

FREE

THE

ALARM!

Lower Ocean turns to marsh

Spotlight

Domestic Violence and Support

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FHAR MIESS/The Alarm! Newspaper

Mist rises from the still waters of the San Lorenzo River at dusk.

Stinky situation for residents is a windfall for local wildlife

By FHAR MIESS
The Alarm! Newspaper Collective

Residents and landowners in the Lower Ocean neighborhood of Santa Cruz are up in arms over a groundswell of rank liquid in their back yards. As generally occurs every summer, the slowing flow of San Lorenzo River has allowed a sand shoal to develop at the river's mouth, blocking its passage to the ocean. As a result, the river has risen to levels rivaling those of mid-winter floods, saturating the ground water in the neighborhood, built on land that was once (and apparently still is, in some ways) a marsh.

The effects of this mid-summer swelling have been more exaggerated than usual because the sand bar was not breached as it often is. Such breaching generally occurs sur-

reptitiously, under cover of night, as stiff penalties are levied upon those caught in the act. In late August this year, two surfers were cited by Fish and Game wardens for taking their shovels to the shoal so that they could get their surf break back. Last year, the sand bar was breached by a backhoe or bulldozer, sparking an FBI investigation into the matter. The case is still unsolved. In addition to providing a surf break for recreationists, the breaching of the shoal allows for the reclaiming of Main Beach, one of the Seaside Company's main attractions, a third of which might be otherwise inundated.

So, why all the fuss over a temporary matter of natural seasonal plumbing that happens to interfere with the human-engineered version? Because those seasonal changes are vital to the survival of steelhead trout, a federally listed endangered species. The lagoon, which naturally forms at the mouth of the river in summer, provides a place for the steelhead to slowly acclimate to the briny water before being eased by the river and tides into the ocean.

Populations of steelhead were decimated after

the Army Corps of Engineers built the river levee in the late 1950s, prodded by outcries from City residents in the wake of massive and destructive flooding in 1955. The banks on the last two miles of the river were denuded of plant life and replaced with concrete. Recent studies indicate that, rather than being killed off by pollution and sewage, the fish were threatened most by the river levee. The levee narrowed the river's watercourse, causing it to run more quickly, jettisoning fresh-water fish into the briny waters of Monterey Bay. The lack of tree shade left nowhere for the fish to lay their eggs and the annual dredging of the river tended to cover what eggs were laid. Of course, pollution and siltation from industries upstream didn't help, either.

This year, however, schools of fish are being seen in the river, with some fish measuring over one foot long, accompanied by shorebirds along riverbanks and in marshy areas. Even in the Lower Ocean neighborhood, one resident, who asked not to be named, admitted being happy about the flooding because it brought the wildlife out.

The next issue of The Alarm! will feature a focus on issues around water, so if you have thoughts to share on the story above or on water in general, send them to info@the-alarm.com.



FHAR MIESS/The Alarm! Newspaper

A city contractor's crew works to fix the neighborhood's draining.

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH.

Letter from an Editor

This month, October, is special for several reasons. For one it's fall. Halloween is almost here (the best holiday in my opinion). That means it's harvest time. Check out the calendar for a bunch of harvest-related festivities coming up this month. Also, it's Santa Cruz's 211th Birthday, don't forget to catch the fireworks on Sunday, October 10.

In the spirit of domestic violence (DV) awareness month, we have several articles relating to the issue. For some the problem is very real. In fact you may be thinking about putting this paper down now because you're sick and tired of hearing about what DV is, you're ready to erase it from your life past and present. Others, however, may not be aware of the significance and complexity of DV, in their own community. Like many things, it's easy to ignore (especially something so ugly) until it creeps into your own life, and some deny it's there even after that point. The statistics show that it is a huge problem in our county. And it's definitely not just a women's issue, it's a community's issue. It's a problem when women who are with violent men testify that batterers' treatment programs are ineffective and the men agree. It's a problem when our neighboring families are plagued by violence that is often invisible to us, but are afraid to ask for our help and support.

It's a problem when advocacy agencies have to exhaust their resources writing for grants because it is not a lack of need that might put them out of business, but a lack of funds that sustain them despite a mostly volunteer-based staff. DV is most definitely a problem for so many reasons.

In this issue we have a piece written by Celia Organista, the executive director of Women's Crisis Support/ Defensa de Mujeres, that explores the question: why do some women stay with their batterers? We have an article about the Battered Women's Task Force, a local grassroots coalition of DV survivors who work with other survivors in the process of getting safety and stability. We also have an article about a group working with young boys who have witnessed violence in their homes. I recommend reading on. And if you see folks wearing purple ribbons this month, it's for DV awareness solidarity. You can pick one up at the Walnut Avenue Women's Center (303 Walnut Ave.), or at Women's Crisis Support (1658 Soquel Dr.) or make your own. Also, contact them about ways you can help prevent DV in our community.

Okay, so this is my last plug, but it's going to be good. On the weekend of October 12-13, the Center for Hip Hop Education and *The Alarm! Newspaper* are teaming up to bring you THE HIP

HOP FILM FEST (see pages 12-13). We were fortunate to have folks from the Center for Hip Hop Education come down last June and screen the documentary *Straight Outta Hunters Point*. Well if you missed your chance to catch *Hunters Point* in June, it's back, with a hand full of indy-documentaries and some local and SF Bay Area performers giving some insight into hip hop culture and the hip hop community. It's rare that something like this makes its way down to Santa Cruz, and you're going to kick yourself if you let this one pass you by. Even if you don't consider yourself a hip hop fan, it can't hurt to learn something about such a prevalent sub-culture. So get on over to the Rio. You could be a sucker and buy a pass for each film (\$4-\$6 each), or you could get a \$20 pass that gets you into all of the films and all of the performances. In fact, if you or someone you know has talent and wants to perform either breakdancing, freestyling, spoken work, beatboxing, or DJing, give us a call (429-6397). We're looking to feature some local talent. We also hope to bring attention to some of the issues addressed in the films and how those issues play out in our own community. So check it out, and call us up, they'll be opportunities for tabling as well as performing and speaking.

Halie Johnson

Your Letters

Dear Alarm!,

I appreciate Fhar Miess' Letter from the Editor, Sept 20. I also came to Santa Cruz as a student, some 21 years ago. It tickled me then to realize how much influence the student body of UCSC, which tended to vote as a block, had on local politics. Today I see things quite differently. As a homeowner with a family, a business owner, a taxpayer, a parent volunteer, my commitment to the community (time and money spent as well as experience gained), dwarfs that of 21 years ago. My vote counts the same though.

On another topic, I was disappointed to read your Commentary on the Middle East, by Chris Kortwright. It's become popular among small people to pretend that Israel is a demon nation, colonized by illegitimate people from somewhere else. The Holocaust and the millions of Jewish refugees it created, the unwillingness of Arab nations to tolerate the existence of Israel, the endless waves of warfare and terror and boycott brought to bear by the many (Arab states) against the few (Israel), the hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees driven from Arab lands into Israel (equal in number to the Palestinian refugees who fled the nascent State of Israel during the 1948 Independence War) are overlooked in this immature and adolescent piece. Where did Jews come from, if not from Israel? The ancient nation state of Brooklyn? The kingdom of Mars?

I'll close with a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., August 1967, the *Saturday Review*. "You declare, my friend, that you do not hate the Jews, you're merely 'anti-Zionist.' And I say, let the truth ring forth from the high mountain tops, let it echo through the valleys of God's green earth: when people criticize Zionism they mean Jews—this is God's own truth."

ROBIN A. KOPIT
Santa Cruz

Dear Alarm!

At the start of the 21st century, with the American military once again preparing to drop bombs and kill thousands of Muslims to rid the world of another "evil one," perhaps we need to examine the federal government's glorification of Christopher Columbus. George Bush, Sr. once stated "Christopher Columbus not only opened the door to a New World, but also set an example for all of us."

Apart from being a heroic navigator what example did Columbus set for us once he landed on modern day Haiti?

On his second visit Columbus and his men took captive two thousand friendly local villagers who came to greet them. Once gold was discovered Columbus set up a tribute system and had the hands cut off of Taino Indians who did not collect enough gold dust. For minor offenses an Indian's nose or ears were cut off and Spaniards even hunted Indians for sport and murdered them for dog food.

As he began exporting the Taino as slaves, the sex-slave trade became an important part of the business, as Columbus wrote a friend in 1500: "A hundred *castelanoes* (coins) are as easily obtained for a woman as a farm, and it is very general and there are plenty of dealers who go about looking for these girls; those from nine to ten (years old) are now in demand."

Life for the Taino became so unbearable that, as Pedro de Cordoba wrote King Ferdinand in a 1517 letter, "As a result of the sufferings and

Write to Us!

All letters to the editor will be published, with the following guidelines:

1)

No letters over 350 words

2)

No commercial solicitation ("plugs")

3)

No event announcements or personal ads

4)

Letters to the editors must be sent "attn: Letters" via post or to letters@the-alarm.com via e-mail (we will assume that if you send letters to these addresses, you want them published—if you have general questions or comments, send them to info@the-alarm.com). We prefer e-mail.

5)


Letters received on paper by Tuesday at 5pm or via email by Wednesday at noon will be published the same week.

6)

We reserve the right to reply to any letters in print in the same issue.

7)

Play nice.



hard labor they endured, the Indians choose solo or mass suicide. The women, exhausted by labor, have shunned conception and childbirth. Others after delivery have killed their own children with their own hands, as not to leave them in such oppressive slavery."

Since the Taino did not make very good slaves, Columbus, and later his brother Bartholomew, simply resorted to wiping out the Taino altogether. Prior to Columbus' arrival most scholars place the native population at three million people. By 1516 the population was 12,000 and by 1555 not a single Taino was alive. The Taino culture, people and genes vanished from the planet.

Christopher Columbus' purpose from the beginning was not mere exploration or even trade, but conquest and exploitation. His actions are best understood as a bloody atrocity that left a legacy of genocide and slavery.

Rather than glorify a brutal European slave trader there is a growing movement to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. Let us celebrate the native peoples of the Old World who lived in harmony with the land long before Europeans 'discovered' America.

JEFFREE PIKE
Santa Cruz



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Through the use of strategic investigation and innovative analysis, we aspire to provide quality reporting on the news of Santa Cruz County as a means to inspire and engage individuals and the community at large. We strive to cover news that matters directly in peoples' lives. We are not interested strictly in local news, but wish to connect the local to regional, national and global issues.

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If you are interested in contributing an article to *The Alarm!*, please see the guidelines for submissions on our website.

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Freedom of speech demolished by new Caltrans ban on banners

Local Opinion



MEDIA FRENZY: At a local media event, activists display a banner much like the one that started the controversy in Fall 2001. Four media outlets turned out for the event along with a wealth of amateur shutter-bugs. Activists from the Bay Area hung banners in San Francisco in solidarity with those hung up and down Highway 1 and Highway 17.

By **PATRICK LETELLIER**
The Alarm! Newspaper Contributor

Last week, I hung an anti-war banner, "WAR IS TERRORISM," on the freeway overpass at 41st Avenue. A man from San Jose helped me, each of us holding it tight in the wind, using plastic fasteners to secure it to the fence for all the world to see—or at least all the traffic going south on Highway 1.

I felt particularly attached to this sign, among many others with equally provocative messages, because I painted this one myself. I spent a couple hours last Sunday in the parking lot behind the Resource Center for Non-Violence turning this white, thrift-store sheet into my own personal message against war.

Before hanging the sign, I attended a press conference led by two local anti-war and free-speech activists, Amy Courtney and Cassandra Brown. With

others' help, I held the sign in front of this and that camera, and this and that reporter, hoping it would appear on TV or in a news story.

The press conference was well organized, spirited and fun, quintessentially Santa Cruz, but I have to confess: all I wanted to do the whole time was get my sign on the freeway.

I realized then how hungry I am for messages in the media that reflect my opinion about this ever-expanding so-called war on terrorism: that it's patently unnecessary, unjust and immoral. That it's a war based more on election-year politics, a stubbornly reticent economy and corporate profit than it is on weapons of mass destruction, security in the Middle East or the exporting of democracy.

But opinions like mine, hardly revolutionary or radical, particularly when it comes to protesting a war, have been almost entirely absent in the media. In an era of flag-waving nationalism and

simplistic approaches to complex international problems ("You're either with us, or you're with the terrorists"), there is little room for serious discussions of peace. If you're against this war, you're likely to be labeled out of touch with reality, just plain stupid or anti-American.

This monolithic view paves the way to war without a vigorous and healthy debate, and leaves millions of peace-loving Americans without a voice in our national policy. In response, some of us have filled the streets in protest, in San Francisco, Washington DC, and other cities. Others, as was the case last week, have taken to the freeways.

Yet there seemed little room even for my freeway sign. We had only begun to hang it when a man in a pickup truck drove by screaming, cursing and gesturing wildly. I wondered if we were going to be assaulted. Countless other people "saluted" us in a similarly

obscene fashion, while others honked their horns in approval, smiling, waving and flashing us the peace sign (it's amazing what a difference one finger makes).

Eleven anti-war banners were hung that morning on freeways around Santa Cruz, but when I checked on some of them not an hour after hanging mine, three had already been taken down. So threatening are these messages of peace, and so vehement are the war's supporters, that motorists stopped and ripped them down.

Now Caltrans has announced that, for safety reasons, it will prohibit all signs on freeways across the state. Given the past year, in which thousands of pro-USA, pro-war signs and countless American flags have been posted on freeways without incident, Caltrans' reasoning is dubious at best. I can't help but wonder what has been deemed unsafe: the signs themselves or their message of dissent?

Freedom of speech sounds great in theory, but when the rubber meets the road, so to speak, it takes nerve to express a less-than-popular view. I will continue to make freeway signs, if only to remind people it's not only okay to speak out for peace, it's absolutely necessary. As necessary as any other freedom we enjoy in this country.



The Alarm! Newspaper

is looking for experienced writers to contribute news, commentary, and feature articles. We are especially interested in writers who can contribute stories in Spanish. *The Alarm!* pays 13 cents per printed word.

If you would like to be a regular contributor, please send a letter of interest and three writing samples to:

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SPOTLIGHT: Domestic Violence

The intricacies of domestic violence

By HALIE JOHNSON
The Alarm! Newspaper

Author's note: to protect the safety and anonymity of some of the domestic violence survivors I interview I have used pseudonyms where there is an asterisk.

"We live in a world where violence is seen as okay in intimate relationships. Our biggest challenge is the status quo," said Jennifer Rose, Director of Domestic Violence Services at the Walnut Avenue Women's Center. "I think we run up against statistics." Rose works with women and children who may have witnessed or experienced this abuse.

Celia Organista of Women's Crisis Support/Defensa de Mujeres feels that in some ways the statistics help dispel popular misconceptions about who is a batterer and who is battered. "The demographics of who we serve are parallel to the demographics of the community we're based in," she said she and others working around domestic violence (DV) prevention strive to teach the public that an individual's or a couple's economic status and race do not increase the likelihood of violence in their relationships. However, there is one factor that does appear to be a

large factor in violent relationships: gender.

According to US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the US Department of Health and Services 85% of reported DV victims are women, so most of the organizations that work around this issue assume the victim is female. The three local agencies that work the most with DV deal almost exclusively with female victims, Rose explained that working with male victims (other than adolescents and children) may jeopardize their clients' sense of security. For abused women, just having men around can be traumatic.

In 2000, local law enforcement in Santa Cruz County received 1,374 calls for assistance in "domestic disputes" and listed 1,213 cases of family violence where a weapon was involved [Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, 2001].

Violence in Intimate Relationships

A local woman, Colleen,* was battered by her husband to the point that he crippled her. "When we got married everything changed within weeks. I wasn't allowed to talk to anybody who was a female, and eventually no one at all. I couldn't listen to music, I couldn't open the curtains. I wasn't allowed to work." Colleen now has a restraining order against her ex, and said that every day she feels closer to leading a normal life, but still receives death threats from him.

"People in the community are just horrified by the idea," another community member, Claudia,* said about living with DV. "They can't help but try to rationalize what has happened by trying to figure out how it's your fault. I won't take any small bit of responsibility for his violence." Claudia left her husband, the father of her son, after several years of abuse, counseling, compromise, treatment programs, forgiveness and more abuse.

DV is multi-faceted. There is more to the violence than what lies at the surface—the bruises, the rage, the appearance of helplessness. The physical evidence is only one small part of violence. Violence in an intimate relationship is about control and power more than anything else, as any victims' advocate will explain.

Most batterers weave their way into the violence and domination through a subtle process that includes intimidation, isolation, insult and economic/decision-making control that leads to physical and/or sexual abuse. "It was at the point where I'd literally say, 'tell me what you want me to do to make you happy,' and I'd do it. If he wanted sex, I'd let him do it, just to keep him from getting angry," explained Claudia. Cat Ring of the local Battered Women's Task Force explained, "Batterers are extremely manipulative. They're as nice as they need to be to keep you from leaving, and as mean as they can be without losing you."

Why does she stay?

BY CELIA ORGANISTA
The Alarm! Newspaper Contributor

The question that causes the most frustration for those of us who work with victims of domestic violence is "Why does she stay?"

I will not attempt to give you a universal answer to this question. Each woman who is a victim has her own unique reasons for staying in the relationship or choosing to end it. Some of the barriers that influence a woman's decision include family pressure or expectations, religion, socio-economic status, level of education, immigration or legal issues. I believe there is one motivator that weaves its way through each woman's reasoning: fear.

Fear wears many faces. It could be fear of being killed. For many women in our society, this is a real threat. It is a reality we have witnessed several times in our own community. A battered woman can never assume that such a threat should not be taken seriously.

For many victims of domestic violence, there is the fear of not being able to support themselves and their children. We are all aware of how difficult it is for a single head of a household to support a family. We also know that women earn less than men do at almost all types of employment, and often have less education. Locally, we have the added element of living in one of the most expensive communities in this

country. Furthermore, a victim of domestic violence is often isolated, criticized and controlled to the point that she is more apt to doubt herself or has lost total confidence in any of her abilities.

In other cases it may be the fear of losing economic or social status. It is important to remember that domestic violence exists in all economic brackets and professional groups. Women who are victims in some

a point where she believes she will never be able to really be free of the situation.

We may ask, "How can she get to that point?" Ask any survivor of domestic violence and most will tell you it didn't happen overnight. Abuse is very subtle. Abuse may be emotional, verbal and/or physical. It may begin with criticism of how she looks, cooks, cleans, drives, rears children, the friends she chooses or

her sexual abilities. It usually includes a slow movement towards isolation of the victim. The subtle destruction of the victim's self esteem

and the separation from anyone who is close to her may begin as early as when the couple is dating. More and more we are doing work in the educational system with teenagers who are involved in dating relationships that have become abusive.

The separation of the victim from family and friends is a way the perpetrator maintains control over the partner. It becomes a situation where the victim cannot access her support system and becomes dependent solely on the partner/spouse. Constant criticism eventually destroys self-esteem, and isolation makes it almost impossible for a victim to find support or validation.

In the field of domestic violence

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder & Domestic Violence

People who witness and/or experience traumatic events often suffer from long-lasting effects. Many individuals who have been the victims of domestic violence or sexual assault exhibit symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

According to the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, some common problems caused by trauma include:

- 1) *Fear and anxiety.* Often triggered or cued by any situation that reminds you of the trauma.
- 2) *Re-experiencing the trauma.* Unwanted thoughts of the trauma, flashbacks and nightmares are also common. Symptoms occur because a traumatic experience is so different from everyday life that you can't fit it into what you know about the world. Trying to understand what happened, your mind keeps bringing the memory back as if to better digest it.
- 3) *Increased physical sensitivity.* Includes feeling jumpy, jittery, shaky, being easily startled and having trouble concentrating or sleeping. Continuous excitement can also lead to impatience and irritability. People who have been traumatized often see the world as filled with danger so their bodies are on constant alert, always ready to respond immediately. Another common reaction to danger is to freeze.
- 4) *Avoidance.* One common reaction is to avoid situations that remind you of the trauma. Trauma can lead to feelings of numbness, where you find it difficult to have either fearful or pleasant feelings.
- 5) *Anger and irritability.* Anger can arise from a feeling that the world is not fair.
- 6) *Guilt and shame.* People blame themselves for things they did or didn't do during a traumatic event. Some survivors believe they should have fought off an assailant, and blame themselves for letting the attack happen. You might feel ashamed because during the trauma you acted in ways that you would not otherwise. To make matters worse, sometimes others blame you for the trauma. Victim-blaming is common in domestic violence. The aggressor will accuse the victim of provoking the violence by doing something wrong, or outside observers will blame the victim for allowing her/his children and self to be injured or to witness the violence. Self-blame is also fed by family, friends, media and the community who feel the need to rationalize the violence by assigning responsibility to the victim. While taking responsibility for an attack may make you feel more in control, it can also lead to feelings of helplessness and depression.
- 7) *Grief and depression.* Symptoms can include feeling down, sad, hopeless or despairing, as well as crying more often and losing interest in activities you used to enjoy. You may also feel that plans you had for the future don't seem to matter anymore, or life isn't worth living.
- 8) *Self-image and views of the world often become negative after the trauma.* It is also common to see others more negatively and feel that you can't trust anyone. Relationships with others can become tense and it is difficult to become intimate with people as your trust decreases.
- 9) *Sexual relationships may also suffer.* This is especially true for those who have been sexually assaulted, since in addition to the lack of trust, sex itself is a reminder of the assault.
- 10) *Some people increase their use of alcohol and other substances after trauma.*

For more information visit www.ncptsd.org or call the PTSD Information Line at (802)296-6300 or send email to ncptsd@ncptsd.org.

