"Sleep is pain's easiest salve, and doth fulfill
All offices of death, except to kill."
--John Donne, "The Storm: to Mr. Christopher Brooke,"
*Letters to Several Personages* (1651)

**ORANGE COUNTY POLICE BOSS WANTS MALL WITHOUT BENCHES, GRASS**

**BASSETT CALLS 'OPEN PUBLIC SPACES' HAVEN FOR 'CRIMINAL ABUSE'**

Street people are front page news in the May 8th *Santa Cruz Sentinel* (or *Sentinel*, as it styles itself). Summoning the familiar spectacle of goblin destroyers of downtown businesses, "not the truly homeless," the long-time trollbashing tabloid once more blames that the boogeyman is here and easy to recognize. It's that old guy with the beard, that young kid with the spiked hairdo, the pothead with long hair, those grungy-looking women in the park: all that's evil and unkempt in our fair city.

Clues to the current police department policy to drive the homeless and those demonstrating against the sleeping ban out of Santa Cruz can be found in the attitudes and public statements of police chief Jack Bassett (*Sentinel*, 5/8/90). Bassett's policy of stealing homeless survival gear and jailing them for sleeping was a tactic, the "lock-em-up" lawman apparently used freely in his previous work in southern California.

Such tactics may go over in Disneyland. But here, much of Santa Cruz's business stems from a tourist trade that is drawn to the gypsy-hippie-countercultural reputation of the town. And another large chunk comes from the University. Some anxious merchants, understandably shaken by a postquake drop in sales, are ready to follow Bassett's lead and sacrifice the town's ecology, and the constitutional rights of its poorer citizens to reassure and please "prospective tenants." This would be a serious mistake.

The homeless and street community of Santa Cruz wants to help rebuild the town. We propose:

1. Involve the homeless and the street community in on-going discussion and negotiations.

2. Acknowledge and deal with the lack of locker space, toilet facilities, and camping area for the homeless downtown. Establish a task force to investigate this problem, involving all segments of the community. Deal with basic human necessities first.

3. Stop wasting police funds on harassment camping busts and petty victimless drug "crimes"—rechannel the funding to a campground/switchboard/laundromat located away from the downtown that would remove the mall as a focus for many.

4. Stop using police power as a substitute for human power: set up a civilian police review-and-policy board and a mediating committee to deal with ongoing problems.

5. Stop scapegoating homeless and street people and use their skills, intelligence, and vision join the effort to remake the downtown into an area we and our children can enjoy, an area for everyone—not just those with money.
HENNIG’S HOMELESS HIT SQUAD STRIKES TWICE IN FOUR HOURS
NEW ATTACK ISSUES NINE TICKETS, TAKES TWO HOMELESS TABLES

SCPD sleepbusters rousted sleeping demonstrators at the Homeless Table early this morning and doled out nine tickets ending a week-long lull in homeless harassment at the vigil table outside the post office. Mild police behavior and court-sponsored mediation efforts (see following story) had prompted some optimists to conclude that the police department was responding sensibly and humbly to the end of the Interfaith Satellite Shelter program April 30th. Since then, dozens of homeless people previously in the program have found themselves on the streets without shelter and without legal protection after 11 p.m.

What followed the nine "Sleeping" tickets, however, was an unexpected crescendo of police repression, which some claimed was part of a "clean-up campaign" co-ordinated with ongoing "Visionquest Santa Cruz" hearings on the "street people problem." Around 8 a.m., when seven of the nine ticketed some hours before were over at the courthouse getting court dates for earlier "camping" tickets, the second wave hit. Sgt. "Hobohunter" Hennig and a squad of 3 uniformed thieves confronted two newcomers, Teddybear Tim and Jingles Jason.

Better known in recent days for his afternoon interrogations of teenagers across from the Transit Center, Hennig has been gaining notoriety for issuing dog-on-the-mail and possession-of-tobacco citations to punks, minors, and street people at the south end of the mall. This morning, however, Hennig was in search of his traditional prey: the homeless demonstrators.

Teddybear and Jason told the city-funded geargrabbers that they were watching the table while the old-timers were at court getting arraignment dates. "Want a ticket for Public Nuisance?" threatened the Hobohunter. Jason: "no." "Are you gonna leave?" continued Santa Cruz's own Clint Eastwood. "Can I tell the others at the courthouse to come and pick up their stuff." "No," concluded Hennig, thus revealing his purpose was not to "clean up" the area, but to hurt and harass those whose only possessions were at the Table. As the two dispersed on Hennig's order, the sour-faced sergeant and his crew hauled off all the homeless blankets and backpacks as well as Homeless Table #9 and its political literature and petitions. Why?--when the cops had spent some time snapping photos of the area. Why not!--when D.A.s, judges, city councilpeople, and police collude to substitute gun-and-badge for Constitution.

Several hours later when those whose clean clothing and sleeping bags had been ripped off were at the police station seeking to make a formal complaint, Hennig returned to the Table area, seized more gear and removed Homeless Table #10 (a small cardboard box) from Stormin' Norman.

Hennig's personal message to the homeless seemed to be: "See, you have no constitutional rights. I can take what I want, when I want, from whom I want--and there isn't a damn thing you can do about it." Hennig's immediate superior, Lt. Dunbaugh declined to speak with the men trying to file complaints. Their stolen possessions join that of others seized in earlier raids Jan 25, April 7, and April 17, still gathering dust in police lockup.
(The following story was composed before the late Flash seizure of
the Homeless Table reached out pressroom.)

TICKETING SLOWS AS WORD OF JULY 4TH RALLY SPREADS

COPS AWAIT COURT ORDER TO RELEASE BEDROLLS AND BACKPACKS

Could sunny May days be bringing warmer hearts to the
ightly Sleepslicer squads? Has the well-publicised end of the
drop-in Satellite Shelter program (Channel 8, May 2 & 3) made the
"gag the gappers" Gang of 7 (City Council) a bit nervous about
their infamous no-sleep-for-the-homeless law? Has the increasing
backlog of Sleepcrime trials (15 held over from May 4 to May 10 in
Kelly's Courtroom C) increased the reluctance of the blueclad
slumberburglars to set in motion yet more meaningless court
appearances? Or has word of California Homeless Rights Week (July
1-6) when the 1st Pacific coast Convention of the Homeless is
slated to gather to decriminalize homelessness, provoked a pause in
the crazy gear-grabbing capers of the SCDP?

For whatever reason, police ticketing and, to some
extent, harassment has slowed at the 5+2-month long Homeless
Table vigil. The lull follows a weekend (April 29-May 1) of
daily threats to issue new "Public Nuisance" misdemeanor tickets,
which Officer "Let Me At 'em" Lunnen capped off by first
throttling to break a man's leg and then hogtying throwing him in
the back of a squadcar on top of two other prisoners in an arrest
for public intoxication.¹

On May 5, Jabberwocky Jay Green surrendered to
gendarmes to begin serving a weekend's prison sentence for
sleeping-without-a-house, given him by Commission "Whiff 'o Hope"
Watts in lieu of unserved community service.² Still staffing the
table, Boston Bob noted an apparent ceasefire in the Sleep
War. Quite a change from an April morning three weeks before,
when Officer "Backlash" Baker, already well-known for his
all-night pursuit, triple ticketing and arrest of longtime local
Storim' Norman, struck again. On the first of 5 raids within 12
hours that April 17th, Backlash ticketed 8 sleepers around
midnight. When asked by Rhodent where to sleep, Backlash
retorted, "Go find a hole and crawl into it."

¹ Angry with the dancing and drinking at the table, Lunnen
charged veteran "Let Me Be" Lee with drunk in public and numerous
add-on charges, witnesses claimed, because Lee insisted on
securing his bicycle and guitar before leaving the scene.
² Watts earned his sobriquet by his regular practice of dismissing
sleepcrime tickets early on, if the officer is not promptly in
court, by featherlight sentences to the Kitchenquest Criminals,
and by his humane conversion of 30+ hours of uncompleted
"community service" time to 2 days of jail.

Watts recently transferred another case of Jabberwocky
Jay's to Muni Court for new arraignment. In that case Jay
demanded a jury trial because he had been cited for "misdemeanor"
sleeping (6.36.050) punishable by a maximum of 6 months in jail
and $1,000 fine, and Watts declared he had a right to one and
ordered him rearraigned. In all previous cases, lie-a-beds
charged with 6.36.050 have had the charges reduced to an
infraction by the D.A. to avoid the time, expense, and
embarrassment; the same will probably happen to Jay.
Piles of homeless survival gear are still under police lock and key as "evidence" in Public Nuisance raids made Jan. 25, April 7, and April 17. "Pretty Bizarre," the Misdemeanor Queen*, has declined to order the release of the sleeping bags, clean clothes, and personal work tools being held. Kangaroo Courtmaster* Kelly has all but written the prosecution's scenario in the Jan. 25 case, upholding the constitutionality of the far-fetched "Public Nuisance" law. Kangaroo has also declined to call a halt to renegade blanket-busting, and refused to order the release of the lonely 400 lb. Homeless Table (#7) and its literature, still in the jug at press time.

Kangaroo's proposed deal to return clothing and sleeping gear to the homeless demonstrators on condition "it not reappear at the Table" was rejected by Paddywagon Pete and Jabberwocky Jay, who suggested there was no other safe and convenient place to store it. The 21 new lockers that have appeared behind the River St. mini-Shelter are not yet operational and will be reserved for those 15 still in the summer's scaled-down Satellite Shelter program, according to program director, Andrew Morin. Keystone Karen, culinary caretaker of A Free Meal, the successor to Calamity's Cupboard, said that an investigator from Kelly's court had asked about installing lockers at the nightly meal for use by folks without shelter.

Meanwhile back at the cop shop, Sgt. Hobohunter Hennig was confronted with an agreement between the public defender's office and the district attorney to let photos serve in place of the actual items seized. Retorted Hennig, "I can't release that stuff. It smells! That's part of our case that it's a public nuisance. Get a court order."

3 Known to the public as Patty Bazar, D.A. Supervisor for Misdemeanors. Repeated visits to her office have failed to move her to act on the extravagant demands by homeless demonstrators that they be allowed to wear clothing during the day and cover themselves with blankets at night.

4 Muni Court Judge Tom Kelly has a reputation as a fair-to-good trial judge, who considers 1st amendment claims carefully before dismissing them. He is hostile to defendants who refuse probation (as most Sleeping Ban and Kitchenquest protestors say they will do), often sentencing them to weeks of jailtime.

Coming Up in Street Shit Sheet #72: (This issue was thrown together in a hurry in time for tonight's Civic Auditorium City Council meeting on Downtown Redevelopment.) Next issue we hope to return to our regular features: Gobs of clippings, updates on the 4th of July Homeless Convention, the Zanotto's report, Drug Wars Against the Homeless, forgotten citizen power: Jury Nullification, and anything else that fits.
"To sleep! To sleep! The long bright day is done,
And darkness rises from the fallen sun.
To sleep! To sleep!
Whate'er thy joys, they vanish with the day;
Whate'er thy griefs, in sleep they fade away."

--Tennyson, The Foresters, Act 1, sc 3, Song.

MEMORIAL WEEKEND SLEEP-IN MAINTAINS NUMBERS DESPITE RAIN-OUT
YEAR’S LARGEST PROTEST SLUMBER LEFT UNMOLESTED BY POLICE

An organized protest against the recent step-up in police abuse against the Santa Cruz homeless May 26-27 cascaded into a second night of defiant camping Sunday as driving rains continued to pelt the city. Initially planned as a preliminary build-up to the First Homeless Congress/California Homeless Rights Week (July 1-8), the weekend demonstration against the city’s ancient 11 PM-8:30 AM Sleeping Ban became more urgent to locals in recent days for additional reasons (see following story).

Undaunted by the rainstorm throughout Saturday, demonstrators dragged their bags and blankets onto the covered entrance area to the main post office, casting an occasional glance at the newly erected and rain-soaked Homeless Table #14. By nightfall, extensive leafleting had brought new faces from as far afield as Berkeley. A reporter from the UCB anarchist newspaper Slingshot was just one of several out-of-towners to lay down bag and body with beleaguered locals. An unexpectedly tuneful trio of guitarists in tie-dye duds serenaded clumps of sleepy spectators with their own rendition of "Give Sleep a Chance."

Around 1 a.m., Bathrobespierre Robert and Gingersnap George, veteran chefs from the SWAP II (Soup Without A Permit) outlaw meals at the Town Clock, arrived with 10 gallons of hot tasty homemade vegie-rice soup to fortify thinly-insulated campers against the cold and the wet. Over 30 sleepers remained through the night, arrayed along the front wall of the post office.

Strangest of all, roving Sleepslayer squads, perhaps discouraged by the torrential rains and the large number of participants, declined to raid the encampment with their usual flurry of abusive wake-ups, tickets, and arrests. Officer Kern made a brief discrete appearance, reportedly seeking info on who stabbed Houndlover Helen L. (released from Dominican Hospital 5/27). The next day--on Sunday--Sgt. "Don't Fuck With Me" St. Onge made a brief surly appearance, demanding cleaner quarters.

But all in all police surveillance and harassment were minimal for the 4th largest Sleep-Out against the Sleeping Ban. (Larger were two Grateful Dead/Rainbow Family-swollen demonstrations last November and a UCSC Mega Sleep-in in February of 1989, all at the Town Clock.) Police discretion, sustained spirits (and continuing rain) moved folks to continue the criminal sleep-out for another night. Teddybear Tom reported another peaceful if raucous night at the post office, with postal employees politely requesting folks to vacate around opening time. Approached as human beings rather than homeless debris, the demonstrators complied willingly, leaving even Bathrobespierre to issue grudging words of praise to police for the first occasion on which they’d let a mass sleep-in downtown end without arrests.
LATE FLASH:
MADDOG MULLIGAN MOVES TO JAIL SLEEPERS: 10 DAYS FOR BOSTON BOB

Acting speedily to dispose of 18 camping trials in the absence of sidewalk shyster Grinning Ray Gruneich, acting Moni judge "Maddog" Mulligan, swiftly found the overwhelming majority guilty.

Paddywagon Pete, Gemstone Jeannie, Midnight Mike, and Stormin' Norman were quickly disposed of as Mulligan refused requests for a continuance.

The crime: falling into slumber within city limits without the appropriate middle-class trappings. The penalty: 10 days in jail for "Boston Bob" Hillman for 4 "camping" tickets as part of the 6 1/2 month vigil at the post office against the city's Sleeping Ban. Bob refused to go court-directed "labor," declined to pay a ransom, and expressed no interest in further bureaucratic attorney-judge discussions. As Paddywagon Pete put it, "It is not a crime to sleep." More sleepers, including Pete, are expected to join Bob behind bars as more nights produce more criminals.

NEW ASSAULTS ON SLEEPING BAN VIGIL FOLLOW CITY HALL ARREST
CITY ESCALATES WAR ON HOMELESS DEMONSTRATORS AT POST OFFICE

In the past few weeks, local courts and City Council tolerance toward six months of official police ticket-and-trash tactics at the Homeless Table prompted oldtimers there to increasing anger. Extensive personal property (blankets, clothing, birth certificates, private correspondence) ostensibly held as "evidence" of earlier "Public Nuisance" crimes has been gathering dust in police storage--some of it seized as early as January--with no relief from the courts. Police higher-ups apparently took this silence for sanction last week and launched into a new round of police outrages.

On Tuesday May 22, Gangmaster Wormhoudt instigated the arrest of local activist Bath-robespierre Robert at her Gang of 7 meeting after the long-winded activist tried to complete a speech past the 3 minutes mandated by her new Gag rule. In the wake of this blow, her armed Sleepbusters apparently began feeling their oats and struck on the street just eight hours later.

On two successive nights (May 23rd and May 24th), armed city wolf packs then made off with first Tables #12 and then #13, claiming they were enforcing the nineteenth century Public Nuisance law, but declining to issue any tickets. Past such "Nuisance" seizures had specifically exempted the taking of political tables and literature, for even in contumacious consciousness of the downtown high command, these items were vaguely connected with such unpleasant realities as "freedom of speech" and "freedom of assembly." No more, it seems! The raid against Table #13 took only the table and its literature, ignoring other items such as clothing that might have been declared "nuisanceware" in the past.

The "toughness against trolls" expeditions had additional rough edges. The May 22nd raid, coming on the heels of a torrential rainstorm, was preceded by a 4:30 a.m. rout of sleepers in the eaves of the post office. Homeless shelterseekers were ordered away in the dark and the drizzle. After the

1 Her official title is "Mayor Wormhoudt" though the renegade "Progressive," a one-time West Side community activist, has never actually been elected to that post, only to the Gang of 7 (City Council). There the mayorship, like other cherished prizes such as the right to speak without being arrested, is battled about from favorite to favorite in mutual self-congratulation. In recent months Wormhoudt has assumed the mantle of "peacemaker" but refuses to make peace with homeless activists to discuss the major issue of ticketing sleepers downtown.

2 Continuing a harassment practice they used April 17 and May 8 to seize homeless property and liberties when they took Tables 10, 11, and 12 and much else as well.
sleepfogged group had resettled some 30 or 40 feet away and tried to finish the night unmolested, police returned several hours later to declare Table #12 "abandoned."

Protesting, Jabberwocky Jay and Moonrise Mike stepped forward to take responsibility for the community property, but Bassett's Bulldogs refused to acknowledge them and hooked up the hapless Table to a tow chain. "Come and claim it!" quipped the merry motorized nightcrawlers as they dragged off the 900+lb. Table #12 and the adjacent desk, along with the usual haul of homeless clothing and possessions.

On the following night near dawn, the blue-bellied banditos returned with a new approach. Confronted with a protective cluster of sleepers near Table #13, they launched into an afterhours game of "ticket-and-take." After rewarding the groggy vigilers with half a dozen sleeping tickets, Officer "Lock-em-Up" Lunnen and others declared the new Table with its "We're Back!" sign a Public Nuisance.

Though Jabberwocky and Moonrise again rose to claim the wayward piece of furniture as their own community property, the pistol-packing pillowpinchers announced yet another change in the rules and hauled away the table anyway as "abandoned" and "evidence of a public nuisance." Some vigilers denounced the new police ruleshift as somehow "unfair" not to mention legally incomprehensible, but others just shook their heads in awe at the magnitude of the audacity of those lovable lawmen and wondered whether their creative campaign to drive the demonstrators crazy would fill the jails or the psych wards first.

Why the crackdown? Perhaps Bassett's bullyboys are just getting ready to "sterilize the streets" for the benefit of tourists during the upcoming Memorial Day Weekend. Or are they trying to score a few extra points with rednecks and paranoids among the voters for the upcoming June 5 primary?

H.U.F.F. POWWOW CALLS FOR DAILY CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY
INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS TO SUPPLEMENT UPCOMING MASS LAW SUIT

At a subsequent H.U.F.F. meeting Sunday, the two tough-but-tired Tablesitters dismissed subsequent criticism by roaming activist Loudmouth Leith Austin that they had been insufficiently eager in claiming 6-months-jail/$1000 fine Public Nuisance tickets

3 Though H.U.F.F. has made no official endorsements for the upcoming election, Bathrobespierre Robert's handy Smash-the-Sleepbusters Guidebook recommends voting for challenger Ed Frey against long-time activistbasher Art Danner, the current D.A. Danner spent tens of thousands running after "soup criminals" last year. This year, his department is running down free speech advocates at City Council (3 jury trials planned against Bathrobespierre and Loudmouth Leith Austin).

Danner is also seeking jail for Kitchenquest Santa Cruz demonstrators (whose sit-ins ultimately reestablished the nightly meal back of the River St. mini-shelter). His office wrote the Homeless Hit List back in March that resulted in illegal arrests of sleepers (which Danner lied about in a KSCO debate with Frey 5/23). Finally, he continues to favor separating homeless from their clothing and bedding (held as "evidence" for over 4 months) in the infamous Public Nuisance cases. Send this Primitive Politician out to pasture. Vote ED FREY FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY!
that city gunmen had brandished. Loudmouth expressed hope that recent lawyer interest in reclaiming homeless bedding seized and locked away in raid after raid over the last four months would put a legal damper on the deprivations of Sgt. Hennig's Hobohunters. (Hennig has shown unusual devotion in his determination to reduce independent homeless activists to shivering penitents, who will barter self-respect and principle to get their possessions returned and be left alone. So far with little success.)

Back at the courts, proceedings against Jabberwocky Jay and Linda the Lark for their January 26 "crime" of tending a public information table (Homeless Table #4) continued to crawl at a snail's pace with yet another hearing slated for June 6th. After stringing out things until the last possible moment, the D.A.'s office also announced new Public Nuisance actions against Midnight Mike Widdle, Paddywagon Pete Pascoe, and Jabberwocky Jay. On a parallel track, a defense team of attorneys headed by Moxie Margaret Marr quietly circulated the news that it was about file a civil Writ in Superior Court demanding return of the stolen property and an injunction against future seizures.

This pleased but did not satisfy the grumbling Bathrobespierre Robert who muttered it was about time that policeshy hysteres were finally nervous themselves up to reclaim seized merchandise for the victimized activists. Warning Homeless Tabluhters still looking for stolen laundry, Bathrobespierre urged homeless victims not to place much hopes in the decisions of judicial overseers. Better to mount a parallel series of legal claims against the city day after day, each day, to force open the jaws of the downtown juggernaut. Individuals could file daily claims for seized items in each harassment incident that would eventually end up in small-claims court where police officers at last could be called on to publicly defend their bizarre bag-stealing behavior.

Such an approach had already prompted swift release of homeless booty lifted by roaming Santa Barbara anti-sleep patrols in early May. (Recent judicial rights-wrecking by a Superior Court there has effectively demolished a 1986 compromise with the city. That agreement, reached after months of stormy protest and a nationwide "come to Santa Barbara/go to sleep/go to jail" campaign, allowed "sleeping but not camping." Activists are in their second month of a nightly encampment on the steps of their city hall to demand a new ordinance be written.)

Others, weary of endless "sleep trials," seizures, and gratuitous bullying by armed thugs, express no confidence in attorneys or lawsuits. Closer to the street and angrier at the new crackdown, these shadowy grumblers wondered what response short of chaining themselves to the Table or firebombing police cars might stop the latest extralegal blueshirt campaign to crush the 32-week Homeless Vigil.

Next Issue: A report on Linda the Lark's Uptown Homeless Table near the Metro, more ravings from the court of Maddog Mulligan, statewide update on the upcoming First Homeless Congress, and endless clippings, local poetry, and your letters (when they arrive!).

Apologies to Marvelous Mark and other homeless poets and proseslingers who submitted work yet to be published! Keep thumbing through the pages of future issues. Keep writing.
50c: pay up, or borrow and return.

Juggernaut George S.
from Sonoma visits
Santa Cruz and plots
decriminalizing sleep! —Felicia Dorothea Hemans, The Sleeper

IT'S ELECTION DAY! VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 15!
VOTE YES! ON E D F R E Y FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY!

inside:

Checkmate Raner out of the slammer

p. 3. The Street Sheet covers the May 31st demo

p. 5. Millenial Mark says his piece

p. 6. PRELIMINARY PRESS RELEASE FOR 4TH OF JULY DEMO

p. 9. Norse to City on A Hill on the Gog Rule; the May 31st demands

p. 10. Marimade Mory To the Gog of F... cont. below...

HENNIG RESUMES HARASSMENT OPERATIONS NEAR BOTH HOMELESS TABLES

FELONY "FLAG WAVING" AGAINST "CHECKMATE" RANER DROPPED

Four days after a crowd of fifty protesters demanded
Sgt. "Hobohunter" Hennig be suspended and retrained for excessive force against "Morpheus" Mike Hobson, the ticketslinging sergeant was back on the beat, resuming his self-appointed role as Grand Inquisitor and Bouncer of the Mall.

On Monday June 4th before noon, Hennig reportedly approached homeless activist "Roadside" Rodent near the bicycle rack next to the post office. Seeing Rodent's leather jacket suspiciously draped over one of the railings, the bum-busting lawman whipped out his citation book and nailed the criminal then and there. The charge: "abusing a public structure." Hennig's incisive analysis: "This is a bike rack, not a goddamned coat rack!" Justice goose-steps on!

Some hours later near Linda the Lark's Uptown Homeless Table, the Hobohunter with backup from Transient Trasher Central continued to keep the red brick planters safe from human sitters

p.11. Gingernap George on Vision Santa Cruz
p.12. Local services; Rubbah Brion on Camping Ban Defenses!

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Details of the demands of the May 31st March Against Police Brutality and corrections to the libelous smears of the Santa Cruz Urinal (aka the Sentinel) can be found in the flyer "What Really Happened May 31st" available at Homeless Table #14 outside the Main post office, or across from the Metro transit center next to the infamous Union Grove Music "Forbidden Fence" on Pacific Ave. See also the Five-Point Petition presented (without effect) to the Police Dept., and "Hold the Police Accountable: Set up a Civilian Review Board!" flyer distributed May 31st and still available!

Robespierre Robert and Morpheus Mike--activist assaulted by Hennig--are tentatively scheduled to speak about the Hennig assault-and-battery at 6:30 p.m. June 17 on the public affairs radioshow Talkabout on KZSC-FM.
Council challenged to sleep outdoors

By Donald Murphy

Santa Barbara News-Press Staff Writer

City Council members were challenged Tuesday to sleep on the sidewalk outside City Hall to learn what it’s like to be without shelter in Santa Barbara.

The invitation was first issued by Michael Wilson, representing the Homeless Coalition. He then told the council that a demonstration by homeless people from around the state is planned for Santa Cruz on the Fourth of July, and that Santa Barbara may have a similar protest if treatment of the homeless here doesn’t improve.

About 20 homeless men and women, and a handful of people who work with the homeless, attended the beginning of the council season. They asked the council to change the language of the so-called “no camping” ordinance, and to tell them where in the city homeless people can legally sleep.

In response, Superior Court Judge Bruce Dodd ruled that the word “camping” in the city’s ordinance that targets sleeping outside means “living temporarily in a camp.”

Since then, the city has maintained that the judge’s ruling meant a broader definition of camping than the council intended when it passed the ordinance in 1995.

Daniel Wallace, city attorney, said Tuesday police enforcement of the ordinance had not changed after Dodd’s ruling.

In a memorandum addressed to Police Chief Richard Breaux, Wallace wrote on March 30 that “no change in city policy or practices has been accomplished by the decision rendered by Judge Dodd.”

Mayor Sheila Lodge also said the city has not changed its enforcement policies as a result of the court decision.

Dennis Flanagan, an attorney who works with the Legal Defense Center, said the city cannot continue to ignore the court decision, and the council should tell homeless people where they can sleep. He also urged the council to make adjustments in the law for those who cannot find shelter.

The Legal Defense Center, arguing that the court decision means it is now a crime to be homeless in Santa Barbara, has previously said it would sue the city by May 1 if the ordinance wasn’t modified.

Several speakers mentioned the closing of the National Guard Armory at night, as of March 21, combined with Judge Dodd’s ruling, meant that homeless people no longer knew where they can sleep without being arrested.


with stiff warnings, “take a seat; meet the paddywagon!” Hennig was spotted happily enforcing yet another Drug Prohibition warrant on a shabbily dressed man in front of the Metro shortly thereafter. Soon after his squad car pulled out with its human body, children and adults alike returned to linger at the now-infamous Union Grove Music fence in ignorant or mischievous disregard for the new “private the mall” mania and the latest “not in my neighborhood” priorities of certain mall merchants and their armed guardians.

And back across the river, “Checkmate” John Raner was finally released from jail on his own recognizance Monday. Raner’s return to notoriety followed a year and a half absence from the homeless scene. He was one of dozens ticketed or arrested by SCPD Sleepbusters in early October of 1988 at the end of the 10-day “Do Drop Inn” encampment in back of the River St. mini-Shelter. The first S.C. Tent City was leveled after city officials pressured River St. mini-Shelter overlord Paul Brindell into filing trespass complaints against the scofflaw sleepers.

Raner spent this last weekend in the slammer, but then found his felony “assault and battery” arrest (for standing in front of a paddywagon while holding aloft a full-size American flag) thrown out because Checkmate was denied access to the courts beyond 72 hours. He still faces the ever-present Sleeping tickets and warrants, but is no longer facing “assault with a deadly weapon [the flag] fabrication.”

2 A translation of the meaning rather than the actual words used by our favorite Mailtroopers.
POLICE ARREST 5 IN MAY 31ST MARCH AGAINST HENNIG MISCONDUCT
DEMANDS IGNORED, SPOKESPEOPLE ARRESTED, TOP COF SHUTS DOOR

After weeks of petty sniping, citations, and arrests of youths, deadheads, and homeless activists from one end of the mall to the other, locals witnessed the final straw last Thursday (May 30th). Brutalized and arrested for "trespass" for leaning against the Union Grove Music parking lot fence, Morpheus Mike Hobson found himself slammed against the ground, lifted by hair and handcuffs, thrown against the squad car, and finally tossed into the car itself by the apparently out-of-control Sgt. "Hobohunter" Hennig.

Witnesses flocked to the police station and, after the intervention of attorney Moxie Margaret Marr, were allowed to file complaints. The next day at 1 p.m., over fifty people gathered at Homeless Table #14 outside the main post office to begin a protest march. The marchers first surrounded a police surveillance car taking photographs parked across the street, then moved up the mall. Some blocks later, they were intercepted by police officials demanding they apply for a permit. Since the demonstration was relatively small, did not block traffic, and completely non-violent, protesters declined to dicker over obvious First Amendment rights and proceeded (no previous homeless demonstrations have ever applied for permits).

Followed up the street by several motorcycle cops, three foot patrol officers, several police chiefs, and several squad cars, the well-protected protest observed well-dressed middle-class citizens jaywalking and police declining to ticket them. When Moonrise Mike Careirro crossed against the "Don't Walk" sign at Laurel and Pacific, however, he was ticketed and then handcuffed and arrested, on refusing to sign the ticket.

When a paddywagon was called to carry off the dangerous prisoner, Checkmate John and others moved to non-violently block the paddywagon from leaving. Like another unarmed youth, who just over a year ago confronted a column of Chinese tanks in Beijing, Checkmate's flag-in-hand stance in front of the vehicle was a call for dialogue and democracy against the selective harassment of disfavored groups.

Moonrise himself was reportedly roughed up by three sheriff's deputies later that afternoon in a holding cell where he was isolated prior to booking after the demonstration. The deputies, according to a worried Linda the Lark, listening from an adjacent cell, had demanded Moonrise sweep up the jailcell and the feisty prisoner refused.

Linda herself faces more courtroom cakewalking for "interfering with an officer" and "blocking the sidewalk." Some witnesses saw her twice shoved and finally thrown to the ground by baton-wielding police near the scene of Checkmate's arrest. Another jaywalker arrested by the police in the course of the demonstration--Still-Smilin' Steve--overheard police decide to "get Linda Edwards out of the demonstration." One pundit has speculated that cautious authorities seized, cited, cuffed, and jailed Linda either to forestall complaints from her or to remove her as an organizer from the scene.

3 Steve was unsure of the exact words, but said the meaning was unmistakable.
Subsequently, such speculation became more credible. The demonstration moved to the police department where police chieftains invited spokespeople in to discuss their demands, and then rifled through arrests them! Top cop Jack Bassett refused to meet the marchers (presumably saving his wisdom for an upcoming attack on street people before the Chamber of Commerce, June 11, 7:30 a.m., Holiday Inn). "Slyshoes" Sandra Loranger, Bathrobespierre Robert Norse, Youthsaver Yahsaywen, and Loudmouth Leith Austin put forward petitions asking, among other things, that Sgt. Hennig be suspended for two weeks and given non-violence training.

