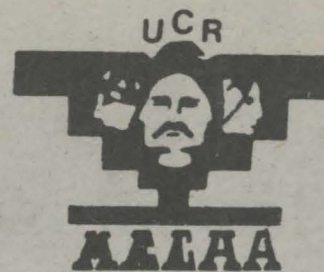


NUESTRA COSA



Fall 1988

University of California, Riverside

Vol. 17 No. 1

This issue in memory of



Sylvia Yolanda Trujillo

(1965-1988)

In this issue :

Editorial	2	Poetry & Art.....	6
Campus News.....	3	Otra Cosa.....	11
Opinions.....	5		



EDITORIAL

The Struggle continues for UCR's MEChA

U.C.R.'s MEChA in recent years has faced problems virtually from every direction possible. MEChA has been burdened with the onerous task of defending our programs, programs that have been consistently cut since 1984. MEChA has voluntarily accepted this task, but it cannot be denied that the effort has taken its toll on the students that participate in MEChA, directing precious energies toward defending what we already had, instead of channeling those energies towards establishing more programs to meet the needs of the growing Chicano population at UCR. The result had been disorganization and general student apathy. This year, however, promises to be the most positive year since the elimination of Chicano Studies.

As Chicano students, we have lost a lot of what was earned for us through hard struggles by the Chicanos of the 60's and early 70's. MUNDO was a Latino hall in the A&I dormitories that we lost, supposedly, due to a lack of interest. We lost High School Visitation, a program that brought young Chicano students from high schools to visit our campus in hopes of encouraging them to apply. Chicano Community College Day has been removed from Chicano Students Programs and, essentially, from the control of the students. Chicano Tutorial, a program designed to tutor young Chicanos in local schools, had been eliminated at one time and was reinstated only after vociferous protest from students. The current space and location of the Chicano Students Programs office was threatened by the Commons Board of Governors. Nothing happened thanks to the protest held by students denouncing such actions. Students boycotted the Marriott Corporation (the cafeteria subcontractors of the university) to demonstrate their support for the

mostly Chicana women who were underpaid and overworked. One of our Sociology professors now faces retribution for the support he offered to the efforts of the students and the community in general, efforts which sought only social justice as their goal. In all our tribulations, the Chancellor has given nothing but lip service to our struggle. Her basic philosophy and response is that 'it is out of hands.'

Returning this fall, we discovered that Peer Counseling, a valuable program developed to offer peer assistance of every kind to new minority students, has been eliminated. The reason offered this time is that there is no money in the Learning Center's budget and that the program was not a good program to begin with. Students once again have organized to fight this insensitive move on the part of UCR. Only time will tell whether the students are successful in this struggle.

Throughout our struggle, one thing is clear. The UCR MEChA Chapter is ready and willing to once again assume the leadership role that it played in the past. As an old lady who was walking to work to support the boycott of buses in Alabama once said, "my feet is tired but my soul is rested." We are tired but MEChA is larger, more united, we have clear goals in mind and we are action-oriented. We have a lot of domestic issues to contend with but we realize the need for mass organization. For this reason we actively participate in the MEChA Statewide Process.

It is our time now. We continue in the tradition of struggle and perseverance. Together we demand what is rightfully ours and we demand also the development of new programs for our students. The Chancellor is partly right in that it is out of her hands; it is in our hands. We have the world at our command. Power to the people.

About the cover

This issue is dedicated to Sylvia Trujillo. Sylvia was the best compañera anybody in the Chicano Movement could have. She believed in the movement and was wholeheartedly committed to the betterment of our Raza. Her selfless actions encouraged everyone she touched, and her happiness cheered us all. The movement has lost a good

soldier. Her family and friends have lost a beautiful person. Sylvia is gone and there is nothing we can do to bring her back, but her spirit lives. She lives in the mind of all who loved her. Her spirit now guides many of us who have taken up her struggle. The movement has lost Sylvia, but we will not forget her, for she lives in each of us and in our gente's struggle.



Introducing New CSP Program Coordinator

It seems that our lives are segmented into a series of facets, in which every step is a new challenge, and a new beginning. Having recently finished my college career, I've become aware that in every transition, one must take on the challenge of reaching yet another set goal.

I've recently acquired the position of social cultural program coordinator at Chicano Student Programs. I'm extremely excited about working for such an important program on our campus, since it serves as the academic, social, and cultural nucleus for the Chicano/Latino community at UCR.

As a new member of the support network offered by Robert Nava and Estella Figueroa, through Chicano Student Programs, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and offer my services to you.

My name is Josefina Elizabeth Canchola. I was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco Mexico. I migrated to the United States with my mother in 1967. We arrived in East Los Angeles, where we lived for 13 years. We later moved to the city of Whittier, where my family still resides. After graduating from Pioneer High School, I decided to come to UCR in order to pursue a bachelors degree in Sociology. At the same time, I acquired some background in Ethnic Studies, concentrating primarily on Chicano Studies. Now that I have introduced myself, allow me to tell you more about my position as social-cultural program coordinator. This job entails the coordination and development of social and cultural programs and events sponsored by Chicano Student Programs. Some of these include the speaker series, senior dinner, and



Raza Family Day. I will also be working in conjunction with the different Chicano/Latino organizations, such as MEChA and the Women's Hispanic Organization, in the development of various events during the school year. I am looking forward to the new academic year, since I'm excited about working with the

wonderful Chicano/Latino students on this campus! Best of luck to all of you. Please come by to Chicano Student Programs and introduce yourself, since I would like to become better acquainted with you. One other thing, "Aim towards the sky and the lowest you can fall is upon the stars."

Who's WHO at UCR

You mean you don't know WHO we are! Do you know who's who at UCR?

