

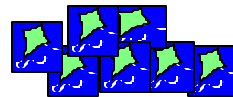
These are truly the... discovering the inner anarchist...



Pepper Spray Times

...0 P.S.T...

April 2001



It's limbate... it's free

"Courage and comfort! all shall yet go well..."*

Vol. IV No. 8

FLAGRANT ENERGY SCOFFLAWS EXPOSED ; EXECUTIONS IMMINENT

By Wendy Jackpot



THIS WOMAN exemplifies the scofflaws who continue to use electricity despite the energy crisis. She will be shot at dawn.

Governor Davis revealed a new program to expose and punish energy scofflaws, pointing out that the real culprits in the energy crisis are ordinary people who insist on using electricity despite having read their MacDonald's placemat telling them not to.

"I don't know what I was thinking," said a shamefaced Sara Wayoutaheah as she was led away in handcuffs. "I buy milk for the baby and I just...I put it in the refrigerator automatically. I really ought to be shot."

"I just couldn't break the habit," sobbed 10 year-old midnight reader Jerry Picker as he was led away to a custody van. "I was only going to finish one more chapter, but Lewis Thomas is a really interesting writer and, well, I know I really

messed up. I only hope society can forgive me someday."

"I know it was wrong," whimpered Judy Phat as she was tackled and hog-tied nearby a washing machine already in the rinse cycle. "I just needed clean socks so badly that I stopped thinking about what's best for the state."

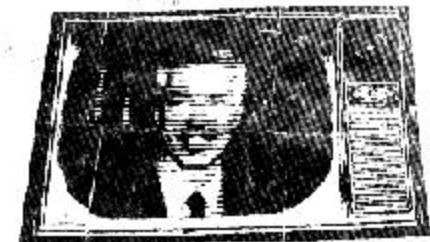
"We're not sure," responded state officials asked if the scofflaws could be rehabilitated. "We need to make an example of these criminals if we want to get through this crisis with enough energy to light the Capitol dome and Powerbar sign."

Governor Grey Davis insisted meanwhile that there was no connection between the energy crisis, 4,000 Disney layoffs, the descent of MIR, and his dismal reelection prospects.

"I just executed somebody," he pointed out. "This should restore my popularity with the California voter."

The rest of California's energy difficulties would be solved, he stated, if people would work together to conserve, unveiling a new series of TV and radio commercials designed to help people avoid contributing to the energy crisis, for example:

- * quit bathing
- * quit cooking
- * quit doing the laundry
- * go to bed after dark



GOVERNOR GREY DAVIS knows that if you tried harder you could solve the energy crisis yourself by skipping showers and stuff.

governor should use his power of eminent domain to take over the utilities and facilitate a move to public rather than for-profit power.

The governor responded that the power of eminent domain was more traditionally used to destroy neighborhoods to build more freeways or gentrify neighborhoods such as the block of houses bulldozed on the land now known as People's Park. He admitted that he took \$500,000 from the utilities for his election campaign, but insisted that anybody with a caring heart would want to help bailout the troubled energy companies out of a simple sense of compassion and charity.

* * * * *

Fax freely, plagiarize wildly, in other words, enjoy.

ICKY ACTIVISTS MISUNDERSTAND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES



THESE IDIOTS don't understand that without big profits large, powerful pharmaceutical companies would lose their will to live.

By George Foryaself

Dozens of misguided activists gathered outside Bayer's east bay plant at 7th and Parker to protest Bayer's decision to join forty one other pharmaceutical companies to try to stop the government of South Africa from importing low cost AIDS drugs.

Novartis chairman Daniel Vasella acknowledged that the entire continent of Africa provides only 1.3 percent of the world's pharmaceutical sales profits, but pointed out that allowing dying Africans AIDS drugs at lower cost would set a seriously costly precedent.

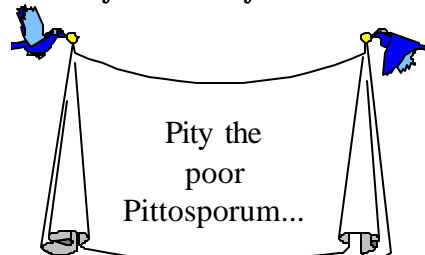
"It's a matter of principle," Vasella stated. "Without patent protection, research would grind to a halt, the generic competition would take over, and we would get seriously depressed. It would be really hard for us just to get out of bed."

Critics argued that the 26 million infected people in Africa couldn't possibly afford the high cost of commercial drug prices anyway.

"We know that," responded Vasella, pointing out that it was simply a business decision. "This has nothing to do with morality, with good or bad. It is simple logic."

* * * * *

Possible new slogan for the City of Berkeley...



ARTS DISTRICT ARTISTS CAN'T BEAT PUBLIC WORKS



THERE IS NO QUESTION that the graceful and expensive curving new sidewalk in the "arts district" has its points, but the bold, powerful asphalt rectangles smothering the San Pablo and University Avenue brickwork is obviously the more impressive artistic statement.

By Wanda Prize

Art experts unanimously awarded a coveted award for artistic excellence to Public Works recently, shattering the expectations of artists competing for "Arts District" commissions and honors.

"The pastels of the curving sidewalk in Addison's 'Arts District' is nice," offered one local art critic. "But the most powerful statement is made by the raw, elemental, even rude application of deep black asphalt to the decorative brick at the corner of University and San Pablo Avenue. This is the stuff you can't teach."

Public works employees were thrilled to learn of the award for artistic merit, commenting, "we don't really think of ourselves as artists. We're usually just a vehicle for the manifestation of an impulse."

The vehicle usually has city plates, and the impulse is ordinarily a citizen wishing to avoid falling in a pothole.

"Art comes from the oddest places," marveled the critics. "We hope we can encourage Public Works to give a few lessons."

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING WOULD HAVE REALLY LOVED THE ALCATEL AD

Reply-To: <rvickers@thekingcenter.org>

From: "Robert Vickers"
<rvickers@thekingcenter.org>

"We appreciate your feedback concerning the use of Dr. King's intellectual property in an advertisement for Alcatel. Intellectual Properties Management, as manager of the Estate of Martin Luther King, Jr., has issued a license agreement to Arnold Worldwide on behalf of their client, Alcatel, to cover the usage of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s intellectual property in Alcatel's current advertising campaign. We do believe that the ad honors Dr. King's legacy. The intent is to honor his "I Have A Dream" speech - as one of the most powerful moments in history..."

(read entire letter at caroldenney.com)

Rest in peace...
David McTaggart



CITY PLANNERS AND LOCAL DEVELOPERS often sit together for hours pouring over the area plans and the public's suggestions for improvements to their neighborhoods.



LOCAL ARTIST Debbie Moore tried her best to teach reading essentials to the pittosporum, noted for their poor literacy.

TREES FAIL READING PROGRAM; GET AXED

By Max Out

City officials finally revealed that eight pittosporum trees near the library they had agreed to "relocate" were axed instead because the trees had failed a particularly strict reading program.

"Not just any tree can hang out around here," explained Rene Cardinaux, Berkeley's public works director. "We're determined to revitalize the downtown area and now and then we have to take immediate action."

Critics argued that the trees could have benefited from a remedial program, and that the "relocation" of healthy trees made no sense in the first place.

"The liberals agreed to it," shrugged Cardinaux. "When they cave like that we'd be nuts not to run with it."

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The Pepper Spray Times gratefully accepts donations, death threats, mailing list additions etc., at: Pepper Spray Times
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Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by:

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.

Available at all the finest Berkeley City Council meetings.
* King John