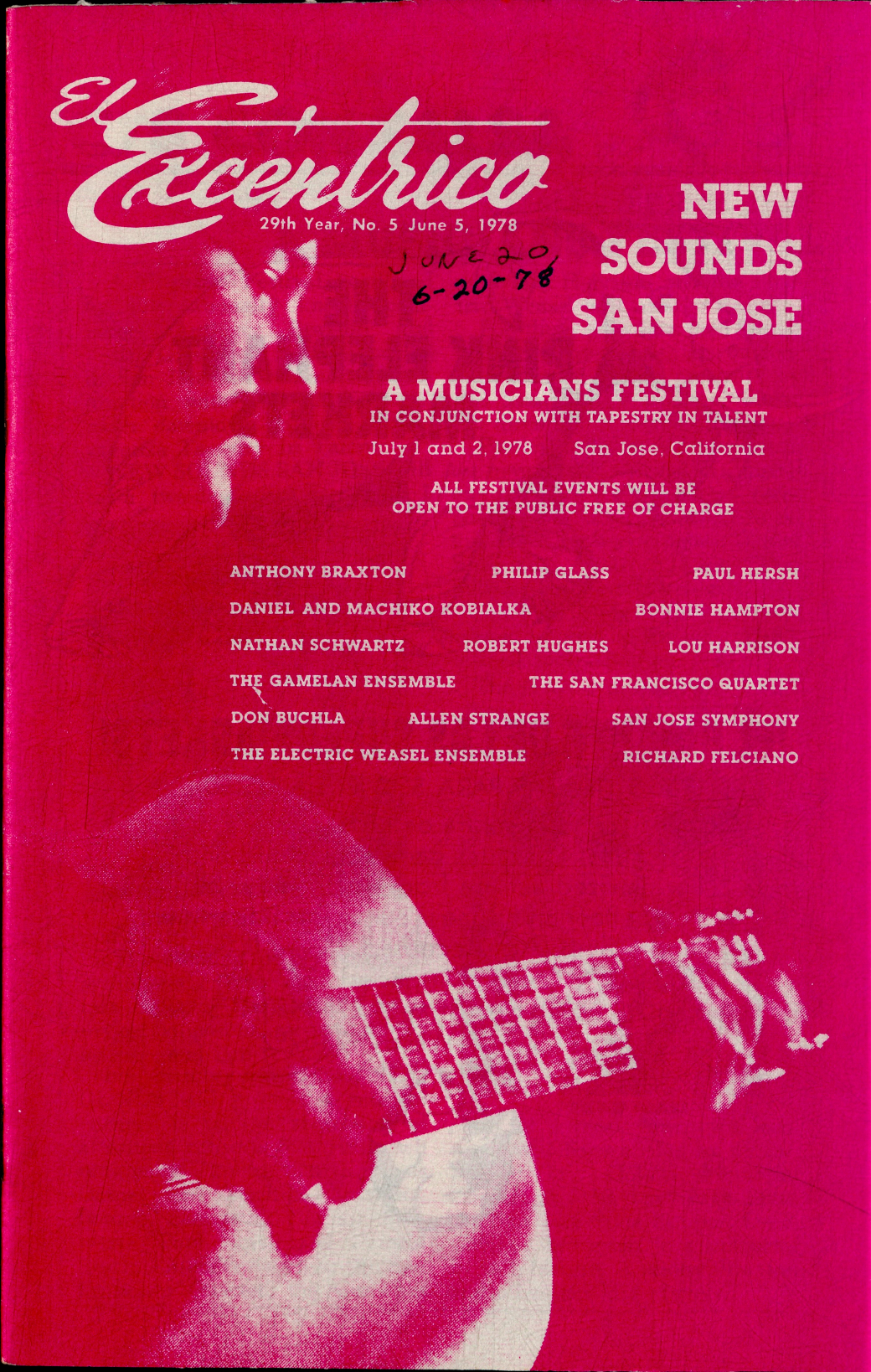


El Excentrico



29th Year, No. 5 June 5, 1978

JUNE 20
6-20-78

NEW SOUNDS SAN JOSE

A MUSICIANS FESTIVAL IN CONJUNCTION WITH TAPESTRY IN TALENT

July 1 and 2, 1978 San Jose, California

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A MUSICIANS FESTIVAL

A Musicians Festival, headlined by internationally known composers Anthony Braxton and Philip Glass, will be inaugurated in San Jose this summer in conjunction with that city's mammoth downtown cultural extravaganza Tapestry In Talent.

