

## THE BEGINNING

The activity of the Chicano Movement at colleges and universities has been directed toward establishing Chicano student organizations (UMAS, MAYA, MASC, MECHA, etc.) and institutionalizing Chicano Studies programs. A variety of organizational forms and tactics have characterized these student organizations. One of the major factors which led to selfawareness in the 60's was the clash between Anglo-American educational institutions and Chicanos who maintained their cultural identity. Another factor was the increasing number of Chicano students who became aware of their own plight. They found they had no institutional power base of their own. Historically, Chicanos have been prevented from establishing a power base and significantly influencing decision-making. Within the last decade, a limited degree of progredd has taken place in securing a base of power within educational institutions. This power base is "The Beninning".

There first was a need to combat the ignorance in this and the school is one way of doing that. At the same time the Chicano must be given the oportunities other groups already had. There was finally recognition by the University of Washington of U.M.A.S. on October.1,1968.

Ad-Hoc Committee on Chicano Studies was developed in May, 1969. This committee has been involved in the planning and implementation of Chicano Studies Program, at the University of Washington.

What caused all this to come about? For one thing there was, and still is, a new wave of self-awareness with in the Chicano student. This then brought out a need for leaders, and educated Chicanos, trained in all fields.

The first Chicano leaders at the University of Washington had to use innovative approaches to the problems of organization and education. This is a record, in part, of that start.