

All hail the...
...the technically challenged issue ...



Hepper Spray Times

November 2009

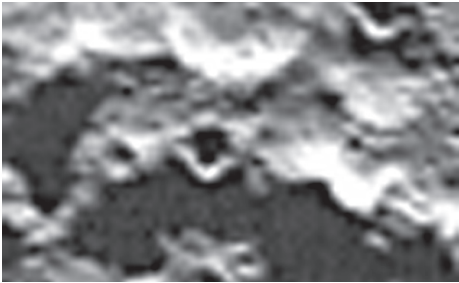


It's farinose... it's free...if you can find it

"You come with letters against the king..."*

Vol. XI No. 11

NASA Wins War on the Moon



THIS LOOKS LIKE WATER to excited NASA scientists, and most school children have agreed to humor them.

By May B. Knott

NASA fired a two-ton empty rocket into a moon crater hoping for a high plume of moon rocks, evidence of hoped-for water, or at least a visual display impressive enough to keep the thousands of school children watching the live video stream from wondering what the point was.

"We're at a bit of a disadvantage," acknowledged Anthony Colaprete, the LCROSS mission's chief scientist. "These kids have played a lot of video games. We have trouble competing with Halo 3 and GameShark."

Critics gently applauded NASA's ability to hit the moon at all, given the low success rate of most missions, but pointed out that pointlessly blowing up the moon was not the best argument for continuing to fund the agency during difficult economic times.

"The moon is a pretty peaceful place," stated one critic trying to locate the impact flash on the video. "Maybe they should just acknowledge that there's no water there and leave it alone."

But scientists insisted that the flash at impact could be evidence of sodium in the crater or possibly other elements, and announced that they will spend days if not weeks and years identifying and interpreting the vast possibilities.

"It's either that or look for real work," stated one scientist, "which right now is hard to find."

* * * * *

California Department of Food and Agriculture Promotes Eating Moths for Thanksgiving Tables



By Shirley Eugest

California families are encouraged to substitute light brown apple moths for turkeys this Thanksgiving in an effort to help eradicate this vile invasive pest while offering variety to the typical holiday feast.

State officials would not go so far as to describe the moths as tasty, but agreed that extremely large moths, stuffed with savory seasoning and roasted with apples and butter, were at least as natural as modern turkeys and, properly cooked, were even more nutritious.

"Insects are a natural source of protein," stated one official from the California Department of Food and Agriculture, which provided cooking instructions and craft ideas on its website. "If you catch enough of the small ones you can dry them like pumpkin seeds and spice up the Chex Mix."



SOME TURKEYS are not happy about their suggested replacement by light brown apple moths, but it is widely conceded that turkeys are not the brightest bulbs in the chandelier.

connected agricultural interests, and were merely misunderstood.

"Some of them are my best friends," stated one supporter. "They love light-bulb jokes, and often are the only ones who stay to clean up after a party."



THE ORDINARY LIGHT BROWN apple moth is small, but homegrown organic moths can reach a size which can easily feed a large family while helping out the California farmers who are helpless against them.

State agricultural officials disagreed, although acknowledging that the moths' tendency to roll themselves in leaves during the larval stage and live in tiny microclimates posed a challenge.

"We may need some invasive techniques," conceded one official. "We may need to break down some doors."

* * * * *



ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, okay, so the mass sterilization plan for the light brown apple moths is a stupid idea -- can't we use it on the top University of California brass instead? We need to do something beside watch them dismantle the best university system the world has ever seen.

Dear reader, I recommend less invasive techniques, but would be interested to see your proposal, which should prove most popular.

