



## Net, radio blamed for anti-Muslim feelings

*Special to Sentinel-Voice*

Anti-Muslim Internet traffic and radio broadcasts are fueling an atmosphere of hate and contributing to increased discrimination, the Council on American-Islamic Relations said Wednesday.

Hate crimes against Muslims rose 52 percent to 141 last year compared with 2003, and civil rights violations reported to the council jumped 49 percent to 1,522.

"Whenever there is a beheading or act of terrorism overseas that involves Muslims, we see a rise in reported incidents here," said Ibrahim Hooper, a spokesman for the council.

The trend is toward "rising Islamophobic rhetoric in American society," said Arsalan Iftikhar, the council's legal director.

The organization has become so concerned about anti-Muslim talk that it has launched an awareness campaign so people can contact advertisers about their concerns and file complaints with the Federal Communications Commission.

Some Muslim leaders were surprised by the council's findings, contained in a report entitled "Unequal Protection."

"I thought we were through with the high point after 9/11," said Yaser El-Menshawly, chairman of New Jersey's council of mosques. "My gut feeling is it may be a combination of the war in Iraq and mounting casualties, and that we're getting better at collecting this kind of data."

## Tony

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his post-fight urine test came back positive for nandrolone. The commission suspended Toney for 90 days and ordered him to pay a \$10,000 fine.

The real damage for Toney, though, will come from losing the heavyweight title he won for the first time in a unanimous decision over Ruiz.

"I'll go to all ends of the earth to make sure Johnny gets the belt back," Ruiz's manager, Norman Stone, said Wednesday.

Toney didn't return phone calls, but issued a statement through his promoter, Dan Goossen, denying he ever used performance enhancing drugs.

"I don't do drugs, period," Toney said. "I've never used any illegal substances to prepare myself for a fight."

Goossen told The Associated Press that a medication given Toney by his personal doctor following surgery to repair his biceps and triceps last year resulted in the test coming up positive.

Goossen said Toney took

a medication called pregnenolone, but stopped using it before he began training in mid-January for the Ruiz fight.

"Through this medication he was taking, apparently it carried over to the test," Goossen said. "But right after he healed he took nothing other than hard work. The proof is in the pudding. That was not the body of a man who is taking performance enhancing drugs."

Goossen said he would sit down with Toney on Thursday to decide whether to appeal the expected action by the WBA to take the title. But he noted there were three other sanctioning bodies with titles available.

"You can take the belt from the man but not the man from the belt," Goossen said. "James won the fight fair and square no matter what anyone wants to say."

Stone said the positive test showed otherwise.

"He's going to make a million excuses, but the fact is he tested positive for steroids," Stone said. "No one who acts like he did before

## Parents

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to the list of those promoting the new advertising campaign aimed at increasing the number of people committing to adopt or become foster parents. Appearing at the press conference, limited by laryngitis, Knight briefly addressed the audience.

In a prepared statement Knight said, "These kids represent the future of our community. We have a moral obligation to take care of these children if we ever expect them to grow up to be healthy, upstanding adults who contribute to this community."

The campaign advocates hope to encourage foster placement and adoptions of multiple children per household. Many of the children on the waiting list to be adopted are African-Americans who have siblings and need to be placed together with a loving and nurturing family. The children range in age from 3-days-old to 18-years-old.

Some of these children suffer from emotional and behavioral challenges. Many of the newborns have had substance-exposure due to their parents' drug use. Many of the older children who have been in and out of foster care long-term for years have never established a permanent placement, according to the department.



Clark County Commissioners support placing foster children into families. Left to right: Bruce Woodbury, Yvonne Atkinson Gates, Lynette Boggs McDonald and Chip Maxfield.

"So, we're looking for adults who want to make a commitment to provide a safe, loving, and nurturing home who are also caring individuals. It may be temporary or permanent, but every child deserves a nurturing environment with someone who cares for them, someone that they can count on to be there for them. That's what this campaign is all about," Klein-Rothschild summarized.

