

All hail the...

...the cosmetically altered issue...

Hepper Spray Times

February 2007



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

"...but yet I run before my horse to market..."*

Vol. IX No. 2



PRESIDENT BUSH'S NEW TEAM of war architects is very enthusiastic about the war's exciting new direction and the prospects for dusting off that old "mission accomplished" banner.



THIS HEAVY MACHINERY was used very gently at the break of dawn to carefully and selectively removed the tree-sitters' support group materials from the threatened oak grove near Memorial Stadium so that the area would look more "natural", according to UC Police.

NEW WAR DIRECTION GOING REALLY, REALLY WELL

By Hugh N. Whatarmee

President Bush announced a fresh, new approach to the Iraq war requiring sending more troops, to the applause of at least two or possibly three people.

The Commander in Chief and his military and foreign policy team immediately went on the road to drum up support for the new policy.

"We've found at least four or five people willing to admit public support for our policy," stated one White House staff member with pride. "None of them are currently willing to enlist, but we're working on that part."

In the meantime, hundreds of citizens announced that they had formed exploratory committees and were moving toward possible presidential candidacies, so many exploratory committees that leaders in both parties expressed concern that there would be no room for actual delegates at the upcoming political primaries.

"We could try to seat the delegates down the road in separate facilities, the way we handle the protesters," stated one party leader dubiously, "but we're not sure they'd go for it."

Homeland Security has agreed to take a look at the problem of the exponentially growing field of presidential candidates, and offer the worried nation some suggestions.

"Duct tape won't be adequate to handle this," stated one official. "We're thinking some kind of spray."

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NEW YEAR LOOKS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE OLD YEAR

By Faith deWall

National panic is gripping the nation as many share suspicions that the supposedly "new" year is actual a poorly-written sequel.

"I was so excited over the holidays, so ready for a fresh start," commented one of the fry cooks in a local restaurant near Sacramento. "Then I wake up New Year's Day and I could swear the view from my front door is the same as the day before. Somebody thinks I'm stupid."

Citizens nationwide are pressing their representatives to investigate the possibility that 2007 is actually the same as 2006, or worse, that it's a re-tread from the eighties.

"I couldn't take the re-birth of rap," groaned one resident of the Bay Area pointing to his iPod, which features suspiciously familiar music. "And then there are the fashions."

"I couldn't sit through that State of the Union speech again," agreed another annoyed citizen. "And I can't even think about the Oscars."

"I think we've been had," grumbled one local resident squinting at the sunrise. "I know I've seen this somewhere before."

* * * * *

UC Cops Move to Protect Tables, Fliers from Record Cold at Tree-sit

By Boris Anudderwun

University of California Police crept into the oak grove near Memorial Stadium at dawn Friday, January 12, 2007, and took all the tree-sit supporters' materials, tables, chairs, fliers, tarps, and lists of supporters' names, carefully placing them in protective custody in a dump truck.

"It was very cold," stated one police officer. "The tree-sitters may have blankets and occasional hot chocolate, but those poor fliers were just exposed out there on a table."

"It was tragic," exclaimed another officer. "Those vulnerable tables and chairs were shivering in the freezing dawn. We had to move quickly for the sake of their health."

"We're trained to react quickly in an emergency," stated another officer. "We're only doing what we know the tables and chairs' families would do for us in a similar circumstance."

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ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Q: Dear Lena, this year is reminding me a lot of the old year. Are we sure they didn't just do a sequel? I don't want to complain, but I don't want to look like a fool, either. This year reminds me so much of the old year it's uncanny.

Dear reader, I'm told this matter is under investigation by experts waiting at dawn to compare this year with both last and previous years. If this is indeed a sequel the writers from last year are due residuals.

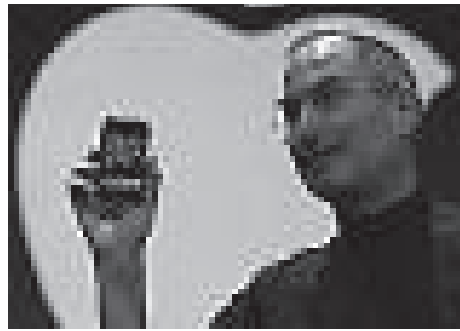
Dear Lena, should I buy one of those new phones? If so, what should I do with my old phone?

Dear reader, yes, of course, get the new phone as soon as possible, and put it to your ear as often as you can. Your old phone will make a lovely addition to your garden gnome.

Dear Lena, doesn't a nationwide banjo offender registry run the risk of stigmatizing people who, but for their unfortunate banjo playing, might be considered productive citizens of our society?

Dear reader, there is lively debate regarding whether or not there is a genetic component to banjo playing, and whether or not these people can be effectively rehabilitated. It is possible that someday banjo players can co-exist safely with normal members of our society, but in the meantime Homeland Security is only doing what is necessary to keep us safe by keeping tabs, as it were, on this disturbing and disturbed group of people.

Ask Lena anything! She is an expert. Write or email her, and she will give you actual expert advice. Contact her at cdenney@igc.org.