Go see WHY on Page 18

¿Porqué no lo deja?

Por CELIA ORGANISTA
Traducido por ALFONSO TOVAR
Colaborador del Semanario ¡La Alarma!

La pregunta que causa una de las mayores frustraciones para todos aquellos que trabajamos con víctimas de la violencia doméstica es, ¿Porqué no lo deja?

No intentaré ofrecer una respuesta universal a esta pregunta. Cada mujer que sufre de la violencia doméstica tiene sus razones particulares para permanecer en la relación o para decidir terminarla. Algunas de las barreras que influyen la decisión de una mujer incluyen la presión o expectativas familiares, motivos religiosos, estatus socio-económico, migratorio, nivel de educación y/o preocupaciones legales.

Yo creo, sin embargo, que dentro de todo también existe una razón firmemente incrustada en el pensamiento de cada mujer: el temor.

El temor tiene diferentes facetas, e incluso el temor a ser asesinada. Para muchas mujeres en nuestra sociedad, esto es una amenaza real. Es una realidad que hemos atestiguado muchas veces en nuestra propia comunidad. Una mujer golpeada no puede asumir que tal riesgo no debe tomarse con seriedad.

Para muchas víctimas de la violencia doméstica existe el temor de no ser capaces de sostenerse económicamente, y no poder mantener a sus hijos. Todos somos concientes de lo difícil que es para un solo padre de familia el sostener a la misma. También es hecho conocido que las mujeres ganan menos que los hombres en casi todo tipo de empleos y con frecuencia cuentan con menos educación que los hombres. Localmente, la situación puede agudizarse si consideramos que vivimos en una de las comunidades mas caras de este país.

Además, una víctima de la violencia domestica es con frecuencia aislada y criticada al punto de hacerla vulnerable a dudar de ella misma o a perder la confianza en cualquiera de sus habilidades. Es importante recordar que la violencia doméstica se da en todos los niveles económicos y profesionales. En ciertos grupos, las mujeres que llegan a ser víctimas de la violencia doméstica pueden experimentar el agravio adicional de creer que no es posible escapar de esta situación, pues el perpetrador puede contar con mayores recursos económicos como para enturbiar la credibilidad de su historia, arrebatar a sus hijos o presentar obstáculos legales.

Para cualquiera que enfrenta la decisión de terminar una relacion, es natural (AGAIN, what is “natural”??) el experimentar el temor de la soledad. Esto puede influir en la decisión que toma una mujer golpeada.

Muchas mujeres experimentan el temor y la realidad de ser acosadas incluso después de que ya han dejado la relación. Con mucha frecuencia, la mujer intenta escapar a la situación para encontrar que el perpetrador continua persiguiendo, hotigando, acechando o incluso amenazándola hasta que finalmente ella regresa. Algunas veces la mujer decide regresar porque el golpeador le ha prometido que las cosas cambiarán, porque ha encontrado muchas barreras para continuar con su vida por si misma, o porque tiene la preocupación de que la situación puede

empeorar si no lo hace. Se puede incluso alcanzar un punto en el que ella misma cree que no habrá manera posible de liberarse de esta dinámica.

Podríamos preguntar, “¿Cómo es que se llega hasta ese punto?” Pregunte a cualquier sobreviviente de la violencia doméstica y la mayoría responderán que nada ocurrió de la noche a la mañana. El abuso puede ser sutil. El abuso puede ser emocional, verbal y/o

“ No tenemos el poder de cambiar la vida de nadie, pero podemos ofrecerles comprensión y apoyo ”

físico. Puede iniciar con críticas acerca de la apariencia fisica de la mujer, de cómo cocina, como limpia, conduce, educa a los niños, las amigas y amigos que ella tiene, o sus habilidades sexuales. Usualmente se va generando un lento aislamiento de la víctima. La sutil destrucción de la auto-estima de la víctima y la separación de cualquiera con los que ella es cercana puede iniciar a tan temprana etapa como el noviazgo mismo. Cada vez estamos haciendo más trabajo en el sistema educativo, con adolescentes que ya estan involucrados en relaciones que comienzan a ser abusivas.

La separación de la mujer de la familia y amigos es una manera con la cual el perpetrador mantiene control sobre su pareja. Sobreviene una situación en el que la potencial víctima carece de acceso a la red social que podría

brindarle apoyo y comienza a depender unicamente en su pareja o conyuge. El criticismo constante eventualmente destruye la autoestima, y el aislamiento hace casi imposible el encontrar apoyo o reconocimiento.

En el terreno de la violencia doméstica siempre hablamos mucho de lo que se conoce como el “Ciclo de Violencia”. Este ciclo inicia con un periodo de “tensión en crescendo”, donde el golpeador hace amenazas y la víctima prevé algún tipo de abuso. El “estallido” sigue a la fase de tensión, cuando la violencia alcanza su clímax. Ya sea que la violencia sea fisica, emocional, verbal o sexual, el “estallido” significa la creencia del golpeador de que él tiene derechos de cualquier naturaleza sobre la mujer. Después del estallido de violencia sobreviene una etapa de “calma”, cuando el golpeador tiende a disculparse y prometer no volver a abusar nuevamente.

Uno de los momentos de mayor confusión para la mujer puede ocurrir después de que el estallido de violencia ha concluido. Aunque algunas mujeres nunca experimentan la etapa de calma, un buen número de ellas deciden que quieren terminar la relación con su pareja después del estallido, pero son persuadidas de tomar tal acción por las promesas del golpeador de un mejor futuro.

Vea **PORQUÉ** en la **Página 19**

EN LA MIRA: Violencia Doméstica

My Story of Domestic Violence

By PATRICK LETELLIER
The Alarm! Newspaper Collective

When I met Stephen, I had no idea he was abusive. Handsome and witty, he was a proud 25 year-old gay man writing his Ph.D. thesis. He swam every day, wrote poetry and was a great kisser. None of those things spelled abuse to me.

Honestly, the first time I kissed him I saw stars. We walked into his office at school, closed the door and embraced in a passionate kiss that left my head swimming. I was hooked.

He was sweet, attentive and so much fun. We talked a lot and made love even more. He was a great partner.

Unfortunately, that was only half the picture. Like most abusers, he kept reins on his violence until the relationship was secure. And his violence began slowly, gradually becoming more frequent and severe.

The first abusive thing he did was grab me by the shoulders during an argument and shake me. I didn't even think of that as violence then. But

when I look back over all the incidents, I remember that argument when he crossed the line for the first time. I wish I'd known then to leave and never return.

A couple months later, he punched me in the stomach. Then he dropped to his knees and wept. I had no idea why he was crying. I was mad he'd hit me, but mostly confused. "Don't worry," I told him, "we'll work it out."

The violence got much worse. He punched, kicked and slapped me—always during arguments, always with the excuse "you provoked me." Once he shoved me into a wall so hard the wall broke. Another time he tore up my things: letter, pictures, even clothes.

Now I was afraid of him, but unsure how to proceed. I knew getting away would not be easy, and I still hoped the violence would stop. I wanted him to become again the wonderful boyfriend he'd been at first.

I held onto the illusion that the violence was caused by some external stress: an argument with me, financial woes, anything. I was wrong. The problem with violence was a problem with him, not any outside force.

I left many times. But I was isolated and had nowhere to turn.

When I left he'd track me down and beat me even worse. Leaving was more dangerous than staying.

Finally I fled thousands of miles to San Francisco. I called to say I never wanted to see him again. But I underestimated him. He told me, calmly, he was coming to San Francisco, and I could either meet him at the airport or he would hunt me down and make my life hell.

He threatened to hurt my brother and his wife, whom I was living with. He threatened to come to the restaurant where I worked and turn over every table. He threatened to break every bone in my body.

I met him at the airport.

There was no violence for months. But the day we signed the lease on our apartment he beat me senseless.

The violence was now life threatening. I fought back a lot, but one punch from me meant a tornado of violence in return. He would choke me and bang my head into the floor. Once he tackled me on a sidewalk and pounded my head into the concrete. I thought I'd die there.

There were sexual assaults and lots of psychological abuse. He criticized everything I did and said. Everything.

I was bewildered, frightened and had no idea how to get away. "If you try to leave me I'll hunt you down and kill you," he'd say. I knew he could.

One day I saw a flyer: "Does the hand that holds you in public strike you in private? Gay Domestic Violence." I called for help.

The counselor helped me make an escape plan, and the next day I escaped. When Steven attacked, I climbed out the living room window and ran down a fire escape. I ran for my life through the streets of San Francisco. I never went back.

I hid in the apartment of an acquaintance for four months. I got a restraining order. I filed police reports. I began putting my life back together.

Steven stalked me for three more years, but I was not deterred. I wrote a book about gay domestic violence, got a counseling degree and for ten years counseled victims of battering. I do not want anyone to go through what I did.

Today I have a wonderful partner, and we've been together for four years. I'm amazed at what a gentle soul he is. Occasionally, I think I see Steven on the street: I get very still and ready to run. But he has not bothered me for years, and I believe the ordeal is over.

Patrick Letellier is co-author of the book Men Who Beat The Men Who Love Them: Battered Gay Men and Domestic Violence. He lives in Soquel, and can be reached at PatrickGL@aol.com.

“ Like most abusers, he kept reins on his violence until the relationship was secure. ”

SPOTLIGHT: Domestic Violence

Learning in the community

Local student uses Santa Cruz as his classroom

This interview was conducted by The Alarm!’s Fhar Miess with Lynz Floren, a UC Santa Cruz Community Studies student doing a field study at a local agency dealing with domestic violence.

Alarm!: What would you say are the major gaps, what’s most important, what do men need to be getting involved with?

Lynz Floren: I think it would be important to educate men that it’s not a women’s issue, it’s more of a human issue. As long as gender-based violence exists, we’re going to keep losing millions and millions of dollars in the health care system, another few million in our courts and jails and through all the legal systems as well because we’re fighting something that is so pervasive and of epidemic proportions. A lot of men don’t look at it—don’t even acknowledge it. There are men who do, they just don’t live around here.

I’m sure there are men who live around here who do, too, they just aren’t organized. The Oakland Men’s Project is doing amazing work, like going into junior high schools and talking to junior high students about violence, and talking to them about what makes them feel violent and how can they prevent it, and why would they prevent it and helping them understand and speaking to them as adults. I think that’s amazing work. Those are future batterers and victims if we don’t do something about it.

A!: What has been your experience and your frustration in trying to work with other men around these issues?

LF: I’m currently a UCSC student and I tried to start a chapter of the National Organization of Men Against Sexism (NOMAS) at UCSC and six people showed up to our first meeting. We wanted to keep going, but when the energy’s that small, it’s really tough to continue, it’s really tough to know where to start. Because where you start is pretty much as far as you go if you’ve only got that many people. It could go somewhere, but it’s slow, and in Santa Cruz specifically it’s hard to convince anyone to do anything besides what they normally do with their time. But especially with an issue that’s self-challenging as well, where you need to look at your own prejudices, your own power and privilege as a man. While it may not be right, that institution is there. It’s really hard. There’s not enough collaborative work. I think what needs to happen is for people, whatever organizations they’re in, whatever group they go to, need to be talking about it [gender-based violence]. 20 years ago people didn’t talk about rape, now it’s a common topic, it’s addressed, so that the issues are brought to light. They still aren’t talking about it in terms of power and control like they should in the media, but it’s addressed. I think that’s where domestic violence needs to be, sooner, so that we’re not losing millions of women’s lives and sending thousands of men to jail where they just learn to be better criminals.

A!: Have you found that you’ve gotten a lot of support for the work

you’re doing?

LF: I think a lot of people say that it’s great work. A lot of people give verbal support and that’s nice to hear. But when there’s verbal support there’s not a lot of follow-through. I think part of it, I’ll admit, is that I get distracted and demotivated and so I don’t continue my efforts as much as I could, because of school or other things. So in some ways I’m not as persistent as I could be and so I don’t get as much support as I could because I’m not seeking it. But in general, people aren’t jumping on the bandwagon—there’s not much of a bandwagon to jump on.

A!: How did you get involved with domestic violence work?

LF: I became involved sort of by accident. At school I was taking classes on feminist thought and I took one class called “Men and Feminisms” and we looked at the ways that men have power and privilege and we talked about ways that men can make a difference in the movement—some women are into that, some aren’t. I just thought, ok, well I have this systematic privilege, no matter what I do. I can’t shake it. It’s there, the system is going to give me that power and privilege, so why not use it to gain the ear of people who may not listen to the radical feminists? So I don’t know what happened, it all just clicked and I said “I just need to do something, this isn’t something to just sit around and let continue happening.” I learned more about domestic violence. I’m doing a field study with [a local agency dealing with domestic violence], and the more I learned, the more I realized this is an issue that will be important to me for the rest of my life because I see the effects of it in the work I’m doing. Learning about it and learning that a woman who has been battered will never forget that experience. I have the advantage of being able to, but I don’t want to, I think it’s more important to change it so that more people don’t have to endure it.

A!: What’s been most rewarding about this kind of work for you?

LF: On the surface, it’s not very rewarding. What’s rewarding is when you see the tiny little things showing that someone heard you. It’s not really very tangible, and I think that’s why a lot of people don’t get involved, because there’s no tangible reward. There’s a lot to be gained from working on these issues and I may see it in years, not days or weeks. I think what’ll happen is I’ll look back over it and think, wow, this has been a great experience for me, but it may not show itself so early.

A!: How do you feel that it has effected your interpersonal relationships?

LF: It makes me very conscious of how I treat people because it’s part of getting rid of any sort macho feeling whatsoever. So when I find myself in public, dealing with something like road-rage, when I get frustrated with cars, I find myself becoming more calm. Because flipping someone off or honking at them or making gestures of any kind just perpetuates the more violent aspects of our society in some way. All violence is linked, so I see myself trying to consciously address violence in all areas.

Wise Guys get at the roots of domestic violence

By HALIE JOHNSON

The Alarm! Newspaper Collective

In the year 2000, 1,044 children ages 0–17 were reported to have witnessed domestic violence in Santa Cruz County. The Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project stated “Exposure to domestic violence is linked to increased aggressiveness, emotional problems such as depression and anxiety, lower levels of social competence and poorer academic performance in children. For these reasons, many therapists view exposure to domestic violence as a form of child abuse.”

“Violence does not drop out of the sky. It is part of a long developmental process that begins in early childhood...at home” according to an excerpt from a study by the American Psychological Association stated. The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs showed that in 1997 81% of men who batter had fathers who abused their mothers.

Where can boys unlearn these patterns of aggression and work to change the statistics? There is one group of individuals in Santa Cruz who are addressing this concern with young men every week.

“Wise Guys” is an education and support group that works with boys between the ages of 8–15 who are living with or have witnessed domestic violence. The group has been around for just over a year.

According to Nicolas Gee, one of the group’s facilitators and a founding member, the group’s curriculum looks at how to deal with issues from control and anger to sadness and confusion. “We’ve looked at identity, self esteem, confidence and respect,” Gee said. “We spent four months looking at non-verbal communication. Now we’re moving on to harder topics,” he added.



Generally the group consists of up to four facilitators and anywhere from two to ten boys. Gee explained some of the challenges to such a group: “It’s been difficult to maintain a consistent number of participants. The boys are going through a lot in life.”

The facilitators of Wise Guys never have a set agenda for the two hours they are in session. They feel it is important to leave space for the group to take any direction necessary. “It’s really important that the group belongs to all of us, not only the facilitators,” said Gee. There aren’t rules, instead there’s an agreement that everyone drafts together and commits to follow. “The boys are getting better at calling each other on breaking our agreement. They’ll even call the facilitators out if we interrupt someone, for example,” Gee went on to say. “It’s important that we all have control together.”

Future plans for Wise Guys include making an outreach video and tabling at Loudon Nelson in October (domestic violence awareness month). According to Gee, upcoming activities aim “to create a group of boys that feel connected to their community.”

Wise Guys meets weekly from 7–9 PM at the Walnut Avenue Women’s Center, 303 Walnut Avenue, Santa Cruz. Please call 426-3062 with questions and for information about one-on-one mentoring. Wise Guys welcomes new members.

This space is set aside each for youth voice and perspective. Entries written in English or Spanish accepted.
Send your query to: queries@the-alarm.com.

For more info call Halie at 429-NEWS.
Or email youth@the-alarm.com.

How to be an ally to someone who is in or recovering from an abusive relationship

- 1) Believe it when someone tells you they’ve been abused. One domestic violence survivor advised “realize that no one would put themselves through all this for no reason: the courts, the restraining order, a divorce, no one would go to all that trouble for the fun of it.”
- 2) Volunteer your time at a local domestic violence service agency.
- 3) Offer patience and support. Celia Organista, executive director of Women’s Crisis Support and Defensa de las Mujeres said “You can’t give up on them. Friends’ egos get caught up in the process of wanting to fix things.” She added, “You can’t push expectations on her. As bad as a relationship may be, there may be something in that relationship that she needs to exhaust before she’s ready to move on.” Organista explained that by pushing expectations on someone you’re reinforcing that person’s insecurities about being able to make the best decision for herself.
- 4) Donate clothing, appliances, money, etc. to help families who access services at local domestic violence advocacy agencies. “I got donations one Christmas when we didn’t have any money from the Women’s Center,” said Claudia. “They weren’t much but it meant a whole lot to me.”
- 5) Be a good friend and listener.
- 6) Volunteer to help an individual struggling with domestic violence. Consistency and dedication are invaluable to someone in crisis.

In Retrospect

Family Violence in Early Santa Cruz

By BLAIZE WILKINSON

The Alarm! Newspaper Columnist

We tend to think that societal concern about the prevalence of family violence is a product of the modern age. It is certainly true that feminist movements in the late 1960s and early 1970s brought domestic violence out of the closet. According to historian Elizabeth Pleck in her book *Domestic Tyranny: The Making of American Social Policy against Family Violence from Colonial Times to the Present* (Oxford UP, 1987) the rise of psychoanalysis in the early part of the 20th century had changed the way domestic violence was thought of. Therapists sought explanations in individual unconscious motivations—such as masochism and the Oedipus complex—rather than in larger social trends of power and misogyny.

However, this 20th century trend does not mean that domestic violence was invisible before the rise of psychoanalysis. In fact, according to Pleck, social concern about domestic violence was more widespread in the 19th century than in most of the 20th. The “discovery” of domestic violence in the 1960s and 70s was in fact a rediscovery, though the new focus had a different set of explanations to offer.

In the 19th century, US suffragist and temperance movements would sometimes champion female independence from male domination and control in marriage. For the temperance reformers, drunkenness was often seen as the sole cause of marital violence. Some reformers championed the right of women to divorce their drunken violent husbands. These reformers saw divorce as a way to preserve the family, to protect the dutiful mother and her children.

Early Santa Cruz, as you would imagine, had its own history of family violence. While not prominent in the local papers, family violence did make an appearance in several cases, the most tragic and sensational being that of James M. Neary, Jr., who in 1893 was convicted of stabbing his wife to death.

James M. Neary, Jr. was the cousin of the famous “Neary Boys,” Patrick, Martin and James, who came to Santa Cruz from Ireland and left their family name on Neary Lagoon, the Neary Building downtown and the Neary-Rodriguez adobe at the Mission State Historic Park. Cousin James Jr. had worked as a tanner under R. O. Kirby, and was, according to the *Santa Cruz Surf*, “an old and respected resident...held in high esteem by all his neighbors” (August 16, 1893).

In the first day of coverage, the paper described the murder as the “unfortunate ending of a quarrel” (August 16). “Summoned by the children of the family,” neighbors came to the Neary house on Soquel Avenue “and found Mrs. Neary cold in death [from a knife wound], and Mr. Neary suffering extreme mental anguish, throwing his arms wildly

about and muttering incoherent speeches.” Mr. Neary claimed his wife’s death was an accident: “In answer to a question from [a neighbor] as to the cause of his wife’s death, Neary stated that she was sitting at the kitchen table, that he threw the knife, on to the table with such force that it bounced off and struck her.” Later, Mr. Neary told the sheriff that “he and his wife had had a quarrel, and becoming angry he threw the knife.”

As if the death of Mrs. Neary—and the discovery of the murder by her own children—were not in themselves tragic enough, the paper noted a particularly gruesome detail in its first day of coverage: “When a *Surf* representative visited the place he found that the floor, which had been covered with the unfortunate woman’s blood, had been scrubbed with water and dried with a child’s dress, which was afterwards found lying in the yard....A little girl, Agnes, the 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Neary said that she washed the blood from the floor.”

The August 17 *Surf* described the results of the coroner’s inquest, and said that the autopsy “effectually disposed of the claim that the killing was the result of accident, as the knife entered the groin and penetrated upward the full length of the blade.” The paper later noted that “The point and edge of the weapon were extremely dull.” While the *Surf* didn’t explicitly say so, the mention of the knife’s dullness certainly suggested the Mr. Neary had to use a lot of force to stab his wife to death with such a weapon.

In the opening day of the trial, Neary was charged with “willfully, maliciously and with malice aforethought killing and murdering one Catherine Neary, a human being” (October 24). The defendant refused to answer the charge, so the court entered a not guilty plea on his behalf. “During the reading of the indictment...the defendant sat with bowed head and signs of deepest anguish on his countenance.”

