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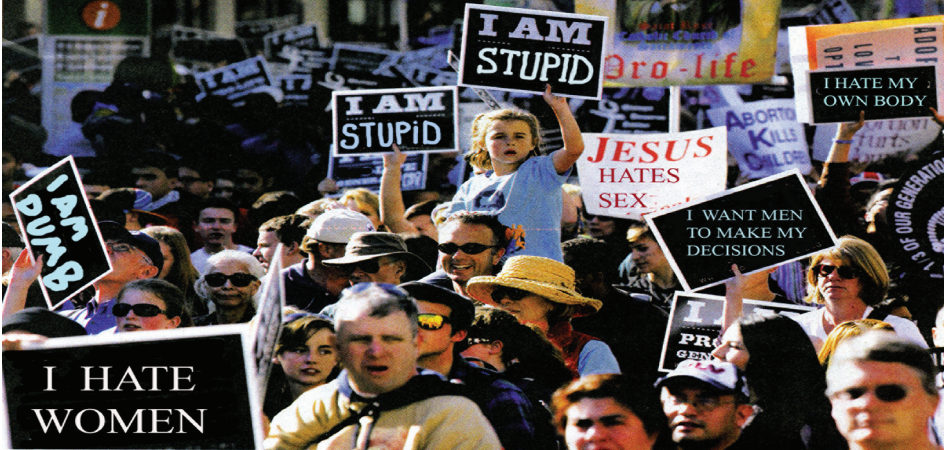


# Pepper Spray Times



It's finical...it's free...if you can find it "....Ye have angel faces, but heaven knows your hearts..."\*

Vol. XVII No. 2



THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE RALLIED in San Francisco to support the oppression of women which has always been a very attractive and well-funded cause in general as well as in religious circles which point out that Jesus's mom managed to skip sex entirely to get pregnant.

## WOMEN RALLY TO OPPRESS THEMSELVES

*Terrorism Not Ruled Out*

*By Minnie Blindz*

Thousands who oppose abortion rallied in San Francisco recently proving that while California may look like a liberal stronghold it can hold its own in public stupidity.

Observers agree that while stupidity explains most of the ralliers' enthusiasm for rolling back women's rights, additional factors are in play.

"I hate my body," agreed one of the rally participants waving a sign saying "Jesus Hates You If You Have Sex" and marching with a contingent of high school students from Ventura. "I'm thinking of getting full body liposuction if my church will pay for it."

Experts agree that low self esteem and religion dovetail neatly in creating large groups guaranteed to have very little knowledge about how their own bodies function.

"A lot of them get pregnant on these church field trips," commented one expert. "There'll be a lot of little blessed events about nine months from now."

Anti-choice speakers called for the now Republican-controlled congress to roll back protections for women's health and thanked non-voters for helping make their progress possible.

"We couldn't do it without them," enthused an anti-choice rally supporter. "We think this legislative term we can finally roll things back to the year 1800."



CHURCHES ARE OFTEN the source of young people's information about health and sex, such as the fact that bowling can get you pregnant.

## Flat Football Crisis Threatens National Security

*- Terrorism Not Ruled Out*

*By Vera Bitleft*

The football deflation crisis faced by National Football League (NFL) teams threatens to destroy national morale and ruin the celebration of Superbowl Sunday. Experts doubt the game can recover if the scandal proves internal but reassure the nation that terrorism has not been ruled out.

"These football players seem tough, but this is really taking a big toll," commented one sports broadcaster wiping away tears. "The game may never recover."

"It's like 9-11," added another commentator struggling to explain the complex rules regarding the inflation of footballs for league games which require professional football inflators with certified lung capacity and lots of time on their hands.

CHRONIC TRAUMATIC ENCEPHALOPATHY is not nearly as important as making sure your footballs are really pumped up for the game.

pared for the magnitude of how this would affect the nation."

Cynics suggested that the absurd focus on the pressure or lack of pressure inside footballs was not only misplaced in a complex world full of serious issues, but was possibly a conspiracy to promote the upcoming Superbowl's ratings, a suggestion dismissed by NFL insiders.

"We're not worried about ratings," stated one NFL insider reassuringly. "We did worry at one point that the latest research on chronic traumatic encephalopathy might discourage football fans, but they seem more than okay with progressive degenerative disease."

