

All hail the...

...the labionasal issue ...



Hepper Spray Times

August 2008



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

"..your bum is the greatest thing about you..."*

Vol. X No. 8

PUBLIC SAVED FROM BALLOONS

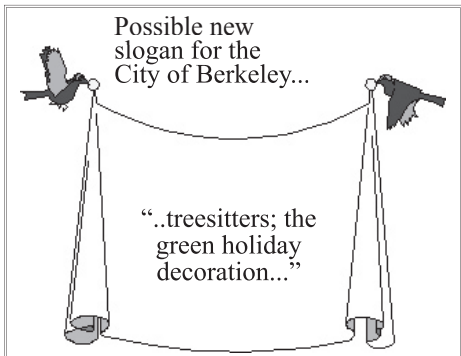
UC Captain Beckford Destroys Potentially Lethal Balloons with Manly Overhead Ballpoint Pen Strike; Onlookers Swoon with Admiration

By Maureen DeFrezzer

University of California Police Captain Guillermo Beckford thrilled onlookers at the stadium tree-sit by almost singlehandedly wrestling a large, threatening bunch of circus balloons to the ground and stabbing them with a



UNSUSPECTING MEMBERS of the public were closely followed by terrorist balloons which, without police intervention, could easily have distributed tasteless tofu across the landscape.



Possible new slogan for the City of Berkeley...

"..treesitters; the green holiday decoration..."

ballpoint pen, leaving the battleground scattered with small, wet pieces of colored rubber.

"We came from Truckee to see this," said a uniform-clad group of female basketball players near the barricades. "We feel so fortunate we saw the \$700,000 police action in person. We have a more tolerant attitude toward balloons in Truckee, but the confrontation was very exciting."

Tree-sit supporters claimed that the police were unnecessarily brutal to the balloons, which were apparently attending their first protest and "didn't deserve to die", according to one tear-stained witness who plans to file a complaint.

Balloons rely on public sympathy as cover for their misdeeds, according to law enforcement experts.

"We used to take a softer view," admitted one officer. "We used to use an underhand strike, for instance, instead of the overhead with the pen, but our Homeland Security training is really paying off."

"It was no accident that the balloons

SUSPECTS STILL AT LARGE



THE PUBLIC should be on the alert for suspects that escaped the police barricades and are still at large, armed, and attempting to share unauthorized food without proper permits. The balloons are believed to be in league with the tomatoes alleged to be causing digestive illnesses nationwide.

went down," nodded another officer. "We may be out of shape, and these tree-sitters may have made fools of us for nearly two years, but no balloon is going to get the best of us and get away with it."

Nearby members of the public agreed that they felt much safer knowing the balloons were dead.

"We understand that they thought what they were doing was right," stated one neighbor adjusting some flowers near a small shrine. "We admire their spirit."

"And we pray for their souls," added another neighbor signing a sympathy card for the balloons' families, which will be holding a joint memorial services near the threatened oak grove. "Balloons just need guidance, and instead of being a threat to public safety, they can be a source of joy."

* * * * *



"OH CAPTAIN MY CAPTAIN" chanted the public as UC Captain Beckford bravely cornered, captured, and swiftly dispatched a vicious bunch of balloons attempting to airlift supplies to terrorist treesitters.

ASK THE EXPERTS



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, I heard that after the UC Police put up the fourth fence around the treesitter near Memorial Stadium another treesitter managed to sneak in and go up a tree. I'm kind of worried about the officers' morale. Should I bake them a cake?

Dear reader, what a lovely idea. Unfortunately, if you go anywhere near the treesitter with anything remotely edible, you are risking arrest for...something or other. Bring them a lovely gift basket of soaps and summer gloves instead, and be careful not to pack a cucumber sandwich by mistake.

Dear Lena, I'm trying to get on the right side of the BRT bus-only lanes issue, but both sides are very appealing. I can't make up my mind. What should I do?

Dear reader, if you wait long enough, you won't have to decide. Nobody will be able to afford a bus or a car in the very near future, and this debate will seem silly. We need to begin considering horse-only lanes if anyone can still afford the hay. Research is currently underway to make sure a strain of horse which eats miscanthus is available.

Dear Lena, I want some of that Aquatic Park sludge to throw at my mean neighbor. Can I get some?

Dear reader, I hope so, because I want some to caulk my garage walls. According to experts, who are always right, this stuff can do anything. The ducks down at Aquatic Park swear by it as an effective skin softener and conditioner.

Ask Lena for advice about skin care, sky-diving, and expensive shoes at cdenney@igc.org.

