

la voz de berkeley

Fall 1999

Volume X, Issues X

East Bay, California



Dear Readers...

Saludos a toda nuestra gente! It's once again time for you to hook up with the latest issue of La Voz. In the spirit of struggle, unity, we have once again integrated issues facing both the campus community and our communities at large.

As a community, we truly have reason to let out a grito or two. The months since our last issue have been filled with both struggle and victory. The third world Liberation Front, in its fight to save Ethnic Studies, got 'em up with the UC Berkeley administration and forced them to meet our demands. Tambien, after a long organized campaign, eleven of the fifteen Puerto Rican political prisoners broke their shackles after spending nearly two decade en la pinta.

However, we cannot just "kick it" and become lazy in our victories. As always, there is still work to be done. Here's a short list of things to start with:

- The new freshman class, affected by the two-year long absence of Affirmative Action, has less Raza than before.
- Time to fight Pete Wilson and other racist gringos with their attacks on our youth.
- Instead of two MECHAs, how about one. The list will end here.

Well back to what's in this issue – you will read about the television brownouts, teen pregnancy, dehumanized farm labor conditons, homophobia in our communities.

As you read this issue of La Voz, listen to the voices of the youth, the journalists, the organizers, the artists--all who speak to us through their words, images, and humor. They have taken their time to share their perspectives, experiences, and knowledge with us. We have the responsibility of acting on it.

And if you got beef with anything we've written, show us what you are made of! Address any feedback to us at lavoz@egroups.com. Come on, we dare you leva.

¡Pa'lante, siempre pa'lante!

Somos las Editoras, y que?

C/S



La Voz de Berkeley is
Printed on Recycled Paper
with Soy Based Inks.

la voz DE BERKELEY

Editorial Staff

- Felicia Martínez: reynamatiz@hotmail.com
- Favianna Rodriguez: favianna@yahoo.com
- Luis M. Alarcon: bassettero@yahoo.com

Contributing Writers & Artists

Cindy Rodriguez, Denise Velasco, Diana Bernal, Genevieve Gonzalez, jose d. lopez, Jack D. Forbes, Lalo Alcaraz de La Cucaracha, Maria Cordero, Patrisia Gonzalez & Roberto Rodriguez, Pedro Romero, Reyna Matiz, & Yvette Mora.

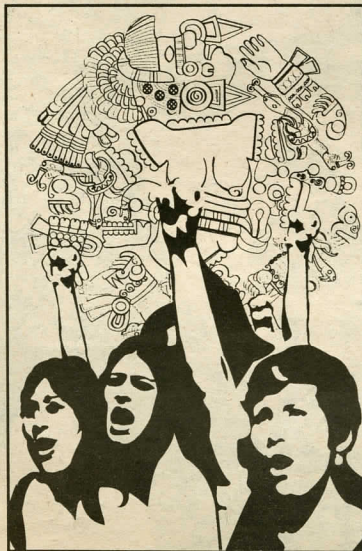
Special Thanks To:

Lalo Alcaraz, La Cucaracha, www.pochocom.com, Micaela Ortiz, Chicana Latina Agenda Office, to all Political Prisoners, twLF, my mom,

Please send all correspondence to:
La Voz de Berkeley
2336 Piedmont Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94704
e-mail: lavoz@egroups.com

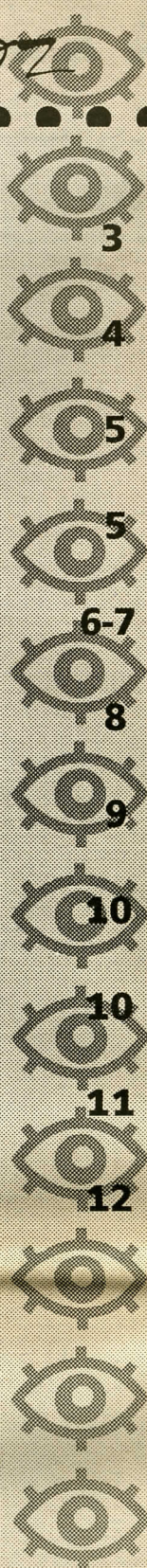
COVER ART BY FAVIANNA RODRIGUEZ

Favianna Rodriguez, 21, is a local Xicana artist from Oakland. She was initiated into the world of public art by designing flyers and publications for the student activism UC Berkeley. Since then, she has produced a print with Self Help Graphics in Los Angeles and has studied under renowned Xicana artists such as Diane Gamboa, Yreyna D. Cervantes, Barbara Carasco, and Yolanda Lopez. She also has experience designing web sites for Self Help Graphics and Pocho.com.



Inside of La Voz

- **Television Brownouts**
- **Freedom Fighters Released**
- **Mumia Alert!**
- **More Screwed-up Initiatives**
- **Claiming What is Ours! twLF**
- **Queer Latinos in Struggle**
- **A Teen Mother's Story**
- **Column of the Americas**
- **A Message from Denise Velasco**
- **Piensa Diferente**
- **RAZA CALENDARIO**



DESIGN BY FAVIANNA OF TEN.12, BERKELEY, CA.

La Voz de Berkeley is a Member of the CHICANO PRESS ASSOCIATION



The primary objective of the CPA is to advance the struggle for Raza self determination by promoting and unifying the progressive Raza press/media.

For more information write:
Chicano Press Association P.O. Box
620095, San Diego CA 92162

**¡GUERRILLEROS DE
LA PLUMA!**

TELEVISION BROWN-OUTS

How Can Raza Adjust Their Screens to Brown?

BY CINDY RODRIGUEZ

A coalition of Latino organizations, determined to show network execs they can't take us for granted anymore, called on the country's 31 million Latinos to boycott TV for two weeks, to denounce what they called a "TV Brown-out." They looked at the new fall lineup - which features no Latinos in a leading role - and said, "¡Basta!" Enough.

One out of every 10 Americans is Latino, but who would know that watching prime time TV, where fewer than 2 percent of the characters are Latino? The boycott, which ended Sept. 26, was a bad idea whose time had come. Bad because there's no way to gauge Latino viewership. But it forced execs to sprinkle some token Latino characters into a few shows. So now we'll have a Latina on "Sabrina the Teenage Witch." It's progress.

But if these same Latino leaders really want to stop the TV brown-out, they need to turn to their own community and confront an even bigger problem: the whitewash that is known as Spanish-language TV. Turn on any of the dozen novelas (soap operas) on Telemundo and Univision, the two dominant cable stations that air programs from Latin America, and you'll see more blondes and redheads than on "Baywatch." Peroxide-blond actresses outnumber dark-haired ones. As for male actors, they don't have to dye their hair, but their facial features tend to the Anglo side. The casting directors seem to be following the old street saying: "If you're white, you're right. If you're black, step back."

Spanish-language TV's most celebrated stars are not simply white, though. They're super-white. Talk

show host Cristina Saralegui - who has more viewers than Oprah - dyes her hair platinum to soften her almost ghostly complexion. TV astrologer Walter Mercado, with his blazing red hair (also dyed), has features so Nordic you'd never guess he was Latino.

The problem isn't with the Cristinas and Walters of the Latin American world, it's the lack of faces any shades darker. The majority of the TV news anchors and novela stars have European features, a misrepresentation of the majority of Latinos. Most of us are mestizo; we come in some form of beige or brown. A good number of us have African or indigenous features.

Watching Spanish-language TV, I sometimes feel I have stepped into an episode of "Twilight Zone," where everything is reversed; the majority becomes the minority. If the characters weren't speaking Spanish, anyone stumbling across one of these shows would swear it was a broadcast from Europe. This isn't a new issue. Latinos - light and dark alike - have long complained to each other about it, but we put up with it because we have few choices. I've often wondered if those stations are catering to lighter-skinned Latinos, who tend to be more affluent, or if the problem stems from the much talked-about "colonialized mentality," in which we subconsciously want to look more like those who have oppressed us.

Lisa Navarrete, a spokeswoman for The National Council of La Raza, one of the organizers of the boy-

WHERE'S ALL THE COLOR?

"Space aliens will have more network lead roles than Asians or Native Americans, while [Raza], the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population, are woefully underrepresented. Of 26 pilots the four networks announced for fall, none has a star of color, an embarrassment that led the same TV executives who unveiled the vanilla slate to issue chagrined statements, point to minority characters on existing shows and scramble to make last-minute cast additions. But the issue is more than numbers. It's the future of integration."