NEW SOUNDS SAN JOSE will be a two-day marathon July 1



ANTHONY BRAXTON

and 2, 1978 from noon until midnight presenting top performers in symphonic, pops, chamber and jazz concerts. Planned also are a major symposium on new music, lectures and jam sessions.

For chamber music fans, NEW SOUNDS will provide a musical cornucopia with a succession of afternoon concerts featuring such nationally - known artists as Daniel and Machiko Kobialka, Bonnie Hampton, Nathan Schwartz, Paul Hersch and Pamela Resch. Ensembles such as the San Francisco Quartet, the Gamelan

with Lou Harrison and the Electric Weasel will also be heard.

For those who like their music on the lighter side, an outdoor pops concerts will be presented by the San Jose Symphony, under the direction of Denis deCoteau.

Participating in a symposium on new music will be an illustrious roster of contemporary composers: Richard Felciano, Braxton, Glass, Robert Hughes, Daniel Kobialka, Allen Strange, Don Buchla and Lou Harrison.

San Jose State University expressed interest in the project and decided to co-sponsor.

The festival proper, which will



PHILIP GLASS

occur at several downtown locations, will be preceded by an important Eric Dolphy Memorial Concert at 7:30 p.m., June 29 on the San Jose State campus. Dedicated to the great jazz immortal it will feature Anthony Braxton and other top jazz players.

El Excentrico

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Gilbert Solarez

29th Year, No. 5/June 5, 1978

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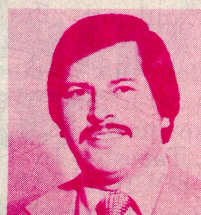
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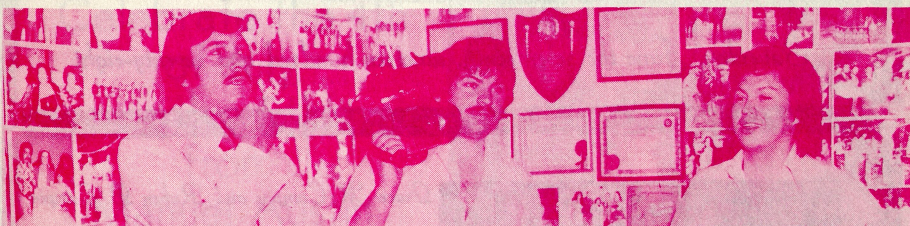
★★★



Narcizo Busquez, artista del Cine y Televisión, El Gran Arnulfo Delgado, Presidente de "El Rey" Producciones del Cine, Constante Chabela Mendoza, Cantante

y actor Roberto Jordan, y el famoso Gerardo Reyes que acabó de terminar la película "El Contrabando de el Paso."

□



Channel 20's Juan Antonio Garces and camera crew, captured on film Richard Diaz' famous "Gallery of Stars." Over the past 21 years, Richard "El Fotografo de Las Estrellas" has photographed the majority of the

Mexican stars and many of the well known people who have visited our area, making a name not only for himself but for the gallery of photographers in his studio.

□



Gathering at the home of Albert Rodriguez were these well known faces, various members of the Imperial Valley Club. IVC is proud to count among its members Vera Diaz, Alicia La Bonita

and Albert Rodriguez and Angelica Carillo who is becoming more and more involved with the many films which are being produced in our area.

□

*Mr. Epifanio Martinez
Mrs. Josefa L. Martinez*
request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

*Mr. Louis Campos
Mrs. Jessie R. Campos*
request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their son

*Grace
to
Ruben*



*Ruben
to
Grace*

Saturday, June the seventeenth, nineteen hundred and seventy-eight



Grace M. Campos and Ruben B. Campos
request the honor of your presence at the
Mass of Fifteen Years Presentation
of their daughter

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*Flower Girl:
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GILBERT SOLAREZ



Mr. Gilbert Solarez, well known and liked photographer, was involved in an automobile accident Sunday, June 11, 1978 at 3 a.m. He suffered broken ribs and a broken wrist and is now in the intensive care unit of Valley Medical Hospital on Bascom Ave., in San José. El Excéntrico and staff extends a warm get well soon wish to Gilbert.

