



Two for one

staff photo by David Fisher

The newest solution to mass transportation for Jim Doepel and Dawn Ruggels is to share a ride on his ten speed bicycle. Since a car apparently wasn't available they made do with what they had.

Doepel is a petroleum engineering major from Houston, and Ruggels is a sophomore from Houston studying finance.

Census trying to determine number illegal aliens in U.S.

United Press International
LOS ANGELES — A small team of statisticians at the Bureau of the Census is trying to answer a question the 1980 census never asked: How many illegal aliens are there in the United States?

For the first time they believe they are making headway in solving a problem one of them conceded seems intractable.

While Congress debates what to do about the illegal alien problem, the federal statisticians hope to come up with an overall total based on something better than the stab-in-the-dark reckoning of the past. They are not trying to identify individuals.

In taking the census, the government mounted an extensive, expensive campaign to convince illegal aliens, especially Mexicans and other Hispanics, that they should cooperate in the census without fear of arrest.

They were reassured that the census would not ask whether they were in the country legally or illegally, to keep from frightening the illegals into hiding from the census takers.

Hispanic entertainers on Spanish language TV stations and priests from their pulpits told Hispanics they would not get their fair share of representation in Congress, federal programs and other benefits unless they cooperated. More than \$50 billion in revenue sharing and other federal programs is alotted

on the basis of census figures.

The special campaign to increase the accuracy of the count appears to have worked fairly well, say those who took part, holding the estimated "undercount" of Hispanics to 4.4 percent.

The number of illegal aliens has been a subject of intense debate for years, with estimates ranging from one million to 20 million, often depending on whatever political argument the user wanted to make. The current generally accepted figure is three million to six million.

The effort to determine the census figures on the number of illegals was described in a little noticed paper presented to the annual meeting of the Population Association of America in San Diego by Robert Warren, a census bureau analyst.

A three-man team in the bureau's population analysis staff has been trying to come up with a scientifically reliable method for making the count. The method basically involves use of census and immigration data to arrive at a total number of foreign-born inhabitants, then subtracting known alien deaths and departures from the country.

He said the team has succeeded in developing methods to come up with "a lower bound," a minimum which the illegal population must surpass. Working with figures from the

1979 "Current Population Survey" — a yearly mini-census — Warren came up with a figure of 1.25 million as the minimum.

For a number of reasons, the actual number of illegal aliens "is certainly far higher than that," said Jeffrey S. Passel, supervisory statistician of the three-man team that includes

Warren at the census bureau's headquarters in Suitland, Md.

The overall total would still be shaky, he said. "Ultimately expect it won't narrow the range much over the figures so many people use now, 3 to 6 million, he said, but whatever the result it will have a better factual base.

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Lady lives like patriot

United Press International
KINGS ISLAND, OHIO — Arnette Boothby, 62, is known as the "Red, White and Blue Lady."

Her small frame house is painted red with white trim and blue doors.

Visitors don't know whether to say hello or salute when they walk through the front door.

"I started buying just red, white and blue and everything that wasn't I just put in the attic," she said.

She started with red, white and blue sheets and pillowcases; then came the drapes and bedspread and a throw rug with blue and red stars.

"From there I thought this was a pretty good gimmick and the time the country was gearing up for the Bicentennial so I bought sugar and flour cannisters, curtains and I cut out red and blue stars and put them on everything in the house," she added. Even the garden rake is red, white and blue.

Her husband has a watch that even plays John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes."

"I just try to go along with it," he said.

She and her husband fly two American flags at their house. One of the flags has a spotlight focused on it. She sings The Star Spangled Banner every morning. At Kings Island amusement park north of her native Cincinnati, where she has worked as supervisor of housekeeping since the park's opening a decade ago, her office is filled with red, white and blue memorabilia.

Her staff wears red, white and blue uniforms and are given flag pins on holidays. Why the patriotic fervor?

"My sister became upset in 1968 when her son went to Vietnam," Mrs. Boothby said. "I figured that if I only wore red,

white and blue and nothing else it would cheer her up. I just got hooked on it, I guess.

"Sure there are problems here and you pay a lot of income tax, but isn't it worth it to live here and be able to do what you want to do?"

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