- James Poniewozik
TIME Magazine, 7/26/99



cott, said the organization has long been aware of the whitewash on Spanish-language TV, but chose to focus on the English language networks because that's what most Americans watch. She said it's important for non-Latinos to see us playing positive roles, because polls show a majority of Americans see Latinos as "lazy, unpatriotic, undereducated."

"If you don't have direct contact with a group, your ideas about that group are going to be shaped by the media," Navarrete said. She also spoke about surveys that show that Latino children ascribe positive attributes to white TV characters and negative ones to their own ethnic group. "Latino kids are not seeing themselves on TV," she said. That's true, but isn't it even more harmful for Latinos to see themselves depicted only as a light shade of beige?

Univision is the fifth-most-watched network, according to Nielsen Media Research, with 92 percent share of US Spanish-speaking viewers. And it's growing by leaps and bounds. Many young Latinos watch these shows. What about the dark-skinned Latina who watches these programs? Or the Peruvian with strong Indian features? The message to them: whiter is better.

So as we end this boycott, maybe we should look to put pressure on the Spanish-language media. Tell them we won't watch their shows until they, like their American counterparts, find some color.

Cindy Rodriguez's e-mail address is rodrig@nws.globe.com. Reprinted with permission from the Boston Globe.

LA CUCARACHA by Lalo Alcaraz



11 Political Prisoners See the Outs' Once Again!

BY REYNA MATIZ

As I write these words, Mumia Abu-Jamal sits on death row waiting for his execution date to be set. Leonard Peltier continues to speak out on behalf of indigenous people, even after more than two decades behind prison bars. Both men, along with hundreds like them, are U.S. prisoners of war who have been incarcerated under false charges in U.S. government's futile attempt to silence them.

Fifteen such prisoners of war were arrested and incarcerated during the early 1980's. They were members of the F.A.L.N. (Fuerzas Armadas de Liberación Nacional), a guerrilla movement that has fought to free Puerto Rico from United States colonization. Ever since the U.S. acquired Puerto Rico as a colony in 1898, Puerto Ricans have struggled to liberate their homeland which is known officially as a U.S. "commonwealth" in order to conceal its colonial status. As a colony, Puerto Rico is subjected to U.S. laws without having any congressional voting rights in the United States government.

As part of the struggle to liberate their homeland from U.S. imperialism, the FALN staged a series of 130 bombings of federal building during the 1970's. Years later, 15 FALN members were arrested and detained because they were suspected of being involved in these bombings. As in the case of other political prisoners, there was not enough evidence to convict the FALN members of direct involvement with the bombings. Instead, the government convicted them of nonviolent crimes such as seditious conspiracy. Thus, allowing them to achieve their original goal of incarcerating the activists. Their sentences for these non-violent acts ranged from 55 to 90 years in prison. Judicial records show that the prison sentences handed down to the FALN members were far harsher and more excessive than any others handed down for similar crimes in that same decade.

The fifteen who were convicted were so committed to their principles that they refused to seek legal defense in court. As prisoners of war and as citizens of a colonized nation, the FALN members maintained that U.S. courts had no legal jurisdiction over them. As a result of their deliberate silence, they were sentenced and sent directly to federal prisons across the country.

Aside from the political and judicial ramifications of their sentencing, the imprisonment of the Puerto Rican politi-

cal prisoners had significant impacts on a human level as well. Several of the prisoners were forced to abandon spouses and/or children. For example, Dylcia Pagán was forced to abandon her son just one month after his first birthday.

Ever since the initial arrests were made over 18 years ago, there has been a growing movement to pressure the government to pardon them. In late August 1999, that movement won a near victory when President Clinton, under pressure from human rights leaders, offered fourteen of the fifteen prisoners a clemency deal. The deal offered conditions that were anything but generous. In order to be released, Clinton said, the prisoners had to renounce violence. They had to promise to never associate with one another again, among other things, and would be required to remain under the surveillance of a parole officer. This meant that if their parole officer ever decides that they have transgressed any of these conditions, they will be sent back to prison with no hope for a second release.

It is easy to see that the clemency offered to the prisoners was not clemency at all but is instead unjust and illogical. The deal aims to keep these political freedom fighters under the control of the U.S. government in an effort to hinder their organizing efforts. On a more human level, two of the released prisoners, Alicia Rodriguez and Ida Luz Rodriguez, are sisters will be forbidden from having contact with each other under the mandates of the clemency package. In the media coverage that followed the announcement of the offer, the news casts predictably focused on the issue of violence even though all of the prisoners were convicted of non-violent crimes. Furthermore, as many activists pointed out, the U.S. is the real culprit of violence in this situation; the U.S. government continues to use Puerto Rico as a military testing ground.

Faced with no other option, on September 10, 1999, Elizam Escobar, Ricardo Jiménez, Adolfo Matos, Dylcia Noemi Pagán, Alicia Rodríguez, Ida Luz Rodríguez, Luis Rosa, Carmen Valentín, Alejandra Torres, Alberto Rodríguez, and Edwin Cortés agreed to the terms and were released from prison. Another prisoner, Juan Enrique Segarra-Palmer, also accepted the government's ultimatum, but will not be released for another five years. Four of



Alicia Rodriguez, member of the F.A.L.N., was 1 of the 11 prisoners released.

the women who were incarcerated in our own backyard, were released from the Dublin Federal Women's Prison where they had spent the last 18 years. Hundreds of people gathered at Dublin that day to celebrate their release. By that evening, most of the heroes were already on planes, on their way back to Puerto Rico.

Of the fourteen who were offered the clemency package, twelve accepted it. The other two, Oscar López Rivera and Antonio Camacho-Negrón, rejected the offer and remain in prison. Notably, the only prisoner who was not offered the clemency deal, Carlos Alberto Torres, is viewed as one of the most instrumental leaders of the 1970's movement.

While in the United States, senators and news reports labeled the released prisoners as "terrosists", in Puerto Rico, people of all political walks greeted these freedom fighters as national leaders. Edwin Cortés was correct when he told the Associated Press as he boarded his homebound plane, "I'm sure that we'll be received as patriots in our country, not the criminals we've been labeled as in the United States."

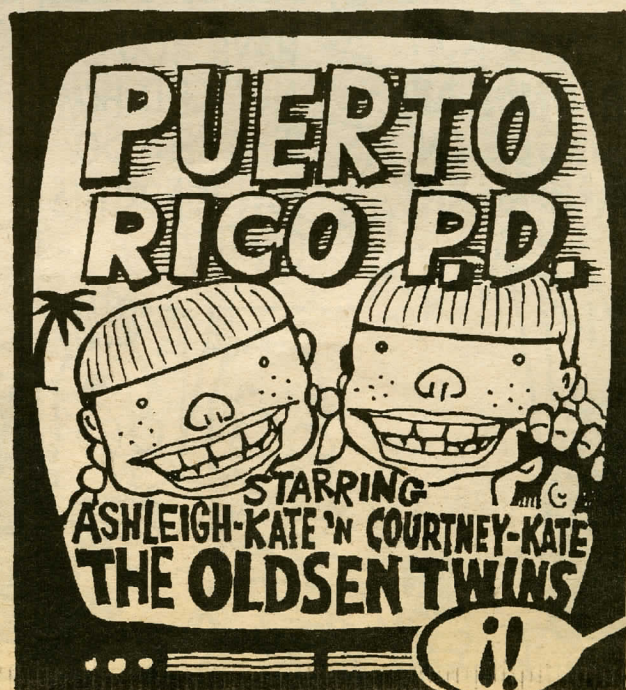
Indeed, they were extended a hero's welcome. No sooner had the new reports arrived announcing the prisoners' release, thousands of people flooded the airport to embrace them with support.

Upon their release, the ex-prisoners publicly affirmed their commitment to work for the cause of Puerto Rican independence. They have made it clear that even the restrictive conditions of their release can never silence them nor quell the passion for justice and liberation in their hearts. As Dylcia Pagán put it in a public statement made after her release, "I am going to participate in the fight for independence. This I will do until the last day of my life."

We, too, should take the example of all who have been imprisoned in the fight for liberation. Whether its refusing to accept the coercive terms of the clemency offer or utilizing a restricted freedom to continue the fight for liberation, each of these freedom fighters inspires us to continue to move pa'lante, siempre pa'lante.

