

All hail the...
...the public option issue ...

Hepper Spray Times

May 2010



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

"...I have been worth the whistling..."*

Vol. XII No. 5

BART Police Switch to Squirtguns



BART POLICE ARE HOPING that they can learn to operate these complex mechanisms with the assistance of a lot of first graders, whose expertise is unsurpassed.

By Ethyl Shoam

The BART Police Department switched to squirtguns after conceding that their officers just couldn't figure out how to use tasers, which require a level of skill somewhere between programming a VCR and adjusting settings on a Cuisinart.

"We are setting up a schedule for retraining on tasers," stated Interim Police Chief Dash Butler. "Squirtguns

tion of any rules.

"Both the boy and the rules are a moving target," stated Butler. "We're hoping to have some input on the new rules for use, since we have a very special perspective on 13-year old boys."

Critics argued that the new Hydrotech Surge brand of waterblaster squirtguns were too complex to be used by BART police, who can barely button their uniforms on a good day.

Butler dismissed their concerns, pointing out that a crack team of first-graders were being brought on board as consultants to assist officers with the complexities of the Hydrotech Surge model squirtguns.

"We'll give them diagrams for the air pressure system tubing," stated Butler. "If we have any problems, we're hoping that we can get a crew of first-graders to ride along and assist."

Butler insisted that tasers would be back in use shortly.

"We need them for demonstrations," he stated. "Plus, for us they're a very special part of New Year's."

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Vatican Miracle! Pope Apologizes to Thousands Simultaneously

By Helen Back

The Vatican thrilled throngs of Catholics by performing a public miracle certain to secure Pope Benedict XVI's place as the most profoundly apologetic man in history.

"He managed to apologize to hundreds in Austria, the Netherlands, Switzerland, choirboys in Germany, deaf kids in Wisconsin, and children in Italy all in the same breath," raved one admirer.



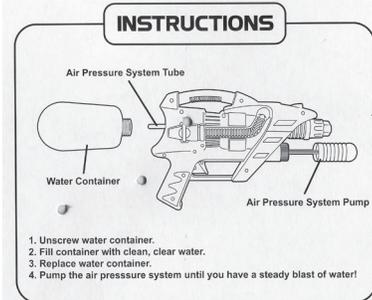
THE POPE is officially sorry, and getting sorrier by the minute.

"I haven't heard an apology like that since Tiger Woods," marveled another observer who also complimented the Cardinals and Bishops whose defense of the Pope and his aides has required deft footwork.

"It's like being an athlete at the top of your game," he stated while lighting a candle. "You never know where the next scandal is going to come from or when it will erupt, so you have to be quick on your feet while attired in heavy velvet robes."

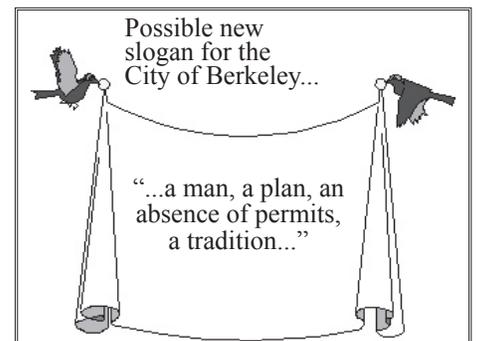
The Vatican assured the concerned public that all future sexual molestation cases would be completely covered by the current apology.

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will offer our officers an opportunity to practice the new rules for taser use, like not shooting at kids out the window of the patrol car."

Interim Chief Butler denied that the veteran sergeant who fired a taser from his patrol car at a 13-year old boy riding his bike in Richmond was in viola-



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, what do you think of this sunshine petition? It sounds good to me, and I could use more light in my dining room.

Dear reader, don't be fooled. Sunshine is really bad for your skin. If the sunshine ordinance passes we will have to walk around in long sleeves all the time and there will be a run on parasols.

Dear Lena, I'm hungry, but everything is bad for me. What can I still eat so my neighbors don't point at me and laugh?

Dear reader, I think it is still okay to eat little rocks and sticks. And garbage. If you can get good at eating garbage you will have a job for life.

Dear Lena, what is your health care plan? If I ever came into some money I would pick one, but I find them all really confusing.

