

JENNIE LUNA—MOSAIC STAFF

Lupe Cortez, former gang member, stands before mural that inspired her to go from a life of desperation to one with hope.

## That graffiti may be art — or it may mean war

BY JENNIE LUNA  
Staff writer

Walking down the streets of East San Jose anyone can see the inconsistent squiggles and scattered lettering that to some mean nothing but to another means war.

By day the walls of schools and stores stand as nothing but support for buildings, but by night they become canvases for youths who "tag" for artistic or individual expression or to claim turf and territory for their gang. According to city officials and community leaders, tagging is growing out of control.

Former gang member Lupe Cortez recalls that the main reason she would tag would be to claim territory and prove that she had been in the barrio of another gang and had gotten away with it. Cortez, 15, will be a junior at Mt. Pleasant High School in the fall. It has been almost a year since she

was jumped out of the gang. Cortez began the gang lifestyle in the eighth grade.

"In junior high I started kicking back with the wrong crowd," she said. "My parents didn't have time and I got into drugs and fights with my friends. In ninth grade I was jumped in by six girls for one minute."

Before a person is jumped into a gang they must prove their loyalty or prove if they are truly "down." Lupe was a Nortena, or part of a gang that is down with the red rag and with her varrio Capitol Park. They would have a conflicting or opposing gang member such as a Sureño or a Samoan approach the new member and ask them if they were down with red. After their loyalty was proven, they could be jumped in or beat up for a set amount of time.

To continue to prove their loyalty, they tagged. The gang would



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A mural from the Barrio Art Gallery depicts the struggles and hardships of growing up in the ghetto.

meet every Friday at 6 p.m., usually in a park where they would drink, tag, and kick back until 1 or 3 in the morning. The gang began to fight the rougher gang-bangers such as Las Palmas. Lupe began cutting school and getting deeper into trouble.

Through communication with the gang's leaders, and with the persistent help, time, and love from a teacher, Lupe got the strength to get out of the gang.

"When you're in a gang, it's like you're in a dark tunnel with no light ahead," she said. "When you live the life of a chola, you don't think about tomorrow. Even best friends, if it comes down to it, they'll shoot."

"The solution is just love," she said. Cortez recalls tagging everything from park benches to the walls of Taco Bell. It's been a year,

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## Little boy face — 'Never did I think Mike would hit me'

BY EVA ZUNIGA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Christina was swept away by Mike's little boy face. For the first few months while they got to know each other, Christina said, "He seemed nice."

They met during Christina's freshman year in high school. As the year passed, Christina realized she was in a serious relationship when Mike would not go out with his friends. But he also did not allow her to go out either.

At first Christina did not mind because she had chosen Mike over her friends. The love she was receiving from Mike made her look beyond his bad temper and possessiveness. She had never felt love from anyone else.

So she would make up excuses for Mike

when he would slap, punch and kick her.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think that Mike would ever hit me," Christina said. It is not her real name. She is 17, a student at James Lick High School in San Jose and works part-time.

Her boyfriend gave her dark, deep bruises that wouldn't heal for months. She would hide them with her clothes as much as possible, but friends eventually did notice them. Christina made up lies. She'd look away when her friends pressed her for answers.

There are no exceptions to where or whom it can affect.

"Reasons for this trend has been encouraged by unstable family life, low self-esteem, jealousy, TV, movies, and music," said Rich

Garcia, a counselor in the men's program for the Mid-Peninsula Support Network for Battered Women. Others counsel abuse wives and girlfriends. Garcia tries to cure them. He said teenage abuse of girlfriends is increasing and some abusers today are as young as 13.

Not only does the violence increase in time but so do the mind games for gaining control.

"The cycle of violence could end if one gets help and identifies that they have a problem," Garcia said.

The physical abuse was only one of the ways that Mike, also a pseudonym, hurt Christina.

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## Abortion foes to launch S.J. campaign

BY ELIZABETH FUENTES  
Mosaic Staff writer

Vanessa Ayala, 17, relies on Planned Parenthood for birth control and checkups. She first went to a clinic in Salinas in February when she started having sex with her boyfriend of two years.

She chose Planned Parenthood because she said she didn't want her parents to know she was having a sexual relationship.

Vanessa, who first heard about the clinic over the radio, said she made an appointment for a routine examination, which is required before birth control pills can be prescribed.

The examination process, she said, was very rude but she's glad she went.

"I was very nervous and wanted to get it over with," she said.

Now teenagers like Vanessa might have more reason to be nervous and afraid about going to a Planned Parenthood office.

On July 9th, the anti-abortion group, Operation Rescue, is planning to launch a campaign in San Jose.

The group is known to use

intimidation to convey its message.

Its members stage protests and have used scare tactics to shut down clinics that perform abortions.

They also have confronted doctors at their homes and on their way to work.

"If a (young woman) is going to a clinic to have an abortion, she should be nervous," said Sally Ashe, local director for Operation Rescue.

She would not reveal the group's strategy in San Jose.

"Nobody knows until the event happens," she said.

However, local Planned Parenthood offices and other clinics that offer gynecological services say young women need not worry.

"You don't need to be afraid," said Diana Choles, assistant director of Planned Parenthood at the Alameda in San Jose.

She says they will have assistance from the San Jose Police Department.

"If they (potential patients) should not get any answers, they should not hesitate to call us."

## Musicland anti-theft policy severely restricts teenagers

BY DEMONE CARTER  
Staff writer

Young adults under the age of 18 might be insulted by an anti-theft policy at the Musicland store in the Pavilion shopping center downtown.

The policy severely restricts teenage browsing in the store unless they are accompanied by an adult.

On a recent weekday during the lunch hour, four high school students stopped by the store to look at tapes and CDs.

As soon as the students entered Musicland they were approached by a sales clerk.

He asked them a series of questions: "Hi, how are you?" "What can I do for you?" "Can I help you find anything?"

After they politely informed him his help wasn't needed, he informed them of Musicland's policy which permits only one person under the age of 18 to shop in the store at any one time.

Although one of the students was 18 when asked for identification she and her peers exited.

Suspecting possible discrimination, the students, who were all racial minorities, went back that same day to test the policy. Their test proved to be inconclusive. They all walked into the store without incident and were not confronted with the procedure. Musicland district manager Fred

Attincio explained that the Pavilion store had experienced problems with teenage shoplifters and that the policy at the Pavilion store was a preventative measure.

"We had a real high loss in inventory at that store," he said. "Too many kids were in the store, so we decided to cut down on the number kids in the store (at any one time)."

Many teenage music lovers said they were not pleased with Musicland's anti-theft tactics.

"That stupid that they do not trust teen-agers," said Syvrit Perryman, 17.

Her comment was echoed by Ken May, also 17.

"I guess it's their right, but it's bad for them because most of the people who shop there are under the age of 18," said May. "You're never going to stop shoplifting and plus, not all shoplifters are under 18."

A quick check of music stores in this area indicated that the anti-theft policy is unique to Musicland.

Tower records employee Sean Love said shoplifting is a problem everywhere.

"But I can understand [their measures] if they do not have good security," he said.

Musicland's national headquarters in Minneapolis, Minn. could not be reached for comment.

## Intense pressure for the perfect body: When dieting becomes too dangerous

BY LIZ CORRALES  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Teenage girls today not only feel the pressure of succeeding academically, they also feel intense pressure to have a perfect body. Often, they nearly self-destruct in their efforts to be as thin as they deem necessary to meet society's ideal.

Katherine, 17, was obsessed with her weight by the time she was nine years old. First, she went on a calorie reduction diet, but when she thought she wasn't losing enough weight, she ate even less.

By the time she was a sophomore in

high school, she said she was taking 14 laxative tablets a day—seven at a time. The recommended dosage is not more than two pills a day.

"I knew it was wrong but I didn't care," she said. "I would do anything to lose weight."

Katherine, who asked that her real name not be used, is tall and blond. She is appears thin, standing 5-foot-8 and weighing 130 pounds. But at one time, she was anorexic and bulimic, weighing just 105 pounds.

Katherine suffered from eating disorders that often strike teenagers and young women, according to Joanne

Ikedda, a dietitian and professor at the University of California at Berkeley.

"There is definitely more social pressure in females (to be thin) than males," she said, explaining that it's OK for men to be big because it is looked upon as being strong, whereas for women, being heavy translates to just being fat.

Ikedda added that female teenagers try too hard to emulate the thin models they so often see in magazines.

"We need to recognize that human beings come in different body shapes," she said.

Most often, women and young girls with eating disorders are white. The rea-

son, said Ikeda, is that there is more of an emphasis on thin being the ideal body type among Caucasians.

The African-American culture, for instance, is more tolerant of different weights and figure types which, in turn, gives black women less to feel insecure about, she said.

Katherine became critical of her weight when she others started commenting on her size. She remembers her mother telling her she should watch her weight.

"I will never forget the time a boy told

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# Homeless take city to task

BY EVANGELINE ORTIZ  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Clyde Johnson, in a blue tank top and black jeans that hung loosely around his waist, wandered around the San Jose City Council chamber last week as he waited to demand better housing for the homeless like himself.

"We want fair housing, places to stay, minimum income, and the government to help us find a job," said Johnson. About 400 people attended the city council meeting, and about 80 homeless people surrounded City Hall with picket signs.

The homeless gathered together June 24 in front of City Hall to oppose a city redevelopment subsidy for a new building downtown for IBM and a \$3 million subsidy for the arena and other projects. The homeless feel that not enough money is being spent on them. The protesters said that if the city can spend money on IBM then it can spend money on housing.

The protesters all wore white bands on their arms to symbolize peace. The homeless situation on the streets getting worse every year, the protesters said. About 24,000 people in Santa Clara County become homeless during the course of a year, according to Jim McEntee, executive director of the county Human Relations Commission. He said there would be about 4,000 homeless in and out of the streets on an average day.

"Up to four families are sleeping under one roof," said Roy Stephens, a volunteer with the Homeless Alliance, an advocacy group based in San Jose.

He said that being a volunteer can reward you in ways that a pay check can't. "I get paid by the smiles, and the laughter of the homeless," said Stephens.

Many of the homeless people that you see on the streets are not what society portrays them to be, he said. The homeless people many ordinary citizens see pushing shopping carts are people who "push it for a day's survival," Stephens said.

"We're numbers that they play around with," said Antoine Simmons. He also protested at City Hall. Simmons said he lost his business and has no job. He also hopes that he could get help finding a job, instead of being put in jail.

The protesters argued for the same thing, which is fair housing and a higher minimum wage, which is now \$4.75 an hour.

"We're being harassed for being harmless," said Simmons. He said the minimum wage is not enough for them to live on and raise a family.

Homeless people are seen throughout the city and many say they are looked upon as being dirty and bums. Though there are stories behind their lives that nobody knows, few ask to live out in the street. There are shelters that they can go to for food, shelter, clothing, and showers, but the "welcome doesn't last forever."

When they first become homeless they don't know what to do, Stephens said. The new kid on the block has someone who has been in the streets for a while show them the tricks to being out there. They buy wine, food, and cigarettes by collecting cans. Some of the homeless receive general assistance, a combined state and county benefit for single, indigent individuals. Some are also eligible for federal Social Security benefits.

Simmons said homeless people need a powerful organization to provide jobs and housing.

"There is no future for youths," said Simmons. "If the government does not do anything right now to help the situation then there is no future for our children."

# A ride with the cops opens eyes

BY ELI NAVA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

As I open the door to the San José Police Department, a cold artificial air hits me. It's 3 p.m. on Friday and about 95 degrees outside. As my eyes adjust to the dark lighting inside, I see about 15 people sitting around for reasons unknown. There are police officers at the desks but they seem pretty bored and unconcerned except for one female cop who seems pretty chirpy and is talking about some type of police Olympics.

It's about 3:45 p.m. and that nice cool air has turned stale.

Many people have come in and out, including police officers. So when Officer Rick Yu came in he was just another cop walking in. With his gun, his Terminator styled sunglasses and his short, gung-ho haircut, I came to the assumption that he was one of those Officer Koon (the senior officer who was at the Rodney King incident) type police officers.

I said to myself: "This is not going to be a fun ride." Even the people who were waiting looked at me as if to say, "I feel sorry for you."

We made our introductions

and were on our way. Our first stop is for gas at the county gas station, where all county vehicles are fueled. He's 28 and has worked on the force for three years. With two of those years on the East Side. He was born in Taiwan and has lived in San José for 17 years. It's 4 p.m. and we are sent out to a house on Adamswood Drive where a woman went into her neighbor's house, which she was house sitting, and found it to be broken into.

I ask him what he thinks the public's opinion of the San José Police Department is. "The

majority have a positive outlook on us generally, those who think negatively probably have been arrested before," he says as we drive to the house. "San José isn't the best but it's one of the best."

The house was in a very nice, upper-class neighborhood. We went inside and Yu did a search and in the process of walking around the house, I noticed that the three kids in the house were completely unconcerned about the situation. Their main concern was in going swimming. However, as Yu started fingerprinting the areas that the burglar might have touched the kids all of a sud-

den became curious. Before, when we were talking to the woman who called the police, they were watching T.V. and playing with toys. As soon as Yu came in with the fingerprint kit they watched over his shoulder.

At 5:45 p.m. we leave the house. We are called on several calls but are quickly called off due to them being resolved without our help. We go for lunch and just casually talk until 6:26 p.m. when Yu takes me through Welch Park, Huron drive, Cunningham Avenue, Poco Way and Kollmar Apartments which he describes as

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ELIZABETH PUENTES - MOSAIC

The Keystone Coffee Store in downtown San Jose is a popular spot for a cup of java or mocha or cappuccino.

# Coffee Culture

## Hot places for a cup of java around downtown San Jose

BY APRIL JONES  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Friday night at 10:30, a young man with pink-spiked hair and a well-worn leather jacket enters a small, crowded coffee shop on busy First Street and orders an iced cappuccino. Ten minutes later a gray-haired man and his companion walk into the same coffee shop and order double espressos.

