

# PERSPECTIVA

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## Pesticide Study Inconclusive

By Esther Beltran

**Gloria Latios was pregnant as she labored in San Joaquin Valley Fields sprayed with pesticides. Latios wanted a better life for her expected child than that of a field laborer.**

**Her daughter, Amalia, will never work in the fields. But that fact brings no solace to Latios. Amalia was born with a portion of her spine missing, an affliction which left her paralyzed from the waist down. Her parents believe that pesticides were responsible.**

**Mario Bravo was believed to be a healthy 14-year-old who played football and engaged in other activities common to boys his age. In late August, 1987, the family discovered a lump on his body. The next day, doctors diagnosed a cancerous liver tumor. The diagnosis came on the same day that Mario's six year old cousin, Mayra Sanchez, who died of a brain tumor, was buried.**

**Mario died on Thanksgiving Day. Mario had only worked in the fields for two days in the summer of 1987, but he had played in the fields where his parents worked since the age of five.**

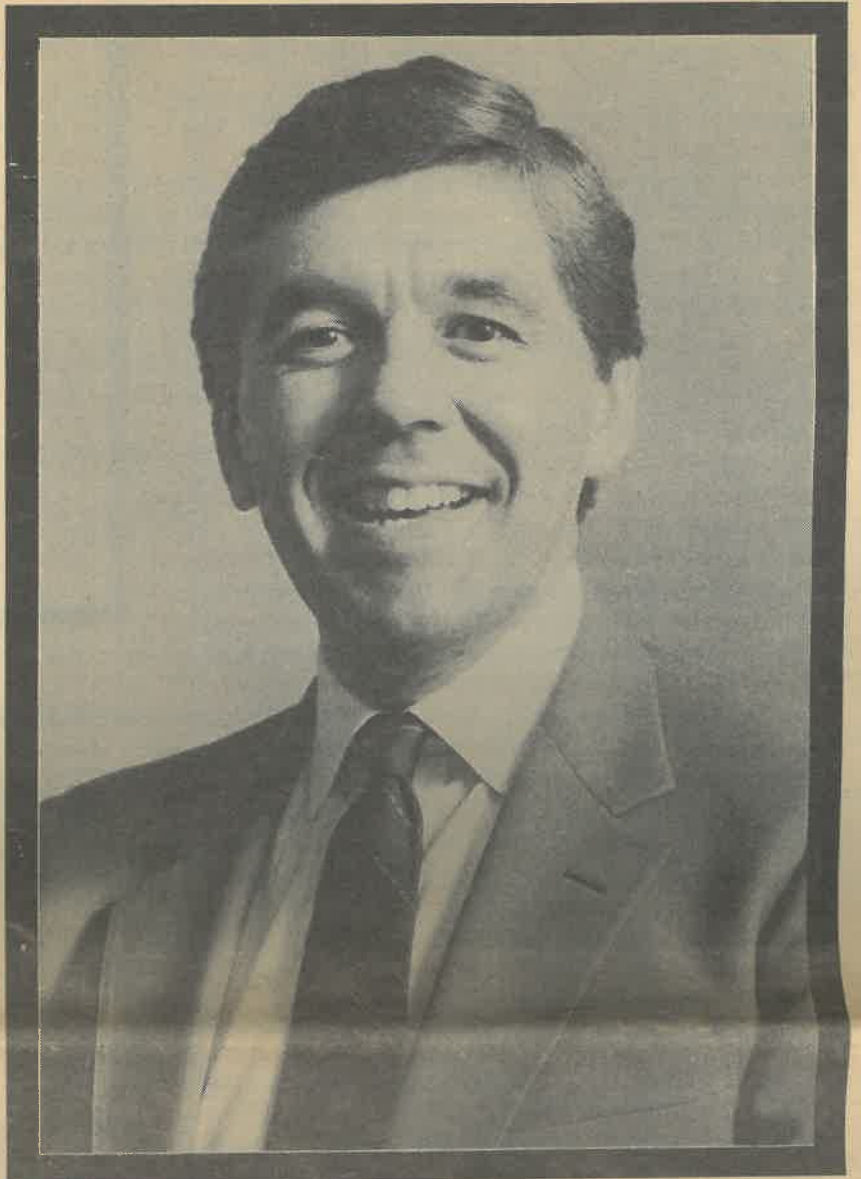
**His parents also believe that pesticides were responsible for his untimely death.**

These children lived in McFarland, located in Kern County, at the time of their afflictions. McFarland is the second leading California county in the use of carcinogenic pesticides, and one of two San Joaquin Valley towns designated as a "cancer cluster."

Over the past two years, McFarland has been the subject of a multi-phase study conducted by the State Department of Health Services in conjunction with the Kern County Health Department. The study was initiated in an attempt to identify the cause of childhood cancers after parents complained that county and state health officials were ignoring their pleas for help.

Mounting pressure from the parents, who received the attention of Senator Art Torres, prompted state health officials to make available \$40,000 for a full-scale epidemiological investigation. The study itself focused on 12 children, six of whom have died. Parents and others claim that

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State Senator Art Torres

## Have I Come Home to Die?

**Editor's Note: A PERSPECTIVA reader called soon after January's issue was published, to comment on the news stories related to AIDS education that appeared. The following narrative is from the interview that followed. It is printed without attribution because of the individual's desire for confidentiality.**

**Have I come home to die?**

**I'm back in Sacramento, after a half dozen years in the City. Half a dozen years of living the fast life...Obviously much too fast.**

**I read the articles about AIDS in PERSPECTIVA. 'Startling statistics' cried one article, 'educate Hispanics about the dangers of AIDS,' warned another. But it comes too late for me.**

**None of the Hispanic newspapers—**

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## Hispanic Legislator Stripped of Key Posts

By Gary Hernandez

The perquisites of political office in the California legislature can be tangible, but fleeting.

A few short weeks ago, Assemblyman Charles Calderon had sumptuous office space in the Capitol, large Committee budgets and the large Capitol staff that accompanies those budgets.

The last week in January, however, all those were gone and the traces of those perks sat in hurriedly packed boxes in tiny office 6011, tended by one of only two staff members.

Assembly Speaker Willie Brown removed Calderon from key committee positions in the the California State Assembly. The Speaker's actions were prompted by Calderon's association with four other legislators who reportedly were considering a challenge to Brown's speakership.

Calderon, a democrat who represents Montebello, lost every leadership post he had gained during his five years in the

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## PERSPECTIVA

### Interview: Senator Art Torres

Senator Art Torres has been characterized as one of the most influential and effective Hispanic policy-makers in the state.

His tenure in the legislature has been marked by an array of bills and budget fights that focused upon issues of concern to California's Hispanic community.

His prominence in the Hispanic community is evident by the frequency with which he is called upon to speak at luncheons, banquets and various fundraisers by Hispanic organizations of every description.

The consensus among Hispanic politicians is that Torres will become the first elected statewide constitutional officer in California since the 1800s. Torres confirmed that he will examine the possibilities for such office in 1990, although he indicated that he hasn't identified any particular office as of yet.

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**Comment**

**Assess your community's need for bilingual counselors in "battered women" facilities**

The woman was pleading for assistance. But the other party couldn't understand. It wasn't because of the blood that filled the woman's mouth, from the beating she'd endured. It was because the woman spoke Spanish, and there was no one at the "battered woman's" counseling center who spoke Spanish.

This incident, brought to the attention of **PERSPECTIVA**, occurred in a mid-sized California city with a significant Hispanic population. And, unfortunately, it may not be an uncommon occurrence.

A random sampling of battered women programs throughout the state revealed that half of those reached had no Spanish-speaking counselors available to provide services to monolingual Spanish-speaking women seeking assistance. This despite the fact that the percentage of Latinas seeking assistance at such programs ranged from 25% in Sacramento County to 47% at one Orange County program.

Vicki Skeels of W.E.A.V.E. (Women Escaping a Violent Environment) in Sacramento acknowledged that her program was one that did not have a Spanish-speaking counselor. However, her agency does have three bilingual, Spanish-speaking staff members at their shelter, and has been actively seeking Spanish-speaking counselors. The problem, she emphasized, was money. Her agency has been actively seeking bilingual counselors for some time, but the salary they can offer isn't enough to turn anyone's head, much less Spanish-speaking counselors who are much in demand.

There are programs with a laudable number of bilingual counselors. Orange County's Women's Transitional Living Center, where 47% of the clientele was Hispanic in 1987, has three bilingual, Spanish-speaking staff members. However, these programs are the well funded exceptions.

The disparity in the number of bilingual, Spanish-speaking staffers at women's shelter programs appears to be a product of funding levels, and not lack of need or commitment. Every agency contacted underscored the necessity of having bilingual staff members.

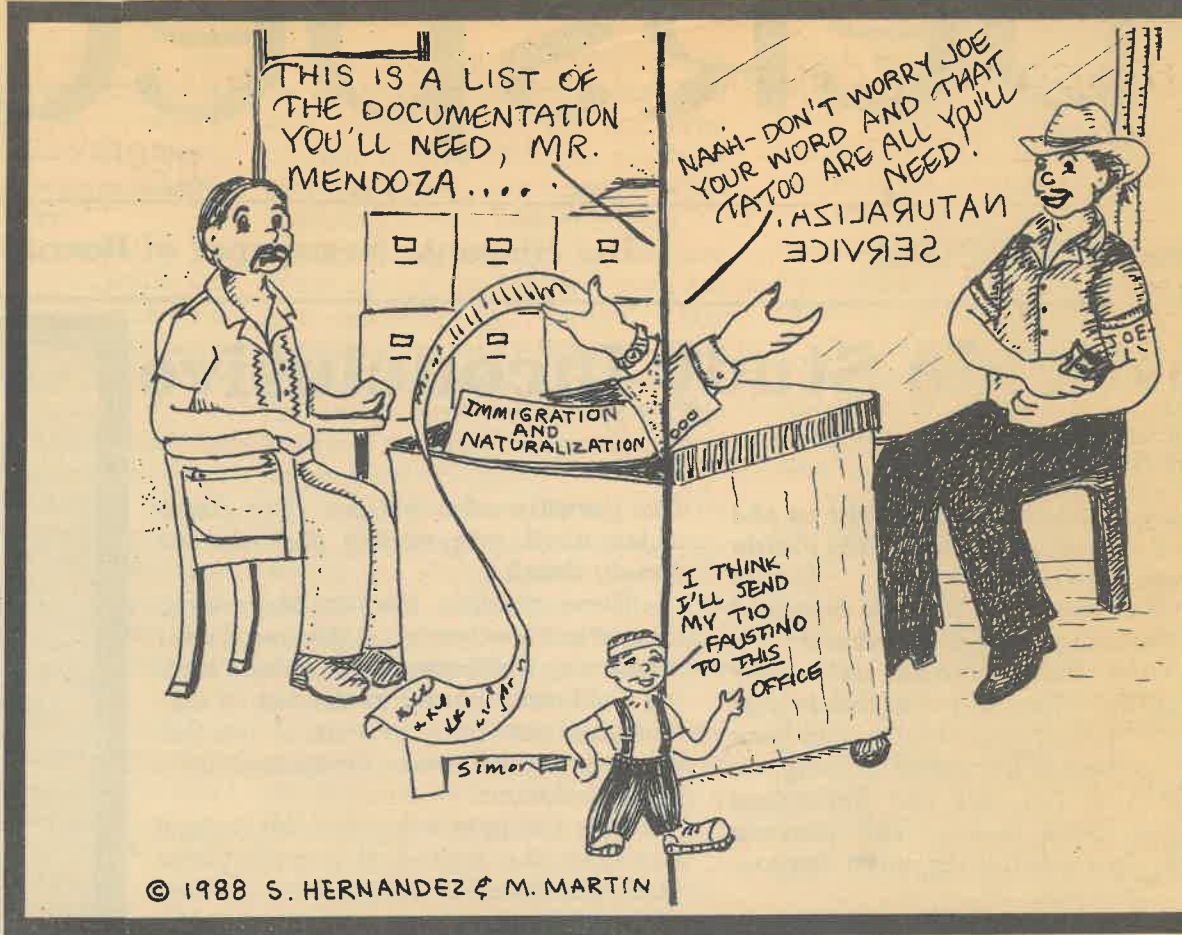
Why the disproportionate numbers of Latinas seeking assistance? Everyone we spoke with agreed: these figures do not necessarily mean that Latinas suffer physical abuse in disproportionately high numbers. Instead, they attribute these large numbers to economic factors.

"Hispanic women often don't have the economic resources that white, middle-class women possess," said Skeels. They can't just check into a hotel, or fly home to mother if they are having problems at home."

The fact remains that Latinas have a greater need for these types of programs. And that segment of the Latina population that is monolingual Spanish-speaking may have no access to these programs if there are no Spanish-speaking staff members to assist them.

Assess your community resources. Determine whether your local "battered woman's agency" has Spanish-speaking staff members. If not, facilitating the hiring of Spanish-speaking counselors should rank high on your list of goals for your community.

Of course, the spouses and male friends of these Latinas are at the heart of the problem. There are counseling programs of the "positive anger control" variety available to Latinos in many communities. If more men availed themselves of such counseling, the need for more Spanish-speaking counselors at "battered women's" facilities would not be so acute.



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**The Lungren Nomination**

**He's Eminently Qualified**

Jamie Sepulveda-Bailey

Political partisanship should have no place in Dan Lungren's confirmation process. The decision as to whether he should become the next guardian of our state's treasury should be made solely upon his qualifications for the job.

Unfortunately, partisan politics are being injected into the debate and even worse, ethnic politics have now been made the issue.

In an attempt to generate opposition to Lungren's nomination, his critics are charging that he is anti-minority, anti-immigrant and anti-woman. What they are not doing, however, is telling us the whole story about Dan Lungren's record as it relates to minorities.

For example, it is important to know that it was Dan Lungren who was responsible for ensuring that the 1986 immigration reform bill included a provision granting amnesty to immigrants who arrived here illegally several years ago.

Although amnesty posed a serious problem for most of his conservative colleagues, Lungren felt it was critical to take these people out of the shadows of illegality—and the only reason we now have a legalization program is because Dan Lungren successfully secured a needed support from his conservative colleagues.

On another immigration matter, you should know that it was Dan Lungren who crafted the 1980 Refugee Act which not only increased the number of refugees and immigrants allowed to enter the country but also provided \$200 million for English language training, employment training and various social services.

The truth is, no one in Congress worked harder than Dan Lungren to extend that act (both in 1983 and 1985) or to increase funding in order to improved existing refugee services.

How many of us know that Dan Lungren was the only congressman to serve on the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians? That he co-sponsored the measure to establish that panel, and later served as its vice-chairman?

Dan Lungren has condemned the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II as being largely the result of race prejudice; he has called for a public apology to victims of internment; and he strongly supported a \$50 million internment education fund.

The fact is, his only opposition to the redress bill was the provision relating to individual payments of \$20,000 to surviving former internees.

Lungren opposed individual reparations for two main reasons. The first is that he feels it is impossible to put a price tag on freedom, because it then comes down to being a symbolic gesture rather than true compensation.

Secondly, he believes that providing individual reparations to former internees would establish a

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**Hispanics Should Say No**

Carmen Reyes

Every Californian should be aware that Governor Deukmejian hand picked Congressman Dan Lungren for State Treasurer because he is young, bright, and a man with ultraconservative views could be applied to California. As State Treasurer position that plays a major role in decisions that involve the awarding of billions of dollars in State bond investment business financial concerns, Lungren's predecessor Jesse Unruh, would be in a position to raise campaign money for himself and his colleagues.

There is no doubt Lungren was carefully selected for these partisan reasons. A letter that substantiates this argument was sent out on January 4, 1988, stating the Republican's active and financial support to confirm Lungren.

The following are some excerpts from the letter: "... liberals are determined to deny the Governor his right to appoint a common sense conservative state treasurer ..."

"... as the only Republican statewide officeholder Dan Lungren would be in a critical position to help Republican get elected to office. . . He will be of critical importance in fundraising to help elect more Republicans to office. . . Senator Art Torres recently told a newsman on Long Beach that 'Dan Lungren will be Governor Deukmejian's Robert Bork' . . ."

The Governor and the Republicans have set the tone. The Governor's nomination has become political. However, at the same time, Hispanic leaders and the rest of the state are asked to judge Lungren on his merits and not on his politics.

This is a double standard that should be unacceptable to Californians and specifically to Hispanic leadership. The Hispanic community should only judge the Governor's nominee on his merits and not on his politics. certainly use the Governor's partisan set standard to select Lungren.

Understanding that the Governor and the Republicans are grooming a future ultraconservative Republican for higher office, the Hispanic leadership should seriously take into account Lungren's congressional voting record and analytically compare it to our needs, educational and social needs. In other words, leadership must ask, will Lungren's views and actions serve the interests of California's diverse population?

Aside from the State Treasurer office, should a Hispanic succeed in higher office will be categorically ignore the needs important to our communities as he did in Congress. Such as, immigration, discrimination, legal improvements, due process for eligible legalizations and rights for foreign temporary workers.

To date MEXICAN AMERICAN POLITICAL ASSOCIATION, LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICANS

Continued on page 4



## Hispanic Forum: Do Pesticides Pose a Significant Danger to California Farmworkers?

### Yes: California Laws Do Not Protect the Farmworker- Dr. Marion Moses

Farmworkers are exposed to toxic pesticides from many sources—the crops they cultivate and harvest, the soil the crops are grown in, drift of toxic sprays that are being applied to adjoining fields or often to the very field in which they are working. Farmworkers live in homes surrounded by fields which are heavily and repeatedly sprayed. Pesticides may be in the irrigation water, in the ground water from which their drinking water is drawn. And since they are more likely to consume produce very soon after harvesting they may get even more pesticide residues in their food than the general public. And since agriculture is the only industry in which children comprise a significant part of the work force, occupational toxic exposures begin at a very young age.

Not all pesticides used are acutely toxic, (that is, do not cause immediate and obvious harm). This, however, does not mean they are "safe". Such pesticides may be the most hazardous of all in terms of chronic effects such as cancer and birth defects. From a public health point of view, low level chronic exposures are much more worrisome since there are not likely to be any signs of a problem until it is too late.

What is the extent of cancer, birth defects and other chronic effects among farm workers and their families? The answer is we don't know. But there are warning signs the problem may be a serious one.

McFarland, California, a small agricultural community in the Southern San Joaquin Valley near Delano, was found to have an excess of cancer cases in children. From 1982 to 1985 when on childhood cancer case would have been expected, eight were found. McFarland is completely surrounded by vineyards as well as cotton fields, almond groves and other crops, all of which are extensively sprayed.

The main source of exposure to carcinogens in

the community is agricultural pesticides. In the neighboring town of Delano, childhood cancer cases are also being reported that may be in excess of expected rates. Table grapes is the major crop in Delano. In another small agricultural town called Fowler in Fresno county, also in the San Joaquin Valley, an excess of childhood cancer has also been found.

The types of cancer seen in some of the children are the same ones that have been found to be increased in farmers, agricultural workers and others exposed to pesticides in their work — non-Hodgkins' lymphoma, leukemia and testicular cancer. And a recent study has shown that children are at increased risk of acute leukemia if their parents use pesticides in the home or garden.

There is also the concern with effects on the reproductive system. A farmworker who was exposed to teratogenic birth defect producing pesticides while working in the grape fields during her first months of pregnancy delivered a child without any arms or legs. The child was recently awarded an out-of-court settlement in a suit filed against Chevron and Stauffer chemical companies.

In California, the only state that mandates physician reporting of occupationally related pesticide illness, 1,675 such cases were reported in 1985. Since pesticide illness is grossly under-reported (it is estimated that only 1% of pesticide poisonings in farmworkers are reported) the actual extent of work-related illness is much greater.

From my experience, there are two main reasons for the under reporting. A major one is the justifiable fear on the part of the worker of employer retaliation and job loss. Also workers do not report illness because they maximize their earnings during the harvest season and lose income if they take time off work to go to a doctor.

And since employers often refuse to send the workers to a doctor for pesticide-related health problems, the worker may be out of pocket for the trip to the doctor in any case.

A second major reason for the under reporting is the abysmal state of knowledge of physicians in rural communities regarding recognition and management of pesticide-related health problems in farmworkers. They often fail to even consider this diagnosis, or to dismiss it when it is raised by the worker. And since the basis of reporting of pesticide illness to the state is the "Doctors First Report of Work Injury" as part of Workers' Compensation, it can be seen why the majority of worker illness never enters the system at all. It has been estimated that 300,000 cases of farmworker poisoning from pesticides occur annually in the United States, but the actual number is not known.

California is also the only state that has any data on occupational illness and injury rates for agricultural workers. In 1984, farmworkers' illness and injury rate of 48 per 1,000 was the highest in the state compared to 36 per 1,000 to workers in general industry. While farmworkers represent only 3.9% of the state's workforce, they accounted for 9% of reported fatalities, 8% of Workers' Compensation reports and 5% of compensable illness and injuries.

It is estimated that it will take the EPA until well into the 21st century to evaluate the safety of the pesticides currently being used on food. It is not then understandable that the farmworkers have once again resorted to the boycott, in solidarity with labor, environmentalists, consumer activists, churches, and concerned citizens, for the protections that the law does not provide.

*Dr. Marion Moses is a consultant with the National Farmworker Health Group*

### No: California Has Extensive Laws to Protect the Public- George Hawkes

**"Nature's own plants produce toxic pesticides in far greater quantities than anything manufactured by man....It is estimated that humans typically eat some 10,000 times more of nature's pesticides than that of man-made ones. The most polluted drinking water well in the Silicon Valley provides water at least 1,000 times less hazardous than an equal volume of cola, beer or wine and is probably less carcinogenic than the average chlorinated tapwater in the area."**

Do these sound outrageous? Each of these statements can be backed up by scientific research. Yet few people believe natural pesticides, colas and chlorinated drinking water pose a significant risk to humans.

In the area of pesticides, it is a matter of perception that one deals with. Clearly we want to reduce the threat of toxic substances encountered in our lives yet we may not have the facts that allow us to make that choice. We have heard that man-made chemicals pose a risk and pesticides in particular threaten our safety. Should man-made and natural chemicals be treated the same? We can do something about the man-made ones, namely, stop using them. So shouldn't our attention be directed on eliminating the man-made ones?

It is true that it is easier not to add something than to take something out that is already there, and if all other things were equal, this reasoning would make sense. But things are not equal, not even remotely so. Present evidence, as argued above, indicates that the hazards posed by natu-

ral products substantially outweigh those from man-made chemicals. It is like trying to clean up a beach by removing one or two grains of sand. Unless alternatives to the man-made chemicals exist that can effectively perform the same function and also are known not to be hazardous, then we risk losing the beneficial function altogether.

So far we have been talking about the consumer, but what about the worker, the one handling the chemical and the one harvesting the crop. Exposure to pesticides is quite different in these situations. What is done to assure that this person is not exposed to an unacceptable risk?

Essential to giving an answer to that question is to define risk or hazard. This is a product of toxicity and exposure. Even the most toxic substances are not a threat to health if exposure is sufficiently limited. Conversely, almost any substance can become toxic in large enough doses. As Dr. Ottoni put it in succinct terms in the title of her book on the subject, "The Dose Makes the Poison". This understanding is extremely important in determining the risks associated with pesticides.

Most farm chemicals are toxic to at least one form of life. If they were not, they could not do their job of controlling weeds, parasites, insects, and other pests. The label directs the use and it is imperative that the label be followed along with cautions and warnings.

