

...the festive issue ...



All hail the powerful...

Pepper Spray Times

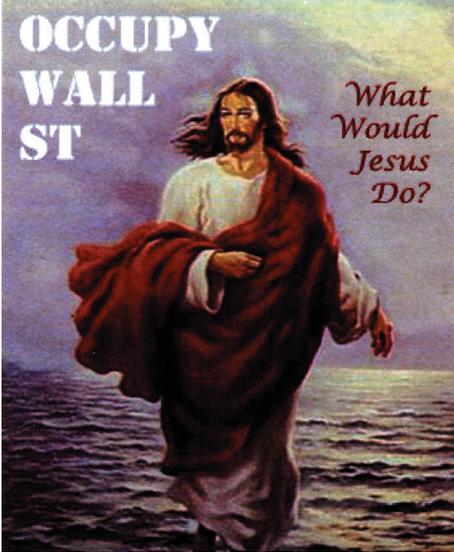
December 2012



It's transversal...it's free...if you can find it

“murmur tales of iron wars...”*

Vol. XIII No. 12



JESUS IS THE LATEST CELEBRITY TO endorse controversial e-cigarettes, which keep you hooked no matter where you are.

Jesus Endorses E-Cigarettes

by Silvia Bells

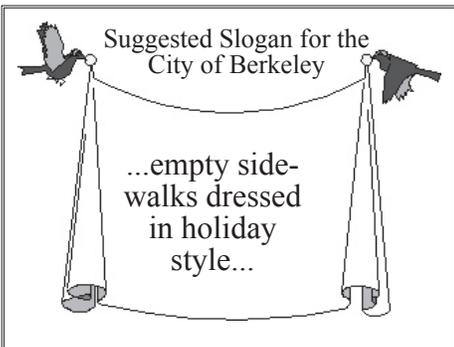
Fans of Jesus Christ shrugged upon discovering that the son of god was spending his Christmas holiday promoting e-cigarettes, the unregulated electronic devices that smokers use when they want to get thrown out of a bar.

“Not because it emits nicotine and other toxics,” explained one bartender. “We throw them out because the hip ratio in a bar goes way down when those ridiculous things are allowed.”

Jesus protested that he doesn't inhale, but critics agreed that Jesus was seriously jeopardizing his brand with the endorsement.

“We have our limits,” stated one consumer advocate. “He needs to stick to Tickle-Me Elmo.”

* * * * *



Pre-emptive Sidewalk Blocking Tickets Issued to Help Business



HOW CAN BUSINESSES SURVIVE with people like these musicians and pedestrians hanging around clearly demonstrating an intent to block the sidewalks sometime later in the day.

by Luis R. Civilrights

Police officers issued at least twenty tickets recently to people who may not have been physically blocking commercial district sidewalks, but clearly had an evil gleam in their eyes signifying the intent to do so at some point in the future which could potentially cost some merchant money in some oblique manner and seriously depress the economy.

“We have to pay attention to that,” asserted Officer Heather Cole of the Berkeley Police Department tearing off a ticket for a local fiddler. “At any moment they could stop to gaze at a window display, or watch a bird, and create an obstruction for the pedestrian behind them, who could drop their shopping bag or fall and break their arm or injure their back creating in turn an obstruction for the next person while they were lying there waiting for an ambulance, which can take awhile, causing a crowd to collect which is in and of itself a disturbance. It would be chaos.”

Merchants asked about the pre-emptive sidewalk blocking policy agreed that only police expertise could discern which pedestrians might be considering intending to block the sidewalks with malice, forbidden by law, and hoped that pedestrians given the \$76 dollar tickets would be understanding and patient with all the pretrial court dates and hearings they would be expected to attend.

“We're not in this for the fun of it,” stated one business owner who supported the recently failed “Measure S”, or anti-sitting law proposal. “We're in this for the money, and we frankly want more. We want people with cash to get here, spend it, and get out of here preferably without sitting down at all and without standing around chatting with a neighbor which creates an encampment of chatting people obstructing everybody trying to pass by and costs the next

-- continued on page 2

ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, so can we sit on the sidewalk not or what?