What, pray tell, is happening here? Just when you thought it was safe to pack up those polyester bell-bottoms, cuffed jeans, and mood rings, yet another vintage trend has returned. But it's not focused on fashion or even music. Coffee houses as social scenes have re-emerged from the days of Greenwich village, poetry readings and long conversations. In downtown San Jose, this phenomenon is evident in at least three places within walking distance of San Jose State University, the major hotels, and the convention center.

• **KEYSTONE COFFEE STORE**, 321 First St. • (7 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun.-Wed.; 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Thurs.-Sat.)

One of the most well-known and established coffee houses in the area, Keystone has a natural old-time style that attracts all age groups. Walking into it is like entering a different time period. A stencil pattern adorns the walls. Accenting the many cozy tables and chairs scattered around the room are chrysanthemums in a vase. Tables are also arranged outside where customers can sit and watch the people walk by.

"It's convenient and has a pleasant atmosphere," says Bill O'Brien, one of the customers at the shop.

The employees are all very friendly and service is prompt. Late evening is usually the best time to people watch. Along with the patrons you might describe as students, young adults and professors from nearby San Jose State. During the day, it is usually quiet except for an occasional rowdy and intimidating crowd that stops by.

• **VIGAL COFFEE ROASTING CO.**, 52 W. Santa Clara St. • (8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat.; closed Sun.)

This roomy new coffee shop is decorated with oil and watercolor paintings depicting the different buildings and streets of downtown San Jose. Classical music softly plays in the background. The store's most frequent customers are downtown workers and a few nearby residents. It's rarely crowded because most customers buy their coffee on the run. Lee Lee, (known as Mr. Lee to his customers) is part owner of Vigal and says the shop caters to the business people who want fast service. At 11 a.m. on a recent weekday, the place was almost vacant, with just a couple of customers sitting at tables. A few people in business clothes walked in to purchase coffee to go. Bartender Lance Perry said he likes to come in and read architectural magazines while drinking his coffee. Customer Melissa Wagner, dressed in black with an earring in her nose, said she had only been there twice, but thinks the coffee is better than most places.

• **CAFE DE ROMA**, 110 Paseo de San Antonio • (7 a.m.-9 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. and Sun.)

One thing that customers notice when they walk into the dark, large room is the abstract paintings on all the walls of this very urbane coffee house. The artwork by local artists is for sale and changes every month. High ceilings and lots of plants give this place an arty feel, hence the type of crowd most often spotted. Teachers, students and even police officers have also been known to stop by for a cappuccino the shop's most popular drink.

"We're here most of the time," says Sherry Nasaeripour-towski who owns the coffee shop with her husband, Hamid.

They recently held an exhibit of photographs by Joseph Schuetz, who says he wanted to show his work in a coffee shop atmosphere because they tend to have a friendly and open feeling. Jill Stewart and Bill Igel, who live in the Colonnade apartment complex nearby, said they come to Café de Roma for the iced tea and \$1 coffee. Stewart says she recommends it



## Cops: —

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problem areas. They all looked pretty cool when we drove through them, but Poco Way and Kollmar Apts. were different.

At Poco Way there was garbage throughout the streets and Yu said that it was cleaner than it usually is. Kids were outside playing and they were waving to us, but the adults turned away or just stared us down. The Kollmar Apts. were, as I was told, just repainted so it was really clean.

The rooms are mainly rented by low income people. As we drove through these streets it seemed weird that this is what I came to see. Am I that morbid that I would want to see the end to the pain and struggle of living on the street and not being able to do a damn thing about it. I came to see the gang-bangers and the violence.

We just drove around until we got a call about a fight at 7:07 p.m. at Ocala by Meyer Elementary School. Some kids had supposedly jumped a kid and possibly stabbed him in the back. We drove around looking for the kid until we got a report at 7:11 p.m. that some kids had been stopped for questioning on the assault. We got there and my hopes for the future Raza fell. There were four Chicano teenagers stopped who's ages ranged from 14 to 16. They were all tacked down with their gang-affiliation and one vato (slang for guy) even had his girlfriend's first initial tattooed on his forearm. He was only 14 and already had his ol ladies initial on his arm. They all seemed cool when talking to the "placa" (police) but seemed ashamed when Yu told them to show me their tats.

We left and at 7:25 p.m. we stopped and talked to some people who were in an empty lot that they weren't supposed to be in. The police were first questioning a man who I guess they caught drinking. So he was getting the basic biographical questions that include name, address, age, drivers license, etc. Sitting on a wall nearby was a guy who was just kicking back. Yu called him over and started asking him the same type of questions. He was a soft spoken Mexican. It turns out that there was a warrant out for his arrest.

He stated that he had already served the time for the warrant but the police department stood by their statement that there was a warrant. So we ended up having to take him in on a no-bail warrant for petty theft with priors.

As we took him to the county jail he was calm and confident that there was a mistake on their part. They took him into the room and searched him. He was then taken to a counter and asked some questions. Everybody in the cells seem to be drunk or suffering from psychological problems.

It's 8:22 p.m. and there is a problem with the warrant. They can't find it. At 8:36 p.m. Yu goes to the station to pick up the warrant and our guy is handcuffed to the chair and waits patiently. At 8:51 p.m. Yu comes back with the warrant but it turns out that his probation officer wants to see him.

We leave at 8:54 p.m. and it's twilight outside. I come out with a different outlook of the streets, police officers, and life in general. I have seen a little bit of what some cops can act like and what type of people they have to deal with. Coming from Salinas, which is small compared to San José, it opened my eyes and widened my perspective of the police.

I am dropped off at exactly 9 p.m. As I am dropped off, Yu gets another call from the same house that we first went to for the burglary. Yu's computer said she found some new prints. I feel bad not being able to go back to the house that I initially had gone with Yu to. If I were a cop I would not be able to separate my job from my personal life. It's tough. As the woman of the burglarized house said, "It's not a very safe job nowadays."

## Working out, Mexicana style

*Feeling of alienation and self consciousness keep many women away from the health clubs*

BY ANGÉLICA CASTANEDA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Marisela Soto is a beautiful and intelligent fashion model drenched in sweat. While she happily did aerobics to the beat of the music in a gym in Redwood City, another 150 women also were working out. Only 30 of them were Mexicans who were trying to lose those extra pounds, the results of too many carnitas, tortillas, and chicharrones.

Among them, Soto was one of the strongest and one of the few Mexicans in the group.

"I've been coming to this gym for about five years. I began coming with my modeling instructor," said Soto. "Up until now, I've never stopped from coming. I only come in three times a week, but when I don't, I exercise in my house or go out to run."

"I am proud to be doing what I enjoy and I don't hold back because there aren't more Mexicans," said Soto. "I am not going to feel bad if I am the only Mexican, and if this is the case... it's no reason to feel bad."

"In the United States, Mexican women are missing from the health clubs. On the other hand, in Mexico, the gyms are full of women," expressed Soto, a 19 year old brunette.

"I believe that Mexican people don't go to the gyms because they think there won't be people with the same habits," said Soto, "and they will be embarrassed to work out because they won't be comfortable with people who are not from their own country."

According to this young model, the reason there are few Mexican women in the gyms is due to some American women who gawk at the Mexican women, as if not believing that Mexican women are also slim and pretty; this makes them feel bad.

As for Lisa Alvares, who also found

herself working out at the gym in Redwood City, she says that sometimes the lack of money is also an obstacle to working out for the Mexican woman.

"Many times there isn't enough to pay for a gym, but it isn't necessary to come to the gyms," said Alvares while she rested after working out with weights. "When you want to look good and enjoy good health, it doesn't matter where the exercise is done...there are many ways of doing it."

"What's important is that you don't mind those people and that you make yourself 'trucha' (tough)," expressed Soto.

But according to Mexican women like Alvares, not going to the gyms is also due to a lack of time and the activities that they have to do during the day.

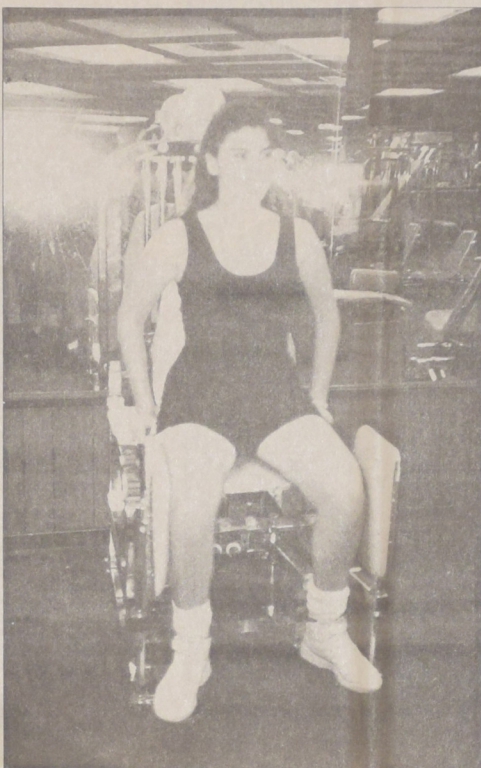
"It's hard for me to come because I work and study, but I like it," said Alvares, who is a receptionist in a law office in Redwood City while at the same time is studying to be a youth counselor at Foothill College.

Alvares and Soto hope they will serve as examples to young Mexican women will go to the gym despite any problems they might have.

"I say that more Mexican youth ought to come because it's a good way of relaxing and looking good," said Alvares.

"I want to tell Mexicans to work for their dreams, that they not fall behind, because if one wants to work towards their dreams, one does get what one wants and you do it even better," expressed Soto. "If the doors close on you, it doesn't matter, continue struggling, because if you want your dreams to become reality, you can do it."

"What does it matter if you are the only Mexican woman in a gym? We are all equals," said Soto. "The only difference is the color and preferences, but that doesn't stop us from being brothers and sisters."



Marisela Soto works out in Redwood City.

ANGÉLICA CASTANEDA — MOSAIC

## Las mujeres mexicanas estan ausentes de los clubes de salud en los Estados Unidos

POR ANGÉLICA CASTANEDA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Marisela Soto es una modelo bonita e inteligente que estaba bañada en sudor.

Mientras hacía "aerobics", alegremente al ritmo de la música en un gimnasio de Redwood City; alrededor de 150 mujeres también hacían ejercicio. Soto 30 de ellas eran mexicanas que trataban de quitarse esos kilos de mas, resultado de los excesos de carnitas, tortillas y chicharrones.

Entre ellas, Soto era una de las mas fuertes y también una de las pocas mexicanas en el grupo.

"Tengo viniendo a este gimnasio como cinco años. Empecé a venir con mi instructora de modelaje," dijo Soto. "Hasta ahora no he dejado de venir. Nada más vengo tres días a la semana, pero cuando no vengo hago ejercicio en mi casa o salgo a correr."

"Me siento orgullosa por que estoy haciendo lo que a mí me gusta y no me estoy deteniendo por que no hay más

mexicanas," dijo Soto. "No me voy a sentir mal por que somos esto yo de mexicana y pues si así fuera... no hay por que sentirse mal!"

"En los Estados Unidos las mexicanas estan ausentes de los clubes de salud. En México en cambio, los gimnasios estan llenos de mujeres," Expreso Soto, una joven morena de 19 años de edad.

"Yo creo que la gente mexicana no va a los gimnasios por que piensa que no va haber gente con sus mismas costumbres," dijo Soto, "y va tener pena de hacer ejercicio por que no tiene confianza en la otra gente por que no es de su país."

De acuerdo con esta joven modelo, el que haya menos mexicanas en los gimnasios se debe a que algunas mujeres americanas, nomás se las quedan mirando a las mujeres mexicanas como si no creieran que las mujeres mexicanas tambien son esbeltas y bonitas. Y las hacen sentir mal.

Por su parte Lisa Alvares, quien también se encontraba haciendo ejercicio en

el gimnasio de Redwood City, dice que a veces la falta de dinero es tambien un obstaculo para que la mujer mexicana haga ejercicio.

"Muchas veces no hay suficiente como para pagar un gimnasio, pero no es necesario venir a los gimnasios," dijo Alvares mientras descansaba despues de hacer pesas. "Cuando uno quiere verse bien y tener buena salud, no importa donde se hace el ejercicio... Hay muchas formas de hacerlo."

"Lo que importa es que tu no les hagas caso a esa gente y que te pongas trucha," expreso Soto.

Pero de acuerdo con mujeres mexicanas como Alvares, el no ir a los gimnasios se debe también a la falta de tiempo y a las actividades que tienen que hacer ellas durante el día.

"Es muy pesado para mí venir porque trabajo y estudio, pero me gusta," dijo Alvares quien es receptionista en una oficina de abogados en Redwood City, y al mismo tiempo estu-

dia en el Foothill College para ser consejera de jóvenes.

Alvares y Soto esperan que ellas sirvan de ejemplo para que las jóvenes mexicanas vayan a los gimnasios a pesar de los problemas que tengan.

"Yo digo que deberían de venir mas jóvenes mexicanos porque es una buena manera de relajarse y verse bien," dijo Alvares.

"Les quiero decir a los mexicanos que luchan por sus sueños, que no se queden atrás porque si uno quiere luchar por sus sueños. Si logra lo que uno quiere y lo hace hasta mejor," expreso por su parte Soto. "Si te cierran las puertas, no importa sigue luchando, por que si tu quieres que tus sueños se hagan realidad, tu lo puedes lograr."

"Que importa que fueras la única mexicana en un gimnasio por que somos iguales," dijo Soto. "La única diferencia es el color y los gustos, pero eso no nos separa de ser hermanos y hermanas."

## Condom use is overinflated: Safe sex is just hot air

BY APRIL JONES  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Chris started having sex a year ago. She had had a steady boyfriend for about a year and felt ready for a sexual relationship. Chris, 17, used condoms.

But only occasionally.

"If he didn't have anything, I didn't really worry about it," said the senior who attends a San Jose High School and asked that her last name not be used.

However, she lied to her friends that she practiced safe sex each and every time.

Chris knows about AIDS. She knows the principles of birth control. Yet, she fobs about using condoms consistently because she doesn't want to hear the lectures and she doesn't want to explain her actions.

