

# Congress Debates Immigration



More than half a million gathered in Los Angeles on Saturday to protest anti-immigrant laws.



## Kennedy wins vote for 'fairness'

(AP)—The Senate Judiciary Committee approved election-year immigration legislation Monday that clears the way for millions of undocumented workers to seek U.S. citizenship without having to first leave the country.

After days of street demonstrations that stretched from California to the grounds of the U.S. Capitol, the committee also voted to strip out proposed criminal penalties for residents found to be in this coun-

try illegally. The panel's vote cleared the way for the full Senate to begin debate Tuesday on the emotional immigration issue.

"All Americans wanted fairness and they got it this evening," said Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, the Massachusetts Democrat who played a pivotal role in drafting the legislation, approved 12-6.

Committee Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., voted for the bill but signaled that some of the provisions could well be changed by the full Senate.

In general, the bill is designed to

strengthen border patrol, create new opportunities for so-called guest workers and determine the legal future of the estimated 11 million immigrants living in the United States illegally.

At several critical points, committee Democrats were united while Republicans splintered. In general, GOP Sens. Lindsay Graham of South Carolina, Sam Brownback of Kansas and Mike DeWine of Ohio, who is seeking re-election this fall, sided with Democrats.

That gave Democrats a majority that allowed them to shape the bill to their liking.

# Taser Deaths on Rise

## Report cites 156 fatalities

(AP)—The number of people who have died in the U.S. after being shocked by police stun guns is growing rapidly, Amnesty International says in a report that catalogs 156 in the past five years.

Deaths after the use of Taser stun guns have risen from three in 2001 to 61 last year, the international human rights group said. Fourteen have died so far this year, it said, citing police and autopsy reports as well as press accounts.

The rise in deaths accompanies a marked increase in the number of U.S. law enforcement agencies employing devices made by Taser International of Scottsdale, Ariz.

Amnesty urged police de-



Taser guns, such as this one shown on St. Paul, Minn., police officer Julie Maidment, are legal in 43 states. (AP Photo)

partments to suspend the use of Tasers pending more study.

The company says on its Web site that Tasers have saved more than 9,000 lives because police officers have been able to use stun guns instead of bullets. Tasers deliver a 50,000-volt jolt through two barbed darts that can penetrate clothing.

The Amnesty report is the latest study that raises con-

cerns that use of a Taser — intended as a nonlethal alternative to a gun — can be fatal in certain circumstances, most often when the victim is using illegal drugs.

Many of those who died were high on drugs, mentally ill or otherwise agitated. Many deaths in the past year occurred after victims were hit by Tasers at least three times and, in some cases, for prolonged periods, the report said.

In seven cases medical examiners or coroners determined that Taser use was a cause of death.

# Seattle Shooting Mystery

(AP)—Aaron Kyle Huff lived with his twin brother and delivered pizzas during the five years he lived in Seattle. They were "twin teddy bears," their apartment manager said, "the kindest, sweetest, gentlest people."

But police say the man who opened fire on partygoers after a weekend rave, killing six and wounding two, was anything but gentle. He "ap-



Aaron Kyle Huff

proached the house shooting and didn't stop shooting" until he killed himself, police spokesman Sean Whitcomb said.

The question everyone is now asking is why.

Toxicology reports on the shooter are still in process, and search of his apartment didn't turn up anything that might point to a motive, police said.

# Rose Court Complete

The following young women complete the assembly of Ambassadors to the 2006 Rose Festival Court:

### Asia Washington

Asia Washington was crowned as Roosevelt High School ambassador on March 23. Washington is a cheerleader who plans to study business at Portland State University and interior design at Portland Community College. She is involved in her church and Habitat For Humanity. She is the daughter of Toni and Larry Gibson and Carl Washington. Her three siblings are Chanell, Daemon and Carl.



### Katrina Z. Holland

Katrina Z. Holland was voted Madison High School ambassador on March 22. Holland aspires to use a singing and acting career for public education and political involvement. She is also involved in student government and community organizations like the Oregon Bus Project. She plans to attend Concordia University or an out of state school. She is the daughter of Wallace and Julia Holland, and has two siblings, Anthony and Christopher Robertson.



### Alix M. Sandbothe

Alix M. Sandbothe was crowned David Douglas High School ambassador on March 20. Sandbothe plans to attend medical school, via a science degree at the University of Portland. She is a member of National Honor Society, Student Council and various theater and music programs. Sandbothe is the daughter of Tony and stepmother Tammy Sandbothe, and her mother Kathy Sandbothe.



### Julia George Mayfield

Julia George Mayfield became Lincoln High School ambassador on March 21. Mayfield enjoys historical fiction and will pursue a communications degree at Lake Forest College in Illinois. She is Madison's student body vice president and yearbook co-chief editor and volunteers at Legacy Emmanuel Meridian Park Hospital. She is the only child of John Mayfield and Diane George.



### Beth Susan Ford

Elizabeth "Beth" Susan Ford was crowned March 24 as the final ambassador to the 2006 Rose Festival Court. The Wilson High School senior is involved in theater, speech and debate, and is co-senior editor of her school newspaper. She is also a counselor in training at an all-ages summer camp. She plans to major in journalism, with a minor in creative writing. She is the daughter of Diane and Charlie Ford and has two siblings, Julia and Benjamin.



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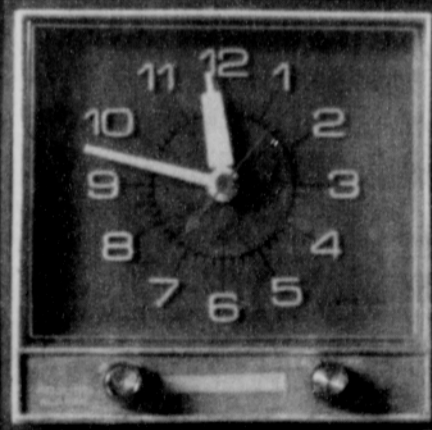
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playtime