

# EL OBSERVADOR

## International Art Showcases Heritage



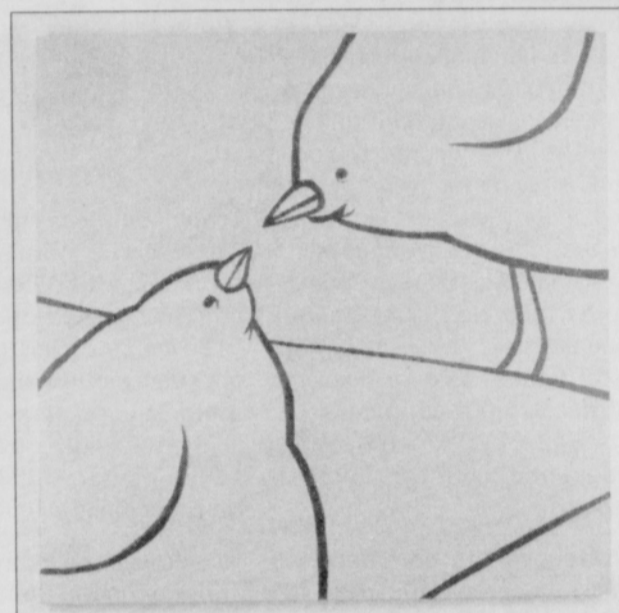
Christina Acosta's "La Conquistadora."



Ed Martinez's "I Love You, Mommy."



Irene Carranza's "Madagascar Jasmine."



Beto Alvarez' "Love Birds."

### 'Love Now' exhibit at Nordstrom

The downtown Nordstrom store will open a 30 day exhibit this week called "El Amor Ahora (Love Now)," a bold and inspiring exhibit of artwork from a group of talented Hispanic artists reflecting their unique and personal ideas of love in a

series of paintings and illustrations. Nordstrom began its "Love" themed exhibits in 2003, celebrating Black History Month in February with a collection of photographs from African-American photographers, and Hispanic Heritage Month in September with artwork by Hispanic painters and illustrators. Both exhibits celebrate diversity and artistic expression. "We are excited to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by focusing on the timeless theme of love," said Delena Sunday, executive vice

president of Nordstrom's Human Resources and Diversity. "We are privileged to have a diverse group of employees and customers, and we want to continue to find unique and creative ways to celebrate diversity." The exhibit will feature 27 inter-

national artists, including Cristina Acosta and Timothy Fernandes-Parsons from Bend. The exhibit will run from Thursday, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 and will be displayed in Portland's downtown Nordstrom location at 701 S.W. Broadway St.

## Mexico Sends Disaster Relief Mission Operation first on U S soil since 1846

(AP)—A Mexican army convoy crossed into the United States near Laredo, Texas on Thursday to bring aid to hurricane victims, becoming the first Mexican military unit to operate on U.S. soil since 1846.

The 45-vehicle convoy was carrying water treatment plants and mobile kitchens to San Antonio, where the soldiers apparently planned to feed and provide other help for evacuees from the New Orleans area.

The first green trucks, with Mexican flags attached to the sides, crossed the international bridge at Laredo, Texas with another 12-vehicle aid convoy on the way. A Mexican navy ship has also been sent toward the Mississippi coast with rescue vehicles and helicopters.

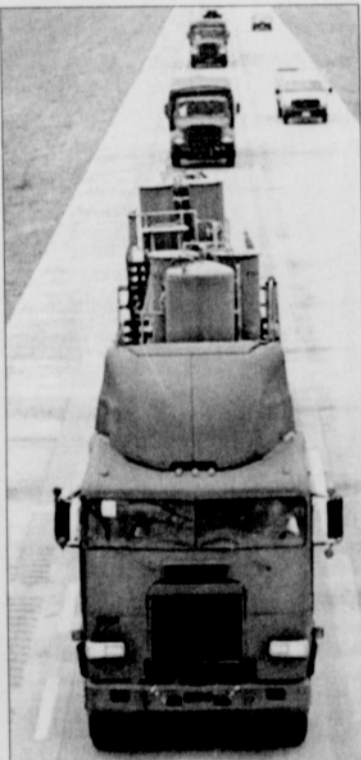
Radio talk shows and newspapers in Mexico buzzed with excitement over news that this country, long on the receiving end of U.S. disaster relief, was sending a hurricane aid convoy north.

Mexico has sent disaster relief aid missions to other Latin American nations, but not to the United States. In 1846, Mexican troops briefly advanced just north of the Rio Grande in Texas, which had then recently joined the United States.

Mexico, however, did not then recognize the Rio Grande as the U.S. border. The two countries quickly became mired in the Mexican-American War, which led to the loss of half of Mexico's territory in 1848.

The convoy has "a very high symbolic content," said Javier Oliva, a political scientist at Mexico's National Autonomous University. "This is a very sensitive subject, for historic and political reasons."

The convoy includes two mobile kitchens that can feed 7,000 people a day, three flatbed trucks carrying mobile water-treatment plants and 15 trailers of bottled water, blankets and applesauce. The 195 Mexicans taking part include military engineers, doctors and nurses.



A 45-vehicle caravan from the Mexican Army heads across the border into Texas to distribute aid to Gulf Coast survivors of hurricane Katrina. (AP photo)

"This is the first time that the United States has accepted a military mission from Mexico" for such work, said Javier Ibarrola, a newspaper columnist who covers military affairs in Mexico.

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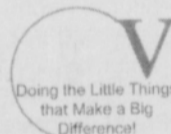
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