She says she knows that she's taking a risk but it doesn't stop her from having sex without the condoms that everyone insists is the barrier between life and death.

Chris is like many teenagers who are smart and popular but, for some reason, choose to gamble with their bodies, then insist to others that they are being careful.

And it's not just teens who are lying. Women, too, lie about using condoms, says Alexandra Penney, editor of Self magazine and author of, "How to Make Love to a Man (Safely)." She discovered this fact while researching her book.

Seemingly supporting her finding is a study that found that condom sales have dropped since 1991, Penney notes in her book.

Everyone knows safe sex is not just a catch slogan, it's a way of life for everyone who is sexually active. For young people, the AIDS epidemic has been a big part of their health education. But surprisingly, many girls are not taking these health threats seriously.

A quick phone survey of 10 teenage girls between the ages of 16 and 19 years old found that all but one did not use condoms. Their reasoning was that they were having sex with a single partner. Overwhelmingly, they thought a monogamous relationship wouldn't pose as much of a danger for contracting AIDS.

"When you have a steady boyfriend, you



don't have to worry about it," said Sally, a senior at Independence High School who asked that her real name not be used.

It is one of the frequent misconceptions young people have about safe sex, says John Tighe, a health educator for the University of California at San Francisco who

is involved with the city's AIDS Health Project.

Many teen girls, he said, still consider AIDS to be a disease that affects mostly homosexual men and drug addicts. In addition, they find that talking about condoms is embarrassing.

"A lot of them don't feel they can insist that their partner use one," he said.

Yet those same teens will tell their friends and doctors that they always practice safe sex so that they can protect that image of being politically correct, Tighe added.

In addition, teens are under the impression that having sex is a passage into adulthood, and being told to wear a condom makes them feel like a child again, he said.

It is also easier for them to explain their negligence to parents.

"I have a lot of family problems and I wouldn't want to create any more problems," said Marissa, 18.

A graduate of Yerba Buena High School who asked for a pseudonym for obvious reasons.



## TERRY GUERRERO-DALEY

Attorney and auditor of public complaints  
for the San Jose Police Department.

Guerrero-Daley's new job with the city of San Jose means she will be reviewing police brutality cases brought to her by the citizens of this community.

"This is a big opportunity for me to get in the public's eye," she said, adding that the new position "instills pride in me and in the community."

Guerrero-Daley would like the people of San Jose to feel comfortable with her and encourages them to come talk to her and to let her know how she is doing as the city's police department auditor.

Once a high school dropout who was a wife and mother before her junior year, Guerrero-Daley is now a much admired criminal attorney practicing in Redwood City. She is vice-president of La Raza Lawyers Association and a member of the Hispanic National Bar Association.

She is also director of Los Lupenos, a folkloric dance group.

"The rewards are so overwhelming that it's worth the effort," she said about her success during a recent interview at her home in the Eastside district of San Jose.

Sitting in her living room, she talked about the hardships of raising a son at such a young age. Eventually, she made up her mind to go to night school to get her diploma because she realized she wanted more out of life.

Being a lawyer was something Guerrero-Daley said she always wanted to do. Working full time during the day, she began taking night classes at Lincoln University Law School in San Jose at the age of 25.

When asked how she carried such a full load she said: "I always found a way to get through."

Although she said she had to face the pressure of being a woman and a minority during a time when few women of color were on the career path, she says young women today have more advantages because of the rise in the new organizations for minorities.



## ALMA GARCIA

Professor of sociology and director of women's studies  
at Santa Clara University.

Leave the world a little better than you found it" and "use your expertise to reform society" are two philosophies that Garcia believes in.

As a professor and head of women's studies program, she is much involved in a mentoring program for young women. She sees the importance of sharing her expertise with others so that more opportunities can open up for them.

As an undergraduate at the University of Texas, Garcia said she was discouraged from going for a masters degree by her professors. Even a Latino professor, whom she thought would be on her side, told her that she would have to "struggle" too hard if she went to graduate school.

Despite their attempts to hold

her back, Garcia got into Harvard University and got her degree.

She recalls that at the time she was applying to Harvard, the Ivy League schools were just beginning to make efforts to review the files of Latinos instead of neglecting them or shoving them aside unopened and unwanted.

Today, colleges such as Santa Clara University have become more open-minded in admitting Latinos, she said, but that the representation of Latinos has yet to be significant.

Despite the turnaround, which opened doors for many minorities, she is disturbed by the fact that one out of two Latinos are high school dropouts.

She advised to "Always believe in yourself" because obstacles based on color and gender are "persistent" in the lives of Latinos.

# On their own terms

## Four Latinas share how they found a life of their own

BY PERLITA DICOCHEA

Young Latina women who think they should settle for lesser careers or who think they don't have a right to have a life of their own should take a look at the successful lives of four Bay Area Latinas.

They have dispelled the stereotype that Latinas are only interested in having families and have gone on to become role models for a generation of young women.

Lupe Dias, Terry Guerrero-Daley, Alma Garcia and Ysabel Duron have all succeeded despite the obstacles they've faced because of their ethnicity and gender.

Here, they talk about their achievements and their careers and give advice that might be helpful to those interested in following in their footsteps.

## LUPE DIAS

Counselor with the National Association for Chicano Studies,  
at the University of California, Berkeley.

As an advisor for the association, Dias' primary duty is to be available to students and other young people who seek her expertise and guidance.

She lends a hand to Latina Community Leaders, an organization which matches professional Latinas with young Latina girls in the fifth grade. The mentors are expected to inspire the girls to a higher goal and often will keep in touch with them through high school. The goal is to show the girls that they can be responsible, educated Latinas.

The awareness young Latinas have about their culture, Dias said, depends on their exposure to it. As teenagers, they have many distractions that cause them to sometimes overlook their heritage. Then, when they become college students, they go through a "rude awakening" as they become exposed to their culture as well as the culture of others.

Dias, who is chairwoman of the National Association of Xicanos (NAX), has shot for the stars and her personality articulates her limitless view upon her life.

She has not forgotten the past guidance she received from several organizations that served the Latino community and now she is on the other end serving as a mentor.

Dias graduated from Sequoia High School in Redwood City and continued her education at Santa Clara University. She attended graduate school at U.C. Berkeley.

She feels strongly about teens getting involved in activities that earn respect and stress that it is even more important for a minority woman.

"People treat you differently (for being Latina) but remember you're not the only one," she said. "Talk to someone about it...always be optimistic and don't ever give up hope."

## YSABEL DURON

News anchor and broadcast reporter at KRON-TV, Channel 4.

Every action a woman makes should be preceded by the question: "Will what I am doing make me proud of me? Will I look at myself down the road and be proud?"

So says Duron, the outspoken Latina journalist who is well-known to viewers of Channel 4.

"Women have a mind and a brain just like everybody else," she says, adding that all women have the right to grow and develop and should be given the same opportunities as men.

"It is a matter of survival or ending up dependent and on welfare," she said.

Latinas need to see themselves as their No. 1 priority, said Duron. They must see themselves as more able and talented beyond just producing babies.

A Latina is not "the extension of some man" whose sole purpose of being is to serve everyone else, she said.

Duron has always been independent and has always known exactly what she wanted for herself. She found herself pregnant by the time she was a senior at San Jose State and made what she thought was the responsible decision of putting her son up for adoption. She didn't think she could be a good mother and finish her studies at the same time.



She was determined to fulfill her potential.

"I always knew what I wanted and I wasn't afraid to make mistakes because my biggest fear was not trying and not seeing the next step," Duron said.

Her strength and individuality come from unintentional lessons taught by her parents. Her father, she said, was intimidated by her mother's ability to be her own person and have her own mind. It is this exposure to what she calls "the battle of the sexes" that formed her strong and persistent soul. Her parents' marriage ended after 25 years.

"I will never let a man dictate to me," said Duron, "(although) men have tried every step of the way."

# Higher education: Tougher, longer, pricier

BY COURTNEY TOWLE  
Mosaic Staff Writer

College means more than just academic worries. Being admitted, paying for school, and trying to finish before a ripe old age can add up to a confusing process so planning early can make all the difference.

"I wanted to be a competitive applicant so I made sure I took college preparatory courses and not just all electives," said Lesly White, of Hollister, who will be a freshman at California State University at Stanislaus in the fall.

To increase one's chances for acceptance into school, San Benito High School's senior class counselor, Jim Caffero, encourages students to take a rigorous schedule of courses. When an honors or advanced placement course is offered, for example, students should take advantage of it because it will make them more competitive applicants.

However, it doesn't replace doing well in school, which always gives students the biggest edge.

The system that requires the least amount of paperwork is the admissions state universities, where the admissions depends mainly on grade point averages.

Ed Chambers, director of admissions

at San Jose State University, advises high school students to do well in their classes and maintain at least a 3.0 average. Being involved in extra curricular activities is not a big factor for acceptance into the university.

The University of California system checks GPAs as well as a student's curriculum and considers participation in extracurricular activities.

Andre Bell, director of undergraduate admissions at the University of California at Berkeley, says they are particularly interested in the difficulty of the high school student's courses as well as the grades in the courses. Extracurricular activities and personal challenges also are considered.

He encourages students to work together with their parents and school counselors to create a strong class schedule while in high school.

"What is most important is how the student has performed," he says. The private colleges have the most selective admissions procedure, requiring specific essays and recommendation letters in addition to academic records.

Academic potential, placement exam scores, high school course load, recommendation letters, extra curricular activities

*"Don't let the cuts worry you too much. Even with the cuts, we will continue to offer high quality education."*

CARLA FERRI

Director of undergraduate admission for the  
University of California system

ities and a personal essay are all considered, according to The Rev. Carlo Farina, associate director of undergraduate admissions at Santa Clara University.

Because admission requirements vary from school to school, it is important to check with each institution.

White started checking with the Stanislaus campus requirements during her junior year of high school. The early planning put her ahead of other students who were not familiar with the school's requirements.

Like White, Dennis Triano, a senior at Mount Pleasant High School, began planning for his education early. He decided that he wanted to be an engineer his freshman year and got involved in a magnet program for the field so that he could be better prepared for college

courses.

Although Triano says he doesn't mind if it takes him longer than four years to get his engineering degree, White is very concerned about finishing on time.

"I can't afford to go for more than four years," she said.

Whether a student can finish school in four years again depends on the institution, the availability of classes, and the student's employment plans.

At San Jose State, Chambers said that students who plan to work should think twice about graduating in four years because they will not have enough time to take all the classes needed and hold down a job at the same time.

"If you're going to work, it's not possible," he said.

But with the current economy and rising educational costs, students often are forced to get jobs at the same time they are working toward their degrees.

For White, money is a serious concern.

"Whether or not I could go to college depended on how much financial aid I got," she said.

While tuition or fees are increasing at almost every college in California, opportunities for financial aid are

decreasing.

Farina said Santa Clara is trying to cushion the blow by contributing more private funds to its financial aid coffers. Currently, the university provides approximately \$10 million in financial aid.

At the University of California at Berkeley, spokesman Bob Sanders says it is uncertain how much student fees will increase in the upcoming year. The University of California Regents recommended a \$2.67 per semester increase beginning with fall 1993 and if approved, fees will more than double.

At San Jose State, fees are expected to increase by 10 percent.

Although higher education will carry a higher price tag, the good news is that more low interest student loans will be available. The schools emphasize that the loans, like the financial aid, will be based on need.

"Don't let the cuts worry you too much," said Carla Ferri, director of undergraduate admission for the University of California system. "Even with the cuts, we will continue to offer high quality education."



Doing time

Teenage volunteers work for free in exchange for experience and a smile

By LIZ CORRALES  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Mildred Amayum brings a smile to many elderly faces every Saturday afternoon at the Garden Villa, a convalescent home in San Jose.

For three hours she escorts them around the premises, plays games with them and brings them their lunch. She does it for free as a teenage volunteer.

"It gives you a feeling that you accomplished something and you are very much appreciated," said Mildred, 17, a senior at Overfelt High School who adds that she got involved because she cares for her community and everything that happens to it and wanted to make a difference.

Volunteering is one way high school students can contribute to society and gain some practical experience that will give them an advantage later in the work force.

Mildred found her volunteer job through a school program, but there are many other resources that can lead teenagers to volunteer positions in the area.

One is the Volunteer Exchange, a non-profit clearinghouse that matches potential volunteers with

the organizations that are looking for help.

"Our job at the volunteer agency is to help people get (volunteer) jobs," said Siobhan Kenney, executive director of the Volunteer Exchange. "We work with agencies to effectively manage volunteers."

Some of the unpaid jobs available include those in the field of animal services, homeless assistance, arts and culture, ecology, health, education and counseling.

There are a variety of choices for teenagers, some quite unique. For example, they can volunteer at a horseback riding camp for handicapped students. Or get involved in teaching an immigrant how to read and speak English. If a high school student loves animals, he or she could volunteer in exercising and socializing pets awaiting adoption. Aspiring young actors and dancers can provide entertainment for veterans or the elderly.

And, Kenney added: "There are lots of opportunities to help the elderly."

For Mildred, volunteering has been part of her weekly schedule for the last two years. She squeezes in her volunteer hours at the convalescent

home between playing the piano for church on Sundays and tutoring mathematics to young grammar school students. This summer she will be assistant teaching at an annual vocation Bible school.

When she recalls her first experience working with the elderly, she describes it as scary and overwhelming. She was disturbed by the number of elderly people who were left alone in their rooms or were neglected.

Mildred said she feels that the elderly are the most appreciative group of people. Whether she helps them to their rooms or simply plays a game of Bingo with them, they are always very grateful and thank her constantly.

"You need to understand them," she said. "They need a little more help from us (to get around)."

The San Jose senior plans to attend the Stanford University and become a pediatrician.

She thinks her experience with the elderly will help her better understand children because in many ways they are similar in their need for a little extra attention and understanding.

A Mexican Dream

By ANGELICA CASTANEDA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

The dollars don't come easy once you cross the border

Despite the fact that for hundreds of years Mexicans have been coming to the United States with dreams of a better life, few of them achieve what they aspire. Many of them come with ideas which, once they arrive, they realize are very far from reality.

