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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Black barbers upset at raids

By Chris Levister

Special to Sentinel-Voice

MORENO VALLEY, Calif. (NNPA) — Making a point of the historical importance of the barbershop and beauty parlor in Black communities, a group of barbers, church leaders and community activists across the Inland region and the nation has demanded a federal investigation into the raids targeting six mostly Black-owned Moreno Valley business establishments early this month.

"We are demanding an immediate Justice Department full probe," said Kevon Gordon, owner of The Hair Shack since 1984.

Gordon and other barbers allege that the raids violated their 4th Amendment right of "probable cause," undermined their businesses, targeted them based on race and threatened to fracture the California Board of Barbering and Cosmetology's reputation as a career builder.

Barbers and patrons involved in the raids say a strike team of California Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Board of Barbering and Cosmetology (BBC) inspectors, city code compliance inspectors and officers from the Moreno Valley Police Department/Riverside County Sheriff burst into their establishments without search warrants under the guise of a BBC-led crackdown

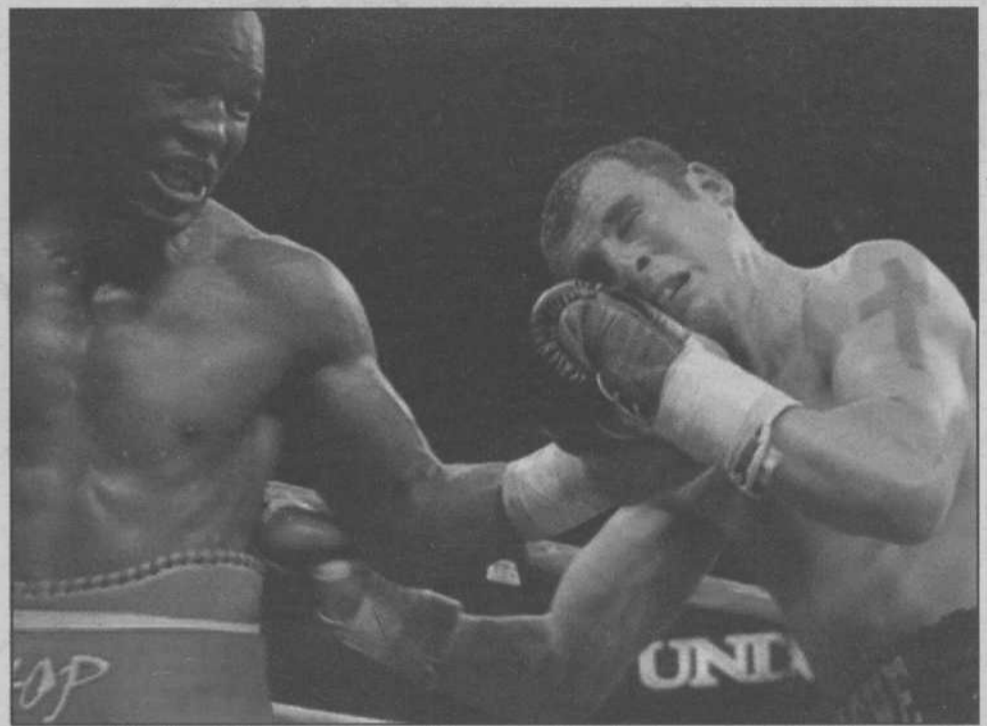
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Calzaghe handles Hopkins

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Joe Calzaghe secured one of the most significant victories of his 15-year professional boxing career on Saturday when he outpointed the American veteran, Bernard Hopkins, by split decision at the Thomas and Mack Centre in Las Vegas. His 45th straight win cemented his place in the pantheon of great British boxers and set up a possible career finale against Roy Jones Jr, perhaps the finest boxer of his generation albeit another veteran now well in decline.

The best days of the 43-year-old Hopkins are behind him now, too, but he retained enough of the old craftiness and clinical technique to floor Calzaghe in the first round and ask serious questions of the 36-year-old from Newbridge in Wales. While Calzaghe did not perform at his best — a fact which Hopkins' ability to spoil and



Bernard Hopkins, left, punches Joe Calzaghe, of Britain, during their light heavyweight championship boxing match at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas on Saturday. Calzaghe won by split decision, handing the former middleweight champ his fifth loss.

tie him up in close had much to do with — he demonstrated diamond-hard nerve to survive the crisis of the

opening round and resurrect his hopes in the subsequent rounds in this desert town.

"My first trip to Las Ve-

gas — my first fight in America — started like a nightmare," said Calzaghe,

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Think tank head submits plans for 'generation'

By Hazel Trice Edney

Special to Sentinel-Voice

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — The president and chief executive officer of The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, the premier Black political think tank based in Washington, D.C., says even though the center has played a critical role in the lofty political progress of Black people over the past four decades, its research must now turn to essential issue areas in which the plight of Black people is still suffering.

"We've done it with a focus on moving African-Americans into the political system in greater numbers — from barely 1,500 elected offices in 1970 to more than 10,000 today," Ralph B. Everett told a crowd of more than 2,000 political insiders and other supporters at the organization's glitzy annual dinner, held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. "The real possibility that a Black president



Left to right: House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-South Carolina); Tuskegee, Alabama Mayor Johnny Ford; U.S. Magistrate Judge Joyce London Alexander of the U.S. District Court and Joint Center President and CEO Ralph B. Everett share a moment after Clyburn received Great American Award. The center is focusing on helping Black people.

or a woman President will be elected — almost unthinkable just a few years ago — has put race and gender in the center of American dialogue. "And that is a good thing."

But while all eyes have been on Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, key research in areas where Blacks have slipped or never thrived is still woefully necessary, Everett says. "Our country faces an enormous task in making the promise of America more accessible to our fellow citizens. The Joint Center has a critical role to play in addressing and eliminating the barriers that prevent our young people from pursuing their dreams."

Describing community woes as "a generation at the crossroads," Everett pointed listed healthcare research that shows African-American babies more likely than babies of other races to die in infancy; African-Americans and Hispanics — historically

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