Yes we are WHO, Women's Hispanic Organization. that's who we are.

Women's Hispanic Organization is an organization composed of the awesome Hispanic/Latinas on campus. We need you! You need to become part of this organization. There's no time to waste. Come join our Big Sister/Little Sister, Big Brother/Little Brother program, come join us and be part of the best fashion show around, come meet lots of people and make lots of friends. We are here for you Hispanic/Latina women. We're here to help you, support you in every which way, and we are here to listen.

For more information call Martha Cervantes at 787-3821. Come be part of WHO!

UCLA Conference Deals With Ethnic Issues in the Media

On November 3rd at UCLA a workshop was held to discuss issues dealing with campus media and ethnic issues. Editor of Nuestra Cosa, Rosalio Castro participated on a panel of student editors of Campus newspapers and publications.

A panel of professional journalists, editors, television news anchors and program director were assembled representing many ethnic groups. The groups discussed the positive and negative stereotypes involving ethnic groups.

The Kerner Commission has released their ten year report. The report found a continued decline of ethnic representation in hiring mirroring the diversity of cultures. Many of the panelist agreed that mainstream media had not met the need of Blacks and Latinos into managerial positions.

Mike Castro, former reporter for the Sacramento Bee, now director of Chicano

News Media Association, stressed that ethnic groups have shunned away from entering the media profession. He pleaded for Chicanos to enter the media profession claiming the influx will eventually open doors for high positions.

The panel addressed the lack of consistent coverage, negative images of ethnic groups and usage of offensive and biased words used in mainstream mass media.

The student panel revealed problems facing many alternative campus papers. Many expressed the same problems that have faced major media. Some papers have had on-going battles to justify their existence. Problems dealing with racial issues have caused problems on campuses. For instance, censorship by administrations, charges of reverse racism and cutbacks on funding.



photo by Fareed Muwakkil

Rosalio Castro (far left), editor of *Nuestra Cosa*, participating in panel discussion of the Campus Media & Minority Issues conference at UCLA. Stephanie Lopez (second from left), editor of *La Voz Mestiza*, addresses issues.



Los Lobos finds traditon comfortable as home

by Jessie Antonio Jr.

When Los Lobos released their first album, the now out-of-print "Just Another Band From East L.A.", in the late 1970s, they attracted a small but substantial following who yearned for upbeat but nonetheless faithful acoustic versions of traditional Mexican folk songs. It has been nearly ten years since the band last released a studio album sung entirely in Spanish but the long wait has been well worth it.

With their new album, "La Pistola y El Corazon," this Chicano quintet has gone back to their days of playing for weddings and backyard birthday parties long before Rolling Stone magazine awarded them as the "Best New Band of 1984" for their album "How Will the Wolf Survive?", and long before their commercially and critically acclaimed performances in the La Bamba soundtrack in 1987.

With the emphasis in

maintaining the sound, spirit, and intimacy of the back-to-basics Mexican folk music tradition, the band chooses to champion the strictly acoustic approach that is a key element in this tradition.

What results is an album impromptu garage jam sessions rather than one sounding studio-slick. Indeed, percussionist Louie Perez writes in the liner notes that the recording "... came out after all the talking, remembering, and playing."

With such a premise for an album, "La Pistola y El Corazon" is the band's way of getting back to writing and singing songs about life, love, and death in rural Mexico with graceful passion and with humor, warmth, and understanding. A distinct playfulness can be found in "El Canelo," a son jarocho from the state of Veracruz, Mexico.

Donde vas Canelo,
caramba! por la madrugada

Donde vas Canelo,
caramba! por la madrugada

A cortar lechuga,
Canelo, para ensalada

A cortar lechuga,
Canelo, para ensalada

A la tripi-tripi
caramba! tripa de cochino

A la tripi-tripi
caramba! tripa de cochino

Cesar Rosas' vocal performance compliments a song in which the singer laments on a lost love.

Estoy sentado aqui,
que me pasen la tequila

El amor y triste vida
no me importa a mi

Ahora pienso
enborracharme pa quitarme este
coraje

La mujer que yo
queria me dejo a mi

The other highlight of this album is clearly the acoustic nature of the instrumentation in which the band lays down its electric guitars and turns off its distortion boxes and delivers some good, clean, and pure sounds. David Hidalgo's violin and small, four-stringed guitar called requinto jarocho sound effortlessly played in "Las Amarillas," "(Sonajas) Mananitas Michoacanas," and in "El Canelo."

Los Lobos' new album certainly expresses the sentiment that even after the years of critical acclaim and commercial success, even after a decade of performing their unique blend of rock, pop, soul, and Mexican-American folk music, the group can still look traditional and non-traditional (those composed by band members) Mexican folk music with all of the same blood and soul and overall richness that characterize it. Los Lobos, just another band from East L.A., has never left home.

Opinions

Unrest in El Salvador

Once more, the story of Central America's struggle for peace has made it to the newspapers. In El Salvador, where the civil war has claimed not only the lives of almost a quarter of the population, but also done untold damage to the economy, people are still living under the shadow of a militaristic government. With unemployment up to 50% in the cities, and almost 70% in rural areas it is no wonder that unrest is once again beginning to show.

Last September, eight armed government soldiers rounded up 40 people suspected of sympathizing with the leftist guerrillas in the rural town of San Francisco. Of those people, 7 men and 3 women were taken out to the fields and murdered. Originally, the army said that the dead were really guerrilla casualties, but then, it changed its story saying that they had been civilians killed in a guerrilla ambush. Residents of the village, though, confirmed the slayings saying that the soldiers had used rifle fire and grenades to kill them.