"It's true," affirmed a tau protein researcher. "Dementia, memory loss, aggression, confusion and depression seem fine with the football-loving American public. It's this under-inflated football issue which really seems to have their attention."

"We're terrified," commented one football fan combing the internet for the latest news on football deflation terrorism. "We don't know where they'll strike next."

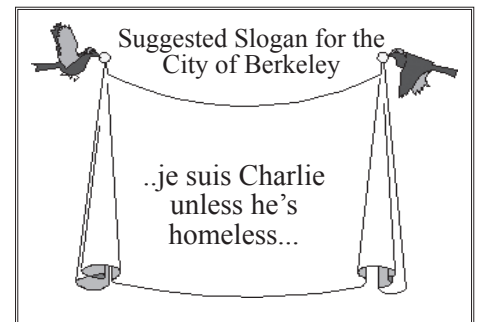
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# ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena, how can I tell if my football is flat?**

Dear reader, run over it a bunch with a steamroller. That way you'll be really sure. And be sure to blame the government.

**Dear Lena, I kind of like going to the movies. Is the Theater Reduction Project a good idea? I'm having trouble getting on board.**

Dear reader, this is the way all innovation is treated at first. Stop thinking about your own selfish needs and try to consider the needs of developers. The city council majority gets it so learn to enjoy watching the quiet desperation of the tech worker whose life is like a fishbowl on the twelfth floor.

**Dear Lena, I'm tired of watching the needs of farmers hijacked by a bunch of little fish. It just makes no sense. What can I do to straighten out our priorities?**

Dear reader, reason with the little fish. Hardly anybody takes the time to invite them to lunch. Bring them a little corsage and get to know them better. You have more in common than you might think, considering that human habitat is getting scarce unless you stake yourself a place under the nearest overpass.

**Dear Lena, is smoking dope good for you? I hear confusing claims, so I need to ask an expert.**

Dear reader, smoking dope is really good for people who hate their lungs.

**Dear Lena, it's like a sport in this town to sign up at city council meetings to scream at them. Is this effective? Is this just a Berkeley tradition, or does this happen all over?**

Dear reader, watch the British Parliament. Public disrespect for government has a hallowed history. Our council meetings are actually quite tame.

Ask Lena about self-playing golf clubs at [cdenney@igc.org](mailto:cdenney@igc.org).

# Theater Reduction Project Redesigned to Shut Up the Usual Whiners

**"Movies aren't what they used to be anyway" say developers.**

By Nicholas Irving

Developers of a proposed highrise on Harold Way quickly redesigned their plans after their proposed elimination of 11 theaters caused a predictable public outcry. Berkeley's Zoning code only offers general guidelines as to what "community benefits" entitle the project developers to blow off height limitations, ignore community housing needs, wreck views, displace important community non-profits, and generally follow along in the footprints of the developers who have gone before.



MOVIES AREN'T nearly as interesting as watching people try to maneuver in this centsy beentsy "plaza" the developers are eager to provide as a "community benefit."

"Why should we have to adhere to a standard that nobody pays any attention to anyway?" asked Joseph Penner of Hill Street Investments in Los Angeles. "We'd like to make some major money."

Planners acknowledged that most of the outsize condo buildings built in the last fifteen years were unaffordable to Berkeley workers and had boasted amenities which never materialized.

"We're not obligated to actually keep the proposed theaters and bookstores funded and running," pointed out Mark Rhoades, former Berkeley Planning Director currently of the Rhoades Planning Group generously helping Penner. "Our job is just to sprinkle some sexy ideas in the discussion and get some damn thing built."

"So we can make some major money," added Penner.



FOR SOME REASON most fish don't seem to appreciate the sport of fishing and refuse to even try it.



People sleeping under the overpass near 880 agreed.

"People get too attached to their views,"

one man commented from his sleeping bag. "They forget how much a modern city is defined by an exotic skyline of penthouses full of out-of-towners."

"It's a matter of community pride," offered another freeway overpass camper. "We need to embrace developers' needs and make them feel welcome."

\* \* \* \* \*

PEOPLE MAY MISS their views but they'll quickly adapt by learning to enjoy seeing all the people in these windows enjoying the view they used to have.

# Fish Victorious Over Farmers in Water Games

By Scott Class

"They had no chance," bubbled fish after the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision that maintains water restrictions to protect ridiculously small but effectively whiny threatened fish known as the Delta Smelt, which is a ridiculous name anyway. "We may not have hands or feet or know much about politics, but damn it we really know our water."



