

# Pepper Spray Times



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

"..Where's the roll? Where's the roll?!"\*

Vol. XVII No. 10

## Bay Bridge Chicken Leading in Polls

By Rudy Day

The Bay Bridge Chicken that fouled up traffic in early September near the San Francisco Bay Bridge Toll Plaza would get both the Democratic and Republican nominations if they were held today according to a recent poll.

"And the Green Party," added one pollster with confidence. "People love this little guy."

Political observers agreed, noting that since the chicken is female the women's vote was probable across all recorded demographic categories.

Oakland Animal Services officials were dubious about the chicken's ambitions.

"She's kind of low-key," one staff member said on condition of anonymity. "She gets along great with the others, but she's not much of a glad-hander."

Political observers agree that the Bay Bridge Chicken's stand against automobiles might be popular in the Green Party.



THIS CHICKEN SWEARS that it has no political agenda and was not trying to replicate Tiananmen Square protesters in its standoff with cars at the Toll Plaza but has garnered impressive support from both parties.

"There's a possibility that her strong stand for pedestrians might take hold in any party," offered one political observer. "It is way more radical than the bike protesters."

"And if it was inspired by Tiananmen Square, she'll go viral," nodded another electoral expert. "She has phenomenal personal brand."

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## California Is Sinking But Nobody Cares

### Snotty, Entitled State Residents Don't Deserve Any Sympathy



CALIFORNIANS RICHLY DESERVE having stuff like this happen to them because they are so full of themselves with all their surfboards and stuff.

By Annie Nigma

NASA confirmed that California is sinking, but reassured the nation that it was nothing to worry about.

"Nobody likes California," stated NASA Administrator Lauren Worley. "The rest of the nation is kind of enjoying watching them over-pump their groundwater and ruin the state's underground aquifers' storage capacity."

"Bunch of surfers and stoners," agreed another NASA administrator, Charles Bolden. "After the rest of the nation is done having a good laugh, Nevada will be beachfront property. It's all going to work out fine."

Mark Cowin, head of the California department of water resources, said laughing at California is unfair, although he acknowledged that water pumping is playing a role in buckling roads and bridges.

"The drought is playing a role in this," he said in an annoyed tone. "We can't just tell people to stop pumping water."

NASA scientists, who issued a report confirming the sinking, agreed that telling anything to Californians is a waste of time.

"They've been worried about earthquakes, but they're causing this structural damage themselves," laughed one scientist helplessly. "Buckling roads, cracked canals, collapsed houses-- I wish this wasn't so fun for the rest of us."

"I know," agreed another scientist. "It's embarrassing, but I can't wait to see what happened to Tomorrowland."

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## Canadian Government Suspends Folksinger/Scientist For Singing

By C. D. Boidie

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper denied having any role in the recent suspension of folksinger and migratory bird expert Tony Turner from his job at Environment Canada after writing and singing a song critical of Harper's policies, but pointed out that folksingers, as a rule "belong in jail."



FOLKSINGERS SHOULD KNOW BETTER than to criticize hard-working conservative politicians over some piddling polar bears and migratory birds who don't vote anyway.

"They're very nasty people," he stated at a recent electoral event. "They sing at the drop of a hat, they're often off-key, and they clog up the hallway with instrument cases."

"You can't get them to stop once they start singing," agreed another Conservative Party representative. "You'd have to set the house on fire to get them to go home."

The New Democratic Party leader Thomas Mulcair reluctantly agreed.

"Folksingers used to know their place," he stated. "They used to wait until the wee hours and just mumble in the back of a bar, which nobody minded. Now it's getting out

of control."

Experts agreed that between Turner's "Harperman" ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ei50lM6ab1c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ei50lM6ab1c)) and Shelley Posen and Ian Robb's comic video "There's Always Money for a War" ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ahVfJGqjXs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ahVfJGqjXs)) it's clear that folksingers need to be mindful of the potential for scewing up Conservative prospects in the upcoming election.

"We could just jail them until after October 19th," suggested one expert, "but it would seriously strain the prison system."

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# ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

**Dear Lena,** I just heard that Shell Oil has decided to quit drilling in the arctic. Aren't they being a little hasty? I think we really need that oil and sacrificing a few fish to get it shouldn't get in the way.

Dear reader, I couldn't agree more. It's time for us all to send little postcards of support and encouragement to Shell Oil and tell those fussy fish where to go or to join SeaWorld where they can learn something useful like how to jump through sparkling hoops on cue.

**Dear Lena,** I've whittled down my belongings to a couple changes of socks and underwear, but I'm having trouble with the books and art supplies. No matter what I do I can't fit them all in two square feet. Got some suggestions?

Dear reader, contact the previous Berkeley Library Director who can help you get rid of all those books. The art supplies you need to learn to balance on your head.

**Dear Lena,** I'm disappointed that the new crop of university students is a bunch of drunks. Shouldn't they be studying or at least running around playing football?

Dear reader, you're missing the entire point of going to college which is not just about passing tests and knowing the names of mountains. Try to imagine trying to get through life not knowing where to vomit.

