Dar Garcías aqui en los Estados Unidos. Onate, a quien se le dio aprobación para colonizar el Sur-oeste de los Es- ?! tados Unidos por España apenas habia acabado pasar el desierto del sur de lo que ahora es El Paso con 400 pioneros y 6000 a 7000 beseros al fin llego al Rio Bravo.

Segun un escritor viejando con el j grupo, varios caballos tomaron agua hasta cayer muertos.

Despues de la celebración inicial de encontrar el agua, Onate mudo los § colonistas más al norte unas cuantas millas, posiblemente dentro de los limites de El Paso, Tejas, y ahora (30 de Abril 1598) celbro una Día de Dar Gracías completo con toda una ceremonia religiosa.

"Peces se pescaros de el Rio, unos [quantos beseros fueron preparados y casaron aves de los cielos," segun el escritor de historia Leon Metz.

La celebración incluyo gigantescas lumbres que brillaban en los cielos mientras la comida se cosiñiba. Segun escritos, se baptisaron una gran cantidad de indigenos de los tribos Suma y Manso. La celebración de Día de Dar Gracías fue completo con una presentacion de una obra escrita y presentada en estos Estados Unidos.

Un jornalista quien viajaba con la expedición, noto que despues de la misa y el drama que se presento, que se trato sobre el trabajo de misioneros a las Americas, "todo el grupo empeso a celebrar con grandiosa alegria y felicidad. Los caballeros se

juntaron en su regala mas elegante con armas brillantes," el escribio. "Todo el ejercitose junto en formación y en la presencia de la multitud, el gobernador solemnemente tomo posición de toda la tierra desagüada por el Rio Bravo."

Mas reportes del escena nto que Onate fijo una cruz en un arbol y hizo la ceremonia conocida como "La Toma de Poseción" en el cual declara que todas las tierras regadas por el Rio Bravo eran posesión de Dios y el Rey Felipe de España.

Más despues la tierras reclamadas por España se conceieron a México y despues a los Estados Unidos con el Tratado

de Gudalupe Hidalgo en el 1848 que incluyo todo el sur-oeste, la isla de Manhattan y las tierras de Luisiana.

El Día de Dar Garcías de Onate se ha documentado y submitido como pruebas que los Españoles llegaron mas de dos decadas antes que los peligrinos en el Plymouth Rock.

Ahora, el primer Día de Dar Gracía es celebrado y reenactado anualmente el ultimo domingo de abril en la tierras de el Monumento Nacional de Chamizal en El Paso, Tejas.

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

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Lubbock, Texas

Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Aguero

Hate Crimes always seem to affect Chicanos, Blacks and

poor people in general than more anyone else. The burnings in the South and also as

close Wichita Falls, Texas this past summer brought back tragic memories of the civil rights movements when so many people were killed for simply being a different color or or a different religion

mitting the crimes. incomprehensible reason to kill was brought home to Lubbock when one Black was killed and another seriously wounded by three criminals who were finally found guilty and sentenced to jail.

than many of those com-

Ironically, during the last legislative session a bill was brought before the legislature to make thepunishment of committing hate crimes more stringent.

During the hearing a motion to table the law... which in actuality means killing the bill.. was made. One of our state representatives, Delwin Jones voted against the motion to table in order for the bill to be considered by the legislature.

The other representative, Robert Duncan voted to table the bill.

Duncan's commercials on TV say that he wants to be tough on those that commit crimes and that he is a man of integrity.

So why vote to table a bill against hate crime? ****Pico de Gallo****

Early voting starts on Monday. Those wanting to cast a vote early can go by their local United on University or Parkway. It seems that many of us are forgetting that at one time, we weren't allowed to vote and then we had to pay to vote. It getting easier and easier to make our vote count. Maybe we're getting lazier and lazier.

Study Says States Aren't Helping Poor Enough

According to a study released by a national child advocacy group, states have done a poor job of helping needy families and are ill equipped to assume the broad powers assigned to them under the new federal welfare law, reports The San Francisco Chroni-

In an analysis of state budgets, the National Association of Child Advocates found that many states have failed to take full advantage of federal funds for job training for people on welfare and medical care for the working poor.

"Across the board, states talk a good game about getting people off welfare, but they really aren't doing all they could to help," said Nancy Sconyers, lead author of the 100-page report. "If states already aren't keeping up with child care, health care and job-training needs, then it is worrisome that that behavior will continue in the coming years."

The National Association of Child Advocates, a Washington-based coalition of 51 child advocacy groups, analyzed state budgets from 1990 to 1995 for California and 11 other states. Among the findings:

-- The buying power of the average welfare check dropped 16 percent from 1990 to 1995 as benefits failed to keep up with inflation. California was the only state that reduced benefits, cutting them approximately 25 percent.

-- States failed to use all available federal matching grants for job training.

-- Only 60 percent of the families who should have received court-ordered child support were able to collect it. In California, the number rose to 76 percent. Sconyers said that California, which accounts for a quarter of all welfare cases nationwide, fared poorly on a number of indicators. "California is really not taking full advantage of federal help to get families off of welfare," she said. For instance, said Sconyers, in 1994 the state used only \$108 million of \$177 million in federal money available for job training.

"This is a shocking number for California," she said. "That's the highest waste of any state."

Many states do a less-thanadequate job of assisting needy families. How states enforce child support and utilize federal funds for job training are key aspects:

Percentage of single-parent families not receiving support payments:

Calif.	76%	
Colo.	70%	
m.	65%	
Ky.	70%	,
Mich.	42%	
Mo.	73%	
Neb.	38%	
N.J.	65%	
N.Y.	85%	
Penn.	53%	
W.Va.	49%	
Wie	41%	

available Federal money for job training in 1996, in millions of dollars:

Funds used unused

Calif.	\$108.2	\$68.2
Colo.	9.1	1.9
M.	32.2	19.8
Ky.	15.4	2.8
Mich.	42.1	17.2
Mo.	11.5	9.3
Neb.	2.7	0.9
N.J.	28.3	0
N.Y.	91.1	7.3
Penn.	43.9	4.1
W.Va.	8.8	2.5
Wis.	25.8	0

Happy Thanksgiving

Welfare Law Restricts Migrants

Cuban exile Rolando Gonzalez may be among the first to feel the sting of sweeping changes in the nation's new welfare law, reports Associated Press.

