State moves to enforce federal immigration laws

Immigration rights groups say the move will lead to racial profiling and other abuses

Ben Fox
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA ANA — Frustrated by illegal immigrant criminals who slip their grasp, a growing number of state and county police agencies nationwide are moving to join a federal program that enables local officers to enforce immigration laws.

Hillel hosts Passover meal

Traditional Seder meal consists of several dishes, each represents something to honor the Jews' freedom from slavery

Jonathan Drake
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hillel of San Luis Obispo hosted their annual Passover Seder on Saturday beginning at the 8-day holiday celebrating the Jews’ exodus from slavery in Egypt.

Each of the food items in Seder pause is representative of a different event.

Although the holiday is about remembering the suffering of the Jewish slaves, it is meant to be a joyous event, celebrated with the entire family.

"Jews aren’t fatalists, and something that happened in the past won’t make a difference now" San Luis Obispo resident Sharike Sunshine said before the beginning of the meal.

The Seder meal consists of a hard-boiled egg, roasted shark bone, parsley, bitter herbs and charoises.

Jonah Stiel, 6, keeps quiet during a mock Seder on Tuesday.

The U.S. government has already granted that authority in Florida and Alabama, and the program is under consideration in Connecticut, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

To the dismay of immigrant advocates, it’s also in the works in Southern California, one of the nation’s most ethnically diverse regions, where it would reverse a long-standing policy of avoiding questions about immigration status during local criminal interactions.

The U.S. government has already granted that authority in Florida and Alabama, and the program is under consideration in Connecticut, Oklahoma and Arkansas. It’s also in the works in Southern California, one of the nation’s most ethnically diverse regions, where it would reverse a long-standing policy of avoiding questions about immigration status during local criminal interactions.

"I think that there was too much confusion going into the election," ASI President Blake Bolton said. "I really feel that misinformation played a big part in the results. There were so many rumors going around prior to the actual voting, and maybe students just did not have enough information on the facts." However, some students disagree.

Many cited that fees and tuition at Cal Poly are already too high.

"I voted no on both because our UCLA is fine, our campus doesn’t seem to need any more renovations and the other country, followed by Britain, will most likely be much higher. This is absurd and I’m reminded of things that have happened in this past year." For example, the number of inmates released, said the report’s co-author, Paige Venturini-B Battani. "Some of the measures we’ve taken are not only excessive, but also will most likely be much higher. This is absurd and I’m reminded of things that have happened in this past year."

By last June 30, there were 48,000 more inmates, or 2.3 percent, more than the year before, according to the latest figures from the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The total inmate population has hovered around 2 million for the past few years, reaching 2.1 million on June 30, 2002, and just below that mark a year later.

While the crime rate has fallen over the past decade, the number of people in prison and jail is increasing.

Tougher policies mean more inmates

The Associated Press

"A Lot Like Love" is better than your average romantic flick

IN ARTS & CULTURE, 5

POLLING RESULTS

Students voted down both fee increases

5,302 students voted on April 20-21

32 PERCENT of the campus voted

63 PERCENT opposed the facilities fee

75 VOTES determined that the student-activities fee failed

The ASI-managed facilities referendum failed to pass by a larger margin than the student activities referendum

Kristen Otazo
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Students flocked to voting booths on April 20 and 21 to show down the Associated Students Inc.-managed facilities and student activities referenda.

After two days of open polls, 5,302 students showed up to vote. This accounts for 32 percent of the student body, a relatively high percentage compared to past turnouts.

The results for the facility referendum were 3,990 votes (57 percent) in favor and 3,333 votes (43 percent) opposed.

The initial vote count for the student activities fee referendum was so close, the state required a recount. The results on April 22 confirmed the measure failed by 75 votes.

The facilities and activities fee referenda would have increased student fees to expand and renovate the University Union, Rec Center and sports complex, as well as create a new student activity center near Campus Market. The activities referendum would have raised student activity fees to increase funding for student clubs and organizations.

"I already have ample facilities to exercise," general engineering sophomore Scott Wudrowsky said. "I’m not going to pay money to go to the gym. I don’t use it, and I want to continue to not pay for it. On the other hand, I voted for the activity fee increase because many of the groups and clubs need more money to operate." Despite the likely influx of students in the coming year, ASI does not plan to propose another measure like this in the near future.

"I don’t think students realized the opportunity they had to make an impact on the future, which is unfortunate," Bolton said. "If such a measure is ever offered again, the fee increase will most likely be much higher. This was a unique chance for us to invest in future students and in Cal Poly."
of sLivery. They dipped the parsley in charoses as a symbol of the mortar the Jews slaves used to assemble bricks.