¡Libertad a todos los prisioneros políticos y a todas las tierras ocupadas!
¡Que viva Puerto Rico Libre!

LA CUCARACHA by Lalo Alcaraz



Two Dangerous Initiatives in March 2000 Primary Election

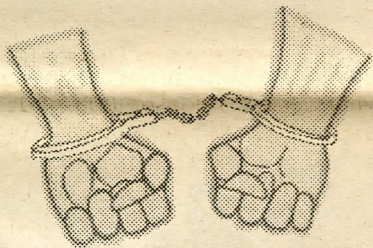
ANTI-YOUTH

Pete Wilson's Youth/Juvenile Crime Initiative, will put our youth into jail-track lives. The initiative imposes a harsh punitive approach to addressing juvenile crime by incarcerating many more juveniles for longer periods of time. The initiative, which makes hundreds of changes in California law, contains many failed proposals of former Governor Wilson that were rejected by the Legislature in prior years. If passed, this initiative will fill our prisons with youthful offenders placed alongside adult convicts and will make it nearly impossible for youthful offenders to rehabilitate.

ANTI-GAY

The so-called "Defense of Marriage" or Knight initiative spearheaded by State Senator Pete Knight would make it constitutionally impossible for any couple other than a man and a woman to marry in California. This initiative is a wedge issue which is intended to use homophobia to codify anti-gay measures. In states with similar legislation on the books, courts and policymakers have relied on such laws to deny adoptions by lesbian or gay parents, to defeat anti-discrimination measures for lesbians and gay men, and even to justify the elimination of protections provided by anti-hate crimes laws. The California State Assembly has already defeated similar bills five times.

You Can Help Stop These Initiatives! Contact: Lisa Maldonado, ACLU-NC Field Representative, Email (lisam@aclunc.org) Telephone: 415 621-2493 Address: American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California, 1663 Mission Street, Suite 460, San Francisco, CA 94103



The Case of Mumia Abu-Jamal

"Don't tell me about the valley of the shadow of death. I live there."

So begins the book *Live from Death Row*, by acclaimed writer and political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal. Mumia Abu-Jamal has been on death row for over 15 years for the killing of a Philadelphia police officer. An award-winning journalist, political activist and one-time member of the Black Panther Party, Mumia has faced one miscarriage of justice after another.

In 1981, Mumia stopped a cab he was riding in to try to stop a police officer from assaulting a Black man. The man turned out to be Abu-Jamal's brother - stopped for a minor traffic violation. According to eyewitnesses, an unidentified person shot at officer Daniel Faulkner and fled. Mumia was shot in the chest by Faulkner. Witnesses say that Mumia was left bleeding on the curb for 45 minutes while police officers took turns beating him.

In 1982, Mumia was charged with the murder of Daniel Faulkner and sentenced to death. But from the start the case was full of holes.

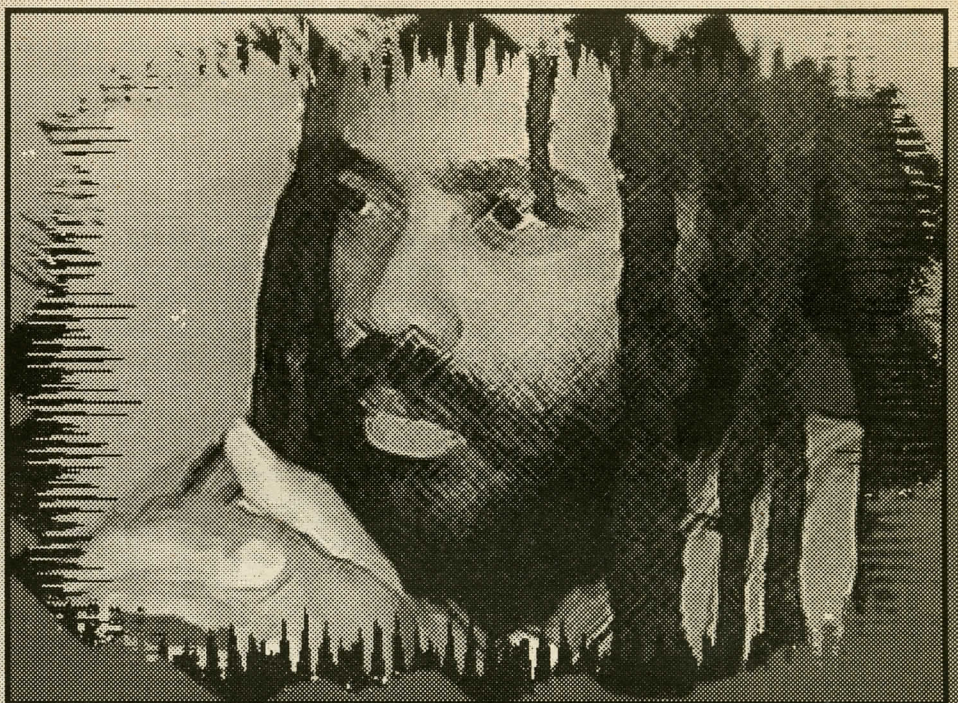
Ballistic experts never matched any of the bullets found in Faulkner's body or anywhere on the scene to the gun that allegedly belonged to Mumia. Police tested the murder weapon for fingerprints but didn't find Mumia's. Several police witnesses testified that Mumia had confessed on the night of the shooting, but the arresting officer's report mentions no confession. Of more than 125 witnesses interviewed by police, prosecutors found only two who identified Mumia as the person who shot Faulkner. One defense witness, Veronica Jones, testified that police offered her and one of the prosecution witnesses a deal: finger Mumia in court and they could continue to work as prostitutes without being arrested. Judge Sabo ordered these remarks stricken from the court record. Four other witnesses said that they saw a man other than Mumia flee from the scene of the crime.

The trial itself was held in Philadelphia - a city where 1,200 cases of police misconduct are under review. More than 300 convictions by Philadelphia courts have been overturned because of manufactured or planted evidence used by police to frame innocent people. At least 137 people have already been found innocent and released from prison after their cases were reviewed.

The judge in Mumia's case, Judge Albert Sabo, has sentenced thirty-two people to death - more than twice the number of people than any other judge in this country. All but two were people of color.

Since then, Mumia's defense lawyers have launched a long series of appeal attempts. Meanwhile, they have uncovered an avalanche of evidence backing Mumia's innocence.

MUMIA ALERT!



News and internet news are reporting that Governor Ridge will sign a new death warrant for Mumia in the next few days. We want all those concerned to be alert to this emerging situation. If a warrant is signed, there needs to be protests everywhere - in the streets, in the media, through the voices of prominent people, and throughout our communities. To quote from a recent legal update from Clark Kissinger: "The next legal step for Mumia will be to file a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in the federal district court in Philadelphia. If a new death warrant has been signed, the federal district court will be asked to stay the execution order, and this is expected to be granted. Thus Mumia would not face an immediate threat. But the overall plan of the government remains that of killing him, and a stay is nothing but a temporary postponement of the execution order. This will be a most critical moment in the whole appeals process. A federal district judge in Philadelphia will be asked to hold a hearing on Mumia's petition. If he agrees, this hearing will be Mumia's LAST opportunity to present the evidence and witnesses denied by the Pennsylvania court system. After the federal district court, higher appeals courts will only review transcripts - they will not hear new evidence." Whether or not Mumia is executed depends upon our actions. What is at stake is both Mumia's future - the future of one of the most inspiring and fearless voices of the oppressed today - and our own. We need to remain in close touch with each other during this period and report any developments as soon as possible.

SUPREME COURT REJECTS PETITION

The U.S. Supreme Court opened its Fall Term on Monday, October 4, by announcing a list of petitions it is rejecting. Among these was a petition for a "writ of certiorari" by Mumia Abu-Jamal. On April 22, lawyers for Mumia had filed this petition with the United States Supreme Court. This is a request that the court use its discretionary power to examine important legal issues in Mumia's case, without waiting for his case to work its way up to the Supreme Court through normal appeals. The issues raised in this petition concerned Mumia's Sixth Amendment rights to a fair trial. These rights were abridged when the Pennsylvania trial court refused to let Mumia function as his own attorney, when it held a meeting in the judge's chambers to remove a juror without Mumia being present, and when Mumia was removed from the courtroom without provisions for him to follow the proceedings in which his life was at stake. The next legal step by Mumia will be to petition for a writ of habeas corpus in the federal district court in Philadelphia, which will begin the normal federal appeals process. Under the restrictive measures of the 1996 Effective Death Penalty Act, the federal courts are now supposed to give a "presumption of correctness" to findings by the state courts. In Mumia's case, this means accepting findings by Judge Sabo and the FOP-supported Pennsylvania Supreme Court. As further information becomes available we will pass it on.