One woman neighbor had claimed that “[the Nearys] had had no quarrel” on the evening of the murder. Charles Martin said “he had been a neighbor of the Nearys for eleven or twelve years and had never known them to quarrel” (August 17). Yet, in the opening statement of the trial, the prosecution claimed “we expect to prove that the domestic life of the defendant and his wife was an unhappy one; that they had quarrels and did not get along well together, and that the defendant had threatened the life of his wife sometime before the killing” (October 24). If the prosecution was correct, then the tension in the Neary household—like the tension in most unhappy homes—had been private, hidden from the outside world. We might wonder where the report of the strained and violent domestic life of the Nearys came from. Perhaps Agnes, who had taken it upon herself to clean up the blood that poured from her mother’s dying body, had

told the court of the family’s secret sorrow.

In a reflection of 19th century ideas on the origin of family violence, the *Surf* several times made mention of Mr. Neary’s relationship to alcohol. On the first day, the paper noted that “Neary is known as a steady, hard working man and as one that seldom indulges in the use of intoxicating liquors” (August 16). In the opening statement of the trial, the prosecution claimed that, as Neary was going into town to give himself up to the sheriff, “he stopped at a saloon and got a glass of whisky and a cigar” (October 24). Such an act, especially at such a moment (just after he had killed his wife), would certainly put Mr. Neary in a very bad light. Many of Mr. Neary’s peers were probably convinced of a direct correlation between liquor consumption and wife abuse, and Neary’s reliance on spirits would reflect poorly on his character and his claim of an accident.

The *Surf* continued its coverage of the Neary case, describing in detail the selection of the jury and the trial. The case was widely followed, with a large crowd appearing at the court house every day, even for jury selection. Feelings about Mr. Neary were not all negative. When the defense attorney gave his closing argument “a great many of the more tender-hearted women [in the audience] indulged in a little cry, and as the speaker drew a most pathetic picture



of the result of a conviction on the defendant’s family, Mr. Neary broke down and burying his face behind the head of his little boy, wept like a child” (October 30).

Neary was convicted of second-degree murder and sent to San Quentin for 14 years. We will never know what really happened in the Neary house that night. Mrs. Neary was dead; Mr. Neary continued to claim his innocence. If the case were to occur today, we might expect the newspaper coverage to include an editorial on the causes of domestic violence, or a sidebar on the warning signs of potential trouble in a relationship, along with phone numbers for assistance hotlines and battered women shelters. But one thing about the case seems very modern to me: if, as the prosecution claimed, the Neary relationship was a troubled one, those troubles were invisible to the neighbors. I think that domestic violence, despite our current focus on it, remains, for the most part, invisible.

Battered Women’s Task Force

Survivors of Domestic Violence Provide Grassroots Support

A good listener can make a world of difference for victims of childhood abuse and domestic violence, according to Carol Casey of the Walnut Avenue Women’s Center.

The Battered Women’s Task Force (BWTF), a grassroots collective of women who have survived domestic abuse, has created a place where women can support each other as they go through the process of getting out of abusive relationships and begin healing. The task force facilitates weekly support groups for battered women in Santa Cruz and Ben Lomond.

“We’re here to listen and support you,” said Casey, a leader in the task force collective and a support group facilitator.

The group allows time for each participant to share something about her experience as a victim of childhood and/or domestic abuse. “We try to make the support group self-empowering,” Casey explained. “In abusive relationships, the abuser often fo-

cuses on his/her partner’s weaknesses, but we help them to focus on their strengths.”

All of the group’s facilitators are either survivors of domestic violence or have gone through an intensive training program, according to Casey.

Participants often gain confidence and realize they can be successful in their own lives, she added. “After you come to the group for a while, you may feel empowered to become a facilitator or go on to other successful endeavors,” Casey said.

The program is free, and women are welcome to drop in on any of the support groups.

According to Cat Ring, a member of the BWTF, the BWTF is different from other support groups because it works to help victims find the courage to stop blaming themselves. “People have a need to blame the victim,” Ring said. “Domestic violence is not her fault.”

The Santa Cruz support group meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday night at the Walnut Avenue Women’s Center, 303 Walnut Ave. The Ben Lomond group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Monday night at Mountain Community Resources, 231 North Main. The BWTF also facilitates lunchtime support groups on Mondays and Fridays from 12 to 1. Free childcare is available for participants in all of the groups. For more information, call (831) 426-3062. —R.S.

IMF, World Bank—a year in review

By SHAWN GAYNOR

Asheville Global Report/Dry-Erase Newswire

Asheville, NC, (AGR)—Last fall, in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank canceled their annual fall meetings in Washington, DC. The world's largest lending institutions, with a combined portfolio of over \$300 billion, had been embattled in the "developed" world for three years, after an upswing in the anti-corporate globalization movement in the wake of the 1999 Seattle protests against the World Trade Organization. Their meeting, scheduled to take place in Barcelona, Spain in June 2001, had been canceled for fear of massive protests and unrest.

No one can know what would have taken place if the meetings had not been canceled, but it was clear the Bank's opponents had geared up for a massive demonstration that may well have eclipsed—in both scale and outrage—the previous anti-corporate globalization protests in North America.

The IMF and World Bank were created in 1946 during the post-World War II era. Though they were conceived as institutions for the rebuilding of post-war Europe, the massive Marshall Plan filled this financial niche, and the newly-created Bretton Woods institutions looked to the poor nations of the world to promote the new Truman "development model," and to act as a project to soften the harsh effects of industrial capitalism on these nations in order to counter the Soviet model of economics.

This new development model held that, through loans and aid, underdeveloped nations could overcome the trappings of colonial economics and industrialize. Furthermore, it sought through this industrialization a general rise in the standard of living throughout the impoverished areas of the world.

This model produced modest success in some of the countries receiving loans and aid, especially in cases where a developing nation combined foreign help with market protections through tariffs. However, by the early 1980s a new model of global economics was emerging—Neo-Liberalism. This model held

that rather than foreign aid, the future profits of exports alone would lift the Third World from poverty. This would be accomplished with a worldwide reduction of tariffs, which would encourage product exports around the world.

It is unclear whether this shift in economic policy was due to an honest belief in its ability to succeed, or was a way to ratchet up profits and cut foreign aid now that the Soviet threat to capitalism was weakening.

What is clear, though, is that many World Bank-funded projects—through scale, mismanagement or corruption—have failed to generate the future projected profits on which the credit was extended. This failure caused a deep crisis in the nations with large loan payments, and created a dilemma: default on loan payments and face the abandonment of First World investors, or raise more funds toward the debt payments. With budgets already tight in these impoverished nations, funds could only be raised in two primary ways; cut social spending in health, education and welfare, and/or sell

integrate anti-globalization and anti-war messages without shattering the coalitions that made the anti-globalization movement possible, the IMF and World Bank have continued unimpeded in their domination of Third World economics.

What follows is a summary of some examples of World Bank and IMF actions since their missed meeting last year, and international reaction to these policies.

Oil

The US is the main investor in and therefore influence upon the World Bank and IMF. With the current ruling party deeply dependent on the energy lobby, oil exploration and pipelines have been at the forefront of some large World Bank programs this year.

In Ecuador, the OCP pipeline, which will carry heavy crude from the Amazon region to the coast, has been the cause of much friction between the people of Ecuador, their government and the IMF. Negotiators for the IMF, which will fund the projects have demanded that all

of revenue. As water rights have fallen out of municipal and national hands and into the hands of large multinationals, water prices in these countries have soared.

In Bolivia, which was forced by the IMF to privatize its water in 2000, water was re-nationalized this year. Massive unrest had followed the privatization, as water costs had increased to one-fifth of a person's average earnings. A general strike followed. The International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), a branch of the World Bank, has ruled that Bolivia (one of the world's poorest countries) must pay \$25 million in damages for breaching its 40-year water contract.

In Ghana, water privatization plans under the World Bank are being developed. The plans call for the country to be divided into two water regions, with the water rights to be sold to the highest bidder. This plan would eliminate the current government process of charging wealthy families more for water in order to subsidize water to poor districts. The plan also calls for the Ghanaian government to take responsibility for subsidizing the water companies if they raise prices beyond what poor customers can afford, jeopardizing any financial gains in selling the rights. It is estimated that water prices could climb 300% due to the deal. International consulting firms that have endorsed the deal are all being paid by the World Bank, with the poor nation of Ghana unable to hire their own consultants.

Africa

For several years activists in Africa and in the First World have been calling for debt relief, mainly the cancellation of World Bank loan repayment, for the nations of sub-Saharan Africa. Though the principal of the loans to these nations has largely been repaid, interest payments on the loans continue to cripple Africa's ability to deal with massive issues of poverty and hunger. The annual interest payments on foreign debt in sub-Saharan Africa is currently estimated at just under \$15 billion per year. While in the First World this is not viewed as very much money (the 2003 US defense budget increases spending by \$24 billion), in these countries payment of the debts has had a crippling effect on agriculture and health.

The main crisis faced in sub-Saharan Africa is AIDS. Many countries in that region now have adult AIDS rates at over one-third of the adult population. Maintenance on their World Bank debts has prevented these countries from addressing the epidemic, because Structural Adjustment Programs have gutted national health care budgets throughout the region.

Many of these countries have seen agricultural exports of cash crops as a major method in meeting debt payments over the years. Instead of competing with First World (particularly US) subsidized grains and staple foods, these nations have encouraged the planting of coffee, chocolate, cotton and other cash crops in their most fertile land. Two major problems have ensued from this choice. The first is that the projected profits of these crops have not been real-

Go see IMF on Page 9

“While the Bank’s opponents in the US have spent a year trying to integrate anti-globalization and anti-war messages...the IMF and World Bank have continued unimpeded in their domination of Third World economics.”

(privatize) state-owned ventures like schools, rail lines, water and power.

As these waves of financial crises spread, the IMF stepped in to make the choice for the Third World debtor nations. In order to receive the capital with which to ease the financial crisis—and make loan payments—the IMF demanded, that programs of “structural adjustment” be enacted as a stipulation of emergency loans (to be used for interest payments on World Bank development loans). The structural adjustments favored privatization, and prohibited or reduced spending on domestic social programs.

While the Bank's opponents in the US have spent a year trying to

revenues from the new pipeline go toward servicing that nation's foreign debt. However, the Ecuadorian Congress has stipulated that 10% of revenues must go toward social spending. This small demand has held up funding of the project, which is reportedly between \$240 and \$900 million. Bank officials, who this spring stated that the 10% social spending was the major obstacle of the project, have now turned down the project over “environmental and social concerns.”

Oil has also been on the top of the World Bank's agenda in the Sudan, Chad and Nigeria, where tensions between poor populations and wealthy investment banks have run high. In Sudan, a vast de-population campaign has been underway to forcibly remove residents from oil exploration areas to clear the way for development.

Water

Increasing pressures on the world's supply of fresh and unpolluted water have caused massive competition for the dwindling resource. The IMF, through its structural adjustment programs, has encouraged and in some cases forced privatization of water. According to Vandana Shiva's book *Water Wars*, “out of 40 IMF loans...in 2000, TWELVE had requirements for partial or full privatization of water supplies.”

Multinationals such as the US-based Bechtel and Monsanto have invested heavily in the privatization of water, seeing it as a vast new area



Photo courtesy of Devin Asch

Protests in Quebec, Canada in April 2001.



Photo courtesy of DC indy media

Washington DC, September 2002. In a protest of over 2,000 people, police arrest nearly 700. Along with anti-globalization activists, reporters from major media outlets were also haulted in by DC police.

ized, due largely to overproduction and falling worldwide prices. The second impact has been a reduction in these nations’ abilities to feed their populations. In the 1980s, during the great famine that took place in Ethiopia, land that had traditionally been planted for food was instead growing cash crops. Much more than drought, these choices starved the Ethiopian people, as cotton exports continued to expand even throughout the worst of the famine. This year has seen a return of these problems, as worldwide coffee prices plummeted, leaving Africa both hungry and poor.

This year a startling new proposal has emerged—even among some of the world’s most conservative economists—that African nations unilaterally default on their debt. Economist Jeffrey D. Sachs has said, “If you try to collect the debt, you are killing millions of people. If the countries pay their debt, they can’t meet their development needs.... If there is not international understanding, many countries in duress in history have taken a unilateral action. That is important for African leaders to understand.” The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based economic think tank, has also recommended that African leaders default.

Many African nations remain unwilling to do so, however, out of fear that defaulting will leave them completely abandoned by international investors.

Public pressure

Massive public pressure has continued to be expressed against the institutions of the IMF and World Bank in the last year. In April of this year over 100,000 protesters converged on Washington, DC during the spring meetings of the IMF and World Bank.

World Bank Bonds, a favored investment worldwide, are the driving economic force behind the Bank’s portfolio. Campaigns for divestment in the World Bank through bond boycotts have grown in popularity in the last year, as a way to pressure the Bank to reform. This year the city of Milwaukee, WI, along with the city of Cambridge, MA and five other US cities joined in boycotting World Bank bonds. Several unions, including the Wisconsin AFL-CIO, the SEIU, Steel Workers local 1304 and Teamsters local 85 have also joined

the boycott this year.

Though they represent a small percentage of total World Bank bond buyers, these campaigns hold the possibility of forcing concessions from the Bank by starving it of new funds.

In addition, protests in the Third World have remained consistently strong. In Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, Equador and Nigeria, it appears that governments are on the verge of relenting to citizens’ demands that the World Bank and IMF, as well as other institutions that represent the neo-liberal model, be abandoned. The outstanding question in these areas, however, is: “Abandoned in favor of what?” Though Venezuela and Nigeria may have the natural resources (mainly oil) to weather the international investor fallout over unilateral debt default, many nations that desire to abandon the Bank loan interest cycle have been unable to find a realistic economic alternative to alleviate poverty.

It is impossible to calculate with accuracy the human toll that these economic policies have had. Clearly, 5,000 avertable deaths each day from hunger, lack of health care and lack of potable water is a very conservative estimate. Resistance has had its price also. According to the report “States of Unrest II,” released in April of this year, 76 IMF/World Bank protesters have been documented as having died due to state repression, with injuries and arrests running into the thousands. Yet people worldwide continue to risk resistance and voice their opposition to economic reductionism.

For more information about Asheville Global Report check out their website at agrnews.org



Photo courtesy of DC indy media

Washington, DC, September 2002. Protesters put on a little show.

IMF approaching show-down with Brazil’s new President

By FRANCISCO JOSE MORENO AND ALEJANDRO EGGERS MORENO
Pacific News Service

EDITOR’S NOTE: Global IMF theory—that tight budgets attract investment which makes life better for everybody—only makes economies worse in Latin America. Both leading Brazilian presidential candidates say they will refuse new bank terms, write PNS commentators Francisco Jose Moreno and Alejandro Eggers Moreno, setting the stage for a huge confrontation unless the IMF reconsiders. Francisco Jose Moreno is President of the Strategic Assessments Institute (SAI), a consulting firm in Agoura, CA. He was a vice-president of Philip Morris International, and is a former chairman of the Political Science Department at New York University. Alejandro Eggers Moreno is Vice-President of SAI.

Much attention has been focused on Brazil since August 7, when the IMF promised a \$30 billion loan to help prevent the largest country in Latin America from defaulting on its international debt. Since then, however, both leading candidates to replace current President Fernando Enrique Cardoso in October 6 elections, Luiz Inacio “Lula” da Silva, who has a commanding lead in the most recent polls, and Ciro Gomes, have both insisted they will not accept the IMF’s terms.

The stage is set for a confrontation. Every day the elections draw closer, the IMF is faced with an increasing dilemma. It can stand its ground while one of the world’s most populous and economically powerful countries openly denounces its methods and challenges its demands. Or it could take a step back and reconsider the terms under which it promised to make the huge loan. Most long-reaching of all, perhaps the IMF might ask itself why these terms and its broader policies in general have met with such resistance in Latin America and worldwide.

Simply put, the IMF theory—that tight budgets will attract investors, investors will bring in money, and the more money in a country, the better off its population—does not work. While foreign investment may indeed bring capital into a region, in Latin America that money rarely stays inside the country. Under IMF-dictated terms, the money goes to large multinational corporations, which usually invest locally made profits somewhere else, often halfway around the globe.

The IMF, financed largely by the United States, has perpetuated this cycle by consistently acting more to protect international investors than to promote economic growth in nations receiving loans. In Chile, for example, the IMF pressured the government to rescind a law requiring investments made there to stay in the country for at least six months; in Argentina, which has hit economic bottom, it forced the new administration to repeal measures designed to punish bankers who illegally take money out of the country.

With the loan to Brazil, the IMF reinforces its image as an agent of the investors. The vast majority of the billions promised to Brazil will never see Brazilian soil, but will go straight into the coffers of American and European banks. Instead of lending money to Brazil on terms that would allow for national economic growth, the IMF is shooting for the quick-fix: pay back

the bankers so that they lend again. This may or may not keep Brazil from defaulting on its debts, but it certainly addresses the bankers’ problems more than those of the country.

IMF policies in Latin America have proven not only economically ineffective but politically and socially disastrous. The IMF’s strategy calls for the unrestricted influx of foreign capital, which tends to drive under all but the largest local businesses. This decimates the middle class where it exists and prevents its growth everywhere else.

The IMF has been remarkably shortsighted; its policies have widened the inequalities in the distribution of wealth, increasing public resentment. They push local politicians into borrowing sprees—the very action the IMF condemns as irresponsible.

An Argentina-style collapse is not likely to happen. Brazil’s strong entrepreneurial class, including local merchants and industrialists, are deeply unwilling to let their businesses be taken over by foreign conglomerates, no matter how much money is infused into the Brazilian economy as a result. In their view, the financial restraints required by the IMF would throw the country into a profound recession while effectively subjugating the national economy to foreign interests.

While the IMF is accustomed to forcing weak nations with weak economies to meet its terms, Brazil will not be such a pushover. With the tenth largest economy in the world, with a savvy and sophisticated business elite that is well aware of the potential worldwide impact of the collapse of its economy, and with the increasing perception of the IMF as an enforcer at the service of predatory financial interests, the Brazilians are not about to back down.

And therein lies the confrontation. While the IMF is content simply to pump foreign capital into Brazil (or to create conditions that allow it to be pumped in), Brazilians themselves have a much more substantive and far-reaching perspective on their own economy.

After the elections, Brazil’s new president will be acting on a mandate that he not comply with the IMF terms. How will the IMF react?

Maybe it will hold fast and rescind the loan. Or maybe it will realize that the loan, on its current terms, while certainly bailing out the bankers, does not bail out Brazil.

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A Nablus Horror

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following story was received from the International Solidarity Movement, a non-profit organization that works in the occupied territories in Israel. One of its members delivers this first person account of being in Nablus.



A view of the village of Nablus

Baha would take your hand and lead you through a crowd, be the first person to offer to help, he had a ready smile, and seemed younger than his 14 years. Usually Baha Al-Bahsh could be found near the Union of the Palestinian Medical Relief Committee's (UPMRC) main dispatch area helping whenever he could, walking with the in-

ternationals, etc. Since April he has been a fixture with the local ISM, he was one of the first to start helping with the clean-up of the old city after the IDF's gratuitous destruction. He was the kind of boy, I am told, who you couldn't help liking. (this is the people magazine type set-up, what follows is not, the following is very brutal)

Yesterday late morning, walking with 4 Internationals, Baha Al-Bashsh was killed by a single shot from an Israeli soldier on an APC. The 4 internationals watched helplessly as he bled to death in front of

their eyes. Blood coming out of his nose and mouth. The bullet was fired from about 350 feet, it went through his arm entered his side and blew apart both his lungs and heart.

The APC was partnered with a Merkava tank, the two vehicles had been patrolling through the old area of Nablus since earlier in the morning. The soldiers were very familiar with Baha and the internationals. The soldiers and the internationals knew each other by site and had seen each other together just 45 minutes before. When murdered Baha and the internationals were walking on Al Salaheia st. the tank and apc were turning off the same street to the right, but stopped when they spotted this group, the internationals did not think this alarming as they had some familiarity with the behavior of the IDF in this area. Further, any

rock throwing by the local children had died down and was a ways behind, suddenly, however, a shot rang out, a puff of dust was seen by the internationals, Eva asked if everyone was alright and it was then that they noticed that Baha was lying down. (the shot went completely through him, shattering bone). The APC and tank trundled off immediately after, but most are pretty sure who the commander is.

At this point, the IDF is saying that Baha had a molotov cocktail and was burned after being shot, Yahoo news reports that a 13 year old in Nablus had a molotov cocktail explode in his hands and died. The autopsy reports only that he died of a heamo thorax. X-rays showed bone fragments acting like shrapnel in his chest cavity. There was as much evidence that he was burned as there was that he was a unicorn. The internationals said that Baha had nothing in his hands, they would not be with someone who did. The IDF in their explanation imply that this was an intended murder. Not an accident that will be "looked into." They shot through a group of internationals into the chest cavity of Baha. (one of the internationals was 3 feet away, they were all clustered together).

What makes Baha's death even worse than the usual despicable fare (although far from being rare) is that there was simply no "reason" for the IDF to fire. (obviously most of the reasons given by the IDF are specious and constitute the reason-

ings of war criminals). What makes this case different also is that he was killed in front of Internationals. Usually a child has a rock, or in some other way is considered to be threatening some of the most advanced armour in the world, this child, walking down the street with the internationals only presented the threat of non-violent resistance.