It’s disgusting,” nutrition freshman Amy Osada said.

The shank bone represents an offering of a sacrificial lamb, while the answers is a symbol of the mortar the Jewish slaves used to assemble bricks. Matzah bread is eaten along with the remembrance of the speed in which the Jews left Israel because there was no time to let the bread rise into loaves.

An important part of the meal is the Matzoh. Every table had at least three bottles of the wine. Traditionally, each person drinks four glasses of wine. You’re supposed to get drunk,” said business freshman Laura Moniz.

“Sนาm to both Hebrew and English filled the air along with Rabbi Lon reading the story of the Exodus from Egypt.

Families talked and spent time with each other as the night progressed in freedom from oppression from their ancestors. 

“Passover is synonymous with freedom,” Lon said.

This year the Passover Seder took place at the Chas Jepson Elementary School auditorium located across from Cal Poly on Grand Avenue.

Hybrid sales rose dramatically in U.S.

Despite more than $3,000 new hybrids sold in 2004, they represent less than one percent of the new vehicles sold in 2004.

Dee Ann Durbin
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT — Hybrid vehicle sales, nearly doubled in the United States last year as gas prices surged and a wider variety of models attracted consumers.

New hybrid vehicle registrations totaled 183,353 in 2004, an 81 percent increase over the same period in 2003, according to data released Monday by R.L. Polk & Co., which collects and interprets automotive data. Although hybrids represented less than 1 percent of the 17 million new vehicles sold in 2004, the U.S. hybrid market has grown 960 percent since 2000, when 7,761 were sold, according to the Polk data, and major automakers are planning to introduce about a dozen new hybrids during the next three years.

Lennie Miller, director of analytical solutions for Southfield-based Polk, said federal and state tax credits for fuel-efficient vehicles have helped spur hybrid sales. More people also are buying into the idea that driving a hybrid is socially responsible, he said.

“What’s different about this than other types of vehicles is that hybrids are about what’s next. They give back and what they want to feel is doing with their vehicles,” Miller said.

Despite the arrival of Ford Motor Co.’s Ford Escape hybrid in showrooms last year, Japanese automakers continued to control the vast majority of the U.S. market for hybrids because those brands accounted for more than 96 percent of the hybrid vehicles registered.

Toyota Motor Corp., which was the first automaker to commercially introduce a hybrid, continues to dominate the market. The Toyota Prius, which went on sale in the United States in 2000, reached 16 percent of the U.S. hybrid market last year, with 3,761 new Prius cars registered.

Ford sales for the past three years were composed.

“Our goal is to get them off the street and out of the country so local resources aren’t spent on these individuals,” said Sheriff L. Margaret Robbins.

Separately, the Los Angeles Police Department recently said it was reconsidering a rule imposed in 1979 that prohibited officers from checking the immigration status of crime victims.

The move was intended to encourage cooperation with police.

Under a new proposal, LAPD officers could seek a federal warrant against an illegal immigrant who was previously deported for a criminal offense. The measure is primarily meant for use against violent gang members and other serious offenders.

“The change, which requires approval by the Police Commission, may not happen without a fight,” police.

Nativo Lopez, president of the Mexican-American Political Association, said his group and others plan to protest by urging people not to cooperate with law enforcement in the extreme case.

“They are throwing 30 years of cooperation between police and the immigration” said Lopez. “It’s a tremendous loss to the public.”
STATE NEWS

LAKEPORT — Activist Marla Ruzicka was remembered Saturday as a passionate young woman who dedicated her life to helping victims of the Iraqi war, which led to her own death. Mourners from around the world paid respects during a service that lasted more than three hours. Friends, family members, colleagues and journalists shared memories of Ruzicka's boundless energy and enthusiasm that helped her accomplish much in 28 years.

Kevin Danaher, co-founder of San Francisco-based Global Exchange, a nonprofit international human rights organization, said Ruzicka's magic was understanding and showing unconditional love... SANTA ANA — A motorist was being shot. The victim drove himself to a local hospital and was transferred to Western Medical Center in Santa Ana, according to a police statement.

The shooting was the fourth along Southern California freeways in recent weeks. Two men were killed in separate incidents while traveling on the 110 Freeway in Los Angeles last month.

— Associated Press

NATIONAL NEWS

WASHINGTON — Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist told conservaitves Sunday that judges deserve "respect, not retaliation," no matter how they rule, and he defended his effort to strip Democrats of their ability to block votes on President Bush's court nominees.