This is just another example of the duality of politics in El Salvador. On the other hand the US-backed government must appear to keep its hands clean, and be efficiently and effectively working towards establishing a bona fide democratic government.

On the other hand, El Salvador has never known a democratic government. It has historically been ruled by the military, following the wishes and commands of the ruling oligarchy. After eight years of death squads, military occupation by its own army and outright terror, it is supposed to somehow change its attitudes and take the American money and formulate a new government. Hardly!

Unrest by the lower classes that make up most of the population has also been going on for decades. From the "matanza" of 1942, when the farmers rose up against the landowners and were all killed...+...+, El Salvador has known a steady history of passionate uprisings and dispassionate repression. The leftist guerrillas claim to have the support of the people, the campesinos, and although some people may argue with this assertion, they do occupy the rural territories, and the "hills."

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front is the umbrella organization for most of the leftist wings. In the past 5 years it has undergone great change, as it absorbs other, less organized, more or less radical factions of the

(continued on page 10)

Chingaderas in L.A.

Latin America has always been looked down upon by the United States, a country that prides itself for its democracy, has ironically supported the worst regimes in Latin America. Have you ever wondered why so many people chant "Yankee go home!"? It has been American foreign policy, or interest that has put us in this situation we are in. Presently, U.S. interests have poured lemon juice on open wounds on the Latin American people. The history books told us that the Monroe Doctrine was a paternalistic move on behalf of the United States to save the newly independent countries in Latin America from the aggressive European powers. This move however, was more interested in expanding trade into new markets and used this doctrine as a blanket to break European ties with Latin America. Now in the 20th century, the U.S. practices a policy that secures its investments, a move that has many a times undervalued the real resource in Latin America, its people and their alliance. History is valuable only when we learn from mistakes made in the past. We are doomed to lose favor not only in Nicaragua, but Guatemala, El Salvador, and Chile as well, and this is only in Latin America. This doesn't have to be, but for some illogical reasoning, American administrations have favored regimes that suppress the population because it favors American interest, interaction, and policy. In Guatemala, the CIA overthrew in 1954, President Arbenz because his land reform included land belonging to the United Fruit Company. Since

(continued on page 10)

Lady Liberty



The Statue of Liberty, that proud lady, who over the years has to so many people symbolized our country's spirit of liberty, was in decay and noticeably in need of the rejuvenation she received this past year. Many people were asking why we let the symbol of our country decay--didn't anybody care? Were we too busy to notice? Is it possible that our government has lost that spirit of liberty which the people expect and the statue symbolizes? Or is the deterioration of Lady Liberty reflective of this lost spirit? It has been said that the answers to the questions of today are often to be found in the roots of the past, and that you can tell the character of a man by the way he treats his neighbors. Is it possible then to

(continued on page 10)

Nuestra Cosa

Nuestra Cosa is the MEChA newspaper of the University of California at Riverside, and is co-sponsored by ASUCR.

The opinions expressed in Nuestra Cosa do not necessarily reflect the views of the Nuestra Cosa staff, MEChA, the University or ASUCR.

We welcome all contributions, articles, poems, graphics, letters and criticisms.

We reserve the right to edit all submitted materials.

Nuestra Cosa editor: Rosalio Castro

Co-Editors: Darren J. De Leon, Ramiro Sandoval

Contributors: Jessie Antonio Jr., Josefina Canchola, Richard Canero, William Medina, Claudia Melgar, Robert Nava, Yolanda Rodriguez

ARTE Y POESIA

Tu mirada intensa
volteando hacia lo azul del
cielo
y como en sueno,
magica, instantaneamente
te encuentras rodeada
Por un millon de nuves
blancas,
Tan Blancas como las
almas
de todos los demas que alli
habitan.
Pero es tan extano
ese lugar para ti,
pues llegaste hacia el sin el
menor intento
de a su reino llegar
no pudiste ni siquiera
despedirte del vivir
¿Te diste cuenta alcas

de que tu vida se convirtio
rapidamente en una
memoria?
Un recuerdo tan dificil
y tan doloroso de aceptar.
¿Por que tu lindo angel?
¿Por que tu?!
Tu vida tan corta,
pues fue apenas un
respiro lento en la vida
eterna,
de este mundo cruel.
Pero ahora descansas,
de las penas mundanas,
y reposas tu alma
en la serenidad de lo azul.
Aqui tambien vives
en los dulces momentos,
que como recuerdos

se guardan en un gran baul.
Ahora, al estar acompañada
por mi amiga de confianza
la vieja soledad,
volteo hacia el cielo
y veo tus ojos
mirandonos lejanamente
con much piedad,
y con esa mirada
nos dices,
que alli nos esperas
y uno por uno
te haremos a acompañar.

Con mucho carino,
respeto, y admiracion en
memoria de un gran ser
humano y una gran amiga.

Josefina E.
Canchola
1988

En lo oscuro de la noche
se encuentra una madre
sola,
llorando en silencio
por ese dolor,
Tan grande que su alma se
ha convertido
en finos pedazos
Que nada, ni nadie
podra reconstruir.
¿Donde esta esa alegria
ardiente?
Que rapidament,
desaparecio.
Que tal como el dia
se convierte en noche
esa pesada tristeza
Fuertemente llego.
Una mala noticia,

y un amargoso momento
Que llego como entrega
de ese triste final.
Su hija senora, de este
mundo se ha hido
y se ha con vertido
en un angel guardian
No hay justificaciones
ni como explicarse,
lo que sucedio.
Pero una cosa nos queda
los lindo momentos
y el pedazo de vida
que dentro de nuestros
corazones ella planto.
y aunque sus anos fueron
pocos,
vivio mas que muchos.
Una vida completa y llena

de amor.
Mis palabras no son un
consuelo,
sol un suspiro,
Que se une al de usted.
Ya no llore senora,
Que ella esta viva,
en las vidas de todos ha los
que ella toco.
Su alma no ha muerto!
Solamente ha pasado
a la vida eterna
junto de nuestro senor.