In a dazzling display of bad faith, Deputy Chief "Doublecross" Dunbaugh then dismissed the demands and presented the four with two citations apiece for "organizing" and "participating" in a protest without a permit. Loudmouth and Youthsaver refused to sign and were jailed. Lurking in the shadows from the D.A.'s office was Misdemeanor Queen "Pretty Bizarre," whose appearance on the scene together with Doublecross's strange "come negotiate and get arrested" coup, led some to suggest that she—along with the ever-present cop videocamera man—was there to help police mount a new assault on the first amendment rights of homeless demonstrators.

Newspaper coverage the next day by the local trollbusting tabloid, the Santa Cruz Urinal (or by its more pompous formal title, the Santa Cruz Sentinel) dismissed the marchers as "Deadhead fans," and "espousers of various causes." Morpheus Mike suggested he was considering a libel suit for the paper's claim that "drug salesmen" were arrested at the march. (3 were arrested several minutes before the march in another part of town in yet another city-funded undercover operation against psychedelic street sellers). The Urinal continued its unbroken tradition of quoting bigoted police patriarchs at length, while ignoring the real issues behind the march.

Morpheus Mike—due in court soon on charges of "trespass" at the Forbidden Fence and "resisting arrest" the day before the march—may go to jail today for falling asleep after 11 p.m. without a house. His term in the lockup may surp pass that of "Boston Bob"—released yesterday after 5 days behind bars for "coping" tickets.

Not wishing to enter the local dungeons without a parting bow, Morpheus yesterday presented the City Clerk with the first of what may be dozens of claims demanding return of police-held bags, blankets, and homeless possessions. The loot was hauled off during winter raids as "evidence" of camping, as "abandoned," and more recently to bolster misdemeanor "Public Nuisance" charges still pending against Jabberwocky Jay, Linda the Lark, and Paddywagon Pete. Defense attempts to uncover incriminating prosecution records detailing discriminatory enforcement (Patty Bazar's "Homeless Hit List") were held at bay as Jay and Linda's Jan 26 "Public Nuisance" case was again postponed—this time to June 14, 1:30 P.M., Dept. E.'

5 Patty Bazar continues to wow 'em in the courtroom corridors with her patriotic refusal to return homeless sleeping bags, in cases that are now nearly five months old. Whether she's simply playing robocop for "Drumhead" Art Danner, head of the D.A.'s office, or has decided on her own to extend a helping hand to official trollbusting and homeless censorship is still unknown at press time.
And back in jail again for continued criminal snoring, "Judge-me-Not" Joe Parker (formerly "Shoeless Joe") was reportedly catching forty winks at a cost of $200+/day to indulgent taxpayers, who continue to tolerate the Santa Cruz Gang of 7 (City Council's sleep-mashing statute).

**Sacramento has new street sheet**

McClatchy News Service

SACRAMENTO — Sacramento's newest newspaper, "Hard Times", is by and for Sacramento's homeless and those who try and help them. The first edition of 2,000 copies was distribution Monday at the shelters, parks, government offices that provide services to the homeless and at hangouts such as the K Street Mall and the City Plaza across 1 Street from City Hall.

"Hard Times" is a package of news, poetry, art and a resource guide that editor Dan Rothe said will be a monthly attempt to provide a voice for the homeless community and to try and improve their quality of life.

Rothe, a 32-year-old construction worker with a degree in journalism, emphasized this week that the newspaper is not just for the homeless.

"It's also for those sympathetic to the cause so that they can be aware of what is going on," he said.

"The paper is provided free to the homeless and sold to the rest of the public for 50 cents a copy."

Rothe said he put the first edition together with help from his home computer and that the Cali Halp printed the run for less than $300 raised from contributions.

Most of the material is written by members of the homeless community and boxes in which they can place their contributions have been placed at Love's Place, 12th and C, the Union Gospel Mission, 400 7th St., and at the South Area Emergency Housing Center, 1116 Parker Ave.

"I've been interested in helping but I didn't know what I could do until a couple of months ago," Rothe said of his decision to launch the newspaper.

"We want to expand our resource section to include services for the mentally handicapped," he said. "Hard Times is for people who are going through hard times, and not just the homeless."

The newspaper's debut came at a time when some of Sacramento's homeless, estimated by their advocates to number between 5,000 and 7,000, are becoming more forceful in their demands.

**ANOTHER VIEW FROM THE SHELTER** by Millennials Mark (Mark is an occasional visitor to the Homeless Table and an observer of the Santa Cruz scene.)

Indians lived for centuries in California in tule huts and slept out under the trees and at the streams. California's environment fared well during that time. Pioneers in this land slept out under the stars, in the mountains, and in the woods.

Abraham Lincoln grew up, gaining his education by candlelight, in a log cabin...in the woods. Johnny "Appleseed" walked across this country, planting apple trees as he went, living outside, preferring nature to more "civilized" shelter.

John Muir shared his love of nature with his friend Theodore Roosevelt--both conservationists par excellence and well-known for their love of the out-of-doors.

These good men would be rolling over in their graves, along with countless others to hear that in this country, "America the Beautiful," home of the free, land of the Brave, strange laws have been made and passed by the well-meaning, as well as the thoughtless. These legislators have made it against the law not only to walk from one place to another, but also a crime to sleep outside without a permit, or permission, or a "fee." In Santa Cruz, as well as in many other cities, it is illegal to sleep at all--with no exceptions being made for an individual's need or situation.

Our forefathers would be appalled, as should we be, that this is so in 1990.

I do not feel that it is wrong to follow the example of the Indians and our pioneer ancestors and other lovers of nature everywhere. Their lesson is to live as I do, without house or home, without automobile or motorcycle or bicycle (whose manufacture or use destroys or pollutes the environment).

Personally, though I have received tickets and warnings, I feel our environment would certainly suffer less if millions more would live as simply as I do.

Jesus Christ, son of God, was a "homeless person!" Have you not read where in the scripture he said, "The birds have their nests; the foxes have their holes; but the son of man hath nowhere..."
to lay his head." He also told the parable of the rich man and the beggar who laid at the gate of the rich man's home, begging to be fed from the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table, while the dogs licked his sores and wounds. He told of how, when the beggar died, he was carried by the angels to heaven, while the rich man died and awoke in torments, in the flames of hell.

Christ also said, and it is written, "as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, so ye have done it unto me." No good God-fearing Christian should dare to presume that our nation's "homeless" fail to fall into the category of "the least of these, my brethren."

As best as I am able, I follow the teachings of Jesus, and "clothe the naked, heal the sick, feed and house the poor, visit the fatherless, those in hospitals and in prisons, and above all else, live as peacefully as possible with all men." Thanks to many who have given to me, so that I might give and share with others.

Although it might be difficult, to say the least, please provide for the needs of others. For though many of them have brought their problems on themselves, they are in need of your care, regardless.

Aren't people, living souls, important enough?

Paddywagon Pete's New ID!

Registrar of Voters accepts the Homeless Table as a bona fide address!

JULY 4TH DECLARATION-OF-INDEPENDENCE FOR HOMELESS MOVES FORWARD
PRELIMINARY PRESS RELEASE RELEASED AFTER FINAL SF MEETING
(Passed overwhelmingly at the Housing California 1990 Conference in Sacramento April 3 (with the Santa Cruz homeless bureaucrats reportedly either abstaining or opposing), the following resolution was passed by over 800 delegates from the Northern California Association for Non-Profit Housing, the California Coalition for Rural Housing, and the California Homeless Coalition:)

"WE RESOLVE TO SUPPORT A STATEWIDE ACTION IN SANTA CRUZ ON JULY 4 OF ALL HOMELESS PEOPLE, ADVOCATES, NONPROFIT GROUPS AND SUPPORTERS, TO PROTEST POLICE HARASSMENT AND ANTI-CAMPING BANS, AND TO AFFIRM THE RIGHT TO SLEEP AND TO DECRIMINALIZE HOMELESSNESS."
CLAVIER was badly beaten by police shortly after the quake, prompting the Mayor to open an official investigation. But police refused to drop bogus "resisting arrest" charges, so nothing has come out of the inquiry. (See Street Sheet #60).

John Claver leaving jail

(The following are excerpts from a soon-to-be issued press release by Northern California organizers of the First Homeless Congress, scheduled to be held July 3-5 in Santa Cruz.)

In many communities it is illegal to be homeless. People have been arrested for sleeping in streets and parks in cities which cannot offer them shelter and housing. Now is the time for us to protest.

Homeless people and concerned others met in Sacramento and decided to declare July 4, 1990 as the Independence Day, where life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are the rights of homeless Americans. We demand that safe, affordable housing be created for everyone--no less.

In Santa Cruz, the city where the non-violent protest will be staged, 3,000 units of service-enriched housing can and must be created to satisfy this need.

Furthermore, until this need can be met, we demand that shelter be offered to and run by (at least with 40% staff) homeless people.

We demand a moratorium on camping bans until such alternatives are available; in other words, that Santa Cruz and other communities cease futile arrests, and decriminalize homelessness.

...Santa Cruz is one of the many communities where it is illegal to be homeless. The City of Santa Cruz has an appalling lack of affordable housing, nowhere near enough to house all the low-income citizens in the community. The response by the city to this homelessness crisis has been to try to drive the homeless out of the area by criminalizing homelessness, banning camping, loitering, etc. If a homeless person lays his or her bedroll anywhere outdoors, he or she may be arrested or jailed, facing up to a $138 fine.

The city, backed by the business community, has stepped up this harassment of the homeless tremendously in the past month busting homeless advocates and organizers. Homelessness cannot be made a criminal act when there is not enough housing for all of us. Because, unfortunately, Santa Cruz is but a microcosm of the way most California communities respond to homelessness, homeless people from all over California must converge on Santa Cruz this 4th of July to declare independence of the crime of Homelessness.

We will be completely non-violent, but we will be breaking the law by camping illegally. We will meet in Homeless Congress, organize ourselves, march to City Hall, and publicly explain the problem we face throughout California and what the solutions are. And then we will break the law by being homeless together.

(More news on what will surely be the biggest homeless demonstration in Santa Cruz in Street Shit Sheet #74)
Homeless battle for Penn Station

By CALVIN BIBBY
The New York Times

NEW YORK — The New York Civil Liberties Union and other advocates for the homeless on Saturday launched an effort to stop the Long Island Rail Road from forcing homeless people from Penn Station.

The effort is an effort to enforce new regulations that prohibit people from loitering, panhandling, or living down in the train station.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the parent agency of the Long Island Rail Road, adopted the new rules in April after passengers complained that they were fed up with the growing number of homeless people and beggars in the station.

In a related move, the New York City Transit Authority, which is also part of the MTA, said last week that transit police officers would eject all panhandlers, including people slyly extending cups, from the subway system.

That move followed a federal appeals court decision last month that upheld the Transit Authority’s ban on begging in the subways.

But at a news conference at the station Saturday in Penn Station, advocates for the homeless said the new rules and stepped-up enforcement are driving homeless people to beg and sleep in city parks and streets.

Officials of four groups representing the homeless called on Mayor David N. Dinkins and Gov. Mario M. Cuomo to meet with Robert B. Kiley, the MTA’s chairman, to find what they called “a more humane solution to the problem.”

The groups are the New York Civil Liberties Union, the Partnership for the Homeless, the Doe Fund, and the United Homelss Organization.

“Sleeping people onto the streets is not the solution. Homeless people are here because it’s a last resort and they have nowhere else to go,” said Peter Smith, president of the Partnership for the Homeless.

“MTA officials believe that they are only in the railroad business and that they have no social responsibility. But they are dead wrong, and unfortunately pushing people into the street will show them that.”

Norman Siegel, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, said that enforcing the rules without violating civil rights would be difficult for the railroad police.

“Do you kid a person out if they are lying down and suddenly stand up when the police walk by?” Siegel asked. “If this is a homeless person who feels that his or her rights are being violated by this effort, we will defend them.”

On any given day, hundreds of homeless peopleitter in Penn Station, panhandling, stealing, sleeping on the floor and benches, and often fighting.

Political Science
Pat Andrews
Tues.Thurs. 12:30

The Interest Group I selected is called H.U.F.F. (Homeless United for Friendship and Freedom) and they currently have 50 members. I spoke with a member of the group, homeless activist Robert Norse, who said, “the homeless aren’t seeking shelter from the elements of nature so much, as shelter from police harassment.” He kept pointing out that their main concern wasn’t that they had no where to live, but that the police constantly harrassed them because of the fact.

Techniques commonly used by H.U.F.F. to get a message across are sit-ins, sleep-ins, and writing their congresspeople. Some local members have set up a card table at the corner of Front and Water Street in Santa Cruz where they sell literature as a means of calling attention to the police harassment they have received, which has not let up even after the 1989 earthquake which left so many people homeless.

On July 4th homeless from all over the country will flock to Santa Cruz in solidarity against the current sleeping ban in Santa Cruz. A week long protest/convention is planned, complete with seminars on the welfare system and how to deal with discrimination by restaurant employees. Jesse Jackson has also been requested too appear.

This plan came out of a conference in Sacramento attended by 800 California homeless. Of these, 750 voted to locate their next meeting in Santa Cruz.

Why here? According too Norse, Santa Cruz was chosen because it’s “progressive city council babbles about Nicaragua... and ends up oppressing its own homeless.” 4 out of 7 votes are needed by the city council to end the ban.

The city of Santa Barbara California had a sleeping ban similar to the one Santa Cruz now enforces, but after a six month siege of the City Hall grounds and steps 24 hours a day the anti-sleep law was rescinded. Credit for this should probably go too the Santa Barbara Homeless Coalition for organizing this event, and sticking with it.

H.U.F.F. currently has no Lobbyist, or P.A.C.

Jeff Vogt
4-17-90

H.U.F.F.
509 Broadway
Santa Cruz, Ca 95062

Robert Norse (408)427-1205

COMING SOON... to a Street Shit Sheet near you...
Santa Barbara Sleepers Strike Back: the first 50 days on the steps of City Hall;
Try Your Ticket! (Part 2 of the wildly popular Fight Your Ticket flyer still available at Homeless Table #14)
The Great Upper Mall Bench RipOff: a special report from our undercover informant Deadeye Dave on how City Parks is turning a blind eye to the continuing rape and privatization of what’s left of the mall.
Down-to-the-minute Details of the Upcoming July 4 First Homeless Congress! And... maybe some those juicy Coming Attractions we advertised in past issues that never appeared!
City on a Hill:

Your May 3rd "Poe Pause" City Clip reads like a PR release from the Mayor's office. New "Oral Communications" rules were adopted without prior notice to the group they most affected—homeless speakers, whose only public forum and channel of input is that period. They have severely, arbitrarily, and unnecessarily limited total speaking time to half an hour. Wormhoudt to the contrary, Oral Communications has not gone over an hour in months. Homeless speakers have generally been brief, to the point, and relevant in their comments. Unseemly news of police harassment that would otherwise never see the light of day receives a moment of public attention.

Wormhoudt and her predecessor and crony John Laird have been doing their best to ignore or silence debate on homeless issues for the last two years. They both have the significant distinction of having arrested homeless speakers at the microphone. Laird's attempt to send four of us to jail for insisting on our three minutes at the mike was finally thrown out by the courts last fall. Mardi's blue shirts arrested one speaker April 3rd (as I face up to six months in jail and $1000 fine) and had him dragged from the room a second time at the April 24th meeting under "unwritten amendments" to her new rules. (The man, who had been introduced by the prior speaker, refused to reply to the Mayor's repeated demand that he repeat his name.)

5 city police have been assigned to Council meetings. A police photographer in a highly visible position has videotaped all speakers at the April 17th and April 24th meetings, a blatant move to chill first amendment rights. (Make a speech, get arrested for camping tickets?)

of pain and anger that Wormhoudt's Council is tired of hearing are the direct result of police policies sanctioned if not initiated by her. UCSC students know that the homeless survival gear of over a dozen people is still under lock and key in a police warehouse, including the Homeless Table itself and the political literature that was on it! Do they know with the ending of the drop-in Satellite Shelter program April 30, there is no shelter space whatsoever for the overwhelming majority of homeless Santa Cruzans? Wormhoudt has only one defense, and she's tired of hearing about it. So she's yet another City Council meeting, another provocation to those who have been denied a real hearing for years. It would be nice if Mardi, like the rest of us, would use more use of the letters column and a little less use of backdoor phone calls to get her views across.

Robert Morse
614 Hanover St.

Unpublished letter to CHP last month
after "City Clips" reporter did Wormhoudt
fluff piece.

Jobberwocky Joy before shaving his legendary beard and losing his camper's cap!

In response to the violent, brutal, and excessive force used by Santa Cruz Police Sergeant Bob Hennig against Michael Hobson on May 30, 1990, outside the Union Grove Music Store at 1003 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, California, we, the undersigned, now demand:

1. That Sergeant Hennig be immediately and temporarily suspended without pay, for at least fourteen consecutive days, from any and all of his duties as a police officer in the employ of the Santa Cruz Police Dept.

2. That the Santa Cruz Police Department conduct a complete and thorough investigation of the violent acts committed by Sergeant Hennig against Michael Hobson on the aforementioned day at the aforementioned location, and that all findings of this investigation be fully disclosed to the public within thirty days from today; May 31, 1990.

3. That Sergeant Hennig participate in and satisfactorily pass the entire training course taught by Men's Alternatives To Violence, located at 307 Soquel Avenue, Santa Cruz, California, before December 31, 1990.

4. That the Santa Cruz Police Department further retrain and re-educate Sergeant Hennig as to the proper and appropriate conduct of a police officer, and that evidence that such training occurred or is occurring be disclosed to the public within thirty days from today.

5. That Sergeant Hennig, in a written and signed letter of apology to Michael Hobson, that: on May 30, 1990, outside of the Union Grove Music Store at 1003 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, California, he, Sergeant Hennig, did use excessive force against Michael Hobson.

We the undersigned do not condemn Sergeant Hennig. We condemn his violent, abusive, and inappropriate behavior, and we hold him and the Santa Cruz Police Department responsible for his behavior. We are sick of violence! We are sick of police brutality! We want an end to this injustice! If our demands are not met we are prepared to take legal action against Sergeant Hennig and the Santa Cruz Police Department.

We now sit-in and await the appearance of Police Chief Jack Basset to confirm in writing his signature that all five of our demands will be met. We refuse to disperse until Chief Basset does so.
Homeless protesters evicted at City Hall

By Donald Murphy

The city of Santa Barbara cracked down Tuesday on the homeless people who have been sleeping and protesting inside City Hall since early April.

A dozen police officers made the protesters move away from the building. The police, under pressure from city officials and business owners, cleared the area to prepare it for a press conference on the steps of City Hall, during which Police Chief Richard Glass said the city had made a decision to increase police activity around City Hall.

Glass said the city had made a decision to increase police activity around City Hall.

The police had not been strictly enforcing all ordinances during the negotiations, he said.

Will Hastings, staff counsel and executive director of the Legal Defense Center, said Tuesday the city is more likely to face a lawsuit from federal courts challenging the constitutionality of the new ordinance.

“It seems clear to me we’ll have to live with it,” he said.

After the police had gone, 20 to 25 members of the Homeless Coalition held a meeting on the steps of City Hall.

“Just want to know what the law is,” one woman said. “I’m lost about what the law is.”

About eight people in front of the building appeared to be leaving.
The homeless crier

Vol. 1, No. 2 Tuesday May 15, 1990 Page 1

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Billie J. Southard 12-14-59 to 4-13-90

"And homeless near a thousand homes I stood and near a thousand tables piled for food."

(William Wordsworth 1770-1850)

WELFARE FRAUD PAGE 4

ELECTION FRAUD PAGE 3

A new homeless newsletter from the streets of S.F.

Next issue: more of this rogue's attacks on "poverty pimps!"
MOTIONS FOR DISMISSAL FOR CAMPING CITATIONS

MC 6.36.010 (a) SLEEPING

FIRSTLY, constitutes prosecution for an often unintentional or unavoidable action: sleeping between the hours of 11pm and 6:30 AM. An unreasonable amount of effort is needed in order to comply with this section of the camping ordinance, when one is homeless or shelterless.

SECONDLY, Not allowing an individual to sleep at night, waking the person, prosecution for sleeping, and mandatory wakefulness constitute cruel or unusual punishment, and should not be allowed to continue, as a violation of Amendment 8, US CONSTITUTION.

MC 6.36.010 (b), CAMPING

THE it's-legal-to-freeze-but-not-to-stay-warm argument...

...Article One Sect One of the cal state constitution, protects the individual's right to obtain safety. Not allowing an Individual to use blankets, sleeping bags, or other protective gear for warmth and protection and safety from the elements regardless of weather and climatic conditions should constitute a violation of the individual's right to obtain safety. CAL STATE CON, Art. one, Sect. one

Motion to Dismiss for All Camping Cases, Sect 6.36 MC

It is the city's (City of Santa Cruz) failure to name areas for public camping as allowable according to MC 6.36.020 (CAMPING PERMITTED) which has lead to the present situation of no legal sleeping option for the homeless.

ALSO, the camping ordinance is used against one class of people: the non renting, non-owning class: and applies to the shelterless individuals of the community nightly, and is therefore discrimination against a specific segment of the population, the poor.

MOTION FOR DISMISSAL TO ALL CAMPING TICKETS ARRIVED UPON THROUGH PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION (SLEEP INS)

Part of the public political debate concerning both housing and homelessness issues is whether or not the shelterless really exist and what they look like or who they are. Sleeping in public in organized groups establishes the existence of the homeless as well as the need for low-income housing. The right to demonstrate in public, and influence public political debate through demonstration should extend to demonstrating the existence of homelessness actively and in public, and should be protected by the first amendment rights to freedom of speach, peaceful assembly, and to petition the government for redress of grievances. US CONSTITUTION, First Amendment.
The triumph of justice is the only peace.
--Robert G. Ingersoll, Prose Poems & Selections (1884)

Due to time pressures from the hurried preparations for Homeless Independence Day, the regular 30 pp. STREET SHEET will not be available until later this week. Those interested in securing a copy should forward $1.50 to 614 Hanover St., Santa Cruz CA 95062.

INDEPENDENCE DAY RALLY WILL CHALLENGE "GANG OF 7" STONEWALL SPEECHES, WORKSHOPS, MARCHES TO EXPOSE STATE-WIDE CRACKDOWN

Two weeks ago, Santa Barbara homeless activist "Many Miles" Mike Wilson, his shopping cart and tattered but still flying American flag were taken into custody 12 miles out of Santa Cruz for "walking on the roadway." This morning after two weeks in jail, Wilson returned to the scene of his crime to complete his 280-mile Freedom of Sleep March from Santa Barbara to Santa Cruz, which he had begun three months ago. "It's ironic that only in Santa Cruz County was I denied safe passage; every other police jurisdiction waved me through—with a smile."

Wilson is just one of the several hundred homeless folks and sympathetic activists from Sonoma to Los Angeles due in Santa Cruz today at San Lorenzo Park to debate and celebrate Homeless Independence Day. The first state-wide Homeless Congress will involve a cluster of varied organizations with the local leadership from H.U.F.F. (Homeless United for Friendship and Freedom) will be scrambling to accommodate the guests.

Gingersnap George and Slyshoes Sandra Loranger (jailed last summer for serving food at the Town Clock without a permit) of SWAP (Soup Without A Permit) will be joining S.F.'s Food not Bombs to ladle out the edibles for the six meals planned for the 4th and the 5th.

Street activist and construction worker Yahsewhen has rounded up a few bands and singers for the event (Homey Grits, Mark Levy, The Nameless Ones). City Parks & Rec has facilitated the event by renting out its San Lorenzo bencharlds at reduced rates to the activists in a timely shift from its previous refusal to allow a sympathy Housing Now! Tent City there last October.

The march route is slated to take the merry rights-seekers past the County Jail on Water St., up to Ocean St. to

1. Meet the Gang of 7--our 7 City Council people, who continue to criminalize homeless sleep at night, blandly gag and arrest homeless speakers at their council meetings, and conduct business as usual while their police seize homeless blankets and bedding.

2. When Mayor Wormhoudt and other city councilpeople went to Washington D.C. to ask for affordable housing last fall, locals seeking to dramatize police harassment of homeless sleepers were told to cough up $400+ for "maintenance and security" costs and an insurance policy that would have cost $1000 for a one-night 30-person sleep-in in the same San Lorenzo Bencharlds.

By seemingly resolving insurance and permit problems this time, the city has acknowledged the demonstration's determination to come into being, legally if possible, but through non-violent civil disobedience if necessary.
survey hoards of hot traffic-jammed tourists, down to Broadway/Laurel St. and across the river. En route marchers can marvel at inane "comical" signs lining the roadway, purchased at a reported $50,000 (when $7000 would have restored the city's gutted Interfaith Satellite Shelter program). They will thrill to the adventure of searching for a restroom along with thousands of other tourists--in a town that continues to refuse to install adequate facilities downtown then rants about homeless "using the rivers as toilets."

The march down the Pacific Garden Mall will pass by the Forbidden Fence at Union Grove Music where homeless activist Mike Hobson found his face meeting the sidewalk, compliments of Sgt. "Hobo Hunter" Hennig just over a month ago. His crime: sitting on the fence. Marchers may also be able to observe the following tops of the spacious "merchant tents"--erected shortly after the earthquake at about the same time the city was shredding tents on the outskirts of town set up by homeless campers. (The most recent such incident happened three days ago.)

Some local liberals, eager to cement their ties with the police and media, and hopeful of squeezing a few crumbs out of the City Council, were able to persuade a local meeting of the homeless to shift location of the main demonstration. It is planning to march to the County Building instead of of the City Hall and its adjacent Police Dept. as originally planned. City Hall was initially chosen as the focus of the protest because it is the center of city power, the site of innumerable local protests against the infamous Sleeping Ban, and home to the enforcers of that ban.

Some were fearful of "a violent confrontation" between homeless citizens and Busenbard's Buffoons. Others are considering marching independently to City Hall to have a dialogue with the dreaded "red-shirts" in hopes of curing their homeless-phobia, or, at least, countering some of the misinformation being spread.

The march down the mall will take a breather at the famous Homeless Table #14 at the Main Post Office where a 7 1/2 month vigil against the Camping Ban continues its "no-budget" housing encampment. After speeches and cheers there, marchers will return up Water St. to the County Building where people's attorney Grinnell Gay Grueneich and other crowd-pleasers will speak to those willing to listen.

Lunch is slated for 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Dinner for 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Bands, speeches, some workshops, embraces, sunbathing, and general (non-alcoholic) merriment will fill the interim. Volunteer to help with food, communications, speaking, and preparing for the evening's potential civil disobedient sleep-in, and keeping the organizers from each others' throats.

Welcome to Santa Cruz. Tonight there will be few if any legal sleeping spaces for the homeless. But we invite you to pull up a sleeping bag anyway and reclaim the earth for all of us.

---

Led by Carolyn Busenbard of Concerned Capitola Cosmetics Against Santa Cruz Street People (also known as the "Take Back Our Town"). Busenbard, who seems to be urging police-enforced sleep deprivation for those "on the streets but not truly homeless," has helped publicize our event with expensive daily newspaper ads, urging her closet trollbuster troops to "wear red shirts for identification."

"Bed is the boon for me!
It's well to bake and sweep.
But hear the word of old Lizette:
It's better than all to sleep.
--Agnes Lee, Old Lizette on Sleep

25c or borrow
PREVIEW OF THE BIGGEST STREET SHEET YET!!
(The following are excerpts from Street Sheet #75 due out July 11. We regret the delay, but this is the longest Sheet ever and the most exhausting to release. Here is a tempting sample of what will be in it when it comes out tomorrow.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS....ANNOUNCEMENTS....ANNOUNCEMENTS

.....July 11 7:30 AM Coconut Grove Police Chief Bassett and Social Worker Bill Watt address the Chamber of Commerce breakfast on "What To Do With the Street People?" Tickets $15 at the Downtown Association. Free Sidewalk Soup Breakfast Outside from the Homeless Hunger Project, speeches on "What To Do With Police Chief "Bastinado" Bassett's Police Force?"
.....July 11 6 PM Back of the River St. Shelter Homeless and Concerned Citizens Meet to Discuss Plans for a Legalized Campground.
.....July 11 6:45 PM PM City Manager's Office at City Hall Women's Commission For the Prevention of Violence To Women: Problems of Homeless Women.
.....July 11 7:30 PM Louden Nelsen Center Discussion of Need for Housing (SROs) in Santa Cruz
.....July 18 12 PM-2 PM Mental Health Advocacy Board meets at Emeline St County Complex, Bldg. F. Public Comments near the end of the meeting.

JANE IMLER REMEMBERS MITCH SNYDER

Deep sensitivity towards the human condition can exact a high price, as evidenced by Mitch Snyder's death today. However, I believe it also can offer all of us an opportunity to reflect on our differences in the movement. Perhaps with Mitch's passing, whatever the reasons may be, we can all become in a very small way Mitch Snyders. Organize ourselves and become even more militant than we have up to this point.

Mitch always told his fellow activists that good things happened on a rainy day. And as we reflect on his death on a rainy day, we begin to question this. However, I do believe this is our opportunity to reflect, come together again and work even harder, if for no other reason, than to make his dreams come true.

Dreams that would make it possible for folks, poor or rich, to find a place to sleep on a rainy night. A society that would step forward and feed those in need of something to eat. A country where people would have the freedom to sleep in their automobiles or out of doors, if they so choose.

There's a new star in the heavens tonight, shining down on all those folks outside. Keep twinkling, Mitch.
BATHROBESPierre ROBERT SPEAKS OF MITCH

Mitch Snyder, national homeless activist, died earlier today. He came to Santa Cruz in April of 1989 to support the right of the homeless to eat and share food—a right that continues to be challenged but has been fairly successfully maintained over the last nine months.

Three months ago, Mitch marched the first twenty blocks in the Santa Barbara Homeless Rights Coalition's Walk Against Sleeping Bans, a march that activist Mike Wilson finished at Homeless Independence Day yesterday. That homeless rally was the largest one ever for Santa Cruz—demanding an end to discrimination, an end to harassment for sleeping, and a commitment to equal rights and decent facilities for all.

Mitch would have been proud. He sent a message that but for his involvement in the Washington D.C. shelter Amendment struggle, he would have been here with us. So let us mourn, and then let us organize—and keep our eye on the objective that his work made so much more real and tangible: a future where every person knows her own worth, and society is transformed to acknowledge, value, and support that worth.

Most of us who support the Homeless Table never met Mitch. But the Homeless Table continues to work to welcome the stranger and demand he be treated as a human being—with integrity, with dignity, with basic needs acknowledged, regardless of income or appearance. I think that our rage at laws that make sleeping or any other essential human need illegal was also his rage. And when the evening comes when that meanness and prejudice is washed away, it will be a victory for us all—our victory and Mitch's.