For more info, contact Refuse & Resist, Phone: 212-713-5657
Email us at refuse@calyx.com or resist@walrus.com

EMPOWER YOUTH THROUGH LIBERATING EDUCATION !

If you are committed to the advancement and empowerment of youth of color in the Bay Area, CHALE needs you to be a mentor and teacher. CHALE is responsible for teaching youth their history and developing their leadership, academic, and organizing skills. Become a part of CHALE !

Contact Rafa @ 549-1977 or Micaela @ 666-1138.



CH.A.L.E.

Chicanos and Latinos for Empowerment

Hasta La Victoria 6

With the rich getting richer, the United States continuing to expand its imperialist policies, and attacks on communities of color on the rise, it seems that our people have few recent victories to speak of. However, this past spring, a group of students organized a struggle on at UC Berkeley, a campus with a reputation of resistance. The result of this struggle was an important victory for our community.

The University of California has been among the leading institutions that attack communities of color and poor communities in California. Part of these recent attacks has included the dismantling of Affirmative Action in 1995 which sent the number of underrepresented students of color at UC plummeting. This in mind, the recent victory which resulted in strengthening Ethnic Studies programs at UC Berkeley is truly something to celebrate. In this struggle, student organizers, elementary, middle, and high school students, and community members fought and, for the first time at UC Berkeley in nearly a decade of struggle, we won.

In 1969, a multi-racial student coalition formed the third world Liberation Front at UC Berkeley and San Francisco State. These students organized a massive student strike to protest the racist and exclusionary policies of these so called public universities. The struggle of these students directly resulted in the creation of ethnic studies programs on both of these campuses. Since then, the Ethnic Studies departments at UC Berkeley and SF State have served as models for developing Ethnic Studies programs across the nation.

In the tradition of those who came before us and in the name of those who will come after us, the third world Liberation Front reconvened on the UC Berkeley campus this spring, thirty years after the original strike. With guidance and support from many of the original strikers, this broad-based, multi-racial coalition of students and community members came together to pursue two main goals—to commemorate our collective legacies of resistance and to demand action on the part of the University in addressing the needs of communities of color. This second goal would be met by reestablishing the Ethnic Studies departments that had been under attack and which was suffering from slow death due to the lack of support from University officials and the UC Board of regents.

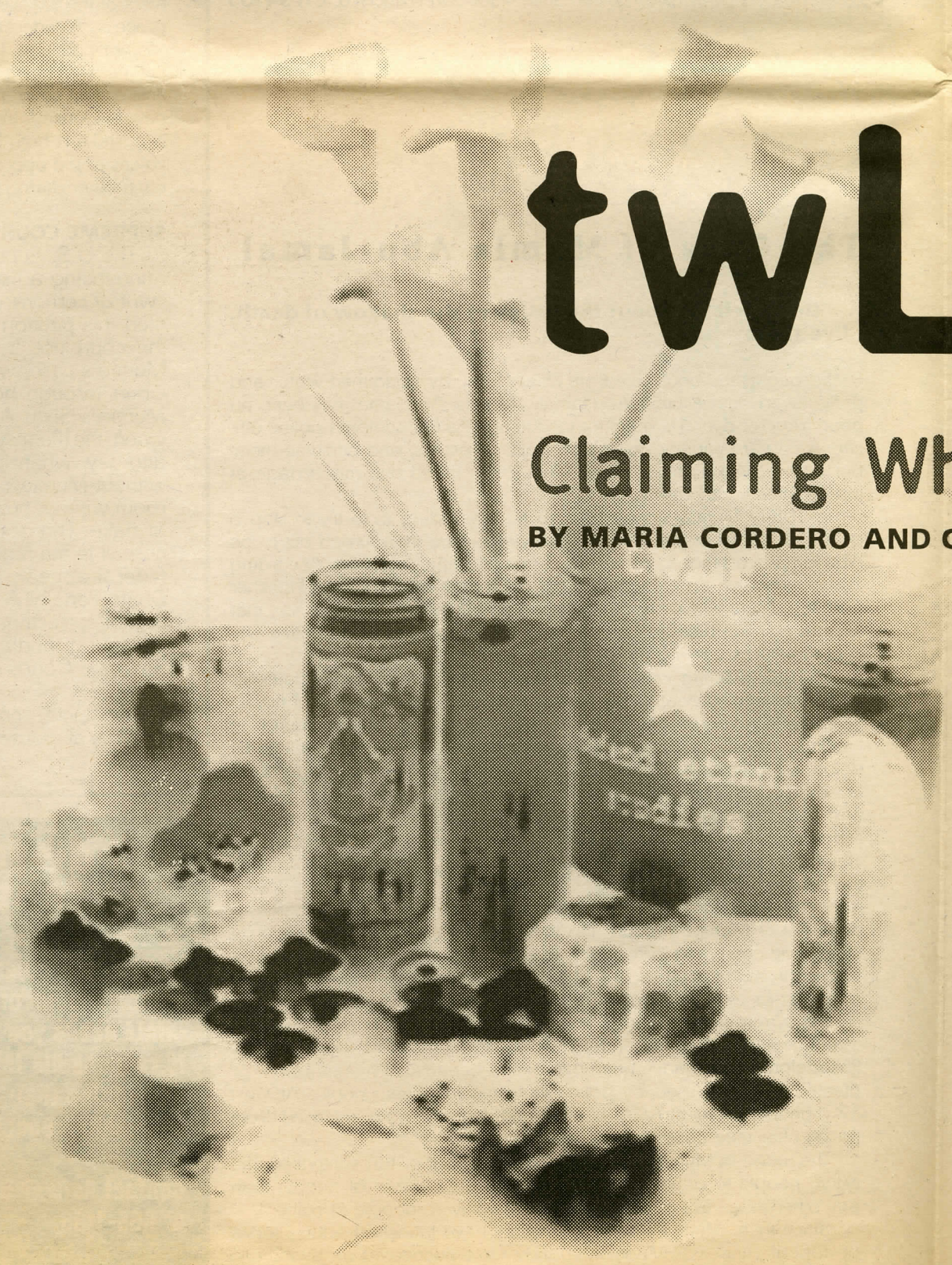
In an effort to call attention to the dwindling faculty and the budget cuts to the already underfunded Ethnic Studies department on campus, the 1999 third world Liberation Front organized a ten-hour long occupation of Barrows Hall, the on-campus building that house all Ethnic Studies departments. Students presented eight demands to university administration. These demands were aimed at building the



twL

Claiming Wh

BY MARIA CORDERO AND C



department of Ethnic Studies through the hiring of new professors, for example, and meeting the needs of students of color on campus through the development of a multicultural student center. Hundreds of students staged a peaceful protest both inside and outside of the building. At 8 pm, police dressed in full riot gear invaded the building and for two hours brutalized protestors. The police used excessive and unnecessary force which landed one student in the hospital and left dozens of other students with injuries. University officials Provost Carol Christ and Chancellor Robert Berdahl refused to negotiate on any one of the eight demands and instead arrested seventy-five student protestors.