Perhaps he was targetted because of his relationship to the internationals, an example was to be made, who knows. What is clear is that an IDF soldier deliberately murdered a 14 year old boy who's only apparent crime was being a palestinian out after curfew (which is in effect 24 hours a day and is really more like incarceration in the mode of the warsaw ghetto). The IDF claims it can shoot anyone it wants during incarceration, but like the bank robber who claims the "teller made me shoot him", this is the logic of a criminal mind.

Of course, there are countless stories like this, the IDF cynically concocting the most ridiculous reasons for its murderous actions. This death has inspired even more rage here, I heard very mild-mannered intelligent people saying that they might as well kill themselves by taking as many of "them" as possible rather than be shot down like dogs. Sigh, the terrible cycle will continue I'm afraid. Ironically, a picture of Baha dead at the hospital shows him smiling, like he just had his tonsils out.

Persian experts: US dangerously ignorant of invasion consequences

By WILLIAM O. BEEMAN
Pacific News Service

EDITOR'S NOTE: PNS contributor William O. Beeman finds that experts on the Persian world and the Kurds dread the aftermath of a U.S. invasion of Iraq. Beeman (William_Beeman@Brown.edu) is director of Middle East Studies at Brown University. He has lived and conducted research in the Middle East and Central Asia for more than 30 years.

DUSHANBEH, Tajikistan—As President Bush steps up his push for an invasion of Iraq and U.S. Marines practice city assaults in downtown Dayton, Ohio, experts closer to the heart of the matter say that America doesn't know what it's getting itself into.

Hundreds of specialists in Persian languages and societies from around the world gathered in the capital of Tajikistan last week to discuss topics ranging from Sufi mysticism to modern Iranian painting. The conference was rescheduled to Dushanbeh when the U.S. Treasury Department prevented American organizers from holding it in Iran, where U.S. visitors would have learned more about the current Iranian political and cultural situation.

In hallways and conference rooms, the hot topic was the possibility of a U.S. attack on Iraq.

"We believe that the United States doesn't realize the implications of its actions," said Taghi Azadarmaki, an internationally known Iranian sociologist. "America is in Afghanistan. They are friendly with General Musharraf of Pakistan. Now, if they invade and occupy Iraq, it looks like they are starting a pincer movement, with Iran as their next target. This makes everyone in the region wonder about American hegemony."

The general opinion at the First International Conference of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies was that although Saddam Hussein is an unworthy national leader, the United States government gravely miscalculates the effect of an invasion on regional stability. Moreover, experts here say that Washington does not have the competence to manage internal Iraqi politics and a possible internal civil war after a "regime change."

Gholam-Abbas Tavassoli, another eminent Iranian sociologist, pointed out that Iran has made strong friendships in the states of the Arabian Peninsula in recent years. "If the United States invades Iraq, Iran will stand with the regional states to prevent further expansion of American power."

However, both Azadarmaki and Tavassoli said that Iranians are sick of violence and war, and would be unlikely to participate in a fight to defend Iraq.

One specialist on Kurdistan said that the United States underestimates the vigor of the Kurdish drive to establish an independent nation in northern Iraq—something another American ally, Turkey, deeply opposes. The specialist said the Kurds believe the United States will use them to eliminate Saddam Hussein, and then abandon them. Should the United States stay in Iraq and not foster Kurdish independence, Kurdish opposition to U.S. troops could be fierce.

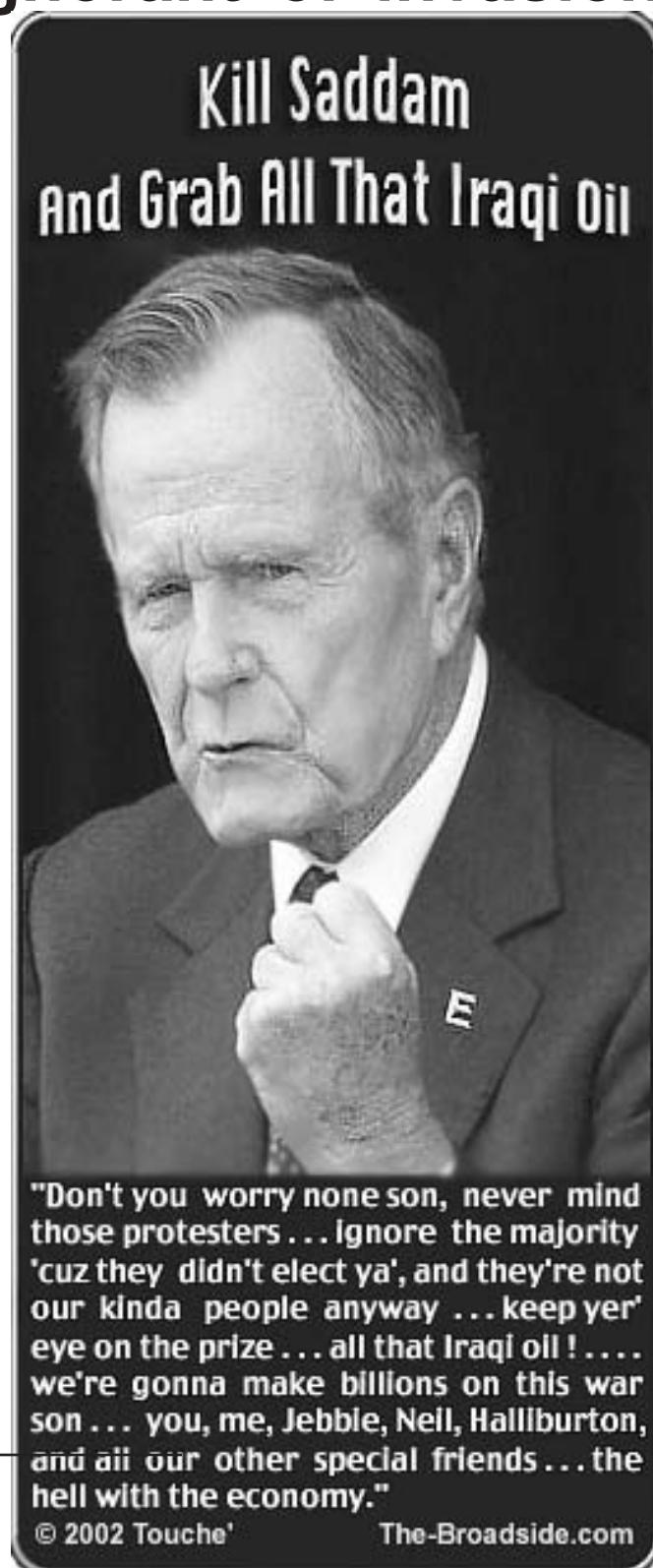
Afghan specialists wondered how the United States intended to create a new state in Iraq when they have failed to do so in Afghanistan. "Every American promise for Afghanistan has been broken," said Zahir Mo'meni, a social scientist working for the new Afghan government. "We are now

looking primarily to European nations to help in our rebuilding effort. We are skeptical when we think of Americans trying to govern Iraq."

Opinion was widespread that American expertise in the region is very thin. Many pointed out that only a handful of Americans know anything in depth about Iraqi society. The number who know about Iran is also small. Moreover, Washington is doing little to increase this knowledge. It has been nearly impossible for Ph.D. academic specialists from the region to get visas to visit the United States to consult with American academics and regional specialists even when their credentials are impeccable.

Clearly, thwarting contact between those who know the region best is a tactical error. If the United States does invade Iraq—and if it remains there for a long time—America will need all the help it can get.

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FHAR MIESS/The Alarm! Newspaper

Free Radio Santa Cruz organized a benefit lecture with Michael Parenti on Wednesday, September 25. Parenti spoke on the Bush administration's latest round of saber-rattling. He urged the audience to consider that the Administration's stance is not simply confused or wrong-headed, but is simply brutish capitalist self-interest. "It's time we stopped focussing on how 'stupid' these guys are and start focussing on how vicious they are and how relentless in what they're doing," he said. "Just because YOU don't know what they're doing doesn't mean THEY don't know what they're doing." Free Radio Santa Cruz can be heard locally at 96.3 FM or on the web at <http://www.microradio.net/frsc>. Michael Parenti's new book, "The Terrorism Trap," can be found at local independent bookstores.

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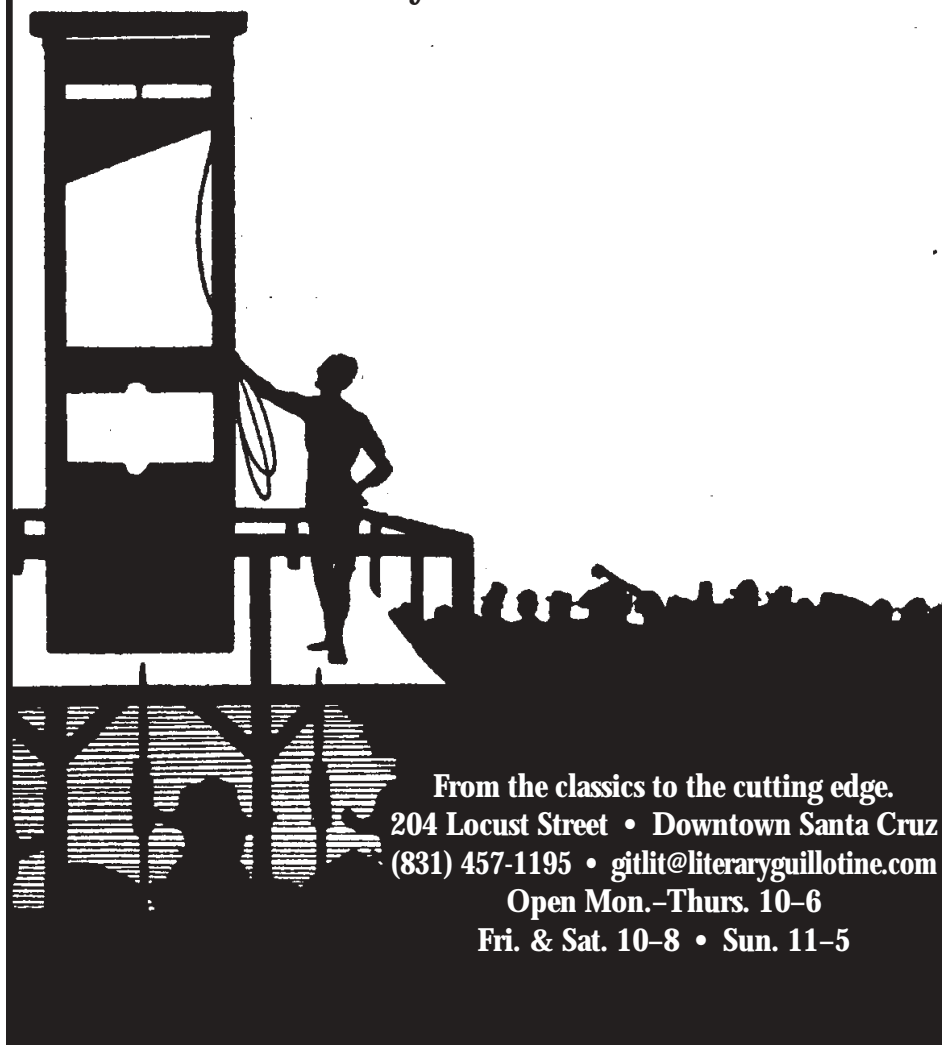
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Tipped scales—US Wants world justice to stop with Milosevic

By **TERENCE SHERIDAN**
Pacific News Service

EDITOR'S NOTE: While Washington happily backs a war crimes tribunal for former Yugoslav strongman Slobodan Milosevic, no American, writes PNS contributor Terence Sheridan, would want to be tried in a such a court, where the outcome is so preordained. Meanwhile, the United States is working hard to make sure the buck stops with Milosevic and doesn't extend to crimes US officials or peacekeepers may have committed worldwide. It's an inauspicious start to international criminal justice. Sheridan (neven@EUnet.yu), a former reporter for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, has been living and writing in the former Yugoslavia for the last nine years.

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia—The war crimes trial of Slobodan Milosevic resumes on Sept. 26 after a ten-day break, with the United States sending a powerful, if duplicitous, message to the world: "The buck stops with Milosevic and other disagreeable foreigners."

The United States fought tooth and nail to have its peacekeepers excluded from prosecution before the new International Criminal Court, and then settled for one-year immunity. Now it's twisting the arms of individual nations to sign agreements guaranteeing blanket exemption for Americans.

At the same time, America is quite willing to largely foot the bill for the \$100-million-a-year International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia at The Hague—the template for the new criminal court. An individual strongman might be charged in a US-supported tribunal. But the rest of the message seems to be: Americans do not commit war crimes. Someone might be out to frame Americans. Americans believe in national sovereignty (theirs). Americans should be exempt.

And no American in his or her right mind would want to be tried in a court like the one trying Milosevic.

Not only is hearsay testimony permitted in Milosevic's trial, but "expert" evidence appears to be anything the court decides it is. As a prominent British attorney noted, the Milosevic court "is prepared to make up law as it goes along."

Ironically, Milosevic, with help from highly paid but inept prosecutors, has turned what was intended as an instructive exercise rivaling the Nuremberg trials into a long-running parody of a trial. It's the Milosevic Show, in which the 61-year-old defendant, acting as his own lawyer, shamelessly beats up on prosecution witnesses and alleged "insiders," who are reduced on cross-examination to bumbling "outsiders."

The former Yugoslav president, often smiling and sometimes smirking, has been remarkably effective. At one point the lead prosecutor was forced to acknowledge in open court that some witnesses had been less than candid after swearing to tell the truth. After six months and over 100 witnesses, the prosecution has yet to conclusively prove that Milosevic "planned, instigated, ordered, committed, or otherwise aided or

abetted in the planning, preparation, or execution" of horrific crimes in Kosovo.

Does this mean that the has-been autocrat, who was indicted during the US-led NATO bombing of Yugoslavia in 1999, will be acquitted of 66 counts of crimes against humanity in Kosovo and Croatia and genocide in Bosnia? Hardly. The indictment was custom-tailored for ultimate conviction: it charges Milosevic held "command responsibility."

Milosevic can be convicted even without evidence that he participated in crimes or had guilty intent. On some of the counts, if crimes happened on his watch—and they did—he's a goner. A "smoking gun" is not required, although the prosecution is still desperately searching for one to show the world they have the right man in the right dock, in a trial scheduled to last until 2004.

In the Kosovo phase of the trial, daily proceedings fell into a predictable routine. Milosevic blamed everything on the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA)—ethnic Albanian rebels he termed "terrorists"—and on NATO "aggressors" who bombed his country.

Kosovo Albanians countered by testifying to gripping stories of extreme brutality, but uniformly contended that they rarely ran into a member of the KLA, and that NATO bombs were a humanitarian godsend that did no harm to their homes or persons in the impoverished Serbian province with an overwhelming Albanian majority.

Clearly there were atrocities, and tens of thousands of refugees. Just as clearly, some prosecution witnesses are lying. For instance, apparently unaware that NATO already admitted that it mistakenly bombed a refugee convoy, two witnesses claim that a Yugoslav warplane decimated the convoy. Nevertheless, the prosecution continues to introduce original statements at odds with current testimony, which lets the pugnacious constantly suggest: Were you lying then or are you lying now?

Meanwhile, this temporary international court the US likes—as opposed to the permanent international court it dislikes—bends over backwards to be fair to Milosevic. The three-judge panel allows him to bluster and bully, he has legal assistance inside and outside the court and trial days have been shortened in deference to his heart condition. All of this, one feels, is affordable "fairness," negligible leeway granted a doomed defendant presumed guilty until he proves himself innocent.

In other words, the high-minded concept of international justice is incompatible with the superpower's sense of sovereignty and national interests at the present time—but it's just the ticket for villainous leaders of small countries. Such weighted scales of justice don't bode well for the future of the international jurisprudence.

The Alarm! Newspaper & The Center for Hip Hop Education present



October 12-13, 2002 at The Rio Theatre

Saturday, October 12

1:00 "Poetic License" directed by David Yanofsky (2000)



Filmed during the 1999 National Teen Poetry Slams in Albuquerque, NM, "Poetic License" follows teens from San Francisco, New York and the Navajo Nation of New Mexico as they prepare to compete in the national competition. Performance footage and intimate interviews of the young poets—combined with more established poets such as Sekou Sundiata, Beth Lisick, Asha Bandele, Abiodun Oyewole and Mac Bamuthi Joseph—help "Poetic License" blow the lid off the spoken word movement that has quickly become a national phenomenon. <http://PoeticLicense.com>. Screening will include a local poet showcase.

3:00 "Breath Control—History of Human Beatboxing" directed by Joey Garfield (2002)

An amazing documentary on the history of beatboxing. A delightful and joyous film that lays out the history of beatboxing while covering everyone from Dougie Fresh and Biz Markie to Stetasonic. A flick that goes beyond trivializing the talents of unique artists including: Emanon, Scratch of The Roots and Rahzel. Dedicated to Bux of the Fat Boys. Breath Control.



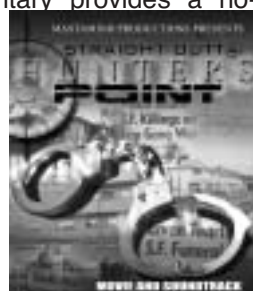
5:00 "Nobody Knows My Name" directed by Rachel Raimist (2000)

The ultimate triumph of a group of fascinating women living the Hip-Hop life. A beautifully rendered portrait of complex, wise, sometimes vulnerable, yet truly triumphant young women boldly living the Hip-Hop lifestyle. Among those profiled are Medusa and DJ Symphony, the only female in The World Famous Beat Junkies crew. <http://www.thaconnect.com>



7:00 "Straight Outta Hunters Point" directed by Kevin Epps (2002)

This enthralling documentary provides a no-holds-barred look into life in the notorious Hunters Point Housing Project. A raw, emotionally intense *cinema verité* journey that focuses on the daily dramas of life on the edge in a systematically abandoned hood on the edge of San Francisco.



The youth seek escape via Hip Hop dreams while a condemned environmental Superfund site and gang-related rap wars plague this community fighting for social and economic survival. Features footage of RBL Posse, JT The Bigga Figga, Seff Tha Gaffla, Herm and many more underground Bay Area artists. <http://www.mastamind.com>

T-KASH (OF THE COUP) WILL PERFORM WITH JYMINI AS PART OF THE INTERMISSION BETWEEN THESE SCREENINGS.



9:00 "Freestyle: The Art of Rhyme" directed by Kevin Fitzgerald (2002)

Shot over a period of almost ten years, "Freestyle" takes viewers on a journey through previously unexamined dimensions of Hip-Hop as an art form. The film explores the oral traditions of Hip Hop featuring such artists as The Last Poets, Mos Def, Black Thought of The Roots, Freestyle Fellowship, Lord Finesse, Supernatural, MC Juice, Tupac, Biggie, Jurassic-5 and DJ Kool Herc.



The film follows some of the best-known as well as strictly underground Hip-Hop MC's ever to bless the mic. Be astounded as they improvise poetry out of a mix of influences, from politics and culture that affect their lives. We eventually are led to discover a revolutionary world where the English language is subverted and re-appropriated as a tool for empowerment. <http://organicfilms.com>

Crossing political, generational, racial and gender boundaries, the Hip Hop Film Fest strives to bring forth the best and boldest films and artists we can find. Beyond a mere musical genre, Hip Hop is an undeniable influence on modern culture via fashion, art, language and politics. We seek to honor this force and acknowledge and serve a diverse audience.

The HHFF is organized by a collective of artists, poets, writers, musicians, dancers, filmmakers & spirited volunteers who have formed the non-profit Center for Hip-Hop Education. Featuring many unique and hard to find flix, da fest offers tales that embody and document the wide-ranging creativity of the Hip Hop movement. You'll see the escapades of remarkable and sometimes unknown DJ's, MC's, B-Girls and Boys, Graf Artists as well as serious social commentary mixed with jubilant and light-hearted fare.

Working outside the mainstream, we operate autonomously in association with groups like Film Arts Foundation, Hip-Hop Congress, Basement Films, MACLA, SomARTS, DADA and others. We are in the process of creating a unique a 501c(3) not-for-profit educational organization that is dedicated to youth development and cultural and economic revitalization. The films and artists showcased in the fest focus beyond the "bling bling" and "bang bang" of the corporate music video world to dig deep into the history and issues that truly matter to those within the growing global Hip Hop movement.

You can join us in our efforts by donating money, time or art to the newly formed non profit Center for Hip Hop Education, which is on a mission to create curriculum via collaboration and celebration. By working in a meaningful way with other interested parties, there is much we can learn and share together. You can help us spread da word from coast to coast, backyard to boardroom, from neighborhood parks to the cold prison cell walls. We encourage you to contact us today if you have an idea, project, or film that you think we may be interested in. We are also interested in providing sponsorship opportunities for our events and encourage organizations with funding to share to get in touch and reap the energy of this traveling festival as it winds its way across the USA and elsewhere in the near future. Already we have events planned for Hawaii, Texas and Canada that we are seeking sponsors to participate in. For more info on the Hip Hop Film Fest tour or to sign up for the mailing list go to: <http://www.hiphopfilmfest.com>



pic by Kazzya

Cut Chemist, the turntablist from Ozomatli/Jurassic 5 is featured in both “Freestyle: The Art of Rhyme” as well as in “Scratch”.