Many of them say there is an infinite number of obstacles to conquer: lack of information and orientation, not only for the recent arrivals, but also for those who have been here for years, the lack of financial resources to prosper, little educational orientation, and teacher support.

"When they come from Mexico, they come with a very different idea, when they arrive here, they find not everything is as they thought," says Rafael Morales, Director of the Training School at the Sacred Heart Parish in San Jose.

To give us an idea of what this represents, Morales told us this story: "There was once a Mexican couple that was crossing the border. As they crossed the line, the wife found a dollar bill. When she was about to bend over to pick it up, her husband told her not to waste her time picking up a dollar bill. He told her after all, she was going to get many more. He said if entering this country you find a dollar...imagine how more many dollars you would get over here!"

Morales continued explaining: "However, when they had been in the United States for more time, they encountered the reality that money is not easily obtained here...later when they returned to their country, they did not find any dollars."

According to the Mexicans who have come to this land and have experienced the disillusion of waking up from their "dream," one of the problems is the lack of information on the type of life they can expect in the United States.

"Many times the young Mexicans do not realize their dreams, principally because of a lack of will and educational orientation," says

Patricia Villaseñor, a Foothill College graduate. "A lack of will because there is no one to encourage them. Their parents do not speak the language. They are unfamiliar with the American culture, including how important education is in this country."

"They lack orientation because they do not utilize the resources available at schools and community centers in each city," comments Villaseñor.

Manuel del Real, an ex-student from Foothill College, concurs the lack of parent support is part of the problem Mexicans do not realize their dreams.

"During my first two years of school, my mother used to threaten me with a belt to force me to go to class. She never told me it was good for me and I was going to need it in the future...she only told me I had to go," recalls del Real.

He considers this lack of support from his mother was one of the reasons, he became isolated and left his studies at Foothill College.

Another important factor, Mexicans do not realize their dreams is the lack of legal documents to be legitimately in this country.

Lisa Alvares is a receptionist in a law office. She says she is also studying to be a counselor to help Mexicans.

Alvares says, "Mexicans do not have as many opportunities as those with their papers in order." However, she says, "even if there are few opportunities, there are still a few opportunities for the undocumented. But, once papers are in order, there are a lot more opportunities to succeed."

According to immigration experts like Roy Jimenez of San Jose, Mexicans also do not realize their dreams because of the lack of funds.

"Because they have a lot of needs especially if they come from poor families and they have to work to both clothed and feed them," says Jimenez. "They do not attend school."

Martha goes to Washington

By LIZ CORRALES  
Mosaic Staff Writer

At age five, Martha Corrales and her parents stayed in a bedroom at the Disneyland Hotel. There was one king-size bed and a small twin-size bed for the three of them.

Martha walked in the room first. Jumping on to the king-size bed, she announced, "This is my bed. You sleep over there."

Mom and Dad obeyed. The little bed was cramped for two people, but that's where they slept. Martha already knew exactly what she wanted and how to get it.

She still does.

Martha is now 23. The strong-minded five-year-old is now a strong-minded aide to Secretary of State Warren Christopher, in Washington, D.C.

That's not exactly what I expected—I expected her to be a doctor—but I never doubted she would get far.

That's because Martha is my oldest sister. And I know what's she been through.

As the oldest of six girls—I'm number three—Martha always had to be in charge. She was first in everything. She set the standard for all of us.

One of the best standards she set was graduating from college, the first in my immediate family to get a liberal arts degree. Martha graduated from Stanford University in 1991 with a double major in Quantitative Economics and International Relations. During her junior year, she went to Santiago, Chile, for a semester. That's when she decided to go into international relations.

Martha not only enjoyed the academic aspects of Stanford, but she also liked the interaction with other people on campus.

"It was one of the greatest experiences I've had. The people I met and was exposed to were unforgettable," she says of her years at Stanford.

She gives a lot of credit for her determination to get through college to her years at San Jose's Presentation High School, where she was graduated in 1987.

"I gained a lot of role models at Presentation - women who were very intelligent and motivating," Martha says of the prestigious all-girl high school.

After college, Martha found



another role model in Washington, D.C., where she and her best friend decided to go on the spur of the moment in the summer of 1991.

A few months after arriving in her new home, Martha found a job at the Democratic National Committee under Vice Chair Carmen Perez. She admired Perez deeply for being a strong minority woman with a very powerful job.

Perez also saw something special in Martha, and that eventually led Martha to the State Department.

In November 1992, just before the presidential election, Martha started working for the Get Out the Vote campaign in New Mexico, organizing and coordinating phone banks throughout Albuquerque.

After the election, she worked briefly in the office of Colorado Governor Richard Riley before being picked up by the Presidential Transition Team. One of her bosses was Warren Christopher, who co-chaired the transition with Vernon Jordan.

On January 21, 1993, the day Bill Clinton was inaugurated, Martha was transferred to the personnel office of the White House. On March 15, she was appointed by President Clinton to work at the State Department under Christo-

In her new position, Martha occasionally comes into contact with President Clinton. "He has inherited a lot of the problems from the old administration. It's going to take a while for us to see the changes," she said.

Also, she's found a new role model: Hillary Rodham Clinton. "I am impressed with Hillary (Rodham) Clinton because by having had her own career and being head of the president's health care task force, she brings a whole new role for women into the White House," Martha said.

In the future, Martha hopes to be a senator from California. First, though, she wants to get a master's degree in international studies from Johns Hopkins University. But she has to do it quickly. In 1996, she wants to work for President Clinton's re-election campaign.

My parents want me and my sisters to follow Martha's example. They won't mind if we don't follow exactly the same path. They tell us we're all individuals, and we should follow our individual talents.

I'm not sure yet where my talents lie. But I hope by the time I'm 23, I'll have achieved as much as my oldest sister.

No llueven dolares en los Estados Unidos

A pesar de que por muchos años cientos de mexicanos han llegado a los Estados Unidos con sueños de alcanzar una vida mejor, muy pocos de ellos logran lo que quieren. Muchos de ellos vienen con ideas que al llegar aquí se dan cuenta de que están muy lejos de la realidad.

Muchos de ellos aseguran que hay infinidad de obstáculos a vencer: falta de información y de orientación, no sólo para los recién llegados, sino también para quienes tienen años de vivir aquí, la escasez de recursos económicos para salir adelante, poca orientación educacional y apoyo por parte de los maestros para que salgan adelante.

"Cuando vienen de México vienen con una idea muy diferente y cuando llegan aquí, se encuentran que ya no es verdad todo lo que tenían en su mente," dijo Rafael Morales, director de la escuela de Capacitación de la Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón en San José.

Para darnos una idea de lo que esto representa, Morales relató un cuento: "Una vez una pareja de mexicanos que venía cruzando la frontera, y al cruzar la línea la esposa se encontró un dólar. Cuando se iba a agachar a recogerlo su esposo le dijo que no perdiera el tiempo recogiendo un dólar, que al cabo iban a agarrar muchos más... que si entrando encontraban un dólar...? Entonces se imaginara cuantos dólares más iban a agarrar por acá?"

Morales continuó diciendo: "Sin embargo cuando tenían mas tiempo en los Estados Unidos se encontraron con la realidad: que aquí no se viene a agarrar el dinero tan fácilmente... después cuando se regresaron a su país, ya no se encontraron ningún dólar."

Sin embargo, de acuerdo con mexicanos que se han venido a esta tierra y que han vivido en carne propia la desilusión de despertar de su "sueño" esto se debe también a la falta de información sobre la vida que tendrán en los Estados Unidos.

"Muchas veces los jóvenes mexicanos no realizan sus sueños principalmente por falta de voluntad y orientación educacional," dijo Patricia Villaseñor, graduada de Foothill College. "Falta de voluntad por que no hay quien los anime por que los padres no saben el idioma y desconocen la cultura americana, incluyendo lo importante que es la educación en este país."

"Falta de orientación; por que no recurren a los recursos que se les brindan en las escuelas y en los centros de comunidad en cada ciudad," comentó Villaseñor.

Por su parte Manuel del Real, un ex-estudiante de Foothill College, la falta de apoyo de los papas constituye otro problema para que los mexicanos no realicen sus sueños.

En los dos primeros años de la escuela mi mamá me llevaba que un cinto a la clase... nunca me decía que era bueno para mí, que me iba a servir en el futuro, sólo me decía: Tienes que ir a fuerza," recuerda del Real

El considera que esta falta de apoyo de su mamá, fue una de las causas que lo orillaron a dejar sus estudios en Foothill College.

Otro factor importante para que los mexicanos no "realicen sus sueños" es la falta de documentos para estar legalmente en la Unión Americana.

Lisa Alvares, es recepcionista en una oficina de abogados. Ella también está estudiando para ser consejera y ayudar a los mexicanos.

Alvares piensa "los mexicanos no tienen muchas oportunidades como los que tienen todos sus papeles en orden." Sin embargo ella piensa que "aunque hay pocas oportunidades, si hay algunas para los indocumentados. Pero cuando arreglan sus papeles, tienen más oportunidades de salir adelante."

De acuerdo con expertos en migración como Roy Jimenez en San José, los mexicanos no realizan sus sueños también por falta de recursos económicos.

"Por que ellos tienen muchas necesidades sobre todo si vienen de familias muy pobres y tienen que vestirse y trabajar así como ver por la comida," dijo Jimenez. "Ellos no van a la escuela por que necesitan otras cosas más importantes para ellos... además las pocas ya casi no existen y ahora es muy difícil obtenerlas, los gastos de los libros son muy caros."

Para Jimenez la vida era antes más fácil. "Yo me críe en ese ambiente también, pero antes todo era más fácil, ya que solo tenía que pagar la suscripción y todo lo demás salía gratis... además tenía el apoyo de mi familia," dijo Jimenez.

Para el vice-presidente de la clínica de la salud es importante "El empeño que tengan las personas y que entiendan que sobrevivir en esta comunidad es muy difícil... deben buscar una carrera que les guste y que vean que vaya habiendo trabajo en ella cuando se gradúen."

El Cónsul de México en San José, Arturo Balderas, opina lo mismo que Jimenez.

"El mejor consejo que puedo darles es que aprovechen todas las oportunidades que les ofrece la comunidad y que estudien," dijo Balderas. Aclaró que algunas veces "no es necesario tener un diploma para obtener oportunidades, pueden obtenerlas a las medidas de sus posibilidades."

"Muchos mexicanos no se gradúan tampoco por enfermedades o por falta de recursos económicos o por que deciden que eas carrera no es para ellos," dijo Balderas, pero el agregó, "No se desanimen para salir adelante y aprovechen todas las oportunidades."

Patricia Villaseñor expreso, "No se desanimen y que si se desanimen, busquen ayuda y orientación en su casa, con sus amigos o con sus propios maestros, que en si forjan el futuro del estudiante."

Finalmente Manuel del Real dijo, "Si no encuentran su futuro en la escuela, traten de buscarlo en una forma honesta."



# Filipino youth groups teach heritage

BY BRIAN PARTIDO  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Very few Filipino-American teens know the name Jose Rizal, a 19th century aristocrat, eye doctor, and intellectual who wrote books about peaceful demonstrations to rebel against the ruling Spanish.

They also know little about Andres Bonafacio, who on August 23, 1895, launched the first revolutionary attack on the Spanish to liberate the Philippines. His troops were equipped with only bolos, lances and raw courage.

And who knows the name Datu Lapo Lapo? He was a Filipino warrior who assembled a group of men when he heard that Magellan was on his way to help stop the Filipino revolution. He would eventually battle Magellan and behead the European navigator.

Not many Filipino-American teens know that these men are as important to the history of the Philippines as George Washington is to the history of the United States.

Perhaps it's because many Filipino teens born in the United States have never visited the Philippines and are oblivious to their ancestral country's history and traditions. For many Filipino-American teens, knowing their history gives them a sense of themselves.

The Filipino culture has become lost in the United States because Filipino-Americans don't take the time to learn about their roots, said Noli Magasin, 18, a recent graduate and former president of the Filipino Pride Club at Overfelt High School.

"Since we [Filipinos] do not know it, no one else does," he said.

Many Filipino-American teens are unaware of the rich history of the islands because their parents want them to assimilate into American society and neglect to turn their heritage to their heirs.

"The learning of one's culture

starts at home," said Steve Arevalo, adult adviser of the Filipino Youth Coalition. "What is not emphasized at home will not be learned."

Anne Marie Penaranda is a 1993 Andrew Hill High School graduate who will be a freshman at Fresno State University in the fall. She involved herself with many Filipino organizations while she was in high school. They included the Asian Pacific Islander Union, where she was president for two years, and the Filipino Youth Coalition, which she co-founded. She was also a member of United Filipino Youth of Santa Clara County.

From the groups and from reading on her own, she learned about her culture although she said she didn't truly feel connected until she visited the Philippines in 1991.

Before being involved in the groups, Anne said she only knew of family stories told to her by her parents and grandparents. She felt as if something was "missing" from her life.

Sources for this story all agreed that knowing one's culture is important to everyone. Realizing that ancestors worked hard and sacrificed for their children instills pride in the succeeding generations, they said, and boosts their confidence and willingness to endure.

"To get teens more interested in learning about their culture, there has to be a transformation of the high school curriculum to include Asian-American studies," said Ronald Takaki, professor of ethnic studies at University of California at Berkeley and author of "Strangers from a Different Shore: A History of Asian Americans."

He adds: "African-American studies exist in the curriculum in high schools but there is hardly any Asian-American studies" at a time when Asian-Americans make up 12 percent of California's population.

Many Filipino teens believe that a course in Asian-American

studies would benefit them.

"Schools play a large part in a teen's knowledge of their culture and other cultures," said Lorevic Rivera, 17, a senior who is vice president of the Overfelt Filipino Pride Club. "In the U.S., they teach no (ethnic) culture, only American history."

Being familiar with one's culture means, "you won't be stuck with a question mark over your head," said Lucille Estrada, 15, co-president of the Filipino Pride Club at Overfelt.

