somos, poara ayudarnos a vivir como verdaderos hijos de Dios Nos lleva por la vida con un gran amor y cuidado porque se preocupa por cada uno de nosotros y por nuestro destino personal. El espera que le demos una respuesta de confianza. Es necesario, en primer lugar, que le conozcamos y que le aceptemos como nuestro pastor. Y, solamente podremos aceptarlo cuando le conozcamos muy bien. alli en nuestras parroquias hay "maestros de catequesis", especialmente Hermanas Religiosas muy capaces, que nos pueden ayudar a conocer al Padre Dios Bueno, Padre de Jesucristo y Padre Nuestro. Necesitamos conocer a nuestro Padre Bueno para amarle y servirle, porque si decimos "que hemos aceptado a Cristo

por Salvador"; pero no lo demostramos con obras...somos unos mentirosos...(Santiago 2, 17). Tener fe es "creer"; pero los que dicen que creen en Dios necesitan demostrarlo con obras, porque si nuestros amigos y vecinos no ven nuestras obras... tampoco Dios las ve, y no nos cree que le amamos.

Cuando conozcamos bien a Jesus, confiaremos en El y nos dejaremos guiar por el, que quiere guiarnos hacia la Casa de Nuestro Padre Bueno. Somos sus ovejas que nos dejarnos guiar por Nuestro Pastor. Y haremos siempre un esfuerzo por mantenernos fieles en nuestro caminar por los caminos que Jesus nos ha dejado -- marcados en el Evangelio.

En la Iglesia Catolica ha permanecido viva la figura del pastor y las ovejas. Hemos estado siempre compuestos de pastores y de ovejas; y hemos tratado de estar siempre frente a ese Pastor. Somos esas ovejas del Evangelio, que tratamos de estar siempre de acuerdo con la manera de pensar y de actuar de Nuestro Buen Pasto Jesucristo.

El Buen Pastor, Jesucristo, conoce Sus ovejas, y las ovejas debemos de conocer a Nuestro Pastor, tanto, como el nos conoce a nosotros. Muy facil nos damos cuenta de que muchisima gente no conoce, ni cree, ni ama a Dios: Cada uno va por caminos chuecos y equivocados. Debemos ayudarles a salir de esa ignorancia para que sigamos juntos a Ese Buen Pastor Jesucristo Unico Camino, que nos lleva a la Casa de Nuestro Padre Celestial. (Juan 20, 17).

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33. Atended el consejo, y sed sabios y no lo menospreciéis
33. Bienaventurado el hombre que me escucha, velando a mis puertas cada día, aguardando a los postes de mis puertas.

35. Porque el que me halle, hallará la vida, y alcanzará el favor de Jehová...

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Activismo Estudiantil

de la Pagina 4

do. "Bosquejaremos un programa de trabajo para todo el estado que se base en nuestras preocupaciones", dijo ella.

-- En la Universidad de Nebraska, recinto de Lincoln, los miembros de la Asociación de Estudiantes Méxicoamericanos están continuando un boicot que lanzaron el 3 de febrero último contra la Oficina de Asuntos Multiculturales de la escuela, por no contratar a una cantidad mayor de personal latino y para protestar de la falta de sensibilidad hacia los asuntos latinos.

En la Universidad de Colorado, recinto de Boulder, 38 alumnos pusieron fin a una huelga de hambre de cinco días de duración el 22 de abril último. Ellos procuraban la permanencia para un catedrático a quien le había sido denegada; estudios chicanos e inmunidad para los profesores que ayudaron a los estudiantes en la protesta de estos últimos. La presidenta del sistema universitario ha prometido impulsar los estudios chicanos; estuvo de acuerdo en que se conceda la inmunidad al profesorado y en que ella revisaría la denegación de permanencia.

"Tuvimos el apoyo del profesorado. Pero ahora los ca-

tadráticos quieren irse debido a la tensión racial -- lo cual fué el catalizador para hacer esto", dijo Bernadette Spinks, una de las que participaron en la huelga de hambre y es miembro de MEChA y de los Estudiantes Méxicoamericanos Unidos, las organizaciones que coordinaron la huelga.

En la Universidad de Nuevo México, recinto de Albuquerque, los Mechistas coordinaron las manifestaciones y marchas por toda la ciudad en la semana del Cinco de Mayo. Ellos marcharon hasta el Ayuntamiento para protestar contra los abusos de la policía y al edificio de la junta escolar para protestar de lo que ellos calificaron de una ordenanza discriminatoria sobre los uniformes en las escuelas públicas. Ellos tuvieron éxito para lograr una prohibición contra las uvas anteriormente en este año.

-- En la Universidad de Cornell, recinto de Ithaca, Nueva York, los estudiantes realizaron una manifestación pacífica en una exhibición de arte inmediatamente antes del feriado por el Día de Acción de Gracias para protestar de la difamación del arte latino en dicha exhibición.

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