Con mucho carino
de parte de,

Canchola
1988

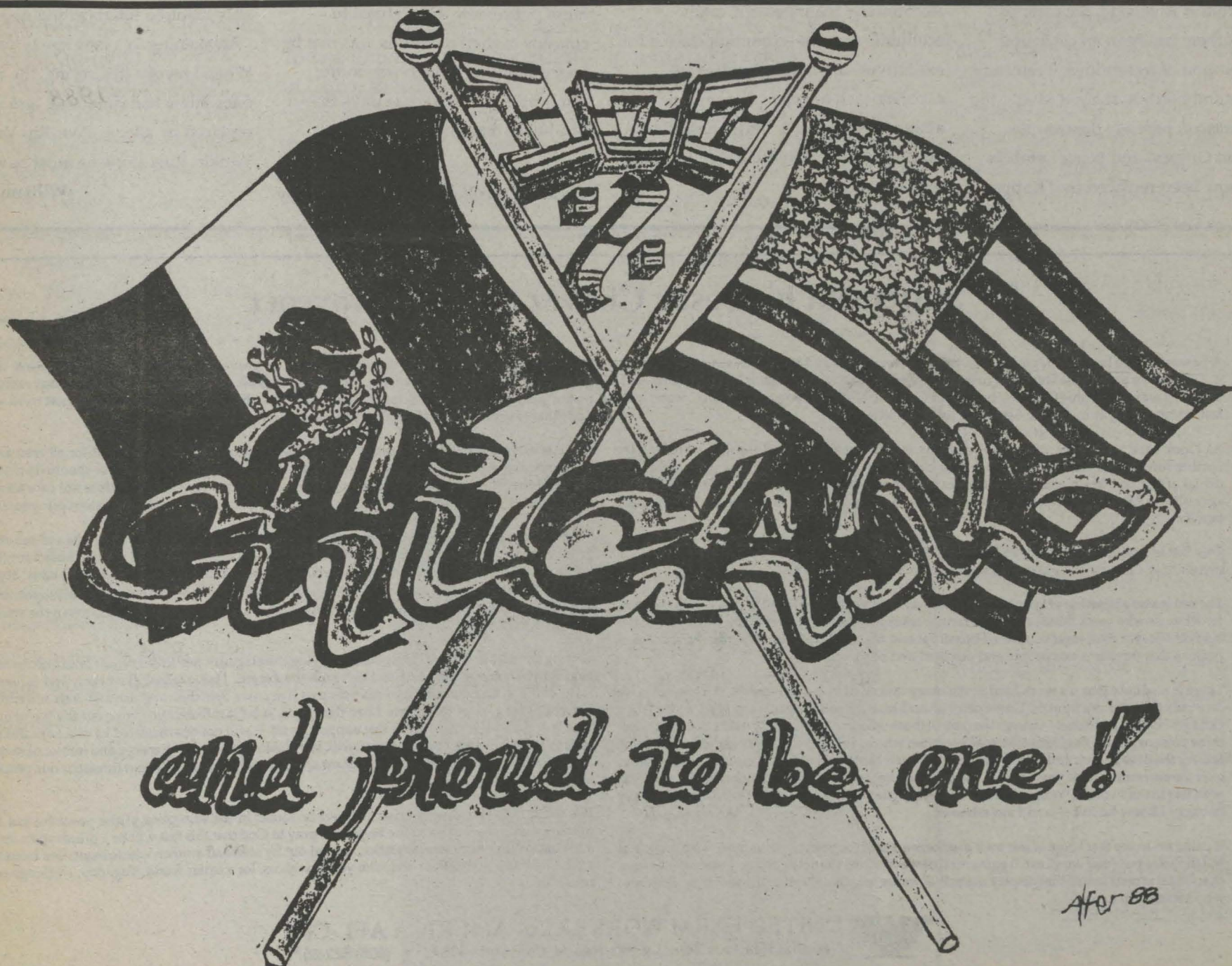
POETRY & ART

MEChA



We are the Mexicans of tomorrow
who will never fear sorrow.
Here we are at UCR
to learn, succeed and be the new leaders
of tomorrow who are so needed today
Our past generations have suffered.
Hardships and racism but struggled.
We are the descendants of this pride;
therefore we are here to fight
and stand for our rights.
Mexicans, Chicanos and Latinos Unite!
and remember at night
that we have every right
to follow and fulfill our dreams
just as other minorities scream.
We scream for justice
which will be acquired through the practice
of saying:
"Here we are and won't compromise
until the last word has been said
by the Mexican race."

Yolanda B. Rodriguez



Rip Van Winkle awake at UCR

When I returned to school last fall, after being away for ten years, I could understand how Rip Van Winkle must have felt after awakening from a twenty year nap.

Since I've been away, students have gone through a metamorphosis. And though I expected future generations to adapt to the times, I didn't expect to find pro-police demonstrations on returning to school. Based on my experiences during the progressive sixties and seventies, I logically concluded that students of the eighties would be more susceptible to radical politics, or some mutated form of rebellion.

Students today long to attain status via the fraternity. Wearing a prestigious frat pin and belonging to an influential inner circle of students is a weighty matter. At the University of California at Riverside, the campus I attend, there has been an ostensible proliferation of fraternities. Fraternity pranks and politics, such as saving the UCR mascot, pervade the campus. "Boycott Grapes" and peace symbols have now been replaced by "Kappa

Alpha" and "Phi Gamma Delta" as popular T-shirt decor.