—Bathrobespierre Robert Norse
(July 5, 1990)

PREVIEW FLASHES... PREVIEW FLASHES... PREVIEW FLASHES... PREVIEW

16 TICKETS AT 4TH OF JULY SLEEP-OUT: BATHROBESPierre BAGGED!

HOMELESS CONGRESS ENDS WITH TRADITIONAL LOW-LY KEY MIDNIGHT NAP

Peacekeeping monitors were themselves illegally asleep when Sgt. Sealy's slumbersley squad arrived at the Homeless Table in the wee hours of July 5 to send another 16 into the costly courtroom tango of Sleeping Ban trials. Monitors Paul Brindel and Sherry Conable, part of the group that formed to "defuse confrontations" during the July 4th Homeless Congress, were slumbering in their vehicles, according to fellow monitor "Slyshoes" Sandy Loranger. Slyshoes hurriedly awakened them when the gang of public-funded pillow-snatchers arrived on the scene. The two midnight-catsnappers were not questioned or cited by the dour ticket-wielding nightstalkers.

Bathrobespierre Robert, less fortunate, was clapped into irons and hauled off for "inadequate identification" when he refused to give any more details than his name and address. "You have all that information already," groaned the rumpled activist, "and you know who I am." "One refuses to identify himself," replied in "Bust 'em and Book 'em" Baker. "Is he local?" asked the unforgiving squawk box. "It's Robert Norse," replied the triumphant lawman. "Take him in," said Sleepbuster Central.
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Thursday afternoon (July 5), Hobohunter Hennig succumbed to "harassment frenzy" and returned to the scene of his past crimes at the Table to threaten tablewatchers there. With no other safe and supervised place to store homeless possessions, the Table has become a default security area for folks tired of carrying everything around on their backs. Hennig announced a white-glove inspection later that afternoon, and homeless demonstrators did a clean-up job on the area.

Un mollified, the sardonic sergeant returned around 4 PM with head bumbuster, Police Chief Jack Bassett watching from nearby. As Hennig and his henchman did another ripoff of sleeping bags, blankets, food containers, and personal items, Moonrise Mike Carreiro was informed he faced a jury trial and misdemeanor charges of Public Nuisance for tending the table.

"Some Folks"

Some folks never saw beyond
The bedroll at his side;
Some folks never keyed upon
The fact he kept his head held high.

Some folks thought he lost his moral;
Some were on the road;
In truth, his Lord had strengthened them
to withstand mighty blows.

Some folks never saw the man,
Hidden in this rhyme.
Some folks will never understand
His message and its time.

Some folks thought they had him pegged
After just a glance;
Then got hot when they found they were not
His master in life's mental dance.

Some folks viewed the way he lived,
And said, "hey, Mitch, that's insane!"
Then would pretend to be his friend
For a chance to mine such precious veins.

Some folks don't appreciate
What he gave for free
Though he gave it selflessly
To show the very heart of "We."

Still some folks never saw beyond
The bedroll at his side;
Some folks through life stumble on
But Mitch—he found his stride.

--Mike Wilson (1985)
HOMELESS INDEPENDENCE DAY DRAWS HUNDREDS, NATIONAL PRESS
HOMELESS MARCHERS ON THE MALL, SONGS, SPEECHES, SUNSHINE

"Fight Back," urged Gerald Waldrin from Oakland's Union of the Homeless; Pam spoke of the Oakland homeless taking back Old Man's Park via actions at the Hyatt Regency: "we don't back down." Curtis Bray spoke of Berkeley activists successfully defeating a Sleeping Ban there, fighting trumped up burglary charges for taking over an abandoned building, securing an injunction against destruction of homeless property in People's Park, and fighting to reopen the low-income Berkeley Inn.

Ann Arnold of the local Women's Int'l League for Peace and Freedom asked for fair laws and first amendment rights for all in an area of reconciliation. Dr. Michael Zinn, now a local but recently from Orange County living out of his van, described his swift spiral downward into homelessness, even for professional people.

"Sharin'" Sherry Conable identified our home as Planet Earth and spoke of the painful and pressing priority to establish a safe place to sleep and keep one's possessions. Reportedly once a police-hassled long-haired hippy, former Mayor Bruce Van Allen noted "we can't say 'stay awake until we change the system,'" but urged a broad alliance and consensus to break the Santa Cruz deadlock and a march for allies not futile demands. Singer Mark Levy reprised his 1989 hit, "30 Days in the County Jail"--the saga of Slyshoes Sandy Loranger, who went to jail for serving food at the Town Clock last summer.

COMING IN STREET SHEET #75

...Announcements...What's Inside....Late Flashes: Police Strike at July 4 Sleep-Out.....Heavy crackdown July 5: Flag seized, 4 Trials,...Homeless Independence Day report.....Radio debate, background to July 4 demo.....June 25: police renew war on Homeless Table.....June 13: homeless action reclaims property.....Courtroom Crtwheels: Denny's vs. Linda The Lark......Maddog Mulligan's Greedy Gavel....Parker Takes Dive in Battery Charge.....Hennig/Hobson Affair Hits Courts.....First Sleeping Ban Appeal Filed.....Permits for Speech? Sandy Says No.....Camping Tickets Flood Courts....Council Disruption? No Contest.....Kitchenquest Mary Flies Away.....More Hennig Mischief at Homeless Table.....Midnight Mike Wipes the Slate clean.....Saga of the Homeless Hit List.....Cobwebs on the Concrete: Crackdown at Council Time?.....Hennig & Townsend on Cigarette Patrol.....Moonrise Mike Caught Handing Out Flyers.....Bob Bagged Bofting and Bumping.....Updates: Govt-funded vandals hit homeless campsite.....The Press and the May 30th Protest.....Scribner Park: Still on the Yuppies Menu:......Disappearing benches, disappearing people?.....Moonrise Mike—hard-line to the end.....Calamity Jane—bed-ridden but unbowed.....San Jose honchos run off homeless river folks.....Page torn from the homeless library.....Eulogies: We remember Bob Levy...and more!

COMING JULY 15TH: STREET SHIT #75: 36+ pages of news, satire, updates, cartoons, clippings, and other yummies. On sale soon at your local Homeless Table ($2 to buy, free to borrow! The issue has been fully written, but only needs to be pasted up. Read it and weep; read it and giggle. Read it!
"Bed is the boon for me!
It's well to bake and sweep.
But hear the word of old Lizette:
It's better than all to sleep.
--Agnes Lee, Old Lizette on Sleep

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---POLICE TARGET BATHROBESPRIERRE AT JULY 4TH SLEEP-OUT
---HOMELESS TABLE HIT WITH 4 "PUBLIC NUISANCE" CITES
---SANTA BARBARA 'PEACE WALK' FLAG SEIZED BY SCPD
---COURT GIVES POLICE BLANK CHECK TO SEIZE BEDDING
---FRIDAY THE 13TH ARRESTS AT HOMELESS TABLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS


......Monday July 16 5:30 PM SAN FRANCISCO Civic Center Plaza Legal Rally to Support Homeless Rights followed by CD Campout. Supported by Food-Not-Bombs, ACT-UP, Coalition on Homelessness, Oakland Union of the Homeless, and others. Contact Jane at 415-621-4606.

......Wednesday July 18 12 PM-2 PM Mental Health Advocacy Board meets at Emeline St County Complex, Bldg. F. Public Comments near the end of the meeting.

......Wednesday July 18 6 PM Legal Campground Community meets back of the River St. Shelter at "A Free Meal" (Hiway 1 & Hiway 9) to review first informal negotiations with mayor.

......Thursday July 19 9 PM Emergency Benefit Concert for FOOD-NOT-BOMBS at 6th St. Rendezvous in SAN FRANCISCO. Bands include Torso, Medicine Men, Six Deep, and Horton Heard. (FNB folks and food truck were arrested by police last week)
Council rejects shelter request

6/13/96

By MARK BERNSTEIN
City Scribe

SANTA CRUZ — The City Council let it be known Tuesday night that it is not interested in providing emergency shelter this summer for anyonethan families.

The sense arose when Councilman Dan Lee brought forth a request from the Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program for funding to continue providing shelter for the homeless this summer.

The Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program has operated for several winters, providing overnight facilities in a number of churches. The program traditionally ends at the end of April.

Because of a larger-than-expected number of homeless this year, the program decided to offer shelter at the Center for the Homeless, according to Director Andrew Morris.

At the end of the winter, 1995 program, 25 people were staying in the churches, he said. The council, at the end of this winter, he said, more than doubled the number in March.

Covington John Mahoney asked if the council's efforts at providing emergency shelter weren't acting to draw people from elsewhere in the county, such as Scotts Valley or Capitola.

Morris said the homeless don't concentrate in Scotts Valley because there is no place to go and they don't hang around Capitola because it is in the city limits.

When questioned about that accusation, Morris said his information came from homeless themselves.

Covington Joe Glio said the fact that the homeless shy away from Scotts Valley and Capitola indicates that those cities need to do more. The fact that they're welcome in Santa Cruz, he said, indicated that the city's programs do, in fact, draw people from them.

Covington Lane said one reason he brought the shelter program's request to Tuesday's meeting was that a recent study on the homeless recommended that sufficient shelter is needed so that no one has to sleep out in the elements during winter. She said she was interested in changing that policy and addressed it in spring, summer and fall months.

Warhoudt said she was concerned that the report indicated that 250 children needed shelter and were sleeping in cars or in the open.

"That is absolutely intolerable," Warhoudt said.

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LATEST FLASHERS: TURN TO P. 37.
16 TICKETS AT 4TH OF JULY SLEEP-OUT: BATHROBESPIERRE BAGGED!

HOMELESS CONGRESS ENDS WITH TRADITIONAL LOW-KEY MIDNIGHT NAP

Peacekeeping monitors were themselves illegally asleep when Sgt. Sealy's slumberslayer squad arrived at the Homeless Table in the wee hours of July 5 to send another 16 into the costly courtroom tango of Sleeping Ban trials. Monitors Paul Brindel and Sherry Conable, part of the group that formed to "defuse confrontations" during the July 4 Homeless Congress, were slumbering in their vehicles, according to fellow monitor "Slyshoes" Sandy Loranger. Slyshoes hurriedly awakened them when the gang of public-funded pillow-snatchers arrived on the scene. The two midnight-cattakers were not questioned or cited by the four ticket-wielding nightstalkers.

Bathrobespierre Robert, less fortunate, was clapped into irons and hauled off for "inadequate identification" when he refused to give any more details than his name and address. "You have all that information already," groaned the rumpled activist, "and you know who I am." "One refuses to identify himself," radioed in "Bust 'em and Book 'em" Baker. "Is he local?" asked the unforgiving squalk box. "It's Robert Norse," replied the triumphant lawman. "Take him in," said Sleepbuster Central.

Other demonstrators got the usual "sleeping without an income" citations from the band of blueshirts. Familiar faces included Jabberwocky Jay (reportedly about to retire from active duty as Head Homeless Tabloid-teen), Rodent, Stormin' Norman, Badlands Barbara, and many other sidewalk huggers.

Bathrobespierre was also charged with a more serious misdemeanor -- "impeding an officer" -- for his refusal to answer further questions (with a possible penalty of 6 months in jail and $1000 fine). After being released some hours later, the unpopular agitator was spotted by Lt. Bartle hitchhiking near the courthouse and given yet another citation in what seemed to be another vain attempt to cut short his carefree life of crime. "Can you spell 'harassment' and 'selective enforcement'?" grumbled the ticket-laden activist. "Tickets...for hitchhiking...in Santa Cruz?"

Why end shelter program?

Recently, I had the privilege of attending an open house at the River Street Shaker. As the clock neared 3 p.m., I watched as an eclectic group of homeless started gathering across the street from an evening meal.

Upon questioning those around me, I learned that I was watching the Interfaith Satellite Shelter program in action. Since November, the program has been providing 20 spaces in Santa Cruz and 15 in the south county, spaces for the homeless to eat and if desired, to be transported to various churches that provide a place to sleep for the night.

This was a wonderful service to the homeless community. Why then was this program drastically cut May 17?

Instead of 75 spaces, there will be 15. Fifteen legal spaces and hundreds of "illegal" sleepers. Please, let's find adequate shelter for our homeless. Let's see an increase, not a decrease, in worthwhile programs such as the Satellite Shelter.

Janice Payford
Agno

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HOMELESS AID DOWN: The number of homeless welfare applicants has dramatically dropped since a policy went into effect to give them room and board instead of quick cash. Alameda County officials report. Applications for homeless aid are down by two-thirds. Pat Engelhard, assistant director of social services, said Tuesday. But Engelhard warned that the figures are too preliminary to predict a trend. She said the number of non-homeless seeking assistance also is down, cutting total inquiries about a $1500-month grant from 364 a day to about half that number.

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Prevalent Problems

Editor - The picture above the headline "Manners Up In Arms About Homeless" (Chronicle, May 15) is misleading. These two prevalent problems in our city. The men's shelter is crowded by the huge display of 3-timers found on every available street, incessantly funding projects for some religious or missionary institutions.

In a recent meeting of the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, the Park and Rec Department was asked to be looking favorably to granting permission to multiple locations in public parks for groups displaying food and humanity. This means more T-shirts and junk food and litter. The coalition voted to ask Park and Rec to postpone any decision to allow public input.

If you can't solve the problem of vagrants and homeless, you could improve the image of the city by keeping cars tables of junk moving to the streets of San Francisco, particularly downtown.

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1. Convicting those in vehicles of "sleepcrime" is harder than nailing those without cars - since the first requires proving that the suspect was actually asleep. Sidewalk or outdoors sleepcriminals can be sent up the river for simply having bedding laid out.

1. Does California law give homeless people the right to vote?

Yes. In Collier v. Menzel, the California Court of Appeal held that homeless people may list as their home any place they normally sleep, for example parks, shelters, street corners.

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Tips from the California Homeless Coalition

Jeanette Spero San Francisco
NEW COP THEFTS, NUISANCE RAIDS, DAY-AFTER TICKETS AT TABLE.

4 MORE $10,000+ JURY TRIALS ON HORIZON IN FLAG SEIZURE CASE

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Unmollified, the sardonic sergeant returned around 4 PM with head bumbuster, Police Chief Jack Bassett watching from nearby. As Hennig and his henchman did another ripoff of sleeping bags, blankets, food containers, and personal items, Moonrise Mike Carreiro was informed he faced a jury trial and misdemeanor charges of Public Nuisance for tending the table.

Though no Homeless Tablun-ter has yet been convicted of Public Nuisance, the police have been using the charge as the latest pretext for stripping homeless demonstrators of their possessions in hopes of driving them back into the bushes or down the road. This last winter, local flatfeet became notorious for taking sleeping bags in the dead of winter as "evidence of camping" or "abandoned." When such callous tactics roused twitches of disapproval among some of the judges, police raised their sights to mass seizures of survival gear, literature, and homeless tables using an 1872 Public Nuisance law.

Given the unresolved judicial status of the vague charge, some hoped that a more reasonable SCPD policy was in the offing. Hennig and Bassett apparently decided to burn their bridges and file new Nuisance charges, possibly angered by the July 4 homeless demonstration and emboldened by the larger
trollbuster counterdemo.
Also bagged in this "rob and roust" expedition were the suitcases and sleeping gear of Badlands Barbara Maez. When Hennig presented her with a Nuisance ticket and verbal abuse the next day, Barbara went to the police station to complain. She first attempted unsuccessfully to retrieve her property and then sought to make a verbal complaint to the watch commander. Hoarse and anxious, she was denied an audience by Sgt. "Goofy" Aluffi, who refused to talk to her unless she agreed to be alone with him. Feeling she needed a friend with her, Badlands shrugged and filed a written complaint, and a $2000 claims form with the City Clerk.

Another victim of Hennig's hunting expedition was "Many Miles" Mike Wilson. Turning his hungry eye on Wilson's shopping cart, cross, and American flag, Hennig made what may be the fatal mistake of treating Wilson's property like trash, impounding it, and embroiling Wilson in a legal struggle by awarding him one of the sergeant's prized Nuisance tickets. "Many Miles" and other Santa Barbara militants feel very strongly about the flag—which was apparently carried across the country several times in homeless peace walks, and is considered to be a priceless relic by many.

On July 6 Hennig spiced up the sadistic sport of robbing the homeless of goods and rights. On meeting Jabberwocky Jay in court in yet another of the endless hearings on Hennig's Jan 26 Nuisance ticket, Hennig presented Jay with yet another Nuisance ticket for July 5. Though Jay had not even been present at the Table the previous day when Hennig made his raid, Hennig presented Jay with yet another taxpayer-funded slap across the face at the very hearing where Hennig was being called to justify his warrantless Jan. 26 seizure of Jay's property.

Hennig's unspoken humor was cruel and relentless: "Give up and give in; even at the very moment you challenge the illegality of my first Nuisance ticket, I'll give you another...and another...until you trade in your first amendment rights and human dignity for a bit of peace." Facing dozens of harassment camping tickets, and the exhausting Jan 26 Nuisance charge, Jay was not amused at Hennig's bully-boy "ticket humor."

DEMONSTRATIONS IN SANTA CRUZ. Demonstrators on opposite sides of the homelessness issue chose July 4 to express their views in downtown Santa Cruz.
At Santa Cruz City Hall, about 700 people showed up for a "Take Back Our Town" demonstration against what one speaker called the "bums, freeloaders and squatters."

At the County Governmental Center, about 300 people demonstrated against the city's ban on camping and began a march through downtown Santa Cruz.

The demonstrations were peaceful except for a couple of shouting matches that erupted near the homeless people's march and rally.

2 Wilson, a Santa Barbara Homeless Rights Coalition activist, finally completed his nearly 300 mile "Walk Against Sleeping Bans" on the early morning of July 4th. D.C. activist Mitch Snyder—found dead in his room Sunday, walked the first few miles with Wilson's group in Santa Barbara in mid-April. The walk was abruptly interrupted 12 miles out of Santa Cruz in mid-June when 4 CHP cars surrounded Wilson and arrested him for "walking on the highway." Deported to Ventura for an old warrant several days later, Wilson returned to speak at Homeless Independence Day.

How do homeless people describe the place where they sleep?

If they know the address of the place, such as a shelter or park, use that address. Otherwise, describe the place, using the nearest cross streets.
Suits against L.A. sheriff’s deputies cost $8.5 million

LOUISIANA (AP) — Law

The sheriff’s department (is) letting deputies go out into

attorney Thomas Barham

City attorney to be noted

Bay homeless quadrupled since 1987

San Francisco Examiner - 5/28/10

EXAMINER STAFF REPORT

Nearly 200,000 people in the nine

EXAMINER STAFF REPORT

The number of homeless families in the region, according to the

The study shows a four-fold increase from a 1987 Public

S.F. State was hosting the Bay Area Social Services Consortium Conference on Homeless Families and Children on Wednesday, where the study was to be a prime topic of discussion.

and had six operations after he

"The sheriff's department really

Deputies claimed the shot first and

A 1987 internal study cited ex-

and Block said there also is a pattern

Blacks also have a higher

And that count covers only

According to the study, ‘as

The study was prepared by

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the community and beat people senseless and virtually

nothing is happening to them.

San Jose Mercury News 5-32-10

At at her and kept shooting at her

after she crawled into a closet to

Deputies claimed the shot first and kept shooting after she

at the sheriff's office. The newspaper noted:

In 1987, 18 of the 22 brutality

According to the study, "as

many as 189,027 (Bay Area)

included in that figure are more

Bay Area.

People involved in major

The Times noted in its

Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies have cost taxpayers

84 million in settlements and jury awards over three years.

In the past year, 18 brutality

Sheriff Sherman Block has
told deputies in all suits

at the sheriff's department.

Los Angeles Times reported

Sheriff Sherman Block has

acknowledged that brutality complaints are a concern for his

department.

He blamed the spread of gang

style violence in neighborhoods patrolled by the 7,800-deputy force

and an increasingly litigious reaction to violent confrontations.

Block denied that a so-called

"code of silence" exists among

Deputies who have had some

problems involving 17 alleged

police officers, said that the

approximately 100 lawsuits

filed against the sheriff's

department in 1989, 1990 and

1991, 42 were brought by

juries in excess of $10,000. The

Times said the deputies have

filed a total of 129 lawsuits

against the department in the

past five years.

Citizens who have been

exposed to police force.

One former police officer

was tried 10 times in 19 years.

the Times said.

Bob Block, who left the

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Agnos to Oust Homeless From Civic Center

Taking film at one of San Francisco's most visible problems, Mayor Agnos announced yesterday that the homeless will no longer be allowed to camp at Civic Center Plaza.

The announcement was made in conjunction with the opening of a new homeless shelter in the heart of Market Street, fulfilling a pledge the mayor made last year to begin moving the homeless off the streets.

"Agnos said all along that he would take action when the alternatives were in place," said Myra Soder, deputy mayor for health and human services. "This meets his criteria of a humane and decent alternative.

Moving the homeless out would also end months of criticism of Agnos for failing to enforce laws against sleeping in public parks.

The collection of indigent men, women and children who have lived among the park's olive groves for more than two years will take up residence in the shelter until Thursday to move out. After Thursday, police will begin ticketing and arresting individuals who make the plaza their home.

"The mayor's office has been very accommodating," said Janine Marson, who operates the shelter. "They have set up an emergency weather plan for those who need it.

For those who do not, they will be offered other options, such as housing or shelter placements.

Workers Intimidated

Whatever the number, residing in the area surrounding Civic Center Park is a challenge for those who work in the area. Office employees who work near the plaza, which is located in the immediate area, say they are intimidated by the constant ticketing and panhandling.

"People have a right to live in their parks without fear and harassment," said Supervisor Bill Maier, who has long criticized the mayor for not moving quickly to clean the park.

Inferring the Homeless

City social workers will begin delivering the message to leave the park by next week in a manner consistent with Agnos' careful approach to the homeless.

Park residents will be encouraged to move to a nearby homeless shelter at Polk and Geary streets, where the city has opened a new facility. File clients will screen clients. Transportation will be provided to and from the program, including drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers.

A second homeless shelter, located at Fifth and Bryant streets and paid for in part by earthquake emergency funds, will open Monday. The facility consists of 110 beds and is expected to accommodate up to 200 beds by the end of the summer.

Both homeless facilities offer medical care, mental health care, and limited storage for belongings.

Permanently Housing Sought

"The whole idea is to move people from these transitional centers into permanent housing," said Bob Frenzel, the mayor's homeless coordinator.

Warming Room Opened

Warming rooms to the Civic Center Plaza will be opened on Thursday. Police will be on hand to enforce the city's anti-lodging in a public park. The warming room will be the only place in the city where lodging is allowed.

Marston said that the mayor had set a deadline for the city to come up with permanent housing options. She added that if the city does not meet the deadline, she will be forced to use the warming rooms.

The city council will meet to discuss the matter on Monday.

"We're not going to go in to see them with a split personality," Marston said. "But if we refuse to comply, we will take enforcement action.

Another Doorway

"We found that people need a place to stay, and that they expect a lot of the city's squatters to scatter to other parts of the city. They seem to be very well informed that we are a city of 5,000 homeless individuals sleeping on the streets.

Welcome to Art Motel

ROB MORSE

THIS IS a big day for Art Agnos and the homeless.

If the mayor's plan goes according to plan, the homeless in Civic Center will take up residence in the city's mini-motel suites.

Arrested for panhandling

One man on the block was shot by police last night, and they say it's a crime.

The man was caught in the act of stealing a bag from a store.

"He doesn't understand, and he should know better," said one police officer.

"We're just going to have to deal with it. He's been caught before."
Thanks for limiting disruptions

I would like to congratulate the City Council for limiting Robert Horne and his band of disruptive bums been heard.

This is a critical time in Santa Cruz. With all there is to be done, aggressive group behavior is totally non- sense. Can you imagine what this city would be like without a campaign? If it double, just check the Front Street post office.

Ray Gentry
Santa Cruz

one of nurse's less ardent fans---

Tent City Tweaks the Conscience of Paris

By Juliet Toshidi

Paris

The aura of cooked rice and the wall of infants float through the Parisian square, transformed into a kind of a mix by 48 African families evicted from places where they were squatting.

Three hundred people, half of them children, have been sleeping, eating, and waiting in the Place de la Republique in the southeastern suburbs of the French capital since May 2.

Youngsters play in sand pits, old men sit around in the sun, and women draped in bright African dress toll over huge pots of rice and milk, their babies sling across their backs.

An elderly woman fending groaning in the shade, two-line squad guard in bewilderment.

The occupation, coinciding with worries of a growing tide of racism in France, is a desperate measure by immigrant families who say they already have been evicted as many as four times and have nowhere else to go.

But it is also an act of resistance against the city administration and its head of housing, the mayor, Jacques Chirac.

"Chirac wants to create a city for the rich, with only expensive flats and businesses," said Maurice Momot, the head of the committee for the

Homeless, which organized the sit-in.

"The poor, the immigrants, the Africans, they don't fit the image. So they are being pushed further and further out into the suburbs," he said.

Concerns about racism were heightened by the evacuation earlier this month of a Jewish cemetery in northern Paris, which was occupied by squatters.

"We are the victims of racism," said Jean-Pierre Bocquet, a member of the group Les Alternatives.

But many believe squatters are being evicted in order to build new homes for French expatriates who cannot afford the high costs of living in the city.

Polls show that 30 percent of voters support the anti-immigration party, the Front National, which is led by Jean-Marie Le Pen.

The French president, Francois Mitterrand, has said he will not be pulled out of the suburbs, despite pressure from the opposition.

Determined not to be forgotten, the families say they will stay in the square until affordable permanent housing is found.

The city has offered them free hotel rooms, but most have refused, saying they are fed up with being shunted about.

Officials think the families are being too demanding, given that squatting is technically illegal.

"They just can't demand to live in the city, it's not growing any more. We offer them lodgings in a suburb, they should accept, because it's all we have available," a deputy director of information at City Hall said.

Every morning, men leave the crowded tents, which house up to 20 families each, for their jobs as road sweepers, plumbers or public transportation drivers.

"We're trying to live as normal- ly as possible," one man said, "but it's not easy."

After a few minutes of impromptu catcalls back and forth, the Homeless demonstrators decided to abandon Busenhart's Barbarians to their own bigotry and marched to the front steps of the County Building to hear some eloquent words in the mid-day heat.

Bathrobespierre Robert kicked off ceremonies by welcoming the rainbow crowd of visitors to Santa Cruz.

Youthlover Yahshehwe described the hardships of trying to work while homeless for a middle-class white boy in Santa Cruz. Soulful George Solis from Sonoma, tireless organizer behind the whole rally, read a statement of support from Mitch Snyder (see p. 34.).

"Right Back," urged Gerald Waldman from Oakland's Union of the Homeless, to give the Oakland homeless taking back Old Man's Park via actions at the Hyatt Regency: "we don't back down."

Curtis Bray spoke of Berkeley activists successfully defeating a Sleeping Ban there, fighting trumped up burglary charges for taking over an abandoned building, securing an injunction against destruction of homeless property in People's Park, and fighting to reopen the low-income Berkeley Inn.

Ann Arnold of the local Women's Inti League for Peace and Freedom asked for fair laws and first amendment rights for all in an area of reconciliation.

Dr. Michael Zimm, now a local but recently from Orange County, living out of his van, described his swift spiral downward into homelessness

Sherry Conable identified our home as Planet Earth and spoke of the painful and pressing priority to establish a safe place to sleep and keep one's possessions.

Reportedly once a police-hassled long-haired hippy, former Mayor Bruce Van Allen noted "we can't say 'stay awake until we change the system'" but urged a broad alliance and consensus to break the Santa Cruz deadlock and a march for all allies not futile demands.

Singer Mark Levy reprinted his 1989 hit, "30 Days in the County Jail"--the saga of Slyshowes Sandy Loranger, who went to jail for serving food at the Town Clock last summer. cont.

3. What address should homeless use for their mailing address?

If people already receive mail, use that mailing address. If not, one will be available on the night of the registration drive.
Marchers then hit the streets with chants ("They say 'take back' we say 'fight back!'" ... "Give Sleep a chance!") and signs ("Jesus was homeless by choice."..."Homeless not helpless!"). The March snaked past the jail, spilled out onto Ocean St., and crossed the river to the Mall, with little interference from "redshirts" or police. At the Homeless Table, the demonstration heard a historical summary of homeless harassment from Bathrobespierre Robert, and statements from the hardy Homeless Tabluhteers themselves.

Off to the side, 5 police "guarded" the Busenhart's Bumbaiters who were clustering at the Town Clock, while 2 lone officers "protected" the march. Linda the Lark Edwards' attempt to enter into a heated but peaceful dialogue with "homeless rights opponents," was thwarted by over-eager monitors, insistent on keeping demonstrators quarantined from their opponents. "Rodent" found redshirts agreeing with him that the city needed a campground. And Grinning Ray Grueneich had an amusing dialogue with "Abusin' Heart's" bunch, in which he discussed their proposal to make the Sleeping Ban harsher (to make sleeping outside an offense immediately punishable with jail). "It would keep the city paying for police round-ups, and increase county costs with $10,000 jury trials."

Some smiled at signs urging winos to get out of town carried by folks who were seen slipping in and out of Ben's bar throughout the early afternoon (Boozin' heart's Beerlovers?). Earlier Linda and Moonrise Mike Carreiro had actually dared to approach City Hall at the height of Busenhart's counter-demonstration. Linda reports the redshirts were idling about in the streets with police looking on, but when she and Mike approached as the redshirts chanted "shoot them" police accused Linda and Mike of being "in the street" and demanded they leave.

Lunch munchies and music greeted the walkers when they returned to the Flatlands. Street guitarist and food activist Sentinel Mike Kartok played his own homeless tunes ("I'm Just Staying Calm In a World That's Gone Wrong"), followed by speakers, singers, and ramblers, with the Deep Fried Sea Monkies ending the afternoon. 3

Keith McHenry of Food Not Bombs provided the grub for the group along with Santa Cruz's own Gingersnap George, Slyshoes Sandy, and other lettuce-chopping, chicken-cooking volunteers. McHenry announced a sleep-in at S.F. Mayor Art Agnos' house to protest his "human removal" plan at Civic Center, and noted the twisted priorities of people would celebrate independence day by jailing the public.4 (cont.)

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3 Organizers of the rally thanked the Monkeys for letting speaker after speaker use their P.A. system. The group waited until day's end for their chance to play. If you liked their stuff, call Ajax, James, Tom & Ken at 459-9432. The Street Shit Sheet's first unpaid commercial announcement.

4 McHenry and 2 other FNB folks, their pots, and their food truck, were arrested in San Francisco the next day for feeding people at the Civic Center there. On July 11, they were reportedly planning a return engagement with the Oakland Union of the Homeless to open up the Civic Center for all citizens of S.F. -- those with beds and those without.

MAKE LOVE on DRUGS, NOT WAR on DRAUGS
Beverly Adams, mother of 10, played some of the many
crowd's assembled reflecting her own struggle
including "Ballad of the Homeless." Throughout the day police
kept a low profile—a minor controversy erupted when Officer "Love
It If You'd Leave Me" Levy insisted the permits didn't cover
barbequeing. Oakland chefs ignored the officious interruption
saying they had food to cook and no time to argue, and the police
quickly backed off.

Andrew Jackson of Oakland Union of the Homeless, spoke
of kicking in doors to establish dignity housing three years
before. Jackson described the struggle from a 3-man tent in Old
People's Park in 1977 to a $5 million dollar corporation run by
homeless people themselves, secured legally this spring. He
organized a workshop on housing takeovers. A dynamic woman from
Berkeley challenged listeners to create enough community and
militance to make the people of Santa Cruz glad to let house the
homeless; she set up workshops on women's issues and "copwatch,"
to overcome citizen fear of watching police encounters.

