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# Pepper Spray Times

September 2000

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"The times are wild, contention like a horse..."\*

Vol. IV No. 1

## WOOLLEY GOES SANE; QUILTS CITY COUNCIL

By Claire Skies



Exiting City Council representative Diane Woolley will miss intimate moments like the one pictured here when she retires.

was a maverick who didn't fit in. "She wouldn't play by the rules," sniffed one anonymous pundit. "She had no respect for meaningless posturing, torturous procedural objections, or inflated oratory. She thought honesty and loyalty had a place in politics; can you imagine?"

Woolley agreed that there are many aspects of her city council tenure which she would of course miss.

"I'll miss the clear sense of unity and purpose with which the council operated...no, rather, it was the legacy of accomplishments which...no, maybe it was the public comment, no, uh, can I get back to you on that?"

Critics argued that Woolley's refusal to run was simply cowardice in the face of the biggest challenge facing the current council; figuring out how to implement the "altered dog" policy newly hatched by the council majority.

"I wish them all the luck in the world," commented Woolley, who admitted to bewilderment over the altered dog policy's implementation. "I sincerely hope at some point they manage to alter something."

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District Five City Council Representative Diane Woolley declined to run for re-election recently as a consequence of a sudden, irreversable bout of sanity.

"Of course I deeply regret not having the constitution requisite to spending another several years dodging the potshots of warring factions on the council," she stated. "Sanity is a severe disadvantage in such a position."

Political observers noted that Woolley was a maverick who didn't fit in. "She wouldn't play by the rules," sniffed one anonymous pundit. "She had no respect for meaningless posturing, torturous procedural objections, or inflated oratory. She thought honesty and loyalty had a place in politics; can you imagine?"

## UC CANCELS PEOPLE'S PARK CONTRACT

By Dan What

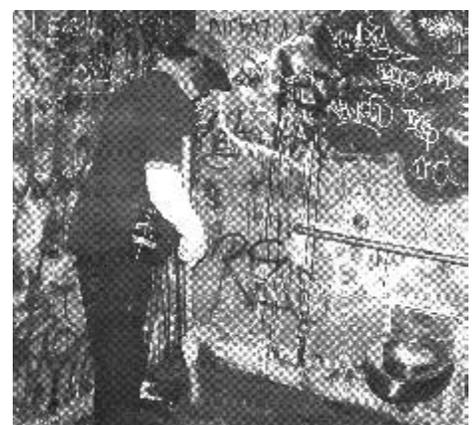
UC Berkeley's cancellation of the ten year old "lease agreement" was branded a betrayal by liberals at City Hall, whose friends had enjoyed the benefits of the \$195,000 windfall.

"It's not the graft that bothered us," responded university director of community relations Irene Hegarty. "We just thought we owed the community some actual maintenance along the way, and this seemed difficult to communicate."

Park regulars shrugged off the news.

"We've spent ten years waiting for functional bathrooms," observed one. "Maybe the Nobel prizewinners on campus can figure that one out."

\* \* \* \* \*



THIS CHARMING MURAL graces the walls of the men's bathroom in People's Park.

## UC ADMITS TIES TO CIRCUS

By Preston Ready

The Department of Energy registered shock recently when the University of California admitted consulting circus professionals in the wake of security scandals which threaten its contracts controlling nuclear weapons research.

"We needed some sound advice," admitted UC spokesperson Marie Felde. "We can't keep our nuclear secrets straight, and the circus people really have it together. They're nicely organized, and we like the costumes, too."

UC officials pointed out that spending large sums of public money on management, security, and image consultants was nothing new for the University of California, and that anyone who'd been watching the news would appreciate that it has been a particularly difficult summer.



UC students seem delighted with UC Berkeley's new look, which maximizes parallels to the magic of the circus.

"We had the problem with the missing hard drive at Los Alamos, the unfavorable tritium labeling facility report, the NIF cost overruns, and then these fresh discrimination charges at the lab," pointed out Felde. "Firing the UC treasurer and replacing her with wealthy Republican contributors made us realize our best argument was that the comedy was intentional."

Critics argued that the circus connections would jeopardize UC Berkeley's reputation as a scholarly institution full of Nobel prizewinners and discourage alumni contributions.

Felde admitted that the proposed circus liason might have some drawbacks, but pointed out that it also had some advantages. "Their popcorn is the best," she stated, "and they get much more respect in the press."

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

## MICROPOWER RADIO WELCOMES NAB TO TOWN

By Doris Locked

Micropower radio supporters are currently preparing to welcome the National Association of Broadcasters to town despite the NAB's dedication to the extermination of low-power broadcasting.