When teens know their culture, they have the capacity to better understand other Filipinos of their own age as well as the older generation, observers said.

"My self-esteem is built up, I have more respect for myself, and have a sense of where I'm going in life," said Melissa Anne Bose, 17, founder and president of the Filipino Student Alliance at Wilcox High School.

Besides school and home, there are other organizations that Filipino-American teens can join to learn more about their culture.

Among them: the Filipino Youth Coalition, the United Filipino Youth of Santa Clara County, and the Northern California Filipino American Student Association.

Adult observers said they have hope that increasing numbers of Filipino-American teenagers will become interested in their ethnicity.

"From the teens I talked to, they sound more interested in learning about their culture," said Ana Lamberte, 25, a graduate of San Jose State University and nurse at Kaiser-Permanente Hospital on Santa Teresa.

"Understanding your culture is like a puzzle," said her sister, Estela Lamberte, 23, a recent graduate of San Jose State. "You get bits of information from stories but cannot put the pieces together. But as you grow older and learn more, the pieces come together and fit better."

# Media hype of gangs vs. reality of streets



Tyrin Turner, left; Larentz Tate and MC Elit appear in movie Menace II Society.

BY MARC CABRERA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Red, blue, black and orange writing clashes on the wall in downtown San Jose as the scene so intimidating it's as if the teens are fighting for space. Gang graffiti is a death threat to those who oppose these certain gangs — a message that says you can't get away from the violence.

The situation has caught the attention of everyone from my hometown of Salinas to suburban kids in Maine.

From the farthest depths of Hollywood come movies addressing the issue of gang violence and the reality of the ghettos and barrios of America. So-called gang movies, like American Me, Boyz n' the Hood, Bound by Honor and most recently, Menace II Society, accurately represent kids on the streets who are caught up in the nonsense of gang life.

Allen and Albert Hughes, the 21-year-old twin directors of "Menace," have tapped into the minds of kids who have no direction and live life day to day.

The movie is about an 18-year-old African-American named Caine, growing up in the projects of Watts, Los Angeles. Caine has lived his whole life with no guidance. His mother died of a drug overdose; his father killed a man in front of him when he was 10 years old.

Caine grows up to become a drug dealer. Caught up in the web of violence that the streets have to offer, Caine receives numerous opportunities to go straight but passes them by to stay true to the game.

Caine is not your one dimensional hood though. He has a conscience and knows that life isn't all about the streets. He also receives guidance from Ronnie, a young single mother. She is the girlfriend of Pernell, Caine's old school homeboy, who taught Caine about living on the streets. Caine feels obligated to look after Ronnie and her son while Pernell is in jail, and at the same time denies his feelings for her because of his friendship with Pernell.

The movie takes many violent and realistic turns. Caine's partner O-Dog opens up the movie by casually killing a Korean couple who own a

liquor store, for telling him "I feel sorry for your mother."

This pretty much sets the tone for the rest of the film. From Caine getting shot and his cousin getting killed in a carjacking, to Caine and O-Dog getting payback on the guys who jacked him, to the brutal climax where Caine is gunned down in front of Ronnie's son, the focus is on realism, and shows just how dangerous life on the streets can be.

Movies like this attract youngsters like me who want to witness a kind of second-hand reality without having to duck drive-by shootings. We go to see the movie for the violence, but we come out with a message: a message that this is nothing to be proud of and being a gangster gets you thrown in jail or killed.

Like graffiti on the wall, the movie is a death threat to rival gangs. Not just to the gangsters depicted in movies, but to America in general. Unless a solution is found, there is no hope for the future.

When I went to see "Menace," I expected to see something like "Boyz" or "Colors," but I left with a feeling of spiritual upliftment because what I had just seen was real and scared the hell out of me. The people you see could live right next door to you, or around the corner from you, depending on your location.

The movie also chronicles how young men and women today are easily caught up in the mix, and how easy it is to fall prey to the streets when you are born with two strikes are against you, as Caine was.

Also, rather than glorifying Caine as the menace to society, the movie shows how the real menace can be society. The movie showcased scenes of police brutality during the 1965 Watts riots. Caine and a friend are shown getting pulled over and beat by cops. They are dropped off in a Mexican neighborhood by the cops so they will get beat down some more.

In another scene, Caine's grandfather asks him, "Do you care if you live or die?" Caine looks back confused and answers, "I don't know."

And that is the epitome of life on the street. Most gangsters live life with the psychology that they have nothing to lose, and when you think about it, it's true because most of them had nothing to begin with.

The reality of the streets, the barrio and the ghetto is that there is no hope unless you get out. It cannot be romanticized. They all end in a hail of bullets, with no happy endings, because when you're living in the 'hood there is no happy ending. In American Me, the character Santana did not get a chance to live life out of jail. He got stabbed to death. In Boyz n' the Hood, Doughboy did not get a chance to get out of the gang, he got murdered. And in Menace II Society, Caine did not get to leave Los Angeles, he just got killed.

People who watch these movies need to realize that the violence is not just happening on screen, it's happening outside, right in front of our window. The writing's on the wall. No matter if you paint over it, destroy it, or ignore it, it won't go away.

# Xicano identity, linking new pride with old struggle

BY ELI NAVA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Chicano youths have lost their identity. American, Hispanic, Latino, Mexican-American, Mexican or Chicano? Which do we choose? Many have chosen to assimilate into the white American culture and leave their own heritage at the front door. Some, though, are now beginning to realize the indigenous roots that are planted deep into our past.

One way that youths are identifying with El Indio (the Indian) is by considering themselves Xicano. Both Xicano and Chicano are pronounced the same but Xicano ties the person more to the Indians of our past. Let me give you a synopsis of the word.

The 'X' in Nahuatl (the language of the Aztecs) is pronounced with a 'CH' sound. Since Chicano is derived from the word Mexicano and Mexicano is from the word Mexico and Mexico is originally from Mexica (pronounced ME-CHIE-CA), spelling Chicano with an X is the proper spelling of the word.

By recognizing and taking pride on our indigenous past we take our history to the next level. That is, we go beyond being Mestizo (both Indian and Spanish blood) and knowing solely the post-Conquest history. We learn the Indian aspect of our history which binds both the Indian and Mexican race into one cohesive people. By learning the true extent of our Raza we can only strengthen ourselves.

We no longer feel alone. We will see that our fight for equality is not only fought by Mexicanos but also the Indian. It opens up new resources to us and gives us an added sense of strength. We realize that our history is not limited to only the 500 years of the Mestizo. Our heritage goes far back than that.

It also is a great spiritual attribute. When we see that the dances of Azteca or any other Indian tribe is just as much a part of our culture as the folklorico, the revelation can only strengthen our spirit. When we read how the Indians of Mexico and North America suffered such pain and oppression and how they are still a people of great strength and pride, it gives us hope in the struggle that we must endure as Xicanos. We must see the strength of chiefs like Geronimo in ourselves as much as the powerful Emiliano Zapata.

As one can see, Xicano is a word that combines the power of the Indian as well as the power of the Mexican. The X Indianizes the word Chicano. It doesn't choose a side. It brings the best of worlds together into one identity. In one single word, the Chicano combine with the Indians and become one people. Xicano is such a strong word that it can combine two cultures that have been separated for years yet always belonged together.

Unfortunately, in order to completely embrace our whole culture we must first deal with the identity crisis at hand here in America. We must come to terms with our diverse culture but not to the extent that we no longer

know what we actually take pride in. True, many of us have ancestors who have been in America just as long as the next European-American. Should we celebrate the 4th of July or Columbus Day like everyone else? Or should we barbeque this Sunday and see Columbus Day as a celebration, or as the holocaust of indigenous Americans?

By us simply living in America and being citizens of the United States, are we as a people truly equal and able to celebrate Independence Day? I don't think so.

We are still greatly oppressed and far from being equal. Only a token amount of Xicanos hold power. We are often portrayed in the media as gang-bangers, prostitutes, drug dealers and users, or just plain obedient, submissive people. It would be a contradiction to consider ourselves "independent" when the Indio de Mexico is still greatly discriminated against and economically oppressed in the fields of California. A Mexicano can individually argue his own well-being in America, but as a whole the Mexican race is not equally viewed to that of white America in this nation.

There are also a lot of people in Mexico who also celebrate the arrival of Columbus as the birth of the Mestizo (called Dia de la Raza). Yes, this is true. However, if it wasn't for his "discovery" of Norte America we would not have this complex identity question as a problem. We would be of Indio blood and have no question as to who we are. The genocide of our people can only be organized to the coming of Cristobal Colon on Oct. 12, 1492. Thus began the holocaust that continues to this day in the gang-inflicted barrios of America.

By realizing our history and seeing the true power that we hold, nothing can contain us. We Xicanos with the knowledge of our people must transfer it to our children.

We must overcome the limitations put on us by racism in America that continually tries to stop our people's advancements in housing, employment and in mass media. We must teach our children our second language of Spanish so that they converse with their abuelas y abuelos and learn from our elders. We ourselves must learn Nahuatl or the language of our respective indigenous peoples and also pass that on to our children.

English also is essential. We must know the game and speak the game in order to win the game. Unfortunately, in America you must speak English in order to be considered "intelligent."

As you can see, us Xicanos have a rough road ahead. We are stopped by America, we are stopped by our friends, we are stopped by our families, and we even stop ourselves in doubt. But Xicano youth have already begun the fight. Chapter of Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (MEChA) are reviving themselves on college campuses across the nation. We are no longer letting ourselves be stereotyped as lazy laborers or violent gangsters. We are standing up and demanding the equality that is rightfully ours. We must continue.

# European-American clubs, racist or relevant?

BY EVA ZUNIGA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

When Christian Hansen and his friends tried to start a European-American club at James Lick High School in San Jose, they only got as far as the history classroom.

"We are being put down for what our ancestors did," Hansen, 17, said. "The time is right because European-Americans are quickly becoming a minority in California, and clubs are supposed to be for minorities."

After Hansen and Darlene Medina, who is of Portuguese descent, asked administrators at James Lick if it would be possible to start a European-American club, minority students started to question the purpose of the club Hansen and his friends wanted to start.

Some Mexican-American and African-American students felt that the proposed club would have been just an excuse for the European-American students to come together and be stronger. Most minority students thought it would be a bad idea if there was allowed a European-American club because of the racism that already exists at James Lick. But they were confident the club would never be allowed to form. Other students felt that it would just be another club on campus and not a threat to anyone.

The James Lick proposal raised many questions about the nature and motivations behind the proposed club. Do the students really want European clubs to learn about their common culture and find a common identity or do they just want to regain a high standing in school?

White students at James Lick

and other San Jose area high schools are always asking why there are Cinco de Mayo celebrations, Martin Luther King holidays off, and Asian Cultural presentations, but nothing specifically for them. They say they feel left out of high school life.

Although schools are intended to be places of diversity, there are no clubs for white students as there are clubs for minority students. For example, at James Lick there are clubs such as Mayo, Black Student Union, Filipino Club and Asian Club.

Dale Warner, a lawyer and founder of the Irish Task Force in San Jose, said, "The European-American Club is an idea of a student alliance being able to gather to celebrate the culture of the people of its name and also to help prepare the members for the SAT's and other college requirements."

According to Warner, more proposals for European-American clubs on high school campuses are coming up throughout California. However, principals and other administrators have brushed them away.

Warner's Irish Task Force diligently monitors local news media for what the group considers anti-European-American slurs and errors of history. The group would like newspapers, television, radio and other media outlets to substitute ethnic identifiers like "European-American" for the more commonly used "white" or "Anglo."

Warner's group has established a legal defense fund for helping students wishing to start European clubs, but the groups haven't been

able to get any case to court. Warner called principals who have squashed the clubs "bigots" because they treat white students differently.

Darlene Medina, the Portuguese-American student at James Lick, said, "If there can be a BSU, why can't there be a European-American Club?" When asked why she and her friends wanted this club she said "It's just fair."

Victor Maestas, vice principal at James Lick, said, "They could have a European-American Club as long as they found an advisor and it is open to all who would want to join."

Maestas said the first proposal was for an exclusive club only for students of European descent, and not for other minorities such as Mexican-Americans, African-Americans and Asian-Americans.

Hansen, Medina and the other students said the club would be open to all and are currently looking for an adviser. They have someone in mind, an English teacher, but would not name him.

Warner said European-American students do not speak out for their rights because they are afraid that administrators will jeopardize their chances of acceptance into colleges by putting on their transcripts their participation in a European-American Club.

Although the administrators will most likely continue to reject the proposals, they see this as a way to keep the growing tensions of races to a minimum while European-Americans will continue to feel excluded.



# Migrant farm worker teens look ahead with hope

By ELIZABETH FUENTES  
Mosaic staff writer

Daniel Rocha spends up to 11 hours a day in the sun picking strawberries. Yet, his complexion is pale as if he works indoors, which he one day hopes to do.

Even though Daniel has lived in the San Andreas Camp since he was a year old, he wants to be a lawyer so he can help migrant workers win their right to a more dignified life.

Daniel, 17, is one of approximately 45 teenage field workers who live in this camp just six miles outside of Watsonville.

He was born in La Piedad, Michoacan near Mexico City and came to California with his parents in 1976. He has three brothers and three sisters.

Daniel dropped out of Aptos High School after the ninth grade to help his parents earn a living. He earns about \$350 a week. Usually, that means he picks enough strawberries to fill 44 boxes a day.

Although Daniel does not have his diploma, he plans to go back to school.

But first, he feels obligated to help his parents out for a few years. Then, he is planning to his G.E.D. and go on to college with money earned from working in the fields.

Daniel lives with his family of nine in a four-bedroom, medi-



ELIZABETH FUENTES—MOSAIC STAFF

Two residents of San Andreas camp (left to right) Daniel Rocha, Lalo Franco

um-sized house with a small backyard. It is run-down and in need of repair, yet rent is \$500 a month.

A sheet covers the front door. It is a makeshift screen door that makes the house cooler. There are four other houses just like Daniel's on the block.