Gonzalez, 41, who fled Fidel Castro's Cuba in 1968, was an auto body repairman in Edinburg, Texas, until back and neck injuries from a 1992 car accident prevented him from working. Since then, Gonzalez has relied on food stamps while undergoing physical rehabilitation.

But under the new welfare law, Gonzalez and thousands of others between the ages of 18 and 50 who do not have children and are deemed ablebodied, will soon be restricted to three months of food stamps during any three-year period.

"If I don't have food stamps, I don't know what I am going to do," said Gonzalez, who is appealing Texas' ruling that he is physically fit to work.

The new rule springs from one of the welfare law's central aims: to get people into meaningful work and to limit their access to public assistance.

But advocates contend that those like Gonzalez who have disputed injuries, and especially the nation's 1.6 migrant and seasonal agricultural workers, will be hit hard.

like Legal immigrants

Gonzalez could face further cuts in the future, since under the new law they eventually could lose their right to both food stamps and Supplemental Security Income cash payments. President Clinton has said he wants to change that portion of the law, but it is un-Republicancontrolled Congress agree.

Migrant farm workers usually cobble together a livelihood by following harvests all year long, chasing the growing season from the bottom of one state to the top of another.

But when the harvest ends, so do the paychecks. In the past, migrant farm workers have often used public assistance - primarily food stamps and unemployment insurance - to help until it's time once again to pick strawberries, tomatoes and cucum-

According to Labor Department statistics, America's migrant and seasonal workers average just 29 weeks of agricultural employment a year. A small percentage find another to manage work month's worth of cleaning houses or doing yard work - but most use public assistance.

"Potentially, it could have a pretty broad impact," said

Continued on Page 2

News Briefs

Breast Cancer Gene Studied

Scientists have discovered a gene that may help solve a mystery about the biology of breast cancer, reports Associated Press.

In 1994, researchers identified a gene called BRCA1 that causes some inherited cases of breast and ovarian cancer when it is defective. In its normal form, it suppresses those cancers, but scientists don't know how.

The newfound gene may help answer that question, said

microbiologist Richard Baer of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. And as with BRCA1, defects in this gene may also promote breast and ovarian cancer, he said. Further study might lead to a better understanding of those

types of cancer and point the way to new treatments, he said. Baer, Anne Bowcock and colleagues at the medical center report their findings in the December issue of the journal Nature Genetics.

One piece of evidence: Some defects in BRCA1 that keep it from suppressing breast cancer also prevent the two proteins from teaming up, the researchers found. No teamwork, no protection.

That suggests that defects in BARD1 could also promote cancer by preventing the proteins from linking up, Baer said. He and his colleagues are now examining breast and ovarian tumors to see if they can find defects in the BARD1

CIA-Crack Dealer Gets Life Term

A crack cocaine dealer who sought a reversal of his drug conviction by claiming the CIA was involved in cocaine dealing for the benefit of the Nicaraguan contras was sentenced to life in prison.

"Freeway" Ricky Ross was convicted in March of buying 220 pounds of cocaine for \$169,000 from Oscar Danilo Blandon, a former narcotics trafficker and civilian leader of a CIA-backed guerrilla group. Blandon also was a federal drug informant.

Ross' lawyer tried to use reported CIA involvement in crack dealing during the 1980s as a reason U.S. District Judge Marilyn Huff should set aside Ross' conviction.

But the judge on Tuesday refused and handed down the life sentence, which was mandatory because of two prior convictions. Sentencing had been set for Sept. 13, but she delayed it to study the CIA allegations.

"The conduct of Ross...is not excused by any so-called tenuous ties to the CIA," Huff said.

"It does not give them a free pass the rest of their lives to further addict people because of something that may have happened in the early 1980s."

Clinton Urges Hunger Fight

President Clinton wants government and people to do more to fight hunger, reports Associated Press.

In his weekly radio address, Clinton says despite the U.S. being a "land of plenty," too many people go without adequate food.

Clinton says thousands of pounds of "perfectly good" food is thrown out every day from restaurants, cafeterias and grocery stores - enough to feed 49 million people a year.

So Clinton is telling federal agencies to make sure surplus food from government cafeterias and public events is distributed to the hungry. He's encouraging private citizens to do likewise.

FDA Commissioner Resigns

David Kessler, the Food and Drug Administration commissioner who waged war on the tobacco industry, will resign as soon as a successor is chosen, reports Associated Press.

The Clinton administration asked Kessler on Friday to stay for the president's second term, but Kessler said he was ready to leave after six years at the regulatory agency.

Kessler, a pediatrician and an attorney, has served Presidents Bush and Clinton. He won wide acclaim for pushing the Clinton administration to battle teen-age smoking and was embraced by consumer advocates for cracking the whip over medical and food manufacturers.

Kessler in 1994 touched off a firestorm of controversy when he announced he was investigating whether the FDA should regulate nicotine as an addictive drug.

As a result, the Justice Department investigated tobacco company presidents for possible perjury. The department also conducted investigations into allegations of an industry-wide conspiracy to rope Americans, especially teenagers, into smoking. And in August, Kessler did what the tobacco industry had feared most, announcing regulations to crack down on cigarette advertising and promotion.

Kessler had been widely expected to stay at FDA until those regulations begin taking effect next spring, and to help the agency shepherd them through a court challenge in February.

HHS Approves OR Child Protection Waiver

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala announced approval of a demonstration project to improve child protection services in Oregon. This is the fourth waiver approved by the Clinton administration for states to undertake innovations in their child protection programs.

Under the demonstration, Oregon will use title IV-E foster care funds to provide a broad range of services to children and families at risk. Oregon is testing whether flexible funding and a new casework approach, called "System of Care," will allow caseworkers to more closely match services to needs, and serve more children safely in their homes rather than placing them in foster care whenever possible.

Social workers and the family will cooperatively develop a plan to keep the child safe, and the state will provide services to support the plan. Such services could include substance abuse treatment, domestic violence counseling and respite

Previously, federal funds could be used primarily to pay for the room and board of children in out-of-home care. The demonstration will operate for five years and include

Feliz Día De Dar Gracías

a rigorous evaluation.

Mas Alla De La Macarena: El Voto Latino En La Ciudad De N. Y.

Por Angelo Falcón

Aunque el rol del voto hispano en los Estados Unidos durante las elecciones presidenciales ha sido debatido por lo general en términos de influencia e inmigración (sin mencionar a "La Macarena"), la experiencia latina en la ciudad de New York revela un cuadro mucho más complejo.