□



Laurie Melendez

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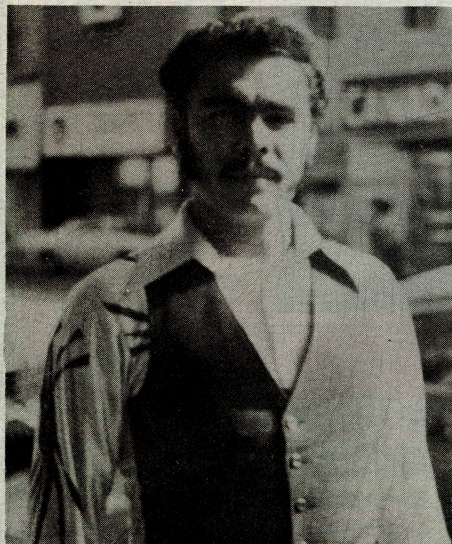


Daniel Saldaña

GALERIA DE LUCHADORES

José Espinoza Ramirez,
La Voz de Oro

José nació en la Capital del Estado de Jalisco, la Ciudad de Guadalajara, en esa ciudad hizo sus estudios.



En 1969 entró a los Estados Unidos, se radicó en San José y se dedicó a estudiar jardinería; también estudió canto con el conocido maestro Don Carlos Castañeda, José tiene buena voz y piensa dedicarse al canto, es tenor y barítono y se ha especializado en canciones rancheras.

Es reconocido por su buena voz como uno de los primeros entre los cantantes locales. Ha ganado varios primeros lugares en concursos y ha ganado también algunos premios y trofeos. Próximamente grabará algunos discos para la Empresa Luna Records.

Ha sido llamado para cantar en El Pescador de Palo Alto y en otros lugares cercanos; Ha sido 10 aplaudido por el público de Holis-

ter, Gilroy, Salinas y San Francisco; ha hecho presentaciones por en estaciones de Santa Clara y San José. Es reconocido como el Tenor de la Voz de Oro.

Cuando termine sus grabaciones con Luna Records, piensa viajar a México en busca de nuevos horizontes; José es soltero y vive en San José con algunos de sus familiares. Se ha dedicado a trabajar en el ramo de la construcción en donde ya tiene tres años.

El Tenor y Barítono José Espinoza Ramirez, quiere por medio de las columnas del EXCENTRICO dar las gracias al público por los aplausos y el apoyo que le han brindado y espera que sus canciones y su voz sigan si endo del agrado del público, con el cual se siente muy agradecido.

José tiene mucha ambición y mucho entusiasmo, tiene aptitudes que lo pueden guiar por el camino del triunfo.

Le pedí a José que me hiciera favor de darme un mensaje para la juventud y me contestó: Sr. Saldaña, la juventud debe estudiar y tener confianza en lo que ha aprendido por medio de sus estudios, usando esos conocimientos inteligentemente.

□

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TRIBUTE TO
A LITTLE
Man

EUGENE G. E. BOTELHO
Part II

The April trip to Rosarito Beach, Mexico, was because of a promise. As the 6th approached, though, I began to think I would not be able to keep my word.

I had offered to find a bicycle for Sergio's 16th birthday. The few used ones I located were priced too high for a limited budget. I was worried in case I would let the boy down. Then a very rusty long-unused bicycle was offered for \$25.00. That, at least was within the price range. A teen-age friend pronounced the bike safe to ride although the speed-mechanism was shot. Another \$25.00 for a rack suitable for my little car — and off I headed for the border.

Some melmac dishware and clothing for Sergio were in the load, too. Not much, but enough to take note of the day. This will, also, be the third year the boy would be taking care of his five younger siblings since his mother died of cancer. The father, an alcoholic, gets better care from his children than he gives them.

Sergio's sisters reported he had found a job and would be back around 6 o'clock. This gave me time for a trip to the bakery. The clerk offered to write birthday greetings on the cake. She started out bravely. Then she asked me to write the phrase for her. I had expected it in Spanish, but she had already written an "H". So, "Happy Birthday" was copied faithfully in large pink letters on the yellow frosting.

A friend from Del Mar was with me so we took the cake and a gallon of milk into the shack.

The dishes and clothing for Sergio were carried by his siblings. When my friend and I returned to the car, I said I was sure there was no food in the house.

My first visits to the family through the winter had given me the feeling the house reflected a certain hopelessness. Anyway it seemed it needed cleaning and articles were always scattered around. Since the beginning of the year, however, the house has been clean and things seem kept in place. My friend was so impressed by his inspection, he mentioned the cleanliness to his family when he returned to Del Mar.

The bike was locked on the rack. When Sergio came running up at dusk, I gave him the key. Even in the growing darkness, the children's eyes shone with shared happiness.

Sergio admitted, reluctantly, there was no food. He did not yet know of the cake and milk. So, off we went to market.