During the late sixties and middle seventies, fraternities were hardly visible anywhere, and shunned by progressive students of that era. We regarded them as replicas of the current elitist society, which created an insiders' club that kept out minorities and other underprivileged people. MEChA, BSU, and other progressive organizations were then the salient voices on campus, demanding change in a depraved world. Yet those voices have waned, replaced by a notion of "me first" in the eighties.

Today, countless students are majoring in business administration. They are focused on helping corporate America satisfy its unquenchable thirst for profits, and seek to play a role in business as long as the money is right. Accounting, management, and economic courses—grooming classes for executives—are normally filled to capacity each quarter. The typical ambition of students I interviewed was landing a posh job with a well padded expense account.

In my time, students were more inclined to take philosophy and poetry courses, which were considered conduits to understanding the world. Long hair, unshaven faces, and nonchalant dispositions were in vogue. I recall poetry readings at Nosotros Art Gallery, where local poets, clad in African clothing, read weird poetry to enthusiastic small crowds. By today's standards, most of these writers would be declared misfits, and probably be harassed by campus police.

Perhaps the most disturbing occurrence this spring was a protest rally by students demanding more—not less—police on campus. It was a typical demonstration with placards and slogans and disgruntled students. They noisily marched on campus and were greeted by the Chancellor, who would not commit herself to hiring more policemen. Her refusal to concede to their demands was met by angry shouting, which was more reminiscent of the hippie days than a pro-police demonstration.

I do not recollect a demonstration by

students from the sixties that called for bolstering law enforcement.

Demonstrations on campus about the police were usually negative, and one slogan vividly resides in my memory, "pigs off campus." We distrusted the police, and any dealings with officers frequently involved a pre-emptive verbal first strike by students. After all, we felt that the police were the storekeepers of an evil store.

I was shocked to hear so many students support President Reagan. A vocal few in my history class felt that Reagan had improved the economy, making it possible for aspiring Yuppies to afford beach front property and BMW's. The Reagan agenda, from cutting taxes to higher defense spending to restoring pride in America, was fervently defended by this emerging conservative flock. After all, they pointed out, "liberal politicians only inspired inflation and doom."

Awakening to a new age is traumatic. When I awoke this spring, the world I once knew had collapsed, and had been replaced by aliens. Poor Rip Van Winkle, how alone he must have felt.

-William Medina

Statement by Cesar Chavez on UFW Boycott

A powerful urge has been raging within me for several months. I have been struggling against it. Toward the end of last week this urge became insistent. I resisted again but my efforts were in vain. It was at that time that I resolved, with God's help, to go on an unconditional, water-only fast, commencing at midnight, Saturday, July 16, 1988.

As I look back at this past year, I can see many events that precipitated the fast, including the terrible suffering of farm workers and their children, the crushing of farm worker rights, the denial of fair and free elections and the death of good faith collective bargaining in California agriculture. All of these events are connected with the great cause of justice for farm worker families.

This fast is first and foremost personal. It is something I feel compelled to do. It is directed at myself. It is a fast for the purification of my own body, mind and soul.

The fast is also a heartfelt prayer for purification and strengthening for all of us—for myself and for all those who work beside me in the farm worker movement, whatever the work we do. It is a fervent prayer that, together, we will confront and resist, with all our strength, the scourge of poisons that threatens our people and our land and our food.

There is no doubt that we work hard at the many tasks within our movement, but the times we face truly call for more from us. Do we carry in our hearts the sufferings of farm workers and their children? Do we feel deeply enough the pain of those who must work in the fields every day with these poisons...or the anguish of the many families who have lost their loved ones to cancer...who fear for the lives of their children...who have lost their babies through miscarriage...who agonize over the outcome of their pregnancies...who are raising their children with deformities...who ask, with fear in their voices, "Where will this deadly plague strike next?" Do we feel their pain deeply enough? I know I don't—and I am ashamed.

It pains me to see that some of our own members are still cooperating with those who grow and sell the poisoned food we all eat. It pains me that we continue shopping at stores that offer grapes; that we eat at restaurants that display them; that we are too patient and understanding with those who serve them to us.

It is also true that some workers, because of fear or ignorance or apathy, unwittingly assist the growers in their pesticide madness, and that all of us are too accepting of this poisonous assault on our people, our communities and our food. What have we done, you and I? What have we done that is sufficient to stop this evil in our midst?

The fast is also an act of penance for those in positions of moral authority and for all men and women activists who know what is right and just, who know that they could or should do more, who have become bystanders and thus collaborators with an industry that does not care about its workers. How can we confront the enormity of the corporate sin that threatens our people?

The fast is finally a declaration of non-cooperation with supermarkets who promote and sell and profit from California table grapes and who are just as culpable as those who manufacture the poisons and those who use them on workers, on our land and on our food. It is my fondest hope that our friends, everywhere, will begin a great movement of non-cooperation with supermarkets; that people will resist, in a myriad of nonviolent ways, the presence of grapes in the stores where they shop.

During the past few years I have been studying the plague of pesticides on our land and on our food. I have read the literature and met with the experts. I have talked to workers and listened to the children and the families; I have seen with my own eyes their anguish and their suffering. The evil is far greater than even I had thought it to be; it threatens to choke out the life of our people and also the life systems that support us all. It will not be eradicated by more studies or by legislative hearings or executive power. It will take our combined energy and influence in the market place to change the cycle of poisons and destruction and death that threatens our people and our world.

The solution to this deadly crisis will not be found in the arrogance of the powerful but in solidarity with the weak and the helpless. I pray to God that this fast will be a preparation for a multitude of simple deeds for justice, carried out by men and women whose hearts are focused on the suffering of the poor and who yearn, with us, for a better world. Together, all things are possible.