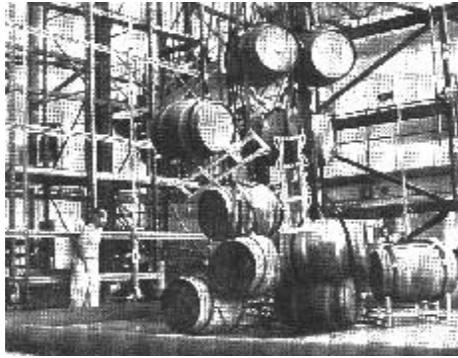
"Their opposition really put us on the map," explained local broadcaster Laura Drawbridge. "Expressing our gratitude is simply the right thing to do."

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# LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE REVEALS ATOMIC PLAYGROUND

By Gerry Atrick

Officials at Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science are showcasing a new strategy to address charges that tritium emissions from a nearby exhaust stack endanger the health of the thousands of children who visit the Hall of Science annually—a nuclear playground. At a press conference yesterday, Director Charles Shank unveiled plans to build a brand new play facility on the LHS grounds set in the Berkeley hills.



**OLD BARRELS OF MIXED WASTE** are transformed into play equipment for in this example of the new "re-use" strategy for nuclear waste.

"Low level emissions are harmless," Shank claimed, "And that's what the Atomic Playground will prove. When you see these kids romping and rollicking in an atmosphere of constant low-yield background radiation—you'll wish you had a reactor on your block."

Shank proudly showed off plans for an elaborate jungle gym made entirely of spent nuclear fuel rods.

"We call it the Mendeleevium Monkey Bars," Shank said, "After one of our favorites among the heavy metals." The LHS director turned to one of the two dozen children he had brought to the press conference. "Can you tell me the atomic number of mendeleevium, Tommy?" he asked a bright, bespectacled boy who bore an eerie resemblance to Harry Potter.

"One hundred and one!" the young wizard replied.

"You see," Shank went on, "This is really educational, and it's fun too. Wait till you get a load of the heavy-water slides."

The director admitted that LHS and the affiliated Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, which recently were charged with serious security violations both here and at Los Alamos, have been slow to address concerns of child health issues.

"What we had was a publicity problem," he said, "Not a health problem." He demonstrated the "meat thermometer" badges that children will be required to wear to make sure they are not overexposed. "We got these badges cheap," he said. "After Chernobyl, the Russians put thousands of these doo-hickeys on the market." Shank also demonstrated the Geiger counters that will be strategically located throughout the playground. He ran one over the young Harry Potter look-alike and the thing turned into a cricket on methamphetamines.

"You're cooked, Tommy," Shank laughed. "Okay kids, lets see a really tight duck-and-cover!"

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# DBA AGREES TO FEED STARVING STUDENTS

By Luz Change

Merchants who complained for years about rampaging mobs of high school students overwhelming their businesses at high noon are changing their approach, deciding to offer food on campus.



**DBA NUTRITION** experts researching the hunger problem.

"We tried having the police round them up for arrest," explained school Superintendent Jack McLaughlin, "but we didn't really understand the phenomenon that was driving this thing."

Exhaustive research finally revealed that the students, whose cafeteria was destroyed in the 1989 earthquake, were being driven by a primitive motivation called "hunger", which occurs on a daily basis around lunchtime.

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# GET DOWN WITH BROWN

By Rudy Wakening



**BROWN** knows the unexamined quotation is not worth repeating.

Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown recently published an open invitation to the public to participate in a five-week period of free classes at his live-work space in a warehouse in Oakland.

The program, dubbed "Oakland Table" according to Brown, will offer the public an "opportunity to gain insight on what the modern world is doing to people, doing to our consciousness, our sense of who we are and what it means to be human."

Some of the classes offered are, "Evictions Made Easy", "Redevelopment Profit Portfolios", "Going With Greed", "I Think, Therefore I Have Just Cause", and a yoga class which includes contemporary poses.

"The Landlord', for instance, is much harder than people might think," explained yoga teacher Catherine Cowsill. "'Developer's Pose' is also deceptively simple-looking, but requires just the right balance."

The public has expressed great interest in the concept of what it means to be human.

"I got evicted last week," commented Sally Stillwell, mother of three. "It doesn't get more human than that."

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**OAKLAND MAYOR JERRY BROWN** will host free new age classes at his mindfully centered live-work warehouse.

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

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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:

Available at all the finest Berkeley City Council meetings.  
\* 2nd Part of the History of Henry IV