Sunday, October 13

1:00 “Dark Days” directed by Marc Singer (2000)

“Dark Days” is an award winning feature length documentary about a community of homeless people surviving in a train tunnel beneath Manhattan. The b & w cinematography depicts a world of pitch blackness and surprising warmth. Rats swarm through piles of garbage and high-speed trains tear out of Penn station through the darkness while these true urban survivors forge community, battle addictions and take care of their pets.



A touching, humane and at times comical portrait develops as above-ground law enforcement plots their extraction. Featuring an original sound track by DJ Shadow.<http://www.darkdays.com>

FOLLOWING “DARK DAYS” LOCAL HOMELESS ADVOCACY GROUPS WILL SPEAK.

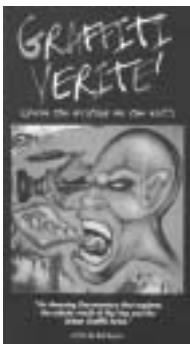
3:00 “Word” directed by Tony Greer (2001)

A moving profile of the independent Hip Hop scene, thriving on it’s own terms in NYC. Featuring straight dope footage including Dead Prez, Company Flow, MOP, Eminem and an in prison interview with Capone. Director Greer states: “Hip Hop has done more that any other form of music to bring people from all walks of life together.” Word.



5:00 “Graffiti Verité”

Unearth the truth about the historical relevance of the Graffiti Art Movement, set against the backdrop of today’s urban landscape.



See all the films with a 2-day pass for \$20. Individual screenings cost \$4 for students or \$6 general admission. The Rio Theatre, 1205 Soquel Ave., 423-8209.



7:00 “Scratch” directed by Doug Pray (2001)

This is a fantastic feature-length documentary film that explores the world of the Hip-Hop DJ. From the birth of Hip-Hop in the early 70s, when pioneering DJ’s began extending breaks on their party records (which helped inspire break dancing and rap), to the invention of scratching and “beat-juggling” vinyl, to its recent explosion as a musical movement called “turntablism”. Get down with a story of underdogs and serious virtuosos who are radically changing the way we hear, play and create music. The flick is a remarkable triumph on virtually every level and not for Hip-Hoppers only. <http://www.scratchmovie.com>



9:00 “Black Picket Fences” directed Sergio Goes (2002)

“Black Picket Fences” is director Sergio Goes’ poignant portrait of the bleak realities of life in the public housing projects of Brooklyn’s East New York, one of the inner city’s most dangerous and violent neighborhoods. Culled from nearly two years of filming, the documentary’s candid interviews, lyric moments of grim beauty and powerful *verité* footage takes us beyond the usual stereotypes of the rap world and into the life of Tislam Milliner, a struggling rapper whose ambitious to make it out of the “hood.” <http://www.blackpicketfence.net>



Brooklyn’s Mos Def appears in “Freestyle: The Art of Rhyme” and “Word”



**DEUCE ECLIPSE
PERFORMING ON
SUNDAY. TIME
TBA.**

SCREENING OF SHORTS: Times to be announced. Will screen between other films.

“Hypocrite” directed by David Chalker (2001)

Prepare to have your ass thoroughly kicked as an angry protagonist knocks you out of viewer apathy and passive consumption. A though-provoking piece that puts you on a swooping, spinning ride of enlightenment. <http://www.hypocrite.tv>



“A Rose from Concrete” directed by Sam Diego (2002)

Worlds collide when an aggro kid from the grimy streets of the ghetto meets the glitz and glamour of fashion runways and recording studios.



UPCOMING EVENT

The filmmakers are bringing several more screenings and a few additional films through San Jose in association with Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana later this month on October 22 through 27.

Visit the website for further information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To leave a message for the filmmakers contact: The Hip Hop Film Fest toll free hotline 1-888-418-3549. Or visit the website at: www.hiphopfilmfest.org

For further information call The Alarm! Newspaper at 429-NEWS (6397).

Ojo en el INS

Un enfoque en el INS y la política migratoria

La globalización ideológica en contra de la inmigración

□ Cinco mitos sobre la inmigración (parte 3 de 5)

Por **CARLOS ARMENTA**

Colaborador del Semanario ¡La Alarma!

El eurodiputado francés Sami Nair expone y analiza, en un artículo publicado en el diario español *El País*, lo que el llama “los cinco mitos sobre la inmigración en España.”

El presente artículo (tercero de una serie de cinco) analizará el tercer mito dentro del contexto de la inmigración en los Estados Unidos.

Tercer mito sobre la inmigración: Los inmigrantes se benefician indebidamente de las leyes sociales favorables.

Este tipo de resentimiento hacia los inmigrantes ha echado profundas raíces dentro de la sociedad estadounidense. Para muestra basta un botón: la proposición 187 de 1994 en California, la cual prohibía que los inmigrantes ilegales y sus hijos—aunque estos últimos hubieran nacido en los Estados Unidos—recibieran servicios de salud y educación. Dicha proposición también requería que los restadores de servicios públicos reportaran al Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización (INS) la presencia de cualquier indocumentado, o hijos de indocumentados, en escuelas u hospitales públicos.

El hecho de que dicha proposición haya prosperado al recibir el voto favorable de la mayoría de los que, en esa ocasión, ejercieron su derecho al voto, demuestra el tan arraigado sentimiento anti-inmigrante en un estado en el que la mayoría de sus habitantes son inmigrantes o descendientes de inmigrantes. Sin embargo, dicha ley fue declarada inconstitucional y nunca se llegó a su plena implementación.

Este tercer mito sobre la inmigración pierde su validez si se analizan y se comparan detenidamente, por un lado, las aportaciones que los inmigrantes hacen tanto al sistema de bienestar público como a la economía en general, y por otro lado, los beneficios que estos obtienen de los fondos de bienestar social.

Primero que nada, los inmigrantes que trabajan legalmente en los Estados Unidos pagan impuestos sobre sus ingresos, impuestos de seguridad social y aportan también parte de sus ingresos a fondos de pensiones. Sin embargo, el Congreso norteamericano debatió y aprobó, en la primavera de 1996, una

de las más extensas y represivas legislaciones migratorias de su historia, la cual declaró inclusive a los residentes permanentes legales como inelegibles para recibir una gran variedad de beneficios sociales.

Tales cambios a las leyes migratorias crearon una gran división dentro de los grupos que tradicionalmente defendían los derechos de los inmigrantes en los Estados Unidos. Muchos de los defensores de los derechos de los inmigrantes alegan ahora que, aunque la inmigración legal representa un gran beneficio social, la entrada de inmigrantes ilegales, por otro lado, tiene solo efectos negativos dentro de la sociedad estadounidense. Dicha opinión se ve apoyada precisamente por el tercer mito aquí analizado, solo que en este caso se aplica solo a los inmigrantes indocumentados.

Sin embargo, lejos de ser una carga social, los inmigrantes indocumentados contribuyen de manera positiva a la economía de los Estados Unidos. De acuerdo con estudios hechos por el National Immigration Forum, los inmigrantes indocumentados pagan aproximadamente US \$7000 millones en impuestos. Algunos de estos impuestos, incluyendo los US \$2700 millones destinados a la seguridad social, así como los US \$168 millones al fondo estatal de beneficios para los desempleados, son subsidios directos a dichos sistemas, ya que los trabajadores indocumentados no tienen el derecho legal de recibir dinero de estos fondos a los cuales contribuyen.

En el estado de California, el cual cuenta con aproximadamente el 43% de la población indocumentada de toda la nación, los inmigrantes indocumentados pagan—además de los impuestos ya mencionados—US \$732 millones adicionales en impuestos estatales y locales. El estado, por otro lado, y de acuerdo al Urban Institute, gasta US \$1300 millones en educación para niños indocumentados, y US \$166 millones en servicios médicos de emergencia para sus familias, siendo este último el único tipo de servicios médicos, proporcionados por el estado, al que tienen derecho los inmigrantes indocumentados.

Por lo tanto, es muy difícil sostener la idea de que los gastos que se erogan en la educación de niños indocumentados, o en los servicios médicos de emergencia para sus familias, son

una carga social, debido a que dichos inmigrantes pagan, en conjunto, una gran cantidad de dinero en impuestos destinados a fondos estatales de los cuales ellos no reciben beneficios. En otras palabras, los inmigrantes indocumentados aportan mucho más de lo que reciben.

Además de estas consideraciones, existe un estudio realizado por la UCLA a mediados de los 90s, y que revela que los trabajadores indocumentados contribuyen con aproximadamente el 7% de los US \$900,000 millones del producto interno bruto del estado de California, o sea, US \$63,000 millones.

Si se considera que la población indocumentada en California ascendía, en esos años, a 1.4 millones de personas, entonces se puede calcular una contribución individual bruta a la economía de California para cada inmigrante indocumentado, la cual ascendería a aproximadamente US\$45,000 anuales, incluidos niños, desempleados y personas enfermas o demasiado viejas para trabajar. Por otro lado, y aunque no existan cifras confiables en cuanto al

salario promedio de cada inmigrante indocumentado, se sabe que estos reciben salarios muy cercanos, o inclusive por debajo, del salario mínimo legal que en los años de realización del estudio era de US \$4.25 por hora. Si suponemos que todos ellos perciben el salario mínimo, su ingreso promedio individual al año sería de US \$8840, lo cual se encuentra muy por debajo de la contribución que su labor aporta al producto interno bruto del estado.

Es entonces indudable que el trabajo de los inmigrantes indocumentados no solo contribuye con decenas de millones de dólares a la economía estatal. Además de ello, dichos trabajadores reciben solo un pequeño porcentaje de dicha contribución, un porcentaje que es mucho menor al que reciben los trabajadores que son ciudadanos o residentes legales de los Estados Unidos. Dicha diferencia en el nivel de explotación es una fuente extra de ganancias económicas para las industrias que dependen de una fuerza de trabajo compuesta principalmente de trabajadores indocumentados.

War Notes

□ A column following the developments of our new permanent war, the war on terrorism

By **SASHA K**

The Alarm! Newspaper Columnist



sasha k. is on hiatus, War Notes will return in the next issue of *The Alarm! Newspaper*.



photo Bill Hackwell

Sat, Oct 26

San Francisco

11am Rally & March

Justin Herman Plaza

(Embarcadero BART)

1pm Rally Civic Center

(Grove & Larkin)

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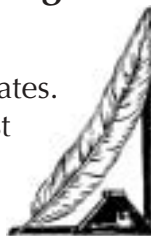


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Eye on the INS

A forum addressing the INS and immigration policy

Put down the newspaper and step away from the water cooler

By MICHELLE STEWART
The Alarm! Newspaper Collective

It is easy to read a headline and become outraged. If the story is exceptionally sensational, the names and details will remain in the press for a few days—maybe a week at the most. However, all too commonly the outrage fades as the media turns its attention to a new “top” story.

We forget that behind the headlines are people who still have to live their lives after the camera crews leave.

On September 12, 2002 one nurse from Georgia and three Muslim men traveling to Florida captured the public imagination. As the story unfolded, we were given the tale of a woman who overheard a discussion, called the police and became a national hero. Of the men, we were given a story of three medical students who played a “prank” on a restaurant snoop. The end result of their chance encounter was a widely-publicized traffic stop that resulted in the shutdown of a major highway in Florida, a 17-hour detention, the loss of internships and a lot of primetime cable squabbling on behalf of both parties. And then a new story. That week’s big story was the Alligator Alley traffic stop; last week it was Madelyne Gorman Toogood (the mother who was caught beating her child on a department store surveillance camera). The story of the three medical students is filed into the archives of our collective memory.

Of course, it should come as no surprise that the story did not end with the final coverage of it on CNN. Indeed the tale continues as Eunice Stone tries to fade out of the public eye—the controversy reportedly caused her so much stress she had to be hospitalized—and the three medical students Ayman Gheith, 27, Kambiz Butt, 25 and Omar Choudhary, 23 continue their battle to clear their names.

Last week Altaf Ali, director of the Florida chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, reported that the three students had come to an

agreement with Larkin Community Hospital in Florida to be allowed to continue their internships, at nearby hospitals and doctor’s offices.

In a related matter, Dr. Enrique Fernandez, another doctor from Larkin, claims he was removed from his post when he attempted to assist the three students in finding another hospital in the Miami area to host them. As one of the coordinators of the three men’s education, Fernandez worked through Ross University in Chicago to arrange the internship in Florida. He was notified a week ago that his position was terminated without notice. Larkin/Ross claim the decision was an internal matter.

Another related, though muffled, matter is coming from local law enforcement who have stated the 17-hour incident was the most expensive traffic stop in the history of Florida. At a cost of \$100,000, law enforcement is also reeling in the wake of Eunice Stone’s phone call from Georgia.

But this is the information that is not so interesting to the public—where the students do their internship, or who will pay for the costly traffic stop is not the stuff of water cooler discussions in the workplace. And why is that?

How many words in this column, in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *La Opinion* will have to be devoted to stories of immigrants dying in the desert before we respond, how many more stories, words, articles about racial profiling in airports, fingerprinting men from Middle-Eastern countries, INS detainees? And the list goes on. How many times can the story be told, with different names and places, before we, as the general public, get off our collective derrières and respond?

Many of us pick up the paper everyday, we skim the headlines, we nod or shake our heads depending on the stories—we often follow the stories for a day or two if we are interested. Yet we do nothing but read the story. If we are enraged we might tell a friend.

Picking up the newspaper everyday to

In Brief

Smugglers backing into U.S.

The US Border Patrol is reporting an alarming increase in Mexican smugglers using custom-designed vehicles to enter the United States, driving on the wrong side of the road, reports *La Opinion*.

Dozens of vehicles carrying human or drug cargo have made the dangerous attempt at San Diego’s San Ysidro crossing, risking collisions with other vehicles. The smugglers outfit the cars with reinforced bumpers to help protect them against collisions and special tires that repel spikes installed at the checkpoint.

But at least two people have died and six have been injured in crashes, according to the San Diego Border Patrol. The cars make the trips late at night with their headlights off, after waiting for the right moment in Mexican parking lots. The vehicles are later abandoned. The Border Patrol is asking Mexican officials to assist in stopping these crossings. —*La Opinion*

India passes China in new green cards

India has moved ahead of China as the second most popular country of origin for legal immigration to the United States, reports *India-West*.

There were 70,290 Indians granted lawful permanent residencies, or green cards, in 2001, which reflects a 67% increase, according to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Mexico continued to be the leading country of origin for legal immigrants, accounting for 206,426 new green card holders. The People’s Republic of China slipped to third place with 56,426 immigrants granted residency status, followed by the Philippines (53,154) and Vietnam (35,531).

Sixty-four percent received the green cards under family-based categories and 17% under employment-based categories. —*India-West*

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become momentarily annoyed is ludicrous; as we allow ourselves to become increasingly complacent the landscape is changing.

It is easy to lounge about in this armchair-opinion existence when it is the rights of others being stripped (directly) and not our own. We are experiencing a nativist moment the likes of which may challenge the anti-immigration backlashes of the 20s and 50s. The borders of the US are rapidly slamming shut, the target is anyone who is not native born. Unabashedly, the federal government has placed an ethnic target on all that is Middle-Eastern or Arab—the public has joined suit and extended that honor to anyone of similar appearance. All the while INS continues to target Mexico and Central America’s migrants with equal diligence.

The federal government and its various agencies are doing a bang-up job of insuring people are both ostracized and targeted. Do we as a public need to back them up with our passivity? Are we so submissive that we only read the headlines, shake our heads—silently thankful that their sights were not set

on us? If so, our complacency is guaranteeing the government will be allowed to further expand its sights.

Since 9/11, the assault on immigrant rights has been colossal. However, the assault was mounted prior to the Twin Towers. Ideology and policy were not crafted in the past year. The history of immigration in the US is such that the “rights” of others are often left in the rubble. Consider the thousands who have died trying to cross into the US, the thousands detained or deported after 9/11. I believe if you truly consider these matters, you will find yourself reacting, rather than continuing the fleeting water cooler discussions.

INS officers arrested in death of deportee

BY MICHELLE STEWART
The Alarm! Newspaper Collective

On Wednesday, September 24, 2002, three INS agents were arrested as they arrived at work in San Antonio, TX. The five-charge indictment was handed down in relation to the beating (and eventual death) of Serafin Olvera-Carrera who was arrested in March 2001.

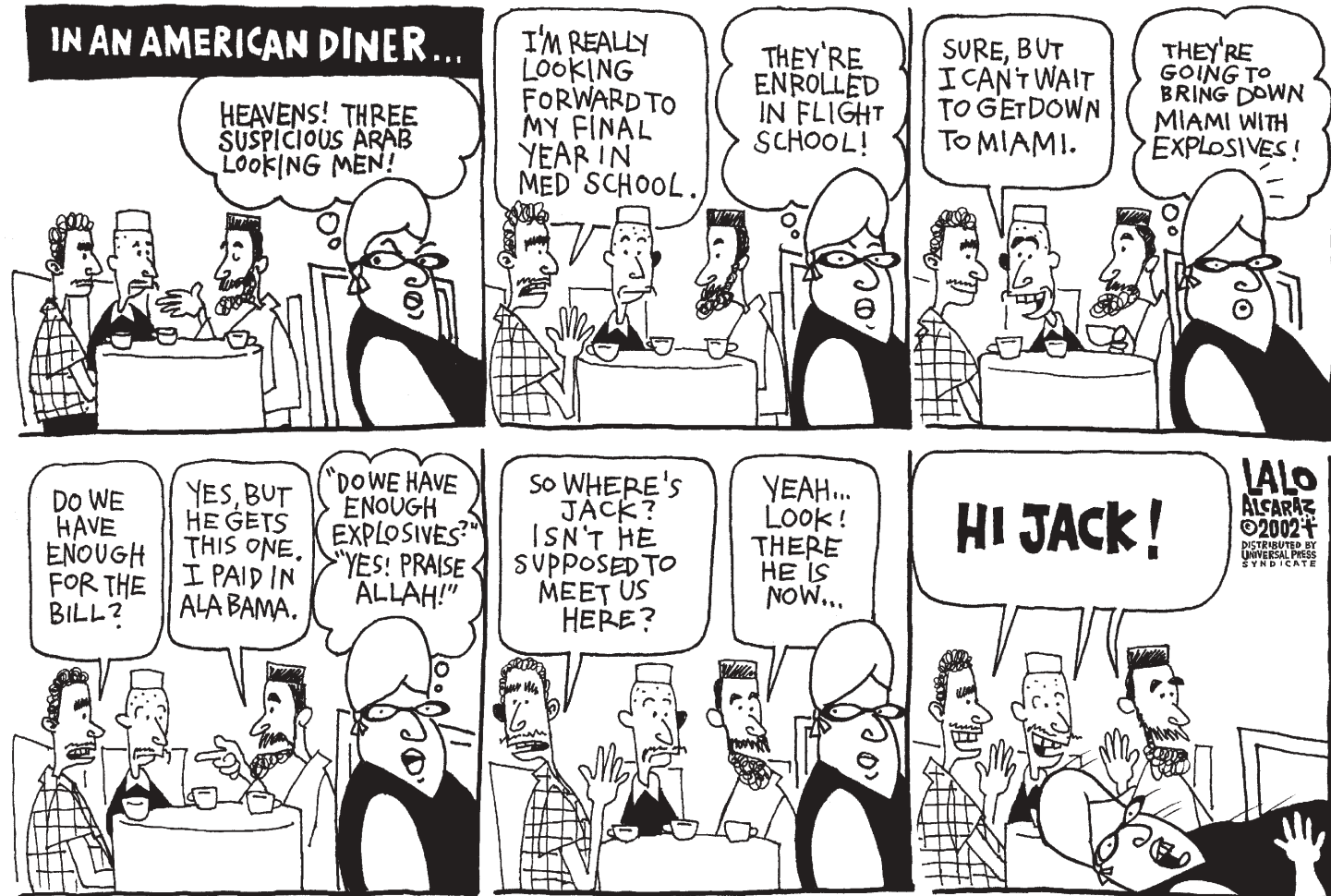
While held for deportation, Olvera-Carrera was allegedly beaten to the point of paralysis by officer Carlos Renya, 42, and then doused with pepperspray by officer Richard Henry Gonzales, 36. The indictment contends that these two officers along with Louis Rey Gomez, 36, violated Olvera-Carrera’s civil rights when they denied him access to medical treatment after the assault.

Once allowed treatment Olvera-Carrera was hospitalized and placed on life support. He died in February 2002 after his family removed him from support.

The family of the victim are reportedly unsatisfied with the charges, stating a charge of murder should be the outcome of the investigation. Relatives also plan to continue to pursue an investigation into the death, claiming there were more officers involved, and the case was initially covered up.

The five indictments carry a maximum penalty of \$250,000 and a ten-year prison sentence.

INS has placed the three officers on suspension with pay.



PMA locks out longshore workers

By FHAR MIESS

The Alarm! Newspaper Collective

In a move that could have wide ramifications for everyone from patrons of stores like Target and Wal-Mart to itinerant workers hopping freight trains to their next job, the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) on September 29 locked out 10,500 members of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), indefinitely shutting down all 29 West Coast ports in what it called a "defensive shut-down." Traffic through the ports accounts for billions of dollars worth of trade daily, and serves retailers such as Target, Wal-Mart and Home Depot. Union Pacific Railroad announced cancellation of all traffic of international marine containers billed for West Coast port destinations. A representative of the California Trucking Association has estimated some 10,500 to 12,000 truck drivers were being told to stay home because there is no work so long as the PMA keeps the docks shut.

