

ROMARE BEARDEN

Preeminent Black
visual artist —
his life & work

SEE PG. 10



Romare Bearden

MILAGRO BEANFIELD WAR

Chicano land
struggle on film

SEE PG. 9



Riquelme

ASIAN AMERICAN JAZZ FESTIVAL

SEE PG. 9

Hope grows nationwide as Jackson leads

Michigan win builds momentum for New York primary

Jamala Rogers

NEW YORK — As the Jackson campaign heads into New York — propelled by his big victory in Michigan — hope is surging across the country.

Hope is in the voice of Seamus Ford, a white worker from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who expressed to *Unity* the sentiments echoed by so many of the state's white voters. He said, "There's only one way to look at justice. Jackson doesn't beat around the bush, he doesn't color it different shades, he takes it head on. What he stands for is what brought me to Jesse Jackson."

Hope is in the millions of African Americans who have voted for him, declaring that today, "Our time has come." And hope is growing in the hearts of millions more who believe that finally, we can vote for a President who understands and cares deeply about the lives, rights and dignity of the working person.

continued on pg. 3



A warm welcome for Jesse Jackson in the Latino community in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

UNITY PHOTO: RANDY HUGHES

Nicaraguan cease-fire: Burying the ax of war

A step toward peace despite U.S. intervention

Evaristo Garza

Hope for peace spreads as the history-making 60-day cease-fire, signed by the Nicaraguan government and the contras on March 23, goes into effect.

While just a first step, the

cease-fire has temporarily silenced the guns which have claimed up to 50,000 Nicaraguan lives in the seven-year contra war.

Talks between the government and the contras, on a final political and military settlement to the war, are set to begin in Managua this month. And they are to con-

clude by the end of the current cease-fire.

Under the agreement, the contras recognized the Nicaraguan Constitution and the legal authority of the Nicaraguan government, and agreed to stop their military activity and remain within designated cease-fire zones. The Nicaraguan government agreed to a

general political amnesty for contra fighters who wish to return to their country, and agreed to allow the contras to fully participate in the country's political life.

The cease-fire affirmed that the Nicaraguan people could resolve the conflict independently, without any outside

continued on pg. 8

**Illinois
mushroom
pickers join
FLOC union
drive**

PG. 7



PHOTO: SHELDON BAKER

Jesse Jackson stands atop a flatbed truck with striking Chicana meat packers in Greeley, Colorado.

Jackson campaign inspires millions across the country...

Attacks mount on Jackson as his campaign grows stronger

continued from pg. 1

Michigan marks a turning point

The Michigan caucuses, on March 26, were a turning point for the Jackson campaign, with his stunning 2-to-1 win over Michael Dukakis. Overnight, realization seemed to dawn among those in the top ranks of the Democratic Party that Jackson could actually win the nomination.

Jackson convened a March 30 breakfast meeting with liberal Democratic Party leaders like Harry C. McPherson Jr., Clark Clifford, and John C. White in order to, as Jackson states, "bring up the comfort level" of these forces towards his candidacy. The breakfast meeting indicates that a sector of the Democratic leadership is preparing for the possibility that Jackson's victories may continue, and so they are laying the groundwork for a future accomodation. However, overall it is clear that the top Democratic Party

leadership is in a state of near panic over the breadth of Jackson's appeal. As this panic radiates through the Washington and New York establishment, there have been stepped-up efforts to stop Jackson.

Chicano vote comes through in Colorado

In Colorado, State Democratic Party officials deliberately slowed the vote count in order to blunt Jackson's momentum going into Wisconsin. After three days, the vote count was still incomplete, but totals showed Jackson winning both the popular vote and the delegate count in Denver, and indicated Jackson could emerge as the overall winner in the popular vote statewide.

Despite the suppression of this news, the Jackson campaign achieved a critical breakthrough in Colorado, as he won Denver with strong support from Chicano voters. Jackson spent Easter Sunday at the pulpit of Our Lady of Guadalupe church in Chicano Northwest Denver,

where 2,000 people gathered to greet him. Jackson also traveled to stand with striking Chicana meatpackers in Greeley, and drew 5,000 Chicanos to a rally in Pueblo.

Joe Navarro, who co-chairs the

Denver Jackson campaign along with Rev. P.H. Gholston, told *Unity*, "Jesse Jackson's visit here has impacted people as never before. Caucus attendance was overwhelmingly high, in

continued on pg. 4



Jackson sweeps Michigan.



UNITY PHOTO: RANDY HUGHES

At Janesville, Wisconsin fairgrounds.

'Jackson fever' hits New York . . .

continued from pg. 3

some areas triple the usual number. People greeted Jesse with genuine excitement, which translated into action. In the Chicano communities that Jesse had the opportunity to visit, it inspired many people to go to the caucuses and vote for him."

However, Jackson is expected to get less than his fair share of delegates, due to a change by the state Democratic leadership which gave smaller allotments of delegates to the Black and Chicano communities. The Denver Jackson campaign has filed a complaint, charging that this punishes the disenfranchised.