Dear reader, I would recommend baking some lovely cookies and inviting all the plans over for tea. They will begin to bicker, at first politely, and then you will see them lose their patience and threaten each other with the silverware. I tend to favor the ones that don't leave in a huff and stay late to help out with the dishes.

Dear Lena, why would the Library of Congress want to save tweets? What is that all about?

Dear reader, there is no finer way to demonstrate current societal priorities for generations to come than tweets, which represent a very large pile of verbal crap.

Ask Lena about juggling old shoes at cdenney@jgc.org.

Newspapers Fail, But Stone Tablets and Pepper Spray Times Endure

Experts Study Strange Phenomenon

By Jerome Rountown



Media consultants and communications experts agreed recently that while newspapers were dying faster than fruit flies, stone tablets and the Pepper Spray Times (PST) continue to endure.

"We think stone tablets may have an edge on the iPad and the Kindle," stated one electronics expert. "They are only slightly heavier, and clearly they have withstood the test of time."

Grace Underpressure, Editor of the PST, stated that egregious labor conditions are the secret to the longevity of the Pepper Spray Times' twelve years of unmitigated success.

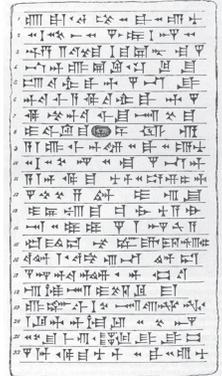
"We fire all of our writers after each issue," she stated emphatically. "It makes each set of new writers and

graphics production people much more pliable."

Underpressure acknowledged that she had never given any of the staff a raise or even a free bagel.

"We run a tight ship," she stated. "Use them and boot them. It's unquestionably a very effective business model."

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THE TRIED AND TRUE traditions have the advantage of never going out of style.

Why I Hate Health Care

By Mark D. Box

I hate health care because I love freedom. And freedom from needles is part of the freedom. Plus those little cotton balls that smell so bad. They are awful, and I want freedom from them, too.

I also hate health care because it will cost money. I can't afford to pay for it, and if the next generation can, then they can do it but not me. If I get sick I will just drink a lot of tea and gargle with salt water. So far I always got better, and if I don't at least I will have my freedom.

I also hate that people are forcing people to have it when why would they want it anyway. That's not freedom in my book and you can take my word. Getting sick just proves that you are not surviving along with the fittest and you should have tried harder.

Freedom means sacrifice, and I don't mind the sacrifice if I can wave my flag and not have shots and cotton balls. And those gross charts on the wall, which are indecent.

Thank you, Mr. Box

* * * * *



MARK D. BOX HAS no time for people who think health care is a good thing.



LIFE GETS EASIER if you subscribe to the Pepper Spray Times.



ONCE THOUGHT CHARMING, congregations of smiling snowmen are now considered an ominous signal of global warming and a dangerous consequence of the loss of snowman habitat, a new concern for humans, who are unnerved when snowmen show up in their large freezers.

Snowman Invasion Imminent

By Stella Lineup

Habitat reduction has affected snowman behavior, according to scientists, causing large herds of snowmen gather together for protection and increasing the likelihood of an unwelcome invasion as they search for new territory.

“Lock your doors,” stated climatologist Dr. I. C. Nohaupé, one of the lecturers on the snowman invasion theory, who advised keeping large pots of wa-



SNOWMEN are often devious in their efforts to invade human habitat.

ter boiling on the stove at all times.

“Snowmen were once thought to be playful, stationary winter decorations, but in fact are a well-connected network with an understandably logical concern about their collective survival.”

The unusual behavior was first noticed by Canadians, who have lived peacefully for centuries with snowmen, sharing an appreciation of nature and sturdy, practical outdoor gear.

“We’d see them in the hardware stores like any other neighbor,” stated one Canadian resident who attended a recent lecture on the possible danger of an invasion. “They’d be stocking up on mufflers and winter hats, and maybe some charcoal briquettes for buttons. They didn’t talk much. We all considered them just another natural part of the community.”

“My kids loved them,” agreed another attendee. “Until they started growing in numbers and moving into the tool shed,

UC Decides to Scrap Academics; “Too costly”

By Angie Glad

University of California President Mark Yudof confirmed that the probability was strong that academics programs would soon be scrapped entirely as a cost-saving measure.