The PMA locked out longshore workers in response to what it considers slowdowns: deliberate reductions in productivity on the docks, often used by the union to gain leverage in contract negotiations. The union denied the charge, claiming that members were simply instituting agreed-upon

safety procedures to prevent the sort of work environment that resulted in the deaths of five ILWU members in the past seven months. In union-speak, this is called "work to rule," where workers will perform work exactly as they are obliged to according to union contracts, safety rules or government regulations. Since those rules are generally not strictly adhered to, this practice results in an inevitable reduction in industrial efficiency.

The PMA originally locked out workers on September 28 and opened the ports again on the morning of the next day after negotiations, but by

finally to this weekend's lockout.

The union agreed to meet with the PMA and Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services (FMCS) head Peter Hurtgen on Tuesday, but walked out of negotiations when the PMA negotiating team showed up guarded by armed security personnel. Hurtgen chastized the PMA characterizing their behavior as "inap-

"This shows how they approach negotiations, hiding behind the government and armed thugs"



Photo courtesy of BILL HACKWELL

Longshoremen at the Oakland Port, one of 29 lockouts taking place on the West Coast.

noon most workers on the West Coast were again ordered off the job after the PMA charged that many work positions remained unfilled and productivity was at 54% of normal. The San Francisco Chronicle quoted Richard Mead, president of the ILWU Local 10, as saying, "they wanted us to come back like we were going to be good little puppy dogs. It doesn't work like that on the waterfront."

The coastwise contract between ILWU originally expired on July 1 but was renewed on a daily basis until talks broke down September 1. ILWU members remained on the job, but the PMA remained intransigent on the issue of technology and retention of union jobs in its implementation, despite significant offers by ILWU negotiators, leading

appropriate and a breach of bargaining protocol."

In a burst of rhetorical fancy, ILWU International President Jim Spinosa declared, "This shows how they approach negotiations, hiding behind the government and armed thugs. PMA's lockout is holding a gun to the head of the American economy and now they move to aim real guns at us. We will not be intimidated by these kinds of tactics and we will never reach an agreement as long as the PMA acts as if it can force a settlement at gun point rather than negotiate."

President Bush has urged the parties to resolve the dispute quickly to avoid the severe impact on the US economy and national security that results from the port closures. He has previously threatened the use of the 1947 Taft-

Hartley Act to force workers back to the job or to send trained Navy workers to the docks to replace the 10,500 union members.

ILWU Local 23 in Tacoma, Washington, has offered to continue loading ships with cargo destined for Alaska because of the large amount of basic necessities Alaskans receive by marine transport, much of it coming through the Port of Tacoma. The union has also pledged to continue handling military cargo and passenger ships. Cruise lines have resorted to bypassing the PMA in order to enlist the help of ILWU members in handling their ships, which ILWU members have offered to do free of charge.



In Brief

Security Screeners protest racist hiring practices

Security screeners at San Jose and Oakland international airports staged protests Monday, September 30, as new security screeners hired by the federal government take over those positions. The screeners are decrying what they consider to be racism in the hiring practices of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), noting that more than 80% of the present screeners in Bay Area airports are ethnic minority workers in low-wage positions. The new federal positions are better paid and are being filled primarily by whites.

The TSA was formed through the Aviation and Transportation Security Act after September 11, 2001 in response to outcries over security lapses among low-paid security personnel in airports.

Davis signs agricultural labor mediation bills

After months of broad-based organizing, a well-attended march through the Central Valley to Sacramento and a weeks-long vigil by farmworkers and their supporters at the Capitol, Governor Gray Davis signed bills into law that would mandate mediation between management and farmworkers in the event of an impasse in labor negotiations. The bills were a scaled-down

version of those initially passed in the State Legislature that included provisions for binding arbitration in the event of a failure in mediation. Farmworkers and their supporters rejoiced while agribusiness groups expressed extreme dismay.

At the same time, the Governor signed and vetoed a number of bills. One that he vetoed was a bill that would have allowed the issuance of drivers' licenses to undocumented immigrants.

Mexican Government settles with Pemex union

The government of Mexico agreed on a wage settlement Monday with the country's oil-workers union, which represents some 108,000 workers at the state-owned Petroleos Mexico (Pemex). The politically fraught battle pitted Mexico's President Vicente Fox against corrupt leaders of the union, who he charges helped funnel \$170 million into the Institutional Revolutionary Party's (PRI) 2000 presidential campaign. He had attempted to bring criminal corruption charges against the union leaders, but was stymied due to the immunity they held as legislators in the national government and the threat of economically devastating strikes. The union's base of support was eroded due to popular recognition of corruption in its

leadership and the wage settlement was widely viewed as a victory for Mr. Fox.

Canadian Auto Workers gain assurances from Ford

The Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) and Ford Motor Company reached an agreement on a three-year contract Monday, a day before the previous contract was set to expire. The contract came after negotiations over the fate of 1,400 workers employed at the company's pickup-truck plant in Oakville, Ontario—a plant that Ford intends to close. Ford agreed to find new work for 900 of the 1,400 workers, which the CAW considered to be an acceptable compromise of its original position that all 1,400 jobs needed to be saved. Management claimed that it was unlikely that any workers would be laid off in the end due to the CS\$60,000 incentives offered to long-time employees of the company to take an early retirement with full pensions.

The negotiations were closely watched by management and labor in the United States, as similar issues relating to plant closures are likely to come up in negotiations next year between the United Auto Workers, CAW's American counterparts, and Ford. The escalating costs of health benefits are likely to be more central to the negotiations, however.

Lay-offs continue global telecommunications industry

As the global telecommunications industry continues to falter severely, workers in that industry are taking the brunt of the loss. SBC Communications, one of the "Baby Bells" (local telephone providers split off from the AT&T monopoly in the 80s) which serves 13 states from the Midwest to California, announced that it will cut an additional 11,000 jobs, bringing the yearly total of layoffs to 20,000.

Verizon Communications announced plans to cut another 1,000 union jobs in New Jersey, on top of the 512 cut earlier this year. Rather than laying workers off, Verizon has asked union members to accept voluntary buyouts. Only 332 of the original 512 have taken the offers. The company, another of the Baby Bells, announced that it would lay off 8,000 workers this summer.

Qwest Communications and BellSouth, two other Baby Bells, have laid off 6,000 and 5,000 workers, respectively.

The trouble isn't limited to the United States, either. European firms such as Colt Telecom in Britain and Germany's MobilCom have recently laid off thousands of their staff members

Bush war-talk forges European left, Muslim immigrant alliance

By PAOLO PONTONIERE

Pacific News Service

EDITOR'S NOTE: Behind massive European protests against Bush administration plans for war in Iraq is a first-time coalition between the continents anti-war activists and Muslim immigrants. PNS contributor Paolo Pontoniere (pmpurpont@aol.com) is the US correspondent for Focus, Italy's leading monthly magazine.

Just months after neo-Nazi Jean-Marie Le Pen shocked the world with a strong showing in French presidential elections, George W. Bush's aggressive stance toward Iraq seems to have accomplished what European activists could not: a strengthened European left, which is aligning itself with the continent's long-isolated Muslim immigrants.

The left has returned recently to power in Sweden and in Germany on a strong anti-war—and to some extent, anti-American—platform. Now strides are being made to bridge the gap that has been growing between established European citizens and the 25 million Muslim immigrants—many of them conservative politically—living on the continent.

The emerging picture doesn't bode well for European support for the Bush administration's plan to level a pre-emptive strike against Iraq. France, Germany and Russia have already voiced strong opposition to a US-led invasion, and massive anti-war protests in Italy and in Great Britain are seeing substantial participation from Muslim organizations

and Palestinian supporters.

"One couldn't really expect that the anti-war movement would be able to take off without establishing a direct link between the opposition to the invasion of Iraq and the desire to solve the Palestinian issue," says Italian foreign correspondent Gianni Perrelli. "Once that link is established, one cannot help but connect with the millions of Arab immigrants and political exiles that live in Europe."

At a September anti-war protest in London, some Palestinian activists and Muslim believers carried banners and chanted slogans that were clearly anti-American and anti-Bush, but most were simply against war in Iraq and for peace in the Middle East. "Saudi Arabia Against War" read one banner. On another, a group of Muslim women and children had written "No to War —No to Saddam Dictatorship."

In Italy, too, a wave of anti-war protests has included immigrant participation. The ranks of the Girotondini—a grassroots movement that works for accountability of public servants and political reform in Italy—has swelled from a few thousand to millions thanks to, in part, the recent participation of many Islamic organizations and Muslim activists.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has been one of the few European leaders to staunchly support the Bush administration's position on Iraq, going so far as to offer military assistance to the ef-

fort. The Muslims who have joined forces with Girotondini believe that, by opposing Berlusconi's plans for Italy, they will also register their displeasure with his alliance with Bush on Iraq. The Italian left had been in disarray since Berlusconi was elected, but the convergence between anti-war protesters and Muslim immigrants is infusing popular political debate with a new sense of purpose, and may pull the country away from its traditional right-left dichotomy.

For many Europeans, who have witnessed not only Le Pen's rising popularity but also neo-Nazi and neo-Fascist successes in some elections in Austria and Italy, the emergence of this new coalition that crosses religious and racial lines comes as a breath of fresh air.

"The media have focused a lot on how the Social Democrats may have won the German elections thanks to Schroeder's revving up of the anti-American propaganda," explains Polish-born political journalist Wlodek Goldkorn. "Very few, however, have considered the fact that Schroeder probably would have never been able to make it without the support of Muslim communities and the vote of Turkish-German citizens."

According to the German Office for the Protection of the Constitution—a sort of Department of Homeland Security—there are currently more than a million Muslim citizens living in Germany. New citizenship laws introduced in January 2000 have greatly simplified Germany's

regulations for naturalizing foreign-born residents, and their number is expected to grow exponentially.

As European Muslims move out of their political and social isolation, the changes that result may have far-flung and unpredictable effects. The European peace movement's efforts to connect opposition to the war on Iraq to peace initiatives in Palestine may also help to overcome the ideological barriers that now separate Jewish doves from Arab peace advocates.

"Unless the Middle East conflict is solved, going into Iraq is just going to make the whole area explode," demonstrator Sharon Finmark told *The Guardian* during the recent peace march in London. Finmark is Jewish, and her position, should it become prevalent, may help to change anti-Jewish and anti-Arab sentiment in countries such as France, where the National Front used anti-Semitism to propel Le Pen into the French presidential ballot this summer.

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International News Analysis and Commentary

Press freedom in China—Mr. He didn't die in vain

BY YONG WANG

Pacific News Service

EDITOR'S NOTE: The death of a small-time businessman in China who exposed government corruption is emboldening an increasingly vigorous and independent Chinese press. PNS contributor Yong Wang (yayong@stanford.edu) is a former Chinese journalist and was a Knight Fellow at Stanford University last year. He is currently studying law.

He Haisheng, a small-time businessman in Hainan Province, China, died in June at the age of 49. No one believes the official explanation of his death—that he suffered from sheer fatigue.

More likely, people say, he was murdered.

From August 2001 to early this summer, Mr. He disclosed a number of corrupt judges and, in the process, received numerous death threats.

Mr. He's battle against corruption began when his mother was wronged in a simple business suit last year. He quietly collected evidence of corruption within the provincial judiciary and sent it to the Central Discipline Committee of China's Communist Party. As a result, certain senior judges were arrested for embezzlement and many others were interrogated.

Many remain pessimistic about China's ability to curb corruption. But Mr. He's death is being discussed and debated openly in the pages of China-based newspapers and Internet providers, a clear sign that Chinese

media are finding their teeth.

In August, China's leading muckraking newspaper, the Guangdong Province-based *Southern Weekend*, interviewed several people who had helped Mr. He and detailed his fight against corruption.

Beijing Youth Daily soon followed with a commentary calling for the government to recognize Mr. He as a martyr. Sina.com, China's largest Internet content provider, ran a special column on him. In Sina.com's chat room, users weighed in on the matter with statements like "Eradicate corrupt judges" and "Send corrupt officials to jail."

It is widely believed that the Chinese have no freedom of speech, but increasingly, journalists and ordinary people are speaking up. China-based chat rooms often teem with points of view rivaling in breadth and scope those found in similar Western venues.

"It would be too pessimistic to say that China has no freedom of the press," says Hu Shuli, managing editor of *Caijing* (Business and Finance Review). According to her, China has a bigger market for journalists than the United States. Media proliferate in China, while in the United States major media corporations are consolidating and content is shrinking.

Americans, Hu says, may have lost their thirst for scandal. "Even Enron is not big news for the

American people. They are fed too many corruption reports and are complacent."

But in China, where a Western-style, independent press is a new thing, critical stories sell.

Underlying the rise of investigative journalism is an expanding market economy and a growing public desire to have market deficiencies disclosed. During the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), news media were completely state-financed. Now that most Chinese media survive on subscriptions and advertising, they more naturally lend their ears to public sentiment.

Southern Weekend, *Beijing Youth Daily*, Sina.com and *Caijing*, for instance, all run on ad revenue. In pursuing their own economic interests, and driven by market forces rather than ideology, these media offer the public one critical report after another.

Of course there is a limit to investigative journalism in China today. An implicit consensus seems to exist among Chinese journalists: One can only muckrake in economic fields or local affairs. Many news media hit hard at local wrongdoers, but align themselves with national leaders for protection.

For now, this double standard may be the safest way for media to play a bigger role in ensuring social justice in China. Chinese investigative journalism is in its infancy. If it

goes too fast, like a baby learning to walk, it may fall flat on its face.

In fact, a central government that takes upon itself to fight corruption—that is, with the help of an independent media—could help ensure justice at local levels. And once the nation accepts muckraking at local levels as the norm, it may eventually accept muckraking higher up.

Some Western analysts remain pessimistic, doubting that China's new journalism will go far. But many Chinese intellectuals are hopeful. They see the history of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution as one of confidence building. China, they say, may not be ready for American-style freedom of expression—yet. Times are changing, and more Chinese are participating in public forums and beginning to look toward the media as a source of truthful information. As the famous U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Learned Hand once said, "Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women. When it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court will save it." Mr. He may not have died in vain.

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Letter from San Francisco—high-touch wins over high-tech

By ANDREW LAM

Pacific News Service

EDITOR'S NOTE: Few places in the nation have been hit as hard by recession as San Francisco, where young techies once crowded city cafes and night clubs and vacant apartments were as rare as warnings of a market "readjustment." Returning to the city after a year's absence, PNS Editor Andrew Lam finds that personal relationships are a safety net for the burst dot-com bubble. Lam (psilobin@hotmail.com) is a short story writer and journalist.

SAN FRANCISCO—I just returned from a year's sabbatical to find a different city. Gone is the dot-com frenzy where everyone frantically searched for gold in cyber-space, and lost is the vision of a high-tech world in which all can be done online.

This San Francisco is a somber place, one with far fewer lavish parties, and at my favorite haunts many chairs and tables are empty.

But much more interesting: The city is waking up from its silicon dreams, where the whole world was connected through computer circuits. Old-school human interaction is back. High-tech has given way to high-touch.

Take my friend Simon. Once a well-paid headhunter, Simon has been unemployed for almost a year. He now lives on less than \$5 a day.

A few years back he lived high on the hog and boasted, "you can live your entire life online." After all, he found his job online, his dates online, his apartment online, his vacations online. Heck, he even ordered his groceries online.

Then the economy went sour. Simon lost his job. He found the Internet helped little, especially since he had saved little. Being new to the city and too busy living in the virtual world, he had few close friends and, too ashamed to go home, he faced homelessness. If it hadn't been for a friend with a couch, Simon would have been on the streets. The friend was from his old world, high school.

Tim, 26, came here from the East Coast to work for a dot-com company

that offered to do your shopping online. He earned a huge salary—almost three times that of his father's—plus stock options. Out of a job for the past six months, he is selling cellular phones for \$15 an hour and barely makes ends meet. "I thought I was going to usher in a high-tech world. But the truth is," Tim admits without a hint of bitterness, "it's still who you know more than what you know."

Last week at a dinner party I attended, of the 12 at the table, only five were employed full-time. Those still working were a doctor, two professors, a foundation officer and a computer programmer for the state. In other words, the .org, .edu, .gov people—those who resisted the dot-com get-rich-quick lure.

While the national unemployment rate hovers below six percent, among my immediate circle of friends it's around 40%.

For my sister, Nancy, what San Francisco is facing is not a recession, "it's a downright depression." Until half a year ago, Nancy headed an accounting department at a software company.

Today her bags reside at our parents' home in San Jose.

Their five-bedroom house has been perceived as a place of refuge not only by their three adult children, but also by all their cousins and aunts and uncles in America. It's where we all run to when the weather unexpectedly turns.

My mother, the eldest sister of seven siblings and a matriarch of a large clan, welcomes this idea. Having lived through two wars in Vietnam, she is unfazed by the recession. Already, Mother is busy fixing my sister's bedroom.

"Technology comes and goes," she said, "but family bonds and relationships, that must be worked at, and that above all must last."

Nam Nguyen, editor of the Vietnamese paper *Calitoday* in San Jose, says few Vietnamese forget my mother's warning when times get tough. Many families move in together and share



resources, he notes. "I see three families to a home. Others go to Vietnam and stay with relatives for a while, because they can stretch their dollars further there. Many others are moving to Sacramento or Orange County, to Vietnamese communities that can absorb them."

Here in my apartment on a hill near Chinatown, I can easily count across the street three "For Rent" signs hanging on the adjacent building. Was it only two years ago that I saw a dozen people standing in line to interview for one of those apartments? The young, white, dot-com workers are gone. Most who remain are Chinese, like the old lady who has lived for 20 years in the basement with her children and grandchildren and picks up cans at night. The frenzy of the dot-com world passed her by like midnight fog.

Yesterday, a pretty German tourist with a disheveled look on her face walked into the cafe where I was having lunch. "Is there an Internet cafe here?" she asked. She'd been walking for half an hour without finding Web access anywhere.

"It's crazy," she said with exasperation. "Is this not center of high-tech world?"

A man with a white beard, tie-dye shirt and turquoise beads started to cackle. "Nah, forget it, lady," he said. "It was mostly hype."

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From WHY on Page 4

we talk a great deal about what is known as the "Cycle of Violence." The cycle begins with a period of "tension-building," where the batterer may make threats and the victim senses pending abuse. The "explosion" follows the tension-building phase, where the violence reaches its climax. Whether the violence is physical, emotional, verbal or sexual, the "explosion" signifies the batterer's belief that s/he has the right to control the victim by any means. After the explosion a "calm" stage follows where the batterer may apologize and promise to never become abusive again.

Although some women never experience the calm stage, this is often the most confusing time for a battered woman. Many women decide that they want to leave their abusive partners after the explosion, but are persuaded to change their minds by their batterers' promises for a better future.

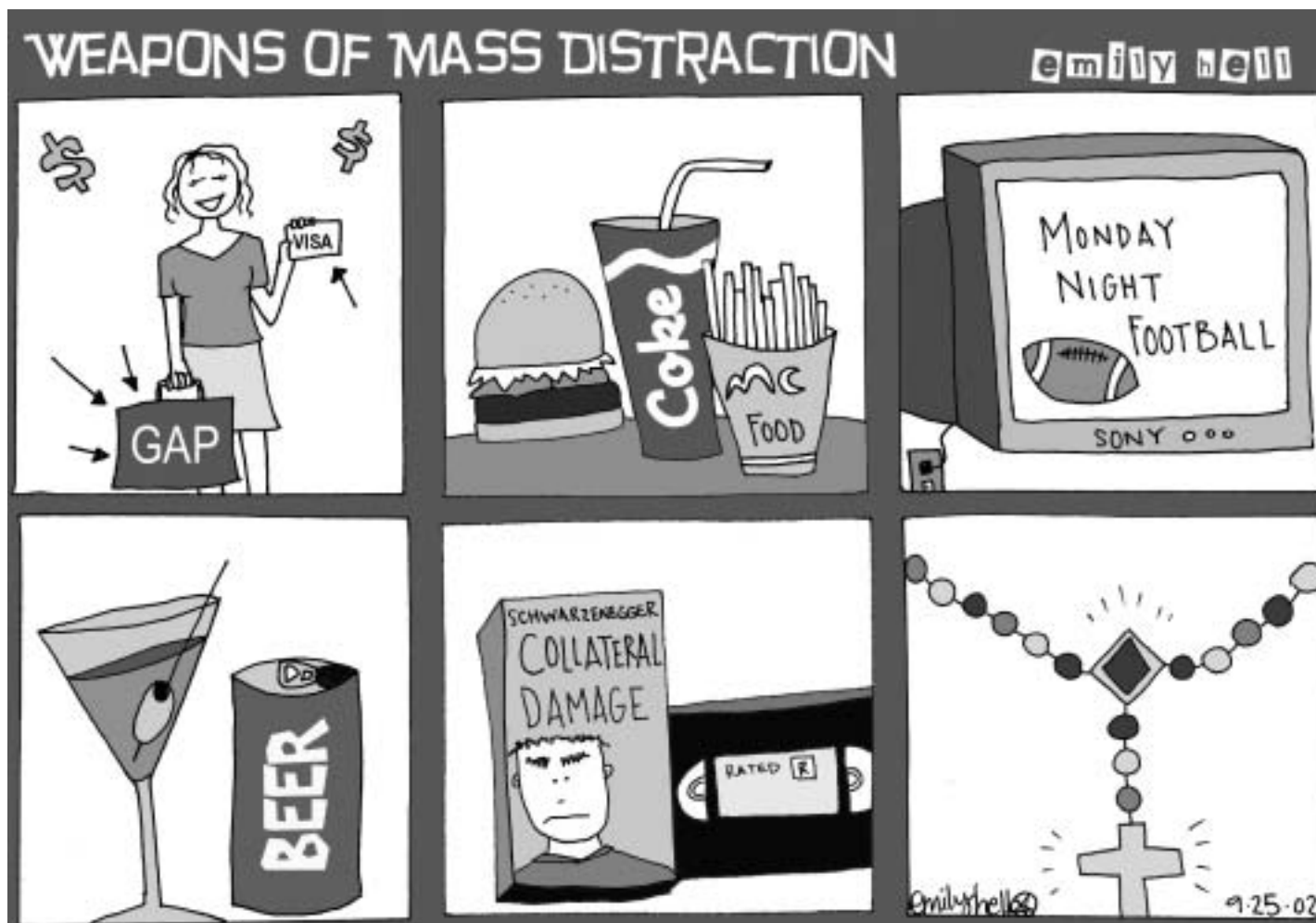
Once you understand the cycle of violence, the barriers to leaving, the loss of self-esteem, the isolation and the fears that survivors of domestic violence face, it is not difficult to understand why they may try again and again to salvage their relationships or stay because they see no way out.

