

All hail the...

...the light-headed issue ...



Hepper Spray Times

September 2010



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

"...up to his pleasure, ransomless and free..."*

Vol. XII No. 9

Chickens Insist Recall Eggs "Good Eggs, Just Misunderstood"

Palin Contract Outed by Nitpicky Judge

By Sue Pinsalad



NOBODY'S PERFECT, and a good egg is hard to find these days say spokeschickens for the producers at the two Iowa farms at the center of the half-billion egg recall.

By Hedda Lettuce

More than a half-billion eggs at the center of a salmonella recall are fine to use in a variety of creative ways, according to food industry experts who salvage disease-tainted products.

"The recalled eggs are headed for your ice cream and mayonnaise," stated University of Illinois Professor Bruce Chassy. "If you've survived ice cream and mayonnaise so far, you'll have no problem with this other stuff, which will be hardly recognizable when we're done with it."

"If you do eat it, please let us know," added another expert, "so we can put you into a trial study for the sake of the recalled eggs of the future. These industrial factory farming techniques are not going anywhere."

Chickens insisted through a spokeschicken that harsh, potentially dangerous working conditions are contributing to the jeopardization of food safety, centered at present in two Iowa farms, which have sickened 1,300 people but which are found nationwide.

"We are laying millions of eggs; approximately two million chickens laying an egg around every 26 hours with no breaks, no vacation, and no

paycheck," stated the spokeschicken, describing small, uncomfortable cages with no access to the outdoors or cable television.



CHICKENS work without pay and never get the chance to go on a company retreat where they ride on a rope swing.

that the eggs are better re-used in other, inventive ways.

"Election time is getting closer, and all the campaigns are heating up," stated the group's spokeschicken. "The recalled eggs, used creatively, can make a wonderfully influential statement at an opponent's rally."

* * * * *

Charles Reed, chancellor of the California State University system, expressed disappointment when Stanislaus Superior Court Judge Beauchesne ordered the release of the secret contract Reed had signed for the speaking services of former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin.

"We didn't mean to violate public records laws," stated Reed. "We honestly didn't know that our campus foundations had to comply with these tedious regulations."

"It saved us so much work," stated another campus administration official. "Not to mention public scrutiny."

Shreds of the secret Palin contract were found in a dumpster by nosy students after Chancellor Reed insisted the campus had no paperwork regarding Palin's speaking engagement, fueling an investigation by State Senator Leland Yee, whose annoying insistence upon finding out how much public money the speaker was paid has probably ruined his chances at similar speaking fees on CSU campuses, and a suit by CalAware, a bunch of self-righteous people with nothing better to do.

"These unnecessary court costs are just another drain on limited educational resources," commented the chancellor. "Now we're going to need a lot more accountants. And a whole lot more shredders."

* * * * *



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, I heard the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce booted its latest new CEO. the turnaround at that desk is pretty swift; what's going on over there?

Dear reader, who knew the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce was the biggest hotbed of controversy in a town like this one? If you really want to stir things up, apply for the job. Better still, get all your freaky friends to apply for the job and make a movie about it. it will go viral.

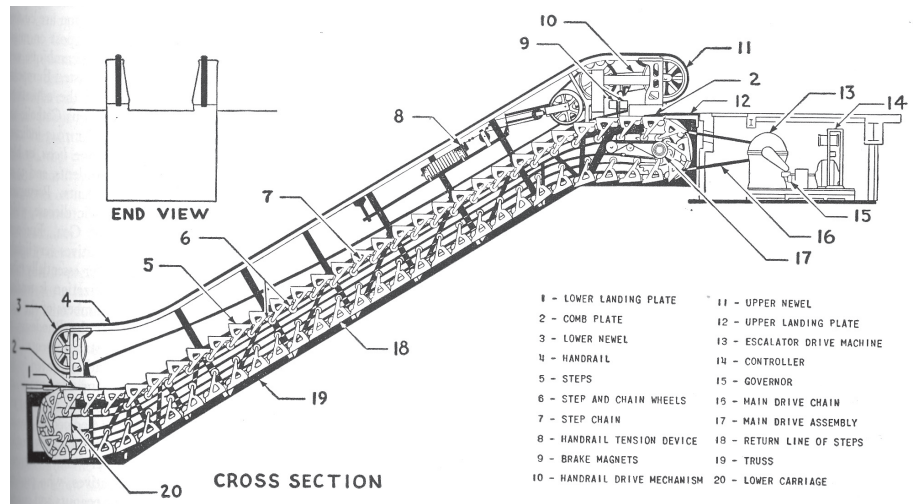
Dear Lena, did the Berkeley Police really have to shoot the mountain lion wandering around in the gourmet ghetto in North Berkeley? Couldn't they use all those tools they have like the tazers, the pepper spray, the boring stories about their bike rides to charity that would put anyone and anything to sleep?