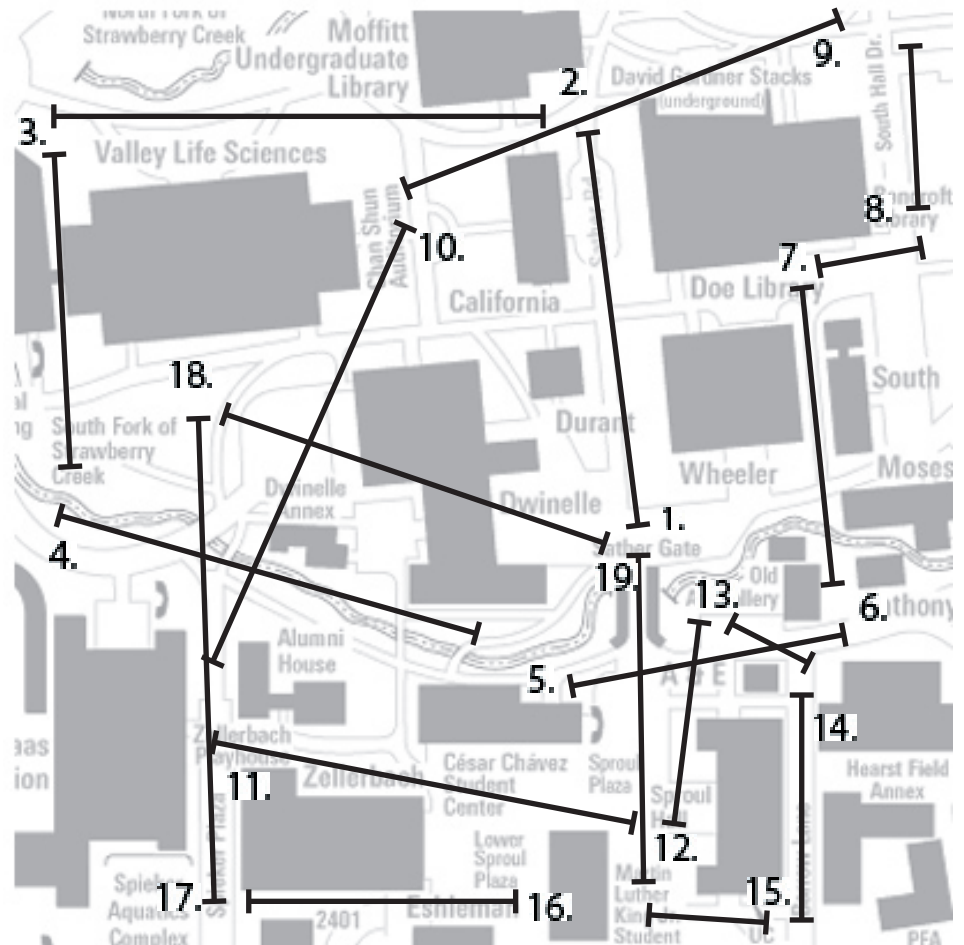
Dear Lena, I collected enough light brown apple moths to mix together into a nice stuffing for the turkey, but a bunch of them are by the front gate now picketing. They are annoying. Should I call the police?

Dear reader, there's no need to involve the authorities. Just lie to them. Light brown apple moths are notoriously naive, and will believe it's your neighbors, not you, who are rounding up their brothers and sisters if you simply point discretely in the direction of the little house down the road.

Dear Lena, I just got some kind of notice from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and have no idea what it says. I went to college, but it's ridiculously convoluted, and I'm not sure who to call, so I'm asking you-- what does it mean?

Dear reader, it means you're the one recipient in a hundred who read the notice, and this is a clue that you are working too hard. Put it in the pile with the notices you're currently getting from banks and credit card companies and admit that you'd rather eat nails than read it, like everybody else.

Ask Lena how to walk on coals at cdenney@igc.org.



THE NEW GOLF COURSE proposed for the UC campus would take golfers on a tour through a very urban landscape, offering both water hazards and hazards posed by pedestrians, whose safety would not be at issue if, as proposed, they would agree to wear the appropriate required headgear.

UC Campus Golf Course Proposed as Big Money Maker



Mandatory Protective Headgear Required on Campus

By Sara Moaney

In a move designed to harness both innovation and tradition to offset budget cuts, University of California (UC) President Mark Yudof announced that the flagship UC Berkeley campus will be slightly modified to become a golf course for both qualified students and visiting pros.



GOLFERS are usually well-dressed, and tend to be very polite.

Calling it just one small part of his creative response to the financial crisis in state funding for education, Yudof insisted that golf's popularity would insure daily rounds of dozens of golfers which would easily pay for a few more \$200,000 administrators.

Critics suggested that flying golf

balls would be a health risk to the thousands of students braving the campus to attend classes, but were dismissed by university spokespersons as ignorant of the plan's details, which carefully state that all future students would be required, once the 19 hole course is completed, to wear appropriate protective headgear and golf-oriented clothing.

The move is predicted to improve the university's image, which was badly tarnished by the tree-sitters' annoying antics and poor fashion sense in the last few years.

"Golfers are a mature group, which sound fashion traditions as a whole," state one university spokesperson. "We feel they will add some dignity to the campus, which it sorely needs."

