

These are truly the...

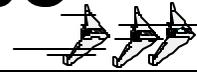


Pepper Spray Times

Send us your firstborn...

November 2000

...or P.S.T...



It's limicoline... it's free

"Our house is hell, and thou, a merry devil, didst rob it of some taste of tediousness."*

Vol. IV No. 3

TRAFFIC-CALMING TECHNIQUES

By Raul N. Over



The City of Berkeley recently completed a series of Traffic Calming Workshops to encourage the public to add their own creative and unique ideas to the Transportation Commission's current "Traffic Calming Toolbox."

"Very successful," offered Planning and Development's Nathan Landau about the results of the program workshops. "We realize now that we'd left out a lot of creative options. Berkeley residents really know how to think outside the, uh, toolbox."

Suggestions included:

- * random traffic sniper day
- * chloroform airbag day
- * pothole digging day
- * tire slashing day
- * car painting day
- * car bomb planting day
- * collide with your neighbor day
- * cross-walk painting day
- * sugar in the gas tank day
- * make your own speedbump day
- * cinderblock speedbump day
- * car battery speedbump day
- * 10 MPH day
- * gotta drive backwards day
- * bumpercar day
- * carjacker amnesty day
- * SUV defacement day

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PEPPLES' POSTERS

By Lester Remember

District 6 candidate Eleanor Pepples expressed indignation recently when her campaign posters were removed, insisting that the removal was personally directed by political opponents.

"Eleanor who?" asked one member of Public Works' poster removal crew. "We remove everybody's posters."

"We're delighted she shares our concern," commented first amendment activists who have for years objected to the poster removal.

Pepples clarified that general poster removal did not concern her; rather, she never really noticed the poster removal until her own posters were affected.

"I'm kind of new in town," she pointed out. "But I take a great picture."

* * * * *



ANDREW GREENWOOD, Randy Files, Bud Stone, and other members of the Berkeley Police Association try to reason with Carrie Sprague by threatening her with arrest under the admiring gaze of L.A. Wood during a recent City Council meeting.

NO PARKING, NO PEACE

By Amos Prettypoor



Twenty off-duty members of the Berkeley Police Association entertained the City Council and members of the public by staging a chant-in for free employee parking and threatening opponents with arrest.

"What do we want? Parking! When do we want it? Now!" shouted the BPA members as they surrounded neighborhood activist Carrie Sprague in the hall, claiming she could be arrested for felony clipboard wielding with intent.

Sprague pointed out that she was one of several neighborhood activists who many months ago lobbied hard for employee parking precisely because displaced employee cars would end up parking in her neighborhood, but she had difficulty being heard over the chanting police officers staging the rally, which at certain moments brought the City Council meeting to a nervous halt.

"We're out there humping for you," commented Randy Files, President of the Berkeley Police Association during the public comment period. Files described the agonies of armed officers unable to master the physical challenges of the eight-block walk to their cars, helplessly overmatched by rampaging hordes of clipboard-toting "density first" activists.

Files conceded later that no actual clipboard-related injuries had taken place, but insisted that it was only a matter of time.

The confrontation came about as a result of Mayor Shirley Dean's effort to secure free parking for city employees displaced by both construction projects and the "transit first" policy which enables developers to provide less parking than projected needs would ordinarily dictate in an effort to encourage people to take public transit, ride their bikes, walk, or quit traveling about town altogether.

Critics argued that the shouting and threats of arrest made by BPA officers to their opponents were inappropriate, and ran the risk of inhibiting public participation on the issue.

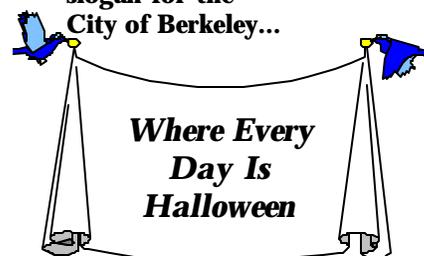
"That's ridiculous," responded Files. "The public is more likely to show up in greater numbers next time just to see the chanting. And next time we might have a sit-in and be forced to arrest ourselves."