UNITED FARM WORKERS of AMERICA AFL-CIO
National Headquarters: La Paz, Keene, California 93570 • (805) 822-5571

Liberty

continued from 10

elected presidents were quickly and falsely portrayed as communist movements by the U.S. Press and State Department. Forget about democracy :we can tolerate dictatorships as long as our business interests are protected. Any and all uprisings by the people to gain decent wages or benefits were quickly stomped out by U.S. troops. Profit after all, is the bottom line in any business. Since rights and benefits to workers cut profits and it was the role of our government to protect profits, U.S. interests in Latin America should then be defined as profits. Liberty for workers conflicted with liberty for Workers conflicted with liberty for big business, and business, with the U.S. military behind it , always wins.

Why do the people of Nicaragua and the rest of Latin America suffer from the lack of basic human needs such as enough food, health care and education? Is because they are a backward people and don't know how to meet their needs? Latin America is rich in natural resources- why then , do they suffer from such poverty? I think I have a possible

answer. The United States is a country that has a population that constitutes around 20% of the worlds population, but it consumes over 50% of the world's natural resources. And where does the U.S. get these resources? It gets them from the cheapest possible places- it gets much of them from Latin America. How can a country possibly meet the needs of its own population if its economy is structured to support the needs and profits of U.S. companies. Of course the U.S. government (and the politicians it controls) doesn't want another Cuba. After all while Cuba was under U.S. domination Cuban children didn't have shoes to wear on their feet, or food to put in their stomach. They showed signs of parasite infection, exhibited stunted growth due to malnutrition, and had little chance of receiving an education. Today, illiteracy in non-existent in Cuba, the children are guaranteed a liter of fresh milk per day and each citizen is guaranteed 2,100 calories per day. Health and dental care are free and 87% of Cuban students complete secondary schooling. Of course we don't want another Cuba in Latin America--U.S.

business couldn't get educated people to work for \$2.00 per day. The U.S. can't buy off a government that is meeting the needs of its own people , because such government is functioning in the interests of all its people and not an elite few.

The Reagan Administration doesn't want freedom in Nicaragua as they would want us to believe. The Nicaraguan people are freer today then at any time in recent history. Involved in various aspects of their daily life, such as labor organizing, education, and health care. In the first few years after the revolution, Nicaragua developed faster than any other country in Latin America. The Sandinista government has made substantial gains in providing for the welfare of the Nicaraguan people. Health care, education, and nutrition for all its citizens were the key accomplishments of the revolution. And these are exactly the targets the contras have attacked under close supervision of the CIA and other U.S. intelligence agencies. We can tolerate a government like that of Augusto Pinochet in Chile, who pours gasoline on his people and lights them on fire to

teach them to behave.

Thousands of progressive people in Chile have been systematically eliminated because Pinochet protects the interests of big business, instead of the interests of the people he is suppose to represent. We recall too the government of El Salvador, where we pump in hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid to keep the people in their place and where thousands of people have disappeared, because the government protects the interests of the multi-national corporation and an oligarchy elite. All this murder and injustice is covered by the mask of democracy that our government puts on these governments. The kind of democracy that makes things "right" for big business.

I would have more respect for our government if it would just come out in the open and admit that we have to oppress the liberties of other people to make profits; and that we have to assassinate democratically elected leaders in other countries to ensure that our profits are not jeopardized. It doesn't have to, however, because today we have other people doing the dirty work the Marines did in the past. The contras, Pinochet, Duarte, and others have taken up the role of the Marines. Surely the problem of Latin America can be traced to its subordinate and oppressive relationship with U.S. . Hopefully, we can understand now why Lady Liberty was left neglected for so long. And we can question whether the statue of liberty truly represents our nation today.

-Richard Canero

Can you guess what UCR/MEChA member this is ? Enteries will be accepted in the Chicano Students Program center. Winner will be announced November 28.



Salvador

continued from 5

subversive movement. Although it has been criticized for all kinds of violent acts and pointless rebelliousness, it has lately cultivated the one thing a popular movement has lacked in any one attempt at revolution: organization.

A few political figures are aware of this development, and look at it hopefully or skeptically. It could be that the people are finally being heard, or it could be that we are just getting ready for another ten years of civil war.

The tragic thing is that there's almost no one left to fight the war. The "president" Duarte was the choice of the voters when compared to Mr. D'Aubuisson who used to be the chief leader of the much-feared death squads. The men and women who actually visualized a country free of oppressors, with a decent standard of living and a

semblance of peace have long been written off as "dangerous" or "subversive" and are peacefully resting in their graves or in exile in a foreign county. People like monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, the well-loved catholic Father "of the people," who was assassinated while saying mass and urging the government to stop the violence; people who were not afraid to stand up for the mistreated and the abused, have long said what there was to be said, and have died for it.

This is why it is not surprising to hear about common farmers harboring or sympathizing with the guerrillas, or about the army killing off suspected sympathizers. It is all part of the Salvadorian way of government, appalling though it may be, it is what's been going on for decades, and about time to stop supporting it.

-Claudia Melgar

Latin America

(continued from pg. 5)

then, an authoritarian military (now with a cover-up civilian president) has ruled. President Allende was overthrown in 1973 by a CIA backed military coup because of his socialist platform. In El Salvador, fourteen families that own the country govern this land death squads. The contras are only the remains of Somoza's National Guard going up against a million of Nicaraguans. America made line mines used by units have crippled hundreds in Angola and Mazambique. It is no wonder these people that suffer lood at the U.S. with hatred, because we support these factions with economic and military aid. They revolt and turn to a source that will help their cause. Politics are a factor, but hunger and torture overwhelm them. What inevitably happens, is that Soviet weaponry and ideology

become a counter offensive to a life of misery. It would be to the advantage of the United States to hold a neutral stance until knowing which position (such as Guatemala) has the popular support. After all, this is democracy at stake. It is counter productive to arm a military that its own people. These people are only struggling for survival and will use any method to insure this. They are fighting against extreme right-wing regimes. They would fight just as fierce against a supressive left-wing regime. By supporting the people the U.S. will no longer be oppressors and have more of a case when critical to Soviet spheres of influence. This would insure a true America and no longer one of money, for money. The world is for all of us, not just for a few pockets.

