

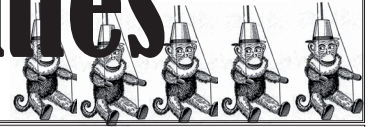
"You can kick the ass of the rich. It's just such a big ass that it takes a long time."

May 2022

the shy, retiring issue...

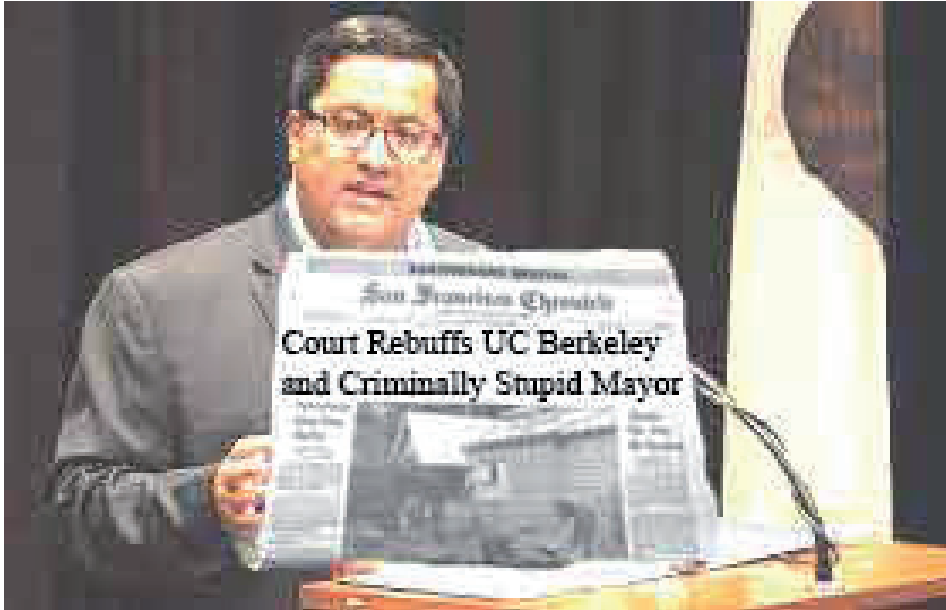


Pepper Spray Times



It's tabular...it's free...if you can find it ...false of heart, light of ear, bloody of hand...*

Vol. XXIII No. 5



Court Rebuffs UC Berkeley and Criminally Stupid Mayor

BERKELEY MAYOR JESSE ARREGUIN WINCES over coverage which points out plainly that he was for it before he was against it and now can't find a bandwagon with any room for him.

"Criminally Stupid Mayor" Searches for Credibility

By Amos Kito

"I was for respect for landmarks and neighborhoods and the protection of rent-controlled housing before I was against them," stuttered Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin whose criminal stupidity now threatens what was once considered a stellar political future. "I can prove it. I have photographs standing in front of 1921 Walnut, standing with the tenants. I have it here somewhere..."

Mayor Arreguin's acrobatic flip-flop on his public obligation after lucrative private promises is nothing new considering the pipeline of people who find feathered berths in either the legislature or UC's vast forests of administrative sinecures for sycophants.

"We have room for them all," affirmed UC spokesperson Dan Mogolof, breathless after his star turn under the spotlights provided by press interest in Judge Seligman's upheld restrictions on endlessly expanding UC enrollment numbers. "We pride ourselves in having more placements for male-able politicians than for actual students."

* * * * *

Apparently People's Park Actually Matters

"Who knew?" -- astounded observers marvel in wonder

By Stella D. Night

"I thought they were just a bunch of scruffy hippies," wondered one political consultant aloud after the California Supreme Court upheld a lower court's order restricting UC's relentless expansion. "Who knew they had pull at the Supreme Court?"

"We are just a bunch of scruffy hippies," responded one scruffy hippie ladling soup into lunch bowls under a redwood in People's Park native plant-laden east end. "We're not endowed with UC's incredible array of lobbyists."



IT'S HARD TO RECONCILE the destruction of landmarked, rent-controlled housing such as the demolition of 1921 Walnut Street with UC's alleged housing mission, but if anybody can do it Dan Mogolof can.

"In fact, if any of those lobbyists are hungry, send them right over," re-



KEITH MCHENRY'S INCLUSIVE VALUES co-founded Food Not Bombs and countless community-inclusive events all of which he's happy to share with you.

Inclusive Values Apparently More Than A Bumpersticker

By Zachary Friedbeans

Political consultants are privately considering including inclusive community values in their calculus, reversing decades of exploitative planning according to well-situated insiders.

"When the California Supreme Court rebuffs the university, something is wrong," stated one consultant. "We might need some better role models than the regents."

* * * * *

sponded another scruffy hippie setting up for a concert on the court-protected stage. "Everybody is welcome here, even the UC flaks. We're kind of goofy that way."