Dear reader, no. What is wrong with you. Check with Dr. Davida Coady of Options Recovery, and you will learn that just sitting on the sidewalk turns you into an addicted neer-do-well who is just there to depress people so badly that they can't spend money even if they have it.

Dear Lena, but what if I am tired out and just want to eat my sandwich or tie my shoelace?

Dear reader, Please be serious. You should try moving from one leg to the other, or circling the block before you seriously depress the local economy by sitting down. I mean really what are you thinking.

Dear Lena, how much money does it cost a business for me to sit down? Has anybody done the calculation?

Dear reader, yes; roughly 25 cents an hour per person. It doesn't sound like much, but it adds up over time.

Dear Lena, but I thought the anti-sitting law failed at the ballot. Why can't I sit down now?

Dear reader, because you are technically blocking the space you are actually inhabiting while existing. Haven't you ever noticed that while you are wearing them nobody else can put on your shoes? You can't deny it.

Dear Lena, I can't help but block the space I actually take up with my body anywhere I am unless I kill myself and turn to dust. Is that what you want?

Dear reader, why did it take you this whole column to catch on? You can see why the real estate interests in town are so determined to replace you with a better class of pedestrians.

Ask Lena about issuing tickets to unfashionably dressed pedestrians and pets who cannot conjugate stem-changing verbs at cdenney@igc.org.

Olympic Sitting Competition Sways Undecided Voters Against DBA's Anti-Sitting Law

by Sid N. This

The results are in. Mayor Tom Bates' anti-sitting law went down to major defeat largely due to the global excitement and international media interest in the Starry Plough XXX Olympic Sitting Competition 2012 held in Berkeley in September just before the election.

"Measure S had no chance to get my vote after I saw the sleek bodies of those competitive sitters sitting their hearts out," exclaimed one local voter who says she'll save the event poster all her life. "I never understood the fine art of sitting before seeing all the proud uniforms and the unique approaches to the simplicity of a chair. I cry with pride just thinking about it."



"I'll never forget it," offered another Olympic Sitting Competition attendee. "I had no idea these Olympic sitting competitors spent years perfecting their skills."

"I think I took chairs for granted all these years, and certainly never thought much about the skills involved in competitive sitting," added another witness to the Olympic competition. "Measure S would have extinguished a whole world of competitive sports I had never known before."

Measure S supporters dismissed the idea that the Olympic Sitting Competition played the pivotal role in swaying undecided voters to reject the anti-sitting law,

Featuring:
Selma Spector
Karen Ripley
Dr. Mozarella
Kris Welch
Scoop Nisker
Gary Hicks
Martin Hickel
Hali Hammer
Carol Denney
& more.....

**XXX Olympiad Starry Plough
2012 - The Sitting Competition**
Sunday, September 30, 2012 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Avenue Berkeley, CA
Benefit for the Stand Up for the Right to Sit Down Coalition
\$5 to \$50 Sliding Scale - Come and compete! Go for the gold!
Info: (510) 548-1612; Grace Underpressure, Popper Spray Times

FANS OF COMPETITIVE SITTING are clamoring for the Olympic Sitting Competition held before this year's election at the Starry Plough to become an annual event.

but admitted that the pro-Measure S campaign was the most expensive campaign in the city of Berkeley's history, and that they never really considered losing to a bunch of peaceniks, civil rights nuts, and homeless people a possibility.

"We need to re-tool," stated the Downtown Berkeley Association's John Caner. "Next time perhaps we should just go ahead and outlaw people without a certain level of income in the commercial districts."

Observers agreed that such a proposal would be clearer, and easier to enforce.

"That sounds perfect," agreed Craig Becker of Telegraph's Cafe' Mediterranean."that would side-step the innocent quality of sitting and chairs, and go right to the heart of the issue - a stubborn refusal to maintain an adequate income. Some people really do need an intervention regarding their insistence upon being poor."