It is only after many years of testing and passing rigorous scrutiny both by EPA and the state of California that a pesticide is approved for use. But the scrutiny does not end with the

registration of its use. Government experts require a constant evaluation of how and where the chemicals are being used. Worker health and safety information are required to be monitored and pre-harvest intervals are set to prevent workers from entering fields until it is safe to do so. Constant monitoring occurs in the workplace, the field and in the market place where the agricultural products are sent. Any illnesses must be reported to the enforcing agency by attending physicians. All of this is done to assure that the worker's safety is maintained.

California has the most extensive program of any of the states to assure that the public's health is being cared for and that the farmer and those who work in his fields or who harvest, handle and eat his produce are protected. It is important to know that farmers, consumers and farmworkers are all working toward a common goal: a nutritious, abundant, healthful food supply, at affordable cost to consumers. Pesticides are neither bad nor good. There may, at times, be accidents and problems with their usage, but there are benefits to all which cannot be ignored. Pesticide manufacturers and users ask no special favors, but only that the public make informed decisions based upon accurate information.

*George Hawkes is Technical Director for the Western Agricultural Chemical Association*

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**Congressman Dan Lungren with Senator Pete Wilson and ethnic minority supporters**

**Qualified: from page 2**

precedent which would be difficult to avoid in the future, and hard to reconcile with the past, which saw other minorities treated unfairly.

Were you aware of the fact that without Dan Lungren there would not have been a fair housing bill in the 98th Congress?

Dan Lungren drafted the 1985 fair housing bill which was authored by Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (solely because he is the ranking GOP member on the Civil and Constitutional Rights Committee).

Furthermore, contrary to what his critics are saying, Lungren also voted for the 1980 fair housing bill. The only provision he opposed was one that would have denied defendants the right to a jury trial. Lungren felt this was imperative, because it would not be fair to have the same agency bringing an action also serving as the administrative judge, which is why his bill included the right to jury trials in fair housing actions.

My point is this: as the largest minority community in California, it is vital that we be involved, truly involved, in Dan Lungren's confirmation process.

But let's not cast our vote until we are honestly satisfied that we have heard the

rest of the story. Because once we have, it will become clear that Dan Lungren is very sensitive to the needs and concerns of minorities—and that he deserves to be confirmed as State Treasurer.

Jamie Sepulveda -Bailey is Community Relations Liason for Gov. Deukmejian.

**Say No: from page 2**

CITIZENS, AMERICAN G.I. FORUM, AMERICAN MOTHERS OF WAR VETERANS, HISPANIC ISSUES FORUM, LA RAZA LAWYERS, RAZA ADVOCATES AND COUNSELORS IN HIGHER EDUCATIONS, CALIFORNIA COALITION OF HISPANIC ORGANIZATIONS and NATIONAL COMISION FEMINIL have stepped forward to assert their leadership responsibility and oppose Lungren on behalf of their membership and the

The undeniable challenge remains: will the other organizations step forward and be accounted for, will they step forward and send a message to the Governor and Lungren as well as to all elected legislators that the Hispanic leadership unequivocally oppose Congressman Dan Lungren.

Carmen Reyes is Sacramento President of COMISION FEMINIL

**Dan Lungren: Do California's Ethnic Minorities Love Him or Hate Him?**

California's Cambodian, Vietnamese and Japanese-American want him. Mexican-Americans and blacks don't. Or....Do some Mexican-Americans want him, while some Japanese-Americans do. And, is it just South state Korean and Pilipino-Americans who support him, or do those who live north of Bakersfield (but south of Tulare) support his confirmation??

Well, you probably can't figure out whether California's ethnic minorities love him or hate him without a scorecard. And with a scorecard, you still can't tell!

The Assembly committee hearings on the nomination of Congressman Dan Lungren for State treasurer have ended, but the question whether California's ethnic minority groups support or oppose confirmation remains unanswered.

An array of prominent Asian, Black and Hispanic group spokesmen testified in support of and in opposition to Lungren's confirmation during the four day hearing, taking turns praising him then condemning him for his concern, or lack of it, for ethnic minority community interests.

Governor Deukmejian released a number of lists of individuals and organizations supporting Lungren's confirmation, including endorsements from: James Cole, president of the California Association of Black Lawyers; Miguel Barragan, president of the National Concilio of American and Julian Lee, member of the Advisory Board of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, to name only a few of the more than 1,000 ethnic minorities on these lists.

Lungren's detractors included various Japanese-American groups that decried Lungren's opposition to reparations for Japanese-Americans interned during World War II, the League of United Latin American Citizens and a number of black groups and individuals, including committee member Maxine Waters.

Waters was critical of minority supporters of Lungren, and focused upon Lungren's positions on voting rights, fair housing and South African policies, which she characterized as anathema to minority group interests, in questioning supporter's motives.

Waters' questioning of these witnesses led to a shouting match with GOP leader Patrick Nolan who described Waters' comments as "sneering and insults."

Lungren assuaged some minority critics when he stated that he would refuse to invest state funds in banks that discriminate against minorities. But he told Waters: "I continue to have a problem with affirmative action and fast quotas" for hiring minorities for state service.

The Long Beach Republican Congressman still faces hearings before the Senate committee, beginning February 1. Both houses of the legislature must decide on Lungren's confirmation by February 2 or he automatically assumes office.

A controversy remains over whether opposition to the nomination from only one house would kill the nomination. Governor Deukmejian says no, while Democrats, and California Attorney General John Van Kamp say yes.

The Senate hearings promise to be animated, as opposition to Lungren's confirmation among the majority Democrats appears to be high.

With supporters and opponents of Lungren having already scoured the state for ethnic minority support, there may not be any organizations available to testify at the Senate Hearings.

But wait, wasn't a new chapter of the Mexican-American Sports Hall of Fame being established in Ukiah? Anyone got a phone number?

*Perez, Makasian  
Williams & Sanchez*

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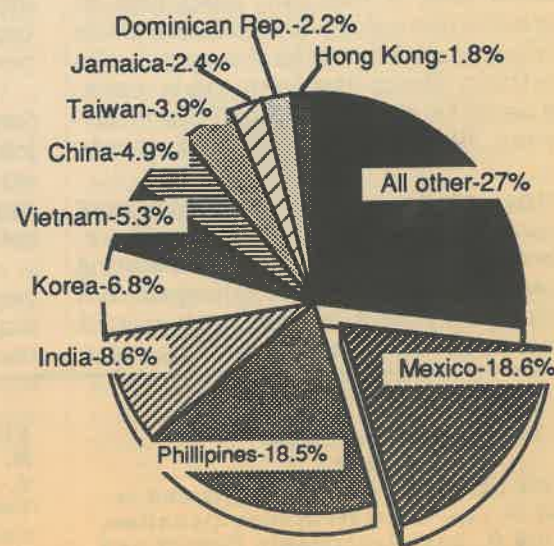
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Immigration Visa Applicants: Where they originate



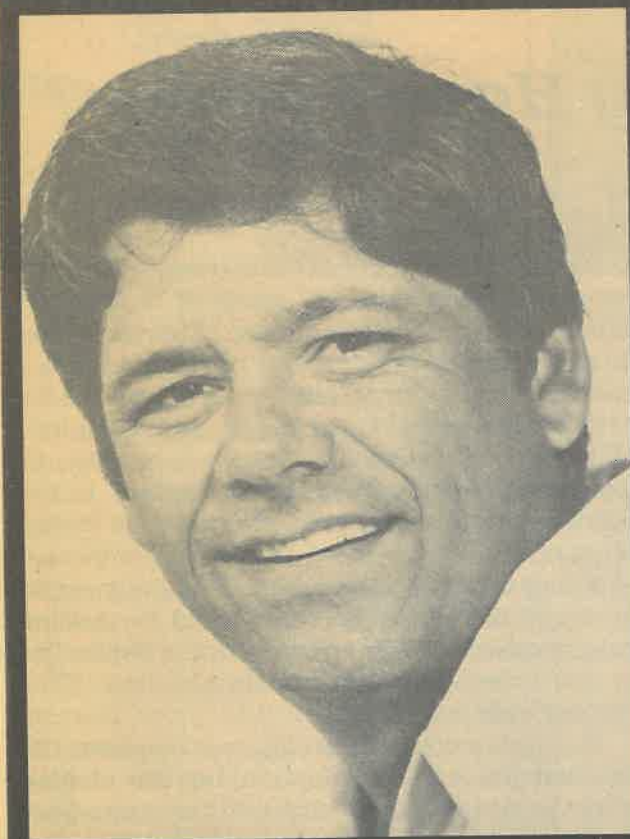
CHI CHI AND LEE  
AT A GLANCE

## LEE TREVINO

HEIGHT: 5'7"    WEIGHT: 180  
 BIRTH DATE: 12/1/39    BIRTH PLACE:  
 Dallas, TX  
 RESIDENCE: Dallas, TX  
 FAMILY: Wife Claudia, three sons, one  
 daughter  
 CAREER EARNINGS: \$3,315,503    TOUR  
 VICTORIES: 27

## CHI CHI RODRIGUEZ

HEIGHT: 5'7"    WEIGHT: 132  
 BIRTH DATE: 10/23/35    BIRTH PLACE:  
 Puerto Rico  
 RESIDENCE: Naples, FL  
 FAMILY: Wife Iwalani, one daughter  
 CAREER EARNINGS: \$1,953,123    TOUR  
 VICTORIES: 18 (includes Senior Tour)



## The Chi Chi and Lee Show: Latinos CAN Play Golf!

It's a country club sport, and the nearest many Latinos have gotten to the game are as greenskeepers and caddies.

But two Latinos have defied the odds and have risen to the top of the game.

The "Chi Chi and Lee" show has been tearing up the greens.

Juan "Chi Chi" Rodriguez set a Senior PGA Tour money-winning record of \$495,745 last year, winning seven tournaments. The previous year he took home \$399,172 in three tournament wins. His performance has been, in a word, dominating.

His stroke average has been 69.96—the best on the circuit—and he has been one of the top three finishers in 21 of the 25 tournaments he's entered.

This 52-year-old Latino has certainly improved with age. He spent 26 years on the regular PGA tour and finished with fewer tournament victories (eight) than he's attained after only two years on the Senior tour.

At 5'7" and 132 pounds, golf was one of the few real sport possibilities for Rodriguez. He entered

golf as a caddie at a country club in his native Puerto Rico at the age of eight. In 1960, with the financial backing of the owner of the Dorado Beach country club, he entered the pro tour. He won \$450 in his first tournament, and has been winning ever since. Although he was more of a journeyman on the tour—he averaged less than \$40,000 in winnings a year—his income rose to an average of \$200,000 a year with exhibition play.

Perhaps the best measure of the man, however, is not his stroke average. His philanthropy is well known. After winning the Silver Pages tournament last year, he gave \$10,000 of \$37,000 purse to victims of the Saragosa, Texas tornado. He co-founded the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation, which helps abused and disadvantaged children.

"Super Mex," Lee Trevino, was certainly super in the 1987 Skins Game at La Quinta, California. Shooting the 17th hole—known as "Alcatraz" because it is encircled by water—he hit a hole in one. A \$175,000 hole in one.

With that \$175,000 bonus, Trevino earned

\$310,000 for the two-day event, almost all of the marbles. Before that weekend at La Quinta, Trevino had earned only \$51,212 on the 1987 tour.

Though the Senior Tour awaits him, Trevino has already done it all. He has been inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame, has won 27 times on the tour—including the U.S., British and Canadian Opens, the World Series of Golf and two PGA Championships—and has career earnings of more than three million dollars.

Trevino joined the tour in 1967 and won his first tournament the following year. In 1971 he won the U.S. Open, and within a span of five weeks, the Canadian Open and British Open. After only four years on the Tour, he was named "Player of the Year."

As with Chi Chi, Lee is known for his generosity with charitable causes and has been honored for many contributions to his community.

Latino youths, looking for role models to emulate and follow into golf, could not hope for any better than Chi Chi and Lee.

## Linda Ronstadt Travels to the Beat of a Different Drummer...Again

She has fourteen gold albums. Her fifteenth will be "oro."

Linda Ronstadt's "Canciones de mi Padre" had sold more than 200,000 copies by the end of 1987, and is a hit in both English and Spanish-speaking markets.

Although this album isn't Ronstadt's first venture into Spanish-language music, it's certainly her most ambitious project.

To prepare for the album, Ronstadt spent months in Mexico, in intensive Spanish-language study, to develop a facility with the language she does not speak fluently. She spent at least as much time familiarizing herself with the traditional standards and obscure ballads she selected for the album.

She had good tutors. Ruben Fuentes, one of Mexico's premier composers-arrangers of mariachi music, collaborated with Ronstadt in her preparation for and arrangement of the album. And Mariachi Vargas Tecalitlan, one of the top groups in Mexico, accompanied Ronstadt on the record.

The singer plans to capitalize on the popular-

ity of the album. She is planning a road tour, accompanied by ballets folklorico and Mariachi Vargas. Another album, "Voces," is also in the works, this one focusing upon the Latina in America.

Ronstadt's versatility in the music business has evolved over two decades. Starting in the 60s with folk-rock music, she has crossed over many musical lines: folk, rock, pop, country with even a bit of opera thrown in.

But she claims that it is her latest work that "truly comes from the heart."

Ronstadt, 41, is of Mexican-German heritage, but her Mexican roots predominate, she says. Her great grandfather settled in Sonora in the mid 1800s, and her grandfather Federico crossed the border and made his way to Tucson, Arizona in 1888. She credits her father Gilbert, also from Tucson, for imbuing her with pride in her Mexican heritage and interest in its music.

There are some in the Latino community who find this latest success surprising. Joan Baez recorded a Spanish-language album in 1978, "Gracias a la Vida," which enjoyed critical acclaim,

but virtually no financial success in the Latino market. And there are those tias and abuelitas who merely shake their heads and frown: "Give me Lola Beltran any day."

But Ronstadt has been successful travelling to the beat of a different drummer in the past, and appears to be doing it again.

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# Latinas and Rape: Another "Cross They Have To Bear?"

By Patricia Marroquin

For many Latinas who suffer the nightmare of rape, the crime is viewed as "another cross they have to bear."

But the East Los Angeles Rape Hotline is there to tell women that they don't have to deal with the trauma alone.

Christine Leon, director of operations, estimates that about 98% to 99% of callers to the 24 hour hotline—which serves Los Angeles County but takes referrals from throughout Southern California—are monolingual Spanish-speaking. They are typically immigrants from Mexico and other Latin American countries, here to earn money to send back home to their families.

Leon said that the dominant Anglo culture has long been told that rape is not the victim's fault. "Most Latinas have not had that kind of education," she said. In fact, Leon said, their religious and cultural upbringing contradicts this thought.

Latinas "can think that this is another cross they have to bear," she said. "You feel guilty because you are at fault, that you really somehow caused it."

"We're very religious and we have been taught that through suffering we will attain Heaven," said Yolanda Ochoa, coordinator of the Sexual Assault Unit at the hotline. Latina victims believe "it happened to them for a reason. They see it as punishment from God."

Ochoa said the attitude of necessary suffering is just one of the cultural factors peculiar to Latinas that she sees among rape victims.

Another problem is the "virgin-whore" syndrome. "In terms of traditional beliefs in the Latino community, sexuality is seen as something that is only reserved for marriage," Leon said. "So that when women have been sexually abused, it is sometimes equated with having experienced sexuality."

The unmarried Latina virgin who is raped believes that no man will want her, Ochoa said. She said this attitude is also held by the woman's family, who view their victimized daughter as "used" and therefore not "marketable" as a wife.

"All of the anger (by the woman's family and friends) is not so much directed at the rapist, but it's also directed at the victim if she is a virgin," Ochoa said.

"They actually believe they're not going to be able to get married," she said of some of the victims. "That's a big issue for them".

Leon calls the aftermath of rape "post traumatic stress disorder," and for the Latina immigrant, it can be a particularly difficult time. "The rape is just one of the many things they're dealing with," she said. Poverty, culture shock and the language barrier compound the situation.

Ochoa gets calls concerning rape by stranger, rape by date and rape by husband. While nation-

wide statistics show that about 10% of all women report rapes, Ochoa said the hotline believes only 2% of rapes in the Latino community are reported. Typical calls come from women working as domestics who have been raped by the man of the house, and garment district workers raped by their supervisors.

"State and national statistics show that 95% of all women who are raped are raped by someone of their own ethnic group," Leon said. She said the hotline receives about 50 to 60 calls a month and estimates that about a third of these women take police action.

"Although culturally they play very important roles as the person (who) holds the family together," Leon said, "assertiveness outside the family is not really valued. The emphasis is on....what the Latina can do for her family, and not for herself." This is one of the reasons why Latinas are hesitant to seek help or file a police report after the assault.

Another reason is that they distrust law enforcement officials, particularly if they are here illegally. The undocumented worker fears the

**"...the (garment district) supervisor would ...(rape) a different woman each night. Knowing that the women were here illegally, he threatened to turn them in...if they did not cooperate."**

police will have her deported.

"Even if they're here legally, there's a general knowledge that historically they've been treated by law enforcement in a racist manner," Leon said.

If a police report is filed, it's often difficult to obtain a conviction in a rape case.

Ochoa cited the case of an American immigration officer accused of raping a Latina and was acquitted because of lack of evidence. However, a garment district supervisor was found guilty in another case. Ochoa said the supervisor would take turns with his employees, raping a different woman each night. Knowing that the women were here illegally, the supervisor had threatened to turn them in to authorities if they did not cooperate. The testimony of all the victims helped to convict him.

Another rapist impersonated an immigration officer. Ochoa said the man went to workplaces where he knew there were undocumented workers, and would flash a phony badge. He would ask the woman for her green card. When she told him she had left it at home, he offered to take her there so she could get it. Instead, he would take his victim underneath a bridge, where he raped her. Again, the testimony of the women ended in a conviction.

The frustrations experienced by the rape hotline workers seem to be more frequent than the triumphs, however.

Ochoa, one of about 30 employees at the 1-year-old hotline, told the story of a Mexican woman and her 3-year-old son. The two crossed the border in August by paying a "coyote" a man who brings illegal aliens over the border for a fee. The woman said the coyote had raped her. A homeless shelter on Skid Row downtown directed the woman, who speaks no English, to the hotline's offices. She said she was 22 weeks pregnant, and had worked as a domestic to earn the money to pay for an abortion. But she was told she would need \$1,500. Ochoa said the hotline workers called all over trying to find a shelter for her and a clinic that would do the abortion. They were not able to find either.

The hotline counselors suggested she have the baby and give it up for adoption, but the woman did not want to do that. She told the counselor she planned to go to El Mercado in East Los Angeles, where she would buy some herbs for self-induced abortion. The hotline set up a counseling session for her, hoping to talk her out of the action, but she never kept the appointment.

Ochoa, who has worked at the hotline for five years, said: "It's very difficult in the beginning. When a crisis counselor thinks she's heard the worst case, she gets another call with an even sadder story."

"We try to inform them about the rights of the victims, about the community resources that are available to them," Leon said of the survivors. "We focus on how they're feeling".

The crisis counselors, she said, use "anticipatory guidance." "We let them know what they're going to be feeling....We try to help them begin the healing process."

The crisis counselors are trained to respect the religious and cultural beliefs of the Latina rape survivor, whether or not they hold those beliefs.

The hotline is more than just a phone service. In addition, it provides short-term intervention, rape counseling, rape awareness education to the community and self-defense classes for Latinas that the hotline prefers to refer to as "assertiveness training."

The hotline has a new program called Teen Rape Awareness and Prevention Project. Teenagers are being trained to teach rape awareness to their peers, utilizing the teatro stage educational skits. The program is directed to both female and male Latino youths. "We're trying to teach effective communication and responsible decision-making," Leon said. "The goal is to reduce both male and female vulnerability to becoming either a victim or perpetrator of violence."

Leon said, "you can do rape awareness forever," but if both sexes in the Latino community are not taught pro-social behavior while they are young, "you're not going to make a dent in the level of violence in the community."

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**IRCA NEWS**

**Amnesty Extension Sought**

Senator Alan Cranston and a multitude of Hispanic groups are backing a bill by Rep. Charles, D-New York, which would extend the May 4 deadline for general legalization. (A special agricultural worker program has a November application deadline).

Antonia Hernandez, general counsel for the Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund in Los Angeles, estimated that with only about three months remaining before the deadline, there are an estimated 800,000 eligible undocumented workers to be signed up.

Immigration Commissioner Alan Nelson, however, opposes an extension of the deadline.

"The real question is whether there is really any need," Nelson said. "The second (question) is whether an extension would do any good."

An extension, he stated, might create confusion, impair the program and encourage procrastinators.

**INS Settles Detainee Lawsuit**

The Immigration and Naturalization Service has agreed to settle a class action lawsuit on behalf of alien youths by providing juvenile detainees with teachers, reading material, proper exercise and visiting rights.

An agreement to settle the suit, *Flores vs. Meese*, was recently submitted to U.S. District Judge Robert Kelleher and is expected to be signed any day now, said Ian Fan, an assistant U.S. attorney representing the INS.

As part of the pact, the INS agreed to keep illegal alien children in areas separate from adults who are unrelated to them.

The agreement, which is effective June 1, applies to children held in detention centers for more than 72 hours.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**The recruiters advertising in PERSPECTIVA have manifested commitment to Hispanic recruitment by seeking out this and other Hispanic media vehicles. Please alert job seekers of these positions and look to future issues of PERSPECTIVA for future prospects..**

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Applications must be postmarked by: February 11, 1988

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Franchise Tax Board

FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

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For more information contact:

Ray Martinez - (916) 369-3611 Testing Section

Richard Sanchez - (916) 369-3652 Affirmative Action Office

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and, equivalent to graduation from college with major work in civil or architectural engineering. (Additional qualifying experience may be substituted for the required education on a year-for-year basis.)

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Class of Senior Electrical Engineering

SALARY: \$3368 - \$4290 monthly

Qualifications:

Five years of professional electrical engineering experience, at least two years of which shall have been in design and inspection work in several fields. (Positions are expected to be filled in Sacramento and Los Angeles.) Education: Equivalent to graduation from college with major work in electrical engineering.

Class of Senior Structural Engineer

SALARY RANGE: \$3720 - \$4491 monthly

Qualifications:

Possession of a valid certificate to use the title of "Structural Engineer" under the statutes regulating the practice of civil engineering in California;

and, five years of experience in structural engineering work involving the performance of increasingly complex duties, two years of which shall have been in charge of the structural design of major buildings.

and, equivalent to graduation from college with major work in civil or architectural engineering. (Additional qualifying experience may be substituted for the required education on a year-for-year basis.)

...

Class of Compliance Officer, Health Facilities Construction

SALARY: \$3230 - \$3901 monthly

Qualifications:

Either I, two years in CA state service performing difficult construction inspection/supervision duties for the construction or modification of a full range of health facilities OR II, Four years experience as the rep. of an architect, engineer, or building owner performing full-time technical inspection. AND the equivalence of graduation from college with major work in engineering or architecture.



**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:** Experience with an emphasis on the health facilities or international type buildings including the knowledge of state statutes and regulations referencing Title 24 pg 2 of the California Administrative Code (UBC) and the State Building Code are desirable qualifications.

...

**NOTE:** Applicants must show their certificate number, title, and expiration date on their application.

The above positions have only been briefly stated here. For more complete information, please write to Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, 1600 9th Street, Room 435, Sacramento, CA 95814. Attention: Gerry Fontes. Or phone: (916) 322-1212.



# Recent Hispanic Education Statistics Show Little Improvement

## Bay Area Drop-Out Rate 18%

By Gary Hernandez

**San Francisco**--A recent survey by the San Francisco Unified School District showed that 3,004 students have quit city schools during the first semester of the 1987-88 school year. Of those drop-outs, 697 or 18% were Hispanic. Black students accounted for 28% of the total.