Dear reader, of course they had to shoot the mountain lion. Once the mountain lions get a taste for the superlative fare along North Shattuck, don't think for a minute they won't set up camp on the median strip and cause a commotion. Besides, right about this time of year is the clockwork manufactured "crisis" at People's Park, and the police like to get a little target practice in before the really big game.

Dear Lena, isn't it stupid to situate an art project right in the middle of threatened species' habitat?

Dear reader, not if the idea is to *mimic* nature. Fake nature is all the rage right now. Nothing says nature like concrete and steel.

Ask Lena about boiling water for fun and fortune at cdenney@igc.org.



UC STUDENTS move swiftly into corporate culture if they think stuff like sending their DNA off through the mail is just a peachy educational exercise.

UC Folds Gene Program; DNA Swabs Sent to Burning Man

Tug-of-war Over Freshman DNA Causes Big Fight; Biotechnology Firms Say It Wouldn't Have Happened If Everybody Would Just Test Their Darn Metabolism of Folate

By Bess A. Memucho

UC Berkeley officials insisted that the state public health officials who nixed their "Bring Your Genes to Cal" program were a bunch of Luddites who don't understand the importance of genetic testing, especially to the biotechnology industry.

"This was a perfect way to present genetic testing and corporate interests as benign and forward-thinking to over 5,500 incoming students," stated Mark Schlissel, UC Berkeley's dean of biological sciences, commenting on what was considered to be the largest genetic testing project yet at any national university.

FRESHMEN tend to do whatever they are told and make perfect test subjects for cool corporate research.

"Getting their own personal results about the DNA samples would have made them all much more likely to use DNA results by mail in the future, and our corporate partners really care about things like that."

"At least we'll still get to play with their data," sighed Jasper Rine of the 5,500 incoming freshmen and transfer students who received testing kits in

the mail with a request to submit cheek swabs of their DNA as part of an exercise to involve the new students in a "common educational experience."

Critics argued that Jasper Rine, described in the press releases as a "genetics professor", has served on the advisory boards of and has co-founded several commercial California biotech companies, including this own genetics testing company, but were dismissed by program proponents who point out that the whole campus is criss-crossed by conflicts of interest.

"It's not like we're all pure around here," laughed Rine. "Look at the Novartis stuff or the tobacco money. That ship has sailed, and I don't know how you could live on a professor's salary anyway."

Most of the campus community was disappointed on behalf of the incoming freshmen, whose chances of having any kind of common educational experience is settling close to the bottom of the tank.

"Now these poor students will never know how well they metabolize lactose or alcohol," huffed another genetics professor. "Now they have to find out the old fashioned way by burping, farting, and driving into walls."

* * * * *



Obama Says Global Warming Suit “too confusing” for Judges

by Lou Ming-Shadow

A suit requiring major polluting companies to reduce greenhouse emissions should be dismissed, according to the Obama administration, because it is too confusing for judges to have to figure out stuff that people at the EPA can't figure out either.

“Why should annoying states like California be allowed to sue private companies?” asked one Justice Department official. “There comes a point where they should have to acknowledge that not everybody can live on sushi and get to work on a surfboard.”

The Obama administration's alignment with power companies shocked environmental groups who had relied on the “change” cited in election rhetoric to include the issue of global warming or at least pretend to for awhile.

“I have a beachfront condo in Hawaii,” commented one environmentalist. “I'd hate to have to try to sell it in this market.”

The administration contends that judges have no clear standards from which to judge the crisis of global warming, and that routine indices, such as Al Gore's graying hair, or how many polar bears are treading water in the Arctic, were not precise enough to offer useful guidance on allocating costs.

The Obama administration countered that it had taken radical steps to curb greenhouse emissions.

“We bring our own bags to the market,” offered an administration spokesperson. “Just yesterday we recycled a pizza box.”

* * * * *



EGG INDUSTRY SPOKESPEOPLE SAY that caged chickens are happy and wouldn't want to try the New York Times crossword anyway.

One of our Pepper Spray Times' reporters was able to interview one of the chickens caught in the recall controversy and still laying for Wright County Egg in Iowa...

PST: “You're still on the line? Still laying?”

Chicken: “Still in the cage, as you can see.”

PST: “Have you heard about California's law? Soon California egg producers will have to improve the working conditions for chickens.”

Chicken: “I heard that. Me, I hate the beach, but I know it's different out there.”

PST: “How do you feel about the people who have gotten sick?”

Chicken: “They're eating our children. It's hard to cry.”

PST: “Do you guys sing or anything while you lay?”

Chicken: “You are starting to tick me off.”