* * * * *

The Definitive History of the Misunderstood Sport of Competition Sitting Video:
http://youtu.be/nBRZtMj_6w

-- continued from page 1



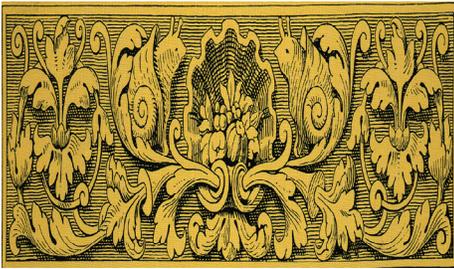
OFFICER HEATHER COLE knows that you have to give just about everybody a pre-emptive sidewalk blocking ticket to stay ahead of all the intent to block sidewalks up on Telegraph Avenue.

merchant the money they would have spent if they were making a clear beeline from store to store because they're late to class or it's Christmas."

"I thought we were bringing a little life to the avenue," shrugged the fiddler holder a citation for obstructing an empty sidewalk. "It's like a ghost town up here. We thought a little music might help."

"There's just about no one up here to obstruct," noted a banjo player nearby. "It makes most people kind of edgy to have three police officers surround some musician playing 'Soldiers' Joy.' Maybe it's just me, but the police state atmosphere up here might be depressing business a hair."

* * * * *



YOUR HOLIDAY HOROSCOPE

Editor's note: the holidays are a difficult time for many, and it helps to have the guidance of your holiday horoscope. For a more personalized reading, send \$50 to the Pepper Spray Times.

ARIES (March 20-April 18): You will never get that job.

TAURUS (April 19-May 19): You finally get in the fastest check out line. Celebrate!

GEMINI (May 20-June 19): It will rain all over your suede jacket, but that will be good, because it looks terrible on you.

CANCER (June 20-July 21): Nobody really likes you very much.

LEO (July 22-August 21): Your vote was perfectly cancelled out by your neighbor.

VIRGO (August 22-September 21): Your true soulmate died a few months ago in Sweden. Sorry about that.

LIBRA (September 22-October 22): The good news is you look great in a dirndl. The bad news is it will never be back in fashion.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 20): Your elementary school teachers made up a cartoon about you which is very popular in Japan.

SAGITTARIUS (November 21-December 20): Don't worry about your future; there really won't be very much of it.

CAPRICORN (December 21-January 18): You would have been the world's best fluglehorn player but unfortunately it is too late in the game for you.

AQUARIUS (January 19-February 17): Take a chance today, but only with an adventurous choice of socks.

PISCES (February 18-March 19): Be honest with your friends. They will appreciate the excuse to avoid you.

* * * * *



IT MAY BE A LONG SHOT, BUT THESE BABIES could turn into the anti-immigrant, anti-gay, anti-minorities voters someday which might shore up the current Republican party which currently clings to a platform with all the electoral buoyancy of a lead balloon.

Republican Clothing Line for Babies

by Tilda Nextthing

Republicans launched a new clothing line for children immediately after losing the presidential election, concerned that they are running out of "traditional" voters.

"We need to encourage young people to think about becoming Republicans," affirmed one Republican Party spokesperson. "Really, really young people."

Experts agreed that there just aren't enough anti-immigrant, anti-gay, anti-minorities white people to shore up the Republican Party's candidates anymore, and that most young people think of Repub-

licans as just the basic punch line on late night tv.

"That does make it hard," agreed one Republican Party insider. "Then you have the other thing where people just have a hard time voting against their best interests."

Fashion experts agree that dressing up babies as Tea Party protesters might have an effect, but others suggested it might be the wrong effect.

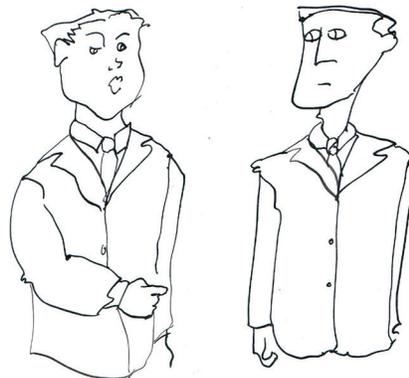
"The Tea Party is what drove the Republican Party off the cliff," stated one observer. "Even if they raise a fresh crop of fundamentalist bigots they still need a platform that tiptoes somewhere near reality, science, civil rights, and legislative compromise."

Everyone does agree, however, that the clothing line itself is pretty cute.