A student in San Francisco City Schools becomes a "drop-out" when they leave school for 45 days and no request for a transcript is made by another institution during that time.

During the first semester of this year, there were 64,487 total students enrolled in San Francisco school. The total Hispanic population numbered 11,833. Drop-outs account for 5.9% of the total his-

panic student population. By comparison, 6.5% of all blacks and 5.9% of all white students are drop-outs.

The drop-out rates for this year show a "slight" increase over last year's data.

The study is used internally by the school district to improve on overall attendance rates. Statistical information concerning Hispanic students was made available to PERSPECTIVA by Dr. Bob Harrington, the District's lead researcher.

According to Harrington, Superintendent of Schools, Ramon Cortines, has actively pursued ways to keep students in school. "Detailed statistical attendance data is given each month to the principals of every school in an effort to spot potential drop-outs," Harrington said.

## Disparity for Hispanics Remains High

**San Francisco**--Although the median level of education among Hispanics in the Bay area ranks them among the highest for Hispanics in the country, the disparity between Hispanic attainment and anglo attainment remains high according to a report by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Bay-area Hispanics surpassed the median education level for Hispanics nationwide, completing 12.4 years of school as compared to the national figure of 11.5.

However, nationwide figures show that while 33% of Hispanics between 18-24 do not have high school diplomas, the figure for whites was only 16%. Additionally, the report indicated that over the age of 24 were four times as likely to

finish college than Hispanics.

The Census Bureau report compared minority education level in 15 urban areas from March 1985.

## Minority Journalists Sought for Summer Training Program

**Berkeley**--The Summer Program for Minority Journalists, a nationally recognized training program, is accepting applications for next year's program.

The program trains minority who have the desire and commitment to become reporters on newspapers. Applicants must demonstrate a command of English grammar, spelling, syntax and be able to type at least 35 words per minute.

The 1988 program, sponsored by the Institute for Journalistic Education, will run from May 15 to August 12. The application deadline is February 15.

The Summer Program for Minority Journalists is not an internship. Program participants will be paid in a full time reporting job after successfully completing the program.

Blacks, Hispanics, Asian-Americans and Native Americans are encouraged to apply.

Participants will receive free tuition, room and board and a monthly stipend. For a brochure and application, write the program at North Gate Hall, Graduate School of Journalism, University of California, Berkeley, 94720 or call (415) 5962.



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#### Or II

One year of experience in the California state service performing tax compliance duties as a Program Technician II in the Employment Development Department, the Franchise Tax Board, or the Board of Equalization; or One year of experience in the California state service performing Medi-Cal overpayment recovery duties as a Program Technician II at the Department of Health Services.

#### Or III

**Experience:** One year of experience, or the equivalent, in one or a combination of the following:

1. Management activities, as owner or manager of a business; in the marketing, distribution, or sale of merchandise, which requires broad public or customer contacts; or
2. Activities as a credit manager, loan officer, or field collector with responsibilities involving the approval of loans or credit or the collection of delinquent accounts; or
3. Tax compliance experience in a governmental agency.

and

**Education:** Equivalent to completion of two years (60 semester hours or 90 quarter units) of college, which must include at least one course each in basic accounting and business or commercial law. Students in their second year of college will be admitted to the examination, but must produce evidence of completion before they can be considered eligible for appointment. (Applications must indicate the following regarding the required courses: title, number of units, name of institution, and completion date.) Additional experience may be substituted for the required general education on a year-for-year basis. No substitution is permitted for the specific course work required.

#### Or IV

Equivalent to graduation from college, which must include at least one course each in basic accounting, business or commercial law, and one course in either economics, business administration, or public administration. (Registration as a senior in a recognized institution will admit applicants to the examination, but they must produce evidence of graduation or its equivalent before they can be considered eligible for appointment.) (Applications must indicate the following regarding the required courses: title, number of units, name of institution, and completion date.)

Applications must be postmarked by: March 4, 1988.

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151 West Mission Street, San Jose, CA 95110. Closing date is February 23, 1988. Interviews to be scheduled March 4, 1988.

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## Two Latinos in San Francisco Ballet Will Make the 1988 Season Memorable

By Rene Chacon

**San Francisco**--Latinos participating in Ballet are exceedingly rare. But Hispanic ballet aficionados in the Bay Area have the rare pleasure of viewing two Latinos in the San Francisco Ballet.

This season the company includes veteran principal ballerina Evelyn Cisneros and soloist Alexi Zubiria.

Cisneros, featured in the television production of Luis Valdez' "Corridos," was selected as the Mexican-American Education and Legal Fund (MALDEF) cultural award recipient in 1985. *Esquire* magazine selected her as one of its 1986 "Outstanding Young Americans." In September of 1987, Cisneros was honored by the National Concilio of America as an outstanding member of the Latino

community. The Long Beach, California native joined the San Francisco Ballet in 1977.

Cisneros will perform in a number of productions in 1988, including: Balanchine's "Ballo della Regina" and "Theme and Variations;" Ashton's "La Fille mal Gardee;" Robbins' "The Concert;" and Tomasson's new version of "Swan Lake," a world premiere.

The Columbian-born Zubiria joined the company in July of 1986 and was named a soloist just one year later. Last year, the versatile Zubiria performed leading roles in Balanchine's "Theme and Variations," Christensen's "Divertissement d'Auber," and others.

The contributions of these two brilliant Latino artists will serve to make this San Francisco ballet season a particularly memorable one for Hispanic patrons of the arts.



## Hispanic Focus:

### California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

California  
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**MEMBERSHIP:** 24 independent chapters statewide, with approximately 8000 individual business members

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**OFFICERS:** President: Armando Morlos; Regional Vice-presidents; North-Joe Partida; South-Eduardo "Lalo" Villas; Central-Francisco Bertot; State Treasurer-Vince Orduño; Secretary-Andres Soto; Executive Aide to Board-Ida Casillas

The California State Hispanic Chambers of Commerce ("State Chamber") may be an organization dedicated to advancing the interests of its membership, but as important is what the organization attempts to do for the Hispanic community.

Members of the State Chamber are very active in their respective communities, participating in such worthwhile activities as sponsorship of scholarships for Hispanics youth, fundraisers for various Hispanic community organizations and activities, and sponsorship of an array of community social and cultural events.

Many of these social and cultural events have become premier annual activities: the San Jose Chamber's "menudo cook-off," the Gilroy

Chamber's Hispanic Arts and Trade Festival, and the Ventura Chamber's Cinco de Mayo Gala Parade, are but a few examples of Chamber-sponsored events that have become annual events in their communities.

According to Armando Morlos, newly elected statewide president, the goals of the State Chamber for 1988 include; making the State Chamber a financially strong and viable organization; establishing enhanced communication among its individual members; and facilitating unity by acting as a liaison between local, state and national Hispanic chambers of commerce.

"We've developed a professional organization to accomplish these goals," said Morlos. A significant component of this organization will be the State Chambers bi-monthly publication. This publication will not only facilitate communication among the various chambers, but will also serve as a forum for reaching corporate America.

Morlos stated: "We want to talk to corporate America and let it be known that it can gain a great deal from participation with local, state and national Hispanic chambers of commerce."

The publication will be circulated beginning in March and will be presented to the State Chamber's membership at the installation of state officers ceremony scheduled for March 11 in San Jose.

The biggest challenge in 1988 for the State Chamber, according to Morlos, is the attainment of the three above-stated goals. "My campaign slogan as I ran for the presidency of the organization was "Juntos y Unidos." And together and united we can make these goals a reality as they are well within our grasp," Morlos concluded.

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**Attorney General Van de Kamp receiving award from Sacramento La Raza Lawyers President Luis Cespedes**

**Van de Kamp honored by La Raza Lawyers Group**

**Sacramento--**Sacramento Attorney General John Van de Kamp was honored by the La Raza Lawyers Association (LRLA) of Sacramento for outstanding public service at the group's annual officer installation luncheon January 12, 1988.

The attorneys' organization cited Van de Kamp for outstanding service to the California Hispanic community, the recruitment of Latino attorneys, and his efforts toward affirmative action in the Department of Justice.

In recognizing Van de Kamp's achievements in affirmative action, LRLA President Luis Cespedes said that Attorney General Van de Kamp had established an outstanding record in implementing affirmative action in the California Department of Justice, especially among attorneys. After he became Attorney General there was an increase in the the number of Hispanic attorneys and Hispanic staff at the agency, Cespedes said.

"We have often criticized governmental agencies and business for failing to adhere to equal employment opportunities, and so it is a pleasure to commend those leaders

who have followed the spirit and letter of the law," Cespedes said.

Since Van de Kamp was first elected as Attorney General in 1982, overall Hispanic representation at all levels in the department has increased from 7.5 to 11.2 percent. Attorney hires in the department increased from 4.8% to 7.9% during this period, he noted.

Cespedes said Attorney General Van de Kamp had compiled an outstanding record as a leader in civil rights issues affecting not only Hispanic but other minorities as well. Van de Kamp's leadership in the campaign against the English Only Amendment and his creation of commissions to deal with affirmative action and discrimination as well as racial bigotry are further examples of his commitment in this area, he said.

Van de Kamp also served as installing officer for incoming La Raza Lawyers Association officers for 1988. The new officers installed were:

- President: Ismael Castro
- Vice President: Sylvia Velez
- Treasurer: Daniel Garcia
- Secretary: Ramon Perez

**Impacto '88 To Focus on Issues of Latino/Chicano Power, Relations With Mexico**

By Eric Vega and Roy Perez

**Sacramento--**On December 5, 1987 the California based Institute for Social Justice brought together approximately 75 Chicano/Latino leaders from a wide range of public and private sector concerns. The purpose of the meeting was to develop an agenda for a Spring 1988 summit meeting that will articulate community input into what is increasingly referred to as the National Hispanic Agenda.

As a result of this session, a consensus was reached that a Southwest Chicano/Latino Leadership Summit was necessary. The Summit would focus on two topics, 1) Chicano/Latino development of power and 2) relations with Mexico. Impacto '88 is the theme behind the effort to create a summit and agenda.

The working conference and summit will gather Latino leaders and activists on March 4 and 5th at Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, California.

Organizers of the event feel that the time has come to bring activists together in a spirit of unity to address common political concerns. With Impacto '88, they envision the formulation of a comprehensive, bipartisan and grass-roots Chicano/Latino voter mobilization plan.

In addition to developing state-of-the-art organizing strategies, attention will be paid to articulating an agenda that will be recognized by all the Presidential candidates. Issues that will be addressed include the 1990 U.S. Census, Reapportionment, Immigration issues, and the general increase in the Chicano/Latino population.

It is the disparity between the growing number of Chicano/Latino's and their relative lack of political power that is spurring many leaders to support this movement.

"We want our people to come together and develop an agenda" said Marta Bustamante, a Sacramento-based organizer. "We need to organize our ideas, marshal our strength and flex our political

**National Hispanic Scholarship Fund Reception Held in Sacramento**

**Sacramento--**Sacramento community, education and business leaders joined together recently to assist with the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund's (NHSF) national fundraising campaign.

The reception, which was held at La Raza Bookstore, was one of more than 30 fundraising events taking place across the country. NHSF's "Join the Partnership" series was made possible by a \$1 million commitment from Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.

A local contribution of \$10,000 was made by Anheuser-Busch Companies and its local distributor, Markstein Beverage Co., to benefit Sacramento area NHSF scholars.

The "Join the Partnership" series was designed to gain support for the

organization's programs and to help NHSF financially assist an even greater number of Hispanic college students.

"We are very proud of our partnership with NHSF since 1978," commented Roy Jasso, Corporate Relations manager for Anheuser-Busch Companies. "It is our intention to make NHSF known to every Hispanic student in America, so that his or her dreams can be realized through education. We strongly believe that, with NHSF, together we can make the difference."

Fund raising events have been held in Miami, Chicago, Dallas, New York, Phoenix, Corpus Christi, Los Angeles, Albuquerque, San Francisco, Denver, Houston, Washington, D.C., San Juan (Puerto Rico) and San Diego.

**Business Schools, Educators Lament Few Hispanics**

The numbers of Hispanics entering graduate business schools has fallen to a level so low that business school officials fear that Hispanics will be almost non-existent in corporate business management in the near future.

Charles Hickman, a spokesperson with the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business, stated: "If you look at the year 2000, 28 percent of the college-age population will be black and Hispanic." However he noted that total minority enrollment in business schools has dropped to 7.9 percent, with less than half of that being Hispanic.

Hickman predicted that "By the year 2000, retail industries in particular (will have) a management staff that is all white."

The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) also expressed alarm over the dearth of Hispanics, this time in the teaching profession.

The organization recently stated that the teaching profession is "becoming whiter at a time when minority children comprise nearly 30 percent of the student population."

National Education Association statistics reveal that Hispanics comprise 9.1 percent of American's student population, but only 1.9 percent of the teachers.

The AACTE called for federal scholarships for Hispanic students who wish to teach.

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## State Personnel Board Hearing Focuses on Disparate Actions Against Minorities

By Richard Sanchez

**Sacramento**--At the January 6, 1988 meeting of the California State Personnel Board, the five-member Board was presented with data that revealed that the rate of formal disciplinary action taken against Blacks and Hispanics was disproportionately higher than their percentages in State service.

Data presented showed that Blacks received 27% of the disciplinary actions but comprised only 11% of civil service employees, and Hispanics, who make up 12% of the work force, received 16% of the disciplinary actions.

The hearing was held to follow up the "Review of Disciplinary Action in State Service" report published by the Board in June, 1987.

The purpose of the report was to make statistical comparisons across various ethnic, sex and disabled group lines to determine whether any disparity existed. The report also indicated that Blacks, Hispanics, American Indian and Pacific Islanders were disciplined at higher rates than Whites, males at a higher rate than females, and that disabled employees were disciplined at the same rate as non-disabled employees.

Dr. James A. Bush, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Charles Drew Medical School, testified at the hearing and identified four areas of concern as a result of the study:

- Severity of the action - As the severity of the discipline increases, so do the number of disciplinary actions.
- Covert discrimination - What is not seen or what occurs before the disciplinary action.
- Nuisance - Employee complaints may be viewed as without merit especially if the disciplinary

actions are reviewed by anglo reviewers.

- Discrimination vs. Equality - He reminded the audience of the Bakke decision.

Dr. Bush also questioned the rationale of some of the report's findings and indicated that we....."need to focus on results, where do we want to be, what we want to do, (all based on) what we want to achieve."

Dr. David Covin, Ethnic Studies professor at Sacramento State University, focused upon what he thought was the most disquieting aspect of the Board's report-- that there was no mention of racial prejudice, as if it did not exist.

Also invited to testify at the hearing were representatives from Black Advocates in State Service, (BASS), Cafe de California, (a Hispanic state employee organization) and selected State departments.

The Board's summary of the report indicated that:

- Relationships between employees and supervisors are complex, and some situations demand special attention to help insure a reasonable likelihood of employee success. Special attention should be paid to training and orientation for both parties--to better define, for employees, job requirements and expectations and for supervisors, awareness of employee needs and special circumstances or considerations.
- The data showing disproportionate adverse actions are not unique to the State's civil service system. Rather, the findings are consistent with such statistics in other areas of society.
- In order to eliminate disproportionate adverse actions, a global approach which takes into account all of the cultural, social, educational, economic and employment variables is necessary.

## Medi-Cal Monies Okay for Some Undocumented Women Maternity Care

**Sacramento**--An attempt to recover millions of Medi-Cal dollars from hospitals that provided certain maternity services to undocumented residents was aborted after an outcry from hospitals that threatened to curtail maternity care for undocumented women.

State auditors had threatened to deny Medi-Cal reimbursements to California hospitals that had provided care to women illegally in the country and to their U.S. born babies.

This move was criticized by hospitals, health officials, community groups and many legislators who characterized the move as "a callous disregard for the well-being of undocumented mothers and their babies."

Dr. Ken Kizer, health director in the Deukmejian administration, indicated that he had scrutinized Medi-Cal's policy for providing maternity services for undocumented women and had concluded that there was no need for changing that policy. The state's primary concern, he noted, was the health needs of mother and child.

Under current policy, hospitals will not have to reimburse Medi-Cal for maternity services to undocumented mothers, but the State Department of Health Services cautioned hospitals that only specified maternity services for undocumented mothers are available under Medi-Cal.

## Hispanic School Administrators Rare

**Los Angeles**--The profession of school administrator has always been a white male domain.

A recent study indicates that it will remain that way well into the foreseeable future.

The National Center for Education recently released a survey of more than 3,000 public school administrators which revealed that more than 95 percent of the superintendents and 76 percent of the principals were white males.

Linda Wong, of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) stated that the dearth of Hispanics in these powerful school positions sends a message to young Hispanics ".....about who is going to be successful in life, telling them: 'You can only climb so far on the ladder of success.'"

One practice identified by MALDEF that exacerbates the problem is that of at-large voting for school board members. This method, according to MALDEF, dilutes the voting strength of Hispanics.

MALDEF supports proposed California legislation that would provide for single member voting districts to address this issue.

AB 2191 would implement the single-member district system in those school districts with an average daily attendance of 1,000 or more students. California Hispanics constitute about 20% of the population, but only 6% of school board members.

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## Men Posing as "Curanderos" Charged With Sexually Assaulting Latinas

The Curandero. To many Latinos it means mysticism....perhaps magic. Folk cures for much that ails men and women, physically, spiritually, and emotionally.

But to some Latinas, Curandero mean rape.

In Fresno County, Matias Melendez Escover, who claimed to be a Curandero, was recently arrested and charged with the rape of a 21-year old Del Rey woman he was attempting to cure of a skin infection. The woman reported that Escover had required her to remove her clothing as part of the "cure," and then raped her.

The Escover case is the second such case to come to light in the past year. In the summer of 1987, a Reedley man, also claiming to be a Curandero, pled guilty to rape. The Reedley man had posed as a marriage counselor and offered to cure marriage and other "love problems."

Law enforcement officials fear that such abuses by individuals claiming to be

Curanderos may not be isolated.

Detective Pete Chavez of the Fresno County Sheriff's Department indicated, however, that it is difficult to assess how widespread the problem might be.

"Law enforcement has very little knowledge of the problem," Chavez stated, "because the rituals are so secretive. Chavez indicated, additionally, that the "curandero" often threatens the victim, telling her that the cure won't work, or that evil will befall her or her loved ones if she discloses what transpired.

Although there have been scattered reports over law enforcement teletype of such Curandero problems, there has apparently been no official assessment of the magnitude of the problem.

Escover was believed to have been posing as a curandero in the Parlier, Del Rey and Orange Grove areas of the valley. He awaits a preliminary hearing on the rape charge.

## Pesticides Contaminate River Sixteen Years Later

**Fresno**--DDT and related pesticides were barred from farm use in 1972, but a decade and a half later the San Joaquin river shows contamination levels hundreds of times higher than safe levels set for fish and other aquatic life.

Robert Gilliom, co-author of a U.S. Geological Survey that revealed this fact, stated that it may take at least another decade before DDT compounds break down and reach safe levels.

"Their continued presence in the river more than a decade after most use was

discontinued indicates their potential significance as both a present-day and future water-quality issue," Gilliom stated. The insoluble nature of DDT compounds ensure their presence in the surface runoff. Fish that consume these compounds will store them in fatty tissue in levels thousands of times higher than their presence in the water.

The banned pesticides have been replaced by new products that are biodegradable and break down in days, weeks, or months.

## Fresno Political Campaigner Selected for National Post

Leo Gallegos was always there when Hispanics in Fresno were seeking elective office, raising money and facilitating many a political novice's entrance into politics.

As his political successes accumulated, he was tapped by those outside the Fresno community to assist in their campaigns, including those of Rep. Tony Coelho, Jerry Brown and Walter Mondale.

Once again, Gallegos takes his show on the road, this time on a path that may lead to the White House.

Gallegos has been named executive director of the National Hispanic Democrats, a Washington-based organization headed by Rep. Esteban Torres, D-Los Angeles, and, in that capacity, will assist Hispanics in becoming delegates to the Democratic National Convention. His ultimate

goal, of course, is to play a role in determining who wins the Democratic presidential nomination and, perhaps, the presidency.

Gallegos' political experiences have been diverse, in addition to working on countless local campaigns. In Fresno, Gallegos has served as Governor Jerry Brown's deputy director of community relations, worked as national Hispanic director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and as a national campaign coordinator for numerous statewide political campaigns.

Gallegos, 46 is the Idaho-born son of migrant farm workers. He moved to the Valley as a young boy, graduated from Hanford High School. He continued his education at Fresno State University, where he received his master's degree in social work.

## Nader Joins UFW Grape Boycott

Consumer advocate Ralph Nader has joined in the United Farm Workers campaign to once again remove California grapes from grocer's shelves and consumer's tables.

The focus of Nader's concern now appears to be the spectre of pesticide poisoning of farm workers. He will make overtures to supermarket chains throughout the country in an attempt to redress farm worker health problems that Nader claims are the results of inaction on the part of the Reagan administration.

Joining with Nader in support of the grape boycott were an array of consumer interest groups, including: Environmental Action,

Friends of the Earth, Rural Coalition, the Clean Water Action Project, the National Coalition Against Misuse of Pesticides, and others.

These groups, and the UFW, claim that some pesticides used in grape harvesting cause birth defects, child illness and death among farm workers.

Growers, farm organizations and the pesticide industry contend there is no correlation between pesticide use and the health problems attributed to such use. They characterize the entrance of Nader and the other consumer groups into the boycott as an attempt to energize an international campaign against California farmers.

## Porterville Men Indicted In Amnesty Document Fraud

**Porterville**--Four Porterville men have been indicted by a federal grand jury for running a phony-document scheme that charged undocumented workers as much as \$2,000 for false paper work to apply for amnesty under the Special Agricultural Worker program.

INS officials discovered the fraud while reviewing amnesty applications in San Francisco and Oakland.

Gurbax Singh Chandhi, Francisco Higareda-Andrade, Jose Elias Santoyo-Aguilera and Ruben Flores all

of the Fresno area, charged with conspiring to create and supply false documents and supplying the applicants. Each faces a prison term and large fine if convicted.

The applicants could be deported if a formal review panel finds that they knowingly used the false documents to apply for amnesty.

The INS indicated that it will be scrutinizing amnesty applications, on a random basis, in all areas of the country to determine if document falsification is widespread.

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# CALENDARIO



**February 1: Sacramento/LULAC/5:30/La Fiesta Restaurant**

**February 2: Santa Ana/Orange County Coalition for Immigrant Rights/Public Info. Forum (714) 834-4796**

**February 3: Fresno/La Raza Lawyers Association/5:30 p.m. Bogey's Restaurant--Sacramento/Comision Feminil/5:30 p.m./926 J St. 2nd Floor Conf. Room**

**February 4: San Francisco/Latino Democratic Club/7:30 p.m./Miz Brown's Country Kitchen in the Mission District--Fresno/El Concilio/UC Regional Office-How UC works with the Chicano student**

**February 6: Fresno/League of Latin American Women/Noon/Farmer's Market Also Monthly Meeting of El Concilio/10 a.m.-noon/Sal Mosqueda Center--Santa Ana/Amnesty Help Clinic/8 a.m.-6 p.m./Corbin Community Center, 2215 W. McFadden (Legalization Medical Exam-\$30 adults, \$10 kids, Free review of documentation**

**February 9: Fullerton/Hispanic Alumni Association of Orange County/7 p.m. 2400 E. Chapman**

**February 10: Sacramento/La Raza Lawyers Assn./Noon/Morey's Restaurant**

**February 11: Sacramento/Mexican American Political Association--Fresno/El Concilio/Bob Lincon, MAPA de Fresno-"Community Reinvestment Act**

**February 12-13: Sacramento/MAPA State-National Board Meeting**

**February 18: Sacramento/Hispanic Democratic Club/5:30 p.m./La Fiesta Restaurant-- Sacramento/Assn. Mexican-American Educators/5:30/Rosemount Grill--Fresno/Cafe de Fresno Also/El Concilio/Frank Ramos, INS Speaker**

**February 22: Anaheim/Youth Expo '88/9-1:30/Brookhurst Community Center, 2271 W. Crescent Avenue**

**February 25: San Francisco/La Raza Lawyers Association/6 p.m./Mission Community Legal Defense Center, 2940 16th St. #301--Fresno/El Concilio/Lionel Gonzalez, Latin American Business Club**

**February 27: Fresno/Latino Peace Officers Association (dinner-dance)/Torninos Restaurant**

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Continued from page 1

**PERSPECTIVA:** Much has been said about the California Hispanic community's potential for realizing political power. It hasn't materialized. What will it take?