The boy shopped carefully. At times I insisted he increase the quantity of item chosen. It was obvious Sergio was unhappy about spending my money. Because there is no electricity in the house, I made sure there was enough canned food to feed the family for awhile.

The house was deep in shadows when we returned from the store. The only light was the votive candle in front of the Virgin of Guadalupe on a shelf in the middle of the one room. Maria lit another candle so we could make our way up the steps. As we put the snacks of food down, I noticed 13

the cake box was open so that Happy Birthday could be seen. Not only that, despite the lack of food and the children's hunger, not one — not even 5-year-old Jose, had even fingered the frosting on the cake.

But as my friend and I headed back for the States, I wondered how long the cake would remain intact!

The trip in May was during the Cinco de Mayo weekend. The girls reported the father was "malo," as usual from too much drinking. I learned, also, Sergio is an apprentice at a garage in town. He attends school every morning and, then, works till after 6 every afternoon — all day Saturdays. This means he works between 35 and 40 hours a week — for about 10 pesos an hour. Theoretically, he earns about \$17.50 a week.

Sergio was still home at 9 p.m., a little to my surprise. Not many teenagers would stay home and baby-sit voluntarily. This gave me a chance to confirm plans for our trip to Ensenada the next day.

Maria and Juanita must have been up early. I arrived promptly at 9 — and the laundry of the day before had been replaced on the line by freshly-washed clothes. When the youngsters appeared, they were well-scrubbed.

It is fortunate all the children are small for their ages. My oldest grandson, age 12, would tower over Sergio. Anyway, all six children fitted with me in my little Cricket. We were all very comfortable, too.

Everything was enjoyed—from the view down the cliffs across Salsipuedes Bay to the rusting wreck of a Naval ship that went aground some years ago. La Bufadora, below Ensenada, put on an

especially good show for the crowds of Mexicans and foreigners from the U.S. who wanted to see the sea geyser in action. On our way through Ensenada, was had lunch at the Hotel La Pinta. A new experience handled easily and well by all.

Back in Rosarito, we stopped for a brief visit with our good friends, Keith and Doris Wilson of the Ameri-Mex Amigo Club, which does so much to help people in the area. Then — home with memories and some welcome supplement for the larder from Doris.

If the children had as much fun as I, they really enjoyed the day. There had been no behavior problems. The care Sergio gave his siblings impressed me.

Oh. The bicycle?

On Saturday, while waiting for Sergio to return from work, 11-year-old Gonzalo rode it expertly — although he cannot always reach the pedals. Once, tiny 13-year-old Juanita wobbled by — smiling to show me next visit would see absolute proficiency. Not to be outdone, little Jose tried a friend's bicycle. He had one fall, but got up gamely and rode alone for ten feet as everybody cheered. Romero, the 10-year-old, is much too small to ride Sergio's bike — and, apparently, feels too big to ride the friend's small one. So he did some spectacular acrobatics. He must be getting training at school as he knew what he was doing. Certainly, he could not watch the Olympics on TV.

Despite the adversities and lack of paternal help, there is a lot of Tender Loving Care in the family. A lot of Togetherness, too. With a bit of help, Sergio will keep his promise to his dying mother to hold the family together.

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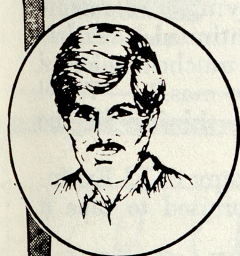
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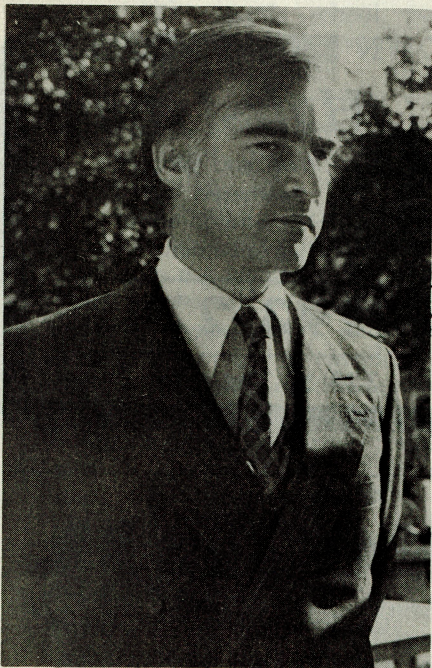


by Kharís Avril

The earthy column with the Latin touch.

HULLO LUV! HOLA CARINO! ALLO, ALA, como va la cosa . . . BROWN '78 — JUNE!