I know for those of us who love and care for someone who is in an abusive relationship, it is very painful to feel powerless to help. I also know that the biggest mistake we can make is to keep silent. We suspect or we know what is happening to her, but we are afraid to say it. We hear it at the neighbor's house, or notice a bruise and we try to ignore it. We need to say the words that break the silence and offer hope. We must not become frustrated when a woman does not do what we think she should do. We must abstain from judgment because we do not know her fear or her reality. We must remember that her sharing with us could mean putting herself in more danger.

We must respect her boundaries, and if she allows it, we can help her think of how to keep herself and her children safe. Most of all, we should not put conditions on our support. We cannot make choices and decisions or take action for her. We cannot give up; it sometimes takes many efforts before the woman is ready to leave the relationship. We can help her know someone is there for her if she needs help, if she needs someone to listen.

We do not have the power to change anyone's life, but we can offer them understanding and support. So the next time you see, hear or read about a survivor of domestic violence, remember that there could be a multitude of answers to the question "Why did she stay?" However, the more important question for each of us to answer is "Why does our community tolerate domestic violence?"

Celia Organista is the executive director for Women's Crisis Support in Santa Cruz and Defensa de las Mujeres in Watsonville. This article first appeared in the Aptos Times after a local woman was murdered and the information gathered by the police indicated that she had been a battered woman.



Care and consequence—Nation’s health, security start at home

By BRIAN SHOTT
Pacific News Service

EDITOR’S NOTE: Terrorism, weapons of mass destruction and Iraq dominate the country’s discussion of “national security.” But with Census data showing increased poverty and more Americans lacking health coverage, the nation’s security must also be seen as linked to the health of its citizens. PNS Associate Editor Brian Shott (brian@pacificnews.org) looks back to his time as a home-care aide and asks why workers so important to national health are still paid so poorly.

My God, I thought, he must really be dead this time.

I stood outside Jack’s door, trying to knock loudly enough to be heard over the din of “The Price Is Right.”

Jack, like many of my clients, was dying of AIDS. It was 1991 in Seattle. I was 22, working a first job after college as a home health care aide. Earning just \$5 an hour, I felt I was destined for something more.

I made several trips down the hall of Jack’s musty, residential hotel that day to find a phone and call the home-care agency, but kept returning to try just one more round of pounding and yelling. AIDS had damaged Jack’s hearing. He’d sit in his recliner in his two-room apartment, listen to the television at top volume and sleep.

Finally, the bolt slid and the door opened. Jack stood before me in a checkered shirt and blue jeans, looking 60 though he was probably 40, his face framed by square, wire-rimmed glasses. The jeans covering his emaciated legs were tucked into old cowboy boots, reminding me of a skinny Kermit the Frog dressed as a sheriff in one of the Muppet movies. He shook with the effort of standing.

Before I could say hello, he made an odd quarter-turn to the left and fell forward into my arms. It was the first time I had touched him.

Now, 11 years later in California, I work as a news editor and read that most home-care workers make little more today—sometimes as little as \$6 an hour—than I did then. But a nationwide unionization effort, the papers say, is underway by the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). In Fresno, California, 10,000 home-care aides recently voted for union representation. In New York City, 15,000 home-care workers have unionized. In Washington State in August, more than 25,000 workers did the same in the state’s largest union election ever.

Every time another SEIU press release passes my desk, I think about Jack and my other Seattle clients.

Mary was a wheelchair-bound woman in her 30s. A car accident left her arms and legs twisted and uncooperative and her speech garbled. To communicate, she pointed at a laminated card with the alphabet printed on it, slowly spelling out words letter by letter. Photos of her small children—where were they now?—rested on a bedside table.

The agency had warned me that Mary might have a physically abusive boyfriend. On my first day, she asked me to call and tell him she loved him. I reluctantly left the message on his answering machine—I didn’t catch his name. I hoped that was the end of it, but later Mary spelled that we were going to “Fred Meyer’s.” I couldn’t believe I was going to bring her to her abuser, but I was afraid to refuse her.

“OK, we’re going to visit Fred, but we can’t spend much time there,” I said, pushing Mary up the street. “We’ll say hello and then I’ll take you back. Yup, just a little time at Fred’s.” I was sure I would be fired. Mary pointed left, right or straight at each intersection. We were in a business district, shoppers scurrying about, when Fred Meyer’s name in blaring red neon stopped me in my

tracks. “Oh,” I said, peering down at the top of Mary’s head. “Fred Meyer is a department store.” Mary’s face was locked in silent, knowing laughter.

Today, the news is dominated by questions of national security. But surely a nation’s security is tied to the health of its people. The work of all those who help the sick and infirm must be valued, I believe now more than ever, so that they can provide for themselves and value their own jobs while helping others maintain freedom and independence.

Unionization will help. But in many states, cash-strapped state legislatures have final say on home-care wages. A shift in national priorities is in order. Can a scared, strike-first nation undertake such a task?

Somehow, in the midst of a war on “terror,” health care must be returned to the national agenda. It’s

about security—for ourselves and our loved ones.

My last day with Mary we brought fried chicken back to her apartment. A few weeks earlier I had mentioned that on my final visit she should wheel me down the hallway. I didn’t remind her now as we entered the building. But Mary remembered. We should switch places, she motioned. She supported her weak legs by leaning heavily on the handles, and we bumped our way down the hall and made it to her door.

I helped her back into her chair. I never saw her or any of my other clients again.

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Regional Commentary



Fhar Miess/The Alarm!

Pelicans fishing near the mouth of the San Lorenzo river

DON’T FORGET:

The next issue of *The Alarm!* will spotlight water—from the politics to the policies of management and enjoyment. It takes of 2/3 of the earth’s surface, can’t hurt to talk about it a little!

PORQUÉ de la Página 5

Una vez que se ha logrado un mejor entendimiento del ciclo de violencia en cada caso, las barreras en dejar una relación, la pérdida de auto-estima, el aislamiento y los temores que las víctimas de la violencia doméstica tienen que enfrentar, resulta más sencillo comprender el porque muchas mujeres intentan una y otra vez rescatar sus relaciones o permanecer en ellas, ya que no ven otra salida.

Yo sé como es doloroso el sentimiento de impotencia para todos aquellos que amamos a alguien que se encuentra en una relación abusiva y no podemos ayudar. También s’e que uno de los mayores errores que podemos cometer es mantenernos callados. Sospechamos o sabemos lo que ocurre con ella, pero tememos decirlo. Escuchamos lo que ocurre en la casa del vecino o notamos algún moretón e intentamos ignorarlo. Necesitamos hablar, romper el silencio y ofrecer esperanza. No debemos caer en la frustración cuando una mujer no lleva a cabo lo que nosotros creemos ella debería de hacer. Nos debemos abstraer de juzgar porque no conocemos sus temores y su realidad. Debemos recordar que su confidencia con nosotros puede acarrearle un mayor riesgo. Debemos respetar los límites que ella trace y, si ella lo permite, podríamos ayudarla a

pensar como mantener seguros a ella y sus hijos. Sobre todo, no debemos condicionar nuestro apoyo. Nosotros no podemos hacer elecciones y tomar decisiones o acciones por ella. No podemos rendirnos; a veces requiere de muchos intentos y esfuerzos antes de que una mujer se encuentre lista para dejar una relación. Podemos ayudarla haciéndole saber que estamos ahí por si ella requiere ayuda, por si requiere de alguien que la escuche.

No tenemos el poder de cambiar la vida de nadie, pero podemos ofrecerles comprensión y apoyo. Así que la siguiente vez que usted vea, escuche o lea sobre alguna sobreviviente de la violencia doméstica, recuerde que puede haber una multitud de respuestas la pregunta: “¿Porqué no lo deja?” Sin embargo, yo pienso que la pregunta mas importante a responder sería “¿Porqué es que nuestra sociedad — y nuestra comunidad — tolera la violencia doméstica?”

Celia Organista es la directora ejecutiva del Women’s Crisis Support in Santa Cruz y Defensa de las Mujeres en Watsonville. Este artículo apareció por vez primera en el Aptos Times después de que una mujer de la zona fue asesinada. La información recolectada por la policia indicaba que esta persona era víctima de la violencia doméstica.



Halie Johnson/The Alarm! Newspaper

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH.

A piece done by Nickie Zavinsky for the Walnut Avenue Women’s Centers’ annual art show. This piece is entitled “Demon Monster II.” The opening reception is on Thursday, Oct. 17. For more information call 426-3062.

Calendar of Events



Send calendar submissions to calendar@the-alarm.com or mail hard copies to:
The Alarm! Newspaper
ATTN: Community Calendar
P.O. Box 1205
Santa Cruz, CA 95061
Please include the date, time, title of event, description and contact number. Submissions are due on Tuesday by 5PM for that Friday’s edition.

SATURDAY 10/5

7:15 PM Pat Humphries & Sandy Opatowo open the Resource Center for Non-violence’s 2002-03 folk concert series. \$5-8 children, \$10-15 adults, limited seating, for phone reservations call 423-1626 ex.104. At the Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, SC.

8 PM Drag-O-Licious, 6th annual drag show to benefit the Santa Cruz AIDS Project. Featuring musical numbers and other delectables from Ineeda Richmond, Wheezer De Lush, Anna Mosity and Francine & The Fishnets. \$10-50 sliding scale. At Louden Nelson, 301 Center St., SC.

3 PM Ghost Stories, Tales From the Tomb told by a professional storyteller. Wear your favorite costume. Free, call 429-1924 for more info. Meet at Evergreen Cemetery off Coral St., next to Harvey West Park, SC.

SUNDAY 10/6

10 AM-NOON Free Herb Walk. Includes info on edible & medicinal uses for local herbs and tasting of homemade tinctures, elixirs & cordials. Call for location, 425-3376.

11 AM-3 PM Fiesta! Dancing! Living history! Olive oil tasting! Native crafts! Call 425-5849 for info. At the Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park, SC.

2 PM Not In Our Name—SF Union Square Mass Convergence. Call (510)594-4076 for info, visit <http://niobayarea.net> for starting locations. Union Square, SF.

5 PM Fireworks and apple pie at the Darling House. Celebrate Santa Cruz’s Birthday, eat apple pie and other desserts. Bob for apples, and participate in other activities, watch the fireworks. A \$10/person, \$25/family donation is suggested, proceeds benefit the Resource Center for Nonviolence, call 423-1626 for info. At 314 West Cliff Dr., SC.

5 PM Iraq Action Group—planning session. Call Sharon for info 423-1626. At the Resource Center For Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, SC.

It is likely that Congress will vote on a war resolution early in October. Anti-war groups are calling for all local and regional organizations to make Monday, a pay of protest against the war in Iraq. Students join marchers at McHenry library.



Graphic courtesy Emily Hell, www.corporateswine.org.

8 PM Fireworks Spectacular! This year’s brilliant fireworks display celebrates Santa Cruz’s 211th Birthday. Call 420-5273 or visit www.santacruzwharf.com for info. At the Beach Boardwalk, SC.

MONDAY 10/7

12 NOON Stop the War on Iraq! March and rally. Meet at McHenry Library, UCSC.

3:30 PM Author Dave Eggers who wrote *The Heartbreaking Work Of Staggering Genius* discusses his new novel, *You Shall Know Our Velocity*. Call 423-0900 for info. At Bookshop Santa Cruz, Pacific Ave., SC.

7 PM Free Trade vs. Fair Trade. A public forum on the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Suggested donation \$3-15, for info call 323-1626. At Louden Nelson, Rm. 3, 301 Center St., SC.

TUESDAY 10/8

7:30 PM *Life & Liberty in the Balance*, a short film produced by American students with volunteer grassroots support and the assistance of a renowned post-WWII Italian documentary director. Covers events from Coup 2000 to present, “will galvanize liberal and progressive forces into closing ranks and marching to the aid of their country...because real patriots defend their constitution.” Sponsored by United Eco-Action Fund. At the Veterans Hall, 846 Front St., SC.

7:30-9 PM *The Right to a Home and a Homeland*, a documentary about the global campaign to rebuild Palestinian homes. Sponsored by the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions. Donations will be collected to help raise funds to rebuild Palestinian homes destroyed by Israeli authorities. Call 423-1626 for info. At the Darling House, 314 West Cliff Dr., SC.

THURSDAY 10/10

6:30 PM Howard Zinn’s “People’s History of the US” a study group led by Al Wasserman, activist and retired psychologist. Enroll by calling Al at 338-4233, participants will select a regular meeting time and place.

FRIDAY 10/11

4:30-6 PM Speaker Fredrick Jameson presents, “The End of Temporality.” “His metacriticism ranging in register from the inescapable, hortatory “Always Historicize” to the real work of historicizing a wide range of critical, filmic, artistic and literary genres, has been central in the continuation of a vibrant and engaged Marxist critique.” Call Stephanie Casher for info 459-1274. At College Eight, Rm. 240, UCSC

SAT—SUN 10/12—10/13

11 AM-3 PM (both days) Harvest Fair. Skills and crafts are presented: spinning, candle-making, pumpkin carving... plus see entries to Roaring Camp’s annual scarecrow contest. Call 335-4484 for info. At Roaring Camp Railroad, Felton.

1 PM-10 PM (both days) The Hip Hop Film Fest: uderground film and music tour. Featuring local and bay area talent. With over 10 films, speakers, music and tables. Sponsored by the Center for Hip Hop Education and the *Alarm! Newspaper*. Tickets are \$4/student & \$6/gen. admission or \$20 for a two day pass. Call 423-8209 for ticket info. For info about tabling, volunteering or performing call 429-6397. At the Rio Theater, 1205 Soquel Ave., SC.



SATURDAY 10/12

4 PM-6 PM little giants, a folk pop duo performance. At 120 Union St. (formerly Jahva House), SC.

1 PM-10 PM Fireworks Extravaganza. Wonderful family event featuring over 50 games and food booths, live entertainment and a fireworks display. \$10/person (children under 5 free) all proceeds benefit school children of Santa Cruz. At Seacliff State Beach, SC.

SUNDAY 10/13

7 PM Expanding the War on Terrorism to Iraq (Part 3 of Fall study series). Sponsored by SC Peacemakers & led by Sharon Delgado & Kara Zugman. Call 423-1626, ex.302 for info. At the Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway, SC.

TUESDAY 10/15

7:30 PM-9 PM Searching for Uncommon Common Ground—New Dimensions on Race in America. A night with authors, who will discuss their recent books, including Manuel Pastor, Director of the Center for Justice, Tolerance and Community and Angela Glover Blackwell head of PolicyLink and Stewart Kwoh, head of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center in LA. Free, call Julie Jacobs at 459-5743 for info. At Bookshop Santa Cruz, Pacific Ave., SC.

WEDNESDAY 10/16

5-7 PM “The Modern Subject Meets Globalization,” (first of a two-part series). Speaker Dean Wlad Godzich will bring together two lines of his research. One is the subject in the context of western modernity, the second will turn to globalization and its significance for scholars in the human sciences. Call 459-1274 for info. At Kresge College, Rm. 159, UCSC.

7 PM People of faith talk about Iraq. Sponsored by SC Peacemakers, Earth Justice Ministries & many other local faith groups. For info call Sharon at 423-1636 ex. 302 for info. At Holy Cross Fellowship Hall, 126 High St., SC.

SATURDAY 10/19

9 AM-5 PM Apple Butter Festival. Apple butter canning, antique engines, crafts, hayrides, BBQ, fresh apples, juice pressing, bakery, antiques, pumpkin patch, farm park, deli and more. Call 722-1056 for info. At Gizdich Ranch, 55 Peckham Rd., Wats.

THE ALARM! NEWSPAPER and the Center for Hip Hop Education present...



SAT & SUN
OCTOBER
12 & 13
AT THE
RIO



“Crossing political, racial and gender boundries, the hop Hop Film Fest strives to bring forth the best and boldest films and artists we can find. Beyond a mere musical genre, Hip Hop is an undeniable unfluence on modern culture via fashion, art, language and politics. We seek to honor this force and acknowledge and serve a diverse audience.”

Complete Schedule...
Saturday Oct 12th

1:00 *Poetic License*
3:00 *Breath Control; The History of Human Beat Boxing*
5:00 *Nobody Knows My Name, True Stories of Women in Hip Hop*
7:00 *Straight Outta Hunters Point (SOHP)*
Intermission
SOHP soundtrack artist, KPFA DJ and known Victim of The Rap Game T-Kash of The Coup is scheduled to perform with Jymini Saturday Oct 12th after *Straight Outta Hunters Point* screens.

9:00 *Freestyle: The Art of Rhyme*

Sunday Oct 13

1:00 *Dark Days*
3:00 *WORD*
5:00 *Graffiti Verité*
7:00 *Scratch*
9:00 *Black Picket Fences*
Deuce Eclipse is just one of da undaground performers who will be rockin’ da mic between screenings in Santa Cruz on Sunday Oct 13th

2 Day passes for all Rio Theatre events are a deal for just \$20.00!
iIndividual films are only:
\$4 for students
\$6 for adults

Rio Theatre
1205 Soquel Avenue, Santa Cruz
831-423-8209

10 AM–6 PM 8th Annual Massage-a-Thon. All money raised goes to scholarships for rural Guatemalan girls, ages 6–16. The rate for a one-hour massage is \$45–65, scheduling in advance is recommended. Sponsored by the SC Guatemalan Committee call 423-1369. At Twin Lakes College of the Healing Arts, 1210 Brommer St. (between 7th & 17th Ave.s), SC.

2 PM Super-Secret Staircase Tour. Staircase enthusiast Blaize Wilkenson leads approx. 2 hour tour of historic stairs of Mission Hill. \$2/person. Call 458-0908 or email blaize@stblaize.net for info. Meet at Town Clock, SC.

WEEKLY EVENTS, SERVICES, SUPPORT GROUPS & MEETINGS

SATURDAYS

12:30–1 PM Redwood Grove Hike. Guided & informative tour through the redwoods. Call to confirm 335-7077. At Henry Cowell Redwood State Park, HWY 9, Felton.

SUNDAYS

9 AM–1 PM Live Oak Farmers’ Market. At the East Cliff Shopping Center, 1515 East Cliff Dr., Live Oak.

10 AM–3 PM Food Shares: Free Food Exchange & Barter Stand. Share your harvest with your community. Call Rebecca for info 429-5557. At the Live Oak Grange, 1900 17th Ave., Live Oak.

Cada domingo 10 AM–3 PM Compartiendo Comida: Intercambio de Frutas y Verduras Gratis. Comparte su cosecha con su comunidad. Para mas información, llame a Rebecca a 429-5557. A la Live Oak Grange, 1900 17th Ave., Live Oak.

MONDAYS

9–10:30 PM Creative Writing for Fun. Adults 55+ learn to make creative writing easy and enjoyable in this friendly and supportive class. Register by calling 420-6180 or visiting the Downtown Senior’s Office, SC.

12–4 PM Cook with Food Not Bombs Santa Cruz. Call 425-2667 for location.

12–4 PM Condoms, coffee and conversation at the Drop-In Center, 412 Front St., SC.

3–5 PM Free HIV testing, educational videos, information and safer sex supplies. Call 761-8595 for info. At Casa Bienestar, 90 Mariposa Ave., Wats.

4 PM Food Not Bombs, free vegan food served in front of Cinema 9. On Cooper St. & Pacific Ave., SC.

4:30 PM “Merrymaking Monday.” Join Food Not Bombs and Downtown for All in a celebration that is all-inclusive. Hackeysackers, skateboarders, jugglers, merchants, tourists, etc. invited. At the corner of Pacific Ave. & Cooper St., SC.

TUESDAYS

12–6 PM Organic fruits, vegetables and flowers grown at the UCSC Farm and Garden. At the corner of Bay St. & High St., SC.

2:30–6:30 PM Felton Farmers’ Market. 6090 HWY 9, Felton.

5 PM Youth Coalition SC. At the Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway Ave., SC.

Martes 6:30–7:30 PM Grupo de apoyo para madres y niños sobrevivientes de la violencia doméstica. En español. Defensa de Mujeres, 406 Main St., Wats.

