

All hail the...
...the titubative issue ...

Hepper Spray Times

February 2009



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

"...give crowns like pins."*

Vol. XI No. 2

Securities and Exchange Commission Finds Butt With Both Hands

Salute Planned to Honor Historic Occasion; Pope Blesses \$825 Billion Economic Stimulus Package

By Celia Later

Leaders in Congress finally agreed on legislation for an unprecedented \$825 billion economic stimulus by pointing out that nobody had objected to the \$700 billion suggested earlier, and another hundred billion or so wouldn't really matter.

UC Berkeley economist Christina Romer agreed. "I studied the Great Depression," she stated. "We don't want anything like that to happen, so it's time to really throw some impressive money around."

By strongly endorsing the \$825 billion bailout, Romer, President-elect Barack Obama's nominee to be head of his Council of Economic Advisers,



COX SAYS his butt was easy to find with a little practice.

said at her Senate confirmation hearing that her chief task will be to "ensure that the tragedy of the 1930s is not repeated and that no CEO has to miss a bonus or a nice sauna at the spa."

Republicans complained they were shut out of the process despite personal promises from Obama that their ideas were welcome.

"My idea of ice-cream socials in the White House rose garden was completely ignored," complained one Republican. "We would not only have made some money, we would have provided a safe place for kids to play on a Sunday afternoon."



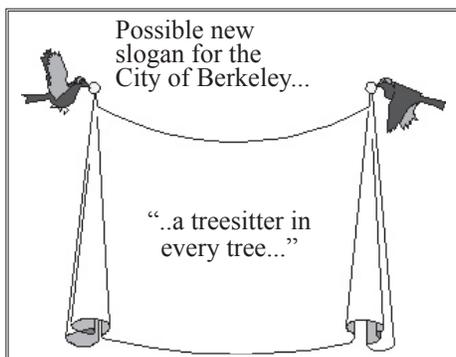
UC BERKELEY ECONOMIST Christina Romer said she never dreamed that her scholarship on the Great Depression would be useful in formulating current economic policy and she wished to thank the Academy.

Securities and Exchange Commissioner (SEC) Chairman Christopher Cox held a press conference after the SEC successfully found its own butt with both hands to announce the good news, and hoped it would be an omen for the new year.

Bank of America and other large institutions indicated they will need more capital injections beyond the latest \$350 billion, leaving past examples of corporate welfare in the dust.

"I wish it was that easy out here," sighed one local panhandler. "It was a mighty cold Christmas."

* * * * *



THIS OAKLAND OFFICER AND HIS DOG, who wish to remain anonymous, both thought lying on search warrants was policy.

OAKLAND COPS PROTEST FIRING

"We thought lying to get warrants was okay."

By Horace Whisper

Eleven Oakland police officers being fired for lying to obtain search warrants are protesting their termination on the grounds that they had never been to "search-writing school", and shouldn't have been expected to know how to do things properly.

Mary Sansen, attorney for the officers, claimed it was "outrageous" to terminate officers who lied to obtain warrants.

"Some of my clients have routinely been denied any form of training," she stated, and independent observers had to agree that there may indeed be training issues at the core of the problem.

"We did expect that these officers would know that making up information to frame people for arrest would be a violation of policy, despite the fact that it *has* been policy for years," commented one observer. "We realize we may have to do some 'don't just make stuff up' training."

Police accountability experts suggested that officers should also get a chance at "don't shoot people in the back school" unless they wish to transfer to the BART Police Department.

* * * * *

ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, I can't believe the BART police let one of their officers shoot an unarmed man lying face down in the back and did nothing about it. What should we do?

Dear reader, I recommend wearing Kevlar along with your Ipod the next time you take mass transit, and, if you see a member of BART security, making sure you don't turn your back. Sometimes the BART police find themselves forced to shoot unarmed people in the back, so try to take the train with a buddy and walk backwards if you see someone in uniform.

Dear Lena, I want to be a professional protestor, too. I have a picket sign. Where do I sign up?

Dear reader, we're trying to find out; since we could use some extra dough. Keep your shoes shined and stay posted; it might be a crowded audition.

Dear Lena, while I'm waiting, could I be an economic consultant for the media?

Dear reader, I don't see why not. You are fully qualified.