Dos millones de latinos en la ciudad de Nueva York forman el 27 por ciento de su población. Teniendo en cuenta la ciudadanía, una edad promedio menor y altos niveles de pobreza, esta población representa el 15 por ciento del electorado.

Es una población diversa. La mitad es puertorriqueña, una cuarta parte dominicana y la última cuarta parte es una mezcla de colombianos, mexicanos, ecuatorianos y otros. Los puertorriqueños llegaron a Nueva York siendo ya ciudadanos estadounidenses, por cortesía de una ley del Congreso de 1917.

Nuestro análisis de las elecciones muestra que los latinos de la ciudad de Nueva York dieron a Bill Clinton más apoyo que los latinos de otras partes del país. En los distritos latinos de aquí, Clinton atrajo a un 91 por ciento sin precedentes de la votación. Por primera vez en varias décadas, su porción de votos por candidato presidencial demócrata excedió la de los afroamericanos, el 90 por ciento de los cuales votaron por Clinton.

Las encuestas a la salida de los colegios electorales revelan que en el suroeste, predominantemente méxicoamericano, los latinos votaron por Clinton en porcentajes altos, pero no a

ese nivel: Del 75 por ciento al 76 por ciento en Texas, del 70 por ciento al 71 por ciento en California, del 81 por ciento al 83 por ciento en Arizona, del 65 por ciento al 66 por ciento en Nuevo México y el 85 por ciento en Colorado. Clinton logró ganar la Florida, donde los cubanos forman la mayoría de la población latina, en gran parte debido a que los latinos dividieron su votación, donde 44 por ciento apoyó a Clinton y

46 por ciento a Dole. En todo el país, pero especialmente en Nueva York, la alternativa republicana fué rechazada por los latinos. A pesar de charlas de personas como Jack Kemp, en el sentido de que ellos querían abrir al partido, todo lo que hicieron su programa y su retórica fue alejar aún más a los electores latinos.

En 1992, George Bush logró atraer al 19 por ciento del voto latino de la ciudad de Nueva York con una campaña débil (y no creo que realmente nos importó que su hijo estuviera casado con una mexicana). Cuatro años después, Dole sólo atrajo a un 7 por ciento.

Tal parece que los republicanos van a tener que empezar de nuevo con los latinos, aún con los cubano-americanos.

Clinton ni siquiera se molestó en hacer campaña en la ciudad de Nueva York, y el voto latino no fue un factor en su victoria. Pero el gran margen latino demócrata aquí solidificó claramente su base congresional. En las zonas latinas, los demócratas fueron devueltos al Congreso con mandatos significativos: José Serrano recibió el 96 por ciento de la votación en el Sur del Bronx; Nydia Velázquez reci-

bió el 83 por ciento en su distrito de Brooklyn-Queens-Manhattan; Charles Rangel recibió el 91 por ciento en Harlem, East Harlem y Washington Heights, y Eliot Engel ganó el 85 por ciento en su distrito del Bronx y Westchester.

¿Qué hubo detrás de este apoyo latino sin precedentes, a pesar del hecho de que Clinton no hizo campaña aquí ni tuvo un mensaje específicamente latino? En verdad, la postura anti- inmigrante del Partido Republicano tuvo efecto. En las zonas de inmigrantes latinos, la asistencia de electores a las urnas fué la más alta: El 63 por ciento en Washington Heights y el 60 por ciento en Jackson Heights; en conjunto. fué del 48 por ciento para los latinos.

Para los puertorriqueños. que forman más del 70 por ciento de los electores latinos de Nueva York, los asuntos principales tenían más que ver con las cosas tales como la reforma de la asistencia económica pública y el futuro de Medicaid y Medicare, así como el movimiento del inglés solamente, en gran parte porque todos son ciudadanos estadounidenses. Los puertorriqueños, así como los dominicanos, tienen la tasa de pobreza más alta en la ciudad, por encima del 40 por ciento, y representan junto con otros latinos la mayoría de las personas afiliadas a la asistencia pública en Nueva York actualmente.

La interrogante en frenando a la dirigencia política latina de la ciudad hoy es qué significa todo esto para su comunidad.

Durante la parte preliminar de esta campaña, muchos estaban criticando al hecho de que los latinos han sido prisioneros del Partido Demócrata durante demasiado

¿Está la comunidad latina

A medida que empieza la elección alcaldicia del año próximo, empezaremos obtener contestaciones para estas preguntas. Y, con un poco de suerte, "La Macarena" no se mencionará para nada.

(Angelo Falcón, científico político, es el fundador y presidente del Instituto para los Cursos de Acción Puertorriqueños (IPR en inglés), un centro para cursos de acción no lucrativo y no partidarista con sede en Manhattan, establecido en 1982.)

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tiempo y estaban siendo tomados por sentados por Clinton. Por lo menos dos funcionarios puertorriqueños electos, el concejal José Rivera y el senador Efraín González, estatal hicieron saber públicamente que estaban boicoteando la convención demócrata por esa razón.

De modo que, ¿qué pasa ahora que la dependencia de su comunidad en el Partido Demócrata parece ser mayor que nunca?

condenada a una vida en confinamiento solitario, para ser usada como realce para los nuevos demócratas en su contienda con la derecha republicana? ¿O bien la dirigencia política

latina, que es abrumadoramente demócrata (todos los 24 funcionarios electos latinos de Nueva York son demócratas) empezará por fin a ejercer presión sobre su partido respecto a las necesidades de los que son posiblemente sus electores más leales?

Propiedad literaria registrada por Times Syndicate

Beyond 'La Macarena': The Latino Vote In New York City

By Angelo Falcon

While the role of the Hispanic vote in the United States during the presidential election has generally been discussed in terms of influence and immigration (not to mention "La Macarena"), the Latino experience in New York City reveals a much more complex picture.

The 2 million Latinos in New York City make up about 27 percent of the city's population. Factoring in citizenship, a younger average age and high poverty levels, this population represents about 15 percent of the city's electorate.

It is a diverse population. About half are Puerto Rican, a quarter Dominican, and the last quarter a mix of Colombians, Mexicans, Ecuadorians and others. The Puerto Ricans came to New York already U.S. citizens, courtesy of a 1917 act of Congress.