Liberty

continued from 5

look at the historical relationship between the U.S. and its neighbors in Latin America to find where and when our spirit for liberty began to decay (if, in fact, it did?)

One need not turn the pages of history back very far to see the repressive nature of U.S. relations with Latin America. From 1854 to 1933, US Marines were sent into Nicaragua on at least nine different occasions to either influence the outcome of elections or protect U.S. interests. AS citizens of the United States we have an obligation to question the actions of our government. After all, the Soviet Union as we know it today wasn't in existence during this time, so we couldn't have been saving them from the "Evil Empire." This pattern of intervention in Nicaragua to protect U.S. interests is typical of

U.S. relations with all of Latin America. Certain questions, then, must arise: who determines U.S. interests and what exactly are they?

During the Eisenhower administration John Foster Dulles, a former lawyer for United Fruit Company, was Secretary of State. His brother, Allen Dulles, was director of the C.I.A., and like his brother, had done legal work for United Fruit. Together they organized "Operation Guatemala" to overthrow the democratically elected government of Jacob Arbenz in Guatemala. United Fruit troubles had started when President Arbenz forced the company to respect the workers union and their right to strike. Later, Arbenz introduced agrarian reform, seized United Fruit's uncultivated lands, and began dividing the land among a

hundred thousand families. Outraged that workers on Guatemala's banana plantations were beginning to act like people and organize their labor, the U.S. government "spat lightning" over the expropriation of United Fruit lands. President Arbenz proposed to pay as indemnity only the value that the company had itself placed on the land to defraud the countries tax laws. John Foster Dulles, the secretary of State, demanded twenty-five times the amount Arbenz proposed. Arbenz was accused of conspiring with the Communists. Walter Turnbull, a representative both of the CIA and United Fruit, goes to El Salvador to find exiled Guatemalan General Miguel Fuentes, a distinguished killer of Indians, to propose to him that he take charge of Guatemala. There is money available for such a project

if he promises to destroy the unions and restore United Fruit's lands and privileges. John Moors Cabot, Secretary of Inter-America Affairs, and brother of Thomas Cabot, president of United Fruit was also deeply involved in the overthrow of Arbenz's government and in defining the interests of the U.S. during the Eisenhower Administration. ...I wonder how much damage Lady Liberty felt during this period of time, when Washington was clearly tarnishing her image throughout Latin America.

The only reason troops have ever been sent to Nicaragua (or any other country in Latin America) to protect the interests of U.S. business. Nationalist movements in Latin America with popularly

continued on 9

Otra Cosa.

Otra Cosa.

Otra Cosa

Dear Pancho: I am a new student here at UCR. The people here are really nice but some of the guys are a bit too friendly. Are they only after my body or do they just want to be friends?
-concerned

Dear concerned: You should be concerned because, while some of the guys are just nice and do want to be friends others only want one thing, from someone who is new and doesn't know anything about them. You should ask someone you trust, who has been here for a while on what he or she thinks about the guys you're more suspicious about. Also keep an eye open and don't be too trusting.

Dear Pancho: I live at the dorms and have no privacy. I like to go to sleep early but my roommate, who usually doesn't go to sleep till 3 a.m., always lets people come into the room while I am sleeping and they wake me up. I don't want to sound like a complainer or a party pooper since it seems like I am the only one in my hall who likes to go to sleep early but I do need my sleep.
No Privacy

Dear No Privacy: The only way you can resolve this dilemma is to tell your roommate in an honest but tactful way that you would appreciate that while you are asleep not to let anyone in the room. I am sure that if you let her know how you feel she will understand.

Dear Pancho: I am writing to you because of the stress I've acquired as a result of my poor performance on my recent exams. Where may I receive help?

Stressing!

Dear Stressing: The Counseling Center's biofeedback program is marvelous. Speaking from experience, biofeedback helps you control involuntary body pressures, such as blood pressure and heart rate. Please call 787-5531 for an appointment. Good luck and let me know how you are doing.

Dear Pancho: What does it mean to be on academic probation?

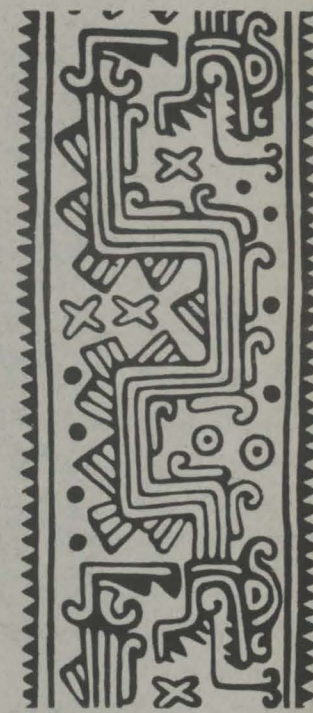
Academically Probable.

Dear Academically Probable: It means that your G.P.A. for the quarter or the cumulative G.P.A. is under 2.0. In the following quarter if

you are on A.P. you must attain a G.P.A. above 2.0 To be safe just attain a 2.0 both quarterly and cumulatively. I suggest if you are having academic difficulties make it a priority to visit the Learning Center. They have a fantastic program including; time management, reading skills, notetaking skills and much more. Here are some useful numbers: EOP/SAA Services 787-4542, Learning Center 787-3721, Math Counseling 787-3093, Tutoring 787-5436.