Speakers continued through the afternoon until
dinnertime when the long-awaited bbq chicken made its brief
appearance. Organizers and observers were amazed at the relative
lack of problems, considering so many people gathering from so far
away. Lots of noise, comraderie, hope, and sharing—even the town
drank got to take the microphone and say his piece. A brief
scuffle at dinnertime was handled by demonstrators themselves.
And as night fell, the homeless of Santa Cruz settled in to face
another night under the stars and the police flashlights.

AFTERMATH:

Out-of-town participation at the First California
Homeless Congress was reduced because local organizers couldn't
find a back-up legal camping area and attorney support.
Additionally $3000 made available to Northern California from the
California Homeless Coalition was left unspent because of problems
organizing the southern California contingent.

"Many Miles" Mike Wilson lost the "Homeless Walk Across
America" flag and virtually everything he'd brought with him to a
Hennig/Bassett police raid the next day (see story p. 4.). Wilson
was saddened, but not discouraged, and spoke of the future. "With
the organization in place, it would be a good time to mobilize a
larger crowd." Wilson feels the police crackdown on the day of
Mitch Snyder's death was an act of poor taste and bad faith on the
part of the police.

"If negotiations in the next few weeks do not produce a
sanctuary for sleepers and a real change in abusive police
practices towards the homeless, folks here may feel the need to do
an expanded action in the fall, possibly as soon as Labor Day.
Personally I hope the right to sleep is decriminalized and no
further outside action is necessary. It's time police and city
officials stopped treating people like trash."
Homeless activists, Santa Cruz residents stage dual protests

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER - 7/16/90

Street people say city is hostile; town folk are 'fed up'

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

SANTA CRUZ — Homeless activists from around the state and town locals squared off on Independence Day.

The burning issue was: "Is this the land of the free?"

About 200 homeless activists called for an end to the city’s camping ban, saying homeless people should be free to sleep where they can. The 600 protesting residents said they were tired of giving Santa Cruz "bucks" and "squatters" a free ride.

Carolyn Busenhart, who put together the residents' "Take Back the Town" counter-protest at City Hall, thanked organizers of the statewide homeless protest for choosing Santa Cruz, saying, "If they had not, we’d still be the silent majority."

Homeless activists, rallying in front of the county courthouse, said they chose Santa Cruz so they could protest the city’s ban on outdoor sleeping. Most of the protesters, who drove from Oakland, Berkeley, Sonoma and Santa Barbara, Mitch Snyder, nationally known homeless activist from Washington, D.C., sent a telegram which he

Please see PROTESTS -- A3

Protests: signs of the times

SANTA CRUZ — Both homeless activists and angry residents claimed Bart Simpson as their poster boy for their Fourth of July demonstrations.

A homeless activist carried a sign of Simpson wearing a "No housing for homeless" sign. On the other side, a red-shirted resident hoisted a giant poster with a drawing of Bart shouting, "Get a life!"

These placards raised in the two demonstrations showed the feelings on both sides of the issue:

- "Jesus was homeless, too"
- "Homeless go home, and take UCSC with you"
- "The homeless fight back"
- "We’re not your wave"
- "Jobs not bums" (sic)

Finally, this was the large sign in front of City Hall. It read, "The people who live in Santa Cruz Mayor Mardi Wormold and county Supervisor Gary Patton. "Monsieur: Load up your ass and your car and come to the promised land. Mardi and Gary say: Sit on your ass, light up a Camel, this is the promised land."

Lawmaker links abortion protests to funds for low-income housing

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — An anti-abortion congressman threatened Friday to try to cut federal funding for housing programs for the homeless if Angeleno voters approve of anti-abortion measures.

During the demonstration, police arrested 24 protesters, many of whom have accused each other of "picketing" the federal government's "no-picketing" corner enforcement. A group of 25 people have filed a claim against the city.

Dannemeyer said he will investigate whether the federal government is violating its own statute that links city funding from the federal government's "no-picketing" corner enforcement. He suggested it be examined in detail.

In his letter, dated April 24, Dannemeyer said that police officers who arrested the protesters "who tried to block the entrance to a downtown women's health clinic, Family Planning Associates, on April 14."

Dannemeyer intends to follow up on the situation to see how the case is handled.

A spokeswoman for Mayor Tom Eisenberg said: "We're going to file a complaint against the city."

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Members of the Oakland homeless union came to town to lend their support.

People are obviously fed up.

——— Councilman John Mahaney

Counter-protester let his bat and sign do the talking.
4TH OF JULY PREP Rouses RED-SHIRT RANTERS: RADIO DEBATES
ORGANIZERS MOVE NOON MARCH TO "GAIN MORAL HIGH GROUND"

"Take Back Our City" blared the fractious flyer printed and distributed by the local Plumber's Union in support of a bizarre rally "in favor of the camping ban." Urging that a certain class of people not be allowed to sleep at night unless they paid for the privilege, cosmetician Carolyn Busenhart and construction manager Vern Bohr called for 1000 sleepsasmashers to gather at City Hall July 4 to oppose those calling for an end to the Ban. "Wear a red shirt," advised the flyer and the subsequent 1/4 page S.C. Sentinel ad.

Branding Bathrobespierre Robert "an advocate of continued homelessness," Bumbasher Busenhart stridently denounced social services to the poor (except the "small fraction" that is "truly homeless" which was "well taken care of by existing services"). On two noontime debates a week apart on Michael Zwerling's KSRO program, Robert and Moxie Margaret Marr on June 23rd, and Jabberwocky Jay, Blackbird Barbara Haglund, "No Nonsense" Ned Van Valkenburgh, and "Levelheart" Linda Lemaster on June 30th faced off against the Bumbasher and Vexatious Vern.

Vexatious and Bumbasher insisted that "the homeless by choice," "homelessness advocates with hidden agendas," and "paid outside agitators" were invading the town. Jabberwocky, Blackbird, and Levelheart denounced the categories of prejudice. Bathrobespierre insisted the issue was where do people sleep? Moderator Michael kept vainly trying to turn the discussion back to solutions to local homeless problems. Most callers denounced "street people downtown" as the prime demons in the current Redevelopment Hell.

In response to fears that dangerous physical or negative verbal confrontation would develop between the two groups of demonstrators on July 4, concerned liberals and some homeless folks, meeting at Keystone's Cupboard (aka A Free Meal) on June 27 took up Earth Day organizer Sherry Conable's suggestion that the homeless march be moved from City Hall to the County Building. Conable, a relative newcomer to the homeless movement, had spoken out sharply to the Gang of 7 in April after Jabberwocky Jay had lost blankets, bedding, and all to police in a mid-month raid. On diplomatic terms with Mayor Wormhoudt, Conable had been working to facilitate "getting the right permits" and "assuring a peaceful demonstration," for the July 4 rally.

Her independent appeal to the homeless and subsequent cancellation of the City Hall permit (moving the rally from City Hall to the County Building) provoked some anger among other organizers who felt she was limiting options and imposing her agenda, but by early July, most everyone agreed that the County Building was a better place for a demonstration than the City Hall anyway. "It's bigger, it's more visible, it's a free speech area that doesn't require permits, and it's greener," admitted Bathrobespierre, who had initially raged against Conable and the "coterie of nervous liberals who pulled a last-minute power play to switch the march route."

So Supervisor Bill Maher wants to "crack down on vagrancy" in San Francisco? That reminds me of San-Van President Bush wanting to crack down on crime and, not coincidentally, once a decidedly weak image.

Maher appears tired of being a supervisor. Could he be running for mayor?

5-4-90 ESTELLE MARVIN
5-4-90 ESTELLE MARVIN

4. May a nonprofit (501(c)(3)) organization (shelter, food pantry) register voters?

Yes. As long as the people assisting in the registration do not advocate in any way support for a political party or candidate. That is, it must be strictly nonpartisan.
Effort Promised Against Beggars
Transit Officers Are Dubious as Chief Vows Crackdown On Warnings Issued

By CALVIN SIMS

NEW YORK, May 11—Transit officials today promised a crackdown on street solicitation for charity by ordering all transit officers to arrest anyone engaging in such activity.

The officials said they thereafter plan to make the practice punishable by fines, and that the officers will be instructed to arrest anyone asking for money in the subway system, regardless of the reason.

The order covers all parts of the subway, including the intercontinental lines, and the officials said they will not tolerate beggars in the system.

"We will not tolerate begging on our system," said Chief Vows. "We will arrest anyone who is asking for money in the subway.

"We have had enough of this." he said. "We will not tolerate begging in the subway system.

"We will arrest anyone who is asking for money in the subway system."
Fed-up landlord sets new criteria

KINGSTON, N.Y. (AP) — A landlord tired of undesirable tenants said Friday he has received hundreds of calls since advertising for tenants with standards, including knowing that "roaches are not household pets.

Landlord Jim Kennedy, 45, of New Paltz, said he placed the classified ad in the Kingston Freeman after boosting a perceived dealer of one of his apartments.

Kennedy said he was tired of renting to the "dregs of society."

The advertisement requires that tenants:

- "have a job or at least give the appearance that you could get one."
- "have some type of schooling or at least know there are other adverbs besides the one which starts with "P" and ends with "ing."
- "realize roaches are not household pets and you will keep the apartment clean so that you will not attract any."
- "actually pay the rent on time, with a good check."
- "realize drugs are not fun and you must have a doctor's prescription to use them."
- "must actually be married to your partner or at least know the correct spelling of your last name."

Kennedy said he got the idea for the ad "from the people who were coming to look at the property."

"I own a lot of houses and have had this problem for a long time — you put $200,000 into a building and it's not taken care of," Kennedy said.

"I will rent to anybody — black, green or whatever — as long as they take care of the product and pay the rent on time," Kennedy said.

Don Zirkle, a spokesman for the state Division of Human Rights in New York City, said there is nothing illegal with Kennedy's first five criteria, but bribed at the sixth.

Zirkle said the office has won a number of legal battles for unmarried couples.

Kennedy said he has received 200 calls since placing the ad and "it's a 100 percent positive."

He said he rented the apartment "to a lovely couple."
POLICE SERGEANTS LAUNCH NEW RAIDS ON HOMELESS TABLE #14
CRACKDOWN SEIZURES AND ARRESTS THREATEN ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS

On Tuesday, June 25th, just 8 days before Homeless Independence Day, hard-line police sergeants "Hobohunter" Hennig and "Don't Fuck With Me" St. Onge led another spoiling party against the homeless vigil outside the post office. And one day later, Sgt. "Sleepstrangler" Sealy went from property pillaging to seizing human beings by actually arresting four men and one
woman for sleeping there.

It was the first such roundup since two teams of negotiators began to settle outstanding court cases and set up a legal safe camping zone. An early June 13th raid had been reversed later on the same day after victims flooded the police station and city clerk's office with complaints and claims respectively. [see story p. 15.] Shortly thereafter the police station released homeless property taken in other raids and attorneys began high-level negotiations to end the cycle of sleeping "public nuisance" arrests around the Homeless Table.

A few days before the June 26th blanket nap, Bubba
Brian reported, Sgt. Hennig had made a mild guest appearance at the Table and suggested, but not ordered, the removal of several lawn chairs from the corner. Given Hennig's relatively courteous request, activists quickly responded by sacrificing the furniture to show they were willing to meet police "concerns" halfway.

To no avail. In the later morning of June 26, on the
day of the last City Council meeting before the July 4 Homeless rally, sadsack sergeants warned Stormin' Norman & his Homeless Tabluheers to spruce up the corner. St. Onge and Hennig then returned three hours later and rewarded the homeless corner-cleaners with sarcastic abuse and a replay of some of the worst scenes of the winter and spring: blueshirt blanket-snatching, wholesale seizures of food, and sleeping bags—nearly everything in sight, and "no tickets/ no reasons."

Witnessing this mean-spirited misuse of power were Candlelight Kim, Judge-Me-Not Joe, Latchkey Lisa, and camper's counselor Grinning Ray Grueneich himself, notepad in hand. Jabberwocky Jay's footlocker slipped out of police hands as one of the witnesses swiftly nabbed and secreted it away for safekeeping. But Jay lost other items, as did Moonrise Mike, Angry Arnold, Badlands Barbara, and others.

The next morning, Jay, Mike, Barbara, Joe, and Norman found themselves doing dawn jail time for sleepcrime in a second raid, conducted reluctantly by the beat officer and wholeheartedly

5 Usually sleepers cannot be jailed for camping infractions. To punish sleepers with four hours in a cold cot-less waiting cell, sleepslayer sergeants direct their officers to charge demonstrators with "misdemeanor camping" and then jail them. This "crime," which gives the police discretion to book in jail is invariably tried as an infraction when it reaches the courts, since prosecutors refuse to file for a misdemeanor, which would allow for a jury trial and a court-appointed attorney.

There has not been one recorded misdemeanor sleeping trial in the last two years here. Yet people can be thrown into a cell in the dead of night for "crimes" that magically disappear before any courtroom accountability. Rumors are circulating that some attorneys intend to challenge this abusive process in higher courts.
by supervising Sgt. Sealy. Why, wondered the activists, were the police suddenly provoking confrontations in the midst of negotiations and on the eve of a massive homeless demonstration?

Later that day, some answers began to take shape. When Jay, Mike, and Barbara went to the local Dick Tracy den to ask that their bedding and toothbrushes be returned, they were stalled an hour, then invited in by Sgt. Hennig. Jay reports the single-minded sergeant took Jay back to a private room, read him his rights, and then cited Jay for "Public Nuisance" and refused to return his belongings. Aside from being deceptive and vindictive, Hennig's latest hokum was strangely-timed. The local D.A.'s have been holding up on prosecution of existing "Nuisance" harassment tickets until (a) Jabberwocky Jay's Jan. 26 case and its legal questions are resolved, and (b) on-going compromise negotiations are clarified.

Quoth the Jabberwocky: "There are elements with the police department that are trying to sabotage negotiations." The soft-spoken activist added that Hennig himself had candidly confided that he had acted on his own authority without direction from above to impound homeless gear because of two phone calls and one letter complaining about the Homeless Table. Even though activists there had promptly moved to clean and straighten the area as requested, alternate storage facilities for confiscated homeless gear were non-existent.

Will the police department rein in its rogue road warriors such as "cattleherder " Hennig? Perhaps a steady stream of claims and complaints from Hennig's homeless victims will help the brass at the top take a stand.

LATE FLASH: But then again, perhaps not. On June 29 a summit between Street Scourge Chief Jack Bassett, "Kangaroo" Tom Kelly, and "Moxie" Margaret Marr among others ran into a stone wall. Marr, Jabberwocky Jay's determined public defender in the Jan 26 "Public Nuisance" pseudo-charge, presented a compromise plan to remove the disgraceful police blanketburgling cases from the courts.

The plan provided for unilateral good-faith contraction of Homeless Table operations to business hours and agreement to suspend the nightly vigil at the post office. In return, police and city officials would meet twice monthly with demonstrators (with Bathrobespierre Robert specifically banned from negotiations). The first and foremost topic to be discussed would have been a safety zone for the vigilers to sleep in during the negotiations. Additional topics: investigation of a low-cost campground for the Santa Cruz homeless, the installation of locker facilities as an alternative to the current Homeless Table site, and Homeless Table hours of operation. Two months of successful negotiations would result in the dropping of pending camping and nuisance charges at the Homeless Table. (cont.)

For the recent history of the sergeant's round-en-up days, and his new policy for treating people like livestock, see p. 13a.

5. May a person assist homeless people in filling out the voter registration card?
   Yes. A person may assist another in filling out a registration card.
Sunnyvale Considers Charging Protestors

By SUSAN KOSTAL

Citi Expressive Activity

Crew has spoken out against cities, including San Jose, that have used the state law to bill drunkards drivers, sometimes before a conviction.

"We've got some problems with the drunken driving billings," Crew said. "It's been reviewed as an urban problem, but it's not a problem. Builders are being forced to handle the costs of arrests and trials. Sunnyvale Mayor Larry Stone said the two protested could cost the city as much as $100,000.

Demonstrators expressing controversial views could conceivably be hit with higher bills.

"The cost of a protest could be $100,000," Crew said. "The cost of a protest is not covered by the city. The city is not responsible for the cost of a protest.

Attorney Makes Distinction

Carol Sobel, a Los Angeles-based ACLU attorney who specializes in First Amendment issues, said the law is officially written but is aimed at drunkards drivers.

"You can't draw the analogy between drivers and protesters," Sobel said. "Even if there is a need for service to be performed in the drinkers driving area, drinkers driving is not a protected right.

"All of society benefits from the First Amendment, and we share the right to protest," she said.

Crew said an ordinance could encourage the police to arrest more people, or encourage a district attorney to prosecute more people.

Santo Cruz's Gang of 7 Wanted to Do This, Too...
To the Santa Cruz City Council

February 16, 1990

We, the undersigned, have long awaited a particularly graphic display of this city's policy of forbidding rich and poor alike, in the words of Aristotle, from sleeping under bridges. On the night of March 1-2, it became clear that this limited concept of equality is no longer in effect here. The city of Santa Cruz was no longer rich enough to afford Paul McCartney concert tickets (at the cost of an entire room) or to allow homeless people to live in a high-tech tent. None were disturbed in the manner of the vigil, and for one night a few homeless individuals were able to sleep in the former - an unprecedented event. One drives the conclusion that the physical survival of the disenfranchised. Yet, such inequality, not being in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution and local ordinances, has simply been used as an example of First Amendment rights.

For years citizens of this community have asked for the so-called "Campsite Ban" (hereafter to be referred to as "the ban") to be repealed, or for enforcement of a sleeping sanctuary. Such a small number of decency remains a viable alternative to legal action. This communication is written on the basis of an informed layman's understanding of the legal remedies. There is here no attempt to suggest that the matters covered in this letter either limit or commit us to specific legal remedies.

This letter will serve notice of our intention to file a civil rights suit against the City of Santa Cruz on behalf of anyone who has been denied a sleeping violation or been informed of an impending violation of this nature. The action being for denial of equal rights under color of law, triple damages would be involved.

It is also our understanding that all officials concerned may well have personal liability, and it is not possible that the enforcement of the ban (or other similar statutes) may be covered by any liability insurance, nor as a revelation of our theories of liability, but simply to advance the seriousness with which we regard this matter.

If you have liability insurance providing coverage for such actions, you should take this as a serious declaration of intent and notify your public officials. It is simply impossible to anticipate the need for defense or defense from liability in this action. We shall provide a grace period of 10 weeks, in the event that any载体 wish to negotiate separate settlements, before we engage counsel.

It has not been our wish to interfere with the efforts of Santa Cruz to rebound from the effects of the recent earthquake. Nevertheless, during this trying time city policy has had no perceptible softening. It would be unwise to have anyone denied coverage or defense from late notice provisions. We shall provide a grace period of 10 weeks, in the event that any载体 wish to negotiate separate settlements, before we engage counsel.

This is obviously an encompassing viewpoint. There is no longer a need to lay this matter to rest. We are willing to accept either a lifting of the sleeping ban or a firm offer of a reasonably-sized sanctuary area with washroom facilities, and are willing to enter into immediate, good faith discussions. In the event of such an offer, we offer the same time frame of two weeks (concurrently) to begin on this enterprise.

We deeply regret embarking upon this course of action, but we are willing to embrace for the Declaration of Independence for the approximate tenor of the provocations under which we do it and for the determination with which we intend to pursue it.

With all due respect,

[Signature]

End of the homeless...
Within hours, Moonrise, Truepenny, Bathrobespierre Robert, and others, whose property had been taken, filed seven complaints at police headquarters, then logged in six $2000 claims for the items seized. Within three hours, most of the stolen property was returned--no questions asked. For the first time since early February, demonstrators claimed a police-napped Table and homeless gear, a significant victory over the current SCPD "trash the trolls" policy that may spell its doom.

Back in the courts, the first "Public Nuisance" case against the Homeless Tabluhteers continued to crawl forward--but with an unexpected result. With charges dropped last month against Grassroots Greg and Omar the Magnificent for their January 25 presence at Homeless Table #4, Jabberwocky Jay and Linda the Lark continued to face 6 months in jail and/or $1000 fine for "nuisance" free speech at the corner of Water and Front Sts.

Jay's court-appointed lawyer, "Moxie" Margaret Marr, made her thirteenth appearance on the six-month old case--with no pre-trial hearing yet in sight. At issue was a D.A. attempt to suppress a defense discovery motion that would force Danner's Deadweights to release all documents showing a policy of homeless harassment. (cont.)

5 Transients in Santa Ana get $50,000, chance for new life

SANTA ANA -- When Check higgle and George Shillthorpe got the day Thursday morning, their combined assets were 2 cents. By 10 a.m., their joint net worth was already behind the $51,510.46.

"I've come up a long way in the world in just a matter of minutes," higgle said.

Shillthorpe's new wealth recently came at the expense of the city of Santa Ana, which Tuesday paid out $5,000 to 15 homeless people as part of a settlement of a lawsuit filed in 1988.

Street people who live in the Civic Center area sued the city after it began evicting homeless people's bedrolls as part of a cleanup campaign. Irvine attorney Christopher Means, who represented the group, said he believes the settlement money--$3,308.46 per person--will be enough to change their lives. Means took no profit from the case but kept $373.46 as reimbursement for expenses such as court filing fees, photocopying and mileage.

Shillthorpe said the settlement money gave him a one-way ticket out of Santa Ana to a better life.

By 3 p.m., he was on a bus headed for Fullerton, where he planned to eat a dinner of steak and lobster, sleep in a soft bed at an Anaheim hotel and then catch an Amtrak train to Northern California to visit his relatives in Marysville and look for work.

"I figure this is the last time I'll see Orange County for a long time," said Shillthorpe, 46. "I hope to be out of this business and not thinking about my life."

Other settlement recipients were making plans ranging from finding a motel for the night to buying a new home to retirement.

"I won't be there to share it with them," he said, "but hopefully they know I'm there in spirit."

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$2000 is the maximum claim that can be asserted in small-claims court—the next step for those seeking to reclaim their property once the city council rejects their claims. Unless the rooms full of homeless gear taken throughout the spring is returned, owners intend to file similar claims and confront the blanketburglers in court.

Santa Barbara demonstrator camped out at their city hall to demand an explicit return to the "tolerance for sleepers" policy hammered out in 1986. When police seized their property in a dragnet in early May, immediate claims to the city resulted in a similar release of all property.

Pre-trials usually happen 2-3 weeks after a citation is given.

Danner's Deadweights: a bizarre collection of functionaries—trying-to-make-a-living, policicos, lawyers—who'll-serve-any-master, and clerks who spend half their time putting people away for victimless drug "crimes" and another chunk of it backing up the prejudiced policies of Javeljabber Jack Bassett's police department. (cont.)
That issue was again postponed (to July 6, 1:30 p.m. in Dept. E) after hours of backroom negotiations. A reluctant agreement, hammered out between D.A. "Martial Law" Marigonda, the SCPD's Sgt. "Hobohunter" Hennig, and Marr under the leadership of Muni Court Judge "Kangaroo" Kelly, was a deal to: (a) release all property, literature, and tables stolen April 17, (b) release some property taken in the May 8 pillaging, and (c) set up immediate negotiations for time/place/manner regulations to allow un molested homeless tabling downtown. Paddywagon Pete's ears pricked up when he heard Hennig muttering as he left the courthouse, "Barnum and Bailey justice!"

Gobs of homeless goods are still in the lockup with action delayed because Marigonda still has not seen fit to secure police reports on the last four police fishing expeditions. No legitimate explanations--much less citations--were given for the April 17, May 8, May 23, and May 24th raids, nor has the SCPD-D.A. conspiracy come up with any charges for their legalized robbery operation.

Still awaiting release: at least 4 Homeless Tables in protective custody, political literature and petitions, and more homeless bedding and clothing taken April 7, May 23 and May 24th. The original Jan. 26th "Public Nuisance" charges against Jabberwocky and Linda are hanging over their heads. And, to keep the taxpayer's dollars in circulation, the D.A.s have charged "Paddywagon" Pete Pascoe with yet another nuisance "Nuisance" violation for operating Homeless Table #6 on April 7th. (cont.)

12 On July 6, Muni Judge "Kangaroo" Kelly heard two-and-a-half hours of testimony from Hennig and an hour from Bath-Robespierre in a hearing to recover Jay's seized property and set some legal limits on the "snatch and seal" system police are using to spread fear among the demonstrators. Kelly has thus far refused to order the property returned though there are ample photographs that could be used in any legitimate prosecution not primarily concerned with harassment. The judicial charade continues July 11 at 1:30 PM in Dept. E.

13 Paul Marigonda, up-and-coming prosecutor, earned his nickname by working against the homeless feeding group Food Not Bombs in San Francisco several years ago. Signing on with Danner's Deadweights, Marigonda earned his spurs spending county money to send Sandra Loranger to jail for serving food at the Town Clock last year. He continues to obediently and enthusiastically argue the legality of police persecution of the homeless as the taxpayers foot the mounting bill.

14 But, see Late Flashes, p.13. for news on the derailing of the negotiations by Hennig's loyal overlord, Backwater Bassett.
August 29, 1969
Editor, San Jose Mercury-News

Dear Sir or Madam,

Columnist Lee Quarnstrom has been venting his spleen at homeless right-wingers for exactly a year. His bus-busting broadsides twist and ignore basic facts in the year-long controversy on Santa Cruz over the sleeping ban and the "jail the soup" policy raids. Santa Cruz, with its suppo radio "progressive" City Council majority, has enforced an 11 p.m.-8 a.m. curfew in vehicles and outdoors, which largely impacts homeless, transient, and unemployed tourists. The offenders are cited, given expensive tickets ($40-$100), and then fined. The homeless are told to pay no more than a hotel bill—and then jailed for warrants if caught.

In the protest against this city ordinance (6.36), which the council could easily change, and against violence toward the homeless, activist Jane Inger led others in a vigil last November in the City Council. The vigil included a bowl of hot soup against the winter cold for anyone who wanted it. Inger had conducted similar vigils in the fall of 1965 and 1966 at the campus of a home-sleep supportive-white vigilers and homeless received food--without incident. A program comprehensive of losing money during "the Christmas season," city authorities contacted the state health and the SCPD to scuttle off Inger and her co-workers. When that temporary food program back of the River St. mini-shelter through

When that program ended (for lack of funds), homeless activists resumed feeding the hungry at the City Council. Several dozen police staged a raid in full dress riot gear with body shields and truncheons drawn on January 19. The continued arresting people over the course of the next few months, using legal aid in the process using a never-before-seen "health statute." When activists applied for a permit, they were refused. When they continued to feed the homeless, they were arrested for "operating a food counter without a permit." Their health was not ever alleged or proven. Two people—Brian Staley and Mary Jorgenson—eventually went to jail for over six weeks after costly trials. More trials are set for September against Lorrigan (again! myself, Malu Pinecone, and Dan Johnston.)

Last May intermediaries proposed a plan to set up a city-approved program to reestablish a nightly meal using some city-funding for facilities. "Progressive" councillors Leidig and Wormhout torpedoed the plan because they disliked the activist's rhetoric and ongoing protest feeding program. Throughout the summer, there was no evening meal for the hungry, when the heat had already. Interventionsally distributed on the city and county blocks.

Recently, city authorities have again offered to move the feeding program some distance from the city center at the mini-shelter, run by Inger for this step, however late and grudging. Perhaps future negotiations will lead to an acknowledgement of the right to sleep as well as the right to give and receive food failed. The city has not paid the costs. Throughout this controversy, Quarnstrom has not had the courage, sense, decency, or the even the professionalism to interview (or even speak with) one of the homeless activists he so regularly maligns in his columns. His hostile characterization of the homeless and the street community as "bums," "looters," and "drunks" is a standard in the activist community as disruptive. Quarnstrom's public service especially for civil-rights workers south by South in the early 60s. As a one-time sympathizer with struggles for human rights, Quarnstrom might try laying behind his politics and getting on the streets to investigate what may be the major civil-rights struggles of the 90s. It is important that Mercury-News readers have access to accurate information to correct the distortion he has been peddling.

Sincerely,

Robert Morse

New York subways eject handpagers

NEW YORK—Transit officials have passed new rules that call for all passengers, even those using passes, to leave the station on a bus, to be ejected out of the system. It was reported Thursday. When the rules follow a federal appeals court decision earlier this month that upheld a Transit Authority ban on the use of handpagers on the subway system, it was reported Thursday. The court said, "The District of Columbia has no authority to control the movement of persons through the system." This seems to be a bad idea. In fact, there have been reports that while someone can come up with some way to get in without infringing on their civil rights.

O N THE other hand, civil libertarians say—and they are correct—that a few can turn from public places just because they don't like the way they look. For, thank God, I haven't heard anyone say they actually want buses on the mail. This seems to be a bad idea. In fact, there have been reports that while someone can come up with some way to get in without infringing on their civil rights.

One thing that might work would be for everyone to vote yes. Listening to the media every you'll see in town means no exception. Even when it's not the case. That's what I want. Let's give it a try.

Since these buses have the same civil rights as every other American, why can't they be the same as every other American? The answer is, of course, that the rest of us have to. This sounds obvious at first. I understand, but the American guarentee of freedom of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness is based on a shared respect for the constitutional. When and then what is the point for all of this, communally as well as each of us individually, the way the world is. Wins are passed out on the sidewalk may not have the inclination or the ability to see the value of their fellow citizens, but they can do one little thing: They can get off our sidewalks and out of our faces.

I'd be willing to contribute to a fund to help out the uniquely wise and some less than a shelter or remote spot far from campus. Jerome will help out those who are willing to stay there and to push their limits. Those moving around like so many cards from a deck can count on being in the city council meeting.

Would this work? Would it be legal? I don't know. Let's give it a try.
Dear Mayor W ormouth:

Psychiatric Inmates' Rights Collective would like to express its support for the St. George Hotel, which we feel is an appropriate setting for homeless individuals. We are concerned about the recent occurrences of violence, not only against the homeless but also against the police, as it serves to escalate the situation. We believe that the St. George Hotel should not be closed, but should remain an option for those in need.

If possible, the St. George Hotel should be closed for the safety of those who may be exposed to violence. If closed, the St. George Hotel should be used by the city as a temporary shelter for homeless individuals.

Sincerely,

Fred Barnett
Psychiatric Inmates' Rights Collective
P.O. Box 299
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0299

Fred to Mardi

April 21, 1990

Leith Austin

Hi, I'm not mail-merging this, because I haven't time, but it is indeed a PERSONAL appeal to all city officials. Are you aware of the terrible reputation we're gaining nationally? This clipping is from all of the papers, in fact, the Village Voice said something about it. I'm aware of the polarization in Santa Cruz and of the economic problems plaguing us in the aftermath of the quake.

Still, do you know that many of the people on the street, utilizing the Interfaith Church Satellite Program, are working and unable to afford first, last, and cleaning deposit?

As a tax-paying and very concerned citizen, who was homeless herself for a while ten years ago, I urge you please to try to do some revolution in your own heads about the housing problem. I am truly infamously, I have a police, a clean area where people could have showers, get to work, get training, and where those released from state institutions would not have to live in a house where there is a sleeping bag. I would be a deterrent to deviant behavior on our streets.

In spite of these years of fear on both sides of a polarized issue, it is never too late to become compassionate. In that compassion might be the economic salvation of our beautiful town where national and international interest is now guaranteed to keep tourists away from us.

With much love and sincerity,

[Signature]

Robert North
Street people hysteria

Vision Santa Cruz's concern and the "street people problem" made me wonder why they think the Santa Cruz City Council is not doing enough to clean up the streets.