NOW PEOPLE CAN annoy each other with a product five times as expensive as their old phone.

Jobs unveils \$500 phone

By Josiah Something

Apple CEO Steve Jobs rocked the world with a revolutionary new phone which can do old tricks, new tricks, and make you look fabulous and wealthy by just holding it to your ear.

The spellbound crowd at the Mac-world Conference & Expo 2007 responded with oooo's, ahhh's, and waving wallets at the prospect of having the new product, which enables a user to do everything at the same time.

"I was so tired of doing one thing at a time," confided one Expo attendee. "Doing everything all at once saves so much time. It is a dream come true."

Many analysts expected Apple to release a device that would be more like an iPod capable of making phone calls while clipping one's nails that would easily sweep the existing competition.

The new phone's primary feature is that users who used to annoy people with \$40 and \$80 phones can now annoy people with a phone that costs much, much more.

"It's a new world," stated one mesmerized Apple fan. "I used to be the bane of the bus by chatting with my girlfriend. Now I can get the same results by watching old reruns on my way to work."

"Jobs is a genius," stated another awestruck iPhone admirer. "It's actually cheap, considering the status hike in your social circle. Why spend money on a hybrid to one-up your neighbor when you can pull status like this out of your back pocket?"

"The only thing I would like better is a feature where I could call everyone simultaneously and watch every movie simultaneously," added one Expo attendee. "I'm sure they're working hard on that."

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MORE NEW PHONES COMING



Sure, you could buy the latest phone, but it might be smarter to wait for the next technological innovation and save yourself some money. Consider these models, which are still on the drawing board but should be available soon...

Why not wait for the **Youphone**, which is analog, and has an old-fashioned



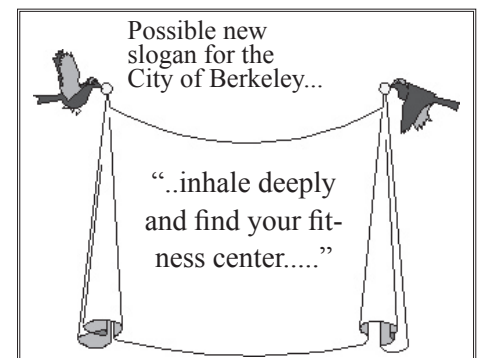
crank on the side which pulls up a nosy party-line style operator who knows all about you, and knows better than to connect you to those nasty sex talk lines or let you call up

your cousin in Rhode Island, which would simply be too costly.

Or, wait for the debut of the **Puppy Phone**, all hard rubber and sure to cut down on your phone bill since you won't be seeing much of it.

If you really want to save some money, wait for the **Faux Fone**, which has no actual functions, but also no expensive plans which drain your paycheck in unexpected ways. This new model will be a deft imitation of the most expensive phone on the market, but actually cost nothing at all beyond the initial purchase, thus saving the user thousands.

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BANJO OFFENDER REGISTRY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED BY HOMELAND SECURITY

By Zach Lee DePoint

Local citizens nationwide are pressuring elected officials and the Department of Justice to create a National Banjo Offender Registry based on the success of the National Sex Offender Registry popular with protective parents concerned about sex offenders living nearby their homes.

"We need to keep our children safe," explained one homeowner clutching a list of known banjo players located near his children's school. "We know banjo players can't help being what they are, and we know they have to live somewhere. But we have a right to know their whereabouts so we can take precautions."

Another neighbor agreed, pointing out that banjos, besides being innately offensive, can double as a lethal weapon. "If we have a national registry we can chart a course through town and avoid them altogether," she stated. "I don't like seeing them, and if I have to hear them I'm upset for days."

The Department of Homeland Security agreed, saying that while they had a long list of implements and instruments currently under discussion for addition to the current list of items forbidden to carry for plane travel, there was no reason citizens shouldn't organize for their own protection to ensure the safety of



HOMELAND SECURITY has issued bulletins regarding these dangerous instruments, which not only can prove fatal when played, but tend to cluster in deadly "rings" in warm, undisturbed places and may put children at risk.

their children from exposure to dangerous extremists carrying banjos.

Banjo players protested that banjo playing is not a crime, and that some people actually enjoy the sound of a banjo.

"Don't remind us," shuddered one citizen apprised of the comment. "There are a lot of sick people in this world."

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GUIDELINES FOR SHOPPING WITH RICH PEOPLE

It's a baffling political climate! The gap between the rich and the poor gets wider every day, and yet your political leaders' concerns are dictated by the wealthy. If you want to join the party, you'll need guidelines from **Felicia Flock**, who knows the nuance of wealth and can help you steer clear of an embarrassing faux pas.



Felicia Flock

* "Do we have to shop at Tiffany's or something?"

- Yes, but not exclusively. Enjoy the Tiffany's shopping experience, but take your rich person to Target, too. You'll be surprised to find that your rich person knows his or her way around quite well.

* "Should I offer to pay for lunch?"