While entertaining the common folk, a democratic public waiting for Gov. Jerry Brown to open his campaign headquarters, on the mall in Sacramento's downtown, Lloyd Hickey, leader of El Rancho Country Express, remarked:



"Maybe we can do a little Linda Ronstad songs in case she doesn't show up." She didn't but about that time, 6:00 p.m., the distinguished, handsome and sophisticated governor did, arming quite a commotion.

Everyone and his uncle tried 16 to shake his hand, solicited auto-

graphs, and wished to share the limelight with him.

The media never failed! Microphones, camaras, reporters and interviewers surrounded him.

And just little me, the one and only representative of the Latin press, practically was given up the idea to get close to him.

However, I didn't and when I finally did get near him, I used my fire-proof devise to get the attention of VIP's. I talked to him in Spanish!

I asked him if he would say something in Spanish for the readers of EL EXCENTRICO, in San José, and . . . although he protested a little saying, "Solamente ingles," he continued, "Podria hablar español mucho mejor si hubiera estudiado mas." — Wow! The subjunctive shining in the sentence!

I gave him a copy of El Excéntrico and he promised to take it home to read it.

Reporter, me: "Governor Brown it seems to me that the danger of Proposition 13 passing is a very ominous possibility, and very well may pass, if it does, how minorities, especially Latin minorities are going to be affected and what do you propose to do about it?"

Brown: "I'll be prepared! If people choose 13, I'll have to set priorities in a humane way," then he sent 'saludos' for the readers of The Punch Bowl, and graciously accepted to pose with a Chicano family, and a Mexican dad with his little boy.

About then I caught a glimpse of the Consul of Mexico, in Sacramento, Don Victor Romero Lopetegui and since Jerry was

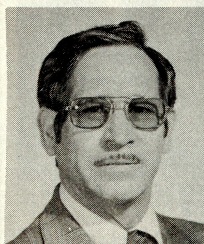
close to him I asked the mto pose for my camera. I took a snapshot, however, Jerry Brown told me it had been taken against the sun, and showed me how to do it right! cha cha cha?

On the good news department, a quote from the charismatic 'gov', . . . "and one thing we have done in the last three and a half years, we kept the price of beer down and if the Supreme Court upholds we may even bring the

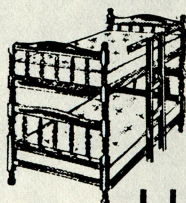
price of wine and spirits down.

"I talked about a new spirit three and a half years ago and now we are going to find that spirits in general will be a little cheaper than they were when we got start it — not too many things have come down . . ."

"I'll drink to that! Well, all is well, ciao bambino, hasta la otra che! The boats are lowered, let's sail away! Peace, love and joy! □



Joe Sanchez
Proprietor



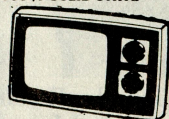
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Michelle Escobar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Escobar, celebrated her First Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church on April 8th. Friends and relatives gathered afterwards for a party in her honor.

□



Veronica Rodriguez, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rodriguez, graduated from Presentation High School. Congratulations!

□



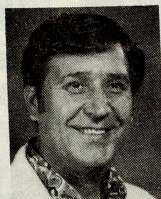
Jose Galvez was first place winner, a guitar, and Frank Moreno, 2nd place winner, a violin, at a raffle held Sunday, June 4th, at Blocker's Cocktail Lounge by the "*Chicano Register of Voters*." A lot of other prizes were donated

and won by the many people who attended. There was a good showing of local candidates seeking the Chicano vote including Mayor Hayes and Councilman Garza. Did you register and vote?