Many of the most famous retail districts in the United States have what the local merchants call "street people." I'm shopping in San Francisco and San Jose and I feel much less safe when I see unusual looking people. Because these are unusual looking people in the wrong places, no one wants to invest large sums of money. Why should our local merchants be concerned?

Santa Cruz has an expanding University of California campus and a beach which people visit by day. Growing numbers of people are bound to go shopping on the waterfront, before the quakes, everyone was concerned about higher rents and "Carnealization." But the vacancy rate was always low at the mall. Compared to the San Francisco and San Jose retail areas, our city Police Department is only one block from the malls.

The merchants, retailers and property owners who are concerned about the future investment would probably feel safer investing in Main Street at Monterey or Carmel or Mendoico. If they want a safe investment, they go to Carmel. Properties at the beach are not as good as the city Police Department is only one block from the malls.

Don Peattie
Aptos

who are the real bummers here?

A Bum Is a Bum

Editor — A bum is a bum, stop equating them with the homeless.

It appears that the mayor and the Board of Supervisors will do nothing to clean up the parks and streets. It is amazing that these bureaucrats have so much more political clout than the real homeless of this city. I am tired of these liberals preach about the poor homeless that for them every bump on every corner is really a bump in every part of the city. Bums that have given us a bad name throughout the nation.

Why does the mayor and the Board of Supervisors cater to this group? It is the time that the citizens who want to live in a clean environment want a city that is back under the control of the taxpayers to do something. Let's use the liberals' methods, they have no idea what's going on, talk city initiatives to clean up our city. Let's talk about taking charge of the city and take it back from the bums. Let's talk about everyone getting involved and cleaning up this city. And if necessary, let's talk about getting a mayor and a Board of Supervisors that sees the same way.

Sand Francisco chronicle

we don't step bulls in business suits and bureaucratic bulls from sleeping!

Reading between the lines of official statements in the last few days, it is easy to see that City Hall knows the multi-service centers are not enough but hopes no one will ask too many questions.

When reporters report, they mention the disparity between 400 beds and, say, 2,000 homeless, officials reply that beds will be found for everyone. Where? In the same old -night-at-a-time "hot line" hotels. Agnos ridiculed Dianne Feinstein for using them. For how long? Until the media heat is off, most probably.

In other words, the City is back rolling crisis management, having the media create an umbrella of the multi-service centers. They're the Potemkin Villages of the homeless problem.

How long is this legal, proportion and compassion clash? — even though the multi-service centers won't cure homelessness or even provide a bed for all those without one, they're evidently as far as the city is willing to go in the face of a mass politican, senses that. So do the media, which changed their formerly compassionate tune overnight when the centers opened.

What we've left with is a frightening polarity. At one extreme are the increasingly desperate homeless and their increasingly powerful champions. At the other extreme are the increasingly desperate politicians who have somehow made intolerance a respectable political stance.

Though the latter have the snappier slogans — "Homeless, go home!" — neither has a solution. And the rest of us are tired of the whole problem. The problem, relaxed as it is, probably won't go away. It has nowhere to go.
Back up the June 13th homeless victory, Grinnin' Ray Grueneich, champion of the low-income campers, announced his intention of suing the city and the D.A.'s office for its Christmas eve attack on the Homeless Tablers, which seized blankets, clothing, table, and even the Xmas tree there last year. Moonrise Mike Carreiro said he was carrying forward his $2000 claim against the city, to small-claims court, for property trashed. And rumors persisted that other sympathetic attorneys were readying a massive civil suit to enjoin further police plundering parties and secure damages for past ones.

A2-Tuesday, June 12, 1990 — Santa Cruz Sentinel

'A refrigerator without a light'

Sometimes, a dumpster is all you have

By GREG REBEK
Senior staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — You can find the darkest things in city trash bins, say three admitted 'dumpster divers.'

"I always called that morning at the country government center dumpster," said Jay Green, 33, a "houseless" man active in the protests against the city's camping ban. "I found a six-pack of beer and a wad of a bill from a Wal-mart in it." Green said. "They don't lock the country building dumpsters up, so every once in a while that sheriff's dog will come up to see what's going on." He said, with a smile.

"I found blankets stained with blood, bicycle parts, all sorts of things. When they dispose of evidence, it's always exciting," Green said.

Life on the streets sometimes calls for drastic survival tactics, said Green and dumpster-diving cohorts Bob Hillman, 30, and Calvin "Pete" Pascoe, 39.

"Pete" Pascoe, a Vietnam veteran who said he got "shot in the face" and suffers from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, said dumpsters have saved his life at times. When you're out there traveling around, stuck between corners with no money, sometimes a dumpster is all you have.

"I usually try to avoid eating out of dumpsters, but there are times when it's unavoidable," Pascoe said.

Green and Hillman consider themselves "houseless" rather than homeless. Both claim to have homes — Green in Los Angeles, Hillman in Boston — but they don't have places of their own.

"Pete" Pascoe said he got "shot in the face" and suffers from PTSD, is originally from Pittsburgh, Pa., and has traveled across the U.S. from Port Lauderdale to San Diego five times.

All three men are experienced in sifting through garbage for food, fun and profit. But they describe themselves as "houseless" rather than homeless.

"We don't mind eating seconds. They won't let us cook on the streets, so it's a matter of knowing what dumpsters to look in," Green said.

Hillman explained that an experienced dumpster diver uses his senses — smell, taste, sound — to determine what is passable dumpster fare.

"After a while you get a sense — you smell it or look at it and you know if it's edible or not," Pascoe said. "It's kind of like reaching into a refrigerator that doesn't have a light," said Hillman.

"I went dumpster diving for the first time at 16," Hillman said.

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S.F. Pays in Many Suits Against Cops

Over half result in damages, but few officers are disciplined

By Bill Wallace
Chronicle Staff Writer

San Franciscans who believe they have been mistreated by police are far from alone in their complaint treated favorably by the courts than by the city's police disciplinary system.

In the past six years, the city has paid $10.1 million for wrongful suits filed against the Police Department for officer misconduct.

During the same period, fewer than 1 percent of 10,126 police misconduct allegations filed with the Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC) resulted in disciplinary action.

A Chronicle study of every civil suit and criminal case filed against a police officer during the same period and reviewed by the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice found that city attorneys settled most cases without admitting liability or providing any damages.

Second of two parts

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San Francisco’s police disciplinary system is second only to New York City’s in terms of payouts to plaintiffs.

Only 125 of 10,126 complaints filed with the OCC resulted in disciplinary action.

City Attorney Responds

However, City Attorney Louise Renne said the amount San Francisco pays out to settle misconduct suits is not out of line in comparison with other communities.

Last year, for instance, San Francisco paid $3,001,003 in settlements and judgments against the police. Oakland, which has a smaller population and fewer police, paid $4,856,385, San Diego, with roughly the same population and police force as San Francisco, paid $5,235,000.

Renne also said damages awarded in misconduct suits are unrelated to the efficiency of the department’s disciplinary system.

Many lawsuits against the department are settled to avoid the expense of further litigation, Renne said. Some have little merit, and even when juries award damages to victims of police misconduct, they “can be wrong,” she said.

Jury Felt Sorry

In one recent case that ended in a $32,000 judgment, “The jury really didn’t think the officers had done anything wrong,” Paul Hart, Renne’s assistant counsel, said. “They felt sorry for the guy,” Renne said.

What are you going to do with a case like that?”

Old Lawsuits

Riley said some lawsuits that might have resulted in disciplinary action have been settled because the city does not have the resources to handle them.

One case, for example, involved a police officer who was accused of excessive force.

The officer was later cleared of all allegations, but the lawsuit was settled for $50,000.

In another case, a police officer was accused of sexual assault.

The officer was later cleared of all allegations, but the lawsuit was settled for $50,000.

In both cases, the lawsuits were settled to avoid the cost of further litigation.

One investigation is underway.

As John Keker, the vice-president of the Police Commission put it, “What sense does it make to spend millions on something that may have been done in 1984 or 1985 if they haven’t been in trouble since then and they’re still around?”

That is why the police department is trying to settle as many lawsuits as possible.

Payouts in lawsuits alleging police misconduct

POLICE MISCONDUCT, 1984-1989

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Chronic chronicle of police abuse is flat. Have you seen our police review board?

More next issue.

Good Chronicle coverage of police abuse. (5/29 and 6/6)
DENNY'S DIEHARDS PRESS CASE.... Apparently, seeking coffee in ununiformable clothing is still a criminal offense at Ocean St. Denny's. Last Spring, Linda the Lark Edwards refused to leave, in solidarity with several homeless friends who had been thrown out into the rain when they sought to buy coffee the previous weekend. The management had her arrested, jailed, and charged with trespass, and the D.A.'s office is prosecuting her. Why not take Denny's to court for discrimination under the state Unruh Civil Rights Act? Only top D.A. Art Danner knows for sure! Linda's next pre-trial date: July 6 at 8:30 a.m. when she'll also face more judicial jumpingjacks with a charge of "interfering with an officer" on May 30 at the "Suspend Hennig" demonstration.15

MADDOG MULLIGAN'S MONSTER MASH....Dean Larson, a local man disabled with a bad back, sat out a long eight hours in Maddog's Mauling Ground Tuesday three weeks ago, waiting patiently with his sister by his side to deal with an unpaid fine. At day's end, when, in some pain, he finally got his case heard, Larson said the proof that he'd paid the fine was lost in the earthquake. Maddog declined to believe him and declared he owed $200+ worth of Community Service. Larson, having trouble getting rent together and active in earthquake relief, took this hard, but apparently gave only a wince of pain once out of the courtroom in the hallway.

Woe to the wimperer! Mulligan quickly motioned to his bailiff Eric the Terrible and had the unfortunate Dean dragged back into court to sit for another painful quarter of an hour next to the bailiff like a bad dog who'd piddled on the rug. What "contempt of court" penalty would the Master dispense for the crime of expressing human pain, perhaps human disgust, too loudly?

With the day's deluge of camping cases done, Mulligan berated Dean. Pain-ridden and humiliated, the exhausted man was reduced to tears at which point Eric the Terrible attempted to clear the courtroom and close off this sadistic little scene from public view. Unwilling to leave the room were Grinning Ray Gruneich and Bathrobespierre Robert. (cont.)

15 Reports from all-night eateries like Golden West have yielded mixed results; recent reports from Denny's indicate a midsummer upsurge of prejudice against homeless "scarfheads," which activists have vowed to confront in the days ahead. Zanotto's grocery, picketed last April for telling homeless customers to leave, continues to follow Deadheads around and wall off its dumpster and walkway, but has not refused service to homeless activists lately. Nor has Erik's Deli downtown, which threw out Morpheus Mike and Midnight Mike back in April.

Mannoff's on Water St. near River St., on the other hand, confronted Linda the Lark Edwards and Morpheus Mike around 6 p.m last week (June 22) and told them "get out." "Why?" asked Linda. "Because of the way you look," responded the employee (referring, perhaps to Linda's purple tye-died dress). "That's discrimination," observed Linda. "I know," replied the bigot, "get out." Linda is considering a return visit with tape recorder and attorney in hand.
Psychologist begs for better times after trying life as a panhandler

Los Angeles psychologist Robert Butterworth took to the streets to learn more about the passers-by who react to the upturned palm of a panhandler. As he tells Los Angeles Times staff writer David Haldane, he was surprised by what he found in his brief life as a bum.

"At first I made one serious error during my first day as a beggar on the streets of Los Angeles."

I visited the city's largest downtown area and asked for alms.

"I was a little nervous at first, but I soon got into the swing of things."

I was surprised to find that many people were willing to give money to a stranger in need.

"It's not easy being on the streets, but I think I've learned a lot."

I've been living in the city for the past year and have seen a lot of people struggling.

"I think I'll stay in the city for a while longer."

I've been trying to find a job, but it's been difficult.

"I'm looking for something that will pay enough to live."

I'm hoping to find a job soon.

Sarge Holtman, the attorney for the residents, argued that it would be "unreasonable and unjustifiable to force me to abandon my home in order to maintain my health and well-being."

Deputy City Attorney Randy Riddle said that even if the court ruled in favor of the residents, "the city is not prepared to pay for the maintenance of the home."
CASE OF BULLY VS. BAREFOOT BOY HITS COURTS.....
The Hobson/Hennig affair goes to pre-trial July 5, 8:30 a.m. in Courtroom C. Sgt. Hobohunter Hennig's May 30th smashing of Morpheus Mike Hobson prompted around eighteen police complaints and the largest demonstration against local police brutality seen in these parts for some time on the very next day. The trial promises to be a long one, with the many, many witnesses supporting Morpheus, but then perhaps the D.A. will have the good taste to drop this disaster before it embarrasses and enrages twelve honest jurors.

GRINNING RAY GRUENEICH CONIFU'S THE EXPERTS, due to file appeal for Linda the Lark Edwards in test Sleeping Ban case! Though the over-burdened people's barrister has tried hundreds (if not thousands) of "camping" cases in Santa Cruz courts over the last decade--almost all for no fee, this will be the first Appeal that Grueneich has ever filed on the issue. Linda contends she was exercising constitutionally-protected symbolic speech by lying at the Homeless Table in a sleeping bag during the forbidden hours of the night (see Street Shit Sheet #67 for the detailed argument).

Referee "Maddog" John Mulligan, the D.A.'s friend, has consistently ruled that sleeping is a privilege not a right in his bailiwick. Those who complain about his decisions find themselves seized by his eager bailiff, held for "contempt of court," and humiliated like small children kept after school.

Linda's appeal will go to three senior Superior Court judges in 9-12 months, where she will probably be told what she is told every night by the court's armed agents: "Come to Santa Cruz; go to sleep; go to jail." A similar case appealed in Santa Barbara produced a written decision that destroyed the "sleep--yes, camp--no" compromise reached after the 1986 homeless demonstrations there.

Ray announced over KZSC-FM on the June 24th Earthbeat show, that he will continue to take any and all Sleeping Ban camping cases to trial for no fee. He added that he has been trying from 15 to 20 a week and privately offered encouragement that another attorney may be joining him in this battle to hammer some sanity into the local court system.

A series of homeless complaints to the police and claims to the city apparently convinced the SCPD to release homeless property stolen earlier that morning. And the courthouse grapevine has it that public defenders, judges, even district attorneys are fed up with the waste of time and money on The Sleep War. Could be that a flood of appeals might add some judicial pressure to the tide that will ultimately crack the Stonewall of the downtown Gang of 7 (City Council).
"SLYSHOES" SANDY HEADS FOR COURT ONCE MORE!--on July 24 at 1:30 p.m., Grinning Ray will be filing a demurrer for her in Mulligan's Courtroom F in response to May 31st charges that she (a) organized, and (b) participated in a demonstration without a permit. Ray regards the law as plainly unconstitutional and has advised July 4th demonstrators to ignore it. Calling free speech "a non-commercial event"--as the ordinance in question does--has raised grins even among more conservative attorneys. Police chieflet Michael "Doublecross" Dunbaugh also issued such identical tickets to Bathrobespierre Robert, Loudmouth Leith, and Youthlover Yahsaywhe after a demonstration against police brutality that day. The four accepted Dunbaugh's offer to negotiate demonstrator's demands that Sgt. "Hobohunter" Hennig be suspended, investigated, and retrained after his May 30th assault on Morpheus Mike Hobson near the Union Grove Music parking lot fence. On entering the police station, they found themselves charged with crimes under the year-old "non-commercial events" ordinance reportedly masteredmind by Dunbaugh. When Yahsaywhe showed up in court to be arraigned on June 21, after having spent nearly twelve hours in jail on May 30th, his case had mysteriously vanished. A computer error? Or just another case of our copshop's local "harass and run" tactics? Bubba Brian Koepke remembered speaking before the Gang of 7 (City Council) last summer when the "non-commercial" ordinance was being debated. Several of the much-maligned Gang piously assured him and critic Calamity Jane Imler at that time that they would have "nothing to do with demonstrations and free speech." Look, Jane, look! See Council lie (misstate itself)!!

CAMPING TICKET FLOOD CONTINUES TO SWAMP COURTS.... Insiders are aware that Grim but Grinning Ray Grueneich continues to contribute his Tuesday and Friday afternoons to camping trials in the court of "Maddog" John Mulligan (and occasionally elsewhere). At a recent Gang of 7 Get-Together (a City Council meeting), the people's paperpusher noted that in addition to the current roster of 15 or 20 sleep trials a week, he would continue to take on free any additional camping cases and all tickets for violating the "demonstration permit" ordinance.

Meanwhile back in Courtroom C, an unfortunate turned up in an orange jail jumpsuit in mid-June. His crime: four camping warrants from 1987 and 1986 for sleeping in his car at four different spots around the city and failure to pay one of the country's fancy fines. The punishment: two more days in jail at a cost of hundreds of dollars to taxpayers. The most expensive shelter program around. And this guy was not one of those "so-called homeless activists"--just another guy trying to survive without a house. The hand of official insanity touches everyone.
...NOT EVERYONE WAS HAPPY WITH BATHROBESPERRRE
Robert's decision to plead "no contest" to overkill misdemeanor charges of "disrupting a legal assembly." The bearded activist was hauled out of the Gang of 7's lair last month by Hobohunter Hennig himself at the nod of Mayor Wormhoudt and Top Cop Javeljabber Jack Bassett when Bathrobespierre attempted to finish a speech denouncing recent seizures of homeless bedding and political literature.

Though he could have had a jury trial on the issue, Bathrobespierre apparently made a tactical choice at his arraignment when the case appeared in the court of "Wiff o' Hope" Watts. Learning that the indicated sentence would be no jail (1 day with credit for the day he'd already spent locked up after his arrest) and no probation, the teddy-bear loving activist took the dive and pled "no contest" to the charge.

"Moxie" Margaret Marr, Jabberwocky Jay's uncompromising public defender newly active in the search for a homeless campground, and radio champion of homeless rights, expressed regret that Norse had copped a plea and questioned whether twelve jurors would have sent the sugar-lipped speechmaker to jail for finishing a 4 1/2 minute speech: "It's a matter of free speech."

...KITCHENQUEST DEFENDANT MARINADE MARY Lincoln pled "no contest" to "trespass" charges for serving food to the homeless in the Food Pavilion parking lot back in March. Her attorney "Battlin'" Bob Taren in his first homeless activist case on record was willing to take the case to a jury, but Mary was swamped with schoolwork, rent demands, failing health, deadheart doctors, and a new job.

So she lucked out and drew the judge most unsympathetic to D.A. dirty tricks and activist-baiting--our favorite--"Whiff o' Hope" Watts. He offered Mary the same sentence that early Kitchenquest defendants got--2 days jail and no probation. Mary signed up for 16 hours of Community Service instead--though we know that she actually did hers back in March, when she fed the homeless and embarrassed the county into opening up a certified kitchen to restart the nightly homeless meal.

...MORE HENNIG HOBOHUNTING...from the no-nonsense SCPD sergeant who brought you "planter patrols" across from the Metro and "cattleherding" to hustle along lingering long-hairs (or skinheads...or youths...or deadheads...or (fill-in non-commercial group of your choice)... Homeless Tabluhteer "Rodent" reported the cantankerous cop caught him with his jacket on the railing of the bike rack. "Hey! This is a bike rack, not a god-damned coat rack," remarked the sharp-eyed laorman. And with that, he wrote Rodent a ticket for "abusing a public structure." (city ordinance 9.50.020). Only in Santa Cruz.

17 "Rodent", triumphant from retrieving his distinctive black cape (seized in the May 8 police plundering expedition), made us promise to correct his name, wrongly written as 'Roadside Rodent' in Street Shit Sheet #73. Quoth Rodent, "Not 'Roadside Rodent.' Not 'Roadkill Rodent.' Just Rodent." So be it.
HOMELESS NO MORE is Midnight Mike Widdle, whose property still adorns police storage compartments because it was unlucky enough to be at the Homeless Table April 7th. Mike is working now and has an apartment, but still seems to gravitate back to the Homeless Vigil.

To clear up his court record, Midnight pled "no contest" to a bogus "trespass" charge for which he was dragged off to jail last April. His real crime: sitting on the steps of World Savings Bank without a business suit.

He also did not contest another charge arising from a fracas outside Zanotto's grocery, back when it was bragging about its "dress code" policy to exclude homeless and street people. Seems the scrappy PSI man had taken the "business fascism" of his Zanotto's bosses a little too seriously and tried to bully Mike a little too far. Mike resisted and got arrested. Now he's been ordered to do Community Service hours while the boys playing Rent-A-Cop downtown continue to strut around fisheyeyeing every homeless person that comes into Zanotto's. (See p. 7 for a letter from Midnight.)

**Public Nuisance—Obstructing Free and Comfortable Use of Liberty and Property.**

Anything which is injurious to health, or is indecent, or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property by any entire community or neighborhood, or to any considerable number of persons, or unlawfully obstructs the public passage or use, in the customary manner, of any navigable lake, or river, bay, stream, canal, or basin, or any public park, square, street, or highway, is a public nuisance.

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Homeless Find Shelter
At Chicago’s Airport

_Spring 1996_ New York Times

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Sebastian county. "That a high state of excitement and condition of hot blood now prevails between striking miners and their sympathizers in large numbers, on the one side, and the coal company and its employees, on the other. That said coal company is threatening and is about to import into said county and town of Huntington, over the line of their defendant's railroad, a large number of armed men of the low and lawless type of humanity, to wit, about 200, to the great danger of the public peace, morals, and good health of said county, and more particularly of said town. That said threatened action on the part of said defendant, if permitted to be executed, would become (a great public nuisance) and would de-

story the peace, morals, and good health of said county and town, and would lead to riot, bloodshed, and to the dissemination of contagious and infectious diseases.

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Chicago

With their small canvas tarpaulin and their bags of empty bottles, a woman and a man slept on the first-class seats at O'Hare International Airport. They had been waiting for an early-morning departure that would take them to New York City, where they hoped to find work.

"We're just trying to make a living," they said, sitting on the benches in the terminal. "We're tired of sleeping on the streets."

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At O'Hare, police arrested the homeless couple and threw them into a holding cell. The couple was later released without charge, but the incident highlighted the city's makeshift solution to a growing problem. Police and airport officials have been known to allow homeless people to sleep on airport benches, but they also regularly arrest them for trespassing.

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Although homeless people in other cities use the airport as a temporary shelter, Chicago's O'Hare International Airport is the only major airport in the United States to allow homeless people to sleep there. The airport's policy is meant to provide a temporary solution to the city's housing crisis, but it has also raised concerns about the rights of homeless people.
HOMELESS HIT LIST HITS THE FAN IN MULLIGAN'S COURT
LONG-SUPPRESSED DOCUMENT SHOWS SCPD-D.A. COLLUSION

Jabberwocky Jay Green was arrested, handcuffed, and
jailed for sleeping outside the post office in mid-March and then
again, and then yet again. Since the charges involved were
infractions and not misdemeanors—for which a police officer can
ticket but not arrest!—Jay asked why. "You're on this list," he
was told as he was escorted to the squad car, "see?"—and the list
was shown to him. When the same thing happened to Paddywagon Pete
Pascoe, Calamity Jane Imler and Bathrobespierre Robert Norse
approached the district attorney's office for an explanation.

Misdemeanor Supervisor "Pretty Bizarre" admitted the
existence of a blacklist of names, consisting of all of those
cited for trespass in the Kitchenquest Santa Cruz demonstrations
at the Civic Auditorium, the Board of Supervisors chambers, and
the Food Pavilion downtown. The Kitchenquest demonstrations led
to the resumption of the nightly homeless meal in April—forcing
the county to move on its long-stalled promise to provide access
to a certified kitchen.

Thus the list was well-known to homeless activists for
months. For everyone else, however, the March 13th memo from
Supervisor Bazar to the Santa Cruz police had been officially
buried by eager underling Paul "Martial Law" Marigonda in hearing
after hearing.20

Unsuspecting Officer Kern initially exposed the hotly-
disputed blacklist to Referee Mulligan's Courtroom F several weeks
ago in one of Jay Green's "open container" trials. When a sharp-
eared spectator drew Grinning Ray Grueneich's attention to Kern's
brief mention of the list, the bearded barrister leapt up to take
over the defense of Green's case and got Kern to admit again the
existence of the list. (Kern had to reveal the list in order to
justify her arrest of Green, followed by a 1:30 a.m. phone call to
Muni Court Judge McAdams, asking that the dangerous activist be
held on bail and kept behind bars.)

Several days later in a second case, Grueneich wrestled
the actual list itself from police hands when Officer McMahen
flashed the incriminating document to justify another arrest of
Green on an otherwise innocuous sleeping infraction. The pony-
tailed attorney has declared an interest in suing the SCPD and the
D.A.'s office to discourage such extra-legal hanky panky and win a
little compensation for the jail-weary activists.

18 The exceptions are (1) if the person refuses to identify herself,
(2) if the person refuses to sign the citation,
(3) if the person has outstanding warrants on
other cases,
(4) if the person is on a probation that
specifically bars the infraction conduct for which s/he is cited.
19 "Pretty Bizarre" both describes and satirizes Misdemeanor
Supervisor Patty Bazar. (cont.)
Homeless protest to be protested

By LANE WALLACE

Homeless people and their supporters from throughout the state will come to Santa Cruz on the Fourth of July for a demonstration that will include a request for the city to ease its camping ban.

Carolyn Bumrhat, a Saqqor beautician, said she and people she knows are tired of "freeloaders" and are planning a counter-demonstration, called "Back Our Town."

Organizers for the homeless are expecting 250 or more people; the counter-demonstrators expect as many as 1,000.

Although the groups have views that are far apart, don't expect fireworks. Both sides are promising a peaceful event, and the two groups may not even talk to each other, Bumrhat said.

Permits for both events are still being processed by city officials. Deputy Police Chief Mike Dunbaugh said there's no reason the two demonstrations can't go off without a hitch. He cited a recent demonstration and a crowd-demonstration involving abortion foes and opponents, at which there was no trouble.

If the statements of Bumrhat and homeless activist Robert Norse are an indication, anything the two groups say to each other won't be complimentary.

Norse, who has debated Bumrhat on KSCG radio, accuses her of "spreading a lot of misinformation. It seems she doesn't regard the homeless as legitimate human beings."

Bumrhat, who has been in the forefront of several local tax protests, said the silent majority is getting tired of "all the freeloaders. It's time we discussed the differ
Justice on the street

A long, fruitless campaign

By GREG BEEBE
Senior staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — According to street lore, in the '90s a merchant reportedly suggested retaining the Heel's Angels motorcycle club to help drive away the "street people" from business districts. The idea was perhaps the first in a series of fruitless, decades-long efforts to rid the downtown of "undesirables." The vigorous enforcement of a camping ban in the city is just the latest twist in the effort.

In the early '90s, some Santa Cruz Police officers took matters into their own hands, leading to the much-publicized "troll-busting" trials of 1990 and '91. At the same time, a new approach was taken to deal with drug dealing and lawlessness, and the city's parks were gradually cleaned up through increased police presence and changes in park rules, especially at Scope and "Scribner" Park near the north end of the Avenue.

When Scope Park was "cleaned up," the street people took their portable kitchens, blankets, beds and backpacks to the Mall itself, where the "street people" problem remained. The September 1989 earthquake changed the face of downtown Santa Cruz.

Lately, the Police Force steps at Front and Water streets, and Metro Center again. It has become a gathering place, where a contingent of homeless from throughout the state congregate for a June Fourth demonstration at City Hall, the same appearance every bit as unsightly as it did in the '90s.

The need to encourage the City Council and Vision Santa Cruz to recognize that these people are human beings and that they have a right to be here are being met with a number of strategies, not just as a problem — said Councilman Don Lane.

"That's what we've been doing all along — seeing them as something other than us," Lane said. "I hope that we can now see people — in the depths of our frustration — that we just have to broaden our approach.

Since January 1990, the Santa Cruz Police Department has arrested more than 2,000 times for illegal camping, or "illegal living" as advocates for homeless rights term it.

The camping ordinance has been on the books since the mid '90s. It says, in part, "No person shall camp anywhere in the City of Santa Cruz whether on public or private property, except as hereinafter expressly permitted." The ban means to do any of the following:

Sleeping — 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. To sleep at any time, in any of the following places:

Outdoors with or without bedding

Inside, in or under any structure not intended for human occupancy: homes, garages, barns

In, on or around any parked vehicle

The ban, said activist Robert Nori, "is not human, it's not cost-effective, it's crazy, it's not sensible, it's not constitutional. People have to sleep — that's the bottom line."

What's that, the July Fourth demonstration is all about," Nori said. "It's not about taking over the downtown, or getting in the way — it's about saving the city from itself by stepping up the fight to end the threat of violence, and finding another solution, and upholding basic constitutional rights while we're at it."

A group of counter-demonstrators who say they're "tired of paying the bills for a bunch of free riders" will join city officials in downtown protests Friday.

Andrew Ham, director of the non-profit Interfaith Satellite Shelter, has daily contact with the homeless. But a recent study has shown that many of the clients have recently settled down for the summer months. Many of the clients have returned to sleeping in the streets, in cars and in tents.

"In some ways I think the city should be more open about what's going on," Nori said. "But nobody comes down on the police when they do their job. There's animosity between police and some of the street people and homeless in Santa Cruz. I'm afraid we're criminalizing a poor group of people in this society," Nori said.

I feel for the merchants, though, because there are some people who really cause problems and I feel for the merchants, though, because there are some people who really cause problems there, and the economics of Santa Cruz have been affected."

Sant Bratko, a former outreach worker who counseled mentally ill homeless, believes "a few bad apples have spoiled the barrel" in downtown.

"When one fellow, who was very drugged, completely drunk, suddenly flipped out and took off after some business with a machete...they're still talking about that on the mall. That's like saying that everyone is a criminal."

"We've got some real problems, but we're not willing to face, and it's too bad. It would be nice if we were a little more quiet about it."

Homeless advocates targeted

DA's memo called unconstitutional

By GREG BEEBE
Senior staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — The war of wills between homeless activists and law enforcement authorities has escalated from the streets to the courthouse, where attorneys for the activists claim their clients' civil rights are being violated.

An inter-office memo written by a member of the District Attorney's Office to Santa Cruz Police officers is the latest salvo in the long-running feud between homeless activists, "street people," and police and county prosecutors.

City officials say the memo — dubbed a "hit list" by the activists and their lawyers — illustrates growing frustration on the part of both activists and police in dealing with persistent streets and law-enforcement problems.

A long, fruitless enforcement campaign — Page A4

Advocate's tactics questioned — Page A5

The correspondence, written March 13 by Assistant District Attorney Kathy Davis, names a list of eight homeless activists who are to be denied release from jail on their own recognizance, or "O.R." release, due to "repeat criminal violations while on O.R." The activists had previously been cited or arrested for violations of laws dealing with homeless rights and city infractions.

District Attorney Art Danner, when shown the memo, said, "I really don't know the circumstances. I don't know whether the police made a request about what they could do."

Bazaar, the memo's author, was out of town and unavailable for comment.

"All this memo does is give a status report on people who were on O.R. release. I don't know if the police have access to that information otherwise," Danner said.

"If it's a situation where someone is going to be a chronic offender, and they decide 'I don't care,' the court's response to that may be to revoke their status of release," said Danner.

Margaret Marr, attorney for some of the activists named in the letter, contends the list shows an "inutent to deprive these people of their constitutional rights. These people's First Amendment rights are being violated at every turn."

"This is not a list of drunken drivers. It's not a list..."
of rapists. It's a list of homeless-rich actions.