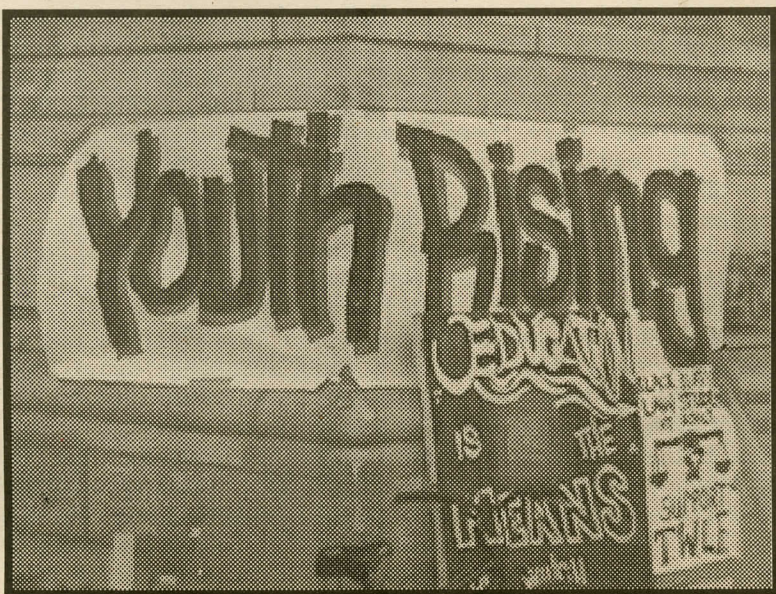
The period immediately following the Barrows building occupation was a time of intense organizing. Barely a couple of weeks after the Barrows' protest, hundreds of students and community members gathered on the front steps of California Hall, the main university administration building. The group shared a meal, and began the 1999 third world Liberation Front Hunger Strike. Six students went on hunger strike, taking only juice and water. They but put their bodies on the line to demand action on the part of the university. Hundreds of students and community members maintained a vigil with the hunger strikers outside of California Hall. We set up a 24-hour camp which was the site of our daily morning ceremonies, afternoon rallies, and evening cultural events. Each of these events drew the support of hundreds of people every day. For the first time in years, Ethnic Studies faculty joined the students in protest.

On the fourth night of the hunger strike, the University of California Police

Department, complete with police officers flown in from UC Los Angeles and UC Davis, invaded the camp. True to form, they used excessive and wholly unnecessary force while they arrested 83 protestors, which included community members, students, and the hunger strikers themselves. That night, organizers worked to assure that hundreds of more protestors would come out to support in the following days.

As a result of the growing support and pressure, the University administrators finally agreed to sit down to negotiate with students. However, the administrators were still unwilling to make any real concessions. In order to pressure them into meeting the students' demands, supporters flooded the Chancellor and Provost's office with phone calls and cards of support. The pressure brought the University to its knees. On the eighth day of the hunger strike, the Chancellor and his cabinet sat down with a team of student negotiators and agreed fully to seven of the eight demands we made. They also agreed conditionally to the eighth demand.

The third world Liberation Front was and act of true solidarity between students and community members. The Hunger Strike was victorious only because the community showed tremendous support for the students' struggle. Solidarity with the hunger strike stretched nation-wide. Dozens of labor unions pledged support. Ethnic organizations, progressive community groups, and religious and spiritual communities rallied alongside of the students. Young people representing a diversity of community youth organizations came out daily to show their support. Dozens of universities and community colleges held daylong solidarity fasts. Yellow



F
What Is Ours.

GENEVIEVE GONZALEZ

**third world
 Liberation
 Front**



solidarity armbands were worn by students, staff, and faculty all over the campus. Letters of support from across the nation poured in and the administration's phones rang constantly. These massive expression of solidarity gave the University no choice but to meet student demands.

The strategic and extensive outreach to the community was one of the greatest strengths of the organizing efforts. The twLF also concentrated on leadership development throughout the strike with more experienced student organizers making facilitative leadership a priority in order to pass on skills to new student leaders. The dedication of all present allowed for a strong, consistent presence for eight days straight. Our sisters of color were at the forefront of the struggle and seized leadership that they have historically been excluded from. Throughout the strike, a clear political intent came through in order to ensure that the struggle was not only about Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley but also about a larger system of oppression that is coming down on our communities everywhere. With revolutionary politics at the center of our organizing, this campaign acted as a catalyst for a new era of student organizing which is not issue based, but which instead encompasses a revolutionary vision that addresses the systematic nature of oppression. We all understand that winning a campus struggle, regardless of its importance, is only one step

in the many we must take in order to achieve the liberation for our people.

Despite the victory, the process wasn't easy. We faced a complex series of challenges both during and after the hunger strike. It was difficult to maintain communication between the various organizing committees, while keeping up with the negotiation process proved difficult due to the intensity and demanding nature of the hunger strike. Putting on a week long strike meant that we had to run multiple campaigns all at once. We had to do outreach, media work, strategy planning, security, and logistic planning through an eight day period full of ups and downs, high stress, and little time to rest.

One of the most difficult challenges we had to face was the administration's refusal to grant amnesty to all students arrested during the protest. In an effort to intimidate students protestors, Berdahl and his administrators singled out eight of the 150 students arrested during the struggle. These eight students would be the only ones to face criminal prosecution and student conduct charges. Although student negotiators were unwilling to sacrifice even a few fellow protestors, communications broke down towards the end of the negotiation process. As a result, the final agreement included the prosecution of these eight students who will go to the trial on October 21, 1999.

As committed organizers and aspiring revolution-

aries, however, we must take these challenges and learn from them. twLF has continued to meet throughout the summer and fall. Committees have been formed and continue to work to make sure that the University implements what it has promised, including an ethnic studies research facility, a multicultural student center, and the hiring of eight full-time ethnic studies professors. In addition, twLF organizers have rallied the ASUC and Berkeley city council to our side. Both bodies recently passed resolutions demanding that Berdahl drop the charges against the targeted eight students.

The struggle for Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley has demonstrated that the power of the people is enough to challenge oppressive institutions and win. The victory on this campus sends a message to the nation that people of color will not sit idly by as our education is ripped from our hands. We will not allow the University of California or any oppressive institution to silence the voices of those who came before us. Nor will we allow the oppressors to steal the right to education from those who will come after us. Furthermore, this victory is one stepping-stone in the revolutionary struggle we must build in order to end all forms of oppression.

We stand strong as a community, armed with revolutionary vision, moving forward always.

LA LUCHA SIGUE!

Racism, Homophobia, Poverty:

Queer Latinos in Struggle



BY PEDRO ROMERO

The death of Matthew Wayne Shephard, a freshman at the University of Wyoming, sent a wake-up call to the whole nation about the gay-bashing crisis in the United States. Still, each year the deaths of many victims of hate crimes go unheard of. Although national crime rates have decreased, the homophobic victimization of gays and lesbians has gone up over the past few years. Homophobia has been cited to be a risk factor associated with high HIV risk behavior and suicidal ideation among gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning youth. According to a 1989 study, gay youth are likely to commit suicide at a rate of 2 to 3 times more than heterosexual

youth. Furthermore, gay youth compose about 30% percent of teenage suicides annually (Gibson, 1989). The scenario is worse for minorities. In the AIDS crisis, Latino gay men face many additional social and cultural pressures such as racism, homophobia, poverty, family loyalty, machismo and religion—all of which become barriers towards HIV prevention.

Through the McNair Scholars Program at UC Berkeley, I conducted a secondary data analysis on quantitative data from the Nuestras Voces study—the largest study of Latino gay and bisexual men in the United States. The Nuestras Voces study was carried out in Miami, New York and Los Angeles in 1998. It targeted 912 Latino men from mostly Cuban, Puerto Rican and Mexican backgrounds. Survey questions were about, but not limited to, racism, homophobia, poverty, sexual silence, family loyalty and machismo. The goal was to better understand how these social, economic and cultural factors play a role in the lives of Latino gay and bisexual males.

Results showed that Latino gay and bisexual men are more likely to experience states of suicidal ideation. Based on a sample of 910 respondents from New York City, Miami and Los Angeles, a significant rate of 20% of the sample considered suicide. This is about one out of five Latino gay and bisexual men. Approximately one fifth of gay and bisexual Latino men in this study reported at least one thought of committing suicide in a period of the last six months at the time of the study. Los Angeles had the highest rate of suicidal ideation (20%), followed closely by New York City (19%) and then Miami (9%). Latino gay men in Los Angeles have experienced racism at a higher rate than New York and Miami. Also, Latino gay men have experienced more homophobia and financial difficulties in Los Angeles than in New York City and Miami. Thus, homophobia, racism and poverty do play a role in suicidal ideation among Latino gay and bisexual men. The findings supported public health officials' concerns about HIV intervention and suicidal risk among Latino gay men.

As a result of these findings, we are aware that

racism, homophobia and poverty not only play a role in suicide ideation among Latino gay men, but also affects Latino gay youth in particular. As HIV plagues minority communities, suicide ideation and suicide attempts seemed to become a silent disease in terms of mental health in the Latino community. The Los Angeles sample had the highest rate of suicide ideation and also the youngest participants in the study. These results show an association between age and suicide ideation. This finding paralleled the findings of previous studies. Also, this study showed that Latino gay men who were suicidal were most likely to have suffered homophobic attacks such as verbal and physical abuse during their childhood and teenage years. Thus, we can assume that suicide risk is higher than average among Latino gay youth.