□

Dr. Ivan T. Hendren / Quiropractico

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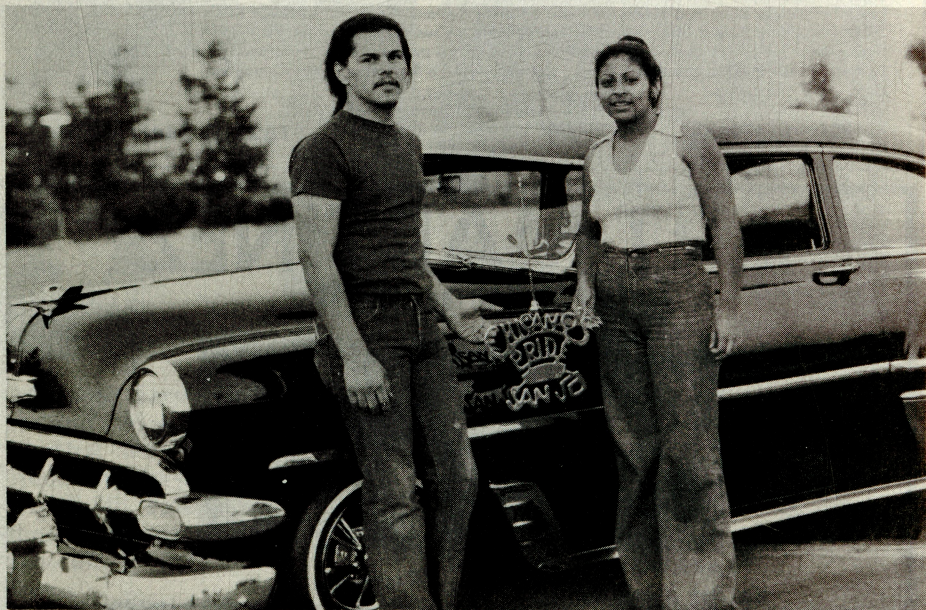
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Ride On!

by ANGIE DIAZ



El Excéntrico was in attendance on May 18th for the Lowriders Concilo meeting held every Thursday at 7:30 p.m., at the Hillview Center on Ocala, in San José. The coordinating efforts and abilities of these young people shows impressively in their meeting agenda. Among the many topics for discussion were the Cinco de Mayo Parade, in which the Concilo car won first place, in the car club category. Free concerts were another topic, in an effort to provide entertainment for young people, the Concilo has coordinated free concerts in the past and they are now looking to coordinate concerts on a regular basis. Bands interested in displaying their musical talents are en-

couraged to call Joe Melendez of San José Parks and Recreation Department at 277-4991. It was agreed the Concilo would help the Chicano Voters Association in their Voters Raffle Drive. The Concilo agreed to pass out leaflets on the Voters Raffle, being held on June 9, 1978 in an effort to encourage the Mexican-American population in San José to vote June 6. The meeting was wound up with a colorful slide show of recent Lowrider functions. Randy Hernandez of Chicano's Pride was presiding president of the Concilo, Rachel Flores of Sophisticated Ladies was secretary, Joe Melendez of San José Parks and Recreation Department officiated and was speaker for the meeting.



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El club de leones Latino Americano de San José eligió la nueva mesa directiva que tomará posición de sus puesto el Sábado 12 de Julio de 1978 en Villa Felice de Los Gatos, Ca. Es una Cena Baile en la que como de costumbre habrá alegría y se disfrutará de un ambiente agradable.

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. León Rudy Tenes
Director dos años,

. León Julian Perez
Director un año,

. . León Daniel G. Saldaña
Director un año,

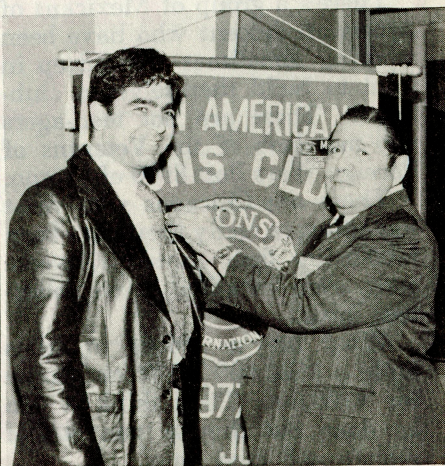
. . León Cipriano Gonzalez

Hay gran entusiasmo por asistir a esta Cena Baile. Las amistades de los miembros de Latin American Lions Club estan ya apartando sus boletos; para cualquier información llame al teléfono 247-8318 o al 296-1344.

□



El Leon Eduardo Aguilera, prende el boton leonistico en la solapa del nuevo León Daniel Tirado.



El Leon Don Julian Perez, coloca el boton del Club de Leones en la solapa del nuevo Leon Josef L. Avila.

A Call For Help

by EDDIE LOPEZ



There's a group of Mexicans of American descent who have been working sometimes ankle-deep in mud to build themselves a clubhouse. These are not teen-agers but members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8900 of Fresno.

These are Chicanos who want something so badly they have been sacrificing their days off, weekends, even vacations to do volunteer labor.

What they're trying to do is build a \$500,000 VFW clubhouse for \$100,000. They think it can be done but they've run out of money and need help.

It would be no problem if the estimated 500,000 Chicanos of the Central San Joaquin Valley do-
24 noted the much-needed \$50,000 to

complete the project. But such has not been the case—so far.