"There are some meritorious civil-rights suits here," said Marras, Santa Cruz City Attorney. "Chosen Attorney John M. Dunbaugh said, "My understanding was the intention of the memo was an attempt to put a damper on the ability of the police department to do anything other than that." "We're kind of stuck in the middle here," Dunbaugh said.

From a standpoint of civil disobedience, if you're going to practice civil disobedience you should also be prepared to accept the consequences," Dunbaugh said.

At the heart of the struggle:
- Enforcement of the city's controversial camping ban. The ban, activists say, is clearly a "sleeping ban" directed at the homeless.
- The police practice of confiscating the belongings of homeless people as evidence, and the alleged practice by the Attorney's Office of holding evidence without filling charges.
- A county court system clogged with cases filed by homeless people and arrested who are charged with, among other things, trespassing, breaking into public buildings, and being a public nuisance.
- A lack of trust and meaningful dialogue between city officials and the homeless population.

The eight activists named in the memo were all cited or arrested during "Killing Quest," a series of three demonstrations after the Oct. 17 earthquake designed to draw attention to what activists perceived as a lack of adequate food programs for homeless people.

Mayor recently proposed to introduce a motion to keep all evidence in the public nuisance trial of her client. Jay Green, one of the city's largest homeless people, said, "We've been told that two activists were held in jail after committing trespassing in a central park area."

After committing trespassing to the sidewalk in an area controlled by the city, several activists were arrested for the violation of an ordinance.

Municipal Court Judge Tom Kelly, however, sided with Assistant Attorney General Marigonda in refusing to admit the evidence in the public nuisance trial of her client. Jay Green, one of the city's largest homeless people, said, "We've been told that two activists were held in jail after committing trespassing to the sidewalk in an area controlled by the city, several activists were arrested for the violation of an ordinance.

The activist claims the city serves as a meeting place for the homeless, an information clearing house and a storage area for possessions. Backpacks and sleeping bags are often left unlocked during the court hours. Still, Kelly sealed the memo for possible appeal and complained that the growing number of trials involving homeless people "involve great investments of time and money. ... These attorneys and court staff are not working for nothing."

Councilman Don Lane said the memo was "a little too much," and acknowledged that the growing number of trials involving homeless people "involve great investments of time and money. ... These attorneys and court staff are not working for nothing."

"It reinforces my own belief," Lane said, "that there has to be a greater attempt at reconciliation. The fact that to just step up the battle is not getting us anywhere."

"I think there's a lot of frustration that goes along with being a police officer," Deputy Chief Dunbaugh said. "We're very frustrating in finding the conditions in which there are people that truly need your help and you would like to help."

Robert Norton, the advocate for homeless people at the council, criticized the memo as giving "special emphasis on the policies on homeless activists and a policy of the District Attorney's Office to se- cure in on them in what seems to be an illegal and inappropriate manner."

Norton was also on the list. Jane Inker, active in efforts to keep the homeless and a one-time candidate for County Sheriff, said "I initially was a supporter when I heard I was on the list," and said, "I didn't list us on the list. But as I reflected more on it, it obviously shows some fear, I think, on some parts of the community."

"As far as the Santa Cruz Police Department is concerned," Inker said, "I think they learned fairly quickly that we were not a violent group. But obviously there is somebody in the city that is very threatened by the whole homeless movement."

"I've heard it's business, I've heard it's the community (group) of the politicians," she said. "I think it would be business that's putting on the pressure to get the part of the earthquake. They want to get big money from outside sources to save the town, and the thing that might be keeping that is a sleeping ban is the street scene," Inker said.

Since Dec. 15 of last year, Santa Cruz police have raided the "home- less" table in front of the Post Office, Santa Cruz police said.

"It's nice to see each side show some good faith," Kelly said.

"I am glad the property that these people have been deprived of for so long was given back to them. This was their clean clothes, toothbrushes, shampoo, things they need," said Marras.

"I imagine the police coming to your home and taking everything away. I'm just sorry it took so long to get it back. We're making slow, stumbling attempts to work with the police and the authorities so we can reach some agreement so that these constant confrontations need not occur." Confrontations continue, however, at the court, where trials involving homeless people are "jamming the calendar, putting a burden on the calendar," said Municipal Court Referee John Mulligan, who estimated that 50 such trials are scheduled for July.

"Court trials are not for political dialogue," said Judge Kelly. "The Williams political issues are not addressed in the narrow scope of a trial. I have seen several cases."

"I think there have been a couple of people of people, activists, whose style of trying to effect change has been so confrontational, so antagonistic," Lane said.

"On the other hand it has caused some of the people on the council to use that as an excuse not to talk on the issue in a larger sense," Lane said.

"Everywhere else it seems like the homeless issue is about the availability of resources," said Councilman John Laird. "In Santa Cruz, it seems more about civil rights than the availability of resources, not whether people have a place to sleep inside, but whether it's civil right to sleep outside."

"I don't think there's much dialogue between the council and the activists. I don't think either side thinks it can trust the other," Laird said.

"I think the council should be trying to meet the needs of people in need, but that dealing directly with the activists means that you're not going to get anywhere, and make that your political currency."
**********COBWEBS ON THE CONCRETE**********

DID ANYBODY EVER NOTICE that 5 of the last 6 SCPD attacks on the Homeless Table(s) have come within a day or two of the twice-a-month Gang of 7(City Council] get-togethers? Is it politics, lunar cycles, or just noxious effusions in the air from City Council meetings that sparks this bizarre police behavior? Then again, it could be coincidence...

MORE HUMDRUM HARASSMENT FROM THE HANDS of our favorite Sgt. Hobohunter Hennig up across from the Metro Center a few months back. Rubbernecking Robert Lee observed the "cattleherding" constable21 with his trusty sidekick, Officer "Terrible" Dave Townsend in town attacking the nicotine addiction problem head-on. Lee spotted Townsend tearing a cigarette from a youth's hand and ticketing the miscreant upon learning he was a minor "in possession of tobacco." Hennig apparently did the same to the youth's criminal companion.

A moment later, Lee approached one of the youths with the question, "Did he really ask you if you were a boy or a girl!?"—incredulously repeating what the cops had asked. When Lee laughed and shook his head in disbelief on hearing that the cops had, he was himself approached by the two lawmen. "You could be blocking the sidewalk," said Hennig.22 "No, I'm just filing a complaint," replied Lee, who did just that later, and a month later received an undated form reply that his inquiry was "being investigated."

8 arrested during melee on SC Mall

Eight people were arrested yesterday afternoon on Santa Cruz's Pacific Garden Mall during a march and demonstration to protest an arrest Wednesday of a Grateful Dead fan.

The demonstration involved between 30 and 50 demonstrators.

Five of the arrests were of demonstrators involved in the protest. Another three were arrested by undercover narcotics officers, for allegedly selling illegal drugs.

The demonstration began on the Pacific Garden Mall and finally ended at the Santa Cruz City Hall, a couple of blocks away, where protesters demanded to meet with Police Chief Jack Basset to discuss complaints about a police sergeant who arrested a Grateful Dead fan on Wednesday. Basset refused to meet with them.

20 In the "Public Nuisance" cases of Jay Green and Linda Edwards—see p. 37. The hit list itself is reprinted on p. 38. The list is an open invitation to police abuse—for instance, Bazar never specifies what particular "related offenses" justify jailing the named activists. The SCPD was given, and took, carte blanche to decide what activities it didn't like and would issue its own jail orders for.

21 Bazar continues to have the power to direct "Martial Law" in the Marigonda to stop playing games with homeless survival gear and political rights. Bizarre indeed, she prefers tossing taxpayer bucks into this cruel stupidity.

22 Did Hennig get this tactic from Officer "Terrible" Dave Townsend or vice versa? Seems that Dave followed the same script word for word at the Homeless Table July 9th when Rodent asked Dave not to paw through homeless files without a permit. Dave then wrote the intrepid activist an Obstructing the Sidewalk ticket. The offense is a misdemeanor, punishable by 6 months in jail and $1000 fine at worst. Could we be seeing a pattern here?
FACING UP TO HOMELESSNESS

We don't like to admit it, but the homeless are a fact of life in our city. They make us feel dirty and dirty. They make us sick. They make us feel unsafe. They make us feel like we're living in a war zone. We don't want to be here, but we have nowhere else to go. We're tired of being ignored. We're tired of being afraid. We're tired of being alone.

We want to make our city a better place to live. That's why we're asking for your help. We need your support to help us fight for our rights as human beings. We need your help to make our city a better place for everyone.

S.F. Chronicle
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S.F. Chronicle
A TRASHED CAMPSITE AND A CAMPING TICKET was what Morpheus Mike Hobson found on return to his riverside sleeping spot after a day of demonstrating against police brutality on the mall May 31st. His tent slashed and possessions strewn about, all was in disarray—except for the camping ticket neatly pinned to a nearby tree. Mike wonders if a bit of revenge may have motivated the misguided gunnels who did the dirty work. Were police trying to "even the score" for the demonstration earlier that day protesting Sgt. Hennig's "forbidden fence" assault on him the day before (see Street Shit Sheet #73)? Could be, since Mike shared the camp with "Checkmate" John Raner, whose flag-carrying so provoked paddywagon police that they arrested him for felony assault on a police officer the same day (for struggling to keep the flag). Nah, must have been somebody else's police department.

ABOUT THAT POLICE BRUTALITY PROTEST.....Some cynics are suggesting police bosses may have set up a smear with its pals at the Santa Cruz Urinal (known as the pious as the Sentinel). The Urinal lead paragraph (6/1) trumpeted "drug dealers arrested" at the May 31st demo. But not only did the arrests occur earlier than the parade and in another part of town, but those arrested noted the minor bust appeared to have been a set-up. The informant was apparently pressured to entrap those charged and to do so just at the time of the demonstration, according to an informant who shared a jail cell with the three alleged pushers.

Urinal pencilpusher Mark Bergstrom was then fed the falsehoods and trumpeted them to the public with no further investigation or analysis, mingling them with "news" of the demonstration. Bergstrom dismissed the protest as some sort of bizarre Deadhead party, rather than a shocked response to Sgt. Hennig's routine and city-endorsed harassment campaign against anyone looking transient or hippie-ish on the mall near the Metro.

"Checkmate" Raner's charges were mysteriously dropped—saving the police and D.A. major embarrassment. The activist was accused of "felonious assault on a policeman with a deadly weapon" for struggling to keep possession of his own American flag, for which officers choked him to the ground. The picture of Raner struggling to hold up the flag under attack by local lawmen made the front page of the Urinal itself, and the local section of the San Jose Mirk-and-Muck Schmooze.

Meanwhile, S.C. cuts its Satellite Shell and arrests sleeping....
!!!!MORE UPDATES!!!!MORE UPDATES!!!!MORE UPDATES!!!!YEAH!!!!!

!!!!STOP FIDDLING AROUND WITH SCRIBNER! Many local streets have a fondness for Scribner or Scope Park across from the Town Clock and protested loudly with voice and graffiti when the Garage Grill/Laird combine launched their "eat up the park" campaign last fall. With the park still in the people's hands and police pressure focused on the Homeless Table across the way, folks continue to perch there near the statue of Tom Scribner. Tom, an old-time labor radical, Wobbly, squatter, and musical saw player, lived at the St. George until he died at age 83 in 1982.

Last February the sculpted bronze bow in the right hand of the Scribner statue got broken off by some clumsy clothhead and is due for replacement soon by artist Marghe McMahon. Meanwhile, busy letter writers have been urging Mayor Mardi to resist any attempts to move the statue from the park. With the bench there pulled out, we're worried the yuppie mall redesigners may have their sights trained on Tom's statue for relocation. Keep it where it is--near the gathering place of the people he devoted his life to--those rough and grubby street folks that it's becoming so fashionable to attack.

!!!!YET MORE BENCHES ARE DISAPPEARING FROM THE MALL, according to transit employee Doubletime Dave. Hearing that benches were vanishing across from the Metro in front of Entertainment West, as they had earlier been removed from in front of the pre-quake Bookshop Santa Cruz and Gottschalk's, Dave set out to investigate. Prompted by Hobohunter Hennig's diktat that on "his" Pacific Garden Mall, fences and planters were forbidden zones at which hippies, transients, and street people were a no-no, Dave took his search to the City Manager, Parks & Rec, and back to the Manager again. "We know nothing!" was the familiar refrain from Parks and Rec.

Know-Nothings for sure, but how long are citizens going to tolerate this "sausage" technique of quietly removing a bench at a time and pretending it's not directed against the poor? Meanwhile, word is out that benches near Union Grove Music are next in line for demolition--as well as the people's right to linger there.

The Santa Cruz police don't bite it when you stick up for your rights, according to Mike Hobson, who says he was leagues against Union Grove Music's fence on May 30 when Sergeant Rob Hennig there has to the ground and arrested him for trespassing. The next day, witnesses responded to Hobson's account by marching down the mall in protest. But Hobson says the demonstration, which showed into a procession of at least 30 people, was a response to the mistreatment of the homeless, not just him. "The demonstration resulted from a long series of incidents," he said. "People really got fed up." During the protest, police arrested John Rainer for carrying an American flag, alleging that the flag was a deadly weapon, according to homeless activist Robert Norris. The police spokesperson could not be reached for comment.

Because of such incidents of mistreatment, homeless activists and the Santa Cruz Action Network (SCAN) want to set up a citizen's police review board. Similar boards exist in other cities where they handle complaints about police misconduct. Currently, Santa Cruzians can file these complaints with the police's internal affairs office, the grand jury or an independent attorney. Many find these options are either too costly or too biased.

"Police mistreatment of the homeless and people of color is unspeakable," said SCAN spokesperson John Leopold. Since people have reported cases of police harassment, he feels the review board would help improve justice. SCAN has already proposed a bond in the city budget.

Some think the review board is needed to stop the institutional levels of police harassment. "Verified headlines about demonstrations, incidents and arrests don't bring out thezipperers," he says.

But Hobson brings the event home: "If the police can take away our (homeless) rights, they can take away anybody's rights."
HAVE WE GOT UPDATES!

HARD-LINE EVEN AMONG THE OLD-TIMERS is Moonrise Mike, who insisted he would continue to pursue legal claims against the city for property stolen by police on June 13th. The raid affected at least six other people—whose claims were denied by the city—but their stuff was largely returned. Moonrise insists his clothes were taken away by a trash truck, Street Sheets and literature were destroyed, and Tupperware food and water containers disappeared without a trace.

Moonrise has also expressed skepticism at negotiations between Jabberwocky Jay and the police, noting his own determination to have the Sleeping Ban itself lifted before being willing to take down the Homeless Table at night, as sought by the local blue badgers.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN—Calamity Jane Imler, who is currently fighting an obscure liver disease in Missouri. Her Kitchenquest trial for "trespass" at the County Board of Supervisors last March has been delayed. Jane sends her love, and hopes to make her way West, when she can stand on her feet for more than an hour at a time.

Meanwhile her written statements under oath have persuaded the D.A.'s to drop ancient trespass charges against Jabberwocky Jay. The short but pungent Homeless Table chieftain was involved in the first Kitchenquest action back in February. That night Calamity Jane closed down her Cupboard back of the River St. mini-Shelter after River St. had locked her out of the certified kitchen there. Jay and others protested by sleeping overnight there—only to be arrested because of complaints from "help the homeless" shelter bureaucrats.

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YABAREWEN REPORTS ON HIS MEETING WITH CREDIT UNION'S TEGAN SPEISER

On June 11 I met with Tegan Speiser of the Santa Cruz Community Credit Union to discuss her concerns regarding graffiti on the rear levee-facing wall of the Credit Union building on Front Street. Speiser's concerns were reported in minutes of the May 24 Block Captains Meeting.

Speiser said that she was disturbed after reading the minutes because they did not give a complete picture of the dialogue that occurred, and the Credit Union's position was reflected inaccurately. She emphasised that the Credit Union has absolutely no intention of fencing off the back area, as was proposed by Nicky Reboni of Longs and Fred Zanotto of Zanotto's.

In our conversation, Speiser expressed concerns not only about the graffiti, but about the broken bottles, drug use, urination, and general trashiness behind the building. For instance, Credit Union employees are unable to open their back office windows because of the urine stains, and members are reluctant to approach the Credit Union via the river levee. She said that the Credit Union has been paying a boy to regularly clean the area, but she does not consider this to be a long-term solution. She thinks that the solution is to make the Front Street levee pleasant and usable for pedestrians by means such as murals and landscaping.

Speiser said that the Front Street merchants may hold their own block party to get to know each other and to discuss their concerns. I asked her if the merchants would include a representative of homeless people in their meeting. She took my name and phone number and said that she may be invited if the group as a whole thinks this is appropriate.

I think that the Front Street levee could be a beautiful place that could be used appropriately by all residents of Santa Cruz. If the Front Street merchants and the City decide to revitalize the levee, I propose that street people volunteer their labor and energy to this project.

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PREVENT MAL for ordinary people

The headline of your May 8 issue—"Mal dilemna, some people"—indicates to me that Santa Cruz, Visalia, Santa Cruz, and hopefully the City Council are finally beginning to grapple with a problem that has been in this area for a long time. My question is, "What took you so long?"

I am sure that many of the business people of the Pacific Mall have tried to make our local politicians aware of this for years. And that part of our society that chooses to make our once-beautiful mall their hangout has made it uncomfortable for many of us to visit and shop in the downtown area. I cannot remember when anyone from my family has ventured downtown to shop because of the prospect of being hassled on the streets. Retailers in the downtown area feel stiff competition from the other shopping areas in their county and it is just easier and more comfortable to avoid any of this confrontation.

Some say, "It's not a problem." What about the incident of one person chasing another down the street with a machete? Do we need this? And the poor unfortunate soul that died after being thrown off the bridge. And the public area being used as bathrooms. And the reports of drug dealing in the Louden Nelson area.

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The earthquake was devastating to the downtown area, but the downtown area was going "downtown" long before that fateful day. And the city council faces a tremendous challenge convincing businesses to rebuild or locate downtown. Would you gamble on a new business in the area? Consider the businesses that have closed their doors since the quake. Are the businesses in the temporary shelters flourishing? If you were in the planning department for large department store, would you gamble millions of dollars on a new store in a questionable area? Not me.

A.M. Fraga
Scotts Valley
E/30/90 S.C. Synel
9-DAY 'FINAL SOLUTION' HITS 250 SAN JOSE HOMELESS
POVERTY PIMPS, OFFICIALS COLLUDE IN HEALTH DEPT. HOAX

The first arrest came Thursday June 28, one day after the end of a 9-day "clean-up" of the 4-mile Guadalupe River area in downtown San Jose. It came one day after a retired judge ruled that though police must not seize homeless property or "use excessive force," the city could still uproot and deport the 250 people camped by the riverside. City officials and compliant welfare agencies had claimed that only 75 "campers" were involved. But over 250 sought services in the first few days of the 9-day "let us help you, before we drive you out" campaign. Fabulous from pet newspapers (the San Jose Mercury News) pictured the operation first as a response to the "health menace" of rats down by the river, then played up the "new homes and services" given the refugees. Letters critical of the homeless "hunt and remove" policy did not see print.

On May 29th Legal Aid organized the first protest at City Hall against the Guadalupe River plan. Confronted with claims of police abuse, Mayor Tom McHenry furiously refused to hear more. Earlier in the spring 350 were staying in the Armory nightly; shelters are now reportedly full or being emptied to provide temporary "cosmetic" assistance to those being driven from their homes along the riverbed.

The first four people who sued the city to stop the round-up campaign were hastily bought off with comfortable apartments. Charged Paula Kubicz, a Mental Health Advocacy worker, "the city is not really interested in offering these people services, just in providing a pretext to remove them. In a month or two, without support, they'll be back on the streets, facing 'no trespassing' signs and armed police down by the river." Noted one observer, "these people are being cleared out to provide a theme park for yuppie joggers."

December 15, 1989
Editor, San Francisco Chronicle
Dear Ma. or Sir,

Hey! Sounds like "trash the transients" time again at the Chronicle with your front-page story "Trouble in Dolores Park," Oct. 17. A year and a half ago paranoid and poorly-fed radicals mounted a similar campaign against vehicular residents and got police to begin enforcing a 1971 ordinance against sleeping and eating in your bar after 10 p.m. (Hunter King drive-through patrons, take note). With numerous downtown low-income hotels now unreasonably because of the quakes, it sounds like those same radicals to attack people for sleeping in the park. How about doing a researched story on selective prosecution of vagrant groups like Food not Bombs? Their unwavering fight with the city bureaucracy continues to this day, and all they want to do is provide food for those who need it.

Come on, Chronicle, show you're worth more than lining the routes of those hut sleeping folk sleeping out. Instead of cozying up to right-wing vigilante squads like the Concerned Park Neighbors, it might be worthwhile to talk with the Height-Armary Improvement Association before spreading further hysterias.

PAGES FROM THE HOMELESS LIBRARY:

"It is recorded of Methuselah, who being the longest lived, may be supposed to have best preserved his health, that he slept always in the open air; for when he had lived five hundred years, an angel said to him, 'Arise, Methuselah, and build thee a house, for thou shalt live yet five hundred years longer.' But Methuselah answered and said, 'If I am to live but five hundred years longer, it is not worthwhile to build me an house; I will sleep in the air, as I have been used to do.'"

---Benjamin Franklin, Letter to Miss ----, on the art of procuring pleasant dreams.
EULOGIES

IN REMEMBRANCE OF BOB LEVY

...Some months ago San Jose Mercury-News reporter, Bob Levy died several days after a car crash on Highway 17. In the daily print media, Bob was about the only friend the Santa Cruz homeless had. When confused and malicious city officials sent in armed goon squads to arrest people for serving food to the homeless at the Town Clock, Bob Levy was there and covered the story. When, a year later, the city/county shelter boss locked up a kitchen rather than allow Calamity’s Cupboard to use it, Levy was back at the Town Clock notebook in hand covering the crisis.

When his “darker brother” journalist, Lee Quarnstrom, launched another of his vitriolic attack upon Santa Cruz homeless activists as bums and parasites, Bob quietly maintained his contacts with us, and sought to spread facts, not fears, in his stories. Even Quarnstrom acknowledged his colleague’s generous heart on the issues that divided them.

We hadn’t heard much from him since the earthquake, but he hadn’t forgotten us. And we won’t be forgetting him. Bob was rarely too busy to listen patiently to the latest bizarre turn in the city’s war against the homeless. He couldn’t get much newspaper space, but what he put in print was fair and caring, yet from a perspective uniquely his own. The bumbasers are going to have it a little easier, now that Bob has been prematurely called from the pressroom. You told our story, Bob. You illuminated issues that are once again shrouded in ignorance. Thanks for the light. We remember and are grateful.

STATEMENT OF MITCH SNYDER SUPPORTING THE JULY 4TH RALLY

(Around noon on July 4th, organizer George Soles from the Sonoma Union of the Homeless read this statement from D.C. activist Mitch Snyder supporting the First Homeless Congress)

Dear Friends,

Because of equally intense battles here in Washington, D.C., I can’t be with you in person in Santa Cruz for the First Homeless Congress. Know that if it were at all possible, I would be there. We are in solidarity with your efforts to decriminalize and end homelessness in Santa Cruz, California and throughout the country. Let there be justice, and then there may be peace. God bless you all.

Jail inmate found dead

According to the Highway Patrol, Levy was driving south on the inside lane of Highway 17 near Helbert Road when, for some reason, his car swerved into the northbound lane, causing a car driven by Michelle Chappo, of San Jose, to collide with one driven by Luis Bonfante, also of San Jose, which smashed into the driver’s side of Levy’s vehicle. Another car, driven by Milton Johns, of Milpitas, also collided with Chappo’s auto.

—Marcos Gómez / San Jose Mercury News 4/27/90

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MITCH SNYDER

Editor — It seems that throughout history during times of economic stress the search for a scapegoat is promoted and encouraged. This time it looks like the “homeless” are the chosen group to be the brunt of anger, blame and demonization. From this stance violence and other forms of abuse can be rationalized and justified.

The sad thing is the stereotyping of all homeless as “bums” who don’t have jobs and welfare recipients is erroneous. A large segment are families who through loss of job, illness or other unforeseen circumstances find themselves in this predicament for the first time. There are others who work, but due to high rents are still unable to afford housing.

—Melodie Barclay

SFChronicle / Mountain View
REMEMBERING MITCH SNYDER

"Deep sensitivity towards the human condition can exact a high price, as evidenced by Mitch Snyder’s death today. However, I believe it also can offer all of us an opportunity to reflect on our differences in the movement. Perhaps with Mitch’s passing, whatever the reasons may be, we can all become in a very small way Mitch Snyders. Organize ourselves and become even more militant than we have up to this point.

Mitch always told his fellow activists that good things happened on a rainy day. And as we reflect on his death on a rainy day, we begin to question this. However, I do believe this is our opportunity to reflect, come together again, and work even harder, if for no other reason, than to make his dreams come true.

Dreams that would make it possible for folks, poor or rich, to find a place to sleep on a rainy night. A society that would step forward and feed those in need of something to eat. A country where people would have the freedom to sleep in their automobiles or out of doors, if they so choose.

There’s a new star in the heavens tonight, shining down on all those folks outside. Keep twinkling, Mitch.

--Calamity Jane Imler

Mitch Snyder, national homeless activist, died earlier today. He came to Santa Cruz in April of 1989 to support the right of the homeless to eat and share food—a right that continues to be challenged but has been fairly successfully maintained over the last nine months.

Three months ago, Mitch marched the first twenty blocks in the Santa Barbara Homeless Rights Coalition’s Walk Against Sleeping Bans, a march that activist Mike Wilson finished at Homeless Independence Day yesterday. That homeless rally was the largest one ever for Santa Cruz—demanding an end to discrimination, an end to harassment for sleeping, and a commitment to equal rights and decent facilities for all.

Mitch would have been proud. He sent a message that but for his involvement in the Washington D.C. Shelter Amendment struggle, he would have been here with us. So let us mourn, and then let us organize—and keep our eye on the objective that his work made so much more real and tangible: a future where every person knows her own worth, and society is transformed to acknowledge, value, and support that worth.

Most of us who support the Homeless Table never met Mitch. But the Homeless Table continues to work to welcome the stranger and demand he be treated as a human being—with integrity, with dignity, with basic needs acknowledged, regardless of income or appearance. I think that our rage at laws that make sleeping or any other essential human need illegal was also his rage. And when the evening comes when that meanness and prejudice is washed away, it will be a victory for us all—our victory and Mitch’s.

--Bathrobespierre Robert Norse
Lawsuits a Tool For Building Homes
Low-cost housing unit suits cities

By Steve Maseley
Chronicle Staff Writer

Boasted by their success in a lawsuit against the cities, proponents of low-cost housing are preparing a legal assault on the service-providers in California to promote construction of affordable homes and apartments.

Without admitting guilt, Alameda agreed in April to an out-of-court settlement that requires it to take a variety of steps toward building a new housing project for its residents, with the city receiving an estimated $500,000 for its share. The settlement, which is expected to be reached in March, calls for the city to provide a site for the project and to pay the city of Alameda $1.5 million for its participation.

Many cities may be vulnerable to the same legal challenges as a result of a push to build more affordable housing units.

"The Alameda settlement is a result of a series of legal challenges," said lawyer John E. Beall, who represented Alameda in the case. "We believe that the city of Alameda has the legal right to build housing for its residents." He added that the settlement is the result of a series of legal challenges.

Under a 1980 state law called the Housing Element, the city of Alameda must provide a certain amount of affordable housing units in accordance with the California Housing Law.

The settlement agreement, which was drafted by the city's legal department, provides for the construction of a new housing project for low-income families.

"We believe that the city of Alameda has the legal right to build housing for its residents," Beall said.

Under the settlement agreement, the city of Alameda will be required to provide 100 units of affordable housing for low-income families. The city will also be required to pay approximately $2.5 million to the city of Alameda for its participation in the project.

The city of Alameda is one of several California cities that have faced legal challenges over the construction of affordable housing units. The legal challenges have been prompted by a series of court rulings that have found that cities have a legal obligation to provide affordable housing units.

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Snyder Symbolized Plight of Homeless

By J. L. David
Washington Post Staff Writer

Mitch Snyder, 46, who was found dead yesterday at the shelter he inhabited in downtown Washington, was a single-minded, idealistic, and dedicated man whose service to the homeless is part of the nation's unfinished business.

He never married, never had children, and spent his life fighting for the rights of the homeless. He was a force in the community, and his absence will be deeply felt.

Snyder was a leader in the movement to provide housing and services for the homeless. He founded the Washington Homeless Coalition, which worked to ensure that the homeless had access to food, shelter, and medical care.

In 1984, Snyder was awarded the Monte Carlo International Award for his work in ending homelessness. He was also named the Man of the Year by the National Coalition for the Homeless.

Snyder's death is a loss for the homeless community and for the city of Washington.
Late flashes......late flashes......late flashes......late flashes......

Kangaroo Kelly Writes Blank Check For Hennig's Hobo Hunters
Court OKs Warrantless Seizure, 7 Month Detention of Bedding

The lingering hopes of some die-hard idealists died yesterday afternoon (July 11) when an amiable but gutless municipal court judge made a sinister ruling on a suppression motion in the January 26th "Public Nuisance" case of Jabberwocky Jay Green and Linda the Lank Edwards.

Last winter, smiling and armed public servants stripped homeless demonstrators of blankets, bedding, literature, Xmas trees, signs, legal papers, and shoes at the Homeless Table Vigil near the post office. But SCPD higher-ups were embarrassed by barefoot homeless men knocking at their door and asking for their blankets back. Apparently such old-time favorites as "abandoned" and "imprisoned as evidence of camping" were wearing thin as excuses to rob people of their survival gear.

So, whizz-kids at Sleepbuster Central, possibly in collusion with the City Attorney and/or D.A.'s office, came up with a musty 1872 state law regulating "roads and rivers:" the "Public Nuisance" frame-up. On January 26 without a warrant to search and seize, Hennig's hit team struck the Homeless Table, charging four people with "Nuisance" misdemeanors and carrying off the Homeless Table along with the possessions and basic civil rights of the demonstrators.

In a mean, callous, and calculated harassment strategy, for months after the incident the D.A.'s office refused to release the personal property locked up, even though they had extensive photographs of the scene. After a bit of "we can't find the police report" doubletalk, the D.A.'s office under Supervisor "Pretty Bizarre" and Paul "Martial Law" Marigonda moved to reinforce the police message to the homeless: "hit the trail or lose your blankets." (cont.)

Bedrolls can be seized, judge says
Ruling in trial of homeless-rights advocate

By GREG DEEBE
Sentinel writer

SANTA CRUZ — The police practice of confiscating the belongings of homeless and homeless-rights advocates when writing tickets for city infractions does not violate First Amendment rights, a Municipal Court judge has ruled.

Judge Tom Kelly on Wednesday determined that police do not need search warrants to seize possessions of street people as evidence of alleged infractions, including maintaining a public nuisance, blocking a sidewalk and illegal camping.

The ruling came as a result of a motion to suppress evidence in the upcoming public nuisance trial of homeless-rights activist Jay Green, 33.

Green's attorney, Margaret Marr, argued in the hearing that her client's "First Amendment

Youths complain of 'harassment'

By GREG DEEBE
Sentinel writer

SANTA CRUZ — About 30 youths who described themselves as youth-gang members with the Police Department Wednesday after a sergeant warned one of their friends to the ground during an arrest on Pacific Avenue.