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**NOTICE OF IMPLEMENTATION
OF CLASS 1 MODIFICATION OF
LAWRENCE BERKELEY
NATIONAL LABORATORY'S
HAZARDOUS WASTE
HANDLING FACILITY PERMIT***



Pursuant to the requirements of Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Section This, That, and Blah Blah Blah,

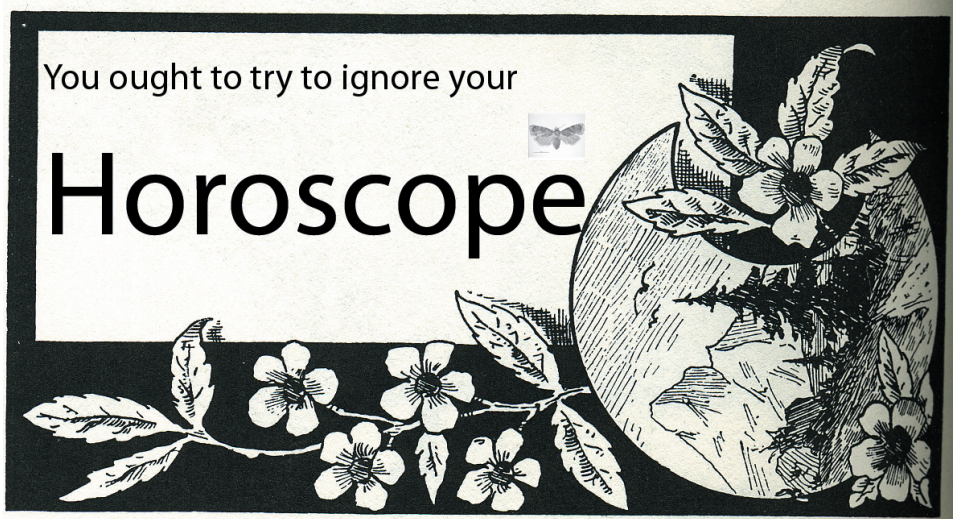
the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is providing this notice of the implementation of a Class 1 modification of the hazardous waste facility permit for the poison we keep right here in your backyard with the secure knowledge that you'll be too baffled to ask any questions.

We're making changes to our permit as Class 1 modifications including the following:

- 1) Updating the list of Emergency Coordinators and emergency contacts in the Contingency Plan to include a bunch of people who can scream louder in an emergency.
- 2) Updating organizational charts throughout the document to insert one faceless bureaucrat for another.
- 3) The addition of several EPA hazardous waste codes to tables you already don't know how to interpret.
- 4) Adding a description of the waste characterization information which we won't trouble you with here and which we know you won't bother to look up.
- 5) Making minor textual corrections throughout the document which we're obligated to notice to you but not necessarily disclose in any meaningful way.

And have a nice day!

** If you find this sort of heading boring, thank you! We work hard to make sure what we do stays under the radar.*



ARIES Awaken to your own stupidity, embrace it, and you'll be amazed at how much fun it is to do the laundry.

LIBRA You are finally in a position to capitalize on having absolutely no friends or ambition. Congratulations!

TAURUS Don't change the thunderbolts of your true nature without wearing gloves and packing a light snack.

SCORPIO Sleep through the weekend unless you want to move into a transition you're not ready for which will make your entire neighborhood laugh.

GEMINI Be realistic about the best way to spend the holidays, which in your case is watching cartoons alone in a dark movie theater.

SAGITTARIUS The key to your success is stuck behind the seat of one of the vehicles you were in last summer.

CANCER Dwell on the past until you can hardly see, then integrate some really good pizza.

CAPRICORN Face it, your big chance was yesterday, and it's gone.

LEO Resist the temptation to be the pompous narcissist you are or nobody will even fake liking you.