This study revealed the need for more support programs in order to prevent not only HIV infection, which is already affecting the Latino gay community in general, but also to reduce the suicidal ideation rates by modifying existing support programs. Programs need to address social and cultural factors such as homophobia, racism and poverty since these factors were demonstrated to play a role in suicide risk. Clinical, HIV intervention and counseling programs should be aware that racism, homophobia and poverty play a role in suicide ideation among Latino gay men of all ages. Programs across the nation should implement new guidelines that take into consideration that sexual orientation is another factor that leads to suicide ideation among Latino youth.

Suicide risk prevention programs need not only to concentrate at the school level, but also at the family and community as well since both of these units shape the mental health of Latino gay, bisexual and lesbian individuals. There should be a special emphasis on youth. Most of the Latino gay men in the study experienced high levels of homophobia while growing up. Since youth are the future, they have the right to grow up healthy in order to contribute in society.

Latino gay and lesbian youth are in crisis in terms of HIV and suicide risk. They need our help. Hopefully this and other such research will not only bridge the gap between the world of research and practice, but also break the silence regarding homophobia, thus hopefully reducing the understanding gap between the heterosexual Latino community and its gay, bisexual and lesbian members. After all, when it comes to oppression, we are all in the same boat.

QUEER LIBERATION FRONT

QLF formed because we felt that our needs as queer women of color and other marginalized queer folks were not being met by the larger queer community. We feel that straight supremacy is intrinsically tied to the maintenance and perpetuation of the US capitalist power structure, and serves as yet another tool to keep our folks down.

We are made up of queer folks and allies who organize around issues that affect our communities. We see our struggle as intrinsically tied to the struggles of all oppressed peoples. We see struggles for change as crucial steps to mobilize, educate, and strengthen a larger movement for revolution.

For more information contact:
qlfront@hotmail.com

Latino Queer Youth Activism on the Rise

BY PEDRO ROMERO

Before the end of the millenium, California will host two important Latino queer conferences. L.L.E.G.O. (Latino Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Organization) will have its annual national conference: El ENCuentro—"Creando un Mundo Sin Fronteras" in San Diego from October 7-9.

L.L.E.G.O. provides the opportunity for scholars, students, community activists and members of the community to exchange ideas and network among the vast diversity of gay, bisexual, lesbian and transgender Latinos. Latino queers come all the way from places such as the Bronx, East L.A., Puerto Rico and Chicago. L.L.E.G.O. also provides a learning experience for queer Latino youth through its Youth Institute which features workshops that deal with topics such as organizing, diversity, and the effects of racism, homophobia and poverty on suicide ideation and HIV risk.

The Segundo Congreso Internacional will be held in Tijuana after the L.L.E.G.O. Conference. El Congreso will feature a Latino American Conference for queer Raza from Latino America, representing Mexico as well as other countries such as Columbia and Argentina.

Another upcoming event is that 3rd Latino Queer Youth Conference which will be held at

UCLA on November 20, 1999. This conference aims to address the need for youth involvement in community organizations. Latinos are the fastest growing minority and soon to become the majority in California which will include a growing population of gay, bisexual, lesbian and transgender Latino youth. However, the needs of queer Latino youth have not been addressed by many agencies. The one day conference at UCLA not only tries to give the opportunity for youth to look up role models and the organizers of the conference, it also provides the chance to learn and exchange ideas through workshops, training institutes and artistic presentations with other Latino queer youth. The conference will produce a resource magazine called Zine that will publish artwork and youth resources in California for queer youth in need of help.

If you are interested in the L.L.E.G.O. conference, you can find more information on the following web address: <http://www.llego.org>. If you want to find out more information on the UCLA queer Latino youth conference you can contact members of YQ.U.E, the Latino gay, bisexual, questioning and lesbian group on campus. You can also email for more info @ y_que_ucb@uclink4.berkeley.edu.

DE NINAS A MUJERES

BY YVETTE MORA

A TEEN MOTHER SHARES HER STORY

NEW CHALLENGES

One of the most challenging issues facing our nation and our state is the one of teen mothers. The San Francisco Chronicle reported on March 8, 1998 that "about one million teenagers become pregnant each year and more than 30,000 teenagers give birth." According to the Chronicle, the problem in California is very serious because the teenage pregnancy rate is the highest one in the nation.

On May 1988, Newsweek reported that there was an increase of 12 percent in teenage pregnancies in California. In Alameda County there were 837 children born to mothers younger than 18 years old. The highest rates came from African American teenage mothers who gave birth to 338 babies. Hispanics-296, White-133, Asian-59, and others-11.

Often, life is more difficult for a teenage mother with a child. One out of three teenagers drop out of high school. A teenage mother may lack in job skills which makes it hard for her to find a job. She can become financially dependent on her family or on welfare.

Many teenagers may not have the parenting skills or have the social support systems which could help them with the stress they may have while raising an infant. Studies show that appropriate parenting is important in the mental, emotional and early development in infants.

MY PERSONAL STORY

I got pregnant when I was 16 years old. I had lots of problems at home and things weren't going so well with my boyfriend. I thought that by getting pregnant things would get better, and my relationship with my boyfriend was going to get better. Instead, things got worse with my family, income, school, and boyfriend.

When I first got pregnant, some of my family stopped talking to me. I thought that was wrong, but after a while I realized that I was the wrong one. I let them down and disappointed them. But that wasn't the only problem that I had with my family. There also was a lot of stress and tension going on at my house, and by me being there listening and watching what was going on, I was part of that too.

Then the money situation started to get hard. My dad was working, but he didn't have a sure schedule so we couldn't always depend on him for money. My mom was also working, but all the money she was making was to pay the bills and rent. With my baby on the way there were going to be more expenses, but

I couldn't see it possible because there was such little money left.

I had trouble staying in school for several reasons. I already was a year behind, and with my pregnancy, I saw it more difficult to even go to school. Getting up early in the morning was pretty hard. Morning sickness and my frequent prenatal appointments to Oakland were all affecting my education. I started off at one high school, and then I transferred to another to get into independent studies to which at times I didn't even go at times because of my conditions. After a while I stopped going to school until we moved back to Oakland where going to school is a daily basis thing.

I feel that because of my pregnancy my boyfriend and I grew apart instead of getting closer. He wasn't all that interested and attracted in me as before, although I was the one carrying our child. Instead of being there for me and my own needs or whatever, he was out with his friends! I felt that maybe I was too ugly for him or he was ashamed or embarrassed to be around with the mother of his child.

Although I had lots of problems during the pregnancy, I got through it. Now I have my baby to look out for and raise. I know that what I did was stupid, but I don't regret it. It's a lot harder for me now because although I have the responsibility of taking care of my baby, I also have an education to finish. I made a promise to my baby that I will succeed in life and be not only a good mother but also a good friend to him.

WHY PREGNANCY?

Teenage pregnancy has been a growing problem. Most often teens become pregnant by accident because they didn't use contraception, they used it improperly, or because contraception failed. About 85% of women who don't use contraception during a year of having sex will become pregnant.

Becoming knowledgeable about birth control is the best way of keeping pregnancy from happening. Everyone, including people who aren't sexually active, should know the different kinds of contraception such as the pill, Norplant, Depoprovera, the diaphragm, the sponge and foam, condoms, or even abstinence.

Preventing pregnancy and acting wisely is a male's responsibility as well. After all, pregnancy involves two people.

Pregnancy isn't always accidental, though. There are times in which teenagers become pregnant on purpose. Other times they are dissatisfied with life or don't get enough love and think that by having a baby they will get all they feel they are lacking.

Pregnancy adds new difficulties to anyone's life, especially for teenagers. Disapproval from parents and peers, lack of money, and problems in finishing school are a few of the challenges teens may face. Only

half of the girls under 17 who become pregnant finish high school before the age of 30.

A pregnant teen must realize that she has something very important to deal with. She has decisions to make, such as if she is going to keep the baby, if she is going to raise him or her, or if she is going to give the child up for adoption.

