

Police, Hispanics Learn About Each Other's Lives

In a program described by police Officer Gary Chard as a "tremendous success," and a unique opportunity for the police and the Hispanic community to learn more about each other, 22 city policemen completed five weeks of inculturation in Hispanic language and values, developed in part by the diocesan Division of Social Ministry.

The program, Hispanics and Police Together and Communicating (HAP-TAC), was developed by the police department, the Ibero-American Action League working with Father Laurence Tracy of the diocese, SUNY at Brockport and the Rassias Foundation. The Rassias Foundation promotes language instruction according to techniques developed by Dr. John Rassias, a Dartmouth

professor.

According to Father Tracy, the program was devised to be a model applicable in cities across the country with large Hispanic populations.

It consisted of two weeks of intensive language instruction at SUNY Brockport, during which time the officers were pressed to speak nothing but Spanish; two weeks of road patrol with rider-volunteers from the Hispanic community; and a final week of evaluation and reinforcing lessons at Ibero, he said.

Officer Chard, on-site coordinator with Sgt. Paul Chechak, program coordinator on the police side, said that HAP-TAC had an unexpected effect above that of teaching police Hispanic culture. He said that among the Hispanic volunteers who



FATHER TRACY

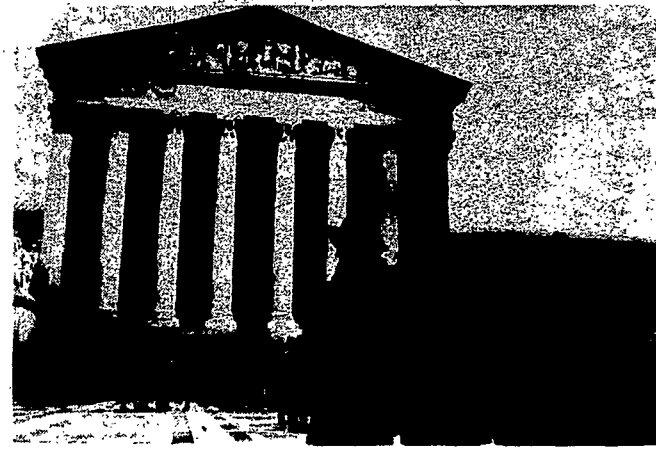
rode in the patrol cars, a new appreciation for police methods was widely expressed.

According to figures supplied by SUNY Brockport, there are about 25,000 Hispanics in Rochester, or



OFFICER CHARD

about 10 percent of the population. SUNY also estimated that prior to the HAP-TAC program, about 97 percent of the police department may not be able to communicate effectively with almost 10 percent of its constituency.



Amish to Court

The Edwin Lee family of New Wilmington, Pa., members of a local Amish sect, walk toward the U.S. Supreme Court. The court was slated to hear charges against the religious group over non-payment of unemployment taxes on member workers.

Accolades Surround Violinist

Tara Noval, a 12-year-old pupil at St. Louis School in Pittsford, is fast on her way to becoming an internationally acclaimed violinist.

Tara recently returned from a recital in the American Church Concert Series at the American Church in Paris. According to her grandmother, Mona Knipper, Tara played to an enthusiastic capacity audience, and has been invited to return during next season's series which will be broadcast over French national radio.

No stranger at diocesan functions, Tara played a violin solo for the Mass celebrating the 125th anniversary of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, for the past two years has been violin soloist at Christmas Midnight Mass at St. Mary's

Hospital, and most recently played at the International Festival Dinner at St. Louis Nov. 7.

She is a scholarship student at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City where she studies with Dorothy DeLay and commutes each week for her lesson.

Tara began her violin studies at the age of three under Anastasia Jempelis at the Eastman School of Music. A year later the child gave her first public performance, and at the age of seven appeared as soloist with the Southern Vermont Arts Festival Orchestra, performing the Mozart G Major Violin Concerto.



TARA NOVAL



Visiting Prof

Father Hans Kung, controversial Roman Catholic theologian, walks toward the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel to deliver a homily. Father Kung, whose mandate to teach theology was revoked by the Vatican over a doctrinal dispute, is serving this Fall as the John Nuveen Visiting Professor at the university. During a recent press conference, the Swiss-born priest said that "the Vatican's push for theological conformity" has frightened many progressive Catholics. (RNS)

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