Deputy Chief Mike Dunbaugh said the complaints were thoroughly investigated. "We take each complaint seriously," Dunbaugh said.

Jeff Sandow claimed that he and others who hang out at the south end of the mall are harassed by police because we look different.

Michael Goodrich said he has been harassed every day since he came to town from Vermont two weeks ago.

Most said they just walk away when the police officer comes by. "He just comes up with his ticket book and asks who wants a ticket," Sandow said.

"Sometimes he'll come up and ask if we like football. Then, he'll say, 'Well, it's a shame your team's losing,'" added Sandow.

"The whole Wednesday was the last screw, he said, "Somebody got hurt for no reason," Smith said.

Esrey Rogers said he would expect a tough police stance in Texas, "but this is Santa Cruz. Everybody here was a little bit at some time," he said.

Witnesses said the man was wrestled to the ground after he tried to walk away from the officer, who had told him not to leave the Union Grove music store.

Store owner Richard Gillis told the Sentinel that he is receiving increasing complaints from customers about being patted down and verbally insulted by a crowd of about 40 young people who gather every day on the corner across from the Transit Center.

"Our corner has gotten very bad in the past two to three weeks," he said.

"It's not against the law for them to gather and I don't mind that, but they have become really abusive," Gillis said.

Dunbaugh said police are receiving increasing complaints from merchants on the lower end of the mall. He said they are experiencing problems that were prevalent in the Gold and 1300 blocks of the mall before the earthquake.

S.C. Sentinel, 5/31/90

S.C. Sentinel • report • news
River dwellers to get 9-day eviction notice

Squatters who don’t move face trespassing charges

OMELESS, from Page 1A

The plan, which also will clear the way for development of the river's Guadalupe River Park, is being criticized by the homeless and their supporters. Homeless advocates say any city officials are not prepared to find decent places for the homeless to live and that they do not have a stepped up harassment of river-dwellers to reduce their numbers before the relocation officially begins.

"All they are doing is pushing homeless people around from one spot to another," said Gtwxx Bird, a lawyer with the "All Aid Society of Santa Clara County.

City officials deny the harassment claims and say they simply need to clean up a health hazard that has been allowed to fester for years and arrests have increased the area, they say, as complaints about drug trafficking there have grown.

But even White said the latest isn't likely to take care of one of the 75 people that the city has living along four-mile stretch of the river, "It’s not going to get us anywhere," he said.

Those who don’t could well move to other parts of the city, he acknowledged.

"I don’t believe that we will permanently solve the problem," White said. "It needs a lot more than one city’s contribution."

Indeed, some residents living along the river said Monday they had no intention of moving into shelters. Shelter residents must keep out of the river at 9 a.m. every day and must take all their belongings with them, explained Robert Johnson, who lives on the river for about a year.

"I don’t see that people down here are hurting anybody," he said.

"I’ll find another hole somewhere," White said.

The city council today will consider a $25,000 plan to set up a temporary office on the river bank where homeless people will be refereed to shelters, mental health services and drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs. Job counseling will be available, and river residents and their belongings will be driven to "appropriate locations," according to a city housing staff report to the council.

The plan was put together by the river on from Monday until June 27, but anyone remaining after that will be arrested for trespassing, according to the plan.

Most of the money needed for the plan would go to the San Jose Conservation Corps, which would notify squatters of the eviction order. Once the river residents are cleared out, the corps would tear down any remaining shelters and bundle and tag any remaining belongings. Eventually, the city plans to restore the river to its natural state.

About $55,000 would pay for additional beds at the Montgomery Street shelter for three months. White said he hopes the county would contribute more money to keep those beds available for a longer period.

White said other shelters had agreed to reserve space for the other 45 or so homeless who would be in need of shelter. He said he was also lobbying the city to allow the San Jose National Guard Armory to be used as a shelter year-round, instead of only during the winter.

But Paul Kuhn, of the Mental Health Advocacy Project, said the reservation system means those who already are using the county's overcrowded shelters will be moved out to make room for the Guadalupe River refugees.

And she said the crowded conditions and disruptive lifestyle afforded by the armory are not satisfactory.

"What I would really like to see is a long-term, year-round shelter for the population that is funded by the city and county," Kuhn said she also was disturbed by the city's figures on the homeless population along the river.

In April, as many as 200 were living along the Guadalupe River, figures show. Now the number is 75.

"I don’t see that this balance of the homeless left the river or where they went.

Judge OKs arrests of S.J. river dwellers

By Mike Cassidy

San Jose’s plan to arrest the homeless who will not leave the banks of the Guadalupe River will go as scheduled today, after a judge rejected an advisory group’s request that the action be stopped.

Lawyers for the Legal Aid Society of Santa Clara County argue that the city had a responsibility to find shelter for the more than 20 people who have asked for help. Under an amended two-week plan to move the homeless away from the river.

They asked the judge to forbid any arrests until all those people are placed in temporary or permanent homes.

San Jose’s Amended Judge Harry G. Brown on assignment to the residential court approved the city to push the homeless from the river, saying he believes the city’s housing program is not adequate and housing is not available.

Kuhn said the city and county officials should be barred from destroying property or using excessive force when making arrests in the sweep of the river.

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City and county officials and a team of social workers have been operating a temporary shelter office near the river since June 18.

As of Tuesday night, 10 of those arrested had been placed in temporary shelters. 27 had been placed in permanent housing, and 19 had been accepted in alcohol or drug detoxification programs, said Alex Eyecie, the city housing director.
Shoved down the river

In clearing the Guadalupe riverbank for a park, San Jose is just shuffling the homeless

If the Guadalupe River were a much shorter river, the Guadalupe River Plan might make more sense. The plan may work as land management, but it fails — and badly — as a homeless policy. It's neither comprehensive enough nor well-guided enough to do the job it sets for itself.

The measure, which the San Jose City Council unanimously approved to right, is being billed as "a comprehensive homeless assistance plan that addresses the health, safety, social service and housing issues resulting from homelessness and persons living along the Guadalupe River." In reality, it's much less.

The main effect of the plan will be to clear a two-mile section of the Guadalupe River between Interstate 880 and 280, of its dwindling homeless population. On Monday, the area will be posted and guarded by contractors, to clear out the last of the 150 or so tents by June 27 to get out. Those remaining past that date will be cited for trespassing.

There is not enough money with the city wanting to reclaim this particular stretch of the Guadalupe. The presence in the area of a large homeless population has resulted in serious health and home enforcement problems for surrounding downtown neighborhoods, and would be an impediment to the imminent development of the Guadalupe River Park. City officials say increased police activity has reduced the number of homeless on the Guadalupe since more than 200 people had to leave the area by June 27.

The plan's immediate effect will be to clear out the last of the 150 or so tents by June 27 to get out. Those remaining past that date will be cited for trespassing.

The answer would be for the state to keep the National Guard armories open for the greater good. So, it's left to the city and county to somehow increase the money and potential to give the homeless a shot that works.

Failing that, the sort of homelessness that's been displaced will persist. And plans like the one to be approved tonight won't change that.

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A Berkeley Proposal to Outlaw "loitering Around Illegal Drugs"

By Patrick Lott

A proposed Berkeley ordinance to outlaw "loitering around illegal drugs" within 100 feet of drug dealing has divided the city's civil rights lawyers, who say an ordinance would entrench harassment by innocent bystanders.

S.F. plaza campers evicted
100 transients ousted in pre-dawn raid by police

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Under a deadline imposed by Mayor Art Agnos, more than two dozen officers raided Civic Center Plaza before dawn Friday and gently rustled some 100 transients out of their illegal encampment across from city hall.

Only a few hours after the police action, during which five people were arrested, the plaza was "reclaimed" by ordinary citizens. Mothers wheeled their babies on the path; old men sat on the benches, reading newspapers and chatting; kids fed the pigeons. Some folks inspected the pretty flower beds.

It seemed that the homeless occupation of the plaza for more than two years had never taken place.

I think this is very nice," said a broadly smiling Jack Richards, who moved to San Francisco from Ohio 20 years ago. "This is the way it used to be — without the conflict, the yelling, the screaming," he said.

"We don't want to live in the same places," said a woman. "It's not right to be crowded." The police were ready to use force to remove the last remnants of the ragtag occupants of one of San Francisco's significant scenes.

Some of the homeless had lived under the trees in the plaza for years. Agnos, who had been under pressure to remove the plaza to general public use, vowed to try to find housing for the homeless whether they liked it or not.

One man was carried away in a wheelbarrow. One woman, a homeless person, leaves Civic Center Plaza on Friday.

MOVING ON — Police officers watch as Oscar, right, a homeless person, leaves Civic Center Plaza on Friday.

"This is the culmination of 2½ years of planning," said Mayor Art Agnos. "We have given them the option to go somewhere better. We don't want to drive them out of the city."

The clearing of the park, though a highly visible gesture, addresses a small fraction of the city's homeless problem. There are an estimated 6,000 homeless residents in San Francisco, about half of whom live in the streets.

The Agnos administration is hopeful that the new services offered at the city's shelters will help alleviate the homeless problem.

Construction on the plaza's benches and grounds left the area in disarray yesterday. Scattered bottle caps and the smell of urine were vivid reminders that the hundreds of street people just days earlier.

A police sweep at 5:30 a.m. of police officers, patrol cars and paddy wagons descended on the plaza. By noon, accounts, the police were restrained, gently waking sleeping residents and telling them to move out. Most of them obliged.

Only one man, Christopher Stone, 40, was arrested for illegal lodging. Keith McLeary, head of the Homeless Hotline, and Rudy Bonare, 40, were arrested for obstructing police. Two others were arrested for outstanding warrants.

The eviction of the homeless ends a homeless encampment that began in 1987 and steadily grew in size over the past couple of years. Monday night, an estimated 150 to 200 residents were sleeping in the plaza.

Agnos ordered the plaza cleared after opening a new homeless shelter at Fifth and Bryant streets and expanding existing services.

By week's end, more than 200 homeless people had asked for shelter, and they were sent to shelters, hotels and other programs.

From Page 1

...was no friction between police and the homeless. Homeless advocates, however, complained of numerous reports of police harassing residents' property. And some charged that there were not enough shelter beds to house all the park's residents.

"We're not living in the same place," said a man in his early thirties. "We are not living in the same place," said another.

"Officers are using a low-key, friendly approach," Police Capt. Frank Jordan told reporters recording the scene in the dawn's early light. The chief said city officials were directed to try for a "humane solution" to the homeless situation.

Judge asked to stop arrests

Five homeless people went to court Friday, asking a judge to order a stop to the arrests. The five, who claimed that the city law against camping in parks violates due process rights and that the arrests are cruel and unusual punishment because homeless people have nowhere else to go, said Superior Court Judge John Dearman refused to comment on their request for a temporary restraining order, but set a July 25 hearing ordering the city to explain why a preliminary injunction shouldn't be issued.

So far as 25-year-old Dale Forbes was concerned, life in the middle of San Francisco's seat of government was good enough for him and his wife, Patricia. They moved to San Francisco from Chicago four years ago.

"I just want to get some sleep," a man grumbled in his early thirties. "I just want to get some sleep," said another.

"It's not fair," grumbled the man in his early thirties. "It's not fair," said another.

"You can't live anywhere" "You can't live anywhere," the policeman said. "I'm not going to debate it with you.

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In each subsequent hearing as the outline of the police harassment juggernaut became sharper, Kelly doled out decision after decision favoring the prosecution. The law itself, he held, was constitutional and not overly broad, though it is a hodgepodge of petty traffic concerns and philosophical statements about the "quality of life." Though the D.A. had failed to specify which part of the law the defendants were supposedly violating, Kangaroo hopped in to patch up the prosecution case—its costs to the taxpayers even then (mid-April) mounting into the thousands of dollars.

Omar the Magnificent and Grassroots Greg--two homeless men who happened by and expressed their outrage against the police attack January 26--were swept up in the police/prosecution net. Though largely uninvolved in the protest, their possessions were seized and they were forced to return to hearing after hearing as the judiciary took over the harassment job the police had begun. Charges were not dropped against Omar and Greg until May 15--making some wonder whether malice or straight stupidity ruled in Marigonda-land.

As the case proceeded, Kangaroo Kelly dutifully played his part, perhaps mindful of his former days in the D.A.'s office. The judge refused to order the prosecution to release evidence to the defense that might show a conspiracy between the D.A.'s office and the police dept. to set up a systematic pattern of harassment against the homeless. "Confidential work-product of the D.A.'s office," noted Kelly as he sealed off documents from public view--including the infamous D.A. Hit List (see below) (cont.)

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Ruling Due Soon on Rights of 'Mobile Homeless'

Appellate court must rule whether shelter is a guaranteed 'right'

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By Rachel Gordon

San Francisco's law prohibiting people from sleeping in their cars could be overturned by a state Court of Appeal within 90 days, if the trial rules that it is a fundamental right.

No other precedent-setting court in the nation has made such a ruling.

Attorney Serge Holtzman, representing the plaintiffs, Vehicle Residents Association, argued before the First District Court of Appeal May 8 that the local ordinance denies homeless people equal protection under the law because they cannot sleep where people with enough money to afford housing can sleep.

For many of the homeless, he said, their cars, buses and vans are their only refuge, noting that San Francisco's emergency shelter system has too few beds to meet the demand.

"The alternative to living in a vehicle is to sleep on the streets or in Civic Center Plaza," said Holtzman, whose clients sued Mayor Art Agnos two years ago for enforcing the law. Holtzman said at least provide people with a little privacy, warmth and safety.

Dowey City Attorney Randy Riddle argued that the city has every right to enforce the law, which he said is an issue of health, safety and aesthetics.

"The city certainly believes the ordinance is a proper use of police power," Riddle said after the hearing.

The local ordinance bans people from sleeping, eating or resting in any parked vehicles in residential areas between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. People can use their vehicles for shelter in industrial areas during those hours, as long as the vehicles haven't been altered for use as sleeping or cooking quarters, for example by removing seats or installing wood-burning stoves.

Although the ordinance has been on the books for years, the controversy began Agnos' first full day in office. Jan. 9, 1988. That night, police officers informed vehicular dwellers that the city would begin enforcing the ordinance, which could result in fines and towing of the vehicles.

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Ron Lear, longboard, sleeps in the Volkswagen bus, a practice he hopes the courts will rule legal.

Drawing the wrath of homeless advocates, Agnos placed a temporary moratorium on the law, drawing scores of vehicle dwellers to the city. Agnos' move drew swift criticism from landlords who live in the areas that have a high concentration of vehicle dwellers, particularly in neighborhoods bordering Golden Gate and Buena Vista parks.

Cites complained that those who made their homes in vehicles defaced and unlined in doorways and parks, drew their garbage on the sidewalks and intimidated passers-by—a scenario disputed by Don Flanders, a spokesman for the Vehicle Dwellers Association who said opponents used those charges as a way to garner public sympathy for the police action. Moved by neighbors' concern, Agnos once again ordered enforcement of the ordinance, opening the lawsuit.

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Superior Court Judge Richard Figueroa upheld the law in December 1988.

If the Court of Appeal overturns his decision, the case most likely will be sent back to the lower court for rehearing, with emphasis put on consideration of a person's fundamental right to shelter.

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that education and travel are fundamental rights—net shelter.

While the law is being debated in the courtroom, out on the streets, the battle still rages.

Ron Lear, whose makeshift home of six months is an embarrassed
Informal agreements in late June did secure the release of some items taken in a few of the mid-Spring forays by the police armed with their “Public Nuisance” bludgeon. But City Houndmaster Jack Bassett refused to accept a compromise proposal made by Jay’s attorney “Moxie” Margaret Marr. Bassett’s prize pupil, Hennig, descended on the Homeless Table to amass yet more homeless loot for the police lockers on July 5 with 4 more Nuisance charges (see story p. 4). Marr urged that the homeless property seized in January should be released because it was illegally seized. Since there was no emergency and a demonstration was in progress, Hennig needed to get a warrant, Marr argued.

Some observers agreed that continuing to hold the property months was harassment and irrelevant to any legitimate purpose. But would Kelly dare to tell the police officers to stop stealing homeless underwear and start dealing with rape and robbery?

Marr further argued that pictures were more than sufficient to decide whether the sidewalk was blocked, that the area had been cleaned up prior to the police arriving, and that the only goods there were the personal possessions of the demonstrators, who had nowhere else to put them. Additionally, she pointed out, the public display of homeless property was itself a form of free speech that demonstrated the utter inadequacy of locker facilities in town for the homeless. There was no evidence of any complaints, of public urination, of loud or offensive noise—no evidence of any crime whatsoever and no probable cause to believe any crime was being committed, Marr observed.

Marr to Kelly: “The police have come and seized the last and direly needed belongings of homeless people on more than ten occasions from this same site. There is only one rational interpretation of this policy and practice. And that is: to discourage these people from engaging in their political speech, speech that is vitally important and crucial to this community.”

(Cont.)

Civic Center homeless on the move
SF Examiner

At least one of the permanently displaced wasn’t concerned by the crackdown.

“Other places to sleep,” said a man who gave his name only as Jake. “They haven’t solved nothing.”

Jake said he was headed for Market Street. Spending the night at one of Mayor Agnew’s “new city shelters” was not for him, he said. Police reported no arrests at the hastily contested Civic Center Sunday.

A Northern Station sergeant reported things quiet but said he had already fielded complaints from perplexed homeowners who watched as the small army of people began to set up residence in the alleys and doorways in neighborhoods adjacent to Civic Center.

The homeless encampment in front of City Hall was regarded as a blight by many neighbors and businesses owners, but an eloquent placement of blame by activists fighting for homeless rights.

“On the move” Newsweek for “driver out.”
On the lookout list: drinkers, panhandlers, litterers and sleepers

The New York Post, an unapologetic show of loyalty to the mayor's administration, lists the Times Square area as a "hot zone" for panhandling and littering. The paper cites a recent increase in the number of homeless people and says they are a nuisance to the neighborhood.

The paper also accuses the city of being soft on crime, noting that the city has recently decriminalized many offenses, including public urination and solicitation.

The paper calls for a crackdown on the problem, saying that the mayor must take action to protect the city's quality of life.

The paper's editorial page calls for a "零容忍" policy and says that the mayor must take a tougher stance on crime.

The paper's editorial page also says that the mayor must address the problem of homelessness, which the paper says is out of control.

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The paper's editorial page also says that the mayor must address the problem of homelessness, which the paper says is out of control.
Kelly, ever the policeman's pal, also cast suspicion on the legitimacy of the 24-hour vigil (though no municipal law has ever barred it). The jolly judge accepted without proof that there was "a continuing encampment" at the Homeless Table without requiring any specific evidence of it, and then completely ignored and excluded evidence of an ongoing pattern of police harassment by taking homeless property. Instead of acknowledging that this proceeding was the just the latest in a series of legal and extralegal dodges to cover Bassett's Blanketsnatching, Kelly played deaf and dumb.

Was not Hennig's seizure of the Homeless Table itself and the literature on it a clear violation of the First Amendment? Ah, no, explained the judge. Hennig was simply "learning" correct procedures. How about holding property for 6 1/2 months? Prosecutorial discretion, concluded Kelly. But, don't worry, Kangaroo reassured the courtroom, table and literature were now safe; the homeless only had to worry about guarding their sleeping bags, survival gear, and personal property from the long arm of the police. Was the crime "blocking the sidewalk?..."not having a locker?..."protesting in the afternoon at a known Sleeping Ban vigil with a backpack by your side?" Who knows? It was just...

"Public Nuisance." A figleaf to conceal and legalize the relentless attack on the right of the poorest people to sleep at night! Another convenient hitherto-unknown weapon in the city-sponsored attack on homeless demonstrators? Another tool to enforce the Gang of 7's Sleeping Ban: When city-sponsored torture (as sleep deprivation is defined in the UN charter) becomes humdrum city policy, elaborately rationalized by lawyers in black robes, we are all in trouble.

Observers were still trying to grasp just what "crime" was being committed by Jay Green and Linda Edwards at 4 p.m. on the afternoon of January 26th. And whose ego, whose reputation, and whose interests were being served by the tens of thousands of dollars being spent on this case, and the half dozen other "Nuisance" cases rolling out of the downtown Misdemeanor Machine. Perhaps their crime was protesting a little too loudly and a little too long against a city government that preens itself on its progressive pomp and lashes out against those who reveal its soiled and stinking underwear.

The city and county continues its costly war against Green and Edwards August 17 in Dept. C. There the prosecution may seek to use the latest gut-and-gouge weapon handed it by Proposition 115--defendant discovery (where the victims have to reveal their defenses so they can be more effectively skewered by the government). Marr will file a motion to dismiss based on discriminatory prosecution since the county seems to be targeting homeless protesters and tables rather than other groups. Other grounds for the motion: simple violation of Jay's right to speak and petition. But some watching wondered when the well-intentioned attorneys struggling to catch the ear of Kangaroo Kelly would realize--the only rights these homeless defendants have, are those they seize and secure for themselves in the community and in the streets.
LATEST FLASHES... LATEST FLASHES... TAKE A PEAK... LATEST FLASHES

BASSETT'S $300,000/YEAR MALL SQUAD RESUMES SLEEP-ARRESTS AT TABLE
4 COPS, 3 SQUAD CARS JAIL THREE SLEEPERS ON PHANTOM CHARGES

It was three nights after the Gang of 7's "we talk-you listen" City Council meeting when a statement of homeless concerns ratified by locals for the First Homeless Congress was received in stony silence. Three nights since a vigil outside the Gang's lair remembered national homeless activist Mitch Snyder. Three nights after the Gang passed an empty media-oriented appropriation for "families and children" while spurning a recommended extension of the Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program's vital needed drop-in program that would give some homeless an alternative to becoming 11 PM sleepcriminals.

It was two nights after the chief law enforcement officer of the city publicly maligned homeless activists at a $12/head chowdown for the local Chamber of Commerce at the Coconut Grove restaurant and moaned that his vital efforts to enforce homeless insomnia downtown were costing hundreds of thousands a year. And then blamed "50 bums downtown" for all his troubles.

It was two nights after Muni Court Judge Kangaroo Tom Kelly gave his blessing to do-as-we-please police seizures of homeless survival gear and empty harassment charges of Public Nuisance at the Homeless Table.

It was Friday the 13th. For the first time since June, armed "peace" officers arrived at the crack of dawn to round up sleeping homeless from three homeless demonstrators sleeping at the Table. Moonrise Mike Carreiro, "Many Miles" Mike Wilson from Santa Barbara, and "Abstract" P.G. were led through the ancient gauntlet of humiliation and incarceration for daring to lay out sleeping bags in the confines of Santa Cruz city.

The men were cited with violating 6.36.050: misdemeanor camping more than twice in 48 hours, a bogus charge that is used to rob folks of sleep, time, liberty, and dignity, but then reduced or dropped to an infraction [See footnote #5, p. 12]. The police did not mention that there was any complaint about the conduct of the men they took away.

Badlands Barbara, Bathrobespierre Robert, Blackbird Barb, Stormin' Norman, and Doeskin Dolores moved to take charge of the denuded Homeless Table, using the Sleepbuster Alert! phone chain to rouse grumbling supporters at 6 AM with the bad news. With only a handful of people sleeping regularly at the Table, some pessimisms wondered if the vigil would survive the increased police crackdown. Others, more hopeful, noted an upsurge of volunteers and support at the Keystone Cupboard "Legal Campground" Community meeting on Wednesday. Rumors were afoot that of the many City Council candidates due to announce next Monday, at least one was going to launch a tough campaign for homeless rights.

COMING NEXT ISSUE: Linda the Lark calls for Encampment Now! Street Tribunal and Copwatch: the First Chapter; Roughrider Ron; A Life and Death on the Streets; San Francisco: Organizing, to Regain the Right to Sleep Safely; The Search for A Legalized Campground at Keystone's Cupboard Community; Who Was That Masked Lawman Who Gave Three Homeless Men Jobs July 127?...Answers, Questions, Poems, and Stories all Coming in Street Shit Sheet #76!
The Homeless Crier

A 30 HOUR TOUR OF HOMELESSNESS

Dark Forrester and John O'Brien have been offering to take media representatives and public officials on a 30-hour tour of homelessness throughout San Francisco. To date no one has accepted the challenge. Why not? Are people afraid we might offer them a new insight? Or are they afraid we might challenge their faulty perceptions?

Challenge still stands!

JOHN O'BRIEN

AN SFPD/ABC COVERT INTELLIGENCE OPERATION

Currently, and for some considerable time, the ABCs have been conducting covert intelligence operations throughout the city, the cooperation of some local police departments and the SFPD, as reflected in the actions of the local agencies which apparently also participate in the training, as well as participate in the operations.

The youngsters are sent into alcoholic vending establishments, where there are previously placed undercover operatives of ABC, and, in our case, the SFPD, during which time the youngsters attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages. The youngsters are sold an alcoholic beverage by the sales agent, regardless of whether or not the customer is of legal age. Conviction can be punished by fines of $1000 and/or jail/prison term of 6 months. Beyond this, the court can order the offender to make $1000 per day of fine to the city, and that the court can order the youngster to make $1000 to the city for their delinquency.

Three types of violations are involved:

1. Contributing to the delinquency of minors
2. Abuse of the child
3. Involvement of the child in criminal violation of laws

A POEM FROM BERKELEY'S JULIE VINOGRAD

STREETPEOPLE IN A RAINSTORM

6 layers of soggy clothes:
spray, canoe, beard, and laughter.
Hot water bottle, water-jacketed
as if the rain were blood.

Fingerprints melt.

Eyes wash out.

Eyeshadow stick for plug-in hot flashes.

A plastic toadstool tent of a person
with delicate bones sticking out at the wrist
like an elephant's bracelet
of owl feathers.

Backed against an overhang.

Shouting at the oncoming armies of drip.

The fake madman's face flecks with drool.

The real madman's face flecks with rust.

Or the other way around.

The only way out of the street
but it's raining.

Everyone huddles together
and doesn't get warm.

Mold grows on the makeshift
trying to shake off the shivers.

Wet socks at totes like teething fish.

Must climb the north side of the mound.

People inside the warm and dry
are either having their coffee on the moon
or they're just pictures painted on the window.

Only the rain is real.

SC HOMELESS JULY 4 PROTEST

BY MARK BERGSTROM

SANTA CRUZ — Hundreds of homeless people and activists from up and down the state are expected to descend on Santa Cruz for a July 4 protest against the city’s camping ban.

Police Chief Mike Dunbar said he has been told that between 500 and 1,000 demonstrators are planning to attend the protest in front of City Hall. The protest is expected to begin at 7 a.m. and end at 10 a.m.

Dunbar said he has been told that as many as 200 demonstrators may be present at the protest.

Santa Cruz Police and City officials, including City Manager Diann West, have called off the planned protest.

Lene said Thursday he has met with organizers of the protest and that they appear to be serious about their demonstration.

Lene also said he believes the demonstration may turn into a "conflictual situation," which, he said, could cause "additional disruptions and disruption in the community."

Lene said he also is concerned by the number of people who have expressed interest in the protest.

Beyond these violations, some of which appear to stem from the youngsters, the others of which stem solely on the law enforcement agencies also report a number of Child Welfare Law

a. Contributing to the delinquency of minors
b. Abuse of the child

it will be at the expense of the rest of the city," Dunbar said.

He said he believes a large number of homeless activists have chosen Santa Cruz for their protest because, he said, the city is more responsive than most to the problem of homelessness.

Homelessness activists disagree.

Robert North said it was because of the city's problems over the last few months that they decided to pick Santa Cruz for their protest.

The San Francisco Post also reported that a number of demonstrators may be present at the protest.

A sign, coming out in front of our city hall for three months, appeared to be a sleeping ordination. We plan to go up there and help Santa Cruz, because they seem to be the only direct street," said Colin Atkinson of the San Francisco Homeless Coalition.

Atkinson said Santa Barbara is still sleeping on city sidewalks, and that we're here, which are closed to the public at night.

The Santa Cruz camping ban prohibits sleeping in all public places and in cars and vans.

Loitering is a violation.

Local homelessness activists have protested the camping ban for more than a year at City Council meetings and in demonstrations in front of the City Council. The council has received hundreds of protests to the ban.

Recently, the council voted to limit the amount of time it devotes to "oral communications" from the public, at the request of some council members. Some of the previous meetings had run over by as many as 45 minutes.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday.
GEORGE SOLIS: AN AFTERWORD ON JULY 4TH

(George is a tireless worker with the Sonoma Union of the Homeless, whose around-the-clock efforts brought many of the Northern California folks to the First Homeless Independence Day in Santa Cruz.)

7/9/90

Dear Friends of Santa Cruz:

Thank you so much for letting me be a part of this effort to bring justice for all in Santa Cruz. We were a living presence of compassion for others, an assertion of ourselves, and an example of the calm persistence that brings the most lasting change.

I gladly admit that we were outnumbered at least 2 to 1 by those opposed to the poor and homeless. We took a census of hate in America and hate won. This may be an accurate count of feelings in America today. We should feel a great sense of pride that we did not join in on this hate, but instead maintained a dignity that any class of people would respect.

I am proud to have been with you.

Several days before the rally I had called Mitch Snyder to discuss Santa Cruz. When I told him about the planned counter-demonstration, he said, "Wonderful. That's so helpful." Many times I called Mitch when I had questions about strategy or about a decision, and he did make good decisions. On hearing of his death, I had to respect his last decision.

Mitch's problem was probably optimism. He had this great faith that if only evil were to be exposed, humanity would rise up and stamp it out. Buy that isn't so. I'm sure it injured (but never killed) his faith in justice to see that people would actually rally against the poor and homeless. He made his fight in the belly of the beast and it consumed him like it has consumed so many other optimists.

So evil does win some of the battles, but with faith—and optimism—none of the wars. "Housing Now!!!"

---George Solis
Sonoma County Homeless Union

Editor's Note: The heavy turnout for the Busenhart "hang 'em high" rally on the 4th happened for a number of reasons. Busenhart's bunch had ample financial backing which the homeless rally did not--quarter-page newspaper ads for several days before the demo. The homeless rally on the other hand suffered from slanted media coverage--the Santa Cruz Urinal actually editorially endorsed the counter-rally. Busenhart's group got facilities and resources from the reactionary leadership in the local Plumber's Union.

And, of course, many local "progressives" loyal to the Wormhoudt-Laird coterie downtown, refused to support or attend the rally. CAB, under the leadership of Paul Brindel and Christine Johnson-Lyons, refused to allow their Handsnet computer--established with homeless funding to publicize the event; Brindel is locally infamous for setting the police on the first public
homeless encampment in the fall of 1986 and pursuing court action against sit-in demonstrators at the closed-in-the-dead-of-winter River St. shelter annex in the summer of 1988. To be fair, it must be added, Brindel served as an observer on the 4th and even slept—at a distance from his vehicle—from the demonstrators on the night of the 4th and morning of the 5th.

Her rally on the 4th was short and strident and filled with false information that produced a lot of heat briefly. Some of her concerns about waste social service money, we actually share (bucks go to buildings and bureaucrats and not to folks who need services). But at the next City Council meeting (July 10), only three of her "red-shirts" were there—next to the dozens of homeless supporters. And two of those three actually supported the homeless demand for a legalized campground. So what's all the shouting about?

Busenhart's disinformaton campaign may have actually be about something else entirely. The "hidden political agenda" that she accused "homelessness activists" of having may have actually been her own. Having lured lots of misinformed, anxious, and angry people to her rally, Busenhart gathered a list of signatures and phone numbers, ostensibly to urge a ridiculous and unenforceable automatic-jail-for-sleeping law. Absurdly punitive, the law wouldn't be able to pass the Fuhrer's desk in Nazi Germany: it would finish off the crowded court system, swamp the jail, bankrupt taxpayers, and probably stir up the homeless to outright rebellion.