If you're pregnant, you must think about the needs of many other people. You need to think about what's best for you, the father, the fetus, and the family. Every decision you make means finding out the facts about your situation. The more you know, the better your decision will be. There are a lot of places where you can get facts about pregnancy. Facts and guidance about teen pregnancy are easy to find. There are times in which it's just a phone call away. Maybe your parents, someone at school, a friend, or a relative could even have a good source of advice and information.

THE FRUITVALE ACADEMY

The Fruitvale Academy is a new school age mother and pregnant minors program, which started in June of 1997. The Alameda County office of Education and the Oakland Unified School District in the Fruitvale Community area of East Oakland jointly manages the program. The majority of these students are Latinas who live in the Latino Fruitvale area.

The school's primary goal is to give the students an opportunity to continue their education through academic and support services. The program provides students the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and self-esteem necessary to become competent, caring parents and contributing members of society. This program is making a difference in the lives of many young women in spite of the very difficult circumstances they face. This program serves students that are pregnant and school age mothers that have not completed high school. The enrollment varies from 20 to 27 students. Curriculum is a comprehensive course of study, which consists of math, science, social studies, language arts, and physical science. In addition, the program has an agency support component that provides parenting education.

These services are designed to help students successfully use public and private resources, develop parenting skills, and increase the ability to provide a rich nurturing place for their babies and for themselves. Support services staff is responsible for the instruction of health, nutrition, and prenatal education, case management, and employability training.

These services are provided by health educators, case managers, nursing managers, nursing professionals, and teaching specialists. Students in the program are exposed to classroom demonstrations, lectures, one-on-one counseling, and peer support groups.



Chair of Chicana/Chicano Studies Hospitalized

Alfred Arteaga, the new Chair of the Chicana and Chicano Studies Department suffered from a heart attack on September 8, 1999. The heart attack occurred after a meeting hosted by Arteaga in which he met with undergraduate students to dialogue with them about how to create stronger ties between Chicano Studies faculty and students. This meeting was only one of the various outreach efforts that Arteaga had arranged since the semester started in an effort to dialogue with students.

Unfortunately for the entire Chicano studies community, Arteaga is currently in Intensive Care and will be absent from the campus for the remainder of the semester.

Please send any regards, cards, or gifts to his sister, Becky Arteaga, at:

396 Spring Street.
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

She will be able to pass these things along to him.
OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU.

HUMANIZING WAGES, Not Just Raising Them

BY PATRICIA GONZALES & ROBERTO RODRIGUEZ

A recent column we wrote about the dehumanizing conditions that farmworkers work in and live in raised the ire of many readers. We were taken to task for writing that if farmworkers were paid decent wages, the price of produce would have to double or triple. Not true, the readers said. The readers are right ... but so are we.

The operative word here is "decent." What we had in mind was humanizing their wages and working conditions, not simply improving them. Simply raising the wages of farmworkers wouldn't triple nor double the price of produce. If their wages, for example, were raised by \$2 per hour, the lives of farmworkers would improve. But in the end, they would still be hovering somewhere near the minimum wage and nowhere near the vicinity of, for example, a teacher (most of whom are vastly underpaid also). Despite this, it would allow the farmworker to bring home a little bit more bacon. And as many experts note, the price of produce would indeed increase a few cents, not double or triple. The greater cost of produce is in processing, transportation and distribution, as opposed to salaries.

Humanizing wages, on the other hand, means allowing workers to live in comfortable homes, drive decent cars, be able to send their children to good schools and colleges, be medically insured and be able to take vacations, rather than be forced on the grueling migrant trail. We argue that farmworkers provide a service to society more valuable than computer programmers, yet their wages, working and living conditions are dramatically disparate. Why?

Carlos Velez-Ibanez, a professor and dean at the University of California at Riverside, provides us a clue. In his book "Border Visions" (University of Arizona, \$19.95), he posits the following: "After the development of American capitalism and its penetration into the U.S. Southwest and Northwest Mexican region, Mexicans as a group were generally regarded as 'cheap labor' and are even today." Further, he argues that they are treated simply as commodities -- to be used and discarded at will.

This view is not limited to workers in the fields. It also pertains to those in other kinds of employment

that are viewed by many as undesirable. Many economists will argue that profit is blind to color, yet we don't think it's coincidental that workers in the janitorial sector are also subjected to pitiful wages. We do have to wonder if the majority of farmworkers and janitors were white, whether their employment conditions would be any different.

Even those who come to the defense of migrants often say that they should be left alone because they take only the jobs that nobody wants, an argument that actually reinforces the idea that they (mostly Mexicans/Central Americans) are simply cheap labor. This often is related to the notion that immigrants take jobs from U.S. citizens, primarily blacks. Embedded in this false argument is the idea that the worst-paying and harshest jobs of society are reserved for African-Americans.

Corporate interests argue that cheap labor is indispensable to our economy. Of course, those who exploit cheap labor primarily enrich themselves. But in addition to enriching those interests, the exploitation of workers in the fields is brutally dehumanizing, which includes measly wages, exposure to toxic pesticides, inhumane housing and living conditions, extremely long hours and virtually no labor and health protections. Also, many of the workers are intimidated and prevented from organizing. As a recent National Farm Worker Ministry report states, workers are "virtually trapped at the camp ... in a state of indentured servitude." Though this report is specific to North Carolina, its findings could just as well apply to conditions in every other state of the union.

Cognizant of this, we return to our statement about humanizing the wages of farmworkers -- about not relying on "cheap labor." If paying double at the grocery store were to dramatically improve the lives and working conditions of farmworkers, we would gladly be the first to get in line to help bring this about. Whether other consumers would join us, we're not so sure, yet a sense fair play tells us they would.

Are the large corporate growers ready to human-



ize the wages and working conditions of farmworkers? We don't think they'll do it willingly.

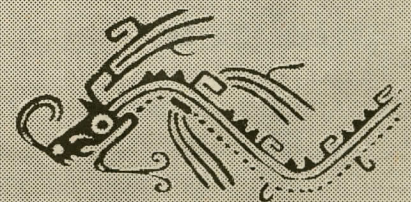
COPYRIGHT 1999 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

- For more info regarding the National Farm Worker Ministry Report, contact the Farm Labor Organizing Committee AFL-CIO, 1221 Broadway Toledo, Ohio 43609, Mike Ferner 419-243-3456 or mferner@floc.com
- Gonzales & Rodriguez can be reached at PO BOX 7905, Albq NM 87194-7905, Albq NM 87194-7905, 505-242-7282 or XColumn@aol.com.

Humanizing wages...means allowing workers to live in comfortable homes, drive decent cars,...send their children to good schools and colleges..."

Calling all writers, artist,
graphic designers, editors,
poets, etc.!

LA VOZ DE BERKELEY
is always looking for submissions and help with the paper. Join our Staff!



Drop us a line @
(510) 848-3684
or email us at
lavoze@egroups.com

You may drop off submissions @
Casa Joaquin Murrieta, or the
Chicano Latino Agenda Office in
291 Cesar Chavez Student Center.

Mailing Address:
2336 Piedmont Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94704

A MESSAGE FROM CAL S.E.R.V.E.

QUERIDA gente,

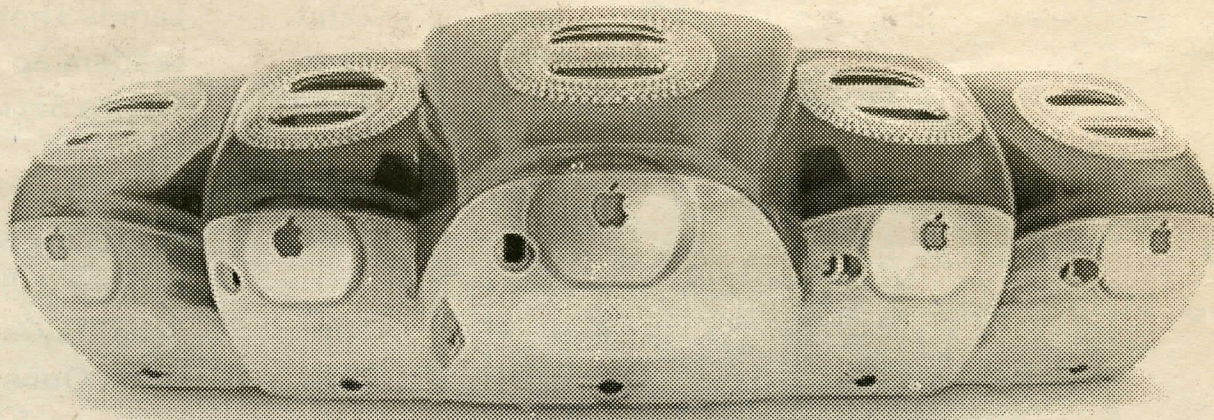
Me llamo Denise Velasco, and I am writing to all of you to introduce myself as an ASUC senator for the 1999-2000 school year. I am a second year, majoring in political science and double minoring in Ethnic Studies and Education. I am currently involved with M.E.Ch.A, twLF, Raza Recruitment, and Hermanas Unidas.