In a field across from Daniel's block, children play on an old,

worn-out mattress. They are doing flips and jumping on it as if it were a trampoline.

"I don't like living here because it's dirty," said one of the playing children, Gerardo Chaves, who is nine years old. "I want to live in a city where it is much cleaner and the stores aren't that far away."

Daniel's day starts at 7 a.m. He



XOCHITL ARTEAGA—MOSAIC STAFF

San Andreas migrant farm camp

homeboys from San Andreas," he said, adding that they often play soccer and football in the nearby fields.

When the weather is extremely hot, they go to a lake 15 minutes away from the camp.

By 10:30 p.m., Daniel is home and falls into a deep sleep until the next morning when the routine starts all over again.

Daniel dreams of rebuilding his family's house and turning it into a five-story high rise. He would like to see improvements at the camp to make it a more livable home.

*"I don't like living here because it's dirty. . . I want to live in a city where it is much cleaner."*

Gerardo Chaves  
9 years old

## Chicano activists speak with many voices: El Movimiento diversifies

By JINNETTE LUNA  
Mosaic staff writer

Rocio Diaz, a young Chicana from San Jose, often poses this question to those who question her social activism: "Is it worth fighting for something if you know you're never going to win? If not, then why are you living if you know you're going to die?"

She belongs to a unique group of about 30 young Chicano and Latino youth called La Raza Unida Student Alliance.

Rocio sees the group as one filled with "people who want to make a difference." At weekly meetings they discuss the social, community and political issues and problems facing Chicano and Latino youth.

The group is one of many, no one knows for sure, Chicano and Latino action groups resurrecting the spirit and goals of the Chicano Movement of the 1960s and 1970s. Inspired by the United Farm Workers and the late Cesar Chavez, they have taken up the cause of social justice and equality.

There are some differences, though. The new agendas of the new groups are all over the map of social activism, from anti-gang work to labor organizing.

Another is that they are relatively unknown to the public, at least for now.

"In the group, everyone is equal; there's no authority and just as the media might stereotype the group as a gang, in a way it is a gang, but a positive gang that wants to uplift our people for a better future," Diaz said. "It's also a matter of having to want to make that change."

Another member, Lupe Cortez, said, "Sometimes it takes special people to bring out a person's talents, especially if they feel they're headed in the wrong direction in life."

La Raza Unida Student Alliance has organized many events that promote having fun and making a positive difference in the community. The group has had picnics at Lake Cunningham Park without alcohol and by just being together, playing a baseball game.

During Christmas the group held a Posada. Seventy members marched the

neighborhood streets of East San Jose, dressed in traditional Mexican clothing, holding candles and singing songs.

The group is currently organizing a graffiti clean up in the neighborhood. Their long term goal is to get a wall donated and make it available to all taggers so they can put their talent into graffiti art, legally on this community wall, rather than on the streets, illegally.

The most recent activity occurred after the death of Cesar Chavez. The group organized and put green-white-red ribbons all over the neighborhood in his memory.

Another group continuing the struggle is the Direct Action Alliance (DAA). Headed by San Jose State University student Juan Haro, the group has taken on City Hall and the police department over the issue of police brutality, arguing for a strong civilian review board.

Haro and the DAA have been called radicals and self-promoters who simply like to cause trouble.

The San Jose Peace Center, where they meet is filled with pictures of leaders

who have represented peace and justice. One poster said, "Violence Ends where Love Begins."

The group also has organized large protests, advocating more city spending on housing for the homeless. The group of people protests through non-violent means on issues that greatly affect the community.

They recently helped defeat Mayor Susan Hammer's attempt to fine protest groups of 20 or more people who do not disperse after 10 minutes warning from the police.

Haro said the move would have intimidated people from practicing their rights of free speech.

Another new grass roots group is Los Trabajadores Desplazados.

Yolanda and Lauro Navarro organized the group to boycott Grand Metropolitan, the corporate parent of Pillsbury, Green Giant, Burger King and Haagen Dazs.

They cited mistreatment of workers in Mexico, where the giant company had moved food processing plants. This Feb-

ruary, the Navarros were laid off with over 300 factory workers when Grand Met picked up everything and moved the factory to Irapuato, Mexico. In Irapuato, Mexico, Grand Met pays non-union workers about \$4 a day with minor benefits.

"The workers in Irapuato can't feed their families on Pillsbury-Green Giant wages, some were fired for starting a union," Yolanda Navarro said.

"We of course would like to have our jobs back, but equally as important we want justice, fair wages and union rights for the Irapuato employees of Grand Met," Navarro said. "And we want this company to stop abusing the natural resources and environment of Mexico."

Trabajadores Desplazados want as many people to join the boycott of all products from Burger King, Green Giant, Pillsbury, and Haagen Dazs.

All these groups continue to struggle for La Causa in their own way. They are people who see an area that needs improving and look for a way to make a difference. Their struggle continues.

## Farm workers in Watsonville camp toil in quiet isolation

By XOCHITL ARTEAGA  
Mosaic staff writer

It was a hot summer day in Watsonville, and remarkably clear for this time of year. At the San Andreas migrant farm camp, one mile outside of the city, field workers strained in the distance to pick strawberries.

Directly off the street there was a dirt path that led to the camp, that was full of potholes and bumps. The whole camp was dusty, and there were no sidewalks. At the very end of the road, there was a small parking lot, leading to the houses where about 100 people live. The residents seemed defensive, as if they were skeptical of outsiders.

All of about 20 of the houses in the camp look alike. Painted white and dirty, many of the windows and doors were covered with sheets. The sizes of the houses were small, especially considering the family sizes within them. The whole camp itself was surrounded by barbed wire fence.

The children at the camp play while their parents are out working in the fields, and there are elderly women there who watch them. The children seemed perfectly content, and when asked, the thing they seem to like the most about living there was the togetherness of the community. "We know everyone here, like a family," said one 13 year old girl who has lived on the camp her whole life.

Another resident of the camp, Eduardo Franco, told of what working at this migrant camp was like. Picking strawber-

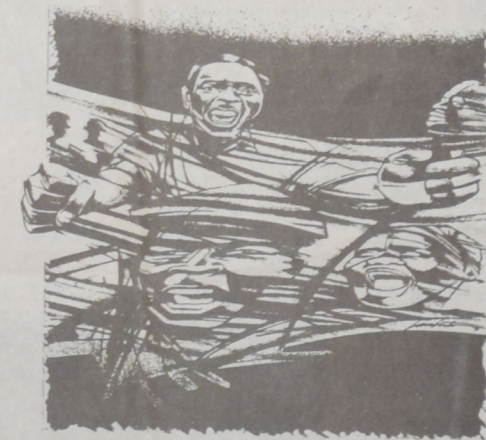
ries earns Franco \$5 an hour. Or, if he fills enough boxes with strawberries, he gets his money at \$1.35 per box. He works long hours to support his wife and his 17-year-old son, Lalo. San Andreas Migrant Camp charges residents \$500 per month for rent. The cost of rent requires many of the farm workers like Franco to work 12-hour days. Franco agrees that the rent price is high, but nevertheless says that there is no other place to live nearby that is less expensive.

Born in Jalisco, Mexico, Franco has been living at this camp for 19 years. He, like many others, would like a better job, but because he cannot speak English, he has little choice but to work in the fields. Along with low wages, the workers at the farm camp must do without medical and dental benefits.

The Franco family pays for whatever medical attention they get. Because the majority of the workers are from Mexico and are not citizens of the United States, and because a good number of them are undocumented, they have little say in how the camp is run. The workers also are often expected to pay for tool rental and drinking water.

The San Andreas farm camp is just one of many in this area. One organization that has been there to check out illegal labor practices and housing code violation is the California Rural Legal Assistance Migrant Farmworker Project. CRLA offers free legal assistance to unfairly treated workers.

Darryel Nacua, attorney at law for this



organization, says that they help out mainly with labor and housing rights.

Nacua says that they frequently deal with slum housing, poor education, low wages and health problems.

When they do come across these problems, CRLA goes first to the landlord. If the landlord doesn't cooperate, CRLA moves to sue if it can build a legal case, Nacua said. However, few, some charitable and social organizations have tried to help out the people at the camp. For example, the local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts tried to motivate parents to enroll their children and to volunteer as scout

leaders.

Jesus Lopez, a Boy Scout leader said that, "nothing came about" because the parents weren't interested and didn't quite trust the scouts. Although a genuinely altruistic gesture on the part of the local Girl and Boy Scouts, the people of a migrant farm camp have hardly the time or energy to devote to hobbies.

When leaving the San Andreas migrant farm camp, the children play in nearby fields. As they laugh and jump up and down on an old mattress, a feeling of hope is displayed through these youths.

## Tucson cops stop Hispanics selectively, two lawyers say

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Using tape to collect possible cocaine residue, police on the city's southside have selectively stopped Hispanic motorists, two lawyers say.

Assistant Public Defenders Thomas Martin and Yvonne Ayers say in a motion to dismiss drug charges against six people that four officers placed the tape under the noses of Hispanics pulled over on routine traffic stops.

The tape was designed to lift fingerprints but is being used to preserve traces of cocaine the officers observed under the noses of those in cars they stopped.

After polling local defense attorneys, the public defenders compiled a list of 63 people who had been charged with possession or use of cocaine after undergoing such a search by one of the officers.

The defenders say 60 of the 63 are Hispanic.

Officer Mark Timpf testified Tuesday in a Pima County Superior Court hearing that he is one of only four officers in the department who use the technique he invented.

"The majority of vehicles I stop, I can't see the occupant until I walk up to their door," he said, noting that he works the late night shift. "I don't know what race they are until I look through their window."



## Homosexuality special challenge to teens

BY COURTNEY TOWLE  
Mosaic Staff Writer

When Hyde Revilla was in junior high school, she revealed to her best friend that she was a lesbian. That friend abandoned her.

In high school, she confided her secret in another friend. The friend insisted it was just a stage, a phase that she would outgrow.

Revilla said she first realized that she was a homosexual at age 13. But it wasn't until she was 18 that she found some acceptance. She developed a close relationship with a teacher and told her she was gay. The teacher gave Revilla information about a gay youth group that she could join.

Hyde (pronounced Heidi) Revilla, now 22, was lucky. She got information and grew to feel comfortable about her sexuality. But not every youth is so fortunate.

Homosexuals are still waging a battle for acceptance. It is even more of a battle for gay teenagers coming to terms with their own sexuality at a time when their peers are quick to criticize.

According to "The Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicides," 30 percent of all teen suicides are committed by gay or lesbian teens. Homosexual adolescents also make up one fourth of all the homeless youth on the streets. Gay teens also are three times as likely to abuse drugs and alcohol. These behaviors are believed to be the result of the extreme isolation and depression they feel.

"Some kids struggling with their homosexuality resort to substances or suicide to numb their pain," said youth counselor Jim Caffero, "but it only elevates it." Caffero is a counselor at San Benito High School in Hollister.

Revilla said she worked through many of those issues. She got straight-A's in high school. She also said she couldn't count the times she considered

suicide or dropping out of school. The thoughts were a constant in her life.

Today she is a self-confident young woman and gay activist. When looking back at her years in high school, a serious smile crosses her face.

"I was so one dimensional," she said, opening her old high school diary and reading some of the passages that brought back the vivid emotions and insecurities.

It was in college that she was able to fully "come out" and live with her sexuality, she said. While attending school in Flint, Mich., she was asked to take part in Diversity Week, representing her Filipino ethnicity. Instead, she asked that she be able to represent her sexual diversity and asked that a panel on homosexuality be included in the program.

The administration didn't like the idea and tried to talk her out of it. Their opposition angered her and spurred her on to protest the exclusion of homosexuality from Diversity Week activities. Eventually, her panel was given one day of exposure by the administration. However, factions of the student body protested against its inclusion.

Homosexuality was greatly resented in the Midwestern community of Flint, said Revilla, adding that she refused to abandon gay awareness. It became her cause. Openly standing up to the opposition, she said she became the "token dyke" on campus.

Revilla acknowledged the numerous anti-gay letters that flooded her school paper by writing back. It became a war of words in the college paper. It inspired her to start the first club for homosexuals in the area.

"It took a lot out of me," she explains in a voice that revealed bitterness. "I had to start from nothing."

She decided to transfer to San Jose State University last winter and will start classes in the fall. Here, she feels that she has allies and the support of the active

gay community in this area. Now happy with herself and her life, Revilla said she is in tune with her sexuality, but that it was a long, lonely road through her teen years.

Unfortunately, there are many others still on that rough path to finding acceptance.

Kuniko Vroman, 16, recently came out to her family and friends. She says she is on the road to being comfortable with her bisexuality. Most of her friends have stuck by her, and her parents have been supportive, she said.

But Vroman thinks the rest of society has a long way to go. She wishes that people who don't see homosexuality as normal or acceptable would just try to understand.

"I'll accept it but it's still gross," is the sentiment she thinks most people have about homosexuality and that makes coming out difficult, she said quietly.

Both Kuniko and Revilla said revealing their sexuality is a way of being honest with yourself.

"I just wanted someone to believe me, and to accept me," Revilla explains.

They want other young adults who are gay to know that they are not alone. They can get help from organizations such as Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) and the Billy DeFrank Center, which sponsors several youth support groups that meet weekly.

The youth groups provide a safe place where gay teens can feel good about themselves, says Revilla, who is a very active member of the groups at the DeFrank Center.

"Tell a friend or someone you trust," she advises gay teens who have yet to be open about their homosexuality. "If they reject you or don't believe you, keep trying (to find someone who will support you) because that's all you can do. Remember, you are not alone."

## Few options for teens on streets



BY EVANGELYN ORTIZ  
Mosaic Staff Writer

"My mom is a heroin addict, she used to be a prostitute too. Sometimes I can go home, but it's pretty crazy there." — Cindy, 15.

"When I told my mom I was pregnant

she got so mad! She said that I either get an abortion or get out. I don't know what to do, I stayed with friends as long as I could." — Linda, 14.

Cindy and Linda are teens in trouble. They've turned to the streets.

About 500 runaways in a month are reported in San Jose.