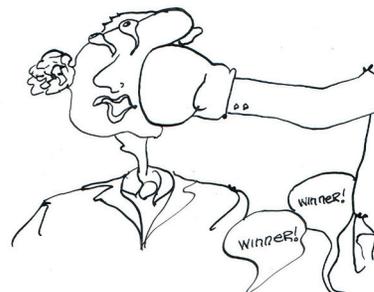
"Who doesn't like stars?" asked one observer, "or stripes, for that matter?"

"The colors are pretty nice, too," mused one young parent looking over a onesie. "I do agree it has a lot more appeal than baby camouflage."

* * * * *



WHY CONDUCT A REASONED DEBATE WHEN YOU CAN PUNCH IT WITH A PUNCH?



REPUBLICANS' STUNNING DEFEAT in the recent election has them scrambling to find creative ideas to re-brand.

Coalition for More and More and More Laws Gains Ground at Council



by Jay Birdcall

The Berkeley City Council held a special "worksession" for real estate and developer interests at the council chambers on Tuesday, November 27th at 5:30 pm to console the anti-sitting law electoral losers that they still have the council's ear and control the council's agenda.

"We worry about their sense of self," confessed one city councilmember privately. "They spent their hearts out to make sitting down a crime, so imagine how stupid they feel losing to a bunch of homeless activists and advocates."

Critics argued that the council was prioritizing Telegraph Avenue and its profits over more economically depressed commercial areas, not to mention civil rights and housing issues, but were dismissed by those who

agreed that in general Berkeley just needs more and more and more laws to keep the real estate groups happy.

"We can't do everything, but that's one thing we can do," nodded one council representative. "We can outlaw some more stuff and keep the real estate and developer groups happy."

"That's our real economic engine," added another council representative. "West Berkeley may be the real tax base, but this group has the biggest mouth."

* * * * *



WHO NEEDS AN anti-sitting law when the Berkeley police are given council permission to distort any old law for the same purpose?



UC DAVIS STUDENTS are using this affecting tableau for their nativity scene this year by simply adding Christmas lights.

Next Year's Sales Will Begin Right Inside Your Thanksgiving Turkey!

by D. Chauncey Takes

The success of Black Friday sales which led to Grey Thursday midnight sales on Thanksgiving Day has given birth to a new marketing technique - cyber sales *in your cooked turkey!*

Experts have perfected an intra-turkey device which can be placed inside the turkey before cooking and pop out of the turkey when fully cooked signaling that the turkey is done as well as the best sale prices on items of interest to the consumer.



"We think this is it," stated one marketing expert. "People might miss the rough and tumble hockey-game atmosphere of brick and mortar stores a bit, but we feel that shopping at the Thanksgiving table is a breakthrough."

Experts say the device works just as well with ham, goose, and are working on a prototype for pumpkin and apple pie.

* * * * *

Next Issue: Cat Painting with Celebrities

THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOCY

by Juan Nathan Undergod



The Pepper Spray Times gratefully accepts donations, death threats, mailing list additions, etc. at:

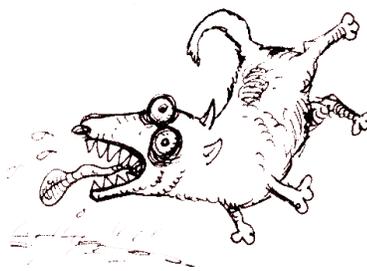


Pepper Spray Times
1970 San Pablo Ave. #4
Berkeley, CA 94702
cdenney@igc.org
www.caroldenney.com

Pepper Spray Times Staff

Editor.....Grace Underpressure
Art Director.....Egon Schiele
Comics.....Don D. Ferrera
Staff.....Silvia Bells, Luis R. Civilrights,
Lena Deeter, Sid N. This, Tilda Nextthing,
David Duckworth, Jay Birdcall, D. Chauncey
Takes, Juan Nathan Undergod

Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by...
Want to help distribute? Contact us for copies.



Hardly available anywhere; mailed or emailed to your door for a modest bribe of \$12 - \$20/yr
Plagiarize wildly; donations gladly accepted.

* Henry IV Part 1

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.