The men of Post 8900 are making a public appeal for assistance to other VFW posts in California. They have labor; they need materials.

Post 8900 came into being 32 years ago. It began with 61 members, all Mexican-Americans, veterans of World War II and the Korean conflict.

They met in private homes, in fire stations, churches, saloons, even a Police Academy, anywhere they would have them.

And they fell on hard times. Not only did they not have a clubhouse of their own but the membership dropped off to only 10 and they almost lost their VFW charter in 1946.

Ten years ago they decided to build their own clubhouse, something modest but adequate to hold meetings in, perhaps even small-scale social functions.

The dream took form with the purchase of an five-acre lot, northwest of Fresno, for \$9,500. Today, on that 3585 N. Blythe Ave. site, there is a partially completed 6,000 square-foot main auditorium and two 4,000 square-foot wings. The wings are actually old army barracks which were purchased from the City of Fresno for a token price of \$1.

The barracks were cut in two last year and transported to the site. Someone suggested connecting them with a main auditorium. It was done and a small-scale vision suddenly took on grander

proportions.

Post 8900's membership has already poured \$43,000 into the building fund, but it has not been enough. This money was collected the hard way — \$13,000 of it with the sale of non-negotiable certificates which will be redeemable at the completion of the clubhouse; hot dog sales; menudo and pancake breakfasts, and dances.

The very first fund-raising project, a hot dog sale, was a shocking failure, netting only \$3.75. But a New Year's Eve dance last December netted more than \$6,000 and every penny was poured into the clubhouse project.

But the job is less than half-completed. They have all the volunteer labor they can use from their members: they need materials.

"A hall this size usually costs

\$30-a-square-foot to build," explained fund coordinator John Garibay. "That's market price—finished. So far it's only cost us \$3-a-foot. When you compare that with what it should cost we've done wonders."

Andy Rodriguez, past post commander, shakes his head when he think about how the modest plan for a clubhouse has mushroomed into a two-winged Spanish-style major undertaking.

"When we started thinking about a clubhouse," said Rodriguez, "it was something small. You know, a couple of clubrooms with a bar in the corner. Now look around you, take a look at what we've got ourselves into. It's really something isn't it? If we get it finished.

... to be continued

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Opinión

by Hector Neal Trevino

CULTURAL PROGRAMS DON'T SOLVE SCHOOL FAILURE

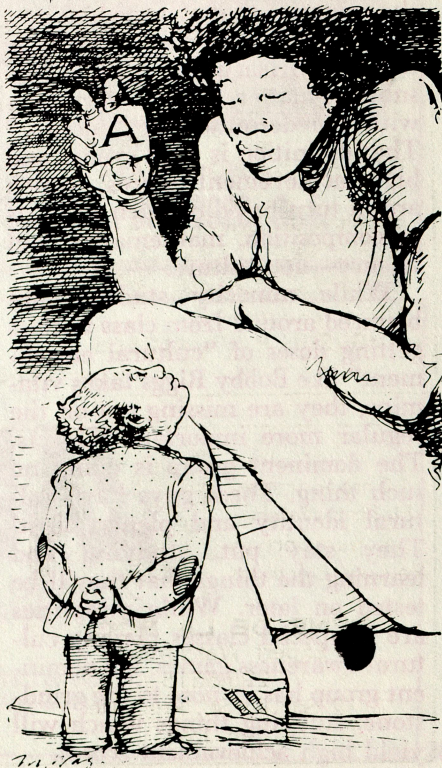
Attributing school failure to culture continues to be the latest fad in education. Minorities no longer fail because they're genetically deficient, or because they lack intelligence. No, they now fail because their cultural background is not conducive to achievement and success! Make them feel proud of their culture, supplement that culture with much needed expert guidance, and presto! you're got an achieving success.

We would have thought that the minorities, particularly the Blacks and the Mexican - Americans, would have been incensed at such insinuations. The nerve, to imply that their culture doesn't care about achievement and success; that they're lazy and don't "cotton" to education; that they are in essence, a bad influence on the education of their children. Well, it didn't happen, at least not enough to make a difference; since that's basically what the programs say, that's what they try to correct, and the schools are saturated with their ideology and practice.

Cultural enrichment programs undoubtedly do make minorities feel better about themselves and their cultural heritage. They probably do instill a certain amount of pride and identity among themselves. But these objectives have little to do with the study of subject matter which

leads to a better opportunity in the world beyond the school. They have little to do with the subject matter which prepares them to compete with others in the job market. In a nutshell, they have little to do with the original and persistent problems — minority school failure!