Our analysis of the election shows New York City Latinos afforded Bill Clinton more support than did Latinos in other areas of the country. In Latino districts Clinton here, attracted a record 91 percent of the vote. For the first time in decades, its vote for a Democratic presidential candidate exceeded that of African-Americans, 90 percent of whom voted for Clinton.

Exit polls reveal that in the predominantly Mexican-American Southwest, Latinos voted for Clinton in high percentages, but not at the level seen in New York: 75-76 percent in Texas, 70-71 percent in California, 81-83 percent in Arizona, 65-66 percent in New Mexico, and 85 percent in Colorado. Clinton was able to carry Florida, where Cubans make up most of the Latino population, in large part because Latinos split their vote, with 44 percent supporting Clinton vs. 46 percent for Dole.

Throughout the country, but particularly in New York, the Republican alternative was rejected by Latinos. Despite talk by the people like Jack Kemp that they wanted to open the party, all their program and rhetoric did was

alienate Latino voters further. In 1992, George Bush was able to attract 19 percent of the New York City Latino vote with a weak campaign (and I don't think we really cared that his son was married to a Mexican). Four years later, Dole attracted just 7 percent.

It appears as though the Republicans are going to have to start all over again with Latinos, even Cuban Ameri-

Clinton didn't even bother to campaign in New York City, and the Latino vote was not a factor in his victory. But the large Latino Democratic edge here clearly solidified his congressional base. In Latino Democrats were areas, returned to Congress with major mandates: Jose Serrano received 96 percent of the vote in the South Bronx; Nydia Velazquez received 83 percent Brooklyn-Queens-Manhattan district; Charles Rangel received 91 percent in Harlem, East Harlem and Washington Heights; and Eliot Engel gained 85 percent in his Bronx-Westchester district.

What was behind this record Latino support, despite the fact that Clinton did not campaign here or have a specifically Latino message? Cer-GOP's the tainly antiimmigrant stance had an impact. In Latino immigrant areas, the voter turnout was 63 highest: percent Washington Heights and 60 percent in Jackson Heights; overall it was about 48 percent for Latinos.

For Puerto Ricans, who make up more than 70 percent of Latino voters in New York in large part because all are U.S. citizens, the key issues had more to do with things like welfare reform and the future of Medicaid and Medicare and the English-only movement. Puerto Ricans, as well as Dominicans, have the highest poverty rate in the city, above 40 percent, and represent, along with other Latinos, the majority of people on public assistance in New York today.

The question before the Latino political leadership in the city today is what this all means for their community.

During the early part of this campaign, many were decrying that fact that Latinos have been the prisoners of the Democratic Party for too long and were being taken for granted by Clinton. At least two Puerto Rican elected officials, city council member Jose Riv-

era and state senator Efrain Gonzalez, made it known publicly that they were boycotting the Democratic convention for this reason.

So what happens now that their community's dependence on the Democratic Party appears to be greater than

Is the Latino community doomed to a life in political solitary confinement, to be used as a foil for the New Democrats in their parrying with Republican right?

Or will the Latino political leadership, which is overwhelmingly Democratic (all 24

Latino elected officials in New York are Democrats), finally begin to exert pressure on their party to the needs of possibly its most loyal voters?

As next year's mayoral election gets under way, we will start to get answers to these questions. And with a little luck, "La Macarena" won't be mentioned at all.

(Angelo Falcon, a political scientist, is founder and president of the Institute for Puerto Rican Policy (IPR), a Manhattan-based nonprofit and nonpartisan policy center established in

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US to Protect Doctor Fees

As Americans on Medicare and Medicaid switch to managed-care health coverage, the Clinton administration is moving to protect doctors from being penalized, as many are now, for referring patients to specialists, reports Associated

Officials of the Health and Human Services Department are completing regulations to take effect Jan. 1 that designers say will prevent doctors from having to choose between sending a Medicaid patient to a specialist or possibly losing reimbursement money.

Penalties often come in the form of refusal to reimburse the physicians for the visits that led to the referral, or for diagnostic tests or other expenses associated with it. Some plans withhold reimbursement in amounts equal to the cost of referrals, if a physician's referrals cost more than 25 percent of his annual payment from the HMO.

The new rules take on special importance, given the huge growth in the number of Medicare and Medicaid recipients who now receive medical treatment through managed-care systems.

Almost 12 million Americans on Medicaid are treated through HMOs, 140 percent more than in 1993. The 4.5 million Americans on Medicare treated through managed-care represent 87 percent more than in 1993. Just in the past month, more than 100,000 Medicare recipients switched to managed-care health coverage.

The new government rules require HMOs to provide insurance for physicians, thus guaranteeing that the physician would receive his expected reimbursement even if he finds himself making numerous, costly referrals to specialists.

The new regulation marks the second time this year that HHS has tackled the delicate issue of the HMOs' relationships with physicians, rewarding or penalizing them based on the type of service they provide.

In March, the department ruled that managed-care organizations cannot reward doctors for limiting services to the elderly and the poor under Medicare and Medicaid. The agency also said this month it is writing rules to strengthen appeals rights of Medicare beneficiaries who disagree with medical care decisions by their HMOs.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM YOUR FRIENDS EL EDITOR Newspapers

Thinkin'

Spare Parts

by Ira Cutler

I have been a supporter of organ donations for a very long time. I always sign the back of the driver's license and I have instructed my kids to give away any remaining parts of me that anyone might want. Usually, I make my postmortem instructions even more explicit and tell the kids that they should give away my body parts only on condition that whoever gets the use of the good parts also has to dispose of the rest. Nothing strikes me quite so wasteful as to buy incredibly expensive little parcels of land -- ever think about what cemetery plots must cost at unit prices, i.e. by the acre? -- and to spend thousands of dollars on coffins that are made of finer wood than any furniture I ever owned. Just take it away, I have always thought, it isn't me anymore.

But nothing is ever easy or uncomplicated for long. It is now clear that the organ transplant business is the ultimate example of how pretty much everything in life works in favor of those who have money and against those who do not. It used to be that the role of ordinary people in the world was doing all the work, being avid consumers and, generally, providing ample opportunities for rich people to get even richer. The role of rich people, quite simply, was to fully enjoy their natural lives. But now, in addition, a good case can be made that ordinary people have also been assigned the task of growing and providing healthy body parts for transplants, so that rich people can live longer.