- You'd better! Rich people, unlike poor people, keep careful track of who pays for what. Your rich person has actually calculated the gas they've sacrificed picking you up for your shopping excursion, so please reciprocate accordingly or their sense of personal martyrdom will inflate wildly.

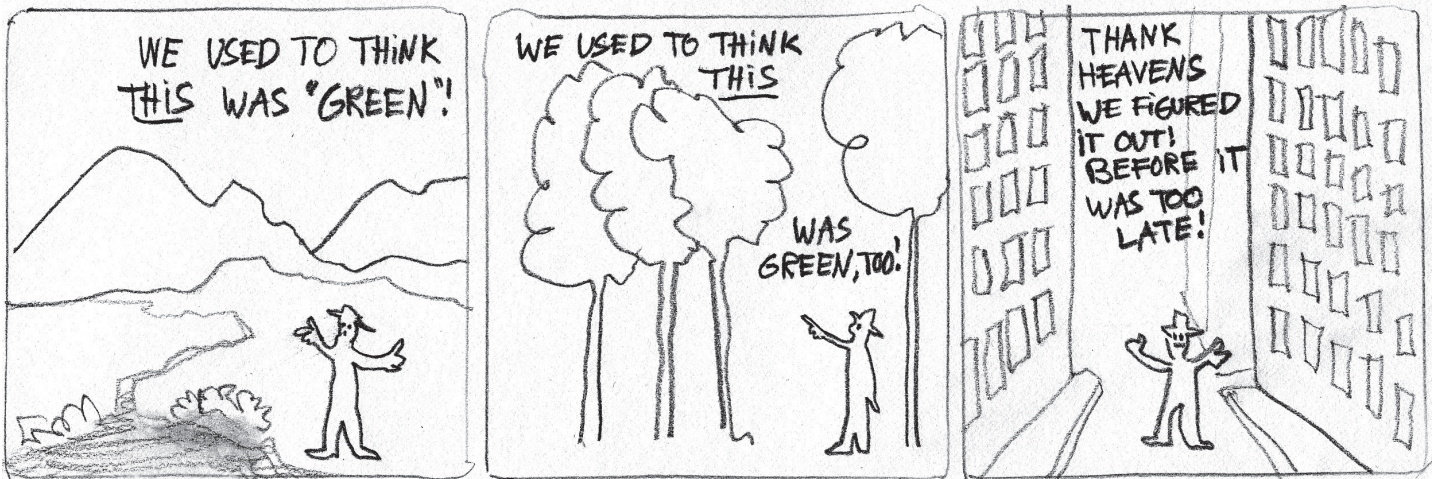
* "What if I have no money to spend? Won't it be awkward going shopping?"

- Not at all! Go wild, try things on, have fun buying anything you want, but keep the receipts and bring it all back later. You may run into your rich person at the customer service counter.

* "Is it okay to pay cash? I don't have a credit card."

- It is fine to use cash. It is just awkward to walk around with thousands of dollars. Invest, if possible, in a small, fashionable strongbox or moneybelt.

We Can't Draw Comics by guest artist Franz Toast





Scientists Say Pollution Will Save the Planet

by Leonard DeMoney

Scientists are considering deliberately spewing tons of pollutants into the earth's atmosphere to try to rein in green-house gases blamed for global warming, causing tree huggers to furrow their brows, hold hands, and visualize like crazy.

"Combating the effects of pollution by causing even more pollution has a kind of balance to it," admitted one student leaving a local yoga class. "It has a sense of homeopathy running through it like a gentle, flowing river."

"It was meant to startle the policy makers," stated Paul J. Crutzen, of Germany's Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, adding that polar bears, usually divided into bitter partisan factions on political issues, are solidly in favor, and are working on a press release.

One senior policy analyst in the United States joined the call for a protective earth blanket, citing the volcanic eruption of Mount Pinatubo in 1991 as having provided .9 degrees of cooling for approximately one year, although critics were heard objecting that 1991 was, in many ways, at least as uncool as it was cool.



Behind the screaming fans and marching bands, the next generation of nuclear weapons is silently coming to life.

Axe Only UC Bomb Labs Go Bears - Save the Oaks

Saveoaks.com / trivalleycares.org

"If we could get volcanos to work cooperatively we could rescue the alarming pattern of global warming," he stated, admitting that there would probably be a downside to widespread global darkness.

Other suggestions include:

- * A giant umbrella over the earth, which could be funded by corporate branding visible both from the earth and from outer space.

- * Having everybody wear and paint everything white for a few years to deflect more heat, coupled with costly fines for people who insist on their little black dress.

- * Having the earth switch places

with another planet farther away from the sun, or an ex-planet like Pluto, a demoted astronomical object which is really hungry for a little limelight right about now.

Critics scoffed at the suggestions, pointing out that if humans would stop polluting the planet everything would be fine.

"Tree-huggers," agreed most observers, shaking their heads. "We need extreme measures, but not that extreme."

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Next issue, Saluting Black History Month with Celebrities

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

* Richard III

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.