

# la chispa

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CSCS PUBLICATION

## CHICANO STUDIES COMMUNICATION

### SERVICES---Josef A. Benavides

The CSCS has many functions and provides a variety of services to a variety of people. One of our main functions will be providing Chicano and other students and faculty of Colorado College information concerning the problems caused by the alienation of the Chicano by the institutions of our society, current news and thought of the Chicano movement, articles, books and materials concerning Chicano history, culture, music, literature, art and education. The CSCS will keep interested persons up-to-date on such useful information as reviews of local Chicano organizations, the struggles of the United Farmworkers, and be constantly prepared to provide you with both insight and guidance as to where you may best donate your effort and time in contributing toward the movement for equality and justice for Chicanos.

The CSCS is continually conducting research in the area of Chicano studies and therefore has developed as a storehouse of information and materials in Chicano studies. The CSCS provides some services to local and statewide Chicano organizations. If you have an interest you wish to pursue or a question you sincerely need to have answered feel free to drop by our office in the Northeast basement of Cutler Hall or call X437.

## URBAN STUDIES TO HAVE LATINO SECTION

A planning conference to institute a section of the ACM's Urban Studies Program with a latino emphasis was held on September 29 and 30 in Chicago. Josef Benavides and Bob Salazar were in attendance as representatives of the Chicano students from this campus, along with Professor Salvatore Bizzaro and latino students from Macalester and Carleton colleges.

An advisory council comprised of two students from each college was formed and will be meeting at the end of October to finalize plans for latino student participation in the program. The latino section will begin during the spring semester.



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# MECHA VIEWPOINTS

Colorado College now has 64 Chicano students enrolled here while just 3 years ago the number was 10.

What brought about this change and what is the obligation of the Chicano students to the groups who worked to enable them to come here?

This question is easy to respond to; three years ago several Chicano students decided they would like to help get more Chicano students enrolled here. The administration was then approached and proved to be amenable to the idea. Recruiting of Chicano students then ensued. Consequently, the following year 17 Chicano freshmen were admitted and enrolled and each year thereafter a sizable number of Chicanos has come here.

## Recruiting

MECHA has recruited Chicanos from various areas of the state. In Colorado alone there are hundreds of Chicanos academically and psychologically qualified to attend an institution such as Colorado College. We do our best to find as many of these students as possible and then work with the admissions office to get them accepted. Our efforts have also made it possible for Chicanos from California, New Mexico, Texas, and Illinois to be here.

So, as one can see, the gains which have been made in the number of Chicanos here were the results of efforts of 1) the Chicano students and 2) the college administration.

Perhaps, at this point, I should comment on just who is considered a Chicano. The statement was made earlier this year by a student that - I don't like to be labelled - in response to a letter from MECHA which invited him, as a Chicano, to attend a meeting. Well, MECHA didn't label anyone as Chicano; you are what you are! Any person of Mexican Ancestry living in the United States is a Chicano whether they like it or not. This is a plain and simple fact. In addition, they seem to be forgetting that the primary reason they got into this college is that they are Chicano. For them to now say they don't want to be labelled is ludicrous.

## Obligations

This then leads me on to answering the second part of the question; what is the obligation of the new Chicanos here?

First of all, we believe that each person, as an individual, has interests which he will wish to pursue here whether it be athletics, student government, the school newspaper, etc. We want Chicano students to be involved in all aspects of the college life. We, as our culture and experiences are different from those of the majority of the students here feel that we have something to offer you and want to do so through interaction. However, we also feel that a Chicano student who comes here has the moral obligation to 1) be Chicano and 2) explore the possibility of being a member of MECHA! Now just what does this mean? well, it means that he be proud of his heritage and not attempt to masquerade as an Anglo; that he interact not only with the college majority group, but with his fellow Chicanos; that he have a commitment to help other Chicanos whether it is through recruiting students, helping the farmworkers union, etc.; and that he intends to eventually help out in the Chicano community with what he has attained here and not possess illusions of using CC as a catapult to send him to his personal utopia. In

other words, we ask that he see reality and do something, in his way, about it. Each Chicano can help out in a way which is not antithetical to his personal beliefs but first he must make the commitment to search for that way.

### The Future

As chairman of MECHA this year I have been pleased to see more Chicano students here become involved in some way to make the future look brighter for other Chicanos. Of the 64 Chicanos here there are now 35 involved in MECHA. Hopefully many of the remaining 29 will soon be joining our ranks. All in all MECHA looks forward to a year of many accomplishments within the CC community and elsewhere.

