

Tutoring...

entirely different concept of the world. The white world is viewed from a linear perspective down to the square buildings. Indians, on the other hand, think in the circular. It's uncomfortable to sit in a square room. —it is an entirely different concept.

"Also, the Puritan work ethic is foreign. In the past, we only had to work for what was essential."

According to John most Indians don't have special problems in adjusting to the system. "We were taught the white way. But, since the movement we don't want the white way. We don't want to be a machine; we are searching for our own values and traditions. Just like everyone else, we are looking for things we value as a student."

But, many of the students have come from low quality schools and John says, "We try to remedy this poor background with tutors who can teach reading and study skills. Tutors have to get into the students head and learn from the student as well as teach. It is a mutual learning process and it can be a beautiful thing when it works."

"A lot of students, though, think a tutor is a blow to their ego. But, we try to encourage them, because we don't want them to flunk."

According to John, "Many people think Indians have it bad, because they only see a few of us. But look at all of us who have made it."

"Our foremost problem is we were trained in the white man's ways and now we are trying to find our own traditions."

SESAMEX

SESAMEX, an acronym for Spanish-English Speaking American Mexicans, assists Mexican-American students to cope with the University. Only 10 per cent of the students on the program graduated from high school, and only 5 per cent of those had above a 2.5 G.P.A. The majority of the student either

had below a 2.00 G.P.A. or never completed high school and instead took an equivalency test, according to the tutorial director, Alfonso Cabrera.

But, Alfonso says, "Those students who are making it are the one's who took the equivalency test or had below a 2.0, because they are really working harder. They are more motivated. But, for those who dropped out, it is hard for them to get set in the routine again of going to classes and studying."

"We need tutors who can teach them how to study and use the material as the professor expects and explain the reading."

"The University is a learning experience with others on a personal level. Many of our students have never come in contact with other minorities and whites, thus, we emphasize living in the dorm so they can contact a variety of people in large groups."

According to Alfonso, "Many students feel their classes are not relevant. But, the purpose is to get a broad base of knowledge they won't get otherwise. They have to learn the significance behind the course. It is difficult for a student who has not gone to school; it is hard for them to accept. This is where tutors can be the solution to the student's adaption."

One of the major pressure on Mexican-American students Alfonso says, "is political issues and the Chicano movement. A lot of students stay away from this area because they don't have the time to get involved. They are here to get an education."

"Also, their home community is looking at them. Their success or failure is a reflection upon their community and family."

Other problems which the students face, according to Alfonso, is that of being bi-lingual with only about a fifth or sixth grade vocabulary in English. Also, their study skills are not equal to those of an average

student, nor is their comprehension well developed. Alfonso says, "the tutor is the main key to helping the student improve comprehension."

"Many of the students consider themselves to be second class citizens," which creates added problems. "Trying to talk to a professor weighs heavily upon them. They are sensitive and put off easily since Anglos make them up-tight. The complex has been ingrained in them and they believe the stereotype themselves."

"We are trying to make the students self-motivated individuals so they don't have to be led around by the hand. They have to learn to stand up on their own."

Tutors can help the student learn, but Alfonso says, "They need a lot of patience with a person who has never learned the basics and study habits."

Information on Tutoring

The programs are primarily interested in tutors who are willing to teach in their major area of study. They desperately need literature and comp tutors as well as science and math ones. Other areas are sociology, psychology, history, anthropology, business, speech and the professional schools.

Tutors can receive three hours practicum credit through the education school, and some departments such as English, anthropology, psychology and speech are giving tutoring credits to majors. If you want credit through your department, find out if it's available.

For those interested in tutoring the best route would be to call the tutorial director for the program you are interested in. They will be able to provide specific information about their programs.

It is still possible to tutor and receive credit for it this term since the drop-add deadline is today.

Soap opera premieres Monday

By **ETHEL KOSAR**
Of the Emerald

A new and hopefully suprising show will enter the PL-3 lineup Monday at 12:30. The program is entitled "The Library of Our Lives" and will make its debut into the world of educational television. The series of events centers around a widow who decides to reenter the educational scene as a student. Frieda Hyman plays Abigail, who's decision to live with her daughter, Sara (Cathy Bradford Senior in FAA) poses an interesting problem, since Sara's boyfriend, Bill, played by Allan Gross, graduate in speech, lives with her.

All of this is just the beginning of a series of actions which will explore "all issues-actual and imagined" that accompany the scenes on today's campuses.

The seven week series can be followed every Monday and Wednesday at 12:30 and 9:30 p.m. Charles Deemer, graduate in English, is writing the

script with the help of students. Based on the soap opera idiom they want to give viewers "a quality product." The approach is totally professional. Deadlines must be met and the pressure of filming is great.

The program has an acting company of 47. The types of people seen on present campuses will be represented on screen. There will be a variety such as a narc, a chief of police, a pregnant student, basketball players and gangsters, a milkman, radicals, a vegetarian, an astrologer, gays, feminists. Also entering the picture in the future will be a black psychoanalyst and his secretary and Vietnam veterans.

Total cast and crew number 117 people. Cameo roles will be arranged for some local celebrities. The show is being taped at the facilities of Lane Community College. David Norris is head of broadcasting at LCC and technical director for the soap opera.

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