Look at the numbers for what have been called the Organ Transplants of The Rich and Famous. Governor Carey of Pennsylvania got both a heart and liver in less than one day, while the median wait in Pennsylvania is over 200 days for each. Mickey Mantle got a liver in Texas in two days, where the median wait is 180 days. Frank Torre, the brother of the Yankee's World Series manager, got a heart in a long and drawn out 75 days, while the whole city watched, prayed and worried and while ordinary people waited an average of 362

These numbers only tell part of the story -- that ordinary people wait longer than the privileged. The more profound issue is that lots of people, most people in fact, die while they are waiting. This is not just about inconvenience or even about relieving pain. It is about which of us is allowed to continue to exist.

The world breaks down into two classes of humans in this science fiction novel come true: important people and the rest of us, the temporary owners and life long growers of spare parts.

There is an organization called The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), which oversees organ allocation for the federal government. UNOS is supposed to be delivering a just and fair system and it has established voluntary standards and procedures to decide who gets which parts. One suspects that the word "voluntary" may be a key to understanding the system's failure.

UNOS, of course, is simply another front organization for The Powers That Have Always Been (TPTHAB). TPTHAB, as everyone knows but no one can prove, are the people that actually run the world. TPTHAB members are not the people you might think they are -- not Dole, Clinton, Bill Gates, George Steinbrenner or even Warren Buffet. Rather, they are the anonymous forces behind such public figures. TPTHAB is beyond countries, races, political ideologies and all other such artificial issues but they effectively use these concepts to confuse, divide, conquer and manipulate the rest of us.

TPTHAB can and does have everything it wants but it cannot, at least not yet, fully control the aging process at the individual member level. TPTHAB members die, eventually, and they deeply resent it.

While they are entirely beyond morality, it is hard not to have a grudging admiration for TPTHAB. They have incredible guts, creativity and the courage of pirates. Not only do they work it out so that the privileged get to live longer by using the spare body parts of the under-privileged, they manage to get the rest of us to pay for it and they make a sizable profit off the whole deal.

The average cost for a heart transplant is in excess of \$200,000, while a liver tops \$300,000. Think about how the money flows: the insurance companies pay out millions for these procedures, all supported by cost shifting. In other words, we all pay insurance rates based on the total costs incurred by the whole population of insured people, including those lucky few who get organ transplants. All the people who pay premiums in essence chip in to support the transplants that only a few will receive.

To top it all off, the donor and the donor's family get nothing for the organs that produce the profits that support the giant health care conglomerates that are owned by ... guess who? Now you are getting it. An ordinary person pays insurance premiums at same rates as rich people, checks into hospital, comes out dead as well as short a part or two, and the family is left with a bill which does not even get discounted. A rich person comes out alive and with the ordinary person's heart still beating in his chest.

What to do about this? Well, at the national policy level, there is probably not much which can or will happen about the inequity of organ transplantation as long as it is a part of an inherently unequal health care system that, from pre-natal care all the way through death, treats us unequally. Why would we suddenly, when we are at death's door, start to play fair?

One hope for all of us is that eventually TPTHAB will support a high quality, comprehensive, national health care system. Why would they? Well, they have a vested interest in there being more spare parts, in better condition, for when they need them. And, as we have seen, the spare parts business is an opportunity to make a profit.

At the individual level it is hard to know what to do. I guess I will continue to sign the back of the license. Not all transplants go to rich people who jump to the front of the line and I certainly have nothing to gain by being stingy with my used organs. On the other hand, it really frosts me that somebody -- doctors, medical care entrepreneurs, whoever -- is taking a piece of my property, my heart let's say, paying me and my family nothing, and getting a beach house, their kid's Ivy League college education and a Mercedes out of the deal.

They tell us that it is tacky for individuals to sell body parts, maybe even illegal, although the health care system does it every day. I am personally tempted to tell my kids to take control at the critical moment, to see to it that none of my body parts go to anyone I would not have liked or, failing that, to make sure that they make a decent buck off the deal.

Or, better yet, I think I will, out of spite, live so long that none of my parts are worth anything to anyone at the end. That'll show 'em.

Ira Cutler, says he's seeking a semi-legitimate outlet for thoughts and ideas too irreverant, too iconoclastic, or just too nasty for polite, serious, selfimportant 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'.

From Page One

Bruce Goldstein of the Washington-based Farmworker Justice Fund.

States do have the option of applying for a waiver that would lift this restriction in areas of chronically high unemployment - a phenomenon that often applies to counties and regions with high populations of farm workers.

But the decision whether to apply for such an exception has political implications.

In Florida, for example, home to about 100,000 childless agricultural workers between 18 and 50, Gov. Lawton Chiles will now debate welfare issues with a Legislature controlled by the GOP.

Rob Williams of Florida Rural Legal Services, said farm workers could face even tougher times when uncontrollable events of nature delay or ruin harvests. "This rule is going to be a big problem," he contends.

In El Paso, May 1598

First Thanksgiving Was In Texas, Not Plymouth

plorer Juan de Onate yesterday gathered 400 pil. was exploring a route through the northern pass to was drawn up in formation, and in the presence of grims he was leading north from Chihuahua, Mexi- the new country, noted that after the mass and dra- the multitude the governor solemnly took possession co, and celebrated what is thought to be the first ma (which enacted the advent of missionaries to of all the land drained by the Rio Grande." Thanksgiving on what is now United States soil.

Onate, who had been given approval to colonize the southwestern U.S. by Spain, had just finished crossing the arid desert south of what is now El Paso when the 400 settlers and 6000-to- 7000 ... head of cattle finally reached the Rio! Grande river.

According to a scribe traveling with the group, several horses drank until their bellies burst.

After the initial celebration in finding! water. Onate moved the colonist up the river a few miles, perhaps to within the present city limites of El Paso, Texas, and today (April 30, 1598) celebrated a Thanksgiving complete with pomp and :; religious ceremonies.

Fish were taken from the Rio Grande, a few head of livestock were slaughtered. wild fowl were shot from the skies." notes El Paso Historian Leon Metz.

The celebration included huge bonfires that lit the border sky as the meal was " cooked. According the sources, mass Manso Indians.