6:30–9 PM Parent’s Support Group. For parents who need more information to understand or help a loved one during and after use of drugs and alcohol. Call Casa Bienestar 761-8595, 90 Mariposa Ave., Wats.

6–7:30 PM Sudden Death Support Group. Call 688-7684 for info. At the Hospice Caring Project, 6851 Soquel Dr., Aptos.

7 PM Earth First! Meeting. At 509 Broadway Ave. (next door to the Resource Center for Nonviolence), SC.

7 PM Downtown for All meeting. At the Wired Wash Cafe on Laurel St., SC.

7 PM Santa Cruz Peace Coalition meeting. Call 841-9139 x1917 for info. At the Resource Center for Nonviolence, 515 Broadway Ave., SC.

WEDNESDAYS

12–4 PM Cook with Food Not Bombs Santa Cruz, call 426-2667 for location.

2:30–6:30 PM Santa Cruz Farmers’ Market. Lincoln & Cedar St., SC.

4 PM Food Not Bombs serves free, hot, vegan food, at the Farmer’s Market, Lincoln & Cedar St., SC.

Miércoles/Wednesday 7-8:30 PM Drop-in domestic violence support group/grupo de apoyo para sobrevivientes de la violencia doméstica. In English y en español. Childcare available. Hay cuidado di niños. Women’s Crisis Support, 1658 Soquel Dr. Suite A., Santa Cruz.

5:30 PM Gay Men’s Volleyball. All levels welcome. Call 459-7506 for more info. At the Main Beach, SC.

7:30 PM “Lets talk about the movies,” a free discusson group open to all who enjoy talking about movies. Each week a local movie critic, or member of LTATM leads a discussion about a film currently playing in the area. Go to www.ltatm.org to find out which film is next. At the Del Mar Theater, mezzanine level on Pacific Ave., SC.

THURSDAYS

12–6 PM Organic fruits, vegetables and flowers grown at the UCSC Farm and Garden. At the corner of Bay St. & High St., SC.

12:30–4 PM Youth hours. Condoms, coffee and conversation at the Drop-In Center, 412 Front St., SC.

7:30–9 PM Anxiety and Panic Support Group, for individuals seeking support for general anxiety, panic, social phobias and OCD. At the Twin Lakes Church, 2701 Cabrillo College Dr., Aptos.

7 PM Gay Teen Alliance. For youth ages 14–25, all genders, bilingual. For info call 772-8200. 12 E. Gabilan St., Salinas.

7 PM Drop-in domestic violence support group. Call 426-3062 for info. At the Walnut Avenue Women’s Center, 303 Walnut Ave., SC.

7–8 PM (beginning) **8-9 PM** (intermediate/advanced) Free salsa dance class. At the Wired Wash Cafe on Laurel St., SC.

7–8:30 PM Young Warriors. Young women’s leadership program. Drop-in support also for survivors of violence. Call 426-3062 for info. At the Walnut Ave. Women’s Center, 303 Walnut Ave., SC.

7–8:30 PM Wise Guys. Drop-in support group for teenage survivors of violence. At the Walnut Ave. Women’s Center, 303 Walnut Ave., SC.

9 PM Dance Church, free-form dance environment, bring an item for the altar. All ages. Call 466-9770 for more info. At the 418 Project, 418 Front St., SC.

10 PM Roots Late Night Cafe. Featuring performances, open mic, dancing & a live DJ. Call 459-4838 for more info. At the UCSC Student Center, SC.

FRIDAYS

1:30–5 PM Women’s hours. Condoms, coffee and conversation. At the Drop-In Center, 412 Front St., SC.

3–7 PM Watsonville Farmers’ Market. Main & Park St. around the Plaza, Wats.

5 PM Peace Vigil and human billboards protesting war. Call the Santa Cruz Peace Coalition 427-2676 for more info. At the intersection of Ocean St. & Water St., SC.

5–6 PM Condoms, coffee and conversation at the Drop-In Center, 412 Front St., SC.

9 PM–1 AM Community Dance Jam with live DJ. Smoke-free, alcohol-free environment, all ages. \$7 (after 9:30), \$5 (before 9:30). Call 425-3325. At the 418 Project, 418 Front St., SC.

MONDAY-FRIDAY

1 PM Democracy Now! with Amy Goodman. FRSC 96.3 FM.

5:00 PM Free Speech Radio News. FRSC 96.3 FM.

5:30 PM Earth First! Radio. FRSC 96.3 FM.

7 PM Green Voice radio show. KZSC 88.1 FM.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 3–6:15 PM Free HIV testing at the Drop-In Center, 412 Front St., SC.

Announcements:

Recycle your computer! A local teacher is coordinating the placement of unused or unwanted computers in the homes of students who could use them for homework. Call 684-2627 if you have a spare computer.

Need food? Free USDA Commodities. 10am–1pm the 2nd Monday of each month at the Christian Life Center, 1009 Mission St., SC. 10 AM–1 PM every 3rd Monday of each month at Harbor Light Gospel Church, 2008 17th Ave., Live Oak.

Necesita Comida? Reciba Comestibles USDA gratis. 10 AM–1 PM el segundo lunes cada mes a la Christian Life Center, 1009 Mission St. 10 AM–1PM el tercero lunes cada mes a la Harbor Light Gospel Church, 2008 17th Ave., Live Oak.

Write-Start Backpack Project seeks donations of new backpacks, money, school supplies, bus passes and gift certificates to provide homeless and underprivileged with the basics to start school. Call 477-5422 for info. At the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, 809B Bay Ave., Capitola.

The Walnut Avenue Women’s Center is looking for volunteers to work with one of their many programs. University credit may be available. Must complete a 60-hour training and become a certified Domestic Violence Victim Advocate. Call 426-3062 or visit 303 Walnut Ave. for info.

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Resources and Educational Agencies

Women’s Crisis Support/Defensa de las Mujeres: 477-4244 (SC), 722-4532 (Wats.) 24-hour Crisis Hotline 831-M-U-J-E-R-E-S (685-3737)

The Walnut Avenue Women’s Center: 426-3062

The Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women: 420-6482

Family Matters of Scotts Valley (services mainly for men and families:) 430-0899

24-Hour local Rape Hotline: 685-3737

24-Hour Monterey Rape Crisis: 633-5900

Gay Men’s Domestic Violence Project—24 Hr intervention, support, support & shelter: (800)832-1901

Community United Against Violence – Gay Men’s DV services of SF: (415)333-4357

National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800)799-SAFE

Women Overcoming Abusive Behavior (WOAB) of Santa Cruz (Laura): 662-9174, (Julie) 724-6868

Men Overcoming Abusice Behavior: (MOAB) 476-9636 (Jack) 476-5299 (Brian)

UCSC Counseling Office: 459-2628

CalWorks (financial assistance): 454-4010 (SC), 763-8500 (Wats.)

The Diversity Center: 425-5422

SF Network for Battered Lesbians and Bisexual women: (415)281-4722

Families in Transition 458-4222 (SC) 763-8850 (Wats.)

Santa Cruz District Attorney’s Office: 454-2400 or 454-2589

Family Service Agencies Office of Watsonville, counseling for male perpetrators of DV: 724-7123

Santa Cruz Police Dept: 9-11, 471-1131

SC Sheriff: 471-1121/1131/1141 (Cap.)/1151 (Wats.)

Scotts Valley PD: 438-2323

UCSC police: 459-2231

Kid Power—empowerment for youth: 426-4407

UCSC Rape Prevention and Education: 459-2721

Survivors of Ritual Abuse: <http://www.survivorship.org>

To request a guide to Dealing with sexual harassment in SC County call 477-4255

Lawyers referral service: 425-4755 (SC)

Local Happenings

Events related to Domestic Violence awareness month

Thursday 10/17 6:30–8:30 PM Family Matters of Scotts Valley presents a free informative presentation on Safety Planning for Domestic Violence. Everyone invited. Call 430-0899 for info. At the SV Senior’s Center in SV, King’s Village Rd., SV

Thursday 10/17 Lesterjett and It’s a Whale perform to benefit Defensa de Mujeres, at Porter Cafeteria, UCSC.

Saturday 10/19 11–3:30 PM Children Learn What They Live. Free food for children, bouncy house, activities and booths. At Ramsey Park, Wats.

Saturday 10/19 11–3:30 PM Children Learn What They Live. Free food for children, bouncy house, activities and booths. At Louden Nelson park, SC.

Wholly Cross-Words

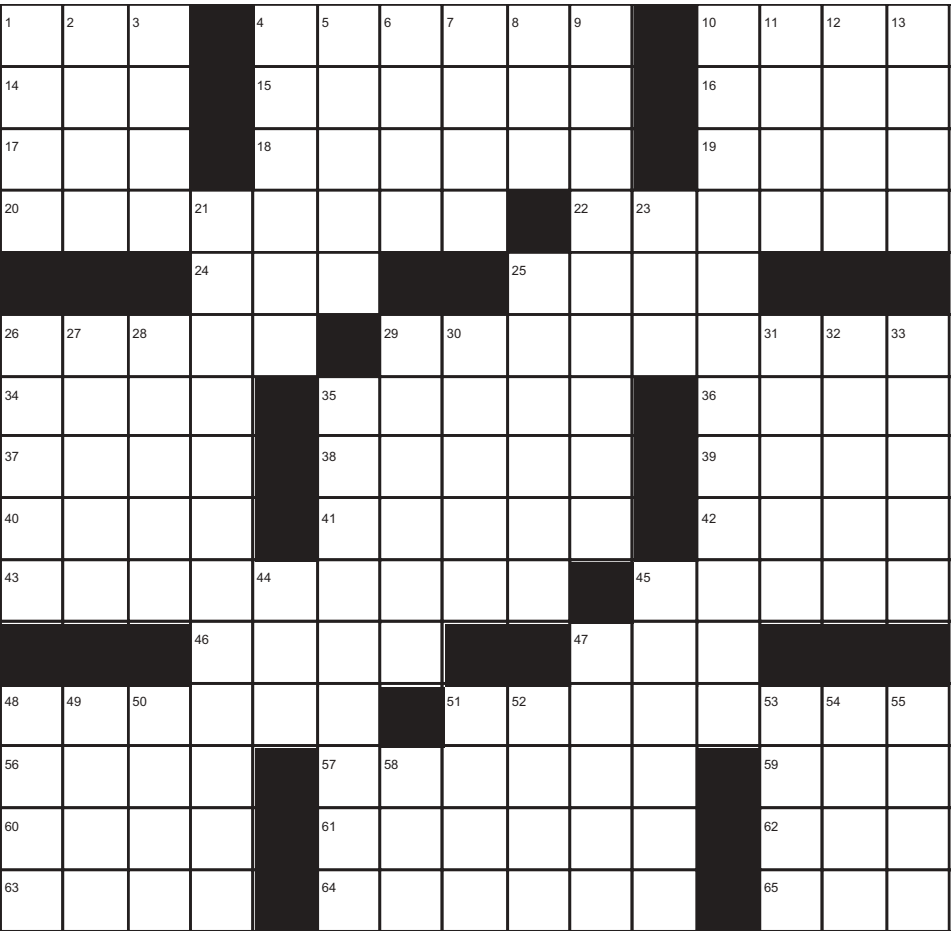
By Oliver Brown

Across

- 1 Universal time
- 4 Gorbachev vacation locale during 1991 coup attempt
- 10 Hair cluster
- 14 False statement
- 15 Traveling by bike
- 16 Cookie sandwich
- 17 Hotel
- 18 Devotee
- 19 Not pretty
- 20 In a manner that wounds
- 22 Snowy and Cattle
- 24 New Orleans to Detroit
- 25 Tear
- 26 Deteriorated from neglect (adj.)
- 29 What the media did to the plight of Elian Gonzalez
- 34 160 square rods
- 35 Toothbrush brand
- 36 "I can teach you how to bottle ____." —Professor Severus Snape, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (2001)
- 37 Male pig
- 38 Bellybutton
- 39 Rich in Veracruz (fem.)
- 40 Hat edge
- 41 SUNY _____ Brook
- 42 Profess
- 43 Egghead
- 45 Bee's _____
- 46 Letter starter
- 47 Twitch
- 48 Environment
- 51 Of dark coloring
- 56 Opera highlight
- 57 Stop a pilot from flying
- 59 Free your mind of troubles
- 60 Of no practical importance
- 61 Baroque maestro
- 62 West of Scot.
- 63 Mother of the Virgin Mary
- 64 Wilco founder
- 65 Write a play

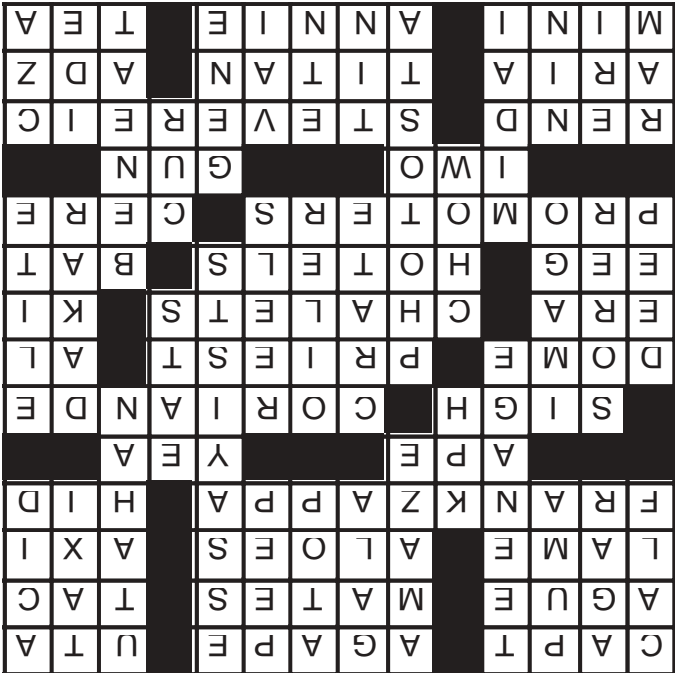
Down

- 1 Smooth-tongued
- 2 Small
- 3 Kind of caterpillar
- 4 Nook and _____
- 5 Homeland Security Director
- 6 False god
- 7 Muddy
- 8 New Orleans to Charleston
- 9 In a pleasant manner
- 10 Race dominated by Armstrong
- 11 Push for
- 12 Matted fabric
- 13 Sheriff Woody and Buzz Light-year
- 21 Go-between
- 23 Total money value estimate
- 25 Yield
- 26 Jewish spiritual leader
- 27 Nut
- 28 Genetic characteristic
- 29 Meteorite footprint
- 30 Chaos
- 31 Lacking experience
- 32 Bill Cullen or Jack Paar
- 33 Sweethearts
- 35 Sudden attack
- 44 *Crooklyn* director (1994)
- 45 Agreeable
- 47 Adjusted a ukulele
- 48 Mabel King role in "What's Happening!"
- 49 Press clothing
- 50 Leo
- 51 Something to pick
- 52 2nd track on Helmet's 1991 *Strap It On* LP
- 53 Denzel Washington role in *Glory* (1989)
- 54 Wheel covering
- 55 1984 *Everything But The Girl* LP
- 58 Uncooked



Puzzle #014

For comments, questions or hints, email: xword@kingturtle.com



Answers from last puzzle (# 013)

WHEN THE WORLD GETS YOU DOWN, ALWAYS REMEMBER....

LIFE'S LITTLE VICTORIES

BY KEITH KNIGHT

#2416: WHEN YOU SPILL A BIG GLOB OF KETCHUP--

SQUIRT

Mmph... Yessh..

--ON YOUR BRIGHT RED SHIRT!!

I'll take care of this-- No way... I've got it

No.1 INSIST.

Yes!!

#2418: THE FIRST PEN YOU PICK UP AT THE LOCAL BANK--

ACTUALLY WORKS!!

#2419: WHEN YOU SEE SOMEONE WHO BULLIED YOU IN JUNIOR HIGH--

HA!! SUCKER!!

GETTING ARRESTED!!

#2417: WHEN YOUR DATE INSISTS ON PAYING THE BILL!!

#2420: THE CHECK YOU'VE BEEN EXPECTING WEEKS FROM NOW--

Yes!!

--COMES TODAY!!

#2421: WHEN THE *PAY PHONE RETURNS NOT ONLY YOUR MONEY--

HA!! Yes!!

--BUT SOMEBODY ELSE'S TOO!!

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, #2422: WHEN YOU WIN AN ARGUMENT--

Grrrr...

NYah!!

Yes!!

--WITH ONE OF YOUR PARENTS!!

STOP


*KIDS, ask your parents what a payphone is..

send in your LITTLE VICTORIES...

WRITTEN BY KEITH KNIGHT, SAN FRANCISCO CA 94159-1991

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No Borders



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classifieds@the-alarm.com
or fill out this form and send it to:
P.O. Box 1205
Santa Cruz, CA
95061

Text:

- ☐ for sale/for grabs/for trade
- ☐ services offered
- ☐ work opportunities
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- ☐ pets
- ☐ housing
- ☐ garage sales
- ☐ seeking...
- ☐ personally

\$2.50/line Standard display
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one-time fee of 35% for ads
that require design work).

To place an ad call 429-NEWS between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday or Thursday. Ads received after the classified section is full will be held for the next issue.

To place a personal ad,
email:
**personals@the-
alarm.com**
or send the form on the
left completed to:
P.O. Box 1205
Santa Cruz, CA 95061

To reply to a personal ad, email: personals@thealarm.com. Specify which listing you are responding to by including the number you see at the beginning of the ad and placing it in subject heading of your message. All responses will be forwarded.

Personals cost
\$2.50/line.
Good Luck!



***El colectivo de
El Periódico La
Alarma!***
busca colaboradores. Aceptamos aplicaciones de aspirantes bilingües con habilidad para escribir y editar artículos. Favor de mandar una carta de interés y ejemplos de sus escritos a: P.O. Box 1205, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

Black and Decker Panel saw.
\$75.00 obo. Call 425-2727

MOPED or SCOOTER? I
will buy it if it runs. Email:
michelle@the-alarm.com

You asked for it...so here they are—real personals for real people. See the previous column for info on how to respond and place an ad. **YOU WON'T NECESSARILY FIND A DATE, BUT YOU WILL HAVE A LAUGH!**

10040201 I am a 30 yr old grass roots, permaculture, pirate radio, worker-owned revolution on 2 wheels. I like riding bikes, eating out, cooking nice vegetarian meals, reading, watching movies, listening to punk and folk music, and smoking lots of pot. I have a vasectomy, because I believe in MY right to choose. I'm the knight of cups offering the emotional fulfillment of your heart's dreams, and desires. I'm looking for a hippie-punk woman 24-35, who is emotionally stable, down to earth, and desires monogamous relationship. No polyandrous, bipolar drama queens please. Sex fiend scores bonus points! Lets make criminal mischief, as we lock down together!

10040202 Like puzzles? If so, I've got a challenge for you. I'm 29, usually male-identified, shy but outspoken, goofy but serious, sloppy but anal, ambitious but lazy, moody but stable, brusque but cordial, magnanimous but petty (mostly the former), suave but a total dork (mostly the latter), and generally just a hard nut to crack, but worth it. In search of someone active and engaged—physically, emotionally, intellectually and politically—patient and incisive enough to get to know me, unafraid of intimacy, unseduced by shiny things, undeterred by complexity and unaccepting of cowardice. Lets fit our pieces together and see what happens.

10040203 Remember the 80s, yeah! Well, let's hook up if you want to get together and compare notes on tube socks, headbands, LA Gear, velcro, shoulder pads and the Culture Club.

10040204 Oral Fixation! I am 21, red-headed with no gag reflex. I love to eat ppsicles, carrot sticks, churros and large cucumbers. Light relationship only—I've been told that as a girlfriend I suck.

10040205 Sheep man-boy looking for love. You can find me at the heavy-petting zoo. I'll be the one with the Morrissey shirt!

10040206 Six-foot girl gonna
sweat when she dig. Stand close
to the fire when they light the
pig. Standing in her chino shirt
pulled off clean got a tattoo tit
say Number 13. Viva, don't want
to blue eyes. La Loma. I want
brown eyes. Rica. I'm in a state.

10040207 I fell from the wagon
to the night train. I kissed the
bottle. I should've been kissing
you. You wake up to an empty
night with tears for two.

08230201 I never want to grow up! I'm Peter Pan! Be my Wendy! Must be into juggling, Japanese punk rock, Kali Mocho.

08230204 Elvis lips! Hot wax!
Crayola Fetish! I'm a sassy
newsie looking for a companion
to pour my cider while I sit on
the stoop.

08230206 Jack-guzzling, camel-smoking, sensitive Emo man-child seeks similarly-wounded stylish, cute girl for leftist politics, debauchery and discussions of Hot Water music lyrics. Black hoodie a must, fishnet stockings a plus. Does your soul cry out in the dark? Mine does too. Let's bleed together and make it a double.

09060208: Lonely, depressed man looking for a short woman.

P.O. Box 1205
Santa Cruz, CA 95061
or email:

www.the-alarm.com/subscribe.html

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Additional donation*: \$

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‡ Subscriptions are free to prisoners. If you are a prisoner—or a prisoner’s advocate ordering a subscription for a prisoner—please check the “Prisoner” box and you will not be billed. If you want to *buy* a subscription as a gift to a prisoner, please do not check the “Prisoner” box.

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Women's Crisis Support - Defensa de Mujeres

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