**Dear Lena,** I really loved the Republican debates but I'm having trouble figuring out what they have to do with policy. Is it too much to ask to have debates with a little bit of substance?

Dear reader, you could ask, but you'd be taking all the fun out of the American electoral process which does involve a lot of guesswork about how a candidate will actually govern the country. It's part of the fun to study the vast array of available cliché's like tea leaves.

*Ask Lena matters of grave import or annoying trivia, which is equally important, at [cdenny@igc.org](mailto:cdenny@igc.org).*

# Chancellor Dirks Says Being Fenced In Makes Him Feel Much Safer

By Nick DeBumper

UC Berkeley's chancellor says the new fence around his official residence wasn't his idea, but he really likes it.



UC CHANCELLOR Dirks knows the chickenwire is aesthetically deficient, but don't worry because a bigger, better, more expensive fence is on the way.

Dirks responded that "protesters" had at times "either attempted to or succeeded

"It was UCPD's idea," he said. "But I don't know why we didn't think of it sooner. Chickenwire may not be the perfect aesthetic choice, but it does the job."

Critics objected that the fence impedes the public's ability to enjoy the campus, which is open to the public and built with public money.

UCPD spokesperson Lt. Marc De-



NOBODY NEEDS TO get anywhere near this new chancellor because he already knows what you want and if he doesn't it's not important.

in gaining entry and disrupted the chancellor and his family during time that is not appropriate", a claim that members of the University Professional and Technical Employees, a union of UC communications workers admitted was partially true.

"We knocked on his door," stated Tanya Smith, former president of UPTE's Berkeley chapter. "We wanted to talk to him."

Lt. DeCoulode acknowledged the police response to the union's door-knocking, but stated that the response was appropriate.

"Who knows what that union wanted," he stated. "They're lucky they weren't shot."

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# This Year's Drunk UC Students Beat All Previous Records!

By Doc Trinarie

University of California at Berkeley is boasting a record year of drunk students according to a recently released Berkeley Police Department (BPD) report.

"We've far surpassed every previous year," stated BPD's Steve Rego, an officer with the Berkeley Police Department for 21 years. "We're counted 423 arrests and citations over the first two weeks of school."

"Public intoxication is hard to fit into your schedule," agreed one new freshman student. "But serious vomiting really helps those abs."

This year's 29% increase in overall arrests and citations over the prior year is impressive also for its sharp increase in the record numbers of minors in possession of alcohol and fake IDs.

"These kids are changing the game," noted Rego, pointing out that the department report documented "long lines at bars and restaurants, large house parties, streakers, raucous revelers, parties on roof tops, shoulder tapping, minors buying or attempting to buy alcohol and heavy pedestrian foot traffic around fraternities, sororities and the



DRUNKEN STUDENTS' hard work has paid off in a record-breaking number of arrests and citations making a mockery of all the shiny little public health brochures.

outlying areas of the university."

"That's pretty much the case," acknowledged one local sorority sister. "We are determined to keep the drinking culture intact. Otherwise we'd just stay home and take MOOCs."

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VOMITING at its best inspires new styles and new records for a proud student body.





# Special - Critics' Review of the Spirited Republican Candidates' Debate

Grace Underpressure, Editor:

*The Pepper Spray Times offers this quick review of the performances of the Republican candidates' September debate in the hope of helping our thoughtful readers sort the crowded field with the assistance of some of England's most articulate critics.*

**Donald Trump:** turning the show into a black-draped harlequinade conjured out of a dressing-up box and laden with gratuitous business argot, focused on powdered wigs and shells of costume dangled from on high.

**Ben Carson:** if it was perhaps not the critical darling he might have hoped for, Untouchable, his sociopolitically-minded debut piece for the Royal Ballet which premiered in March, was rapturously received by Covent Garden audiences.



REPUBLICANS went for the throat with sound bites and clichés flying.

**Jeb Bush:** the production may have been heavy-

handed, but every phrase of the music floated. (Salzburg's Vienna Philharmonic under Dan Ettinger seemed plodding in comparison.



**Marco Rubio:** his coiled, lolling, muscular steps have an intensely feral energy and can turn on a sixpence between blazing with anger, effervescent



REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES thrilled the nation with brilliant arias.

ing with celebratory fervour, or radiating abject despair.

**Scott Walker:** though he took a little while to get his voice moving with total freedom, Walker didn't disappoint. He delivered that first-act aria, L'espoirrenaitdansmonâme, with easy mastery of its coloratura, and balanced that against his unadorned sincerity in the most famous number of all, J'ai perdu mon Eurydice.



**Carly Fiorina:** a protégé of the great Renata Scotto, sings the dippy heroine Elvira with all her mentor's questing intelligence. Warm and easy in her top register, she phrases sensitively, shaping the line into expressive meaning and colouring words with imagination. Her Mad Scene in Act 2 was exquisitely done, as was the miraculous (if implausible) recovery of her senses that ensues.

**Ted Cruz:** there's not a glimmer here of Cruz as the doomed outsider, scarily different from the other guys, mysterious and alluring, predatory and dangerous, and neither do we sense Cruz's decline from de-

cent ordinary bloke into half-crazed monomaniac. There's no intensity, no violence, no sex, no transgression.