"The majority of them are teenagers," said Detective Al Orok, of the San Jose Police Department.

Like Cindy and Linda, most teen-agers today face many problems and for some the only escape is running away.

"Most teen runaways leave home when they have mental abuse, physical abuse, or sexual abuse," said Ernest Rodriguez, the general manager at the Youth Outreach Program in San Jose.

Often when relationships don't work between boyfriends or girlfriends it may cause them to run away.

Up to 109 teen runaways walk into the Youth Outreach program in a year. Sixty percent of the runaways are males. Forty percent of the runaways are Caucasian,

35 percent are Latino, 10 percent are African-American, 10 percent are Asian, and 5 percent of teen runaways are other nationalities. They range in age from 12 to 20. Most have dropped out of school. Their main concern is survival.

Once on the streets, teen runaways have few options, according to Rodriguez. The only thing for the teen runaways to do is react to the situation. Some choose to stay with friends, or relatives, one of the safest choices.

But the teenagers living on the streets live dangerous lives. Some of the runaways are running from alcoholism, and their parents. While living in the streets some deal with violence of the city life. Others may turn to prostitution, or others may steal.

Before teen runaways find their way to programs like Youth Outreach, they often run into the police.

There are three procedures a police officer will take into action when dealing with a teen runaway. The first action the police officer will take is take the child home or to a shelter, depending on the situation. Secondly the police officer will try and find out "why did they run away?" After that the police officer will take the runaways to counseling.

The police will try to get them into a program like Youth Outreach in San Jose.

Youth Outreach program provides clothing, food, transportation and lockers. It also refers runaways to other orga-

## Teens who leave nest early

BY XOCHITL ARTEAGA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

There are a large number of teens who leave home to begin their adult life early, with the consent of their parents. They are not runaways.

There are various reasons for leaving home, but most teens say it is because they are discontent with their family life. Often, teens simply do not want parental input in their lives.

Todd Wessinger, a 17 year old from Winston-Salem, N.C., lives in a clean, well-kept apartment in downtown San Jose. He left home, he said, because, "it was boring and my mom sucked."

Wessinger and his best friend Outama Tulachanh left North Carolina in May with little money, taking their time traveling westward in a pickup truck and arrived not knowing what to expect.

"It was sketchy, we didn't know where we were going to live," said Tulachanh, who is 18 and of Laotian descent.

The two moved into an apartment with three young men, one of whom left home at an early age too. Four of the five still live together in a downtown apartment on Second Street.

Brandon Cardone, 17, left his home in Elmira, N.Y., because he wanted to go to an area with a well-known skateboarding scene. Cardone, unlike his roommate Wessinger, had been planning to move out on his own for some time.

"I doubled up on classes so I could get the credits to graduate early," he said. "My dad was a big help in my move to California."

Wessinger, however, left home before finishing his high school education. He speaks of his difficulties finding a job, and is currently unemployed.

"The hardest part [of living away from home] is paying the rent," he says.

Without a job, Wessinger finds other ways of making money to pay his \$100 share of the \$600 rent. As he has virtually no responsibilities, his days are monotonous.

"You wake up, then you go grooving (stealing), then you go buy beer,



then you sit and drink mass quantities of it. And if you're (feeling) well, you go skate most of the day," says Wessinger, who lists skateboarding as his favorite pastime.

Being without parental guidance gives teens the freedom to behave in any manner they choose. For Wessinger, it's petty theft, but for others it can be even worse.

Carol, 16, has a difficult time enduring the difficulties of life on her own. After leaving home, she panicked change to buy food.

"When I left, I would mostly crash at friend's houses," she said. "Now I sleep in a friend's van."

Recently, after running short of money, she began working as a prostitute.

"I only do it 'cause I need the money, it's not like I have a lot of choices," says Carol.

Like many teens living on their own, Carol wants nothing to do with her parents. She said that she left on her own free will, and that they made no effort to stop her.

"They don't care where I am. They gave up on me because they thought it was for the best. They think it's my life, now," she said.

Of all the things these teens have in common, one of them is where they see themselves in the future.

"In five years? I'll be just an average Joe working."

nizations that offer legal assistance, medical treatment, employment assistance, message and mail drops and a chance to continue their high school education.

The teen-agers find companionship and trust speaking to the adults who listen to them at the youth Outreach program. The adults at the Outreach Program listen to what the runaway teens have to say and build a relationship with the runaway.

"Teen runaways have their own culture, their own view of the world," said Rodriguez.

Runaway teens have their own ways, such as the way they dress (old faded jeans), runaways' history (their childhood) and the food they eat, Rodriguez said.

"Ninety percent of teenagers run away

because of problems in the family," Orok said.

Eddie Subeja, a program director at the Alum Rock counseling center said, "Teen-agers think parents try to rule their life."

At the Alum Rock Counseling Center, the staff tries to reunite runaways with their parents. "The teenager is protected and the situation is confidential at the counseling center," said Subeja. Parents who screw up their own lives set a bad example, he said.

Most teens with a home and loving parent don't understand runaway teens.

"When teen runaways are living in the streets," Rodriguez said, "They think, 'when will I eat,' instead of 'What will I eat.'"

## Soon to open arena to bring events, shows, concerts, sports and circuses to San Jose's downtown

BY PERLITA DICOCHEA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

Put some excitement in your life by being one of the 2 million people expected to visit the San Jose Arena this year.

San Jose's newest venue will be the place to see shows ranging from family entertainment to professional athletic events.

For families some of the events to check out include shows like Sesame Street Live, the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, and Walt Disney's World on Ice.

Arena organizers say entertainers including Neil Diamond, Billy Joel, Clint Black, Reba McEntyre, Kenny Rogers, Kenny G, Bruce Springsteen, Madonna, Garth Brooks, and Gloria Estefan are also being put in appearances at the arena. There will also

be many ethnic performers and events.

Professional and amateur sports including basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, wrestling, tennis, arena football, indoor soccer, boxing, monster truck shows, rodeo and horse shows.

Professional teams such as the Harlem Globe Trotters and, of course, the San Jose Sharks hockey team will play in the arena.

The arena will stage 240 events in its first year of operation.

The arena will be opened with a dedication ceremony Sept. 7. Its first show will be the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, which will perform shows from Sept. 8 - 12. Tickets for the circus will go on sale July 25.

A public open house, including tours, family entertainment, and special guest appearances, will be



San Jose Arena is planned to open on Sept. 7.

held September 17 through the 19. Kenny G will put on a concert at the arena Sept. 17.

Everyone knows the new arena will be the home of the Bay Area's professional hockey team, the San Jose Sharks, but only 40 of the 240 events scheduled for the first year are hockey games. The Sharks' season opener will be in

early October.

Hockey tickets range in price from \$65 to \$14, depending on how far from rinkside the seats are. However, at each level and each entrance to the rink the view is different but always amazing.

The Shark's hockey team has a private locker room and the franchise has its own offices inside the

arena. The entire arena, except the Shark's locker room and a few other areas, is black, gray, and white. Even the carpets are variations of black and gray patterns. All the stairs have a marble finish that continue the neutrality of the entire arena.

There are two main entrances, one facing Santa Clara Street and one at the opposite end facing the parking lot. The lot has 2,100 spaces, and an additional 5,000 spaces are available in public and private lots within a half mile.

The arena has three locker rooms, one is the Shark's private room with a sauna, whirlpool, weight-training room, restrooms and two dressing rooms. The other two are for other women's and men's sports teams that may play at the arena.

Everyone coming for sports

will be able to keep up with the game. An eight-sided scoreboard with four giant video screens will be suspended from the center of the arena ceiling.

In terms of seating, the club area is the first 15 rows from the ice. This area, at street level, has the most expensive seats. It seats 3,000 people and has 2 bars, a dining area, concessions, and a restaurant with outside dining facing Santa Clara Street.

This level has about 40 executive suites with private bathrooms, sinks, mirrors, counters, and small refrigerators. Even though the opening of the San Jose Arena is two months away, all 75 executive suites have been sold for terms ranging from three to seven years, bringing in \$80,000 a year.



## Angelica Castañeda

Angelica Castañeda is a 15-year-old student from San Jose's Yerba Buena High School. She will be a sophomore next year. Angelica was born in Zacatecas, Mexico, and has lived in the United States for almost 2 years. She is fluent in both Spanish and English. Her parents, Irene and Rodolfo, are still living in Mexico while she furthers her education in the United States with the help and guidance of her six sisters and five brothers. Angelica plans to attend San Jose State University or U.C. Berkeley after high school. When asked to describe herself, she said, "I am a hard worker and I like to meet people!"

— Jennie Luna

## April Jones

Eighteen-year-old April is a 1993 graduate of Yerba Buena High School in San Jose. She says she would adopt children from every nationality if she could. "I want to teach them to live in peace and harmony," she said. But first, she wants to go to college and have a career. She will attend West Valley Junior College in Saratoga this fall and plans to major in liberal arts. She plans to get a bachelor's degree from either New York University or Willamette University in Oregon. She wants to pursue a career as a magazine writer. April would like to be married by the time she's 25. But if she's not married by then it'll be OK. "I'm positive I'll have the job I want," she said.

— Elizabeth Fuentes

## Brian Pardo

Brian is a kind and friendly young man who's pleasant company would calm anybody's nerves. He is an open minded person with an open heart for everyone. This amazingly talented 15-year-old will be the drum major of Overfelt High School, the president of the Filipino Pride Club, and the secretary of A.S.B. as a junior. Brian is one ambitious individual. He's shooting for the stars. His college choices — MIT, Cal-Tech and Harvey Mudd — say much about his confidence and drive. He wants to be an engineer. So why was he in the Urban Journalism Workshop? "To contribute to the newspaper of my high school," he said.

— Perla Dicochea

## Demone Carter

Demone Lee Shante Carter is a 16-year-old senior at Andrew Hill High School who loves his mom's fried chicken. He enjoys playing basketball, video games and collecting baseball cards. Demone shows his leadership as the president of Andrew Hill's African-American Student Union. He hopes to attend Howard University and major in journalism. He has a sincere, friendly and loving personality that has a great impact on people's lives. He is the kind of person you would want to be around 24-hours a day. There is no doubt that 20 years from now Demone will be a famous sports journalist living in San Francisco and driving a black Cadillac.

— Elizabeth Corrales

## Eva Zuniga

"I want to major in broadcasting because I want to get the news out to people so they know what's going on," says Eva. Hard-working, stubborn and friendly were words Eva used when asked to describe herself. She works at Great America playing the Fred Flintstone character and is involved in ASB, National Honors Society and the Mayo club. She also volunteers to do community work. Seventeen-year-old Eva Zuniga was born and raised in San Jose. She has a 13-year-old brother. When she graduates from James Lick High School in 1994 she plans to attend University of California at Los Angeles and major in broadcast journalism.

— Evie Ortiz

# THE SAN JOSE URBAN JOURNALISM WORKSHOP



## Dweeb points, deadlines highlight journalism boot camp

BY BRIAN PARDITO  
Mosaic staff writer

Fourteen students from Santa Clara and Monterey counties participated in the first annual 1993 San Jose Urban Journalism Workshop.

It lasted two weeks from June 20 - July 2 on the campus of San Jose State University. During the day they spent most of their time in the Dwight Bentel Building, the location of the Spartan Daily. But during the night, they slept in Hoover Hall.

The workshop began with a barbecue with the students, their parents, instructors, and dorm leaders. Parents and students were reminded about the whole program.

The students played the name game for their first activity. Students picked an adjective describing them that began with the same letter as their first name. Sitting in a circle, each student had to repeat the student's name and their adjective and then give their own. Some adjectives that were used were "perky", "exotic", "bodacious", and "masculine".

The mood during the whole first week was very relaxed and lazy, except toward the end of the week when the students began working on their stories. Students would listen to lectures, have a break, listen to more lecture, maybe practice a writing sample, have dinner, another lecture, and then have free time.

All throughout the lectures and the day, someone's beeper would be constantly beeping. I won't mention any names, Eli.

During breakfast and dinner, the students ate at the Dining Commons. Although, the food was not always great, they still ate their meals.

With the leftover food, "masterpieces" of the leftover food were created by a student,

not mentioning any names, Marcos.

From the actions of the students, a system of "Dweeb Points" was established. For every foolish action, a point or more if deserved, was given. The winner of the contest would have to eat one of the "masterpieces."

Many things happened while they were eating. Someone would tell a joke and some students would not get the joke. I won't mention any names, Evie.

Or others would tell a riddle where the answer was told first. Then the object was to find out the reason by asking questions. Everyone was mad at the teller but I won't mention any names, Liz.

The students took advantage of their free time during the night by staying up late every night until early the next morning. They talked and interacted so much that by the second night they had a feeling as if they had known each other for a long time, in addition to the feeling that they had been there for a long time.

On many of these late nights together, someone was constantly laughing so high pitched and hitting her head on tables. I won't mention any names, Perla.

In addition, there were two students who stuck out in the game of ping pong. They kept the ball on the table and off too, but they kept on hitting it back.

One night during the first week, they stayed up late and were watching Saturday Night Live. Then a skit came on where the man on the show kept on using the word, "Sassy." He used it when describing the celebrity lookalikes in the skit. Thereafter, everything the guys did was "Sassy."

On a few of those late nights, they sat on the couches in the dorm and were surprised

to see about 15 bites on their legs caused by spiders. But the spiders did not compare to the cockroaches found downtown.

Finally, for the first time during the first week, they went on a field trip to City Hall and the County Offices. The experience was unique and enlightening.

On the way back, riding the light rail, someone had to jump off the train and her bag got stuck. So she pulled it out and barely got off. I won't mention any names, Donna.

They went to Great America for the whole day on Saturday. They went as a group and rode the rides. The ride most liked was "Top Gun."

During all the times they waited in line, two people kept on making spit bubbles that floated and popped onto other people. I won't mention the sassy names, Marcos and Demone.

When the time came to go back to S.J.S.U., two students were still left in the park getting articles from a locker. The adult in charge did not even notice they were missing, not mentioning any names, Manny.