PST: “Wouldn't you prefer to scratch around in real dirt and see the sun?”

Chicken: “I was born in here. So why don't you shut up.”

* * * * *

We Can't Draw Comics by Franz Toast





JEFF REED AND JENNIFER MAD-DEN responded to the controversy over their proposal by pointing out that "art is long, no doubt longer than the annoying burrowing owl."

Snippen Snookers Burrowing Owls

By Kent C. D. Boidie

The last burrowing owls at Cesar Chavez Park conceded defeat recently when a \$100,000 public art project was approved for the precise location of the threatened species' habitat.

"The choice of location was inadvertant," stated David Snippen, former chair of the Civic Arts Commission, who worked hard to avoid relocating the art project to any of the alternative locations available in dozens of miles of coastline. "At least in the beginning it was inadvertant. Now, during the

time when the owls are gone, it will be fully useful for dogs and humans."

Critics point out that dogs and humans' use of the threatened species' habitat will ensure the absence of owls over time, but were dismissed by Snippen, who pointed out that he'd snookered enough environmentalists on board to weaken any opposition, except from the owls themselves, who tend not to show up at committee meetings.

"Those owls play hardball," he stated, shaking his head. "We offered to put their names on a plaque, but they never called back."

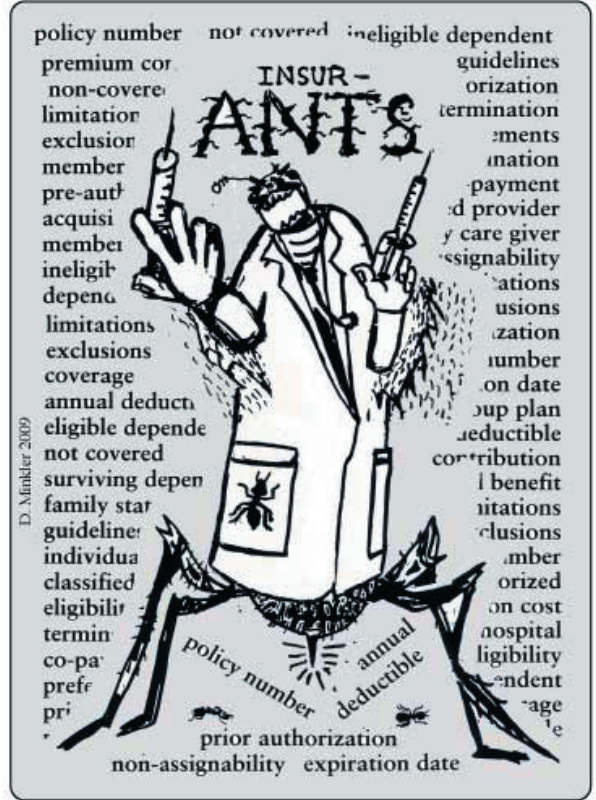
Artist Jeff Reed shared Snippen's sense of victory.

"That will be a sign of success for us, if we're able to create something that really looks like it belongs."

* * * * *



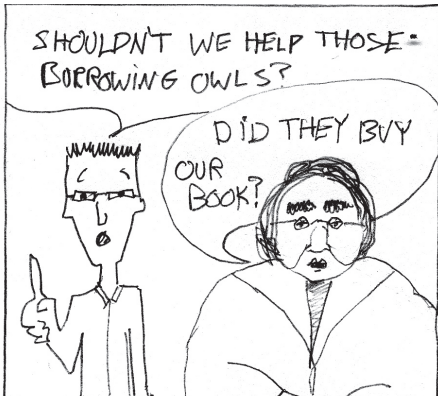
BURROWING OWLS are notorious non-voters so who cares what they think.



Get the Bugs Out of the System
Demand Single Payer

Next Issue: Choosing Linoleum
with Celebrities

THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOCY by Nathan Undergod



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

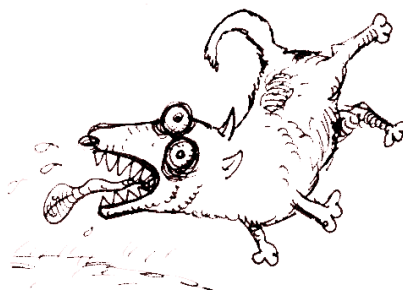


Pepper Spray Times
1970 San Pablo Ave. #4
Berkeley, CA 94702
cdenney@igc.org
www.caroldenney.com

Pepper Spray Times Staff

Editor.....Grace Underpressure
Art Director.....Egon Schiele
Comics.....Don D. Ferrera
Staff.....Hedda Lettuce, Sue Pinalad, Lena Deeter, Bess A. Memucho, Lou Ming-Shadow, Franz Toast, Kent C. D. Boidie, Doug Minkler, 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...



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

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.