I don't think it's radical to ask senators to vote. I don't think it's radical to expect senators to fulfill their constitutional responsibilities," said Frist. CLEVELAND — High gasoline prices are turning some drivers into riders, says public transit authorities in several states. It's a trend that Joe Calabrese, general manager of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, expects to continue as long as the gallon of gas remains about $2.

IN OTHER NEWS

ST. LOUIS, Mich. — Alexander J. Vance and his wife, Leola, made a life together for nearly 64 years. This week, they died 14 hours apart at Schnepp's Health Care Center.

Alexander Vance met Leola in Algonac, Mich., where Vance was building barges for the military in 1941. He was 80, she was 16.

They married Dec. 19, 1941 and moved to the Alton area.

The couple stayed in their home for as long as they could, until Parkinson's disease forced Alexander Vance to move into a nursing home in February.

Earlier this month, Leola Vance, who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, began complaining that her head hurt. It was determined that she had bleeding in her brain. By April 15, her husband also had taken a turn for the worse and both were in a coma in a nursing home.

"It was almost like a race," said Phil Vance, the couple's 48-year-old son. "They always said they wanted to go together and I sometimes think they were telepathically communicating about who would go first."

IN INTERNATIONAL NEWS

QUITO, Ecuador — Ousted Ecuadorian President Lucio Gutierrez flew to political asylum in Brazil on Sunday, four days after he was toppled by massive street protests. He was exiled with his wife and two daughters on a Brazilian air force Boeing 737 after being whisked out of the residence before dawn, said Lt. Col. Valdomiro Fagundes, a spokesman for Brazil's military.

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The U.S. military said Sunday it arrested four more suspects in Thursday's downing of a civilian helicopter north of Baghdad, bringing the number apprehended to far to 10.

All 11 helicopter passengers and crew were killed, including one shot by insurgents. Earlier, a civilian bomb exploded outside a police academy in Saddam Hussein's hometown, and another one went off moments later as authorities rushed to the site, killing at least six Iraqis and wounding 35 others, officials said.

"I know there are people on the bus today that weren't on the bus three years ago," he said.

In an Associated Press poll conducted last week, 58 percent of Americans said they have reduced the amount of driving they do as a result of recent increases in energy prices.

NEW YORK — A human rights watchdog group wants a criminal investigation of senior U.S. intelligence and military officials who it says may have conducted or ignored the abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib in Iraq and Guantanamo Bay.

The report, issued Sunday by Human Rights Watch, criticizes Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and former CIA Director George Tenet for allegedly trying to pass blame for the abuse to military subordinates and individual soldiers.

— Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI formally began his stewardship of the Roman Catholic Church on Sunday, reaching out to Jews, other Christians and "nonbelievers alike" and asking for prayers from the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims and dignitaries gathered in St. Peter's Square as he assumed "this enormous task."

— Associated Press

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THIS WEEK IN ASI EVENTS

WOMEN'S DAY
Thursday, April 28
11 a.m. in the UU Plaza — FREE

This event, co-sponsored by the Women's Center, is part of Remember Week which is geared toward education, action and empowerment during Sexual Assault Prevention Month. Muchab, an all-female rock band will perform. There will also be free massages, skin consultations with "The Body Shop" products, Dove samples, coupons for Laura's Lash and foot.

UU GALLERY

Featuring GRAPHIC DESIGN SHOWCASE
Opening Reception on Thursday, April 28
8-10 p.m. in the UU Gallery — FREE

The exhibit features student graphic design talent from the Art and Design department. At the opening reception meet the artists, listen to live music from Sasha Sacket and enjoy complimentary refreshments.

The exhibit is on display from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. every Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every Friday, through May 19.

UPCOMING
3rd annual BMW & SAND BLOWOUT
Saturday, April 16
1-5 p.m. in parking lot 15-16 — FREE

The outdoor festival features live performances by Sugarcoat and Home Gone and a BMX stunt show. Other activities include a giant inflatable slide and obstacle course, campus club information tables, professional and student mini-massages and more. Interested in volunteering? Please contact ASI Events at 756-1112.

WWW.ASI.CALPOLY.EDU/EVENTS

756-1112

BRIEFS

Monday, April 25, 2005 3
College students moved to a hotel after receiving threats

Hate mail targeting students in interracial relationships prompted authorities to send 43 students to a hotel for safety

Carla K. Johnson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEERFIELD, Ill. — Authorities at a Christian university near Chicago moved dozens of black and Hispanic students to a hotel for their own safety and police stepped up patrols on campus Friday after three people received threatening, racist letters.