SCRUFFY HIPPIES don't tend to care whether you respect them or not; it's a thing.

* * * * *



Suggested Slogan for the City of Berkeley

...we're done with your backyards; now we'll commodify your mailboxes..

ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, so, so trees have standing under the law?

Dear reader, of course. I recommend Christopher D. Stone's "Should Trees Have Standing? Law, Morality, and the Environment" for guidance on the matter.

Dear Lena, so why not agree on a course that benefits both the university and the town? Why all this fighting? People died last time, and most of us want peace. And the redwoods.

Dear reader, the university is quoted in the most recent San Francisco Chronicle as saying that they are "not interested" in further settlement talks with the groups trying to point out that the university has so much land that it has no need to destroy Berkeley's parks, landmarks, and ignore local zoning restrictions. Other UC host towns created just such protections through court challenges, such as Davis, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz, and Berkeley's neighborhood groups are well situated to do the same.

Dear Lena, I know baseball club owners need to get even richer than they are to feel good about themselves, but aren't they affecting stadium workers all over the nation? It does seem kind of selfish.

Dear reader, you make the common mistake of thinking that wealth is about numbers instead of culture. Your cup of coffee is not their cup of coffee. Ask the UC regents, the majority of whom are wealthy beyond your sad little imagination. Wealth is a state of mind which needs constant fluffing. The judges of Oakland's Superior Court are less respected figures and more like landscapers who address your needs.

Dear Lena, I'm having trouble telling the difference between Russian and Republican propaganda. Can you help?

Dear reader, of course. This challenge will be addressed by experts in our next issue.

Ask Lena about putting flowers down the barrels of rifles at cdenny@gc.org.



THESE ARE PEOPLE'S PARK'S EARLIEST ADMIRERS AND NEIGHBORS PHOTOGRAPHED IN 1973 WHO are still perfectly capable of giving you a docent tour of the park, whose surrounding communities of color have been greatly reduced after decades of UC gentrification.

People's Park's Earliest Admirers Testify It's a Great Place to Play

By Yolanda Bigfish

"I know people think of it as a school," smiled Luke, one of the now grown-up kids photographed above in 1973 in People's Park's early years by former People's Park Native Plant Forum Field Coordinator David Axelrod. "And part of it still operates as a school. But its main job these days is

to shovel aside community values and acquire community land."

"It's a real estate company flatly named Capital Strategies," added Jolene, another of the kids in the photograph who works locally in Berkeley. "They distort crime statistics and indoctrinate new students to fear the park although southside's serious crime is up on frat row."



PEOPLE'S PARK'S original gardeners learned a lot about transforming asphalt to topsoil, which is about to come in really, really handy.

Officials conceded that People's Park's crime statistics are inflated by efforts to chase hippies and homeless people around and find some way to discourage them from existing.

"We want to look like Stanford or Har-



COUNTRY JOE MACDONALD PLAYED People's Park's 50th Anniversary because yes, it's a great place to play.

vard," explained one UC staff consultant. "Our real estate policy depends on making sure everybody sees the southside as inevitably becoming part of the campus. These homeowners should have seen it coming."

"It wasn't always this bad," noted Jerry, another of the kids depicted in the above photograph. "The university once partnered with and gave university credit to the east end's Native Plant gardeners whether they were students or not," he affirmed, pointing out the extant plants from the original native plant project. "It was a national model the university should be proud of. But it interferes with their real estate goals."

"Trees tend to do that," noted a member of Berkeley's moneyed overlords, the Telegraph Area Business Improvement District. "Our preference is for street furniture and art that can be relocated at will without a pesky CEQA challenge. Trees, unfortunately, actually have standing in law."

* * * * *

The War on CEQA Meets the LA Times Editorial Staff

Conservative publication speaks straight to regents, specifically mentions People's Park, park shortages, and alternatives UC is required to consider under CEQA but has so far ignored

By Zane O. Moore

"Apparently hell froze over," commented one baffled regent after reading the Los Angeles Times' editorial lambasting the UC regents for expecting thousands of over-enrolled UC students to attend classes while sleeping in their cars. "These are a bunch of conservative people, so it's kind of surprising. I know. I play golf with most of them."

"We thought development at any cost was

the given," expressed another regent buffing his nails. "The politicians dependent on developer contributions certainly think so, and their pipeline to the wealthy is pretty secure these days. But the LA Times staid editorial staff standing up for People's Park is hard to ignore."

People's Park was unanimously recommended to the National Register of Historic Places by a unanimous California Historic

Resources Commission back in October of 2021, and will have federal landmark status announced in a matter of weeks.

"They kind of nailed it," nodded another political insider. "UC is planning a twelve-story luxury student dorm on People's Park, the most-visited park in Berkeley, and at the same time is destroying a twelve-story building on campus and replacing it with nothing while arguing that there's no place on campus for housing. it's like they're laughing at us all."

