

Hispanic Symposium

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remain trapped in an endless cycle of low expectations and failure.

Esbri said the drop-out rate of Hispanic children in the public school system has remained high since 1975. But she feels optimistic that the trend will change.

"If we can convince one person to go to college, get their education, and give back to the community, we have succeeded," Esbri said.

The classroom, Esbri added, will act as a gateway to learn about the world. A broader knowledge base will enhance self-esteem and increase feelings of connection to the larger society. This should, in turn, boost voter registration and political participation.

Education must, however, extend beyond the classroom to include a better understanding of the overall political process, especially the census.

Taken once every 10 years, the census helps the government assess national population trends and make decisions about how to best allocate federal funds to provide for people's needs.

Moore said many Hispanics remain leery about how the government will use census data

because of immigration concerns. She and Esbri agreed that Latinos who hold influential positions within their communities must help alleviate suspicion by teaching their neighbors about the census.

Another key to activating the Latino vote is a new Web site, www.latinovote.org. It is designed to educate Latinos on the voting process and the election issues.

Given the community-oriented nature of their culture, Cortes and Esbri believe elected officials should also play an active part in empowering the Hispanic portion of the electorate.

"Personal contact is very important to Latinos," Esbri explained. "They want candidates to come and talk directly to them about issues."

Cortes said that local, state and national politicians need to continue participating in outreach programs to maintain strong relationships with Hispanic voters.

However, he stressed that political leaders, especially at the federal level, must guard against reaching out to one group at the expense of alienating other minorities.

In response to changing national demographics,

Republican candidate George W. Bush and Democratic candidate Al Gore have worked hard to win favor with Hispanic voters. They share the common goals of providing Latinos with better education and financial opportunities.

The Texas governor is making his White House bid under a platform of compassionate conservatism. "You can't lead by dividing people, pitting one group against another," Bush said on a campaign Web site.

Bush hopes to attract Hispanic support with his message of inclusiveness. He also believes his tax cut proposal will greatly aid Latino families who own small businesses by enabling them to move upward in the community.

One of Vice President Gore's main goals, according to his campaign web site, is to expand the health care system to provide Hispanic families with more complete medical coverage.

Like the presidential hopefuls; Cortes believes education is an issue of paramount importance to Hispanic voters.

However, "fairness and equality are what most people are looking for since needs will be different among different segments of the population," he said.

"Everyone is striving for equality of opportunity. On the outside we may be different, but on the inside we all want the same respect."

Alumni Award Nominations

The Penn State Harrisburg Alumni Society is now accepting nominations for the 2000 Alumni Achievement Award and the People to Watch Awards.

Nomination forms are available outside W-106 Olmsted Building and on the web at http://www.hbg.psu.edu/alumni/alum_awards.html. For more information, contact Laura Davis, Alumni Coordinator at 948-6715.

Nominations are due by June 1, 2000. All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to nominate alumni worthy of these awards.

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CAMPUS POLICE REPORT

By Matthew McKeown

Capital Times Editor

March 23, 2000

8:55 p.m.: Vehicle stopped for failure to stop at traffic light. Verbal warning given.

safe at the Swatara Building for a student per university policy.

4:48 p.m.: Secured a weapon in a safe at the Swatara Building for a student per university policy.

March 24, 2000

4:40 p.m.: Traffic stop by Olmsted Building. A citation was issued for speeding.

March 25, 2000

4:15 a.m.: Assisted Middletown P.D. in a search for a suspicious individual.

March 31, 2000
2:04 a.m.: Received a report of a lone white male banging on the door of a residence on Kirtland Avenue. The subject was possibly intoxicated.

5 p.m.: Assisted Highspire P.D. with a domestic dispute on Race Street. Cleared without incident.

3:15 p.m.: Assisted Lower Swatara P.D. with an active domestic problem on Hunter Lane. Cleared without incident.

9 p.m.: Assisted Highspire P.D. with an accident with injuries on Route 230.

9:45 p.m.: Assisted Highspire P.D. with a domestic dispute on Willow Street.

March 26, 2000

1:12 a.m.: Assisted Lower Swatara P.D. for a disorderly person at Shane's Flight Deck. The situation was handled without incident.

Officer Divonzo filed a summary non-traffic citation against Brad Lundeen of Mars Drive. Lundeen was charged with public drunkenness.

March 27, 2000

1:20 p.m.: A citation was issued for a moving violation on College Avenue.

April 2, 2000
1:05 a.m.: Assisted Highspire P.D. with a traffic stop on Route 230.

2:20 p.m.: Received a complaint of dead bugs in a residence on Weaver Avenue. Housing contacted.

12:42 p.m.: Informed of a possible conflict between soccer and softball players on field behind the CUB. Conflict resolved without incident; softball players left.

March 29, 2000

11:30 p.m.: A citation was issued for a moving violation on College Avenue.

10:09 p.m.: Received a report of a white male acting oddly and talking to himself. Unable to locate subject.

March 30, 2000

1 a.m.: Received a report of a suspicious person requesting to enter room 118 of the Science & Technology Building.

April 3, 2000
2:19 p.m.: A police warning notice was issued for a vehicle code violation on Weaver Avenue.

7:25 a.m.: Received a complaint regarding a housing/pest problem that was mentioned in *The Capital Times*. Informed caller the article was an April Fools joke.

April 4, 2000
9:30 p.m.: Assisted Highspire P.D. for a disturbance on Willow Street. Everything OK upon arrival.

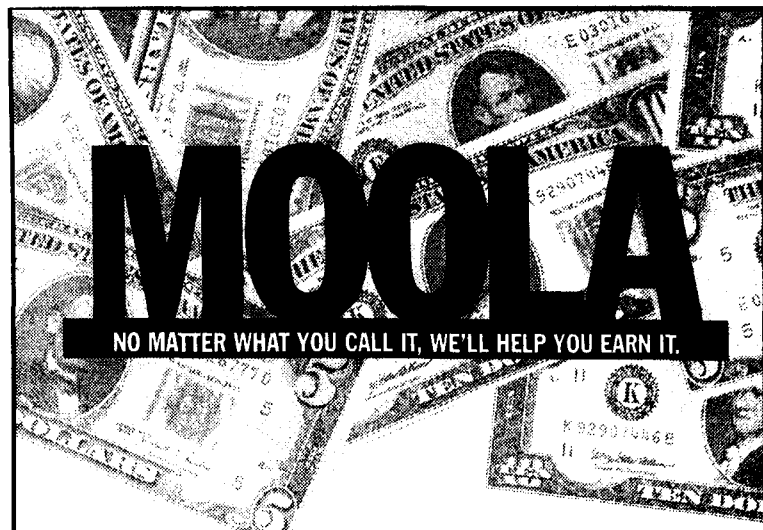
11 a.m.: Received a complaint about motorists not stopping at signs at intersection of Weaver and Rosedale.

10 p.m.: Received a report of harassing telephone calls at the library. Derry Township P.D. contacted.

11:18 a.m.: Issued a citation for speed violation on University Drive.

April 5, 2000
10:15 a.m.: Received a criminal history check on a student. Waiver provided and the information was released.

2 p.m.: Secured a weapon in a



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