Almond farmer Jim Jasper acknowledged that the fish probably have the advantage in all things aquatic.

"We farmers have our trials in the current drought, and most people sympathize with us," he stated. "But for some reason people really go to pieces over the idea of a fish out of water."

Environmentalists insist that the smelt aren't really the issue themselves but rather that their decline indicates serious water problems for all species in the delta and blah blah you know the drill.

The Supreme Court's decision can't be appealed, but agricultural interests in California were not particularly worried about the decision.

"The Republicans will have the reins in a few weeks," they noted. "The only place they like fish is on a plate."

\* \* \* \* \*

FISH DON'T realize that they need to adapt to living without water the way the rest of us have.

## NEW FEATURE-- ASK THE POLICE!

Q: There are people sleeping in a van on my street. What should I do?

A: If the car is tricked out for human habitation, then BMC 12.76.020 criminalizes them automatically so just give us a call- ironic, we know. But if they're just sleeping in any old car it's not against the law so you can't do much except wake them up a lot - play a trombone nearby or give them some speed.



Encourage your city council to give us more "tools" to make sure anybody who doesn't own property is a de facto criminal. At least report them after 72 hours so they have to bounce around; we love helping with that (BMC 14.36.050).

Q: There are people sleeping in the doorway of my business every morning. What can I do about this?

A: File a no trespassing letter with us and post a no trespassing sign and we'll give them enough tickets to convince them to try Santa Cruz next time they want a Kerouac experience.

Q: There are people sleeping in the public park. What should I do?

A: Make sure your picnics are very noisy and full of flying objects like frisbees and soccer balls. The Berkeley City Council has sadly neglected to make sleeping a crime.

Q: Does any of this have anything to do with not having enough housing?

A: Please pick up a handy self-arrest form at the Public Safety Building lobby and turn yourself in right away before you tilt public discussion away from bonding over disdain for these filthy property-free people cluttering everything up.

\* \* \* \* \*

# Cannabis Industry Worries About Risky Alliance with Venture Capitalists

By Ry Skakes

The cannabis industry is reported to be weighing carefully the potential investment of millions by venture capitalist Peter Thiel's Privateer Holdings which is interested in funding the proposed cannabis brand Marley Natural.

"Ours is an established industry with trusted standards, and our risks are a known quantity," stated one cannabis industry insider. "Venture capitalists, on the other hand, are known for their wild, irresponsible behavior and we're not sure we can afford to be linked with them."

In the meantime, tobacco executives are quietly contemplating expansion into the marijuana boom and boast a solid track record of loosening regulations on addictive and deadly products which should smooth the way for the relatively unstudied plant

and its unknown health effects.

"The science takes years to get published, and even then nobody believes it," stated a Philip Morris executive whose company memos reveal an interest in marijuana since early 1970. "They believed us before when we told them smoke was good for them, so making a killing with cannabis should be a piece of cake."

\* \* \* \* \*

## City Council Inexplicably Declares Local Cannabis Vomitorium A Nuisance

By Greta Pizza-Cheese



40 Acres cannabis club organizers who packed the Berkeley City Council's chambers in an effort to stop a nuisance declaration which failed lamented afterwards that they were misunderstood.

"Vomit is perfectly natural," argued one 40 Acres staff member.

"The dozens of people bent at the waist vomiting or passed out around our establishment because they've had too much dab is just a natural part of the scene."

"It's part of getting high," observed one expert in agreement. "Sometimes it's the only way to know you've had too much."

The neighbors objected to the club's traffic congestion, driveway blocking, secondhand smoke, but mostly the three murders of young black men within half a block of the 40 Acres enterprise.

"What a bunch of wusses," responded owner Chris Smith. "Death is just as natural as vomiting."

\* \* \* \* \*



40 ACRES cannabis club staff insist that vomiting is perfectly natural part of neighborhood life.

## Terrorists Admit YouTube Beheadings Behind Schedule

By Jules E. Whaddamean

Terrorists admitted recently that they've fallen behind in their promised schedule and volume of public beheadings and hope to establish more regular scheduling in the coming year.

"We had some discussions about our poor ratings," acknowledged one terrorist spokesperson. "We realize we'd gotten a little stale in our presentation."

Experts agreed that terrorist beheading films run the same risks as horror movies which need a minimum of characterization and plot to hold the viewers' interest.