“These are difficult times,” he stated gravely. “In order to preserve our current sports programs we all have to make sacrifices.”

“I agree with him,” stated Ignacio Chapella, an associate professor in the Department of Environmental Science. “We know that we in the academic departments have the unfair advantage of not having to be self-supporting, and that if we were, the athletic departments wouldn’t have to dip into our budget.”

“It’s time for us to give back,” asserted a student writing out a check for thousands in registration fees. “It may take me thirty years to pay back these loans, but it’s worth it if Oski lives on as an inspiration to us all.”

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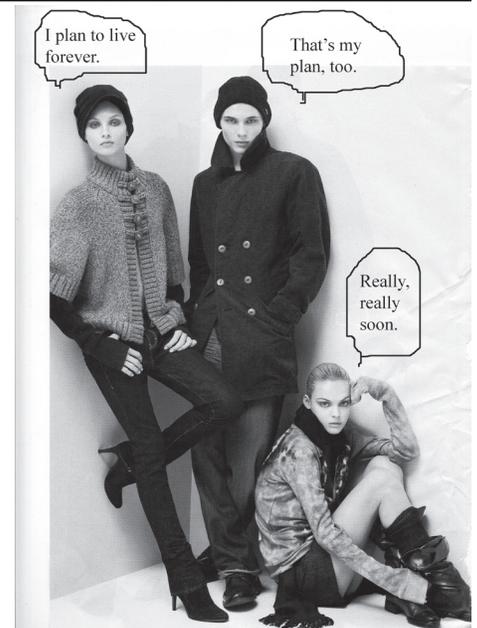
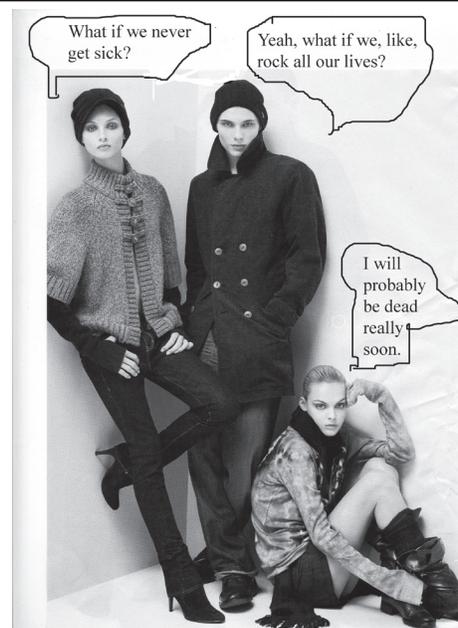
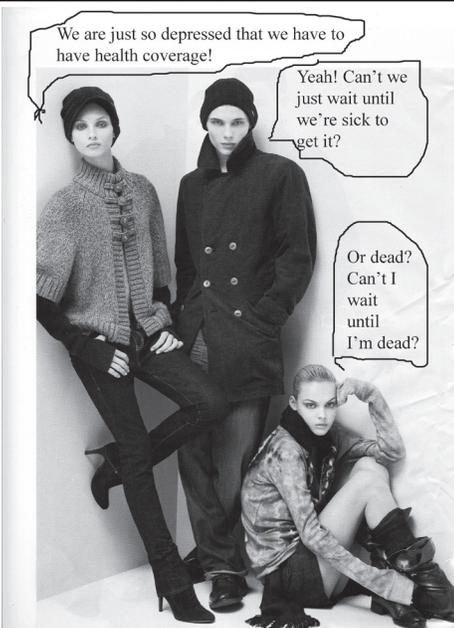


my kids enjoyed playing with them and dressing them up, which makes it hard to explain the need for caution.”

Snowmen are thought to be responsible for massive loss of glaciers, robbing crucial habitat from penguins and polar bears, and ice cube tray theft.