One parent said the letters were sent to white women dating black athletes at 3,300-student Trinity International University, but school officials denied there was any connection to interracial dating.

Police and school officials would not discuss the threats in detail but said two of the letters were sent on notebook paper through the campus' internal mail system, and professors were being asked to try to identify the handwriting.

"This is a diverse campus," university spokesman Gary Cantwell said. "We condemn any kind of intolerance. We assume this is an isolated incident and not representative of the college."

The letters were addressed to specific students and arrived over the past two weeks, Cantwell said. The most recent letter, shown to reporters from talking to students and parents. "They feel there are targets on their back because they are black, because they are involved in interracial dating relationships."

However, university president Gregory Watwright stressed Friday there was no mention of interracial dating in the letters.

Classes went on as scheduled, with police cars patrolling the streets and campus security guards preventing reporters from talking to students. About 20 students stood outside in the rain during their lunch break, holding hands and praying.

"Most of what I see is good Christian character," said Peter Hilden, 23, a senior in pastoral studies. "My only fear is we'll be characterized by one bad apple."

Darby Love said her son, a sophomore football player, told her the letters were sent to white women dating black athletes.

"My understanding is that they were supposed to start shooting the black kids on Friday," Love told the Chicago Sun-Times.

Officials who examined the letters believe it is the act of one person, Cantwell said. Nothing similar has ever happened before at Trinity, and university administrators met FBI agents and other investigators to discuss how to respond, he said.

The threats were aimed at students in the university's under­graduate Trinity College, where more than 20 percent of the 1,600 enrolled are minorities. The school is in an isolated, forested area of suburban Chicago where Canada geese wander along a stream through campus and the nearest neighbors are corporate campuses.

Late last year, authorities said black professional football players and high school athletes in Cleveland received threatening letters. Those letters, postmarked from cities in Ohio and Pennsylvania, directed recipients to break off their interracial relationships "or they're going to be castrated, shot or set on fire." Most were signed "angry white woman" or "angry Caucasian woman."
"A Lot Like Love" starring Ashton Kutcher and Amanda Peet is a lot like a romantic comedy — except it's better. When Oliver (Kutcher) and Emily (Peet) end up on plane together from Los Angeles to New York City, Emily — who hasn't even said a word previously to him — impulsively joins him in the lavatory for some "mile-high action."

Once the plane lands, they part ways. But as luck would have it, they run into each other the next day on the streets of New York.

Oliver and Emily spend a leisurely day roaming the city, taking pictures, and reflecting on how different their lives are. Oliver tells Emily about his six-year plan to get his "ducks in a row."

Within that time, he intends to have a successful job, own a house, and marry a beautiful woman. When Emily dismisses his overly ambitious plan, Oliver gives her his phone number, telling her to call him in six years so he can prove her wrong.

Fast forward. Emily is trying to find a date for New Year's Eve when she comes across Oliver's number. When they get together, and their feelings are just as strong, but both deny the chance for a relationship.

Life keeps bringing them back together over the next six-years, but the timing is never right. As they struggle with their different partners, careers and breakups, they turn from casual acquaintances into trusted friends who can say anything to each other.

Their friendship is based on support at crucial times. It is seven years before they appreciate each other. But it may be too late. "A Lot Like Love" tests the maxim of whether true love is meant to be. Fate, or something a lot like it, keeps bringing Oliver and Emily together. Each time, one of them or both of them is unwilling to make a commitment. Yet it's clear that they connect better with one another than with anyone else.

While this may sound like a typical plot, it's storyline is more realistic than most romantic comedies. Ashton Kutcher and Amanda Peet star in 'A Lot Like Love.' The film had a so-so debut last weekend with $7.7 million at the box office.

"A Lot Like Love" captures the story work. Both performances are rooted in reality and their transition into adulthood is authentic. If you're looking for spring romance, this film is the way to go.
from

RIGHT

field

political viewpoint

COMMENTARY

Stuck in the past, or looking ahead?

T here are real threats that the United States faces every day. These problems are numerous, and their solutions deserve serious consideration. We must confront these situations; we can no longer sweep them under the rug.

For about 40 years, Democrats ran our government. They controlled the House and the Senate for a few administrations, the Democrats had the presidency. During this time, the problems were not effectively dealt with, but instead were placed under the rug.Unchecked until the Sept. 11 attacks changed our world.