**TORRES:** It will take new generations that are born here and eligible to become citizens and, thereafter, eligible to vote. Another factor is the impact of the new immigration law and how it will effect the voting strength of our community. A third factor will be how we are able to register potential voters. The Latino community is not unique with regard to voter apathy. It's pervasive, and as a result, it has created a lack of political power. People have to realize the investment they have in government and in the political direction of their state and their lives.

**PERSPECTIVA:** What political and legislative issues do you think should be of most concern to California's Hispanics?

**TORRES:** Our education system. There is no greater problem. One half of our young people are not graduating from high school, our numbers are dwindling at the universities, and we don't see faculty members from our community taking leadership roles in the various institutions of learning. We are facing a crisis. We may be in the majority in the year 2000, but without leadership skills, without marketable skills, and relegated to the lowest paying jobs in California. That ought not to be the case for a people with such a rich cultural history, and tremendous potential and vision. So education is the key to our development.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Focusing upon the Hispanic legislator: Where on his or her agenda should advancing the interests of the Hispanic community reside?

**TORRES:** It should be a priority because there are so few of us here. But there's a very delicate balance we must maintain because we must be accepted in two worlds—the political world and in our own community.

**PERSPECTIVA:** How would you assess Hispanic legislators' effectiveness in first, identifying the issues of primary significance to the Hispanic community, and second, their effectiveness in advancing these interests?

**TORRES:** I think their effectiveness in identifying those issues is very good, but their effectiveness in resolving these issues is impaired by a governor who fails to recognize that this community exists. It is unconscionable that the governor does not have a single Latino in his cabinet. The inner circle that advises the governor as to which bill to sign and which bill to veto, has no voice from our community. So, our effectiveness as legislators is diminished by the fact that the man who decides whether our legislation is signed or not does not receive the benefit of counsel from one of our own.

**PERSPECTIVA:** What can be done to remedy that?

**TORRES:** I think it's a lost cause. I don't think he has a consciousness as to what our community's needs are. And I don't think he has an awareness of where our state is at. His state of the state message this past month clearly reveals that he hasn't been to Los Angeles to visit the homeless, that he hasn't been to rural California where people are not receiving an adequate education, and he obviously hasn't been to McFarland to see that there are deaths occurring. Yet his *Jimmy Stewart* awareness of 'it's a wonderful state,' clearly belies the fact that the man doesn't know what's going on in his own state. We must

continue to plod along and make our efforts known. The Jerry Brown years were tremendous for us. It was a rebirthing process after eight years of Reagan. And all of those eight years of struggle and achievement, appointments to the bench, and appointments to the inner circles of government, have been totally eroded by this governor.

**PERSPECTIVA:** You alluded to the McFarland issue. What is happening at the legislative level to address the pesticide issues?

**TORRES:** The pesticide issue has always been compromised by agribusiness. Agribusiness is a very powerful force in the legislature, and every time Senator Petris or myself or others have attempted to fight for reform, we've been forced to compromise those efforts because of the tremen-

### Senator Art Torres

- Democrat- 24th Senatorial District
- B.A. Political Science, UC Santa Cruz  
J.D. UC Davis School of Law
- Elected to Assembly 1974,  
Elected to Senate 1982
- Chairman: Toxics and Public Safety  
Joint Committee on Refugee Resettlement  
Select Committee on Tourism and Aviation  
Judiciary Subcommittee on Victims Rights

dous pressure from rural legislators who are responsive to agricultural interests. Those power plays are never going to diminish unless the public becomes aware of how dangerous these chemicals really are and can be. The people voiced their opinion on Proposition 65, which I authored. But the Clean Water Drinking Act is not going to be enough until there is an awareness on the part of the legislature, and that must come from the people.

**PERSPECTIVA:** The Calderon affair: What are your perceptions of what transpired, focusing on what precipitated Willie Brown's action, and the long term implications for Calderon?

**TORRES:** I've served in the Assembly for eight years, and I've known Willie Brown since 1968, and Chuck Calderon since 1968. Whenever there is a quest for power there are winners and there are losers. But we should realize that the quest for power is temporal, and things change. I think that Chuck Calderon has a tremendous future, and I don't think what happened has diminished that future. But I also think Willie Brown has a tremendous future, and I don't think this has diminished that future. What I think some of us have to learn, and I certainly learned the hard way when I was in the Assembly, is how to deal with defeat. A temporary defeat can teach us a very valuable lesson. I was defeated when I first ran for the Assembly in 1972. I lost by 615 votes. It was a tremendous learning experience for me. It's depressing, experiencing failure and defeat, but it's a tremendous opportunity to grow. What people fail to remember is that Willie Brown was at the bottom of the heap in 1974. He'd tried to run for speaker and was defeated by Leo McCarthy and was assigned to a little office at the bottom of the building. One doesn't forget when one's been at the bottom, and I've been at the bottom, and I've climbed up.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Is that where Calderon resides, at the bottom?

**TORRES:** I don't know where Calderon but I know where he can be—in a position. I do believe he is caring, I do believe he is passionate and I do believe he has the ability. And I do believe, as the next generation of leadership, he has the responsibility to excel. It's the potential but the responsibility.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Should the Hispanic community be unduly distressed by what has happened to Calderon, and the extent to which his effectiveness has been diminished, at least in the future, by these events?

**TORRES:** No, because I think it's a political and not a substantive policy issue. It will not be Willie Brown's notion of what Latinos need in the state. He continually reflects that. His continual support of bilingual education in the face of the governor's opposition was unheard of in the Assembly. So I don't think his commitment to those types of issues will be diminished. And I think that Chuck's ability will be diminished because he has the ability to excel and I think he will.

**PERSPECTIVA:** The Hispanic Legislative Caucus has been described as more ceremonial than substantive. How do you respond to that characterization?

**TORRES:** I think it's correct. I think that we work as closely as we should although we have the opportunity to do so. Many times we have two or three to work on an issue, and that's very effective. Chacon's bill, for example, in the district elections, Lucille Roybal-Allard's bill on immigration issues and Polanco's bill about auto insurance reform. Those kind of coalitions are important. But as a unit, there has been disagreement along political lines. The members of the Caucus are more conservative than others, or they would say some members are more liberal than others. And that doesn't mean a unified vision. I think that's very hard because the Latino community doesn't have one vision, it has many visions. We have conservatives, we have many liberals, we have many moderates. We've reached a level of political participation at which we realize that we can't do it. We don't have to speak with one voice except on very important issues.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Looking now at south state politics. Many Hispanics in Southern California have decried what they view as the deleterious factionalization of Hispanic south state politics. Alatorre and Molina camps. Do you perceive a problem?

**TORRES:** There is a problem. But I don't think we have effected the substantive gains we have in Los Angeles. I've been close to both Alatorre and Molina and I see a relationship between them that may reflect personal ambition, but it does not intercede with the fact that certain things need to be done. When you run for city office in Los Angeles you deal with totally different issues than what you deal with in Sacramento—nuts and bolts of running a city. Having them there has been very effective for Latinos. But there is a factionalization, it reflects style and perceptions and politics. But things fall by the wayside when it comes to doing projects or dealing with issues that are important to our community—and they come to us on those issues. Having had no Latinos on the Council for years, and now having two, has given us power, even though there have been differences of opinion between them.

**PERSPECTIVA:** You have been characterized by many in the Hispanic community as one of the most effective policy-makers in the state. The question in the minds of many is: What is Art Torres?

**TORRES:** I think it's time for me to move on. I'm looking very seriously at running for statewide constitutional office in 1990. The last time a statewide constitutional officer was with



Continued from page 15

nor Pacheco in the 1800's and I think it's time to make history again.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Have you identified a particular office?

**TORRES:** No I'll probably wait until 1990.

**PERSPECTIVA:** You were involved in a drinking while driving incident last year...

**TORRES:** Yes, July 18, 1987.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Do you view that incident as a possible impediment to future political aspirations?

**TORRES:** I don't think so, but that's up to the people to decide. There are experiences in life that you recognize as mistakes. And hopefully you learn from those mistakes. I know I have. That's part of growing. It's the nature of politics that whatever one does is subject to public scrutiny, as it should be, and as it was in my case. But we have to move on. Admit our mistakes and move on.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Do you have anything on the drawing board of particular interest to the Hispanic community?

**TORRES:** I have something dealing with the issue of literacy, how to make our community more literate. And, as a member of the Budget Committee I have major responsibility to see that funds are put in the right places, and then wait and see if the governor blue pencils it out. Most of my work with respect to the Latino community is not so much specific pieces of legislation, but mostly oversight. Is money going to the toxics budget, is it going to the education budget. Is it going to the bilingual program? I may serve as a 'quarterback' on many Latino issues that other Latino legislators are carrying. Hopefully I develop the right strategy to get those items passed. A lot of my work is done talking with legislators one on one, to try to educate them. I'm trying to do as much as I can for the Chacon bill because it's a very important that our community elect people to school board's, for example, by district and not at large. We're having problems on the Senate side so my responsibility is to make sure that I get that bill out of committee and on to the floor of the Senate. Once we get that bill on the floor, we know who our friends are. We can look at people straight in the eye and say: 'You've always said you support Latino issues, and this bill does much to help us gain and have access to political power. Are you going to vote for it?' And if they don't, my response is: 'Don't ask me to come into your district to talk to your Hispanic voters and say what a wonderful person you are, because I won't do that.' That leverage has to be used because they've been using that on us for years.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Senator, what do you view as your preeminent legislative accomplishment?

**TORRES:** Senate Bill 65 which attacked the drop-out problem. And this year, the whole package of legislation that we've worked on that deals with a variety of children's issues, such as child care.

**PERSPECTIVA:** What would you like to be your greatest accomplishment as your tenure in the legislature ends?

**TORRES:** That I did everything I could for children. Whether it was to protect them in the courtroom, as I did in the McMartin case, or to protect them in the classroom. They are the most unprotected group in society. They have advocates, but not enough of them.

## PERSPECTIVA ESSAY:

### AB 1204 Will Increase Voter Participation

By Eric Vega

A government based on democratic principles requires the voluntary participation of the general populace in the political arena. As such, it is imperative that every person eligible to vote be granted the opportunity. In the 1986 general election, 59% of California's registered voters actually voted. And this was a only 43% of those who could have voted. Voter turnout in 1986 was the lowest it has been in 40 years. Unfortunately, low voter turnout is not a new phenomenon.

Unlike many problems which threaten the integrity of our democratic process, however, voter participation can be dramatically increased. Assemblyman Peter Chacon has introduced AB 1204 which would permit eligible citizens to register to vote at their precincts on election day.

Clearly, one of the significant barriers to voter registration is the advance registration requirement. Currently, an elector may register to vote no less than 28 days prior to an election. AB 1204 would change that by allowing election day registration in statewide elections.

The bill requires proof of identification prior to registration and provides for future regulations to insure that identification concerns are addressed. While this concern is certainly reasonable, the evidence from other states who have tried same day voter registration indicates that there are exceptionally few voter identification problems.

There does not appear to be evidence that same day voter registration causes massive fraud. Indeed it would be safer to say that the bill is an extremely logical tool for increasing the likelihood that people will vote. Consider that many people are motivated to action by the daily news. Consider again how many people stimulated by the media near election would vote if they could simply go to polling booth, register and vote.

The reasonableness of the bill appears clear. There has, however, been opposition to AB 1204.

Senator John Doolittle (R) of Rocklin has stated that if AB 1204 became law "there would be no way to keep non-residents or even illegal aliens from pouring into your neighborhood by the bus load, casting their ballots by the thousands and cancelling your vote."

Inciting an hysterical fear of alien hordes descending upon the body politic is not uncommon among politicians. Indeed, many have played upon nationalist and xenophobic sentiments to build their political castles. If AB 1204 can weather criticism, such as that delivered by Senator Doolittle, it will certainly foster greater voter participation.

**Eric Vega is policy analyst for the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund, a Hispanic civil rights organization.**

Continued from page 1

in fact none of the Bay-area newspapers—contained a whisper of AIDS when I first moved to the City.

Now I'm home "forum shopping." Like an attorney looking for a favorable judge, I'm looking for a favorable diagnosis.

Already I've had two HIV tests, and both have turned up positive. I'm back in Sacramento, where I grew up, taking the test for yet a third time, hoping for...for what...a miracle? Maybe I'm hoping they made a mistake previously.

The ritual once again. The phone call to the testing center. Which Initials shall I use this time? In the interest of confidentiality, they don't require that you give your name. I

The first time around I used RMN (for Richard Milhous Nixon, one of my favorite politicians). The second time, feeling a bit malicious, I used JB, connoting my favorite evangelist. This time, I merely used my own initials.

The Sacramento waiting room was full, as the San Francisco and Oakland waiting rooms had been. The first two times there seemed to be a mix of apparently gay males, females, and men I guessed were straight. (Yes, I know many don't like the perception that you can "know one if you see one." But I've always been pretty good at distinguishing between gays and straights by appearance, or after only brief conversation).

Most of the people here appeared to be gay men. When I wondered aloud whether this change in clientele was only my imagination, the doctor (actually, I don't think he was a doctor) indicated I was correct.

So many people had been calling to take the HIV test that the center had only been accommodating those involved in "high risk" activity.

All those paranoid heterosexuals who had been just as sexually profligate as I had been this past decade, were being told to consult their own doctors for tests.

The doctor reminded me of my Tia Lupita. A mother hen. I could overhear him gently, but firmly, chiding a young man about the risks of unsafe sexual activity. Both were smiling, so the results must have been negative. The kid walked out carrying the little brown bag containing the generic condoms that Lupita had given him. "And use them okay...OKAY?" he said, shaking the bag and placing them in the kid's hand.

I stood up as the nurse handed me a slip of paper. "You'll need to bring this when you return," she said. "We'll match this number with the test results number."

I walked out of the building and paused in the parking lot. This complex was near the old state fairgrounds. I closed my eyes and tried to recall some the sights, smells and sounds but I couldn't. It was too long ago.

The results are going to be negative, I whispered as I slid into my car. I have no symptoms and I've never felt healthier in my life.

I shook my head. No, the results are going to be positive, because I've had a multitude of symptoms. Every bout with the flu, every sore throat, every random pain was a "symptom" I attributed to something AIDS related.

And then, there are those slips of paper in my dresser drawer. Those that indicated HIV positive.

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**Pesticide cont. from page 1**

the number of children stricken is much higher.

Part of the focus of the most recent phase of the study was the identification of those pesticides which Kern County agriculture records indicated were heavily applied to crop lands in the McFarland area between 1980 and 1983. According to Dr. Ray Neutra, California Department of Health Services epidemiologist directing the study, the search was narrowed to about a dozen pesticides. Neutra declined, however, to identify them until the results of the study are made public.

Some experts familiar with the study have expressed frustration and skepticism about predicted results of the study. Dr. Marion Moses, a consultant for the National Farmworker Health Group and leading specialist on environmental diseases, acknowledged that "it is very difficult to study these kinds of things."

She stated however that we do know that some pesticides are carcinogenic.

"We've got to stop using the car-

cinogenic ones," she stated. "It's absurd. It has not been taken up as a public health priority in the state of California. The proven public health policy is to get rid of whatever might be causing the problem."

While she is not critical of the efforts made by the California Department of Health Services to date, she believes that experts will never be able to prove what caused the cancers.

Thomas Lazar, consultant for the United Farm Workers and a former Kern County health worker charged with compiling a preliminary draft report on the McFarland cluster, claims that the results of the report are inaccurate because all of the reported cancer cases were not included in the study.

He maintains that no effort has ever been made by health officials to determine the exact number of cancer cases for inclusion in the study. Lazar, a health educator with a doctorate in anthropology and a master's degree in public health, resigned his position with Kern County charging that his supervisors were ordering him to cover up evidence pointing to toxic well-water pollution.

Sister Patricia Drydik, Director of the National Farmworker Ministry

which provides support to families of the victims, claims that county and state health officials are not doing enough to deal with the pesticide problem which, she believes is responsible for the 'cancer cluster'.

According to Drydik, the long range goal of the Ministry is to see that pesticides get banned. Her reaction to the study: "You can study it (the pesticide issue) to death, you can throw money at it, but it does nothing to change things for families losing their children."

Leon Hebertson, Director of the Kern County Health Department, denied the charges made by Lazar and Drydik. He claims that the county "has tried to be very up-front" about its initial findings and had no reason to hide information.

According to Hebertson, a study of this type was beyond the scope of the department and was properly a function of the state. Hebertson stated that the health department has fulfilled its obligation to the study by providing information necessary to assist in the state's analysis. He claims that the absence of tumor registry made case definition increasingly difficult, a fact that has been acknowledged by all involved in the study.

Hebertson said that as far as the

health department is concerned, if after reviewing the results of the study "there is reason to believe it would be worthwhile, we'll place a moratorium on pesticides."

Dolores Huerta, National Executive Board member for the United Farm Workers of America, described the study as "another whitewash."

"They can have 100 studies and it's not going to change anything," Huerta said. "The only thing that is going to make any difference is to stop using the pesticides totally."

The results of the study were to be released after **PERSPECTIVA** went to press, on January 29 at a public hearing to be held in McFarland.

However, Cassie Edgington, Chief, Office of Information and Public Affairs for the State Department of Health Services, has already indicated that the results of the study are inconclusive.

She stated that the study has failed to identify pesticides or any other environmental agent as the cause. She said that while pesticides have not been identified as the cause, "they haven't been ruled out based on the present findings."



**Assemblyman Charles Calderon**

**Legislator cont. from page 1**

Legislature. The Assemblyman was stripped of his chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Interstate Banking, and his seats on the Ways and Means and Finance and Insurance committees. In addition, the speaker also removed Calderon as the Majority Whip—a key position used by the Democratic leadership to pass legislation.

The only position held by Calderon not affected by Speaker Brown's move is Calderon's position as the Hispanic Caucus chairperson in the Legislature.

The speaker's ousting of Calderon resulted from Calderon's association with the "Gang of Five"—

moderate democrats who have not always sided with the Speaker by voting with the Republican members of the Assembly. Calderon is the only ethnic minority among the five.

Calderon and the group responded by announcing that they would move to withdraw three controversial bills from committees and bring them before the entire assembly for a vote. Such action signals an end run at the Speaker and is traditionally viewed as a slap at the leadership of the democrat-controlled house. These bills would require convicted prostitutes to be tested for AIDS, create a health insurance program, and require no-fault auto insurance.

Calderon defended his actions by saying he had been punished by Brown because the group's influence had grown beyond the Speaker's control.

"I don't want to be Willie Brown's lap dog," Calderon stated.

Brown's curt reply: "I don't want Calderon on my lap, he has fleas." Brown then gave Calderon and his staff two days to vacate their offices and move to smaller quarters.

Calderon, 37, was first elected to the Legislature in 1982. Prior to his election, he served on the Board of Trustees of the Montebello Unified School District. He was a former legislative aide to Senators Richard Alatorre and Jack Fenton. Calderon also served as a special consultant to the Secretary of State and was an Assistant to the General Counsel of the Department of Health Education and Welfare. He received his undergraduate degree from California State University-Los Angeles, and his law degree from U.C. Davis.

Calderon's ouster could have an impact on California's Hispanic

community. His loss of key committee posts weakens his power base as chairman of the Hispanic Legislative Caucus.

Also, Calderon could face the possibility of defeat by either a democrat backed by Speaker Brown or a Republican challenger in his home district. An overwhelming majority of Calderon's campaign funds come from the insurance and banking businesses. Losing committee seats affecting those industries, coupled with his fall from grace with the Speaker, could make fundraising extremely difficult.

Calderon's critics characterize him as a "rebel legislator" whose loss won't hurt the Hispanic community. One Hispanic legislative staffer, who declined to be identified said that the Montebello legislator "...cares more about insurance companies and banks than he does about the Hispanic community and the issues it faces."

What will Calderon do after the "purge?"

One far-fetched scenario has Calderon challenging Brown for the Speakership. A more plausible possibility has Calderon an other "gang members" joining with the Assembly's 36 Republicans to vote to remove Brown from the speakership, leaving the speaker's slot up for grabs. Such a move would be similar to the way Brown was elected after the Berman-McCarthy carnage of seven years ago.

Challenges against the powerful Speaker, however, are considered tantamount to political suicide by most legislators.

But sitting in his tiny office, with a minuscule staff and no committee budgets, Calderon would appear to have little to lose.

**IN NEXT  
MONTH'S  
ISSUE**

• An interview with Councilwoman Gloria Molina

• The "other" farmworker's union

• A factionalization of South State politics?

• Plus Profile, Hispanic Focus, Hispanic Forum, and much more



# PERSPECTIVA

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## East (L.A.) Side Story: A Tale of Two Factions

### ANALYSIS

By Gary Hernandez

**Los Angeles**—Four million Hispanics live in Los Angeles, most centered in the area known as East Los Angeles. A turf war over who will lead this political "sleeping giant" is being waged.

When Gloria Molina was elected to the Los Angeles City Council last year, she heralded the demise of traditional East Los Angeles politics. "It's such a tremendous victory," she said. "...It says very clearly that this 1st District does not want machine politics..."

The "machine" Molina referred to was the Southern California political dominance of City Council Member Richard Alatorre and State Senator Art Torres. The "politics" have evolved into two distinct factions which vie for leadership of Los Angeles' growing Hispanic community.

These factions include the so-called "old guard," consisting of Senator Torres,

City Council member Alatorre and recently elected Assemblyman Richard Polanco. The other faction includes City Councilwoman Molina, veteran Congressman Ed Roybal and the candidates they back to challenge the traditional machine.

#### Forming the "old guard"

Richard Alatorre and Art Torres began their political alliance when they were both members of the California State Assembly in the early 1970s. Alatorre was elected in 1972, Torres in 1974. For nearly a decade, the two legislators spent their time in the lower levels of state-house power. In 1980, Torres and Alatorre joined forces in the Assembly speaker's battle between former Assemblymen Howard Berman and Leo McCarthy.

See Factionalization, Page 16

## F.L.O.C. -- THE OTHER FARMWORKER'S UNION

When someone says "farmworker's union" what comes to mind? For most of us, the first thing that comes to mind is "UFW." Or perhaps, Cesar Chavez.

How many of you thought "F.L.O.C." or Baldy Velasquez?

Although F.L.O.C. and Velasquez have not been ingrained upon the consciousness of many Hispanics, this farmworker's union (the only one outside California) and organizer have left an impression in many quarters.

The Farm Labor Organizing Committee, organized by Baldemar Velasquez more than two decades ago, and head-

quartered in Toledo, Ohio, was recently selected as one of the best unions in America by Washington Monthly magazine.