HOW TO DEFEND YOURSELF AGAINST BALLOONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

By Lou Zinhibitions

Balloons are natural to a conventional urban landscape, but can be dangerous. Here are some tips for citizens who encounter balloons by chance which will increase the ability to co-exist with them safely, and help create an atmosphere of tolerance and community cooperation.

DO NOT TALK TO THE BALLOONS. Balloons are gregarious by nature, and enjoy being outside in lovely weather. If one approaches you do not engage it in conversation. It will inevitably launch into a discussion of the subprime mortgage crisis and you'll never get home.

DO NOT ALLOW THE BALLOONS TO BUY YOU LUNCH. Balloons' legendary generosity comes with strings. You may enjoy a leisurely lunch with a brilliant conversationalist, but imagine all the email messages you'll have backed up by the time it's over.



Balloons rarely have **BALLOONS** are a clear sense of the **not your friend.** importance of other people's schedules, and will take time for granted without proper precaution. They also are notoriously bad tipsters.

DO NOT STARE UPWARD AT THE BALLOONS. Balloons love to cause massive incidents of neck strain in people they don't know and can't remember in court. If you see a balloon drifting skyward, look quickly at the ground and study it, or risk serious injury.

DO REPORT BALLOON SIGHTINGS TO THE LOCAL POLICE. The police are doing their best to organize against the



MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL almost carried this off to the trash since it looked so much like a styrofoam box lunch for twelve instead of a design for a museum.



IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY you will see balloons of mass destruction lurking in the trees above the heads of these unsuspecting citizens, threatening to carry them off or drop cookies on their heads.

threat of balloons, but need the public's assistance. Call the police immediately if you spot a balloon, so that the police can radio for assistance, follow its path, and contact UC Captain Beckford, who has expert training in both balloons and volleyballs.

* * * * *

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Frequently Asked Questions Concerning New Cell Phone Laws



Q: When do the new wireless telephone laws take effect?

A: Now, but in a neighborhood with a lot of gunfire, the enforcement might take some time.

Q: What is the difference between the two laws?

A: The first prohibits all drivers from using a cell phone while driving, but allows adults to use a hands-free device. Drivers under the age of 18 may NOT use a wireless telephone or hands-free device while operating a motor vehicle unless it's an emergency, or you're really late, or you thought you were dialing the police and you got your boyfriend or the pizza joint instead.

Q: What if I need to use my telephone during an emergency, and I do not have a hands-free device?

A: Yes, start your list now of all the ways in which emergencies occur in your driving life which do not involve your car being on fire, smashed into a phone pole, or headed the wrong direction on the freeway, like the boyfriend and pizza joint stuff.

Q: What are the fines like if I'm caught and convicted?

A: The base fine for the first offense is \$20 and increases to \$50 for subsequent convictions. This means people with money will rack up these fines without consequence and wear them like a badge of honor. Expect the fashionable to collect tickets and make them into colorful hats.

Q: Will I receive a point on my driver's license if I'm convicted for a violation of the wireless telephone law?

A: Interesting that you are familiar with the point thing.

Q: Will the conviction appear on my driving record?

A: Yes, but they're going to let you skate on that point thing.

Q: Will there be a grace period when motorists will only get a warning?

A: You grew up in the suburbs, right? On the other hand, a citation is always issued at the discretion of the officer based upon his or her determination of the most appropriate remedy for the situation, whether you are hot, whether or not he or she has a ticket quota or something better to do, etc.

Q: Are passengers affected by this law?

A: Only if they are driving.

Q: Do these laws apply to out-of-state drivers whose home states do not have such laws?

A: Oh, sure. And if you're from the moon, you only observe those annoying moon laws.

Q: Can I be pulled over by a law enforcement officer for using my handheld wireless telephone?

A: Yes, an officer can pull you over and kick your stupid butt, but they don't need an excuse. You people from the suburbs wouldn't know that.

Q: Does the new "hands-free" law prohibit you from dialing a wireless telephone while driving or just talking on it?

A: The new law does not prohibit dialing. Go ahead and dial. Then someone will answer the phone and you get to hear them say, hello? hello? which is really fun.

Q: Will it be legal to use a Blue Tooth or other earpiece?

A: Yes, however you cannot have BOTH ears covered with mechanisms, duct tape, or pudding.

Q: Does the new "hands-free" law allow drivers 18 and over to text page while driving?

A: You can text away. Text the whole stupid Declaration of Independence if you want to. This law allows you to cook chili if you can figure out how.

Q: Can my parents give me permission to allow me to use my wireless telephone while driving?

A: Sure they can. They're a couple of idiots, right? How else could you have asked a question like that – sure, just get permission from them and everything will be just fine.

Q: If I have my parents or someone age 25 years or older in the car with me, may I use my wireless telephone while driving?

