

# EL OBSERVADOR

## Creativity Runs Dry

Two artists who lived the high life in Mexico City are profiled in the upcoming production of Mariela in the Desert, opening Friday, Sept. 21 at the Milagro Theatre, 525 S.E. Stark St.

The English language production by Miracle Theater Group tells the story of Mariela and Jose who were once the golden couple of the Mexican artists' inner circle. Together they built a family and an artist's colony in the Mexican desert in 1950.

The deadly mystery is a layered, yet profoundly honest story of what happens to a family when creativity is forced to dry and wither away.

Performances are scheduled through Oct. 13. Admission is \$20 for opening night and \$18 for the following Thursday evening and Sunday matinees; and \$20 for Friday and Saturday night performances. Tickets can be purchased online at milagro.org or by calling 503-236-7253.

The Miracle Theatre Group is dedicated to bringing the vibrancy of Latino theater to the Northwest community and beyond.



Thinking he ruined one of her paintings, an upset Carlos (Kurt Conroyd) receives a calming embrace from his mother Mariela (Olga Sanchez) in Mariela in the Desert, opening Friday, Sept. 21 at the Milagro Theatre, 525 S.E. Stark St.

## Dynamite Truck Crash Kills 34

(AP) -- A dynamite-laden truck exploded after colliding with another vehicle on a busy highway in northern Mexico's coal country, killing at least 34 people, including three reporters at the scene, state and federal officials said.

Authorities said the two vehicles crashed into each other Sunday evening, drawing a crowd of curious onlookers as well as a small army of police, soldiers, emergency officials and journalists.

Shortly after the crowd arrived, the wreckage caught fire, and the dynamite exploded, sending a ball of fire into the sky that consumed nearby cars and left a 10-by-40-foot crater in the concrete, said Maximo Alberto Neri Lopez, a federal police official.

He said more than 150 people were injured.

The force of the explosion blew out the windows of a passenger bus a quarter-mile away.

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## Mexican Oil Pipelines Sabotaged, Explode

(AP) -- Mexican gas and oil pipelines were attacked in six places before dawn Monday, causing explosions, fires and gas leaks that forced the evacuation of thousands of people.

The blasts reverberated for

miles. No direct injuries were reported, although civil defense agencies said two women in their 70s who lived nearby died of heart attacks shortly afterward.

A small, shadowy leftist group linked to similar attacks in July

left a note claiming responsibility, a police official in the Gulf coast state of Veracruz told The Associated Press. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not allowed to be quoted by name.

The note was found alongside at least one undetonated explosive device uncovered by soldiers in a swampy area about 550 yards away from a highway toll booth 25 miles north of the port of Veracruz, the official said.

## Cocaine Kingpin Arrested

(AP) -- Colombian soldiers swarmed onto a farm Monday and captured one of the world's most wanted drug traffickers hiding in bushes in his underwear.

Officials in Bogota, Colombia called it their biggest drug-war victory since the 1993 slaying of Medellin cartel leader Pablo Escobar.

Diego Montoya, who sits on the FBI's 10 most-wanted list and has a \$5 million bounty on his head, allegedly leads the Norte del Valle cartel. It is deemed Colombia's most dangerous drug gang and is accused of shipping

hundreds of tons of cocaine to the U.S.

Defense Minister Juan Manuel Santos told a news conference at Bogota's airport that Montoya was responsible for 1,500 killings in his career.

"Drug traffickers take note: This is the future that awaits you," Santos said before Montoya limped out of an air-force plane wearing plastic handcuffs and escorted by five commandos.

Montoya put up no resistance when the army finally cornered him in the cartel's stronghold of Valle del Cauca



Colombian soldiers escort Diego Montoya, America's most-wanted drug trafficker, at a military base in Bogota Monday. (AP Photo)

state on the Pacific Coast, officials said. He is to be questioned before being extradited

to the U.S., a process that Santos said would take at least two months.

## Mt. Hood College Music Fiesta Sunday

Mt. Hood Community College is inviting everyone to attend a Mexican Independence Day Celebration (Fiesta Patria) Sunday, Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on its Gresham campus.

Eight Latino bands from Mexico, California and Texas will headline the festivities, expected to be the largest of several Mexican Independence Day celebrations.

There will be public access to MHCC's Aquatic Center and rock climbing

wall. Additional activities will include a soccer tournament, a performance by Radio Disney and a raffle for tuition for 12 college credits. Non-profit and community-based organizations providing outreach services to the Hispanic community will also be available as well as food and commercial vendors.

The price of admission is \$20 for adults, \$10 for staff and students of MHCC and \$5 for children 8-12, and children under 8 are free.

## Hispanic Heritage Month

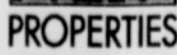
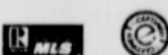
In honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15), Multnomah County libraries will celebrate the culture and traditions of Spanish-speaking nations with bilingual programs and special events. Area residents are invited to come to your community library

to the U.S., a process that Santos said would take at least two months.



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