The union was cited for its creative "multi-party" approach to contract negotiations. Instead of negotiating only with the grower, FLOC has gone to the corporate purchaser of the crops and has involved it in the contract negotiations.

After its first decade of existence, the union had only a few contracts with growers in Northern Ohio. Then FLOC took the creative avenue that has garnered praise

See F.L.O.C., Page 16

### CHP Chief Gomez: Returning Something to the Community

**Los Angeles**—Many Hispanics rise through the ranks of their professions, reaching gratifyingly high levels of attainment.

Too many, however, do not use their newly acquired status to return some of their good fortune to the Hispanic community.

Chief Ed Gomez, the highest ranking officer ever to serve in the California Highway Patrol is one of those who returns something to his community.

See Gomez, Page 15



CHP Chief Ed Gomez



Councilwoman Gloria Molina

## PERSPECTIVA INTERVIEW: COUNCILWOMAN GLORIA MOLINA

*Councilwoman Gloria Molina has become accustomed to breaking new ground. When she was elected to the California State Assembly in 1982, she was one of few women, and the first Latina, to be elected. Then, when she moved on to the Los Angeles City Council, she again was the first Latina to that office.*

*Her tenure in the Legislature, and now in the Los Angeles City Council, has not been without controversy. In the Assembly, Molina fell out of favor with Speaker Willie Brown and occasionally found herself in confrontations with other Hispanic legislators.*

*Her relationship with fellow city councilperson Richard Alatorre has often been combative. Some Hispanics fear that this relationship will adversely affect Hispanic interests in Los Angeles—a concern that Molina dismisses.*

*Her detractors have stated that Molina has difficulty interacting positively with aggressive male peers. Supporters, conversely, indicate that it is Molina's independence and lack of deference to "old boy networks" that her (mostly male) critics cannot abide.*

*All agree, however, that Molina is a strong and eloquent advocate for her district's interests.*

See Molina, Page 14

### INSIDE

- Latinos and the Lottery
- Challenges Facing Bilingual Education
- Edward Olmos' New Film—"Stand and Deliver"
- The Latino Jockey: The Forgotten Sports Hero
- Plus Hispanic Forum, Hispanic Focus, Calendario, Regional News and Much More

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## Comment

### "Ethnic Politics:" If You Play the "Game," Play it Knowingly

It has become commonplace on the state and national levels. A Supreme Court Justice, or perhaps a State Treasurer nominee, appears before a legislative body for confirmation, and out come the ethnic minority spokespersons.

"Hispanics for Joe," "Blacks against Tom," "Asians Ambivalent About Arnold" and a myriad of other spokespersons, ostensibly representing their memberships, are trotted out for or against the nominee.

Sometimes, the scales are clearly tipped against a nominee, with virtually all ethnic minority group organizations either supporting or opposing that individual. As often, however, it's a wash, as in the Dan Lungren State Treasurer nomination, with proponents and opponents matching stride for stride, organization for organization.

It could be comical, if everyone did not take it all so serious. A member of a local chapter of the Mexican American Political Association looked at the latest list of endorsements for Lungren coming out of the Governor's office and sniffed: "Our organizations are larger, (in terms of membership) than theirs are!"

A prominent Hispanic Republican countered with: "Ours are more influential in the business community".

Nyaa! Nyaa! Nyaa! Nyaa! Ours are bigger, ours are better, ours can lick yours!

Perhaps if *we* took these confirmation processes more seriously, the viewer from afar could lend more credence to our involvement in the process.

It was distressing, in speaking with Latinos who either supported or opposed the Lungren nomination, to discover that many did not have an articulable reason for doing so. They would mumble something about his "being insensitive to minority issues" or his "being supportive of immigrant's rights."

But it was virtually impossible for them to draw a correlation between the nominee's positions on various issues of concern to minorities and the performance of his job duties which would have an impact on those issues.

Shouldn't this step—identifying these correlations—be a prerequisite to stepping to the microphone and castigating or singing the praises of a nominee?

Unfortunately, everyone could nod "yes," but then step to the microphone at a moment's notice to support or oppose a nominee because someone in Democratic or Republican party leadership used the right buzz words to send them scampering.

The phrase "partisan politics" has developed a negative connotation—that of putting party and political self-interest ahead of all else.

"Ethnic politics" will "enjoy" an equally negative connotation if we continue to allow the partisans to tell us when to jump on one side of the line or the other.

There are those who play "ethnic politics" as a numbers game. . . . a public relations, media disseminated gambit to secure or foreclose a nominee's confirmation. And those who know that, and jump in, are not those who concern us.

It is those of us who are painfully oblivious to the manners in which we are manipulated and showcased, that concerns us.

Those of you who sincerely care whether or not a particular nominee will enact policies that will advance or further burden ethnic minorities in some fashion: Don't play the game. At least not in naive fashion.

### To Dispel Some Bilingual Education "Sunset" Misconceptions

On June 30, 1987 the California Bilingual Education Act "sunset." Sunset in this case means that the state law no longer exists. An attempt was made to resurrect the law in Assembly Bill 37. That bill was vetoed by the Governor and set the stage for the current impasse. Another bill, AB 1783, with similar bilingual education language remains only a step away from the Governor's signature. At this time there does not appear to be any movement on the issue.

The sunset of California's Bilingual Education Act has not relieved school districts of their legal obligation to provide LEP children with meaningful and equal access to the education system. Indeed the State Department of Education has recognized this and sent out an Advisory to all school districts outlining what they understand to be continuing bilingual education obligations. What are those continuing obligations? Federal law requires every state to take "appropriate action to overcome language barriers that impede equal participation by its students in its instructional program." Your local chapter of the California Association of Bilingual Educators will spell out what they entail.

## Hispanic Forum:

Have California's Bilingual Education Programs Facilitated the Success of Limited English Proficient Students?

### California's Bilingual Education Programs Lost Their Focus

Special to PERSPECTIVA by Assemblyman Frank Hill

One of the best gifts we as a society can give our children, is a mastery of the language which binds us all—English. English is the official language in California and the universal language for most of the modern world. Yet, if special interest groups had their way, English would not be the language our children learn in public education today.

Bilingual education has been a controversial issue for years—and with the recent expansion of the program, the controversy still remains. Still, the issue here is not bilingualism, but it is the merits of one culture/language over another—the issue is whether or not we, as a society, have a responsibility to teach our children fluency in the official language of our state. I maintain that in order to succeed in the United States, communication is essential. And English is the primary language through which we communicate.

There are almost 600,000 LEP (Limited English Proficient) student in our public school system. Last year, the state required educators to teach reading, writing and arithmetic skills to these students in their native language. At the most, children in those so-called bilingual classrooms received 30 minutes of English instruction daily.

Ironically, the high school drop out rate among Hispanics, who are the largest group of LEP students, is well over 50%. This, in the face of billions of dollars spent on immigration and bilingual education over the past ten years. It became evident that the bilingual programs had lost focus. Clearly, it was time to re-evaluate the program and give the school districts the message that the purpose of bilingual education should be to teach LEP students English.

With the support of the Republican Caucus, as well as concerned parents, teacher and school administrators, we were able to end the legislative mandate on bilingual education. This means that local school districts no longer isolate children into "bilingual classrooms" where they learn only the rudiments of English, and not the necessary reading, writing and arithmetic skills. We are working toward a program which focuses on the English skill each LEP student needs—our ideal program is one which provides the necessary English instruction so a student can participate fully in a regular classroom within months.

The best education we can give students is a strong understanding of the English language. English is the tie that binds us all—the "meat" in our melting pot, so to speak. To succeed as a state, and as a nation, we must succeed with the education of our students—and to do that, they must understand, speak, read and write our official language—English.

Frank Hill is Assemblyman from the 52nd Assembly District

### Well Designed Bilingual Programs Have Resulted in Success

Special to PERSPECTIVA by Aurora Quevedo

California's bilingual education programs have led many of the young people of our state to academic and social success.

After a decade and a half of program development, review and refinement, the California Association for Bilingual Education has published a treatise that establishes that success. *ON COURSE: Bilingual Education Successes in California* focuses upon successful programs and dispels some of the common misconceptions about bilingual education.

Two of these misconceptions are: that students in bilingual programs don't learn English; and that students in bilingual programs never do well enough in academic subjects to join the mainstream.

In other words, it is commonly believed that bilingual education programs actually back the children enrolled in them, that students in bilingual programs do not succeed in acquiring English, and that they typically fail in school.

This CABE publication shows that these beliefs are not well founded, that, in fact, children participate in properly designed bilingual programs, they acquire English very quickly and they reach satisfactory levels of competence in academic areas in a reasonable time.

Of course, a bilingual education program, like any other educational program, must be well designed. The three requirements for successful bilingual education programs are:

- rigorous subject matter teaching such as math, social studies and science in the language
- development of literacy in the first language
- English instruction that is comprehensible through daily English as a second language lessons and subject matter teaching geared to the second language acquirer.

The goals for students that participate in bilingual programs that meet the above requirements are that they learn to speak English well, do well academically in reading, writing, math, etc., feel good about themselves with respect to their own language and culture and the English language and dominant culture.

Don't draw conclusions about the success of California bilingual education without the facts. CABE's publication will provide you with the facts, so please contact your local CABE chapter to obtain this publication.

Ms. Quevedo is president of the California Assn. for Bilingual Education

### HISPANIC VOICES:

**From Dixon:** In my opinion, yes. I view bilingual education as a vehicle whereby children involved are receiving an equitable and viable form of education. The goal of the school district is success in the dominant language through their native language.

Gloria Yanez, Teacher, Dixon Unified School District

**From Porterville:** Yes, under conditions where bilingual education is in fact provided. That is, where the student gets continuous education that is coordinated and built upon the student's primary language as the child learns English--And where instruction is provided by instructors who have practiced bilingual methodology.

Alfonso Anaya, Junior High School Administrator

**From Santa Cruz:** Yes, it has been successful. For students to learn, they must develop proficiency in their first language...Students in immersion programs are struggling even after 6th grade.

Patricia Juarez, Teacher



**PERSPECTIVA ESSAY**

By Fernando Villa

**Preserve Asylum Protections**

Last October, the U.S. Administration, in response to public outcry from scholars, attorneys, judges and public interest groups, withdrew controversial proposed regulations which would have fundamentally undermined the process by which persons fleeing from persecution in other countries seek asylum in the U.S. The Department of Justice recently announced that it will re-submit a revised asylum proposal for public review and comment. The Administration should forego this proposal and leave current asylum protections intact.

Justice Felix Frankfurter once aptly stated that "the history of liberty has largely been the history of observance of procedural safeguards." The Refugee Act of 1980, passed by Congress to conform U.S. law to international refugee law, reflects the basic concern for "observance of procedural safeguards" so essential to persons whose lives as well as liberty may be at stake in seeking sanctuary here.

The Act entitles one to asylum if he or she has a "well-founded fear" of persecution on account of race, religion, political opinion, nationality or membership in a particular social group. Such a person may seek asylum by applying to the District Director of Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) or by obtaining a public hearing before an immigration judge. The applicant is afforded numerous rights during this process, including the right to counsel, the right to present and cross-examine witnesses and the right to a public hearing before an impartial adjudicator. The applicant may appeal any adverse decision to the federal courts.

The previously proposed regulations would have greatly impaired the ability of asylum seekers, including thousands of applicants from Central America, to obtain sanctuary in the U.S. Since the Administration has indicated the proposal presently under consideration may retain many elements of the original plan, it is worthwhile to examine that plan.

Under the originally proposed regulations an INS "asylum officer" rather than an impartial judge, would have conducted an "informal, non-adversarial" closed hearing at which the applicant could not call on or cross examine witnesses, the officer would possess wide discretion in admitting or excluding evidence, the officer could dismiss any application he or she deemed "frivolous," the

officer could issue a decision based on secret information and the applicant's burden of proof would have been significantly increased. Additionally, the application could have been denied in the officer's "discretion" if the applicant, among other things, entered the U.S. without lawful status or circumvented overseas refugee procedures, elements present in virtually every asylum case.

These features of the original INS proposal would have flatly contradicted and subverted current refugee protections. Allowing an INS employee, rather than an immigration judge as

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**"The Administration should discard all efforts to undermine this country's long-standing tradition of providing refuge to those fleeing persecution."**

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under current law, to conduct the asylum hearing would have presented an obvious conflict of interest, as the INS is charged with arresting, prosecuting and deporting undocumented aliens. Having an INS officer conduct the hearing would be tantamount to permitting a police officer to preside over a criminal defendant's trial. Closed hearings would have permitted fundamentally unfair proceedings beyond public scrutiny and accountability. The elimination of an asylum seeker's due process rights to present and cross examine witnesses, and the INS officer's broad power to exclude evidence, would have impaired the applicant's ability to present his or her case. Permitting the officer to consider secret information and increasing the applicant's burden of proof, which would have been in conflict with a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision, would have had a similar effect. And allowing discretionary denials of asylum to persons who flee their countries without first seeking asylum overseas or waiting several years to obtain lawful status would

assure the denial of sanctuary to practically every person otherwise entitled to asylum.

The Administration justified its original proposal by claiming that the revisions would have increased the efficiency of the asylum process and protected the applicant from reprisals by requiring closed hearings.

These aims cannot withstand scrutiny. The need for efficiency is in dispute. While some INS districts and immigration courts, such as in Miami and Los Angeles, experience significant backlogs of asylum applications, others do not. The original proposal, and in all likelihood, the one under consideration, sought to add additional layers of INS administrative review of asylum decisions, thus prolonging, not streamlining, the process. Most importantly, any efficiency which could have resulted from the proposal is far outweighed by the need to conduct fair and open proceedings to persons whose lives and liberties are threatened. Requiring closed hearings would not protect the asylum seeker from reprisal in the country of origin any better than that permitted under current law, which gives the applicant the right to exclude the public from the hearing. Making closed hearings mandatory would only increase the risk of unfair procedures.

The Administration's attempts to revise asylum law would result not only in greatly restricting the right to obtain asylum but also in further politicizing this process. In administering this process the INS has unrelentingly sought to infuse it with the Administration's foreign policy objectives in spite of the Refugee Act's protections. For instance, between October 1986 and June 1987, 85% of Nicaraguans' asylum claims were granted, while only 5% of Salvadorans' claims were successful.

The Administration should discard all efforts to undermine this country's long standing tradition of providing refuge to those fleeing persecution. Revising the asylum regulations in the manner contemplated by the Administration would sign into law that which has already become INS practice: politicizing the asylum process with little, if any, regard for the asylum seekers' individual circumstances. The Administration should retreat from this stance and leave the asylum door open to those justifiably fearing for their lives and liberty.

**These Vietnam Vets Have Earned Their Citizenship**

Special to PERSPECTIVA by Gregory Montoya

In 1968 Carlos made his military commitment. For most young Latinos then, it was an obligatory rite of transition, a vehicle to transcend the boundaries of the barrio.

He didn't wait to be drafted. He enlisted in the Marines. He left the world of California concrete for the jungles of Viet Nam.

Eight months, a Purple Heart and a Navy Cross (for gallantry) later, he was back, honorably but medically discharged.

Carlos had come home proud. But as he stepped off the bus at his hometown depot, he was greeted by self-proclaimed peace activists. He was spat on and physically abused. The expectations he associated with meeting what once was considered an honorable commitment were all but betrayed, save for his own family's pride.

For the next 14 years Carlos went from job to job, relationship to relationship, haunted by the sense that something was wrong.

It wasn't until 1984 that his distress led him into a "Vet Center" a community based Veterans Administration facility with a program designed to deal with Vietnam veterans and a disorder often associated with combat - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, or PTSD.

the his invisible wounds. He began to look ahead.

Posted at the center were several job announcements offered by the Department of Defense. One seemed made for him. He filled out the application and waited.

A few weeks later, it came back rejected. Carlos, a legal U.S. resident, was born in Mexico. The government which welcomed him to fight as a Marine told him he was ineligible for other jobs it offered. A requirement for federal employment was citizenship.

Raised in California, Carlos had always felt like a citizen. He had thought that his Vietnam service had made it official. No matter. He'd make it official now.

He initiated the process to obtain citizenship. Sorry, he was told, but the Immigration and Naturalization Service "process" - a relatively simple one - would take 12 to 18 months. And there were no special considerations for Marines who came home wounded.

The words "Welcome Home" are particularly salient for veterans of the Vietnam era. They should imply acknowledgement of a responsibility shared by soldier and country.

**DEALING WITH WAR'S IMPACT**

Until recently, that crucial relationship was denied the Vietnam veteran.

For Carlos, and an emerging number of others like him who only now are dealing with the war's impact, rejection by the nation's second largest employer is another sign that they're still not welcome. The issue transcends the Hispanic community. It affects many other legal resident veterans.

Citizenship may be a logical criterion for employment with the federal government. Loyalty certainly should be a job requirement. With Carlos and others who repeatedly risked their lives in Southeast Asia, loyalty is hardly the question. Nor is a general rule calling for citizenship as a requisite for federal employment.

But should a veteran who served his country honorably be told to stand in line for another year or so to receive equal consideration? Couldn't the government make allowance for those non-citizen vets who have legitimate citizenship applications pending? Would it hurt to offer them provisional employment?

As we come to terms with the Vietnam War, our national reconciliation must be translated down to each individual touched by it. "Welcome Home" should be a message without restrictions written in fine print.

*Gregory Montoya is Deputy Regional Manager for the Western Region Readjustment Counseling Service for the V.A. Vet Center*

**INVISIBLE WOUNDS DRESSED**

Counseling at the center helped dress some of



## Names in the News

**Jamie Sepulveda-Bailey**, 42, was recently appointed to the Advisory Committee to the University of California Task Force on Hispanic Population. Bailey also serves as the the Governor's Liaison to California's Hispanic community...**Sebastian (Ben) Benavidez** of Fresno's MAPA Del Valle has been appointed to serve as chairman of it Education Committee.....**Leonard Cisneros** has been selected area manager for Anheuser-Busch, Inc. Cisneros, of Citrus Heights, California, will be responsible for all Hispanic sales and marketing programs in the San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Rosa and Salinas markets.....**J. Manuel Herrera**, a candidate for the San Jose City Council, received welcome publicity from the local media for his novel approach to apprising area voters of his community roots— he placed his 3rd grade, Berryessa elementary school picture on his campaign brochure!.....**Concepcion Minsky**, 60, has been reappointed to the State Board of Food and Agriculture. Minsky, a part-time public relations consultant, has been active in the Latin Business Association.....**Mercedes Peña**, 37, has been appointed to serve as Legislative Liaison and Information Officer for the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing.....**Congressman Edward Roybal** (D-Los Angeles) startled some in Los Angeles when he recently indicated that he might consider running for mayor of Los Angeles next year— even if Mayor Tom Bradley is in the race.....**Gaddi Vasquez**, 33 year-old Orange County Supervisor, was recently hospitalized for a possible heart attack that turned out to be, in his words, a "health warning." He's fine now.....Five Hispanics were recently appointed to the Governor's Committee for Employment of Disabled Persons: **Nora Brusuelas**, 56, of Sacramento; **Richard Chavez**, 44, of Whittier; **Dan Estrada**, 38, of Stockton; **Ramona Garcia**, 50, Sacramento; **Edward Jauregui**, 51, Albany; and **Ismael Paredes**, 45, of San Bernardino.....The Santa Ana chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens presented its ninth annual Hispanic Women Recognition Awards at its February 27 banquet to: **Anna Aguiar**, owner of a Buena Park trucking company; **Sister Armida Figueroa Deck**, director of the Office of Hispanic Ministry for the Catholic Diocese of Orange County; **Lilia Serio Powell**, chairperson of the Volunteer Recruitment Committee for the American Red Cross, Orange County chapter; **Teresa Salgado**, teacher at Santa Ana High School; and **Gloria Matta Tuchman**, school board vice president, Tustin Unified School District.

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## Letters to the Editor

Editor:

Your Perspectiva, The Hispanic Newspaper of Record is refreshing and informative. I find it addresses many issues with which my office is involved...Your publication will prove an asset to Californians. I extend my sincere congratulations...

Sincerely,  
David Roberti  
President Pro Tem  
California State Senate

Editor:

Where do you get your writers? As a former journalist, I look closely at the quality of writing from Hispanic journalists in California's ethnic press. Perspectiva's writers are, by far, the most impressive group I've seen to date. Keep up the good work!

J. Florencio Diaz  
San Francisco

Editor:

Although Perspectiva is interesting, I find it distressing that you devote so much space to problems that Hispanics are involved in. Your first edition dealt with Hispanics catching AIDS, Hispanic women getting cervical cancer, Hispanics failing in education and in state government employment. You won't get my subscription until I see that you cover more positive issues.

Name Withheld  
Sacramento

Editor's Note:

*Yes, many of the challenges California's Latino face are distressing.*

*We will continue to focus on those problems as well as the many accomplishments of California's Latino communities and the issues and activities interest to those communities.*

Editor:

Perspectiva is both informative and professional, covering significant issues of concern to the Hispanic community.

Congratulations on a job well done.

Marty Mercado  
Special Assistant  
California Attorney  
General's Office

### PERSPECTIVA Letters to the Editor Policy:

**We ask that letters to the editor be brief. Any letter exceeding 100 words may be edited for space.**

**Generally, unsigned letters will not be published.**

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## Garfield Students and Their Teacher Score High in "Stand and Deliver"

It was 1974, and Jaime Escalante began his first day of teaching at Garfield High School.

The predominantly Hispanic school, in a depressed area of East Los Angeles, was littered with graffiti, populated by gang members and plagued by a high drop-out rate and discontented teachers.

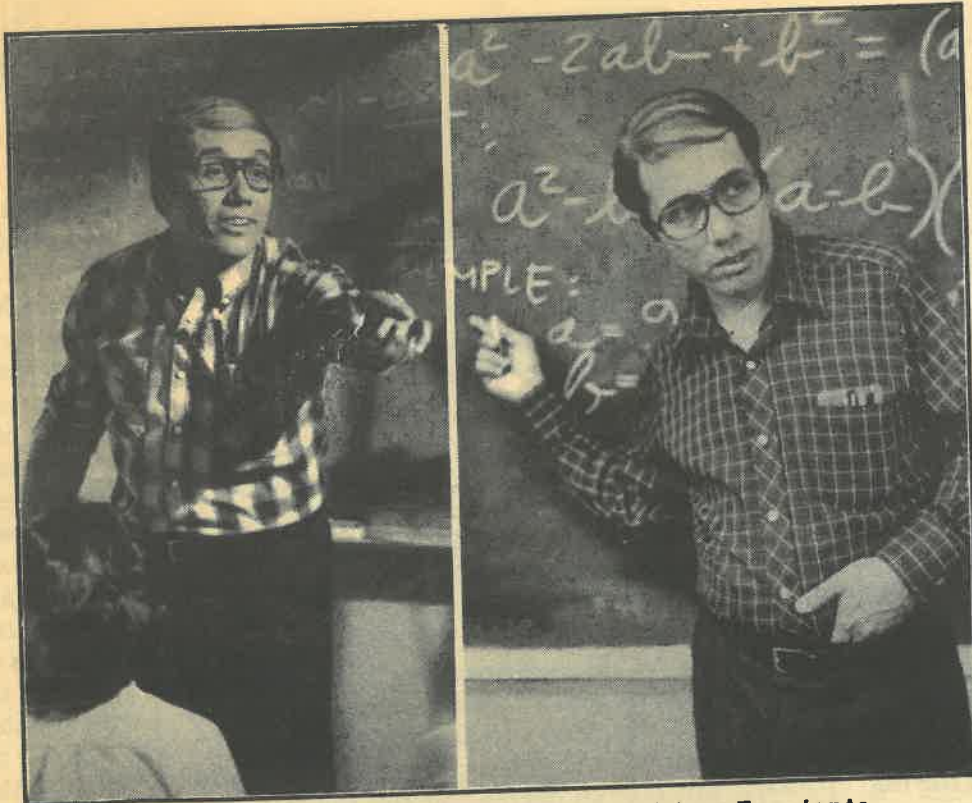
Despite these overwhelming odds, the teacher went on to produce a surprising number of students who excelled in calculus.