"We hesitate to criticize their efforts because we know they probably have the usual budgetary and technical constraints," commented one expert on international terrorism. "But frankly we doubt they'll get much traction against sports coverage."

\* \* \* \* \*

## We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



# Good Samaritan State First Baby of New Year

By Phil Allen



“Not really our New Year’s,” said a founder of the newest surprise Middle East player, “But it was close to Friday, and we were bored. For us, another old year. Then, it hit. Excuse the image.”

Thus has the Good Samaritan State (GS, or “Gosh”) suddenly arisen, in ancient Samaria—today’s Sebastiya—smack in the middle of the West Bank. Who would guess?

This carpenter, who with local Samaritans the handyman, the mechanic and the fisherperson, with others, intend to give “battle” to the now-entrenched ‘Islamic State’ (IS, or ISIS), still miles away. With good deeds.

“Hah,” added the oliver. “See them wither already. They cannot dis-arm us. None can. We have no arms. We have tools. And, for those robbed, beat up and left for dead..,” she trailed off, pointing to a subterranean cache. “Some of this stuff has been around since ‘48. Hidden.

A miracle! The peroxide’s still good.”

According to reports, the GS now carpets much of Phoenicia, with predictions of reaching Assyria by Spring. Such hopes float in the frosty hills of the mid-Winter Holy Land.

“We are irresistible,” she concluded with a wagging finger, “because we do nothing but good deeds. No tank repairs. Now please, have some pomegranate juice.”

*[The preceding was found wrapped around a rock someone threw through my window, and signed by an Alma Chizzit.. .. Phil Allen, Jan.3, 2015]*

\* \* \* \* \*

# Berkeley City Council Unanimously Postpones Crowd Control Issues More Police Gadgets Get Unanimous Support

By Holly Nass

The Berkeley City Council put off addressing tedious police accountability issues until a date to be postponed later while unanimously looking into giving the police more cool gadgets like body cameras.

“More gadgets always get the nod,” commented one council watcher. “If the police asked for a thousand Zoku fish pop molds they’d get them.”

“It’s a win win for the politicians,” agreed another observer regarding the Berkeley City Council’s decision to look into police body cameras. “They look like they’re addressing the issue, they’re helping swell an already bloated police budget which makes the police happy, and they’ve neatly sidestepped all the public access issues.”

Critics agreed that the public’s access to the footage has proved a thorny issue in other towns, where police departments realized they had no idea how to manage the thousands of hours of recordings generated by dozens of body cameras let alone public requests for footage.

People who were shot with not-always-but-sometimes-lethal-if-things-don’t-gowell projectiles and doused with CS gas in the recent protests over police brutality were frustrated by yet another postponement of a proposed moratorium on the controversial crowd control policies but were dismissed by the City Council who pointed out that the longer they wait the less public testimony they’ll have to hear.

“If we had a marathon all-night hearing they’d be complaining about that,” shrugged one councilmember. “We’re just lucky the police didn’t ask for Belgian waffle makers.”



**THE POLICE considered asking for waffle makers in addition to body cameras but couldn’t agree on the precise brand.**



**USEFUL TOOLS SUCH AS crowd control strength pepper spray tend to be misunderstood by ordinary citizens who don’t realize that without these chemical weapons the police would be helpless and the world as we know it would come to an end.**

The crowd control issues are now postponed until the February 10th’s council meeting, which one anonymous councilmember agreed would probably be a long, annoying, repetitive event.

“We have a little bingo game we play where we keep track of how many times we’re called fascists and racists,” stated the councilmember. “It helps pass the time.”

\* \* \* \* \*

## God Cancels Book Tour

By Gerry Deliberations

God’s much-heralded book tour was canceled recently, leading observers to speculate about the health of book publishing. Spokespersons for the omnipotent diety demurred that the Bible’s sequel, though gripping, had the difficulty of having to compete with the popularity of the Bible.

“We had hopes for a movie deal,” confided one of God’s handlers. “But we didn’t realize how few people still actually read.”

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**Next Issue: braiding seaweed with celebrities!**

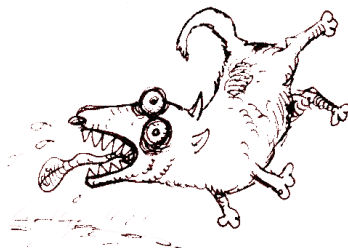
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\*Henry VIII

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.