Success or failure in school is measured by grades and achievement test scores. These tests ask the student to read and interpret a paragraph, they ask the student to work a math equation, they ask the student about some scientific problem. They don't ask the student to answer questions about his culture! They don't ask him



whether he is satisfied with his heritage, or whether he now has cultural identity! In fact, if any cultural questions are asked at all, they are questions about the dominant culture, not his own.

Success in school has very little to do with one's own culture, as it turns out. (1 The latest and more reasonable explanation of minority failure, is attributed to the lack of access to the typical rewards that whites receive. A better thesis is developed fully by John Ogbu in his 1974 book, *The next Generation: An Ethnography of Education in an Urban Neighborhood*, Academic Press, N.Y. A new Carnegie Council on Children study is another source.)

A student may well hate himself and his culture to boot, and still achieve and succeed in school. And why not, as long as he knows the material that is tested. Thus, success in school has everything to do with learning and knowing subject matter which correlates with the definition of "success." That definition is high grades and high achievement scores, which are in turn based on such subjects as composition, mathematics, and science—not culture.

While minority students are bounced around from class to class getting doses of "cultural enrichment" like Bobby Riggs takes vitamins, they are missing out on the regular more important subjects. The dominant group is doing no such thing. These guys have cultural identity and plenty of it! They stay put, studying and learning the things that they'll be tested on later. While minorities are in special classes playing cultural awareness games, the dominant group has its nose to the grindstone, studying things which will

If school success or failure depend on knowing about one's culture, then by all means teach culture. But if it depends on learning how to figure out a math problem, then teach math. If it depends on knowing what the fine print on a contract means, teach reading. If it depends on knowing how to write a paper, teach writing. Success in school depends on these things, not just because they are important, but because they are the kinds of things that are questioned in tests, and those tests define what success in school means!

On the basis of what success in school means, cultural enrichment programs are doomed to failure because they interfere with the learning of what is necessary and essential to compete and succeed academically. It is of little value to produce a student who gloats about his cultural heritage, bragging about it at the unemployment lines, or doing a song and dance at the welfare office!

For the minorities, such well meaning programs must always take a back seat to the learning of material on which the word "success" in school depends, for that success is the best ticket they have to success in the world at large. That ticket is the best means to opportunity and competition in the job market. The way to get that ticket is to succeed in school. The way to succeed in school is to learn the material on which that success depends. Leave culture and other social niceties for a time when it can be both afforded and enjoyed. And never mind the ever present problems of discrimination and prejudice. They can be dealt with as they occur. Besides, no one ethnic group or no one race has an exclusive patent on that. □

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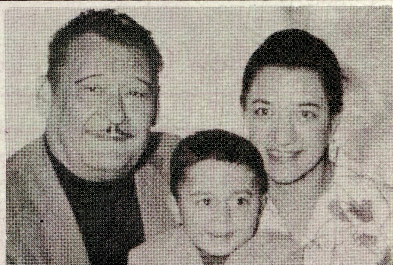
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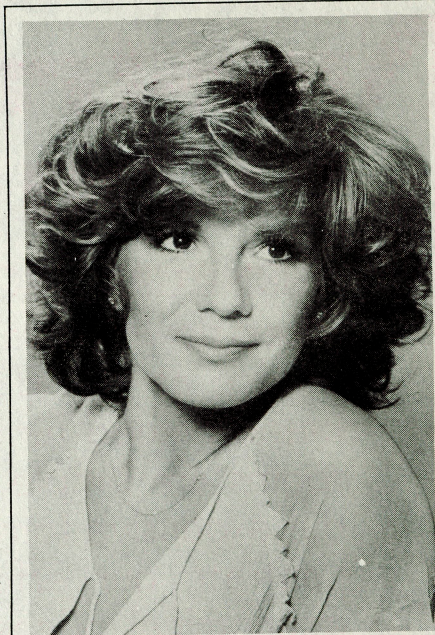
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VICKI CARR

El Excentrico's ace photographer, Richard Diaz was on hand to welcome Vicki Carr, during her recent performance at the San José Center for Performing Arts, Thursday, June 8, 1978. Her one woman show included many of her own hits, "Pen in Hand" and "It Must Be Him," but to the delight of the Mexican-American audience she also included "Besame Mucho, Somos Novios and Dime" in her show. Many thanks to Don Hoffman for his cooperation in setting up the interview with Vicki.



Left to right: Vicki, Angela behind Vicki, Henry Schiro, Diaz, Don Hoffman, president of Vicki's manager. The Dirty Old Man's Club and

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