Jaime Escalante's story—a story of a teacher and a group of students who strive for academic excellence—is being told in a new movie, "Stand and Deliver."

Escalante's teaching methods were unorthodox. A student with the wrong answer could expect to receive a karate chop from the Bolivian-born educator. A student without his homework could be ordered to sit on the floor, because as Escalante said: "If you don't have a ticket, you can't watch the show."

The teacher even required his students to sign contracts before they could enroll, promising to do no less than 30 hours of homework a week and attend special weekend sessions, among other obligations.

In 1982, after taking Escalante's calculus course, 18 of his students took the Advanced Placement calculus examination administered by the Educational Testing Service of Princeton, N.J. The exam, which quali-



James Edward Olmos as teacher Jaime Escalante in scenes from "Stand and Deliver"

fies a student for college credit, is so tough that less than 2% of all high school students nationwide take it. Escalante's teaching methods paid off, as all 18 received a passing grade, with 6 receiving perfect scores.

The testing service, however, challenged the results and accused the kids of cheating. They were given two choices: either accept the "cheating" verdict or retake the test.

The decision the students made was to "stand and deliver."

The results vindicated Escalante and his kids: the students scored just as high.

Chosen to play the part of Escalante in the film—a project of first time director Ramon Menendez and producer-writer Tom Musca—was Edward James Olmos.

Lou Diamond Phillips, who played Ritchie Valens in the movie

"La Bamba" plays a gang member torn between his loyalty to a gang and the possibility of a better life through academic excellence.

Rosana De Soto, who played Phillips' mother in "La Bamba" portrays Escalante's wife in the film.

Said Olmos: "What separates this film from others like it is its humor. Because through humor, Jaime has been able to take one of the hardest academic subjects and make it understandable. His students not only excel in it, they become over achievers beyond anybody's wildest expectations."

Escalante continues to turn out calculus wizards. In 1987, 87 of his students passed the difficult exam. And this year, more than 160 Garfield students will take the test.

Escalante had considered retiring, but now he has no plans to leave the school. "I'm having too much fun," he said.

A  
GALA PREMIERE  
FOR  
STAND AND DELIVER  
IS SCHEDULED FOR  
MARCH 7, 1988, 5:30  
AT SACRAMENTO'S CREST  
THEATER, 10TH & K  
\$20 PER PERSON

## Latino Jockeys Are Champions, But Where Are the Adoring Fans?

**Golden Gate Fields**--On one memorable day, just before the 1987 Kentucky Derby, a look at the top ten money winning jockeys in America found a Latino, Laffit Pincay, on top and found other Latinos in that elite group.

On that same day, of nine races on the racing card at Golden Gate Fields near San Francisco, seven of the nine races were won by Latino jockeys.

And a look at the jockey standings at all of the major tracks in the United States revealed an abundance of Latino jockeys succeeding at their respective racetracks.

In fact, in terms of numbers, there appear to be more Latino athletes involved in horse racing than any other professional sport. (Soccer,

of course, has large numbers of Latin-American athletes, but most are not U.S. citizens). We say "perhaps" because there are no reliable statistics available. PERSPECTIVA contacted the California Horse Racing Board, the Jockey's Guild, the Daily Racing Form and a number of race tracks, but all indicated that they did not maintain information regarding ethnicity.

However, anyone who picks up a racing form or racetrack program will see Pincay, Cordero, Velasquez, Vasquez, Romero, Caballero and a multitude of other Spanish-surnames dotting the jockey standings.

Why don't Latino jockeys enjoy the celebrity status within the Latino community



that Latino stars in sports such as boxing or baseball enjoy?

Raul Caballero, 48, a veteran Northern California jockey whose roots are in Mexico, was asked that question. "I really don't know why," he said. He surmised that it might be because horse racing doesn't engender team loyalty... "you're your own man" as a jockey he stated. Perhaps it's because many don't regard jockeys as athletes. You don't see many jockeys invited to the television network's "battles of the sports stars" events.

Jockeys, however, as do

many athletes, struggle with weight, must adhere to training and conditioning regimens and certainly are as competitive as any other athlete in their vocations.

As for not being a "contact" sport, any jockey who has been hurled from a horse during a race would agree that he or she would rather dodge an uppercut from a heavyweight boxer than a 1,200 pound horse running 40 miles an hour.

Perhaps one reason that Latino jockeys don't elicit fan support that other Latino athletes do is the fact that horse racing is foreign to large segments of the population.

There aren't little league horse racing circuits, or Police Athletic League spon-

sored horse racing and opportunities for Latino youth to become involved in horse racing are limited.

Caballero, as do many Latino jockeys, started riding outside of the United States. The Jalisco-born jockey began riding in Tijuana in 1961 and moved with a stable to Hollywood Park in 1964. He pointed out that many Latin American countries such as Panama and Mexico have riding schools that train jockeys. There is no such school in the United States.

Caballero and other Latino jockeys no doubt wish that more Latinos would exhibit a special pride when a Latino jockey wins one of the coveted triple crown or breeder's cup races, as they do when a Latino succeeds at other sports.

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## Two Lottery "Players:" One Spun and Won---One Spins the Wheels of Government

### 22-year-old Mother Was Down on Her Luck

By Patricia Marroquin

Nellie Muro was down on her luck the day she bought the ticket. The 22-year-old divorced mother was sick, depressed and had been issued an eviction order by the owner of the Alhambra apartment building in which she lived.

Her building was to be demolished to make way for a new development. Some of the tenants had already left, but since she had nowhere to go, the owner had granted her a one-month extension.

"I was so down at the time. I didn't have money to move. There was a big burden on my mind," she said.

With only a few dollars in her purse, she went to the grocery store to buy milk and orange juice for her son James. When she saw that she had an extra dollar, she decided to buy a scratch-off ticket. "I had only enough money to buy one ticket", she recalled. "It was my last dollar."

That last dollar earned her a chance at the Big Spin. The lottery paid for her flight to Sacramento, and her mother and sister drove up to watch.

A spin of the wheel made Nellie Muro a millionaire. But her problems weren't over yet.

Back in Alhambra, some neighbors watched her win on TV. And a couple of them took that opportunity to burglarize Muro's home. They took two televisions and a microwave oven before a child scared them off. There wasn't enough evidence to arrest them.

"I just moved out the next day," Muro said. "I put my stuff in storage."

She stayed with a sister a couple of months, then rented a condominium in La Puente near her parents.

The first installment of her winnings amounted to \$40,000. "The first thing I did was give money to my family," she said. She then bought a new car.

Muro recently bought a modestly priced, 4 bedroom, 2 bath home in Valinda. At the time she won, she was working for a probate lawyer, a job she started as a temporary. She is now a legal secretary for Grace, Neumeyer and Otto, Inc. in Los Angeles, and few at her workplace know she won the lottery.

"I could kick back on what I get," she said but refuses to do that. "I'm young and I'd be bored to death if I sat home."

Muro will get \$40,000 a year for 20 years, and plans to invest some of it for her 6-year-old son. "I'm his only survivor . . . this is my chance that maybe God is giving me so that I don't spend this money foolishly," said Muro, now 24.

Muro has been tempted to make extravagant purchases, but has kept a level head and has surprised friends and family with how she has handled the situation. She does, however, plan a trip to Hawaii this summer for herself and her son.

She continues to play the scratch-off game, perhaps a few times a month. Her winnings are meager—\$2.00 here, \$10.00 there. Nothing like the jackpot she hit that fateful day in 1987.

### Pacific Bell Program Will Teach Spanish to Employees

**Riverside**—Pacific Bell's Riverside employees will be provided an opportunity to learn Spanish through an accelerated language course as a way of enhancing the company's service to the Hispanic community.

Pacific Bell area vice president Reed Royalty announced the program and indicated that 33 Pacific Bell employees had already signed up for the program.

This program is, in part, a response to a three-year pact signed last year with the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility (HACER). The pact calls for marketing plans to meet the needs of Hispanic customers, among other provisions.

# L

The set, the television cameras and the principals were in place as taping time drew near. The studio audience was comprised primarily of brown, Latino faces.

No, this was not a taping of "Chicano Perspectives" or "Progreso" or any other Latino community television program.

This was the taping of the Lottery's Big Spin program, and the audience was mostly Latino because almost every contestant who would be spinning this evening was Latino!

This Big Spin program may have been extraordinary, but only in degree. Watch the Big Spin most evenings and you'll notice a significant number of Latinos participating.

A reflection of Latino luck?

More likely a reflection of the fact that an extremely high number of Latinos play the lottery.

According to a Maritz Marketing Research report released last year, among ethnic groups in California, the biggest lottery players are Hispanics.

The demographic study of lottery players surveyed 2,545 randomly selected Californians. The study revealed, among other findings that:

- Hispanics play the lottery more than any other ethnic group in California. Four out of five Hispanic adults have played the lottery. By comparison, only 2 out of 3 Asians and blacks have played a lottery game.

- In a four week period studied, Hispanic players bought an average of 5.8 scratch-off tickets. This is significantly more than the average 3.4 purchased by all instant-game participants.

- The study showed that few Hispanics are exclusive players of the Lotto game. Hispanic participation in Lotto 6/49 is about the same (25%) as among the general lottery population. By comparison, 30% of Asians and blacks have played Lotto 6/49.

It is no coincidence that the lottery has an advertising campaign entitled "El Gordo." The campaign is targeted at "adult Hispanics in the United States influenced by the Spanish-language media," according to advertising executive Paul Casanova. The campaign also features a "shadow figure," never quite seen, that is meant to represent "El Gordo."

Casanova, president of Casanova Pendrill Publicidad of Irvine, California, characterizes the figure as representing "El Premio Gordo," the huge jackpot that can be won. He denies that the figure has any stereotypical connotation similar to that of the ill-conceived "Frito Bandito" ad campaign.

"We have been very careful to avoid offending anyone with this campaign," Casanova stated. "We've done a lot of research and we have received no negative responses."

The shadow character that appears in the ad campaign is scheduled to manifest itself in some form in the near future.

Chon Gutierrez, the director of the State Lottery, does not think Latinos play the lottery in disproportionately high numbers.

"Our research indicates that our player base is reflective of the state's population. No one economic group or ethnic group appears to be over-represented," according to Gutierrez.

In response to those who have claimed that a disproportionately high number of low-income Latinos are spending money they can ill-afford on the lottery, Gutierrez stated: "Among income groups, people with incomes under \$20 thousand per year represent 29% of the state's population—and 28% of the player base."

### State Lottery Chief Has Lottery "Roots"

By Patricia Marroquin

Chon Gutierrez grew up in Sacramento, attending Washington Elementary and James Marshall High schools and graduating from Davis, where he studied economics and California agricultural history.

He was drafted and spent a year in Vietnam as an infantryman. He has worked as deputy director of the California Youth Authority and was assistant director of the State Department of Finance.

The parents of Gutierrez, whose first name is short for Asuncion, were born in the Mexican state of Jalisco in a town called Jalostotitlan. It is a picturesque community of 30,000. A river meanders through the town, which is dotted by spirals of the 17th Century churches and lined with cobblestone streets.

In the center of the town is a plaza, on one side of which is a mercado. On the other end of the plaza sits a huge church, with handmade wooden pews and an ornate altar. On the altar

**Perhaps the block-L can, as a secondary connotation, mean Latino\$**

sits a statue of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Asuncion.

A celebration of the patron saint just before Ash Wednesday every year always draws the townspeople and neighbors to see the fireworks and mariachis. This holiday, and another in August, also attracts people to the town to play the lottery.

The lottery is held in a tent-like wood frame building. There is a rickety aluminum wheel filled with numbers, similar to the kind found in a bingo parlor. As numbers are drawn, the townspeople mark their cards with kernels of corn. When the cards are filled cries of "Lo tengo, lo tengo (I've got it)" can be heard, and the winners come up to collect their prizes.

"This lottery was run by my grandfather until the day he died," said Gutierrez.

"When you think in terms of roots," Gutierrez said, "here's this man who ran the lottery in this little town for over 60 years and I, as a grandson, used to visit in the summertime and help him run the lottery. Now I am the director of the nation's largest lottery."

Gutierrez is also proud of the fact that he was the first employee hired to work for the California Lottery. That was in March, 1985, when he was appointed chief deputy. The director was selected a few months later. When the director left, Gutierrez took over in July, 1987.

Martin Sanchez did not live to see his grandson take over the third largest lottery in the world. He died in 1978 at the age of 83. But no doubt he would have been proud of Asuncion.

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## Recent Study Suggests Latinos Become Conservative As They Become Affluent

Los Angeles--Are Latinos any different than their anglo counterparts when their upward mobility results in new found affluence? Do they, also, become more politically conservative?

According to a recent study by Caltech political science professor Bruce E. Cain, the answers are 'no' they're no different, and 'yes' they do become more conservative.

Utilizing census data and voter records and focusing upon the 7th Los Angeles City Council District, Cain found that 57% of those Latinos who moved to more affluent neighborhoods and switched political parties, became Republicans.

These findings appear to be in consonance with a study by the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project that showed that in the 1984 presidential election, 82% of Latinos earning under \$10,000 per year voted for Mondale, while more than 70% of those earning \$50,000 or more voted for Ronald

Reagan.

Many Latinos are not surprised with these findings. Latinos, as everyone else, are affected by "pocketbook issues" and are protective of their new-found economic status. Their politics may tend to become more conservative.

Not all Latinos accept the validity of the findings, however, Irene Tovar, a valley resident and long active in Democratic politics, disputed the results. Her interaction with middle-class Latinos, she states, reveals that they are still overwhelmingly Democrat.

There are, of course, unanswered questions that remain. Do upwardly mobile Latinos change their political status out of political conviction, or to conform to their new environs? If this trend does exist, will it logically result in conservative Latino elected officials who are the polar opposites of most current elected officials, such as Gloria Molina and Richard Alatorre?

## Garden Grove "Busing" Plan Meets Resistance from Parents

Garden Grove--A new "busing" plan for Garden Grove Unified School District has encountered vehement resistance from anglo parents who express, among other concerns, that the resulting influx of limited-English speaking students will slow academic progress at affected schools.

The plan calls for busing about 500 predominantly Latino students from their overcrowded schools to other schools within Garden Grove Unified. The aim of the program, according to Garden Grove Unified Superintendent Ed Dundon, was to relieve overcrowding in schools in western Santa Ana, not to achieve integration.

Whatever the motivation for the plan, anglo parents at affected schools are not happy. These parents claim that they were not given sufficient notice of the proposed plan and have been met with hostile attitudes by district officials when expressing their concerns.

These parents claim their schools will suffer as the increase in limited-English-speaking students at these schools diverts and depletes school resources. They propose that all Latino students be bused to one school--the recently reopened Carillo School.

Superintendent Dundon disputed the parent's claim of district hostility. He also dismissed the parent's suggestions to bus all Latinos to one school as an action that would illegally create a segregated school.

The district's Public Information Officer, Alan Trudell, underscored the fact that this is not a "busing issue." "There are no ethnic considerations coming into play, it's only an overcrowding issue," he said.

Trudell indicated that a 15-member blue ribbon committee has been formed and will report to the school board by the first of April with findings and recommendation on how to proceed.

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**Experience:** Three years of professional mechanical engineering experience, at least two of which shall have been in design and inspection work in several of the fields described in "Typical Tasks" above and comparable in responsibility to that of a Mechanical Engineer, Range B, in the California state service.

and

**Education:** Equivalent to graduation from college with major work in mechanical engineering. (Additional qualifying experience may be substituted for the required education on a year-for-year basis.)

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The above positions have only been briefly stated here. For more complete information please write to Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, 1600 9th Street, Room 435, Sacramento, CA 95814. Attention Gerry Pontes. Or phone: (916) 322-1212.



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and

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## Successful Gathering of Bilingual Educators at 13th Annual C.A.B.E. Conference

Special to PERSPECTIVA by Dr. Tomas Lopez

**San Francisco**--More than 5,000 bilingual educators gathered at the 13th Annual Conference of the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) on February 10-13, 1988 at the San Francisco Hilton & Towers. More than forty school districts and county offices co-sponsored the conference.

The theme of the conference was "Bilingual Education: English for a Productive Economy." What this means is that education for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students must go beyond the mere acquisition of grammar to the full integration of language, culture and proficiency to allow these students to reach the same level of expectation demanded of all children. The conference provided participants with the opportunity to grow professionally, improve skills and refine talents so that LEP students can be provided the best education possible.

This CABE conference was opportune because of changing demographic trends in California. Approximately 25% of California students come from a home where a language other than English is spoken and projections indicate that by the year 2,000 over 49% of the students will come from a home where a language other than English

is spoken.

There were over 25 strands with approximately 350 workshops presented during the four days. In addition, there were 15 half-day or full-day intensive training institutes.

A Special Strand for Parents included many workshops in their primary language. Parents were assisted in reading the program so that they would not need to rely on someone.

There were several key note speakers including Mary Hatwood Futrell, President of the National Education Association since 1983, who stressed the need to address the needs of language minority students.

Jaime Escalante, mathematics teacher from Garfield High School in East Los Angeles, whose story was made into a movie entitled "Stand and Deliver," spoke about motivating high-risk youth.

A significant session was the corporation roundtable. The purpose was to bring members of the corporate community, school districts and state agencies together to address partnership efforts that would result in the improvement of education. Key issues discussed were: Reality for California in the year 2,000, the Boston Compact Initiative, Educating the Citizens of an Information Age and a Plan of Action for Schools.

## Hispanic Focus: California Association for Bilingual Education



### California Association for Bilingual Education

**MEMBERSHIP** : More than 1,800 educators, administrators and friends statewide.

**PURPOSE** : To promote bilingual education in California schools.

**HEADQUARTERS** : 926 "J" Street, Suite 810, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 447-3986.

**OFFICERS** : President-Aurora M. Quevedo; Vice President-Elsa Santillan; Chief Executive Officer-John A. Kotick; Headquarter's Manager-Kathy Villapudua.

The question, in bilingual education circles, has been asked frequently. Is bilingual education dead? Even the newsletter of the California Association for Bilingual Education asked the question in a lead article entitled "Will Bilingual Sunset Bring Changes?"

The "sunset" referred to was the June 1987 demise of the law governing implementation of bilingual education in California schools.

Another article in that same newsletter,

however, answered with an emphatic: No, bilingual education is not dead.

And CABE officials feel that the role of the organization in addressing bilingual education issues assumes new and heightened significance now that there are so many unanswered questions. The need certainly has been enhanced by the growth, in our school districts, of ethnically diverse, linguistically diverse, student populations.

According to Aurora Quevedo, president of CABE, the real significance of the "sunset" of the bilingual education laws is the moral dilemma it raises.

"I think it is immoral that California does not have a bilingual education law in 1988," Quevedo said. It reveals a moral defect on the part of the legislative process: that such decisions can be made on the basis of politics and not on the basis of student needs.

Quevedo indicated that, as well as the legal obligation that federal requirements still impose, California school districts have a moral obligation to proceed with bilingual education.

The biggest challenge facing CABE and California's bilingual educators, according to Quevedo, is to provide meaningful service as a resource to school districts in pursuing a sound bilingual education policy. The primary purpose of CABE, of course, is to promote bilingual education in the schools, she said. But the primary concern of bilingual educators in CABE is the continued academic success of students within these programs.

With more than 1,800 CABE members statewide, the organization has been an articulate and influential voice in shaping bilingual education policy. Its recent, highly successful 13th Annual CABE Conference held in San Francisco attests to the continued vitality of the organization.

"The conference was a resounding success," said Quevedo. It was one of the very best conferences California has seen, and not just in the bilingual education arena."

## Hispanic Diabetes Council Opens in Santa Clara County

**San Jose**--An organization has been created to help in the prevention of diabetes among Santa Clara County Hispanics.

The Hispanic Diabetes Council was introduced at a public forum in San Jose recently, the first organization of its kind in the United States.

Statistics show that about 10 percent to 15 percent of all adult Hispanics have diabetes compared with 5 percent to 6 percent of the general population, making it about twice as prevalent among Hispanics. There is no cure for this disease, in which heredity plays a large part.

The council will promote detection, education and treatment for Hispanics.

The new group came about through an advisory committee that helped the Diabetes Society of Santa Clara County plan a Hispanic diabetes education program. The society runs classes taught by bilingual instructors throughout the county.

The Hispanics Diabetes Council plans to intensify the society's efforts -- with classes and other kinds of events and programs to educate the public. It will also help develop and promote reading and other materials about diabetes.

Experts believe diabetes may be more common among Hispanics because of a lack of information and a diet heavy in starches and fats. Factors contributing to the onset of diabetes, such as obesity, can be controlled, they say.

The organizations founding statement stated diabetes is more prevalent among the poor, and many California Hispanics fall in low income categories. The lack of proper medical care to California Hispanics contributes to the problems of inadequate detection and treatment, the statement indicated.

The council plans to promote similar groups nationwide.

## New Officers Elected for Santa Clara County La Raza Lawyer's Group

**San Jose**--Thomas Spielbauer (Magana) has been elected to a second term as president of the La Raza Lawyer's Association of Santa Clara County. In balloting held February 17, Magana was elected as president, Miguel Chacon was elected vice president, Victor Torres was elected secretary, and Cecelia Cosca treasurer.

All ballot proposals, including a controversial proposal to change the name of the organization to Hispanic Lawyers Association of Santa Clara County City-- which was supported by Spielbauer-- were defeated.

Under Spielbauer's first term, the organization experienced a dramatic increase in its visibility and activities, culminating in a highly successful "Evening for Education" that benefited many area schools to the tune of \$8,000.

However, Spielbauer has been criticized by some members of the organization for his leadership style. One member, who declined to be named, indicated that he often took action without consulting the membership.

Additionally, Spielbauer was criticized for his interpersonal relationships. "He just plows in and does things his way. And he often treats us like little children in making his decisions," said the member.

Spielbauer's supporters feel this criticism is unfair. They point to the "revitalization" of the organization under Spielbauer's leadership. They also cite the fact that he had little assistance from other members for organization activities.

The membership desires smoother relations with its leadership in 1988. Spielbauer has been made aware of the concerns of some of the members and, they hope he will heed those concerns.





## S.F. Museum Promotes Mexican Art, Culture

By Rene Chacon

**San Francisco**--Housed in Fort Mason's Building D, is the only institution created to expand and promote Mexican art and culture in the United States. Founded in 1975, the Mexican Museum is currently hosting two new and exciting exhibitions in addition to the pre-conquest artifacts and popular religious and folk art permanently displayed.

The first entitled "Carmen Lomas Garza: Lo Real Maravilloso (The Marvelous/The Real)" consists of thirty-one select works of Lomas Garza's most recent paintings, lithographs and paper-cuts.

Born in Kingsville, Texas, Lomas Garza is an academically-trained artist educated at the Antioch School in Austin, Texas, as well as, locally at San Francisco State University. Despite her academic training, Lomas Garza's work professes an affinity for folk art which delves into her rich Tejano heritage.

Among familiar Mexican-American themes explored are curanderismo, community events (tamalada and loteria among others), and other familiar cultural celebrations. Also included are eight paintings, commissioned in 1982 by the City and County of San Francisco and the San Francisco Water Department, illustrating the history of Northern California water. Her richly detailed and vibrant works remain on display until March 13.