A: Yes, especially if they are beating you over the head with it.

Q: May I use the hands-free feature while driving if my car has the feature built in?

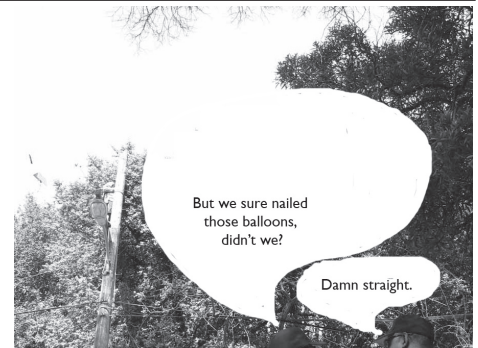
A: Who knows? After all, maybe you're just singing to the radio, or having a chat with god. Once you're in court with this thing, all that's going to matter is how many martinis the judge had at lunch.

Q: Can a law enforcement officer stop me for using my hands-free device while driving?

A: We're all dying to watch them try. For drivers under the age of 18, this is considered an essential part of driving – much more important than a silly steering wheel.

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We Can't Draw Comics by Franz Toast

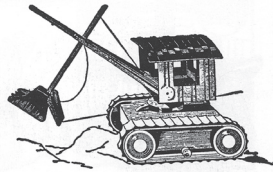


PUBLIC SPEWS TOXIC SLUDGE IDEAS

By Lovett R. Leavett

The Berkeley City Council's request to test the toxic sludge dredged up from Aquatic Park for possible re-use has ignited the imaginations of the public, suggestions from which have left large piles of unopened mail in the City Hall mailroom.

"The creation of a possible sound berm to reduce highway noise is one of the more tame suggestions," stated one



of the temporary employees hired to assist with the mounds of postcards and letters. "We

MOVING THE SLUDGE are trying to might be a fun communi-sort the printy project with lots of col-able from the orful balloons...no, come unprintable, to think of it, there better and the politi- be no balloons. cal tempera-

ture in City Hall is such that the obscenity standards are relatively flexible."

Approximately 5,387 letters have called for the toxic sludge to be used to cover up the last several years of public art still "causing blight" in certain areas, according to the employee.

"It's a popular option, and many of the downtown merchants are attracted to the idea. Imagine trying to set up shop near one of those sculptures, and listening to the dismay of people passing by all day long."

Other letter writers suggested storing the toxic sludge in various public of-

Next Issue: Nailbiting 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.

We appreciate those who understand that satire is serious business.

*Measure for Measure

CALPRIORITYMAIL



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2080 Addison Street # 4200
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Dear Classmate,

Time is running out to join your fellow grads who have made a commitment to ignoring the insane way the univeristy spends public money -- please send your gift today!

We can put your name on a building, keep your contribution quiet in case you're afraid of losing the respect of your neighbors, or tuck in some proprietary research on behalf of your oil company.

No matter how you choose to support the university, your gift will be squandered. We can't guarantee how it will be used, but trust us when we tell you that our budget for kicking around treesitters is pretty damn big.

Please act now with a gift of \$450, \$300, or \$150,000,000,000. We've already raised much more than that, but we just wanted to let you know that we know where you live.

Go Bears!

Class of 1978 30th Reunion Gift Committee

P.S. Don't miss the chance to get your gift in before we cut down the stupid trees.

fices, predominantly that of the mayor, but including the office of the chancellor of the University of California, the Planning Department, and various city councilmembers.

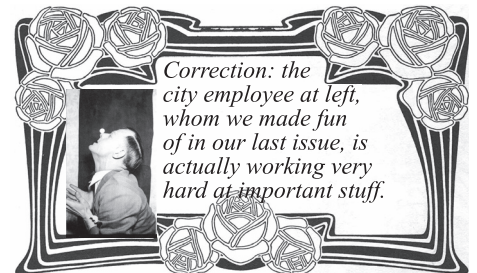
"We had some ingenious suggestions for trying to make money off the toxic sludge," commented another mailroom employee. "There's a local group offering to turn it into facial masques provided they can convince the public that it is good for them. They figure if the University of California can get away with promoting the use of corn for bio-fuels with half the world starving, they probably can find someone to buy this stuff and pack it on their faces."

Experts agree that there are lots of marketing possibilities.

"We could package it as treesit-

ter poop and sell it to the tree-hugger crowd," stated one local expert. "But the best marketing would be based on the Berkeley City Council's national reputation for being full of, well, the obvious. Provided the sludge is useful as fertilizer, there's probably a lot of Marine recruiters who would snap it right up."

* * * * *



Correction: the city employee at left, whom we made fun of in our last issue, is actually working very hard at important stuff.