"I'll do my own humping, thank you," responded one Council representative. "If these tactics were effective, the left would have given them up ages ago."

* * * * *

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

Possible new slogan for the City of Berkeley...



MEASURE Y: WHAT IF THE DEVIL MOVES IN?



LOCAL LANDLORDS feeling left out of campus Tenants' Rights Week festivities decided to crash the party.

decontrol, but that doesn't mean we don't want more," fumed Berkeley Property Owners Association members Claude Zamanian and Robert Englund as they packed up their tables. "The anti-tenant perspective is sorely underrepresented here."

"What if the devil moves in?" asked BPOA President Robert Cabrera, referring to Berkeley's proposed Measure Y's effort to provide tenant protections for elderly and disabled tenants. "What if the devil happens to be over sixty-five, or disabled? What if the devil has lived in the unit over five years? Berkeley voters should think carefully before saddling themselves with the devil for a neighbor. Consider the effect the sulphur alone would have on property values."

Critics pointed out that the devil's presense would only conceivably inconvenience one neighborhood, but Cabrera responded that the devil has lots of friends and is only waiting for Measure Y's implementation to get in the game.

"The guy's got quite a phone tree," stated Cabrera. "We're lobbying the Rent Stabilization Board now for a community exorcist."

* * * * *

By Tom Togoe



Sergeant Karen Alberts of the UC Police Department rounded up an unruly herd of landlords recently when they

tried to set up unauthorized tables at a Tenants' Rights Week election display on the UC campus.

"We may be raking it in after vacancy

BUFFY GOES BERSERK

By Jerry Atrick

A mob of 500 people rampaged through Telegraph Avenue recently after being shut out of an overcrowded UC fraternity party. Would-be frat revelers looted stores, fired shots and robbed pedestrians to vent their frustration.

"Why should street people have all the fun?" asked Buffy Skippington, a sorority sister at Beta Upsilon Chi. "We had just left the BUX house," she said, "when we saw all these people, like, partying. And I'm like, 'How cool! A riot!'"

The UC sophomore's sentiments were echoed by Skippy Buffington, a fraternity brother at Sigma Kappa Chino enrolled in UC's pre-law program. "There's nothing that gives you an appreciation of crime like participation," Buffington said. "Someday, when I become a DA trying to put scum behind bars, I'll have first-hand knowledge of the lifestyle. You should have heard the squeals of that couple I robbed at gunpoint. It'll make me a better prosecutor to understand both perpetrator and victim."

An employee at Mr. Rags expressed frustration at the damage. "It's the same story," the young woman opined. "The Bears win a game, the frats throw a party, and we get looted. It's enough to make you a Stanford fan."

Sergeant Cary Mace of the UC campus police registered a different perspective on the riot. "The kids were just blowing off steam," he said. "Besides, we were busy keeping an eye on all the riff-raff at People's Park. If you don't watch those bums they'll be peeing on the lawns and planting unauthorized petunias."

* * * * *



UC STUDENTS assisted in a redistribution of wealth recently on Telegraph Avenue.

"NASALLY TRAINED" EXPERTS DETECT "ODOR UNITS"

By Hugo Girl

Christina Chan, spokesperson for Pacific Steel Casting, amused the Bay Area Air Quality Management District hearing board recently by insisting that "nasally trained" experts could detect "odor units" in precise percentages.



"It's simple, really," explained Chan. "The Burger King parking lot would be a five or a six on a scale of 100."

The board asked what would represent a 30 on the scale, to which Chan replied, "someone wearing a perfume."

"How about sixty?" "Someone wearing too much perfume," stated Chan.

"We love this stuff," confided one anonymous member of the board. "We're holding the next hearing in San Francisco; we don't get comedy like this across the Bay."

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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

Publisher ----- Theodore Zopen
Editor ----- Grace Underpressure
Art Director ----- Egon Schiele
Comix ----- Roger Dondis
Staff ----- Amos Prettypoor,
Raul N. Over, Lester Remember, Jerry
Atrick, Tom Togoe, Hugo Girl

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.



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 all the finest Berkeley City Council meetings.
* Macbeth