The second exhibit explores Mexico's culinary heritage, "La Cocina Mexicana." On display are traditional utensils, ollas, metates and molcajetes. Also exhibited are varieties of pre-hispanic foods which trace the origins of current Mexican foods.

On March 23rd, Mexican Museum Registrar Gloria Jaramillo reports that these two exhibits will be replaced by a "Recent Gifts and Acquisitions" showing. Mexican-American artists whose works have been acquired include Rudy Fernandez, Manuel Neri, Alfredo Arreguin, and Sam Hernandez. Mexican artists exhibited will include Fanny Rabel, Rafael Coronel, and Chucho Reyes. Later in the year, Jaramillo reports that a major exhibition of Diego Rivera's works is tentatively planned.

## Hate Mail Campaign Fails to Deter Hispanic Vice Principal At Wilson

By Theresa Ordoñez

**San Francisco**--Gil Archuleta, vice principal of Woodrow Wilson High School in San Francisco, has been working hard to effect positive change in his school. In the year and one half he has been vice principal, he has implemented a multitude of changes suggested by the Accreditation Review Board, the Western Association for Schools and Colleges and the State Department of Education.

For his efforts, however, Archuleta and his school have received hate mail in what seems to be an organized campaign by anonymous individuals.

According to Archuleta, the letters have had "racial overtones."

"They state that the minority administration is incompetent," he said. "They are venomous and they focus on me and the principal of Wilson, who is black."

Archuleta has been instrumental in addressing issues rarely broached prior to his arrival at Wilson. He feels that the parents-- many

of whom are recent arrivals to the United States-- have not been involved in the educational issues affecting their children. He has attempted to involve them in that process.

Additionally, he has implemented administrative changes, including the restructuring of academic curriculum, the reassignment of school staff, program analyses, and most important to him, enhanced accountability of school staff to the students and parents they serve.

Archuleta has also addressed some sensitive issues. He has discussed the subject of discriminatory practices of teachers at the school. Also, under a district consent decree plan addressing minority student concerns, he has insisted on an examination of school tests to determine whether they reflect what the students are learning.

Less controversial, but unnerving to some who enjoy the status quo, has been Archuleta's work, under the auspices of new educational improvement legislation, to

ensure that students are prepared to deal with new technologies after graduation.

Superintendent of Schools, Ramon Cortines, has visited Wilson to discuss the hate mail campaign and the possible effect it has had on school staff and students.

Archuleta insists that the hate mail will not impede progress at Wilson.

"We've presented our plan to the superintendent. We will continue to process changes suggested by WASC and other associations charged with implementing changes in curriculum and administration," he emphasized.

Archuleta would not speculate as to who is behind the hate mail campaign.

Wilson has 10 Spanish-speaking teachers on staff. Twenty-seven percent of the student population at the high school is Latino.

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## CSUS Program Opens College Door to Migrant Students

**Sacramento**--For many Latinos whose parents and other relatives never saw the inside of a college classroom, a college education was little more than a dream.

And for Latino youths from a migrant farmworker background, the prospect of a college education almost non-existent.

The College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) at California State University-Sacramento is making that dream a reality for many migrant students.

The CAMP program, established at CSUS in 1981 and funded largely by the United States Department of Education's Office of Migrant Education, reaches out to migrant students who may have felt they had no chance of attending college, and

facilitates their entrance and continued success at the campus.

About 76 students have gained access to CSUS through CAMP efforts and 12 have graduated. As many, or more, are expected to graduate this year.

The program is designed to provide support services after the student gains admission also. Tutoring, career counseling and academic counseling are components of this support system.

According to Marcos Sanchez, director of the program, the goal of CAMPS is to provide educational opportunities for students from migrant and seasonal farmworker backgrounds.

"The numbers of these types of students at any college campus are

small," Sanchez said. "Our program will not only bring them to college, it will prepare them to succeed."

The biggest obstacles the migrant students must overcome, according to Sanchez, are self-confidence problems and finances.

The program works on the former through intensive group and one-on-one counseling. Finances are addressed by providing stipends and assisting students in tapping other resources. Because of limited CAMP resources, most students obtain loans and work to supplement their incomes.

The attrition rate in the program is gratifyingly low. The overall retention rate is about 96%—about twice that of the college population as a whole.

Although the near future does not hold funding uncertainty—the program is funded through 1990—Sanchez acknowledged that the program is seeking additional monies from the University. As of now CSUS provides the program with about \$45 thousand annually.

Additionally, Sanchez is attempting to establish a scholarship fund for CAMP students and is seeking community support.

"The financial aid money available through the various grant sources is limited and inadequate to meet our students needs," Sanchez stated. "Perhaps with help from the community we can help some of our students with scholarships."

## Sacramento City Unified Schools Promote "Magnet Schools"

Special to *Perspectiva* by Gloria Evosevich

**Sacramento**--"Quality Education By Choice" is Sacramento City Unified School District's theme to promote its magnet school programs in March. The promotion's goal is to increase public awareness and support for magnet schools as educational options.

Magnet Programs are placed in minority and majority schools at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. They feature a special curriculum to attract minority and majority student attendance. Magnet programs offer basic education, math and science, gifted education, business preparation, teacher training, visual and performing arts, and the humanities and international studies. Parents and students choose programs based on student interests, needs and talents.

In October, 1987, Sacramento City received a \$2.9 million dollar federal magnet schools assistance grant to fund magnet education programs to support a district desegregation plan.

Objectives of the magnet assistance program include: the reduction of minority group isolation;

the promotion of academically-excellent programs; improvement of the student's achievement in basic skills and marketable vocational skills; the acceptance and appreciation of diverse value systems and life-styles; access to an integrated learning environment; and parental and community involvement in all phases of program planning and implementation.

In January, Superintendent, Keith T. Larick, presented a voluntary plan for the desegregation of district schools. The plan represents many years of school and community planning. Magnet schools are an important component of the plan.

"We are excited about this important new thrust in Sacramento City Schools," said Larick. "It has been long in coming and will, I am sure, make a difference in the quality of education in our schools and in the long-range quality of life for this community".

Dr. Alicia Meza, Assistant Superintendent Elementary Schools, and administrator of the Magnet Schools Assistance Program, believes that in addition to the choices magnet programs offer

students and parents, it also offers program consistency from kindergarten through high school.

"In the past," said Meza, "the district has attempted to provide greater program consistency for our students as they progress from elementary to the secondary level. The magnet assistance grant provides tremendous opportunity for us to further these efforts through the development of progressive curriculum."

Special efforts to inform the community about magnet programs are being made through the media, press and parent meetings. Extensive recruitment efforts to attract minority and majority students are also underway at each magnet school site. The recruitment goal is to achieve racial/ethnic balance that is reflective of the school district and the Sacramento community.

Information about the magnet school program is available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mong, and Lau.

Interested parents may tour magnet schools in March, and the application period to apply to the magnet programs is March 14-March 25.



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### Bilingual Education Study Finds Success for Students in Well-Designed Programs

Bilingual education got a boost recently by a study which showed the students in good programs equal the academic achievement of their English-speaking counterparts in 3 to 5 years.

University of Southern California linguistics professors Stephen Krashen and Douglas Biber studied programs teaching children in their native languages at six school districts throughout the state.

The findings, released by the California Association for Bilingual Education, contradict the assertions of bilingual education foes, who believe the programs hinder learning of English. Results showed that students in well-designed programs do better than those who do not receive instruction in their primary language.

The professors' report stated that children in bilingual programs not only learn English, but they also learn formal English at a level equal to average native English speaking youngsters. And the bilingual-program student continues to improve his language skills each year, the report said.



## Sacramento Latino Community Seeks Alternatives for Concilio Services

Special to Perspectiva by Traci Wallin

**Sacramento**--The Sacramento Concilio, a twenty year old service organization formed to meet the needs of the Hispanic community, declared bankruptcy near the end of 1987. Since then Sacramento's Hispanic leaders have sought new methods and creative avenues to meet the growing needs of the Hispanic community.

The Concilio, funded primarily by United Way and funds from the Federal Training and Placement Act (FTPA) which were allocated through the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA), provided an umbrella of services specifically directed to the Hispanic community. Its services included English as a Second Language training, work experience programs for youth, immigration counseling, job placement assistance, and a meal service for senior citizens. The Concilio also served as the central location for media programs such as Chicano Perspective and Progreso.

The services lost by the closure of the Concilio are available to some degree from existing service agencies. Catholic Social Services provides immigration counseling and food services. Asian Resources provides ESL training and work experience programs for youth. Centro Guadalupe provides immigration consultation, housing referrals, and some senior citizen food services. And the Washington Neighborhood Center has taken over the Concilio's media programs.

Only the FTPA funds have been re-released for allocation. According to SETA, the organizations to receive additional funding are the Sacra-

mento Chinese Community Service Center Inc. for its ESL work experience and training programs and La Familia Counseling Center for its summer youth employment program. United Way intends to re-allocate its funds after it issues guidelines and requirements for proposal request applications.

United Way has asked the Community Services Planning Council Inc. (CSPC), an affiliated service of United Way, to compile a report assessing the needs of Hispanics in Sacramento in order to best allocate its funds.

A special committee of CSPC has been formed to assess the needs of Hispanics. Councilman Joe Serna assisted the CSPC by recommending individuals from the Hispanic community to serve on the committee.

The first draft of the needs assessment has been completed and will be distributed to over 40 Hispanic organizations. After the committee has received responses and feels confident that adequate opportunity for input has been provided, United Way will use the information for its proposal request applications.

Since the closure of the Sacramento Concilio, the needs of His-

panic youth and seniors have not been met. Consequently, Hispanic leaders have formed a special group, Progreso Inc. Initially, the focus of Progreso Inc. will be to restore the lost youth and senior programs. Vice-Chairman Gabriel Vivas said of the new group: "We've got people on the board who are experienced, sophisticated, educated. ... The pattern we have is akin to a corporate structure."

## Community College Learning Disabled Program Called Biased Against Minorities

**Sacramento**--A program by the California Community College system designed to identify learning disabled students has been attacked as biased against minorities.

The use of standardized learning skills tests, critics contend, may result in the large scale labeling of ethnic minorities as learning disabled, and impede their ability to graduate from the system.

The bias comes from standardized tests that don't take into consideration ethnic differences, or factor in the poor elementary and secondary school educations many minorities receive, according to these critics.

However, the Chancellor's office of the college system disputes these allegations. Bob Howard, dean of special services for the community college system stated that the program is not racially biased and is monitored to ensure that it remains unbiased.

1986 data from the Chancellor's office identified 13.3% of those categorized as learning disabled as Hispanic (a figure lower than Hispanic representation in the general population.)

## Migrant Teacher Wins Master Teacher Award for Software

**Sacramento**--It's a long way from crops to computer chips, but a Pico Rivera teacher has breached the span and, in the process, garnered an award as one of only ten California migrant-education master teachers.

Jose Rodriguez, 38, has created Spanish-language computer software for teaching English. This pioneering effort will allow him, as a master teacher, to travel throughout the country to teach other teachers how to use the bilingual software.

His programs have been developed for the kindergarten through seventh grade levels, a total, he indicated, of more than 1,000 different programs.

Rodriguez was born in Mexico and entered the United States in 1965. After working as a migrant farm worker, he attended college and earned a degree in education in 1975.

Rodriguez has been an elementary school teacher in El Rancho Unified School District. After his stint teaching other teachers use of his software, Rodriguez plans to return to the elementary school classroom

## SPB Program Designed to Increase Numbers of Hispanic State Employees

Special to Perspectiva by Dina Hidalgo

**Sacramento**--As of December 31, 1987, Hispanics made up 13.7% of the State's work force. According to the 1980 U.S. Census, Hispanics represented 17.2% of the private sector work force and 19.2% of the State's population. This means that State civil service needs an additional 4,739 Hispanics to reach parity with the 1980 census figures.

The State Personnel Board has employed a number of strategies in its effort to improve Hispanic representation. In 1975, the Personnel Board established the Hispanic Employment Program to lead the State's efforts in realizing equal employment opportunity for Hispanics. Other efforts include requiring a 25% Hispanic recruitment goal for all major entry level examinations, requiring Hispanic represen-

tation on interview panels and holding executive level meetings with selected departments to reach administrative agreements which could enhance Hispanic hiring.

As a result of the slow rate of change, the State Personnel Board is implementing a novel project it hopes will improve the representation of Hispanics within the State's work force. The Project is called the Hispanic Employment Link Program (HELP). It provides alternative means for hiring Hispanics into entry level civil service jobs by establishing Hispanic classes that parallel existing civil service occupations. To be eligible, individuals must meet the entrance requirements, and also be Hispanic. Applicants for HELP examinations will be required to certify that they are Hispanic.

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## Fresno Police, Hispanic Community Struggle to Improve Relations After Hispanic Youth Shooting Deaths

By Esther Beltran

**Fresno**--A report prepared by the City of Fresno Human Relations Commission contains some startling statistics regarding Hispanic contact with law enforcement personnel. According to the report, over a five year period Hispanics were involved in 61% of police shootings although Hispanics comprise only about 22% of the population.

The report was part of an on-going effort to improve relations between the Police Department and the Hispanic community. Relations became strained after a series of fatal shootings which occurred in a period of just over one year.

In January, 1985, Raul Rangel was fatally wounded by police. According to police records, Rangel was killed while attempting to shoot an officer in pursuit.

Anthony Garcia, 15, was shot and killed in October, 1985. Police reports indicate that Garcia, who had been involved in a burglary, ignored a command to stop and raised a gun at the officer attempting to apprehend him.

In January, 1986, police shot and killed Ronald Lopez at his home after responding to a complaint that there was a shooting in the area.

The fact that Rangel and Lopez were related increased the tension that was already building in the Hispanic community.

The Lopez incident prompted members of the Chicano Civil Rights Network (CCRN) to submit a report addressing their concern about police abuse to the Fresno City Council. The City Council's response was to assign to the newly established Human Relations Commission, the task of studying the issue and developing a strategy to ease the growing tension.

In an effort to identify the problems, the Human Relations Commission standing committee responsible for the report, held public forums on June 30 and September 24, 1987 at which

members of the CCRN and the community at large aired their grievances against members of the Police Department.

The report, which was submitted to the City Council in late November, 1987, included 19 recommendations for improving relations. These recommendations have been the subject of several meetings which have been attended by members of various organizations. Among the organizations being represented are the Fresno Police Department, The Fresno Police Officers Association, the Chicano Civil Rights Network, Centro La Familia and the Fresno Metro Ministry.

Most of the recommendations appear to have general support. However, the Fresno Police Officers Association (FPOA) has expressed strong opposition to the recommendation that the HRC be involved in the screening of citizens complaints against police officers.

The FPOA contends that this is violative of police officer's rights, and that Penal Code Section 832.7 precludes private review of such matters.

The recommendation which appears to have the strongest support is that which proposes the appointment of an ombudsman. While the process of refining the recommendation goes on, there seems to be general agreement that some progress has been made in police-community relations. Some individuals, however, continue to express frustration and disappointment.

Luisa Medina, Executive Director of Centro La Familia, which has worked with Police Department personnel in cultural awareness workshops, is critical of the length of time it has taken to effect a plan of action. She believes, "there is an urgent need to train members of the Police Department" in how to deal with the underlying problems that plague the Hispanic Community.

Medina also expressed a concern about the paucity of Hispanics in policymaking positions. Deputy Chief of Police, Les Pesola, attributes the low numbers of Hispanics in policymaking posi-

tions within the force to the fact that those who are promoted eventually leave for better opportunities. He also said that officers often do not want to contend with undesirable work shifts which result from their low seniority at the new rank. According to Pesola, there are presently 73 Hispanics in the 372 member force. This includes one lieutenant, three sergeants, and 28 specialists.

Members of the Chicano Civil Rights Network have expressed their objection to finalizing the recommendations because they claim the report, as written, contains errors.

Matilda Rangel, Chairperson of the CCRN, said that the CCRN's efforts to provide input before the report was written were ignored by the HRC. Rangel concedes that, "things have improved between the police and the community but adds: "I see a long struggle."

According to Rangel, the CCRN's preference is that a Citizen Advisory Board be established. She indicated, however, that the appointment of an ombudsman would satisfy the CCRN if its members were allowed to have input in the selection process.

Jim Patterson, one of the three commissioners working on the report, expressed his frustration with the process. He believes that the "Commission has bent over backwards to do what it was charged to do." Patterson said that the recommendations will have to be finalized after the March 15 meeting "whether or not consensus reached on all recommendations."

Reverend Walt Parry of the Fresno Metro Ministry agrees that the focus should be on finalizing the recommendations. He believes that the process could have been improved by allowing input from those affected, but said: "You cannot undo what has been done."

He said that the appointment of an ombudsman has the greatest potential for resolving problems, but concedes that this recommendation would be the most expensive to implement.



Juvenile Court Referee Phil Silva

### Juvenile Court Referee Tries to Effect Change

**Fresno**--Latino youth going through the juvenile justice system often find that the odds against them are high.

The recidivism rate for these juvenile offenders is high and, when they return home, the academic, economic and home life problems are there to welcome them.

But, there is a man in the juvenile justice system who is trying to even those odds a bit. Phillip Silva, 38, is a Juvenile Court Referee in Fresno who takes pains to reach decisions that are in the best interests of Latinos who come before him.

"I come from there," Silva acknowledged, "I know what they're going through."

And this insight serves both him and those who come before him well. Although he is no less stern with Latino youths (and parents, as his primary case load now is with Child Abuse and Child Dependency cases) than he is with anyone else, his message may carry more weight because of his background.

Silva was born in nearby Brawley and worked in the fields until he was 18. He graduated from Roosevelt High School in Fresno, received his undergraduate degree at Fresno State and his law degree from Hastings College of Law in San Francisco.

He was appointed to the juvenile court in 1984, rated as "exceptionally well qualified" after scrutiny by the Fresno Superior Court bench, the district attorney and public defender offices and the Fresno County Department of Social Services. Silva aspires to the Superior Court bench, and if his record and commitment to justice are any indication, elevation to that level appears inevitable.

Despite a case load which he admits is overwhelming, he finds the time and energy to serve the community. He is chairman of the board of directors of both the Rape Counseling Service and Foster Parent Training Advisory Committee, and serves on the boards of the Alternative Sentencing agency and the Sexual Abuse Network.

Silva's disappointment when encountering Latino youths and parents in his court room may be apparent. And he hopes that his lectures and admonitions--to stay away from drugs, to get an education--register.

Drugs Silva indicated, are at the root of many of the problems the parents and youth encounter.

His biggest challenge, he stated is: "...trying to keep up with the case load and trying to effect change in parents. Otherwise, when their kids grow up and turn 18, they're going to have their own set of problems," he said.

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# CALENDARIO



**March 2:** **Los Angeles**/Mexican-American Grocer's Assn./Board Meeting/6:00p.m./MAGA office--**Sacramento**/Mexican-American Hall of Fame, Board of Directors/7:30/2770 Fruitridge Rd.--**Also**-- Comision Femenil/5:30 p.m./926 J St. 2nd Floor Conf. Rm--**Fresno**/La Raza Lawyer's Assn./5:30/Bogey's Restaurant

**March 3:** **Santa Ana**/United Latino Democrats/7:00 p.m./826 N. Broadway--**San Francisco**/Latino Democratic Club/7:30 p.m./Miz Brown's Country Kitchen, Mission District

**March 5:** **Fresno**/League of Latin American Women/Noon/Farmer's Market

**March 7:** **Sacramento**/LULAC/5:30/La Fiesta Restaurant--**Also**-- Sacramento Premiere of "Stand and Deliver"/7:00 p.m./Crest Theater/\$20 per person/Call 457-8644

**March 9:** **Los Angeles**/Mexican-American Grocer's Assn./General Meeting/6:30 p.m.--**Sacramento**/La Raza Lawyer's Assn./Noon

**March 10:** **Sacramento**/Mexican-American Political Association

**March 12:** **Santa Maria**/Mexican-American Correctional Assn. 2nd Annual Ball

**March 16:** **Sacramento**/Mexican-American Hall of Fame, General Meeting/7:30/2770 Fruitridge Rd.

**March 17:** **Anaheim**/Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Luncheon/Jerry Morita, Mechanics National Bank--**Sacramento**/Hispanic Democratic Club

**March 18:** **Palm Springs**/Mexican-American Grocer's Assn. Conference Begins/Marquis Resort Hotel

**March 24:** **Anaheim**/Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Business Mixer/Anaheim Memorial Hospital--**San Francisco**/La Raza Lawyer's Assn./6:00 p.m./Mission Community Legal Defense Center

**March 30:** **Sacramento**/CAFE de California/5:30/1012 J Street

**March 31:** **San Francisco**/Premiere, "The Milagro Beanfield War" fundraiser for CRLA/8:00 Palace of Fine Arts/\$125 for Sponsors, \$25 per ticket/Call 956-1011

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**Calendario** is compiled by Rita D. Aguilar. **PERSPECTIVA** will publish all meetings and special events of which you apprise us. Call (916) 457-7389 or one of the regional numbers.

## Hispanic Enrollment Low at CSU-Fresno

**Fresno**--Hispanic enrollment at Fresno State University remains disproportionately low in comparison to the Hispanic population of Fresno County.

Hispanic students comprise about 16% of the student body while about 30% of Fresno County's population is Hispanic.

These student figures were contained in a recent report by the Educational Equity Advisory Council to the California State University Board of Trustees.

The report indicated that, system wide, Hispanics are being accepted into CSU campuses in disproportionately small numbers. The report concludes that "California higher education does not appear to be accessible in equal proportions to members of all ethnic groups."

Officials at Fresno State concede that more must be done to increase the number of Hispanics and other minorities at the campus. They point out, however, that the school already has in place a number of programs designed to recruit and retain minorities. Among these programs are: Summer Bridge, which brings high school students to the campus; EOP, which facilitates special admissions; Early Outreach, which encourages junior high and high school students to prepare for CSU admission; and the Faculty Mentor program, in which students are paired with faculty "mentors."

Additionally, FSU's Chancellor's office notes that the school was one the system's top three campuses in minority retention rate.

## The Second Annual Sacramento Hispanic Community Legal Service Award Banquet

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*Molina continued from page 1*

**PERSPECTIVA:** You've been a trailblazer, first in the Assembly now in the Los Angeles City Council, as the first Latina elected to both bodies. Do you feel a special responsibility as a Latina politician?

**MOLINA:** Absolutely. A tremendous amount of responsibility. Because I'm the only Latina elected and now serving on the city council, I feel, as I did in the state legislature, that people watch and make judgments about what I do and what I say. Consequently, I feel a tremendous amount of responsibility to work as hard as possible and set the proper example with the community.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Focusing on your tenure in the legislature. How would you characterize that experience?

**MOLINA:** It was a very exciting period of time. It was wonderful being a part of that legislative body—having an opportunity to work on important legislative measures. At the same time there was a sense of frustration because I felt that we weren't doing enough, politically, to address the really critical issues before the community. So sometimes it was frustrating, but it was wonderful to represent the district I represented, to be up there working at that level and it gave me an appreciation of how hard we have to work within the political system to make sure that we're represented.

**PERSPECTIVA:** What was the catalyst that moved you from the legislature to the Los Angeles City Council?

**MOLINA:** Well, many things. First of all, a desire to work at the local level. One of the other frustrations of working at the state level is that many people expected automatic changes to be made right away. When you're at the state level you can legislate changes for the entire state, and while they do provide benefit to your district, your own community, they don't directly and quickly affect the needs of the community. So I wanted the opportunity to come back and work at the local level. At the same time, I wanted to make sure that the city of L.A. knows that we have political representatives reflective of the make up of the population. And I felt that it was important to have another Hispanic on the Council.

particularly a woman, again not to be just a trailblazer, but to show that we're an important component of public policy making and decision making. I love it here. I'm glad I made the transition. At the time I had reservations about the move, but now I feel great about being here.