\*Bob Salazar

## **BOYCOTT LETTUCE**

40,000 lettuce workers are trying to lift themselves and their families out of poverty and despair. They are trying to improve upon such horrid national figures as:

- 1) Yearly Income The average yearly income of a family of four working full time is only \$2,700.00.
- 2) Lethal Pesticides 800 workers are killed per year as a result of misuse of lethal pesticides.
- 3) Child Labor Over 400,000 children below the age of 13 work under the hot sun in stoop labor.
- 4) Life Expectancy The average life expectancy for farm workers is only 49 years.
- 5) Decent Housing 95% of farmworkers housing does not have a toilet, bath or sink.

Do you think these conditions should exist? Would you like you and your family to live under these conditions? Neither do the LETTUCE WORKERS. Why not help them out by not buying or eating head (iceberg) lettuce???

REMEMBER THAT THOSE WHO PUT FOOD ON YOUR TABLE, OFTEN DON'T HAVE FOOD ON THEIRS.... WON'T YOU HELP THEM, BY BOYCOTTING LETTUCE???. ANY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL ALSO HELP. THOSE INTERESTED CONTACT CSCS OFFICE - X437, Colorado College.

## **ALBUQUERQUE**

First Chicano National Congress for LAND AND CULTURAL REFORM-will meet in Albuquerque October 21, 22 - at the Albuquerque Convention Center. The theme of the conference will be Unity for all Chicano Organizations in the U.S.A. Guest speaker include Jose Angel Gutierrez, Corky Gonzales Reis Tijerina and tentatively, Cesar Chavez.

## **LARADA**

Attend our LARADA (Latin American Research and Development Agency) on Thursday, October 12th at 7:30 p.m. in the basement of Guadalupe Church 407 South Tejon.

We have community activities planned that will be of interest to all C.C. students. If you are interested and need a ride, call me at 633-9156. I'll make arrangements for you.

\*Rudy Melena

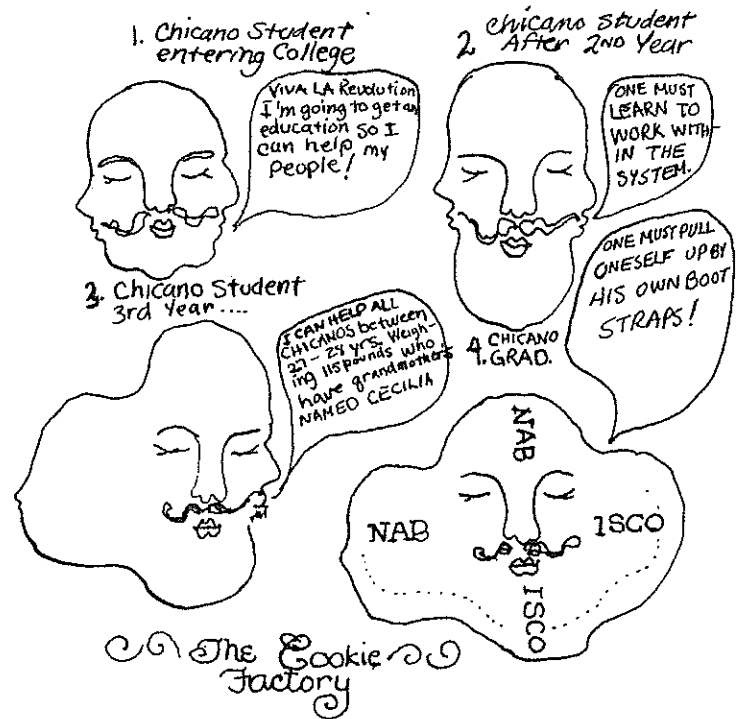
MINORITY SPORTS  
Humor by David Marquez

Beginning with this issue and in up-coming issues this reporter will bring you a personal and in depth characterization on gifted minority athletes attending Colorado College.

This week we will focus on Felix Martinez, also known by his more popular alias, "Rapido, the Mexican Torpedo". At 6' 180 lbs., Felix is rather slight for an interior lineman, however this is of no significance as Felix more than makes up for his slight stature by the tenacity of his play. With gazelle like speed, Felix explodes from the line using a combination of guts and finesse to tear gaping holes in the enemies' defensive line. It is not uncommon to see the "Torpedo" leading a power sweep, pulling with power and speed, throwing his body at opposing linebackers with reckless abandon paying no heed to bodily well being - In my opinion he is a blood and guts grizzer of the highest capabilities.

On a more personal note, this reporter was very impressed by the shy and quiet "Torpedo". He displays a mixture of modesty and boyish charm that can be matched only by his athletic prowess.

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14 year old Perfect Master  
He will open your heart to a  
Universe of Love  
Spiritual Discussions held nightly:  
7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 601 East Dale  
Colorado Springs, Colorado  
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If you would like to continue to receive the news and viewpoints of the Chicano community through this newsletter, send this coupon by inter-campus mail to: **CHICANO STUDIES COMMUNICATION SERVICE BOX 146 COLORADO COLLEGE**

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