I am one of twenty senators that are here to represent all of you and help you out in any way possible. More specifically, I am one of six senators on Cal S.E.R.V.E (Cal Students for Equal Rights and a Valid Education), which is a political party within the ASUC. The other five Cal S.E.R.V.E. senators are definitely people actively helping a large set of communities on campus: Cindy Koga, a fourth year student who is the director for the Asian Pacific Theme Floor and various other organizations; Jose Luis Lopez, a second year student who directs a tutoring program through Stiles Hall and is also an active member of Hermanos Unidos; Rowena Castillo, a second year student who works directly with the Philipina/o communities through organizations such as PASS; Victor Pineda, a fourth year student who is working with the Disabled Student's Union and the Resident's Hall Assembly; and Evora Griffith, a third year student who actively works with the African American community through organizations like the Black Recruitment and Retention Center and the National Council of Negro Women.

The ways in which we can help your organization is by making the campus administration more accessible to all of you. There are various issues we are all working with, such as advocating to stop corporatization on this campus, fighting for more affordable housing, and constantly bringing the concerns of our communities to the attention of the ASUC. Along with these things, we are definitely a resource in which you can come to for funding. We are always looking to introduce the ASUC to people interested, especially those who are politically conscious with issues underrepresented people deal with on this campus. If you have any questions or a general interest in senate, e-mail me at **ucbmore-na@hotmail.com**.



Orale Raza!



Piensa Diferente.

Remember two summers ago when you were thinking of buying your first college computer. Remember your techie nerd primo who said: "You have to be practical. Buy a PC. Get that IBM clone so you can be like everybody else. You have to run Windows if you want to be professional." But memories of Macs ran through your head. The Apple IIe you learned to use in elementary school. The Mac Classic that got your middle school newsletter done. The Performa that introduced you to the world of Multimedia. You love Macs. But you heard Apple is going out of business; you're thinkin' about buying a computer that will be in museums in a year. Qué no?

What a difference a year makes. October marks the first year anniversary release of the computer that is changing everything – the iMac. Designed with the aid of candy manufacturers, the iMac broke out of the beige box. It dared to be Different. With founder Steve Jobs back at the helm, as Apple CEO, Apple returned to the basics: Simplicity and Speed. It produced a work of art that housed a powerful computer with all the bells and whistles any computer user would need. It made computers easy to use by your 9 year old mocoso brother or your 90 year old nosey tia.

October not only marks its first anniversary, but an important milestone. To date, a grip of iMacs have been sold, two million to be exact.

Apple took this opportunity to introduce a whole slew of new iMacs. There is the new basic iMac (350 to 400Mhz) that only comes in the flava' of Blueberry. For those of you lucky enough to own a Digital Video Camera, there is the iMac DV that allows for direct

connection through technology know as Firewire ports. And for all you ballers willing to spend a little more on some extra memory there is the iMac DV Special Edition. These last two models are perfect for your prima Chenchá whose always wanted to get into video.

Even though iMacs are generally geared to new computer buyers, these computers, when used with the iMovie video editing software that comes with it, can produce a professional quality video that can be put on tape or published to the Internet as a QuickTime Movie.

Add these to the professional level G4s that were announced in July, and Apple has created a complex but powerful product line that belongs in a museum not for its antiquity but for its beautiful technological uniqueness.

OYE CARNALA! PASAME EL MP TRES!

It seems that mp3s have finally caught on. TLC recently released an Internet Only single titled "I Need That" on mp3.com. They allowed 1 million downloads - first

come, first served. In addition, they donated 10 cents for every download. It took just a few days to reach that limit. Another example was recently reported in the LA Times. This time it was Garth Brooks with the backing of huge multinational conglomerates creating a sophisticated marketing campaign for his new album release. Creed, a new rock band from Miami had a new record label startup that put the Internet at the center of its marketing tactics. It distributed the first single on the album through mp3.com and a hundred other websites. It offered full previews of the entire album at creed.com. The

results? Creed was the number one selling album for the week ending October 5. It is being credited as the first album to benefit from the power of MP3. Now imagine if los Tucanes tried this. They'd be un Esmash!

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CONTENT, BABY.

Every new communication technology has gone through 3 major phases. Take For Example Television, TV first had to achieve mass distribution. Television manufacturing companies became rich from providing quality hardware. Then, TV had to create the software technology that would create what would be on Television. These software integrators became the controllers of TV. But then TV moved into its third and present phase: Content. Content providers NBC, HBO, CNN control what we see, when we see it, and how we see it. Film, telephone and the Internet, for all its revolutionary rhetoric, have the same three phases.

Hardware manufacturers like Cisco and 3Com, who make the routers, switches and modems that are the foundation of the Internet have made a gang of feria. Software "Mero-Meros" like Microsoft, Sun, Netscape, Oracle, and Adobe are some of the main owners of the second phase. We are still in the late stages of the Software phase. As we enter the third stage, those who control and profit (monetarily or otherwise) from the Internet will be those who create and present original content. Now I can attest to this first hand. As a cable modem owner that can download any site in seconds, there are few Websites out there that have anything that I want to watch or that I want

to return to watch. After all the impressive bells and whistles, there is little out there.

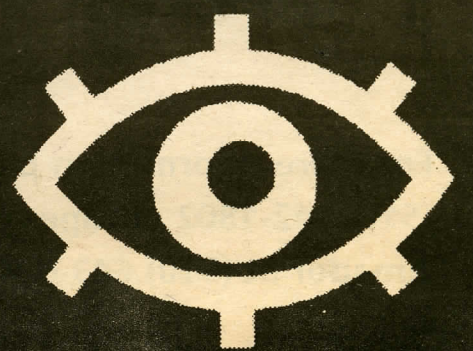
So we need to start creating more of it. I didn't even touch on the issue of raza content; its virtually (no pun intended) non-existent. Where are the Ritmo Latino Supersites with Banda Machos

Where are the Ritmo Latino
Supersites with Banda Machos
streaming mp3s and music
videos of Jaguares?

streaming mp3s and music videos of Jaguares? Where is the SiTV broadcasting of talk shows and sitcoms? Where are the Museos de WebArte? Those of us who know what we want to see need to start demanding it. Or better yet, no sean huevones, get up and create it ourselves.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

LA LLORONA LITERARY MAGAZINE is looking for arte.
If you have any to submit, please contact Eric Almanza at
almanza3@uclink4.berkeley.edu or call 510-848-0421



CAL RAZA 1999-2000

MECHA Meetings
Tuesdays @ 6:30
Senate Chambers

OCTOBER

22nd Lamda Theta Nu Social
23rd Leadership Retreat
31st Trenza Social

NOVEMBER

2nd Dia de los Muertos @
Paulley Ballroom
7th Raza Day
20th UCLA Queer Raza Conference

DECEMBER

6th La Gran Tamalada

FEBRUARY

5th & 6th Gender Retreat
Open Houses - RRRC/ASD

MARCH

18th HAU Fashion Show
20th Kindercaminata
International Latina Day

APRIL

14th-16th New Admit Weekend
30th End of the Year Banquet

MAY

1st-5th Semana de la Raza
6th Raza Spring Picnic
20th Chicano/Latino Graduation

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

RAZA CAUCUS

5:00pm – 554 Barrows Hall

FALL

August - 2, 30
September – 13, 27
October 11, 25
November – 8, 22
December – 6

SPRING

January - 24
February – 7, 21
March – 6, 20
April – 3, 17
May – 8

For more information please contact: Lupe Gallegos-Diaz at (510) 642-1802 or lupeg@uclink4.berkeley.edu or Michelle Amador at (510) 643-0441 ammich@uclink4.berkeley.edu.