Dear Pancho: My roommates are so inconsiderate. They do not clean up after themselves. And they don't care whether I end up doing it. I am frustrated and tired of these living conditions that I have to deal with. What should I do? -Help

Dear Help: Be honest. Tell your roommates diplomatically how you feel. Probably they are not aware of your feelings. Sometimes you must be vocal. Try to agree on some chores and considerations that will help in maintaining a good atmosphere.



Pancho's Predictions

Pancho recently realized that several of his companions would not be here next year. They are Seniors this year and will be graduating at the end of the year. Being as concerned as he is for his friends, he decided to give them some advice. For this, he decided to look into their future and tell his friends about it in the form of predictions. The following are Pancho's Predictions based on his experiences with the individuals.

Sergio Casillas: most likely to get his graduation date mixed up.

Christina Lugo: most likely to star in a Pepsi commercial with Michael Jackson.

Ana Lopez: most likely to arrive late on her graduation.

Angie Moreno: most likely to become a teacher.

Rosalio Castro: most likely to write a letter to the President of the United States.

Lorena Montoya: most likely to never go into the library after graduation.

Ramiro Sandoval: most likely to become a wind surfer after graduation.

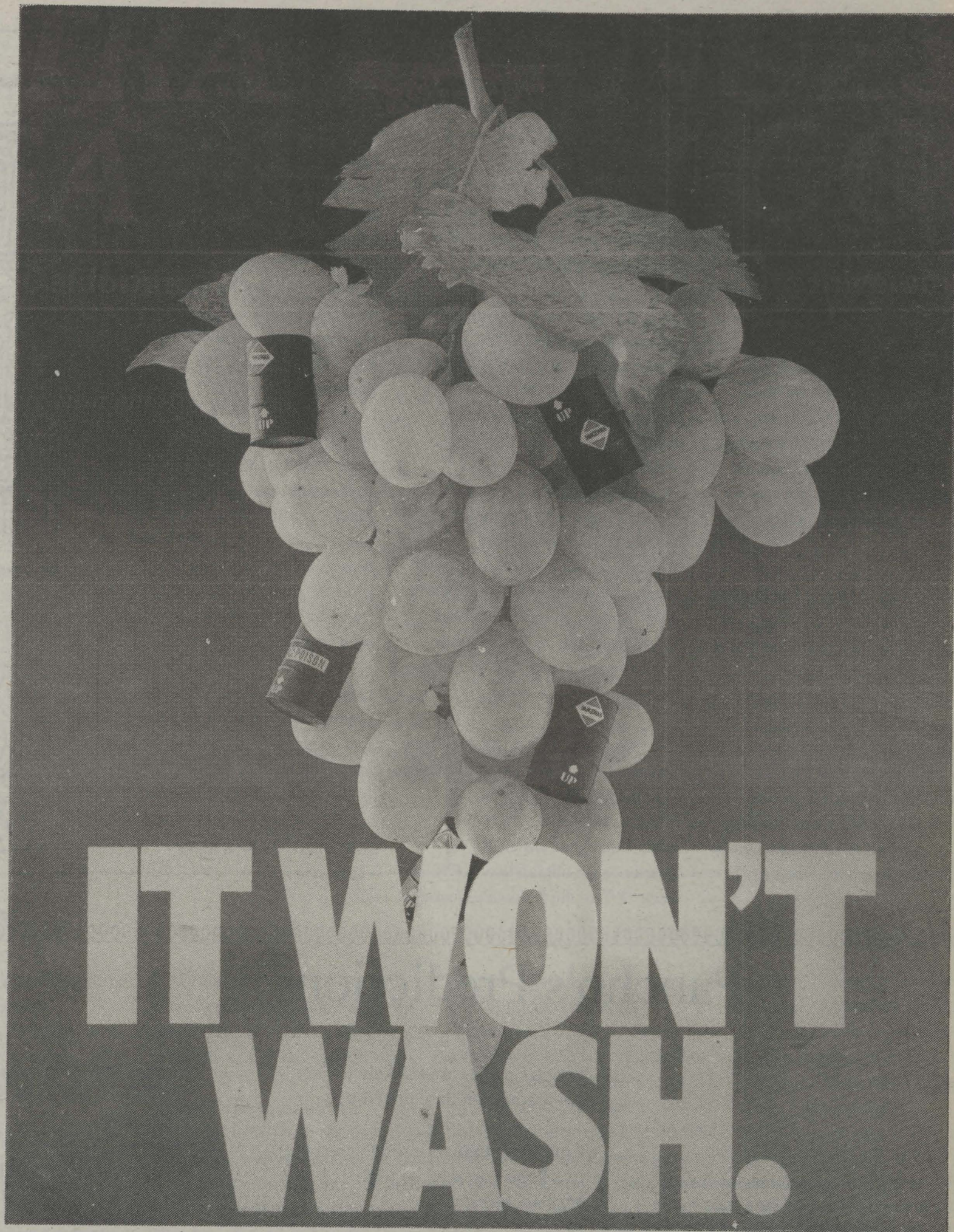
Jorge Sanchez: most likely to become an intellectual bum.

Larry Pena: most likely to bring a brown bag to his graduation.

Corina Longoria: most likely to become a peer counselor after graduation.

Sylvia Woods: most likely to become the President of the United States.

Bernardo Diaz: most likely to miss his graduation.



Nuestra Cosa
c/o Chicano Students Programs
280 Commons
University of California
Riverside, Ca
92507

Bulk Rate