On Sunday, they visited the Teotihuacan exhibition at the de Young Museum in San Francisco. They witnessed and read about artifacts from an ancient Mexican civilization.

The workshop was an overall success. The students made 13 new friends, in addition to the instructors and connections they had talked to.

The main goal of the workshop was to encourage more minorities to get into the world of journalism by exposing them to it. They learned the hardships of getting into journalism and also the rewards of writing. The students have a real sense of what journalism is.

Evil does, bigots, and racists beware, for as long as there is ignorance on this earth, there will be people like Eli Nava making sure everything is firm. Eli is an 18-year-old graduating senior from North Salinas High School. He was the president of the North High chapter of M.E.C.H.A. He especially likes listening to Santana, Marcos Loya, and rapper Paris. Nava says he admires Malcolm X and Ruben Salazar 'because they stood by their beliefs and didn't care what people thought of them. He also believes that ignorance is the biggest problem in the world right now because it is the root of racism, drugs, gangs and other problems.

— Marc Cabrera

— April Jones

— Angelica Castañeda

— Elizabeth Corrales

— Demone Carter

— Elizabeth Fuentes

— Evie Ortiz

— Jennie Luna

— Liz Corrales

— Liz Nava

— Courtney Towle

## Liz Corrales

Her gentle smile and sweet mannerisms make 17-year-old Elizabeth Corrales (who we affectionately call Liz) an easy person to like. Her lovable personality is complimented by her intellectual prowess. She is displeased with her 3.5 grade point average and vows to improve it. This is a testament to her greatest asset: determination. Liz hopes to attend the University of California at Berkeley, where she can cultivate her writing skills. When she is not deeply immersed in her studies, she is either reading the works of John Steinbeck or listening to music. What does she want to be doing 20 years? "I want to be a journalist/novelist living in San Francisco."

— Demone Carter

## Marc Cabrera

Well, what can you say about one Marc Cabrera? He's from Salinas. He sees his best attribute as being trustworthy but he believes he curses too much. Marc, 16, admires the rap artist Ice Cube the most because of his ability to kick knowledge of reality. He hates Dan Quayle because of his incompetence and hypocritical behavior. He would most like to meet Norman from MTV's "Real World." He sees himself 10 years from now doing whatever he wants and getting away with it. He sees "Amerikkka" being a lot worse than it is now due to the incompetence of those who run it. Marc was born and raised in Salinas.

— Eli Nava

## Courtney Towle

Still ready for a laugh at 5 a.m., Courtney Towle never lets lack of sleep get her down! Known for her characteristic facial expressions and her cheezy smile, Courtney always seems to turn any situation into a humorous moment. A June graduate from San Benito High School in Hollister, Courtney isn't sure whether she'll attend UC Berkeley or UC San Diego, but she'll decide while she spends the next year abroad in Finland. Wherever she decides to go, she'll be sure to pass on her homemade jokes and sarcastic wit! She would like to pursue a career in documentary film production, and would like to spend time in Washington, D.C.

— Xóchitl Arteaga

## Perla Dicochea

"Perky" Perla Dicochea, 17, recently graduated from Lincoln High School. She will be a freshman at Santa Clara University this fall. At Lincoln, Perla was involved in many sports and clubs. She was a cheerleader and was head of the Varsity Song Girls. In addition to her school activities, she babysits for three children, all under age nine. In the past two weeks, she had really lived up to the nickname of "Perky" by constantly laughing, doing aerobics, and jogging. She keeps in top physical shape by participating in many physical activities. One of her desires is to become a broadcast journalist. Channel 11's Doug Moore is her all-time hero.

— Brian Pardo

## Xóchitl Arteaga

Xóchitl can't keep a straight face through any conversation and spreads her characteristic sarcasm wherever she goes... but that is the beauty of the aspiring traveler who has already been nearly all over the world. Still unsure of what college to attend, she will be a senior at Andrew Hill High School this fall. Xóchitl is somewhat temperamental but always ready for a phone conversation. Singing puns into the air until 3 or 4 a.m., she leaves her roommate, Evie, speechless. Xóchitl plans to become a journalist specializing in music coverage. She keeps herself busy by doing volunteer projects and going on road trips with her friends.

— Courtney Towle



## Graffiti:

From page 1

so most of her gang tags have been painted over.

Graffiti has evolved to more than just being gang related. San Jose code enforcement officer Margaret Wagenet says "Most all tags are not gang related."

Many youths in San Jose and other cities have formed "tagging crews," and "party crews." These are not to be mistaken as gangs. These crews get together and their main objective is to, by any means, write on property and advertise their crew's name.

Jason Reyes, age 15, is part of a tagging crew, JBS or Just Bustin' Funky. He said, "It's hard for graffiti artists to speak up because they don't want to get busted. We do it to get fame and to see who can hit up the most."

There are two sides to every story, just as there are two meanings for graffiti. Maria Ortiz, volunteer at the Barrio Art Gallery, said that some people consider graffiti as "vandalism and a degrading destruction of property, while others consider it a form of self expression and art."

The latter definition is plain to the eye at the Barrio Art Gallery on Kammerer Avenue off King Road. Not one wall is left untouched of graffiti art. The captions of some of the artist's work include "Graffiti Lives!" and "I'm not a criminal, just a graffiti original" and "Kids can't express art without being punished, that's why we go to the Art gallery."

The gallery, founded in 1989, is surrounded by a field with broken glass. But inside is museum containing a whole new world of art. Ortiz witnesses everyday the struggles youths go through. She says the city is "incarcerating kids for simply expressing themselves."

She also says it is important to give kids their space and materials because "if they are not given that room, they end up venting their anger through violent expressions."

"The problem is that there are no jobs for youth," Ortiz says, "recreational services are dead, kids are uptight, they have nowhere to vent out their anger, police are coming down on youth, and they have no place to go. The Barrio Art Gallery is a sanctuary that opens doors to artists."

The doors are never shut to

anybody and she feels "One people must unite and deal with problems together."

The art in the gallery is unlike any other. "We paint what we see and what we feel," says another volunteer, Airrehua, a Native American.

The messages in the art take an awareness to drugs, gangs, respect for animals, culture, history, and great leaders. These youth are able to express their feelings toward economic and social problems and to communicate their emotions about being misunderstood and their need to be themselves.

For many youths, the Barrio Art Gallery is the only place where they can truly develop their talent and not be arrested.

"The city should think of getting a place for kids NOW," Ortiz said, "This is a critical time, and if the city doesn't respond, kids will be recruited by gangs and taggers."

Neighbors on the other hand find the Gallery and the youths a threat to themselves and the neighborhood.

One neighbor who has had their house tagged commented, "I feel sorry for what's happening to the youth nowadays."

One worker at a local barber shop, Robert Rodriguez, said, "These kids need a good year in jail. Not a day goes by where this shop isn't tagged."

One young tagger on the contrary said, "We need to fight for Chicanos not against them. We need the Barrio Art Gallery."

Lupe Cortez says cleaning graffiti won't stop gangs or tagging. "People can't express themselves with words so they express themselves through art. More people need to be educated with their Chicano history so it can open their eyes. They need walls where they can put their time and energy into making murals. No one will tag the murals."

While Cortez and workers at the Barrio Art Gallery feel painting over graffiti is not the solution, Wagenet stands by her belief that "painting over it works and we must remove it as fast as we can."

A new trend in tagging seems to support the idea that taggers don't merely want to break the law.

Some are beginning to put their tags on label stickers and sticking them up everywhere, so they get their name across. The stickers can be removed.

## Eating disorder:

From page 1

me that my legs were too big," she recalls.

After that comment, Katherine locked herself in her room and refused to go to school for a week, claiming that she was sick.

It was the start of her anorexic behavior.

Health specialists say symptoms of female anorexics include: refusal to maintain body weight (they are at least 15 percent below normal weight), an intense fear of gaining weight, distorted body image, and cessation of a regular menstrual cycle for at least three months.

Female bulimics resort to self-induced vomiting, tend to be anti-social and have frequent episodes of binge eating. The average age of women with eating disorders is 18.

At the height of her anorexia, Katherine would stick her finger down her throat to vomit. She exercised excessively, sometimes twice a day.

Before she entered therapy, she had not eaten a candy bar for four and a half years.

Eventually, therapy did cure Katherine's eating disorder.

The most difficult recovery process for female teens is coming to terms with their true feelings and learning to deal with them, said Dr. Jane Rachel Kaplan, an Albany therapist and expert on eating disorders.

She is the author of "A Woman's Conflict," which analyzes the relationship between women and food.

Usually at the core of eating disorders is a self-esteem issue, Kaplan explains.

Although psychotherapy usually is the solution, teenage girls with eating disorders are often resistant to treatment. Many miss sessions and are not committed to getting well.

However, those who do complete therapy usually recover.

"If you are going into treatment and work hard, you will get better," Kaplan said.

For more information about eating disorders contact:

University of California San Francisco Medical Center, (415) 476-2215.

The Ohloss Clinic, San Francisco, (415) 221-3354.

Woodside Women's Hospital, Redwood City, (800) 654-8968.

## Abuse:

From page 1

As time progressed, Mike would tell Christina insulting things. For example, that she was ugly, fat and incapable of ever being in another relationship. He would tell her she wasn't loved by her mother and abandoned by her absent father.

In fact, Christina's girlfriends consider her pretty. She is petite and skinny, weighing about 120 lbs. She has a clear complexion and is popular.

She said that constantly hearing bad comments from Mike made her feel like he was right. She would look at herself in the mirror and say, "If I'm so pretty why can't I find somebody else?"

When Mike transferred to another school, he started seeing other girls, but Christina did not know about them. Mike continued abusing Christina but then would kiss up to her because, she said, he was afraid she would leave him.

New arguments between started as Christina questioned Mike about people he met at his new school. These arguments often led to black eyes or bruises. All he said he wanted was trust.

Mike's first abusive move on Christina was a pinch on her arm. She said the abuse eventually escalated to the worst beating, about last April. Mike had just had an operation on his ears and Christina accidentally brushed by and bumped him. He started kicking her full force in her back, grabbed her by the arms and started punching her head. Then he would step back and laugh, she said. His explanations for all the beatings were that he was frustrated with their relationship and his life.

Garcia explains this type of behavior as impulsive and a trigger in the brain that causes these guys to go into a frenzy. The possessiveness and jealousy are results of low self-esteem. Guys who physically and mentally abuse their girlfriends are not comfortable with themselves, therefore they play the mind games to hurt others in order to make themselves feel good.

Larry, also not his name, recalled how he mentally abused his girlfriend. He's 18 and just graduated from James Lick.

Larry and Cindy's relationship progressed normally until Larry saw Cindy at a party with her friends. Seeing her there angered him. When Cindy later went out with a guy she met there, Larry realized he no longer had trust in Cindy.

From then on he wanted to make her feel as bad as he did when she went out with somebody else. He said he was determined to get revenge.

Larry would test her by telling her to get away from him to see if she cared enough to come back. He told her not to talk or even associate with her friends because he didn't want to have to worry about her whereabouts.

He became possessive, but not physically abusive. Larry said her grades started dropping and her relationship with her parents worsened.

In the end, though, Larry let her go.

Garcia said such letting go is rare. Most of the worst abuse occurs after any semblance of meaningfulness has dried up. Larry said he was surprised by his own willingness to let Cindy go her own way.

He said he hopes she never holds it against him because he didn't know what he was doing at the time.

## A jolting view from the Oakland A's press box

BY DEMONE CARTER  
Mosaic Staff Writer

I can see it now, walking back into the newsroom with a confident strut. "Yeah, I talked to Rickey," "Shot the breeze with LaRussa," "Joked around with Rod Carew."

So the girls will remain indifferent, but the guys, they will crowd around like I am a mythical storyteller, eyes glossy, mouths open. They'll say things like "Not!" and "Really?" And I will have to reply "yes, yes, yes."

You see, I happened upon a once in a lifetime chance to sit in the press box at an Oakland Athletics game.

I was playing apprentice to A's beat reporter Pedro Gomez. I envisioned 20 stoic reporters sitting in the press box intensely examining every aspect of the game.

I was emphatically wrong. They are a group of profane cyn-

ics who sit and verbally abuse players and each other.

They are truly characters. The closest thing I could compare them to is the 'Cheers' set at a ball game.

When I entered the Coliseum, I was in awe. I would be talking to the stars... Hendu, Eck, Rickey. As odd as this sounds, when Pedro introduced me to Rickey Henderson, suddenly my amazement was gone.

Pedro told Rickey I wanted to be a sports journalist, and Rickey said "That's a tough job kid." At that moment I realized that despite the fanfare and publicity, he was just a guy like my father or brother or anyone.

The game itself was rather dull. Oakland won 5 to 4, but overall that was of little consequence.

Earlier I said that this was a once in a lifetime experience. That was an incorrect assumption, because I will be back.

## S.J. Police Dept. face budget woes

BY MARC CABRERA  
Mosaic Staff Writer

A top San Jose police officer told reporters June 22 that the new budget cuts will have a negative effect on his patrol department. He says cuts will also lead to the laying off of many police officers.

San Jose Deputy Chief Bill Lansdowne said there will be a six percent cut in money due to the new budget. That will mean the loss of some \$4 million for his patrol division. This loss will force them to eliminate some police cars, motorcycles, and 77 police officers.

The 27-year veteran addressed student reporters at San Jose State University, and took questions on a variety of subjects ranging from the budget to drugs and police brutality. Lansdowne said he thought gangs are the biggest problem in San Jose right now.

"We need to put time into our schools and our children, and we need to invest in our students and in programs to keep them in school. If we do all of this, 10 years from now you will see a significant change," Lansdowne said.

During 1992, he said, there were 160 reported complaints made against the San Jose Police Department, and that 40 to 45 of them were accusation of excessive force. But he also compared that to the 80,000 calls made to them for crimes and help, and said he understood that all complaints were a big deal, but that the number of them was relatively small for the city.

Toward the end of the press conference he said that he felt drug use should be dealt with as a health problem, rather than as a criminal one, and said he supports efforts to decriminalize drug use, but not drug dealing.

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