The LA Times' editorial is available here: <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2022-03-06/editorial-the-state-needs-a-different-approach-to-solving-uc-crowding>

Russian Shelling of Nuclear Plant Proves Strangely Unpopular



BLACK SMOKE BILLOWED from Ukraine's nuclear power plant after being shelled by the Russian military during the invasion of Ukraine, which seems as curious as the invasion unless you're having one monster of a midlife crisis.

By Yehudi Hellaryoo

"We think it was his iron man thing," commented anonymous sources inside the Kremlin about Putin's decision to indiscriminately shell one of Europe's largest nuclear power plants during the invasion of Ukraine. "Not enough people clap when he takes his shirt off these days."

"We're still studying the matter," added another source who pointed out that no radiation appeared to have leaked during

the assault. "We dislike giving the impression that Russian soldiers don't know what they're doing, or didn't know that it was a nuclear power facility. But we haven't come up with any better explanation."

The nuclear power plant is the largest nuclear power facility in Europe and clearly had no defense capabilities beyond ordinary citizens and Ukraine's outnumbered military.

"If this was on purpose, it was inexcusable," stated one NATO representative. "If it wasn't on purpose it was even worse."

"All it takes in this world is one madman or dedicated opportunist," noted one war-weary reporter interviewing a terrified mother with children trying to find a seat on a train. "The United States certainly has had its share of those."

* * * * *



EUROPE'S LARGEST nuclear power plant in Ukraine was a sitting duck.

and includes these two powerful paragraphs:

"...The state missed a golden opportunity to take pressure off the UC system when it let California State University open a polytechnic school at what had been severely underenrolled Humboldt State. The school's future is now set, at least until there's time to see if this experiment works to boost enrollment at the Northern California campus. The school could have been converted to a UC campus much more quickly than building a new one. There's still a chance to try converting a Cal State campus to a UC at Sonoma State, which also is experiencing declining enrollment. It makes little sense that some of the state's institutions of higher education have to advertise to attract applicants while others are overfilled.

The state's two public university systems will need to direct more applicants to campuses that can handle additional students. Not everyone can attend UC Irvine, UC Berkeley and UCLA. UC Merced still has capacity for more students, and obviously, so do some Cal State campuses. Dream schools may not be a dream if a student is crammed into a crowded lecture hall and sleeps in a car because there's no housing available..."

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We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast



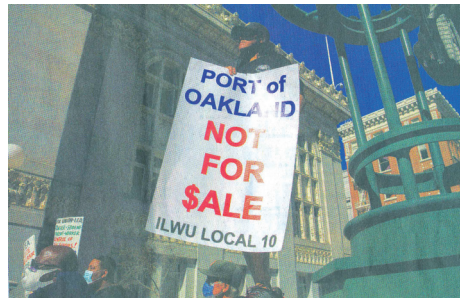
Port of Oakland Apparently Not Very Portable

By Benjamin Ticklem

"It's really inconvenient," stated Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf regarding the fact that the Port of Oakland is apparently not portable at all and has to hog the waterfront and literally stand in the way of the new stadium that the Oakland A's owner, billionaire John Fisher, says he needs to have to keep the Oakland A's in Oakland.

Fisher insisted that he had really tried every alternative and that for some reason cargo ships insist that they need water to navigate when everybody knows that Silicon Valley will come up with some kind of NFT that is digital and all this filling up cargo containers will seem really old-fashioned and over.

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 10 disagrees, noting that a new stadium could be rebuilt where the previous stadium was and be just as brand new without disturbing Oakland's primary economic engine.



SOME UNIONS SOLD OUT FOR SHORT-TERM JOBS BUT THE ILWU stands strong for the community and the long-term health of the Port of Oakland which, unlike a ballpark, can't just be moved around to suit developers.

"The Port of Oakland is the US's sixth-largest container port, handling 1.1 million 20-foot equivalent unit import containers in 2021, the most in its 94-year history," said Farless Dailey, the president of the ILWU, Local 10. "Scaaf is selling Oakland's best long-term jobs, and Oakland's best economic engine."

* * * * *

Vineyards Move to Alaska

BYO Sheepskin Cushion and Snowshoe

On In! And Bring the Dogs!

By Becky Ningvoice

Inspired by the success of ice cafes in Jammu and Kashmir, India, Alaska is organizing to add vineyards to its future investments given the radical changes expected to its climate.

"We can hope people arrest climate change," commented one investor. "We do that every day. But we can also plan for what seems inevitable."

"Bring your sheepskin cushions," observed one skeptic. "On the other hand, this should be fun. I want my bar named 'Alaska Questions Here'."

"I'm going to name my wine cafe 'Optical Aleutians'," added another Alaskan entrepreneur. "Or maybe 'Inuit all along'."

* * * * *

Next Issue: Abbreviating spring training with celebrities!



ALASKAN WINE CAFES and vineyards are springing up in anticipation of climate change opportunities.

I Want My Present Now

by Juan Nathan Undergod



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