

Hard Work, Education Help Hispanics Advance

Jobs swell with population gains

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Ignacio Elizarraga, a welder, husband, and father, has been a part of Oregon's workforce for 15 years. Laura Galaviz, mother, grandmother, and recent retiree, worked here for more than 30.

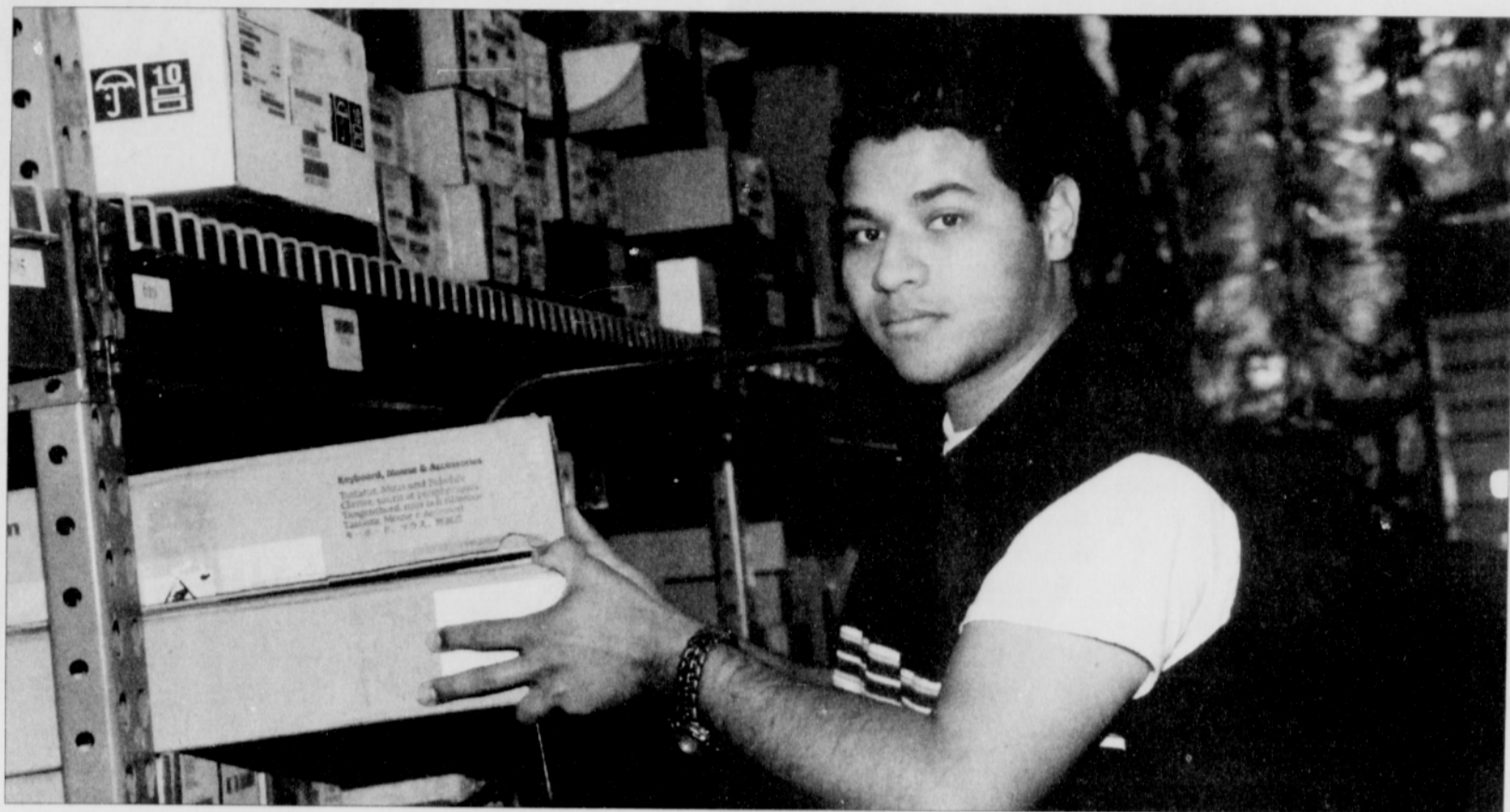
Elizarraga left Mexico in 1988. He worked as a laborer for a California trucking company until he moved to Oregon in the 1990s. Galaviz was born in Washington in the late 1940s to migrant Mexican parents. One of 14 children, she spent her summers working in the fields with her parents.