For children living in foster care under the jurisdiction of the court, 48 percent of the children were under 5-years-old when they were removed from their home, and 52 percent of these children have been in foster care for more than 18 months.

At present, many of the foster families caring for the children under court order are overloaded; they have taken on a larger burden than what is ideal for appropriate child-rearing to meet the physical, emotional and psychological needs of these children.

Boggs McDonald said, "We need to make sure that we first inform the public about this crisis, but then we need to educate the public as to how they can become adoptive parents and/or foster parents. I've had many people approach me throughout the years with many misconceptions about what qualifies one to become an adoptive or foster parent, and I think that this campaign is

appropriate..."

Boggs McDonald wants the point understood that "you don't have to be perfect to be a perfect family" to encourage those interested to take action.

"So, we will be getting out there and working with the faith-based community because there are many people out there that can be foster parents or adoptive parents, and we need to bring them into the Clark County family so that they can assist us with this crisis," the commissioner added.

For more information about adoptive or foster parenting, visit the website at [www.accessclarkcounty.com](http://www.accessclarkcounty.com) or call 1-888-423-2659 or (702)455-0181.

the fight is a normal person. He would go into rages over nothing."

Both the suspension and the \$10,000 fine were less than the nine months and \$100,000 that Fernando Vargas was given when he tested positive for steroids after his September 2002 fight with Oscar De La Hoya.

But it would drop Toney from a July 23 card promoter Don King is planning that would have featured at least two heavyweight title fights.

According to WBA regulations, Toney will also not be allowed to fight for the organization's title for two years. The WBA is one of four boxing organizations that claim heavyweight champions.

Goossen said Toney could always fight in August against either IBF heavyweight champion Chris Byrd or the winner of the WBO title match later this month between Andrew Golota and Lamont Brewster.

"I think for James the most important thing is that his name is cleared," Goossen said. "He's got a lot

of people who love and trust him and doesn't want to disappoint any of them. He's not a drinker and he doesn't take drugs."

Ruiz announced his retirement after losing a 12-round unanimous decision to Toney, but on Monday said he wasn't going to retire after all and would fight again.

Stone said he did not know about the positive test at the time, and that Ruiz simply wanted to continue fighting.

But Stone said he told New York State Athletic Commission chairman Ron Scott Stevens before the fight to make sure he tested Toney because of the way Toney acted before the fight.

Toney became just the third former middleweight champion to win a piece of the heavyweight title when he won the decision over Ruiz. The 5-foot-9 Toney weighed 232 pounds for the fight.

Unlike Toney, whose body was soft and had visible fat, Vargas was muscular and chiseled in his fight with De La Hoya.

## Clark

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Morrow learned this the hard way. Her 5-year-old granddaughter came home one day and announced to her family, "I want to be White."

Recalls Morrow: "I was taken-aback by that comment. After I composed myself, I asked her why she wanted to be White. And she said because her friend was and that White was pretty. And so, it just took me back to from where we've come." Morrow said her family immediately began a campaign to raise the child's self-esteem.

"After we came back alive, we were able to talk to her about her beauty and what beauty was, and my husband began to call her his Nubian princess," she says. "And so we started saying those things. When she comes into our home, we let her know how beautiful she is. We do a lot of affirming of her. This is what people need to do in the home. Tell them about their beauty, tell them about their history, and let them know how important they are."

Few, if any, lawyers were more important than Thurgood Marshall. Working for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in 1952, he challenged the constitutionality of the separate-but-equal doctrine. He cited Clark's work as proof of its damage to the self-image of Black children. On May 17, 1954, Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren announced its decision to desegregate schools in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

The court case ended legal segregation, but began a whole new era. "The problem is that children go to schools that are still very segregated," Bell says. "It's just that the segregation and discrimination are a lot more subtle these days."