Stop Jackson efforts

As the Jackson campaign gains momentum, there are stepped-up efforts by different "racists and bigots," in the words of Congressman Mickey Leland, to stop Jesse Jackson. They are particularly concerned with Jackson's 25-30% white support in Michigan and Wisconsin, including industrial workers and farmers. A similar showing among whites in New York could put Jackson over the top.

In New York, Mayor Ed Koch is attempting to spearhead a stop Jackson movement by fanning up Black-Jewish antagonisms, and by making

inflammatory statements that within weeks of a Jackson inauguration, this country would be "bankrupt and defenseless." New York's sensationalist tabloids daily scream out headlines like "Koch to Jews: 'You have to be crazy to vote for Jesse'" (*New York Post*). Joined by newspapers like *The New York Times*, these yellow journalists are trying to spread panic and racist hysteria in order to distort and blunt the impact of Jackson's message.

But throughout the country, Jackson supporters are mobilizing, determined to safeguard the gains made so far and to prepare for the upcoming primaries over the next two months.

On to New York

As Jackson barnstorms across New York, the campaign here is reaching a fever pitch. The New York campaign expects to further expand and deepen Jackson's base of support.

In addition to Jackson's overwhelming support in the Black community, which makes up one-fourth of the state vote, there is unanimous endorsement this time by Latino elected officials statewide, and strong support from labor, including some of New York City's biggest unions and mainly white industrial workers up-

state. Bronx Councilman Jose Rivera told *Unity*, "I feel the Latino vote will go solid for Jackson. Jackson is not just talking about the issues, he has lived it all his life. We really feel we're talking about a person who, once he gets into office, will not forget where he has come from."

"There's a tremendous amount of enthusiasm," said Brooklyn Assemblyman Roger Green to *Unity*. "The Brooklyn headquarters is jumping. . . Koch's comments will only solidify Jesse's support in our base. It may even backfire in the Jewish community."

Jackson will appear at an April 11 labor rally where thousands are expected, in Chinatown with Asian American supporters who have raised close to \$100,000 for the campaign, at fund-raisers with Wall Streeters and Chief Executive Officers of Fortune 500 companies, and at a massive rally in Harlem.

Redouble our efforts

Jackson's impressive showing in the industrial North and Colorado, on top of his Super Tuesday Southern victories, show the beginnings of a new democratic electoral coalition. The Jackson campaign will face its most severe test to date in the upcoming primaries, especially New York. In the weeks ahead, all those who support Jackson will be called upon to redouble their efforts and vigilance as obstacles are thrown in his path. But this too should give us cause for optimism, for these efforts are being made precisely because his campaign is growing stronger, deeper and broader.



In Hartford, Connecticut.

UNITY PHOTO: DOUG BRUGGE



UNITY PHOTO: DOUG BRUGGE

In Hartford, Connecticut (above), Michigan and Wisconsin, Jackson won the support of many white workers.

Michigan

Jackson won a sweeping victory in Michigan in the March 26 caucuses, beating Dukakis by 2-to-1, with 55% of the popular votes and 77 delegates. Jackson did well all across this northern industrial state, from Detroit to Battle Creek, and from Benton Harbor to Manistee. He won 11 out of 18 districts and strong support from local unions.

Jackson traveled extensively, choosing close-contact bus tours over airplane stops. Mary Holmes, who used her personal vacation time to work for Jackson, explained to *Unity* Jackson's appeal, saying, "He is talking about presenting real solutions to problems people are faced with — not having a job, losing a farm, having a teenager. It is like an old friend coming back to visit." Her response to the victory: "I really got quite carried away!"

Connecticut

Riding on the heels of the smashing Michigan victory, Jesse Jackson captured 28% of the vote and 17 delegates in the March 29 Connecticut primary. He won the three largest cities — Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport — besting Dukakis by a better than 2-to-1 ratio in Hartford.

In a pre-primary rally at Bulkeley High School in Hartford, over 2,500 people packed the auditorium. Jackson's message of hope rallied the crowd. He said, "I don't carry boulders, but I have small rocks and I throw them straight."

Jackson's support was extremely strong among the state's 7% Black population. The Connecticut Coalition of Black Trade Unionists endorsed Jackson just before the primary. The white vote for Jackson was about 20%, mostly from workers. Statewide, over 35 local labor leaders and activists lent their names to the campaign.

Puerto Rico & the Virgin Islands

Jackson won the March 21 Puerto Rican primary, as well as the April 3 race in the Virgin Islands, where he won 94% of the popular vote.

Puerto Rico's colonial status means the people there cannot even vote for U.S. president. For this reason, many Puerto Ricans including *independentistas* boycott the Democratic primaries. But for those who did vote, Jackson was their clear favorite. Jesse Jackson addressed the denial of self-determination in Puerto Rico in a message sent three days before the primary. Jackson stated, "The ultimate status of Puerto Rico should be determined by the people of Puerto Rico without interference from any other nation" and called for "unity of Puerto Ricans with U.S. mainland Latinos in common causes."