Elizarraga and Galaviz are just two of the thousands of Hispanics who have changed the face of Oregon's workforce over the last 20 years. The Hispanic labor force – and population – have grown.

Hispanic unemployment rates are now closer to those for the labor force as a whole, with differences by educational attainment.

In July 2003, some 326,361 Hispanics lived in Oregon, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The state's Hispanic population grew by 71 percent from 1980 to 1990, 144 percent from 1990 to 2000, and nearly 20 percent from 2000 to 2003.

The largest numbers of His-



A young Hispanic male organizes the shelves of a warehouse where he works. Census 2000 data revealed that 80 percent of Hispanic men are in the labor force. Photo by Guion Wylter, U.S. Census Bureau.

panics live in Oregon's most populous counties – Washington, Multnomah, Marion, Clackamas, and Lane.

Births in the United States will outpace immigration as the key source of Hispanic population growth, according to a 2003 study by the Pew Hispanic Trust. Children now being born in the United States to Hispanic parents – including Galaviz's four grandchildren and Elizarraga's 6-month-old daughter – will begin having their own children in about 20 years. At that point, the largest component of the nation's Hispanic population

will be U.S. born. This will hold true in Oregon as well, according to George Hough of Portland State University's Population Research Center.

In 2003, Hispanics were nearly 10 percent of the Oregon labor force, up from 3 percent in 1990, and short of the 13 percent Hispanic labor force nationwide. Oregon's Hispanic labor force grew almost three times as fast as the nation's, from 49,000 in 1990 to 181,000 in 2003 – a 269 percent increase. The fastest growth came in the 1990s.

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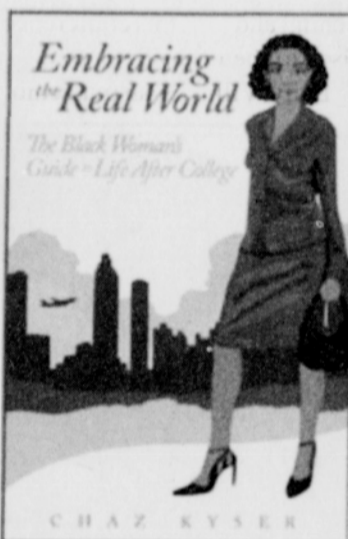
Get Ready for the Real World

Career guide has tips for women of color

A new book, "Embracing the Real World: The Black Woman's Guide to Life After College," has been published for African American women making the often challenging transition from college to the professional workforce.



Chaz Kyser



Written by Chaz Kyser, a journalism instructor at Langston University in Oklahoma, the book will help you have a better chance of success upon entering the workforce. The information is based off Kyser's experiences, those of other college graduates, the insight of employers and tons of research.

Readers will get schooled on everything from applying and interviewing for jobs, succeeding in a new position, choosing where to live, handling conflicts with co-workers, managing their boss, networking effectively,

budgeting, negotiating their salary, and coping with job loss. But what sets this book apart from others on the market is that it's specifically written for black women and covers topics that most career-related books ignore.

"One of the problems with the average career guide is that it doesn't discuss sensitive topics or issues pertinent to people of color," Kyser said. "My book gives informative, inspirational and candid advice on how to succeed in corporate America, handle racial and sex discrimi-

nation in the workplace, build a positive image and free oneself from self-doubt and the fear of failure."

The book also features essays from successful black women on a variety of topics and a detailed resource guide.

"Embracing the Real World: The Black Woman's Guide to Life After College" can be purchased for \$14.99 plus tax and shipping/handling off of the book's website: embracingtherealworld.com.



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