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We Can't Draw Comics by Franz Toast



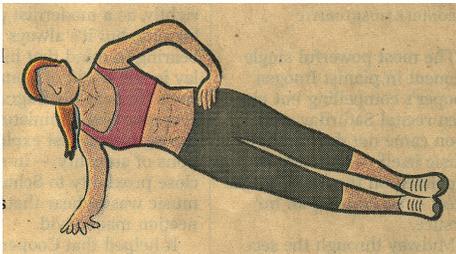
San Francisco's Proposed "Keep Walking" Law Applauded by Health Experts Nationwide

By Sean Nuff

San Francisco's proposed ordinance against sitting and lying on sidewalks not only has roots in local culture, it promises to make the local street population muscled and buff, experts say.

"Keep on trucking" is the traditional way it used to be put," stated one local police officer. "Now we just call it the 'keep walking' law. It's been unofficially in force for homeless people, addicts, and poorly dressed tourists for several years."

Critics of the proposed ordinance



NOT TECHNICALLY SITTING or lying down is easily achieved with this pose, which also works the stomach and arm muscles.

point out that occasional resting is a human need, and that even rich tourists need to sit down, paw through their purchases, and reorganize their credit cards.



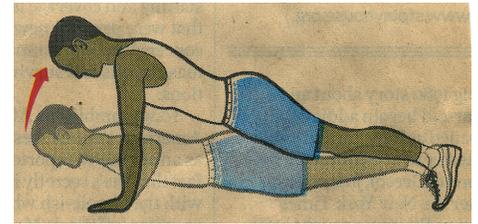
CATCHERS' traditional baseball stance is still legal.

"We're aware of that," stated a spokesperson for Mayor Gavin Newsom. "Our officers are skilled in the profiling necessary to selectively apply appropriate law."

"It's called discretion," added one sidewalk siter cheerfully holding a 'please help' sign. "If I were wearing Armani I could sit here all day."

Newsom expressed gratitude for the in-kind donation represented by the handful of rich, well-connected citizens who voluntarily took the time to come up with creative ways to burden and disrupt the lives of the most vulnerable, impoverished citizens.

Suggested poses for not-sitting and not-lying will improve the yoga of tourists, homeless people and run-of-



CITATIONS FOR LYING on the sidewalk are easily avoided if one throws in a quick push-up, especially if one is wearing fashionable workout clothing.

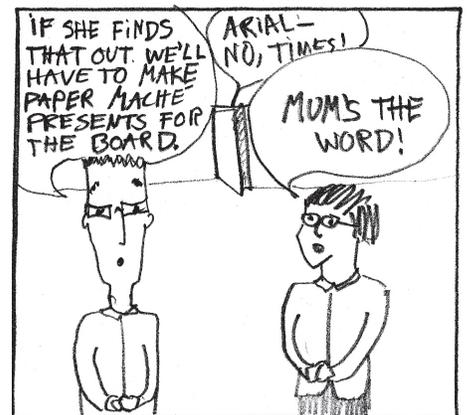
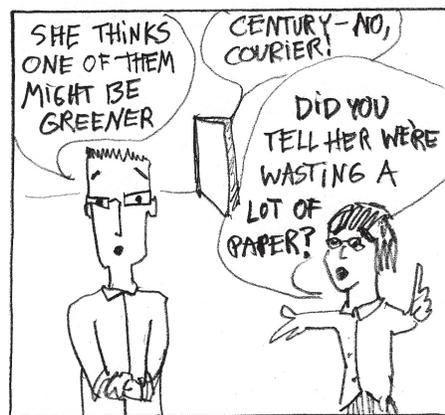
the-mill San Francisco spare-changers as they balance on one limb or another. People with the skill to do headstands for long periods of time have an extreme advantage under the new law, which has *nothing* to do with the 17.7% vacancy rate for SF office buildings.

"Other cities do this so we should do it, too," affirmed Newsom. "It's a part of an overall campaign to improve public health in the city. The next Bay to Breakers is going to have centipedes of really buff panhandlers."

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Next Issue: Shrieking with Celebrities

THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOCY by Nathan Undergod



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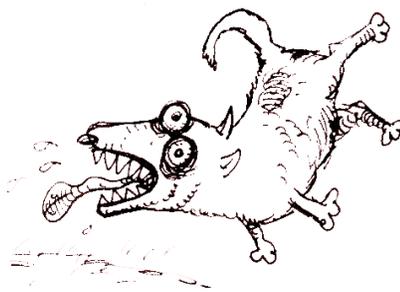


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Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by...



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

* King Lear

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.