Dear Lena, do the kids who play near Pacific Steel Casting have to worry about their health, or was Newsweek just exaggerating?

Dear reader, those kids are just a bunch of whiners. They wave their inhalers around just to get more sympathy from the press. They are relentlessly opposed to progress, and are probably being coached to cough by those professional protestors.

Ask Lena for advice about poodle fashions at cdenney@igc.org.

"PROFESSIONAL PROTESTORS" BLAMED FOR UNREST AFTER BART SHOOTING

By Ben Darenbach

Several nights of unrest and vandalism in Oakland following the BART police shooting of an unarmed man are being blamed on "professional protestors" by the police and the media.

"They're very distinct from the old-style protestors," stated one police officer. "They dress differently, and they're not motivated by outrage or principle; this is just their job."

One protestor, who spoke under condition of anonymity, agreed.

"It was the only job I could find," he admitted. "I used to work at the Mother's Cookies plant, and I've had trouble finding steady work."

Spokespersons for the Oakland Police Department stated that arresting the professional protestors was a special challenge.

"They're harder to distinguish from ordinary people," stated one officer. "They look like any group you'd find on a bus, instead of the usual sandal and tie-dye crowd."

The professional protestors agreed that those reacting to the police shooting of an unarmed man lying face down on a BART platform came from all walks of life and are truly diverse.

"We cover all ages and races," they admitted. "We look like everybody."

* * * * *



"PROFESSIONAL" PROTESTORS like this one were responsible for the vandalism in Oakland following a BART police officer's shooting of an unarmed passenger, and are considered to be much more dangerous and better-smelling than the ordinary kind of protestor.

Why Caroline Kennedy Would Have Made a Great Choice for New York Senator:

- She knows her way around the White House.
- She knows her way around the Rose Garden.
- She already has a Secret Service nickname.
- She has already ridden the little train in the corridor.
- She can stay awake during long, boring state dinners.
- She already has a lot of politicians eating out of her hand.
- There isn't anybody who doesn't already know who she is.
- She won't need a lot of new shoes.
- She won't have much trouble fundraising.
- Her family already knows how to survive scandal.

* * * * *

Seven Dwarfs Hired as Commentators for Future Economic Analysis

*Intellectual Bankruptcy of Pundits Threatens to Completely
Collapse Entire Media Empire*



THE SEVEN DWARVES admit to knowing little about the economy, but advise everyone to buy stock in mining interests and gold.

By Audrey Spones

Television and radio news outlets unanimously agreed that the inability of all the present economic analysts and regulators to predict or explain what was going on with the economy required their replacement with some media-savvy and user-friendly faces, and hired the seven dwarves to assist.

"Most of them are retired," explained one media consultant, "and they like working as a group."

The dwarves' spokesperson readily admitted that the celebrity and movie star status of the seven had played a role in their selection.

"They don't know much about the economy," admitted their spokesperson, "but they're adorable, and they could hardly be more off the mark than anyone else."

The dwarves have the additional



SNOW WHITE was rejected for the position of economic analyst for the media because they were afraid no one would take her seriously.

advantage of having assigned personalities which could serve to lighten the economic discussions, which currently tend to be gloomy.

Critics objected that the dwarves were not credible as analysts, but had to admit that neither was anyone else at this point in the economic crisis, which has conclusively proven that forecasters and regulators alike have been faking it for years.

"People will expect a certain lightness from, say, Happy or Sleepy," commented one media observer. "And for the hardliners there's always Grumpy."

* * * * *

CALIFORNIA COULD BAN JUGGLING WHILE DRIVING

By Artie Fishel

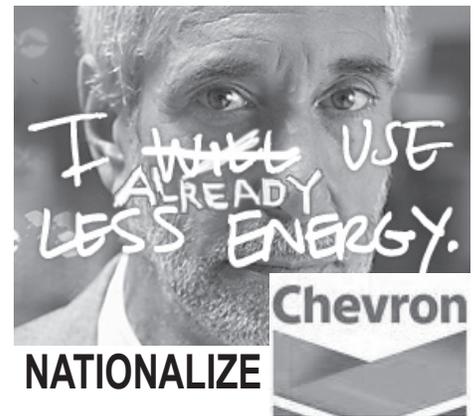
California would outlaw juggling while driving under a bill that could be headed for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's desk.