JUAN DE ONATE claimed all lands fed by the Rio Grande as the property of Spain after the First

baptisms took place of local Suma and Thanksgiving celebrated on what is now U.S. soil. Celebration is recreated the last Sunday of April

The Thanksgiving celebration was follwed by the America), "the entire group began celebrating with

EL OESTE DE TEJAS ... MAYI, 1598 - Spanish ex- A journalist travelling with the expedition, which and glistening arms," he noted. "The entire army

Further reports from the scene noted that Onate placed a cross on a tree and performed this ceremony known as "La "Toma," the "taking of possession," in which he declared all lands watered by the Rio Grande del Norte to be the sole possesion of God and King Philip of Spain.

King Philip was not immediately available for comment and did not return phone

Later land cliamed by Spain became Mexico, and possesssion of the turf in question was later transferred to the United States with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, in one of many shrewd land deals that Americans have become famous for including the purchase of the Island of Manhattan, the Louisiana Purchase and the dealings that lead towards the acquisition of what is now the State of Alaska.

The Onate Thanksgiving has been documented and submitted as proff that the Spanish beat the Pilgrims to the punch and pumpkin ple over two decades before the later even set for on Plymouth Rock.

In modern history, the First Thanksgiving celebrated is reenacted annually on the last Sunday in April onthe Chamizal

performance of a play written and performed in great joy and mirth. The horsemen gathered in National Memorial grounds in El Paso, Texas. their most gala attire with splendid accoutrements what is now the United States.



Un Rayito De Luz

by Sofia Martinez

Los condendos en el Infierno, padecen dos penas: la pena del daño que consiste en la separación de Dios durante toda la eternidad: y la pena de sentido, que consiste en estar nen, conocen mucho mejor sumergido en un fuego devor- las perfecciones de Dios; su ador que nunca se ha de apa- hermosura infinita, su in-

*Se pagarán durante 20 años.

En las palabras que Jesucristo ha de pronunciar en el juicio final viene indicada la doble pena del Infierno: 'Apártense de mí, malditos" y "Váyanse al fuego eterno".

Si los condenados pueieran, coo en este mundo, estar separados de Dios, por esa separación, su desgracia no sería tn dura; pero no es así: perdieran suDios que fue su Creador, su Pdre y su bienechor aquí en la tierra, y había de ser su fin supremo y su dicha en la eternidad; y al perderlo, comprenden su desventura, porque con las luces que tiemensa bondd, sus riquezas incomparales, etc.

Así como el hierro es atraído por el imán, los condenados son atraídos por la Divinidad; pero el pecado es como una barrera, que no se puede romper, entre Dios y los condenados. La justicia vengadora del Soberano Juez ha reemplazado a los amorosos llamamientos de la divina misericordia; y el conflicto de alejamiento eterno e infinito de Dios, es la pena más dura y más dura y más dolorosa para la condenados.

(S. Mateo 22, 13 y 25, 41).

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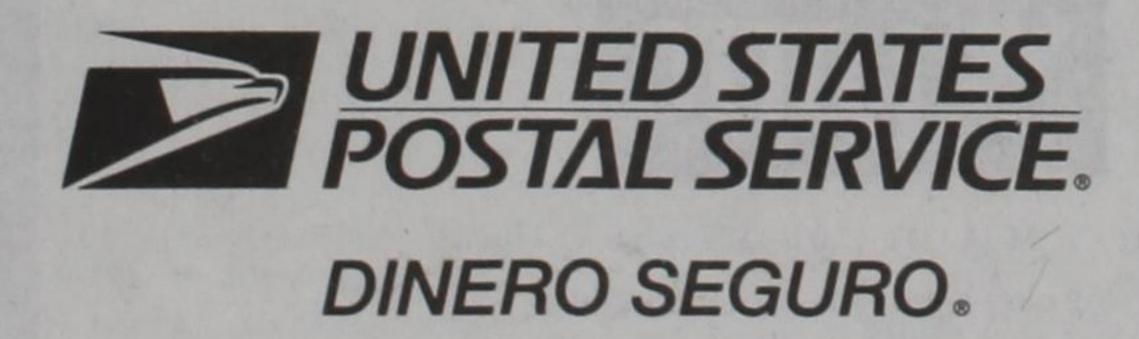


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News Briefs

National Urban League Sees Decay

The National Urban League warned crumbling inner cities and double-digit unemployment among blacks foreshadow social and economic problems for America into the 21st century despite recent progress, reports Associated Press.

Hugh B. Price, president of the league, called for a national urban policy to increase employment among the poor.

"We believe the urban policy must have a laser-like focus on jobs for the inner-city poor," Price said. "No fancy master plans, no complex urban policies with dozens of components. We need public policies which make work economically worthwhile."

Price presented the civil rights group's annual report, "The State of Black America," featuring eight essays from researchers examining the health, economic well-being and social standing of black Americans.

In his introduction to the report, Price noted "the striking progress African Americans have made during the past three decades," pointing to the growth of the black middle class and the increase in black public officials.

Among the researchers' findings: -Unemployment in the inner city undermines the nation's efforts to increase economic productivity.

-Both the hourly wage gap between whites and blacks and the gap between high- and low-income blacks are growing. -Health problems among blacks are exacerbated by poverty, ineffective health care and discrimination.

Faced with the challenges of the global economy, the United States must strive to include all its citizens in the work force, Price said.

"Will we learn to manage the most robustly multiethnic democracy and market economy that the world has known?" Price asked. "The question is whether we ... as a society will muster the will and the resources in the new millennium to make that the millennium when America finally works for all Americans."

Pre-Teens Should Update Shots

The CDC recommended Thursday that 11- and 12-yearolds should get vaccinations they skipped, and new ones that have become available since they were babies, reports Associated Press.