**Mike Huckabee:** seen as an Anna Magnani figure in sombre puritanical black. Quite what lunar cult he leads is left unexplained and it seems inconceivable that he could have concealed two pregnancies over five years, but the concept is broadly effective.

**Rand Paul:** arrestingly baroque and expressionist in character. Sometimes contradictory events, dreams and reality bleed into one another, while grinding discords yield to gentle neo-Baroque madrigals, only to be obliterated by military marches and Viennese waltzes.



**John Kasich:** a lot of windy poetic posturing that fails to add any flesh

BRILLIANT COLORATURA distinguished Carly Fiorina's winning performance at the Republican debate.

to the characters' motives, experience or background. The end result is so opaque and navel-gazing as to seem merely a bit silly.



**Chris Christie:** the orchestration embraces the distinctive sonorities of the pub band: cheap electric guitar, wheezing accordion

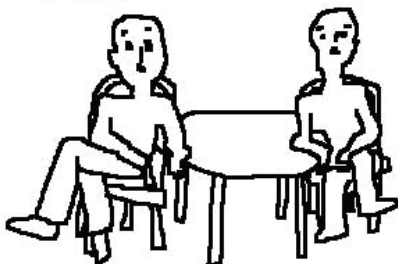
and penny-whistling tenor recorder and piccolo. It's music that looks in different directions: I only wish that Christie had avoided the post-modernist cliché of pushing his soprano into a hysterical top register where words vanish.

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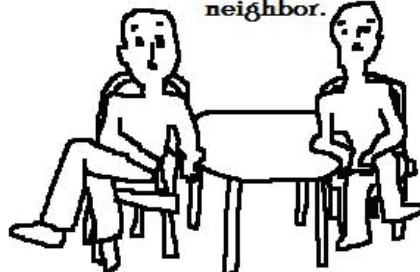
## We Can't Draw Comics

by Franz Toast

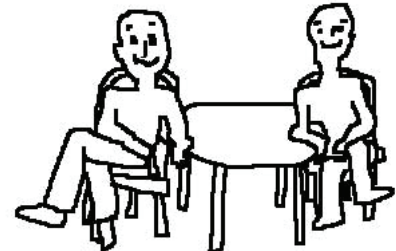
My kid's teacher has to move - another rent increase.



That's terrible. Same thing happened to my neighbor.



So! Let's build some more high-end condos! Sounds good!



# BHS Stop Harassing Asks Council's Help - Told to Take a Number



THESE YOUNG WOMEN JUST don't understand that whatever they say comes out sounding like blah blah blah blah blah.

By Polly Juana Cracker

The group formed by Berkeley High School (BHS) students to stop sexual harassment at school hoping for the Berkeley City Council's help was told to wait for the School Board to do something or other.

"We're disappointed," stated one member of the group. "We endure this mistreatment every day."

BHS Stop Harassing brought the issue to the attention of the federal government, which launched a civil rights investigation into the claims. A 2015 report by Equal Rights Advocates surveyed 116 Bay Area school districts concluded that "harassment based on sex is still a common and harmful



SOME WOMEN JUST don't understand how distracting they are to boys and refuse to take responsibility for causing disruption and unruliness in young men.

phenomenon in K-12 schools, and it has a particularly negative impact on girls."

One Berkeley High teacher confessed that everybody was scrambling to figure out how to respond.

"Our dress code suggestions to the young women was a complete bust," he said, and then turned red and ran away.

School board President Judy Appel dismissed suggestions that the board wasn't doing enough stuff about BHS harassment. "We formed a *committee*," she pointed out emphatically to this PST reporter. "We made a *pamphlet*."

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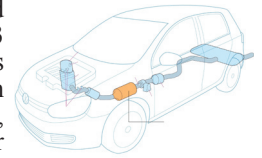
# Volkswagen's Innovative Software Panned by EPA

By Beale E. Viewmee

German automaker Volkswagen acknowledged that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was correct when it accused the automaker of deliberately evading pollution tests, but protested that it was being misjudged.

"These are old standards," stated Volkswagen's red-faced chief executive Martin Winterkorn. "We assume our engineers were simply attempting to move toward an enhanced, disruption-based system such as is popularized in Silicon Valley."

Winterkorn agreed to set aside \$7.3 billion to address the eleven million affected vehicles, and apologized for the company's willingness to program cars to sense when emissions were being tested and switch systems to simulate compliance with EPA standards.



NOT EVERYBODY can appreciate the genius of bypassing fussy regulations which hold back progress.

"It was wrong," stated Winterkorn. "But it was genius."

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Next Issue: Makeup tips for your fish with celebrities!

## THE ADVENTURES OF THE CENTER FOR ECOIDIOTCY

by Juan Nathan Undergod

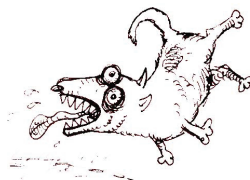


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\*King Henry VI Part 2

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