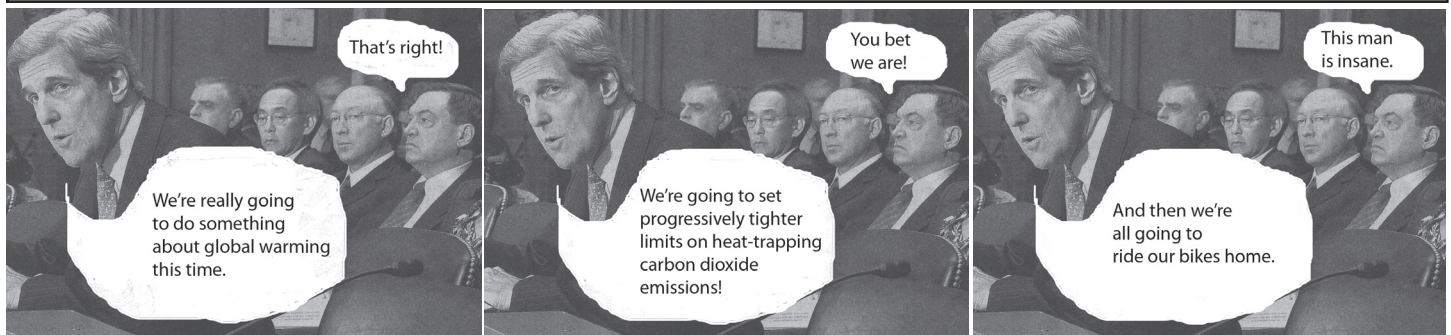
AQUARIUS Sometimes it is best to appreciate that your present circle of acquaintances manages to be extraordinarily polite when you are in the room.

VIRGO Take the long way to the pool hall this time and bring a gun, but keep lightness and love in your heart.

PISCES You've achieved the point in your life where disappointment is the most reliable element.



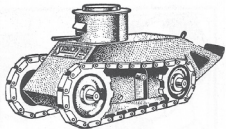
We Can't Draw Comics by Franz Toast



HOT, NAKED CARGO HEADED FOR GOOD TIME IN NEVADA

By Madge N. That

State officials recently acknowledged that radioactive Bevatron debris, which is carefully and lovingly covered up as it travels through Berkeley's sensitive residential streets, is then completely uncovered at the foot of University Avenue in preparation for a what is being described as a pleasure trip to Nevada.



THIS VEHICLE was considered in the planning of the Bevatron deconstruction, but would have attracted too much attention on local streets.

State officials would not comment on the nature of the trip to Nevada, but suggested that the cargo might simply be attending a convention, or enjoying a little well-deserved vacation.

"The Bevatron served the community well," stated a University spokesperson



THESE BLOCKS, which are tastefully covered during their journey through Berkeley, abandon their covering once they hit the Seabreeze Market and cavort naked all the way to Nevada.

who acknowledged being greatly relieved at avoiding having the structure given landmark status, which would have kept the radioactive material in place rather than enjoying a road trip.



THE BEVATRON would have made a nice ice-skating rink if it wasn't, well, hot.

"Think of it as simply a change of pace with an appropriate change of clothes," suggested



THESE NOTICES are thoughtfully designed to avoid the creation of pointless public alarm.

one state official asked about the disappearance of the tarps on the traveling cargo. "You wouldn't wear the same thing to stroll around campus that you'd wear to, say, Las Vegas."

State officials insisted that the cargo was "hot" only in the sense that it was eager to party.

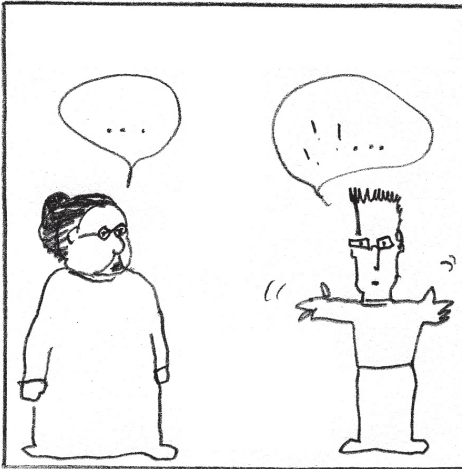
"The Bevatron was nice, but it was weak-focusing," stated one official. "We hope to replace it with something more macho."

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Next Issue: Flexing Calf Muscles 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:

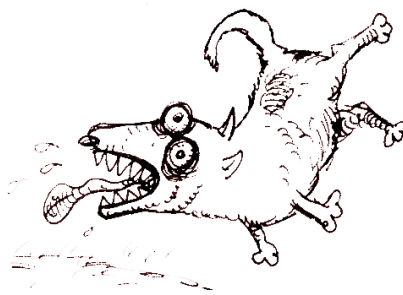


Pepper Spray Times
1970 San Pablo Ave. #4
Berkeley, CA 94702
cdenney@igc.org
www.caroldenney.com

Pepper Spray Times Staff

Editor.....Grace Underpressure
Art Director.....Egon Schiele
Comics.....Don D. Ferrera
Staff.....May B. Knott, Shirley Eugest,
Lena Deeter, Sara Moaney, Franz Toast,
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory,
Madge N. That, 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. Plagiarize wildly; donations gladly accepted.

* King Lear

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.