Since 9/11, there have been real threats to the security of our country. Democrats, with a few exceptions, refused to do anything about these threats. The President has asked for reforms, but it has been largely ignored. Hill House and the Senate, and except for a few administrations, the Democrats had no desire to look at these issues.

The first and most urgent of these changes was to ensure our national security. Terrorism exists for decades, but it has been largely ignored. Bill Clinton, for example, overlooked the African Embassy attacks and the bombings of two US bases in the Sudan. Bill Clinton also refused to provide security for embassies around the world. After one horrible incident made famous by the movie "Blackhawk Down," Clinton refused to provide security for embassies.

Bush, on the other hand, confronted Afghanistan and Iraq and turned two legitimate issues into two legitimate crises. By supporting the war in Afghanistan and Iraq, we are creating more problems than we are solving. Terrorism is not going away, and we must take action to prevent it.

There is a tremendous need in our national security, also known as our borders. They have been ignored for decades and we cannot allow it to continue. Terrorism who wants nothing more than to kill Americans needs to be kept completely out of our country. For years, it was thought to be politically incorrect to keep illegal immigrants out, but Americans are changing their minds.

We are realizing that hundreds of thousands of people illegally cross our borders every year and join the millions who are already here. President Bush has a plan to help these people find exactly what they are looking for: work. A guest worker program would allow people from all over the world to enter into the United States and work legally.

I have a plan to help solve this problem. I would like to see a guest worker program that would allow people from all over the world to enter into the United States and work legally. This program would be similar to the guest worker program that has been in place for many years.

President Bush has embarked on some radical changes. As the United States attempts to bring food to an impoverished nation, we attempted to bring food to an impoverished nation. I have a plan to help these people find exactly what they are looking for: work. A guest worker program would allow people from all over the world to enter into the United States and work legally.

In the real world, there are numerous people working harder than most of us will ever have to, and yet, they still cannot afford housing, healthcare, and food for their families.

Obviously, it is not possible to entirely "level the playing field," but assuming people are successful just because they work hard is incorrect. There are a number of factors, including luck, involved. It is impossible to write off the unfortunate people as being lazy. As citizens of a country that prides itself on being a land of opportunity, we should do what we can to give more people the chance to succeed and, more importantly, put a roof over their heads.

Hilary Clinton-House of the Century

President Bush has decided that he will not run for another term. Bush has a plan to help these people find exactly what they are looking for: work. A guest worker program would allow people from all over the world to enter into the United States and work legally.

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Catherine Housten-Wise
WANT THE WILDFLOWER LOWDOWN?

Read Golden Graham, self-proclaimed sports scribe, on Thursday.
Cal Poly left hander Jordan Beck goes in the third round of the NFL Draft to the Atlanta Falcons with the 90th selection.

Graham Wongack
MUSTAN daily

For so long, Jordan Beck didn't have much chance to relax. Before the lefty became the 72nd pick in the NFL Draft, he went out of Cal Poly, Beck faced an overwhelming barrage of calls from friends, reporters and prospectus agents. Then for several hours, Saturday, Beck's friends packed his living room watching the first three rounds of the draft unfold.

Beck's friends quizzed him on the agent Ryan Toller called to say some teams were interested in selecting him soon. He didn't quizzed too when former Mustang teammate Keltin Turbin called Beck from an unknown number, pretending to be a representative of an NFL team, saying it would take a third-round pick on him.

But all the tension ended just after 7 p.m. when the Atlanta Falcons called Beck saying they would draft him with the 27th pick of the third round, the 90th overall selection. Moments later, Beck's name flashed on the television screen in his living room. The scene inside his apartment became, in a word, nuts.

It was like an excitement that I had never been apart of before, roommate and former Mustang teammate Kyle Shortwell said. "All these months of anticipation finally came to an end.

The Mustangs' career leader in tacles, Beck's draft stock grew considerably during the Division I-AA. In January, he had six tackles in the East-West Shrine Game. In February, he participated in the NFL Pro-Comb Combine and was picked by several teams. The question became not if Beck would get drafted, but whether it would happen Saturday or Sunday. Mustang coach Rich Ellerson said conservatively that by Sunday, Beck will be among the likes of superstar quarterback Michael Vick. "I'm excited to be there. I think I'll be surrounded by good players," Beck said.

Beck will meet with the Falcons in late June or early July to discuss contract logistics and said that he expects Beck to get a signing bonus between $400,000-$600,000. If Beck makes the team, he may switch to outside linebacker and he likely play exclusive special teams at first. "It's a matter of how quickly he can sort of see Beck, page 7