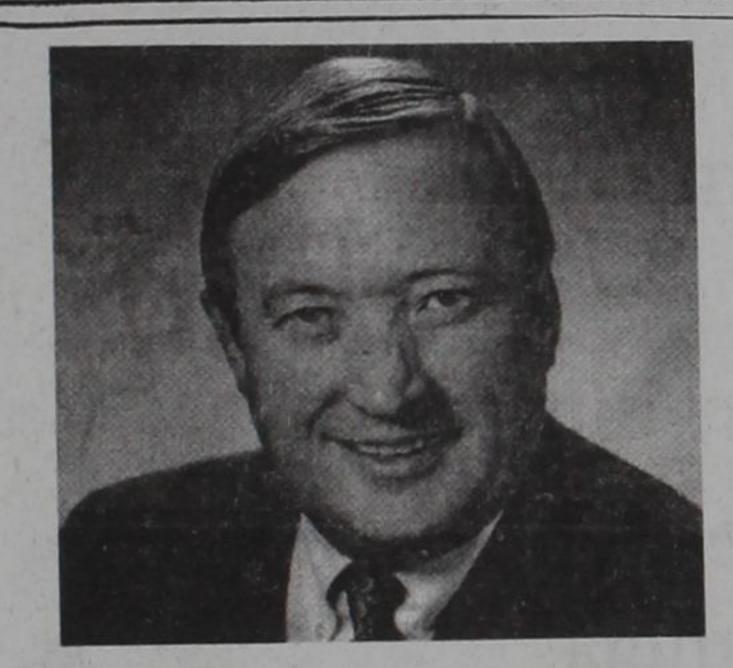
Most infants get a series of baby shots to ward off most childhood diseases and hepatitis B. But the hepatitis vaccine was not recommended as a routine shot until 1991, and a vaccine against chicken pox has been available only since May 1995, so pre-teens would not have had the shots as babies.

One in five children ages 11 and 12 are at risk for chicken pox because they haven't had the disease or the vaccination.

There are 200,000 new hepatitis B infections each year, 70 percent of them among people between ages 15 and 39. The liver disease that can lead to cirrhosis and liver cancer is transmitted mainly through sex and drug needles.

And while measles is declining overall, 17 outbreaks in the United States this year occurred mostly among children age 10 and older, the CDC said.

The routine visit would be the time for a second measles shot, which the CDC recommended in 1989. Children born before 1985 may not have received the second shot.



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Channel 6).

Cowboys' Smith Likely To Start

By DENNE H. FREEMAN IRVING, Texas - Expect struggling Emmitt Smith to start in the Thanksgiving Day game against the Washington Redskins despite a

gimpy right ankle.

But Dallas Cowboys coaches could put Sherman Williams or Herschel Walker into the game if Smith doesn't produce.

"Emmitt doesn't have the quickness he's had in the past," coach Barry Switzer said Tuesday. "We could use both Sherman and Herschel."

Smith gained only 18 yards in 11 carries in the Cowboys' 20-6 loss to the New York Giants last Sunday. He has a sore ankle, but an MRI test was negative.

"If Emmitt is healthy enough on Thursday, he will start," running back coach Joe Brodsky said. "This man has a lot of pride. He plays hurt all the time without telling anybody. "

Smith was benched in the fourth quarter of the Giants loss in favor of the quicker Williams, who is not as good a blocker and has trouble running correct pass routes.

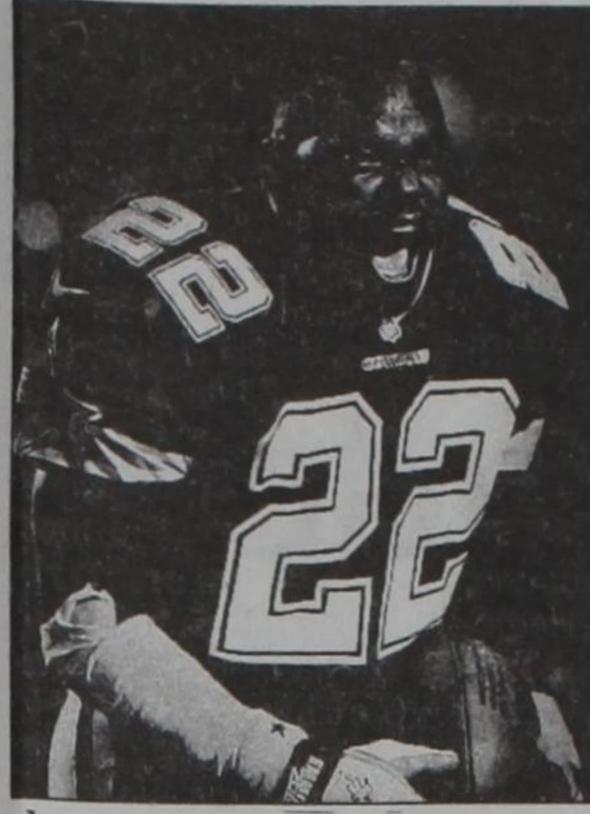
Williams has rushed 34 times for 160 yards this year. His average of 4.7 is exactly a yard better than Smith's 3.7 on 244 carries for 894 yards.

"I'm ready if Emmitt can't be ready," Williams said. "I hope I can give the team a little spark when I get in there. "

Walker has run four times for 12 yards. However, he is a better receiver out of the backfield and blocks better than Williams.

Switzer said both Williams and Walker could be used early against the Redskins in an effort to kick-start an offense that hasn't scored a touchdown in 24 consecutive possessions over eight quar-

Clearly unhappy at being me."



benched, Smith hasn't spoken to reporters since the Giants

But Dallas coaches maintain Smith needs rest.

"We want to give him a breather every now and then so he can play another five years," Brodsky said. "But he can be stubborn."

Smith, who has led the NFL in rushing four times, has said he doesn't object to be given some brief relief. But he wants to be in there in the fourth quarter when the game is being decided.

"Maybe we can give him some rest in the second or third quarters so he can be ready for the fourth," Brodsky said. "I know this: He's a competitor. He wants to be there when the game is on the line, no matter how much he's

How much Smith will play will be determined at game time on Thursday when the Cowboys, 7-5 in the NFC East, take on the division-leading Redskins (8-4).

Redskins coach Norv Turner, a former Dallas offensive coordinator, said Smith looks fine to him.

"He looks the same to me in the game films," Turner said. "I saw Emmitt burst out of there for a 25-yard run against Green Bay, and it looked like Emmitt Smith to

Players Happy To Have Deal

The long-awaited news that baseball's labor war had finally ended was greeted with relief by players, owners and fans.

"I'm just happy that it's all over with," said Ken Caminiti of the San Diego Padres, the NL's MVP this season. "Now, we can just concentrate on playing baseball."

Yes, at long last baseball is free from the turmoil that has held a stranglehold over the national pastime and forced the cancellation of a World Series.

"All right! I'm ecstatic," said St. Louis Cardinals reliever Tony Fossas.

The owners' approval of a new, five-year collective bargaining agreement ensures labor peace into the next century, and it also means that for the first time smallmarket teams will be able to share the wealth.