The state already requires adult drivers to use handsfree devices for cell phones. It bars 16- and 17-year-olds from using any device to talk or text while driving.

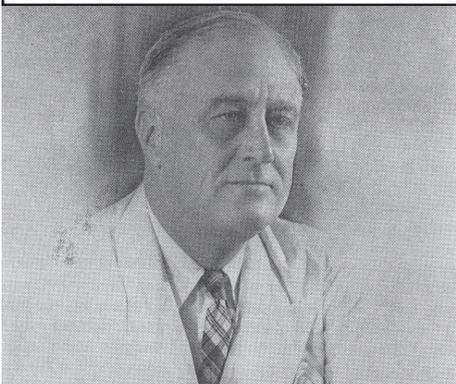
The bill approved recently would authorize \$20 fines for adults if they're caught juggling while driving. Repeat juggling offenses could result in \$50 fines unless the driver is accompanied by a clown.

Critics objected vigorously. "Juggling itself is not the problem," commented one opponent of the bill. "The problem is bad juggling."

* * * * *



We Can't Draw Comics *by Franz Toast*



The New Deal...



The Square Deal...



The Raw Deal...

UC Service Workers Invade Regent's Personal Space

By Rosa Boutnoon

Nineteen University of California service workers who have been without a contract for over a year held a sit-in in UC Regent Richard Blum's San Francisco office without making an appointment, causing UC President Mark Yudof to condemn the collective action as "a violation of privacy."

"Today's intrusion was disrespectful... an act of trespass," he said, acknowledging that Richard Blum was too busy attending inaugural parties to complain personally.

96% of service workers, some of whose wages are as low as ten dollars an hour, qualify for some form of public assistance, including food stamps, childcare assistance, and housing subsidies, while the UC Board of Regents has approved raises and bonuses for top UC executives totalling \$14.5 mil-



SERVICE WORKERS invaded UC Regent Richard Blum's office in San Francisco and very nearly re-arranged his desktop photos.

lion just before moving after the fact to freeze executive salaries.

"Highest paid employees may not work harder, but there are obviously fewer of them," stated Yudof. "I may be from Texas but I can do *that* math."

Service workers stated that they enjoyed their stay in Blum's office.

"It's of course decorated with Tibetan flags and knick-knacks from his travels," commented one protestor after be-

ing released from Central Station. "We hope he's not too exhausted from the inauguration day parties to help with our overdue contract and our poverty wages. We have a feeling the Dalai Lama might agree."

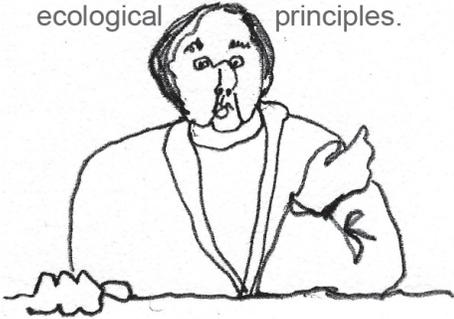
* * * * *

Next Issue: Cattle Branding with Celebrities

THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOCY

by Nathan Undergod

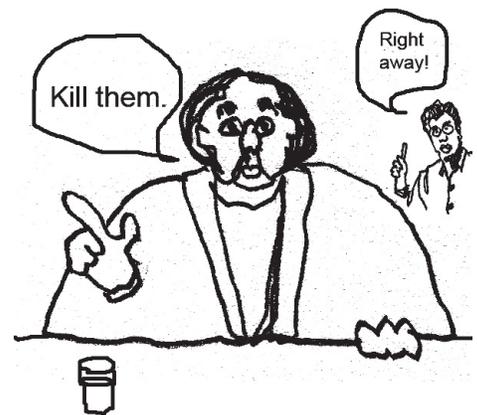
Our staff drives; we see our job as *envisioning* ecological principles.



We drive Priuses and think ecologically all the way to work.



Kill them.



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.....Celia Later, Horace Whisper, Ben Darenbach, Lena Deeter, Audrey Spones, Artie Fishel, Franz Toast, Rosa Boutnoon, 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...



Available at some of the finest public meetings, or mailed to your door for a hefty bribe. Plagiarize wildly.

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.

* Henry IV Part 2