**PERSPECTIVA:** There were observations made about your relationship with Willie Brown. What kind of relationship did you have with the Speaker?

**MOLINA:** A very bumpy one. He has a style of politics that doesn't work for me, and I don't think it works for my community. I think that often politicians like Willie Brown, who represent the minority community for the most part, very quickly forget that. In addition, many people had tremendous expectations of him as Speaker with the idea that we would have a tremendous opportunity to really present some aggressive action on issues that had not been addressed because they were minority issues that were not very popular. I was very disappointed that his leadership didn't really allow for that—and didn't allow for that independence of voice that is so critical. So it was a rather bumpy relationship.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Sticking with Willie Brown, what is your assessment of what has happened with Assemblyman Calderon? Some Latinos are distressed because they feel that one of our legislators has been stripped of much of his power.

**MOLINA:** Keep in mind what power is and what it means. People interpret power differently. Very frankly, I feel that Willie Brown wanted, with his sharing of power, something that I always found rather troublesome. You had to turn in your integrity and demonstrate your unquestioned loyalty. If you did that, you were able to share that power. Calderon played that role for a long time. We both were members of the legislature, and certainly, by far, he had more opportunities to share in power than I did because I didn't play that role. I don't know exactly what happened in their relationship. But it looks like one day Calderon decided to

question Willie Brown's authority and consequently fell out of grace with the Speaker and lost his power. Depending on what Chuck Calderon does with what happened, it can be beneficial to his community as well as to himself. There's nothing wrong with being independent and trying to strive for some important changes. If Calderon and the so called Gang of Five present it as a real reform of the process up there—because the process is so limited to only a few as far as opportunities to be good legislators—than I think that Calderon will be remembered as someone who tried to make positive changes. As to whether he and I would agree as to how that's done, I don't know. But I respect the fact that he's taken on this challenge and is living with the criticism he's taken up to now because he's challenged the so-called power.

**PERSPECTIVA:** The prison issue was a sensitive issue. Polanco voted for the prison in your district after being elected. Do you view that as a reflection of him being beholden to Willie Brown?

**MOLINA:** Absolutely. Willie Brown gave Polanco every opportunity to be elected. Gave him all the money he wanted, and set it all up. It was with the idea that he would join Willie Brown and toe the line. Polanco in his first action, two hours after he was sworn in, did exactly

**Bio-Box:**  
**Gloria Molina**

**BIRTH DATE:** May 31, 1948

**BIRTH PLACE:** Montebello, California

**EDUCATION:** El Rancho High School, East Los Angeles College

**FAMILY:** Husband-Ron Martinez, Daughter Valentina

**OFFICES HELD:** Assembly, 56th District, elected 1982; L.A. City Council, 1st District, elected 1987

what Willie Brown told him to do which was vote for the prison in Molina's district.

**PERSPECTIVA:** What is your prediction as to Willie Brown's longevity as speaker?

**MOLINA:** I don't think he's destined to remain much longer as Speaker. I may have been one of the first to say 'The emperor wears no clothes' while all of the others were trying to say that was not the case. But, little by little, he's being disrobed and people are seeing him for what he is. Little by little his power is being eroded, and little by little people are finding themselves ashamed of what they've been involved with for such a long time

**PERSPECTIVA:** A different but perhaps related matter. Did you encounter resistance from Latino politicians in the legislature and down here, simply because you're a woman?

**MOLINA:** Absolutely. I have been denied access to many political power decisions merely because I am a woman. Politicos here will tell you that's not the case. They'll say I'm hard to work with and that's my problem, otherwise I would be allowed to participate. But the reality is that they've been accustomed to dealing with women on their own terms. Consequently, dealing with a woman who demands that she be treated as they would want to be treated is not easy for them. I think it's sexist. They've never supported me. When I ran for office in 1982, Congressman Roybal supported me, Art Torres did, but none of the others did. Even in my City Council race this last time, I ended up with the wonderful support of Congressman Roybal again, but no one else supported me. Again, I think it comes down to sexism. They say it's me, my style, it's Gloria Molina. But I think the problem is Gloria Molina not willing to play on their terms. I've worked hard enough to have my own opinion, to have a voice. I'm willing to work as hard as the next person to have that same opportunity and I will fight any person who denies me that.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Have Latinas been supportive of you in your fight to overcome these barriers.

**MOLINA:** No, not necessarily. There are some Latinas who admire what I do, but, very frankly, most of them think that the criticisms leveled at me hurt them as well.

Some times they are very concerned with that critic and are not very supportive. Yet in the end they seem to admire it and say: 'I know you take a lot of but in the long run it has worked out well.' But at time I ask them to be supportive, many of them resistant because they are intimidated by the process. The unfortunate thing is that if they were put in same situation as I was, they would probably opt the same, as they too would recognize when they being discriminated against and not allowed to participate. I hope they too would not allow themselves subjected to that.

**PERSPECTIVA:** After you were elected to the Council you were quoted as saying that "This is a reflection of fact that L.A. does not want machine politics."

**MOLINA:** Yes, there has been an attempt in Hispanic politics to move a machine in and the desk still there, although it may be below the surface. There's an interest in a machine, controlled by a few people, and every now and then they try to resurrect that idea. I have been one who tries to make sure that Hispanic politics is not a machine. Not only because it stifles independence, but because it is detrimental to young people who are not allowed to participate with the machine because it is not open. It's a real exclusion operation. It doesn't allow for new leadership, creative ideas. A lot of people said, after I was elected, that I just wants her own machine, but those same people see a year later, that that's not what I am about. My interest is not in brokering power in a machine operation. That's why I get involved in voter registration. That's why I've refused to take certain leadership positions. I don't want to dictate to the community, I want the community to tell me what they want in a leadership direction they would like me to take, instead of creating silly political machines, full of a lot of people that are useful to no one.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Many Hispanics have decried what they call the deleterious factionalization of South Los Angeles politics, one of those factions being the Alatorre faction and another the Molina faction...

**MOLINA:** (laughing) Who's on my side, I want to know!

**PERSPECTIVA:** Is that perception correct?

**MOLINA:** Yes there has been [that factionalization] But because of style, not issues. I think we can almost 100 percent on issues, especially issues of concern to our community. Our styles are different. Our styles create disruption every now and then and consequently when we disagree, I'm pretty direct and that creates a so-called division. But there's a lot of fear initially on the part of many Hispanics that there would be disruption and polarization between two of its elected leaders fighting with each other in the Council, and that has not been the case.

**PERSPECTIVA:** What do you view as the most important issues facing Hispanics—on a statewide basis here in Los Angeles.

**MOLINA:** I think it's policy making—having a voice in policy making. And having political power, and using that power to affect those issues. We can see that education is one of our priorities or that housing or immigration or bilingual education are. But these things are dependent on being able to advance an agenda. The bottom line is that we have to get united in a strategy to become citizens and vote as accountable voters—that is, voters who hold elected officials accountable no matter who he or she is, whether Hispanic or non-Hispanic—so no one wags their noses at us and determine that our issues and priorities are not addressed. Therefore, the question of having access to that base of political power. Our issues are not really different from Californian's issues. Everyone wants their children to have a good education, they want safe shelter, they want to be part of the economic mainstream, and have a job.

**PERSPECTIVA:** This "issues question" is raised because many of us want to identify issues that galvanize our community to realize our political goals. If it's not a question of uniting behind particular issues, what is it?



**MOLINA:** I think it's a question of identifying the enemy. The enemy being that political body that has institutionalized discrimination over and over again. Whether it be at the county level, city level, the state level or federal level, politicians have to be held accountable. Our high school drop out rate, for example, I'm not going to buy as a Hispanic problem. That's nonsense. It's the policy that is made at the state level for funding of schools. At the local level, it's the Board of Education, allowing the overcrowding of our schools, or the cities not providing enough police protection and allowing gangs to take over schools and parks, or cities not providing libraries in low income communities. You could go on and on. These institutions are the enemy. They are the ones who have created the problem not ourselves. We have been too willing to say 'I'm guilty.' But we have to focus on the enemy and say *they're* the problem. We should hold the legislature responsible for not passing legislation that addresses these problems. Hold them accountable and not let them get away with always waiting until next year. I think that would bring about the unity we need. It would allow us to establish our political power agenda.

**PERSPECTIVA:** What are your priorities as a Councilwoman?

**MOLINA:** My priorities are the ones my constituency raises with me. They have raised very critical issues of police protection, of getting their fair share of municipal services, of making sure that they have all the resources that the city offers other residents of the city—to have equal access to those services and resources. As we look to the future, we have to start looking at how we can start addressing many of those issues. I am not a no-growth or pro-growth person. I am a planned development person. We have to learn how to grow and grow responsibly. We have to provide places to live, places to work, places to be educated in, for a growing community. You can't just be a no-growth person and say: "The freeways are full so now we just stop." You have to do it in a way that is synchronized to create the kind of harmony you need for the city. I'm going to support issues that may be controversial. I will support growth that is responsible, that means jobs for people, that addresses the issue of affordable housing. I'm not going to allow the no-growth people to pigeon-hole me and tell me that we must stop growth completely. You can't stop growth. You can't stop people from coming to Los Angeles for homes or jobs. Once we accept and understand that, we can begin the challenging process of planning for it.

**PERSPECTIVA:** How do you assess the effectiveness of California's Hispanic politicians, collectively, in addressing these issues we've discussed?

**MOLINA:** Well, some do quite well. We all have our roles, we all have our styles and we all try to be effective. If I'm going to be critical of anything it's something that I also have to assume some responsibility for—that being that we are not tough enough on political higher ups in the process. For example, I am not tough enough on my party, the democratic party, in holding them accountable to my community. I may be a lonely marcher on that issue because I haven't been able to get anyone to join with me to be critical of the party. Not in a sense of being negative and being destructive of the party, but to tell them to open up their eyes and realize that they cannot take our community for granted any more, because we're going to walk eventually. Many Latinos are walking from the party, yet they [party leaders] haven't seen that yet. So I think we have not been bold enough in criticizing the political process to make sure that it is responsive to the needs of our community.

**PERSPECTIVA:** One criticism, of course, is that too many Latino politicians allow special interests to displace advancing the interests of their community, once they've been elected. Is that valid?

**MOLINA:** Yes. They do. I was disappointed with Chuck Calderon and Peter Chacon who served on the Finance and Insurance Committee. I would bring a bill to that committee addressing the issue of redlining that affected Hispanics disproportionately. And although they would express sympathy, I would never get a vote from them. Their bottom line was that the insurance industry would hold back dollars. Unfortunately, the way politics operates is that you need the financial contributions to fuel your campaigns. I have been lucky throughout the years that I have been able to raise the kind of money I raise in spite of how critical I am of those kinds of political PACs. In my first campaign they said I wouldn't be able to raise money because I wasn't capable of raising it. In my last campaign they said I wouldn't be able to raise it because the traditional sources feel that she's always going to attack them. I raised as much if not more than my opponent who was supported by those traditional groups. So they haven't been a threat to me and they shouldn't be a threat to anyone. But yes, the process is very uneven, very compromising, for legislators. I'm sure that Chuck Calderon and Peter Chacon would like to see the process change. I used to be critical of them, but I was in a different situation. Of course you notice that I never was appointed to that committee!

**PERSPECTIVA:** Where are the Latina policy makers? We have many strong women in many of our political organizations, but why aren't they rising to the levels of

leadership, that you have attained?

**MOLINA:** I think that they will. When they will, I'm not sure, but they will. We're seeing Latinas play very aggressive roles in many political situations. We have Ramona Godoy who's a judge, we have the next president of M.A.B.A., we have Carmen Estrada and Irene Ayala, who are on commissions, Olivia Rodriguez, Evelyn Martinez. And we have hundreds more across the state. All of these people are very strong voices in making public policy. Opportunities to serve in roles like mine are extremely limited.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Is the so-called "Latino old boy network" working as an impediment to Latina access to these opportunities?

**MOLINA:** At times it does, absolutely. They promote themselves and their loyal friends. And it's tough when political power is so limited and only in the hands of a few—that is, visible political power. They share it with their best buddies and most of the time their best buddies are not women. But I think there are some tremendous Latinas on the horizon, moving up. But they must learn how to develop a power base. Many Latinas who want to run for office think they can come in here, and, with my endorsement, win political office. They don't know how hard it is. How you have to raise money, how dedicated you have to be to a campaign, the time frames, the discipline. It's not a cakewalk.

**PERSPECTIVA:** What are your one or two pre-eminent goals in the City Council?

**MOLINA:** One is the development of housing policy for the city. I would like to see not only a housing committee, but a housing department that coordinates one clear policy. We must make a commitment to meet the needs for various levels of housing. We must prepare for future growth and expansion. So I hope that beyond addressing my constituent agenda, my contribution is effective work in the whole area of housing.

**PERSPECTIVA:** Does another political role look attractive to you in the near or distant future?

**MOLINA:** A lot of people have suggested that I should aspire to Congress. While it would be wonderful to some day serve in Congress, I still feel that I want to do some things at the local level. I know I must serve my time on the Council and serve my district well. But I would hope that there might be an opportunity in the future to run for the County Board of Supervisors, or run for Mayor of the City of L.A. Again, I feel that these offices would give me an opportunity to accomplish things at the local level.

#### Gomez continued from page 1

Even before he became one of only eight CHP command officers—and head of the largest division, in terms of population—Gomez used his position in the CHP to help his community.

Early in his career he developed community education programs for Mexican farm laborers in Ventura County to keep them from becoming the victims of consumer fraud—efforts that resulted in his being selected Ventura County's "Man of the Year."

And recently he mobilized the CHP's resources to provide fingerprinting services, free of charge, to those seeking to qualify for the legalization program.

"This kind of outreach and community service," he stated, "has tremendous benefits for both the CHP and the community."

Gomez' responsibilities as a Chief in the CHP are staggering. He is the commander for all of Los Angeles County and manages 12 areas with a multi-million population that exceeds all other divisions, with 1,100 CHP officers and 500 non-uniformed employees.

But even as he fulfills his duties, he assists the Hispanic community. Although approximately 14% of CHP officers are Latino—about three times what it was when he joined the force—one of his priorities is to increase the numbers of Latino peace officers.

"California has a large Hispanic population," said Gomez. "Our work force should reflect that population."

Gomez' assistance to the Hispanic community has not engendered any resentment in the ranks. Much of his activity benefiting the Hispanic community has been on his own time. Moreover, all who were questioned view him as the paradigm of the command officer, meeting all challenges professionally and responsibly.

Gomez joined the CHP in 1966 after working many years as a journeyman with the Ventura County Star Journal. In 1973 he went to the CHP academy in Sacramento as an instructor. He subsequently earned an A.A. in Criminal Justice from Sacramento City College in 1974, and his B.A. in Criminal Justice from California State University-Sacramento.

When he was promoted to Captain in 1979, he was the only Latino to ever attain that rank in the CHP. Then in 1983, he was promoted to Assistant Chief, again the only Latino to ever attain that rank. That same year he earned his Master's degree from CSU-Los Angeles.

When he was promoted to Chief of the Southern Division in March of 1987 he completed the hat trick—the first Latino to reach the Captain, Assistant Chief and, finally, Chief's rank within the Highway Patrol. He remains the only Latino Chief in the CHP.

Gomez indicated that he intends to remain with the CHP until his retirement. But he does not

intend to retire from public service.

"I have eight years in which to do the best damn job I can," he stated, "but who knows after that." Public office, he conceded, would be an "attractive possibility."

Gomez' record of accomplishment and manifest commitment to advancing the interests of his community would make him an asset to the political arena.

#### Bio-Box: Ed Gomez

**BIRTH DATE:** May 31, 1942

**BIRTH PLACE:** Ventura, California

**CURRENT RESIDENCE:** Pasadena

**EDUCATION:** A.A. Criminal Justice, Sacramento City College; B.A. Criminal Justice, CSU-Sacramento; M.P.A. CSU-Los Angeles

**FAMILY:** Wife-Nina; Sons-Edward and Jeffrey



**Factionalization continued from page 1**

In the early skirmishes of the Speaker's fight, both Latino legislators backed Howard Berman. Then in 1981 they switched their support and played key roles in Willie Brown's upset victory in the Democratic caucus vote. As a result, Alatorre won the powerful job of chairman of the Assembly Elections and Reapportionment Committee, where he crafted a redistricting plan that helped send two more Hispanics to Congress. Alatorre also became chairman of the powerful Government Organization Committee.

For his support, Torres was given the Speaker's political blessing to challenge incumbent State Senator Alex Garcia in the 1982 Democratic primary.

Bucking the traditional political establishment to run against an incumbent Latino was Torres' first significant test of his political power base. Torres endured a bitter and divisive campaign without the support of Speaker Pro Tem Roberti or the traditional backing of Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers. Torres won the election by an eight point margin, 54%-46%.

Torres and Alatorre expanded their political clout as they backed candidates for vacant elective positions and facilitated the appointments of Hispanics to boards and commissions.

Key to the success of the Alatorre/Torres "machine" has been their ability to organize in the East Los Angeles Latino community and raise the enormous amounts of money necessary to acquire and maintain power.

While other Latino politicians

have raised money and organized voters, Alatorre and Torres are the first to be considered the equals of those in anglo-dominated political power structures.

**Territorial Challenges to the "Old Guard"**

In recent years there have been three significant challenges to the "old guard."

The first challenge to Alatorre and Torres' power came when former Torres staff member Gloria Molina ran for the vacant 56th Assembly District seat in 1982. Her opponent was Alatorre staff member Richard Polanco.

Molina sought the support of both Alatorre and Torres, but was refused in favor of Polanco.

Despite Polanco's backing from the "machine," after another bitter election in the East side, Molina won the Democratic nomination and ultimately became a member of the Assembly.

The second territorial challenge came after Alatorre became the first Hispanic on the Los Angeles City Council. When Alatorre vacated his Assembly seat, the East Los Angeles community responded quickly to the new opportunity for elective power.

At first it appeared as if the showdown would be between two Alatorre/Torres proteges: Richard Polanco and Los Angeles School Board member Larry Gonzales. After it was decided that Polanco would be the heir apparent, Assemblywoman Molina threw her support to businessman Mike Hernandez.

At that time, Molina publicly cited two reasons for her decision to support Hernandez. First, she thought opposition for Polanco would be good for the community.

The second reason she gave was that

she was tired of the "old boy network" which she had not become a part of in Sacramento.

A third possible reason, according to some observers, was the poor relationship between Molina and Polanco that had developed in their race for the Assembly.

Although Hernandez was unsuccessful, his challenge depleted the Alatorre/Torres power faction. In the special election to fill Alatorre's unexpired term, Polanco squeaked past Hernandez by a 39%-37% margin.

Molina's decision to support Hernandez had repercussions. It created a chasm in Hispanic politics that crystallized into territorial boundaries when Molina mounted her campaign a year later.

When Molina announced her bid for the newly created 1st District City Council position, the third territorial battle began.

Her chief opponent was School Board member Larry Gonzalez. Councilman Alatorre was perceived as the chief architect of the Gonzalez campaign.

Gonzalez' supporters included Alatorre, Torres and Polanco. Even long-time Molina allies, such as Community College Trustee Leticia Quezada and political activist Sandra Serrano-Sewell split ranks and supported Gonzalez in the race.

Gonzalez and Molina each spent \$200,000 in the campaign, with Molina gaining an emphatic 57% to 26% victory over Gonzalez.

**The Future of the Factions**

In the year Molina and Alatorre have shared on the Council, the fireworks that some predicted have not materialized. However, 1987 was an off-year election and there have been few, if any, issues before the Council

that could have lead to head to head confrontations between the two.

Opportunities for future territorial confrontations in the South State loom on the horizon.

The first opportunity will arise if City Councilman Ernani Bernardi declines to run for the 7th District seat in 1989. Bernardi's northeast San Fernando Valley district is projected to be 69% Latino. Bernardi has indicated that he may give up his seat.

Two more opportunities will arrive in 1990. If Senator Torres makes his much-anticipated run for statewide office that year, he will need support from the entire Southern California Hispanic community. Then, the 1990 census and resultant redistricting of California's Congressional seats could provide as many as three potential Hispanic seats.

The future may hold yet another power struggle if Richard Alatorre runs for Mayor of Los Angeles, as some predict.

Several Hispanic leaders have risen to prominence from the East Los Angeles arena, and a single dominant political machine has not emerged.

Perhaps the "factionalization" of South State politics that some decry has not been injurious to the struggle for increased Hispanic representation. And Molina and Alatorre have certainly been able to set aside personal differences when the interests of the Hispanic community were at stake.

If the strength of the Latino political community is measured by the quality of representation we enjoy, as it should be, the East Los Angeles turf wars, cathartic and unnerving as they have often been, have served us well.



**F.L.O.C. Leader Baldemar Velasquez**

**F.L.O.C. continued from page 1**

from union organizers everywhere. It bypassed the growers and began to exert pressure on the corporate purchasers of the crops—initially Campbell's Soups and Libby's products. FLOC enlisted the support of church groups and other community organizations in its campaign. And it threatened Campbell's with a boycott of its products.

Again, it took years of toil, but in 1986 FLOC signed an unprecedented three-way contract with growers and Campbell's. This contract improved working conditions, provided for medical insurance and paid holidays and increased wages.

H.J. Heinz settled with FLOC shortly thereafter and other three-

way contracts would follow, with the latest being a contract with 20 Ohio growers and Vlasic Foods, Inc.

The 6,000 member union is attempting to organize migrant farmworkers who make the trek through the midwest from the southwest or southeast. The primary target are the five midwestern states which employ most of the region's farmworkers.

Velasquez, the 41-year-old president of FLOC, traveled the migrant route from Texas to Ohio as a child. Speaking from McAllen Texas, the site of the February, 1988 farm worker's conference, Velasquez was reluctant to take credit for FLOC's successes.

"I became involved with FLOC because it had to be done," Velasquez stated. "Any of our suc-

cesses were a result of long, hard work on the part of many people."

Velasquez also gave credit to Cesar Chavez and the UFW, who he said provided an invaluable "support network" that facilitated the success of the three party bargaining process.

The "close working relationship" FLOC has had with the UFW may evolve into formal affiliation.

"We believe only one farmworker's movement really exists, and that under Cesar Chavez' leadership," Velasquez said. "We've been working closely with them in the past and we expect to merge with them in the near future."

Velasquez would not identify a timetable, and could not indicate how the leadership structure of FLOC would be incorporated into the UFW. These matters he stressed, would be decided by Cesar Chavez.

Velasquez' deference to Chavez is deep. He disputed allegations that Chavez had become autocratic with UFW, characterizing Chavez' critics as "disgruntled individuals" . . . who were out to make a name for themselves."

Velasquez may not have intended it, but he made a name for himself—as an unassuming, quietly efficient organizer who has improved the lot of thousands of midwestern farmworkers. His affiliation with the UFW will, no doubt, provide the UFW with yet another valuable leadership resource.

**Coming Next Month**

• **The Hispanic Homeless**

• **An Interview With MALDEF President and General Counsel, Antonia Hernandez**

• **Dan Garcia, One of the Most Influential (but least known outside of L.A.) Latinos in Los Angeles**

• **Latinos and the Coming Elections**

• **The Catholic Church A Problematic Institution for Today's Latino?**

• **Plus Entertainment, Sports, Hispanic Focus, Calendario, Regional News and Much More**