It also means that for the first time teams from opposing leagues will play during the regular season.

"That's going to be real different," Caminiti said. "It's been American always American League against League League, National against National League. ... I thought it was a pretty good system the way it was."

And, although there may be differences over the necessity of interleague play, the resolution of the labor situation was universally welcomed.

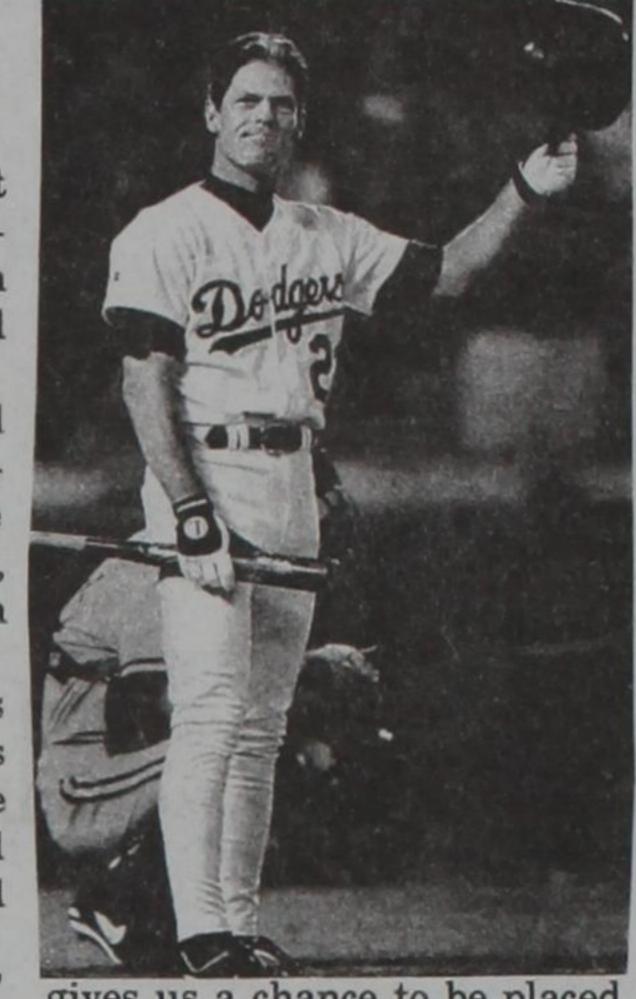
"I think the fans are glad the threat of any work stoppage is gone," said Phillies owner Bill Giles. "Revenue-sharing will help some of the low revenue clubs to a degree and that's good for the game. The agreement will help bring parity to the game, although not as great as it could be."

The agreement couldn't have been better for the expansion Arizona Diamondbacks.

"It was exactly what we wanted," said Diamondbacks president Rich Dozer. "From a very selfish standpoint, it

The fight was postponed

when Tyson injured his ribs in



gives us a chance to be placed in the National League in the next month or so, and then we can start doing things based on that. We've been hoping for this for a long time, but what we've been seeing dayto-day wasn't encouraging.

"The labor mess is settled. The whole overlying global concept is that this gives baseball some stability. Now we can start selling season tickets and not worry about lockouts, walkouts, strikes, you name it. We can start selling advertising and give more attention to the fans."

For one fan who stuck with baseball during the labor strife, the announcement was cautiously embraced.

"It's definitely about time, but why did it take so long?" asked Jimmy Rodriguez, a Yankees fan. "The fans have been taken advantage of for too long."

Another fan wasn't as enthusiastic.

"When they went on strike, I was embarrassed," said Ray Caceres, a former minor leaguer in the Atlanta Braves' organization. "Baseball no longer has meaning. There's no love for the game anymore, it's just a business."

Still, baseball took a big step in attempting to heal the lingering resentment held by

"It's about time for the fans and for everybody," Fossas

The Book On Evander Holyfield

By ED SCHUYLER JR.

Quitting is not a word associated with Evander Holyfield.

That, however, was exactly what Holyfield was thinking of doing in the third round of an amateur bout against Ricky Womack in 1983.

Holyfield won the first round, then Womack won the second and had Holyfield in trouble in the third.

"I was trying to fall, but he wouldn't let me," the former heavyweight undisputed champion recalled in his biography, "Holyfield: The Humble Warrior," released this week. .

"He held me up and he head-butted me," Holyfield said in a interview. "I got mad and I jumped all over him,"

And Holyfield won. "I can't believe I was that close to quitting," he said. "I thought about what's going to make you quit, and what's going to make you fight."

Well, nothing has made Holyfield quit since. He's always come to fight and never stops until the final bell or until he or his opponent can't said.

continue.

There are fans and people involved in or with the sport, however, who wish Holyfield would not continue to fight. especially against Mike Tyson on Nov. 9, despite the clean bill of health Holyfield received from the Mayo Clinic.

"I don't want to get hurt either," Holyfield said. "I wouldn't do anything to hurt myself."

Holyfield will challenge Tyson for the WBA title. When the two were to fight

Nov. 8, 1991, Holyfield was the undisputed champion. "Evander felt he could fight

Tyson, win the respect that comes from beating a feared former champion, and then retire," Bernard Holyfield writes in "Holyfield." Evander also is listed as an author, but the book is written from his brother's perspective.

If that fight, which was canceled, had happened and Holyfield would have won, would he have retired?

"I could have," Holyfield

training and then was canceled because of Tyson's trial on a rape charge that ended in a conviction and a three-year prison term. 'When all this came up, my

attitude was he missed the opportunity," Tyson says in his book. "He missed his opportunity. I'm the champ. He has to get it from me."

Now Tyson is the champion, and that, said Holyfield, is what is important.

"I want to be the champion," he said. "It's not so much that I want Tyson. I came into this game as a champion and I want to leave as champion."

Holyfield, however, admitted, "I want to fight all the

top fighters in my era." A victory over Tyson certainly would be the crowning jewel of Holyfield's career. In the book, Holyfield said

he didn't need Tyson back in 1991, but it appears he does now. Tyson, at this stage, certainly needs Holyfield after having fought less than four full rounds in four comeback fights since his release from prison March 25, 1995. As for retiring, win or lose,

after the Tyson fight, for which he will be the underdog, Holyfield said, "You put retirement in your mind and it kind of prohibits you from being the best you can be. You complete the job and decide what you're going to do. I know when I retire I want to retire as a current champion."



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