And now she can pursue what may have been her real agenda all along: fighting a new city tax for social services. Tsk, tsk, Carolyn. Shame on you for your devious ways.

Most people need more time in land of nod, experts say

By Natalie Angier

Experts in sleep behavior and sleep disorders have found that the vast majority of people are sleeping at least an hour to 90 minutes less each night than they should.

That discovery may not surprise hard-driving workers who scorn the call to relax, but sleep researchers say that even those level-headed people who think they are getting a reasonable amount of sleep each night probably suffer from some degree of sleep deprivation.

"People cheat on their sleep, and they don't even realize they're doing it," said Dr. Howard P. Roffwarg, director of the Sleep Study Unit at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. "They think they're OK because they can get by on 6 1/2 hours, when they really need 7 1/2 or even more to feel ideally vigorous."

Roffwarg and his colleagues, reporting in a study presented at the 13th Annual Meeting of the American Sleep Disorders Association, hope to help people get more sleep, and not for only those who need it the most. "I don't think of a single study that hasn't found people getting less sleep than they ought to," said Dr. David F. Dinges, a biological psychologist at the Institute of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia.

"People cheat on their sleep, and they don't even realize they're doing it."

—Dr. Howard P. Roffwarg
University of Texas Southwestern Medical School

So apparent are the potential hazards of chronic sleep deprivation that Congress, as part of an omnibus health bill passed in 1988, asked a panel of a dozen sleep scientists to conduct a comprehensive study of the subject, to be completed by mid-1991.

In a new analysis of several health surveys of 21,000 people 65 and older, the National Institute on Aging found that more than 50 percent reported sleeping badly and feeling poorly rested upon waking.

If applied to the older population as a whole, said Dr. Andrew Morgan, a sleep researcher at the institute, at least 13 million Americans are aware enough of their chronic sleep deficiencies to cite it as one of the most common health problems.

More revealing of the problem of hidden sleep deprivation is a series of studies of several hundred college and graduate students between the ages of 18 and 30, conducted over the past several years at Stanford University, Brown University and the Henry Ford Hospital.

In one representative experiment with young adults who were generally healthy and got an average of seven to eight hours sleep a night, sleep researchers discovered that 36 percent of these apparently normal students could fall asleep almost instantaneously throughout the day if allowed to lie down in a darkened room.

That sleep pattern matched one exhibited by narcoleptics and others suffering from clinical sleep pathologies — evidence, the researchers said, that the students, despite having had what most would consider a perfectly reasonable amount of sleep, were nevertheless sleep-deprived.

The researchers further discovered that even students who seemed alert and did not quickly fall asleep under test conditions could benefit from more sleep.

If they spent one week getting to bed an hour to 90 minutes earlier than usual, the students improved their performance markedly on psychological and cognitive tests.

To sleep researchers, such results strongly suggest that most, if not all, people who think they are sleeping enough would be better off with an extra
SF homeless object to being rousted

Many city residents and merchants have complained bitterly about the camp, but until recently Agnos refused to order the homeless out because of a shortage of shelter space. With the opening of two new city shelters, the mayor finally ordered a sweep of the plaza.

Harv and two friends with whom he now shares an apartment said they returned to the plaza to support friends facing eviction. “We’re family,” said Howard.

Harv and Howard said they planned to burn San Francisco Agnos in effigy Wednesday evening at 8:30. They also planned to join others in a sleep-out protest outside Agnos’ home on Friday.

Not far away, a man who gave his name as Alfredo stood peeling a cucumber for lunch with a sturdy clap knife and listening to Spanish-language commentary on a World Cup game. He said he and four friends had camped in the plaza for a year but would before the police came.

“Maybe tonight is the last night,” Alfredo said. “He said he did not want to move to one of the new city shelters because he said they kept residents indoors from 7 p.m. until morning.

Alfredo said he was seeking work as a painter. “I’m no professional, but I’m almost nonexistent,” he said.

Hugo, one campsite away, said he had accepted lodgings in the new city service center at 8th and Bryant streets. A friend,0

New York

By Neilea Angler

New York Times

People who need more sleep are more likely to feel sleepy, Dr. Howard P. Koffman, of the Sleep Study Unit at the University of Texas, said.

“I don’t think a single study that hasn’t found people getting less sleep than they ought to,” said Dr. David V. Dinges, a sleep specialist at the University of Pennsylvania.
Keep the new mall friendlySC Sentinel

I was appalled to read of the recent recommendations to Vision Santa Cruz regarding so-called "street people."

Reduce or eliminate benches and greenery? Privatized sidewalk space? Uniform closing hours? Increased police presence? It sounds like the answer is to make the environment such that no one will want to be there.

I am one of those productive, civic-minded types that some people are so concerned about protecting; lest I might not want to spend my money on the mall anymore. Prior to the earthquake, I went to the mall virtually every day. Whether there, for an early morning cup of coffee or a midnight crepe, I never felt intimidated or threatened.

Since I spent so much time there, I think I encountered all the same people everyone is screaming about. Sure, I've been panhandled — but I know how to say yes and I know how to say no when I want to. I don't need anyone "protecting" me. As for the general environment — the benches, the shrubs and the few open-late establishments have always made the mall feel safe and homey.

I think the media, the police and some shop owners have blown the entire "street person" issue into something much larger than it is. We already have laws against public drunkenness, against drug dealing, against urinating in public (how about more public-access bathrooms? We've all been caught in that jam more than once). Truly homeless, undesirables, deserving/undeserving — What purpose do such terms serve? It's not the city's role to enable the bigotry and paranoia of some by harassing and controlling certain groups of people. Let's deal with specific behaviors and not target groups of people.

Diversity is part of what makes Santa Cruz click. The day we sell our souls for investment and tourist dollars is the day we lose this community as our home.

Shelly D'Amour
Santa Cruz

City Council closing street access

The public should take notice of the latest example of fraud and deceit by our so-called progressive city government. This council, which constantly tries to convince us that it favors both protecting the environment and supports better access for the disabled, has, in fact, been making it increasingly difficult for pedestrians, bicyclists and the handicapped to get around in this town. Without any public discussion that I'm aware of, the city has allowed Longs Drug and Zanotto's Market to close off the alley between their buildings downtown. In addition, the city has allowed the fencing off of the north end of Jessie Street and currently is giving serious consideration to proposals to close off Pearl Alley and to privatize Pacific Avenue.

If the members of this council were sincere in their rhetoric, they would be working to protect and augment the public's prescriptive rights in these easements. Instead, blinded by their insane hatred for street people, council members have repeatedly engaged in a policy of cutting off one's nose to spite one's face. To prevent the horror of some poor person finding a free meal in a dumpster, the city has opted to make it more difficult for all of us to get around.

The city, of course, is doing this at the behest of a handful of business and property owners and it is on this group that pressure must be applied to reverse this trend. I'm no longer going to patronize businesses such as Longs and Zanotto's which make my getting to them difficult.

Daniel Murphy
Santa Cruz 5/21/90

SCPD will control crowding and stop property abuse and littering through cattle herding to disperse

SCPD will control crowding and stop property abuse

Physical changes favoring flower boxes over benches.

Installing jagged brick rather than smooth seating.

There are no SC littering nor vagrancy ordinances, so SCPD issues panhandling and littering citations as deterrents.
"Contempt proceedings are public," cautioned Grueneich.

"The court is still in session." Eric fingered his authority for a moment, but then reluctantly let the two stay to watch the thin-skinned judge further lecture the anguished man. As they left the courtroom, 2 out of 3 spectators had to agree that Sleep-squealer Mulligan had done it again—and maintained his unofficial but fearsome record for the number of victims held and quietly tortured for "contempt of court."

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**PARKER TIRES OF JAIL, PLEADS TO BUM RAP...."Judge Me Not" Joe Parker, after eleven days in jail for repeated "sleeperime" faced a battery charge against Sgt. "Don't Fuck With Me" St. Onge in Muni Court B., presided over by Judge "Artichoke-Heart" Attack.** Joe Parker himself privately admitted throwing the activist into a lamp-post, though he denied starting the altercation. Ja prisoners live in close eye-witnesses to the proceedings, endorsed Joe's account that St. Onge began the fray by contumaciously kicking a box in Joe's direction, which Joe then kicked back. Joe and Ja prisoners both agreed that St. Onge made a punitive bust because of Joe's unsupportive attitude. The sergeant, they charge, then covered his own attack on Joe by charging "battery."

Coming from nearly two weeks of jail, Joe then got the bad news from Attack that he would be held in jail until trial, denied release on his own recognizance. Stir-crazy from the celltime, Joe pled no contest, and got a year's probation during which he agreed not to "sleep illegally," be caught with an "open container," or provoke St. Onge into jumping him again. A tall number for Joe whose allergy to courtrooms and jails is legendary--in a town where every siesta after dark is a criminal offense for the homeless. Some observers are gloomily predicting that Joe will be the first "sleep prisoner" jailed for 6 months to 1 year for "violating probation" by falling asleep at the Homeless Table.**

15 See footnote 16, p. 20.

16a Editor's note to the 3rd Edition (7/23): Joe was arrested July 14 and began serving a sentence of 40 days -- the overwhelming majority of it for sleeping in Santa Cruz. For details see "Homeless Table goes on Vacation" flyer. He is scheduled to appear in court on 5 more sleeping warrants July 29.
Time to pay for the folly of the Eighties

By MARK BERGTHOMAS S.F. News Staff/wb

Homelessness, a problem so intractable we try not to see, became endemic in the 1980s. In San Francisco, there's actually a growing group of working homeless, folks who have steady jobs and can't pay their rent. (This is not surprising when the rent for a subsidized, low-income apartment in The City is $285 a month, and only the poor can qualify.)

There's a spreading awareness, hopefully, that the inequities of the 80s must be reversed if the United States is to avoid the fate depicted in so many post-apocalypse movies — the rich living in armored enclaves while the poor fight in the streets for scraps.

When questioned about this, Mori said his information came from other social service agencies themselves.

Councilman Joe Gori said the fact that the homeless stay away from Noe Valley and Castro districts that those cities used to be.

The fact that they're no longer welcome in San Francisco, he said, only makes the city's program's work, in fact, grow.

Councilman Lane said he was impressed by the number of people who took the time to come to the meeting. "I am not surprised that the rent for a subsidized, low-income apartment in The City is $285 a month, and only the poor can qualify."
September 6, 1990

"Backward, flow backward, O tide of the years!
I am so weary of toil and tears--
Toil without recompense, tears all in vain--
Take them and give me my childhood again!

YOU
I have grown weary of dust and decay,
PAY
Weary of flinging my soul-wealth away,
25c
Weary of sowing for others to reap;
Rock me to sleep, mother--rock me to sleep!
--Elizabeth Akers Allen, "Rock Me to Sleep," 1860.

JAIL SWALLOWS UP JABBERWOCKY JAY & PADDYWAGON PETE FOR SLEEPCRIME
MORE KANGAROO COURT CAKEWALKING SLATED FOR LINDA THE LARK

Growling he'd rather be inside sleeping than outside slaving, Paddwagon Pete Pascoe surrendered himself to the County Jail this morning rather than perform "Community Slavery" for slumbering in Santa Cruz without the bucks to rent a room. Pete faces 34 days on the floor of an overcrowded jail cell just several blocks from the site of the post office Homeless Table where he spent many nights on the concrete protesting the city's 11 PM-6:30 AM Sleeping Ban.

Both Pete and Jabberwocky Jay—who went to jail in late August with a longer term of 58 days—were sent to the lockup by traffic referee Maddog Mulligan. The constitution-crushing jurist, having given Jay and Pete the maximum sentence of $138 on many of their tickets, chose to continue playing patty-cake with downtown politicians and send the "sleepcriminals" to jail rather than suspend their outrageous fines. With an emergency "sanctuary for sleepers" proposal on the agenda for City Council consideration on September 11, Maddog's knee-jerk severity seemed excessive even for him. [In contrast, bogus but misdemeanor "Public Nuisance" charges before other judges may be postponed and quietly dropped for those censored and stripped of their property at the Homeless Table earlier this year.]

Pete and Jay joined Boston Bob Hillman and "Judge Me Not" Joe Parker in requesting jail rather than involuntary servitude for their poverty crimes. Bob was one of the first to go to jail on a sentence of more than a week, earlier this summer, and Joe spent several weeks on the Watsonville work farm. Jay reported by phone from the slammer that he'd refused to work on the farm and so was being refused any time off for "good behavior."

Meanwhile Linda the Lark Edwards faces Sleeping Justice September 14 when she will face charges of "disrupting a public meeting" for confronting Busenhart and her Barbarians at City Council on July 24th. Still pending is county mischief against

1 Or "Community Service" as it is known in legal doublespeak.

2 For Mulligan's latest monstrosities evicting earthquake-devastated families—with-children, see Street Shit Sheet #57.

3 Busenhart's "Take Back Our Town" proposed that city sleeping-without-a-credit-card be made an automatic first-time jailing offense. It is due to emerge from the City Council oast-combs on Sept. 11th with a negative report. Why waste the city attorney's time at a bunch of jury trials when the it can rely on "good old boy" judges to find sleepers guilty time after time at half the time and money and with a quarter the public relations damage?
Linda for (a) ordering a cup of coffee at Denny’s last spring ("trespass"), (b) standing in front of a paddywagon that was taking away a "criminal jaywalker" May 31st ("obstructing an officer"), and (c) giving out leaflets at the Homeless Table in January ("Public Nuisance").

With a possible six months in jail and $1000 fine on each of these charges, Linda may be in new hot water for serving "criminal coffee and doughnuts" at the courthouse ("feeding without a permit"). J.U.S.T. (Join Us, Sleep Tonight) has been doing a sporadic morning breakfast in solidarity with sleep-prisoners, and to rally support for a moratorium on sleeping tickets and amnesty for sleep-prisoners until the Council acts on the sanctuary proposal.

Late Flash: At mid-day Sept. 6, Judge-Me-Not Joe called in from jail reporting he had been apprehended for criminal jaywalking warrants. None dare call it harassment.

METRO-MALL HOMELESS TABLE REAPPEARS STAFFED BY SANCTUARY CRITIC LINDA THE LARK CHALLENGES HENNIG HARASSMENT ON UPPER MALL

While others in the Homeless movement express support for the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep’s "sanctuary zone" proposal, Linda the Lark Edwards has been taking a different stand. "If we had decided to set up a sanctuary, it would be different. If it had been started and run by the homeless people. But bureaucrats wanting to take over and set it up like an open-air shelter with conditions, rules & regulations. A majority of the "homeless-by-choice" broke away from the system to get away from the bureaucracy. And that’s why we wouldn’t go for it."

"Two years ago about fifteen of us took sleeping bags, went behind the River St. Shelter. We said 'this is an open piece of land that is not being used and the homeless people can sleep back here.' And so we spent a couple of days checking it out, and then we just moved our sleeping bags and all our belongings there and started establishing a campsite. We had talked to City Council and gone to a bunch of meetings and were put off and pacified, while the cops kept giving us tickets. We didn’t want to sit around waiting while the bureaucrats sat on their duffs. So we took action cause we saw the need and wanted to do something about it immediately, not wait for somewhere in the far future.

"We maintained the campground. We kept it organized. We dug a latrine pit, like would be set up at a Rainbow gathering. We disposed of our own garbage. We had cooking facilities—stoves and stuff brought in. We cooked breakfast for everyone—including any homeless people who were hungry. Everyone was invited to come and check us out. We encouraged City Council members and candidates to come and check it out.

"I felt it was a complete success without government intervention. It lasted two weeks. Paul Brindel, under the pressure of the city, had to have us removed. He said his job was on the line. 'It’s not me that wants to do this.' I don’t know whether he wanted to or not. He let us set there for two weeks—so maybe he thought about it, or else he would have come out there on the second day.’ Police finally came and warned us to get our stuff out of there; then they came back that night and arrested nine of us for refusing to leave a sanitary homeless-run campground. People were being fed and had a place to sleep. The only thing missing was city approval.
In concert with Bathrobespierre Robert Norse, Linda has been overseeing a new Homeless Table outside the Union Grove Music parking lot across from the Metro Center. Union Grove Music managers continue to harass street people, deadheads, homeless activists, youths, punks and others, reports Linda. Their complaints reportedly provoked police-homeless confrontation at the "forbidden fence" in late May. Sgt. "Hobohunter" Hennig and his sometime sidekick, Officer Kurbash Kern, have been stalking the mall nabbing criminal "fence-sitters", "tobacco possessors," and "fence leaners."

Yesterday Hennig and a fellow officer were caught leaning against the controversial fence themselves. Asked to explain himself, Hennig airily dismissed the matter as "police privilege." Unsatisfied, Linda and two Homeless Table workers declared themselves privileged characters as well and joined the "leaning" party. But the officers apparently found the company unsuitable, for they left shortly afterwards without posing for a group photo.

The new Homeless Table offers sign-up sheets for the proposed Copwatch program, a volunteer effort to document and oversee police "cattleherding" on the mall. Linda also distributes flyers from J.U.S.T., discussing the need for ongoing demonstrations to deal with the troubling problem of homeless

Complaints from Union Grove reportedly provoked Hennig's Hooliganism at the "forbidden fence" earlier this summer. On May 30, Sgt. Bob "Hobohunter" Hennig arrested and roughed up Morpheus Mike Hobson for sitting on the parking lot fence ("trespass"). This prompted more than a dozen witnesses to file formal complaints to the police (with no announced action taken). A day later sixty people showed up the mall to City Hall to demand Hennig's suspension until he received non-violence training.

The police department responded by arresting and citing Bathrobespierre Robert, "Slyshoes" Sandra Loranger, Loudbottom Leith Austin, and Youthlover Yahshahweh for "conducting and participating in a demonstration without a non-commercial event permit." Maddog Mulligan will hear arguments that the law is unconstitutional before he rubberstamps the city's position and convicts the four later this fall. Morpheus Mike's charges were dropped in August, but trespass tickets continue against "criminal leaners."

Kurbash: [from the Turkish qirbachi] A lash or whip of hide used as an instrument of punishment in Turkey, Egypt, etc. Kern has been gaining notoriety recently for enforcing Hennig's "cattleherding" policies against "undesirables" at the top of the mall. [See Street Shit Sheet #55, pp. 13a & 47]

Meanwhile nearby Party Zone owner and state assembly candidate Wes Walker has announced he opposes police harassment of those outside his store—"my customers." He also claims that cattleherding is not police policy, that the minutes cited in St Sheet #55 were in error, but has not yet produced the "corrected" minutes. Walker's video arcade caters to youthful patrons, but some are still skeptical of Wes's commitment, noting that benches outside his place were removed at his instigation and sitting anywhere within half a block of his place has now become a crime. Critics are also wondering if his MerchantWatch program, directed against "criminals" will haul in panhandlers and potdealers.
Insomnia while the Gang of 7 (City Council) sleeps. After a short-lived protest breakfast at the County Courthouse to protest the jail terms of Jabberwocky Jay and Paddywagon Pete, Linda and other J.U.S.T. members may be heading for another showdown with County Health honchos, who have declared giving away coffee-and-doughnuts a no-no, and threatened to pull out the year-and-a-half old Injunction used against SWAP (Soup Without a Permit) when it served homeless suppers at the Town Clock.

SANTA BARBARA HOMELESS COALITION LOOKS FORWARD TO TUESDAY VICTORY MONTHS OF CITY HALL SLEEP-INS PRODUCES ACCORD WITH COUNCIL

A homeless sleepout at City Hall that fluctuated in numbers from 30 to 80, but continued nightly since the beginning of April ended on August 27th when the City agreed to honor agreements made four years before. According to "No-Nonsense" Nancy MacGruder of the Santa Barbara Homeless Rights Coalition, the local City Council has agreed to incorporate a crucial interoffice memo into its anti-camping ordinance that allows sleeping, sleeping bags, and security of personal possessions throughout the city on public property. She noted that it was the months-long vigil at City Hall which forced city authorities to the bargaining table.

In August 1986, homeless activists organized a national call for hundreds, if not thousands, of supporters nationwide to "Come to Santa Barbara: Go to Sleep, Go to Jail."

Supported by Washington, D.C. organizers from Mitch Snyder's Community for Creative Non-Violence, the campaign forced an eleventh hour change in city law, which legalized sleeping in town. In later actions, the City Council ruled parks and the City Hall itself off-limits. And last fall, Superior Court judge Dodds held that sleeping itself was camping, overturning the legality of the entire settlement.

In the face of renewed police harassment, Santa Barbara homeless demanded that the city clarify the law in writing, which the Council refused to do, stating that an "unspoken agreement" was sufficient. A four-month long Sleep-In at City Hall ensued, capped by demonstrations in mid-August featuring Valerie Harper and Martin Sheen, demanding the city put its agreement down in black-and-white. Shortly thereafter, the city capitulated, and agreed to honor its part of the bargain.

Santa Barbara also has a homeless-run winter shelter program at its Armory, which takes pets, families, and vehicles, unlike Santa Cruz's Interfaith Satellite Shelter program. The Salvation Army there has storage facilities for homeless possessions, while Santa Cruz folks are still waiting for the unused lockers gathering dust at the Free Meal/proposed sanctuary zone area back of the River St. mini-Shelter to be released for use.

Up in San Francisco, Food not Bombs, the Coalition on Homelessness, and other activists arrested for sleeping at the Civic Center Plaza with the homeless (including Bathrobespierre Robert Norse) reported a victory in court August 31st. Muni Court Judge Moscone granted a defense demurrer to the city's latest "drive 'em into the shadows" campaign. Indictments under the state lodging/trespass law 647(1) were found vague and contradictory and returned to the D.A for dismissal or rewriting.

Next Issue: Demonstrations Now! Where, When, & How!
"Sleep, that sometimes shuts up sorrow's eye,
Steal me awhile from mine own company."
--Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night's Dream, act iii.

GANG OF 7 PREVIEW OF SANCTUARY PLAN PROMISES BAD REVIEWS
HARASSMENT CONTINUES ON MALL; SLEEPING CITATIONS DOWN

City Council (fondly known as the Gang of 7) gave its initial reaction to the proposed Sleeper's Sanctuary on the back lot of the River St. mini-Shelter last Tuesday (Sept. 11), and the consensus was not kind. The Sanctuary would allow legalized low-income camping for 150 people on a temporary emergency basis, a respite from the city's dread Sleeping Ban, which bars all outdoor and vehicular sleeping from 11 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. The carefully crafted plan was orchestrated and distilled from homeless meetings by the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep over the past two months.

In a heroic attempt to be polite, politically correct, and non-confrontational, the Coalition leadership barred Bathrobespierre Robert, successfully sought the ending of the post office Homeless Table, and abandoned all agitation for homeless rights not involving their campground proposal. The Sanctuary was backed by several thousand signatures, nearly ten thousand bucks, and dozens of liberal supporters as well as strong backing from many homeless people themselves. But, once before the Gang of 7 it evoked skeptical comments from Ghio, Laird, and Mahaney and objections from a pivotal vote--Wormhoudt herself.

Speakers supporting the Sanctuary included a "responsible" and "restrained" line of speakers from the Coalition. Queenbee Sharin' Sherry Conable described the plan as a responsible attempt to move past polarization and tension and provide a minimal level of decency for homeless sleepers. Sentinel Mike Carlток emphasized that the Satellite Shelter Program was destabilizing and inadequate for working homeless. Bubba Brian Koepke: "this is not a request for charity...we are not asking for a dime from the city." Nora Hochman urged the plan be taken seriously and noted that fine-tuning on it was ongoing.

Opposing it from the reactionary right were hairdresser Carolyn Busenhart and two companions, who complained that allowing the homeless to sleep without paying or going to jail would only "subsidize bad habits," "keep the homeless homeless," and do too little too late.

Many of these hostile hypocritical criticisms ironically mirrored real concerns from militant homeless activists, who spoke later: that the sanctuary was a bureaucratic plum, a tiny safezone that would give police a greater excuse to attack those who chose not to use it. These critics from the left, excluded from the afternoon session's debate, spent their time serving soup on the sidewalk, but Linda the Lark returned in the evening to denounce the Sanctuary as a bureaucratic containment camp. Bathrobespierre Robert demanded there be a moratorium on tickets until the Council

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1 Dubbed by some pundits the "Coalition for a Safe Place to Meet" after its energetic antics to evict Bathrobespierre Robert Morrise by moving its meeting place from the Resource Center for Non-Violence to the private homes of Sherry Conable, Ned Van

Rahm, and others
made up its mind. And Loudmouth Leith offered support for the
Sanctuary and apologies for past outbursts.
In the subsequent Council discussion, Laird granted that
rents were not keeping pace with AFDC grants, but warned that the
Sanctuary might not be "a temporary emergency" and insisted that the
campground was not purchased for the homeless, but rather was
surplus land to be sold off by the City as it saw fit. Yokoyama,
previously reticent to express any opinion, expressed tentative
support for the proposal, recalling that UCSC had dealt with
student campers by setting up an RV park. Wormhoudt effusively
thanked everyone, but seemed to be dismissing the plan as having
many problems (insufficient financing, "health & safety concerns," 
other unspecified alternatives might be better, etc.).
Some observers preferred Mahaney's outright rejection of
the plan to what seemed hypocritical stalling and election-eve
politicizing by powerful self-labeled "progressives." [Mayor
Wormhoudt suggested that there be a study of the bed situation at
the River St. mini-Shelter; figures that have been available for
months. When challenged by Beliers to put into the proposal a
search for "alternatives," the "deeply appreciative" Mayor
abandoned the interest, leading cynics to charge she was setting
the plan up for stall or defeat.] The plan was finally sent to
staff by a 6-1 vote to be returned for Public Hearing on Sept. 25.
Meanwhile, Jabberwocky Jay Green entered his third and
Paddywagon Pete Pascoe's second week behind bars for
"unauthorized sleeping in Santa Cruz"--the city's medieval
punishment for their 8-month homeless rights vigil outside the
main post office. Jay reported from jail Sept. 14th that Muni
Court Judge "Kangaroo" Kelly had offered to drop his and Linda the
Lark Edwards' "Public Nuisance" citations on October 30th, if they
engaged in no further sleep-outs at the Homeless Table. [Since
mid-July, the location of the Table has shifted to the Mall-Metro
area and its hours limited largely to daylight.]
Linda's Homeless Table is currently sponsoring the
Berkeley-inspired Copwatch project. This plan is designed to
document patterns of police harassment and abuse. Linda hopes to
encourage and empower those being hassled. If folks can be shown
how to assert their own rights and file complaints (even though
complaints currently go nowhere), street people may become more
willing to witness harassment incidents for their fellow citizens,
and such a presence may serve as a deterrent.
Also wanted: a formal review board--run independently
of the police that reviews abusive incidents and sets policy
guidelines. Such a watchdog group might make Chief Bassett's
Hounds more accountable for their "cattleherding" policies. As
her command post, Linda chose the sidewalk adjacent to the Union
Grove Music "forbidden fence" to keep a close watch on petty
police citations for "sitting on planters," "leaning against the
fence," "dog on the mall" etc.
Incoming reports indicate a continued slowdown in
camping citations since the massive ticketing of 12-18 sleepers in
late August at the proposed Sanctuary site [supposedly on

2 Correspondence should be addressed to Jay Mitchell Green at
County Jail, 259 Water St., Santa Cruz 95060 (out-date: Oct. 7),
and to Calvin Peterson Pascoe at County Work Farm, 100 Rountree,
Watsonville 95076. Pete can be phoned at 724-9702 from 5-10 p.m.
(out-date: Sept. 22).
complaint from River St. mini-Shelter bouncer Strongarm Steve]. Reports from the railroad tracks indicate ongoing harassment but less ticketing. The day of the Ice House fire, 8-10 vehicular residents were roust from their roost on an empty lot in the bottom of the mall in a "scare away the scapegoats" sweep. And police still energetically enforce old warrants putting a new camping case in court daily, as well as the ever-present backlog of protest cases in the Star Chamber of Maddog Mulligan at mid-week.

Recent focus has shifted to abuses by private security guards (PSI brownshirts) down in the boardwalk area where half a dozen onlookers reportedly witnessed a full-scale beating several Saturday nights ago on Sept. 1. Also back in style: hogtied for unfashionable alcoholics, as described by one female victim the night before the beating. "They didn't like my dancing and singing, so the brownshirts handcuffed and held me down in an alley, threatening me. Then the police came, hogtied me and threw me in jail for 8 hours." Well, naturally! Tourism comes first!

COURT'S IN SESSION: SPREAD YOUR LEGS!

+++++"NO DEALS" SAID 'MANY MILES' MIKE WILSON to his attorney, Growlin' Greg Cobin, in the face of numerous camping and Public Nuisance charges. At that, the D.A. folded and dismissed all the charges, freeing the defiant activist [...and his confiscated American flag? Reports are unclear.] Wilson previously worked at Karen Gilette's "Free Meal" and gained some notoriety there for whipping up sentiment against Bathrobespierre Robert and his informal J.U.S.T. (Join Us, Sleep Tonight) meetings. A strong supporter of the July 4th Homeless Independence Day rally and the Homeless Table Vigil, Mike has reportedly returned to Santa Barbara to carry on the fight there.

+++++POSTPONED AGAIN! was Muni Court's latest message to Linda the Lark—who faces a maximum of 1 1/2 years in jail and $3000 fines for (a) ordering a cup of coffee at Denny's on Ocean St. this spring ("trespass"), (b) blocking a paddywagon carrying a criminal jaywalker in late May ("obstructing an officer"), and (c) interrupting Busenhart's bigotry at City Council last July ("disrupting a meeting"). Her trials were put off into the winter—exact dates to be calendared on October 30 at 9:30 a.m. in Courtroom C. Unless Linda yanks her time waiver and demands speedy trial within 45 days—which she's threatened to do. But that may be from behind bars, since artful anarchist faces jail for refusing to perform Community Slavery for various Sleeping

3 He, Sentinel Mike Carlstock, Moonrise Mike Carreiro, and Morpheus Mike Hobson have been ruefully dubbed "4 Blind Mikes" for spearheading Gilette's effort to politically sanitize her Free Meal by ousting Bathrobespierre. On August 26, Gilette allowed Bittersweet Bert G. to give patrons a half-hour tirade as they stood in line, denouncing Horse; she later recognized him as a speaker in an impromptu forum called to banish (a) forbidden opinions ("politics") and (b) Horse.

Bert threatened Horse physically, began throwing food at him, and finally had to be restrained. Horse's comment afterwards: "at least Bert rose to the occasion this time by using a muffin rather than a metal chair to throw my way." [Last November Bert swung a chair at Horse after vandalizing his car]
busts at the Homeless Table earlier this year. Visit your local Homeless Table at the Metro to hear the details and to help.

+++++WANT FREE SPEECH? CLEAR IT WITH CRIMESTopper CENTRAL! That's the ruling of Maddog Mulligan in the first of a series of protest cases involving Deputy Chief "Doublespeak" Dunbaugh's "non-commercial event" ordinance, which slipped past the Gang of 7 in the summer of 1989 on the promise that it would "have no effect" on political demonstrations.

No First Strike demonstrator Jovial Jason Schwartz defended himself in early September against charges that he violated city ordinance 10.65.010--parading without a permit--for associating with a colorful march from the Town Clock to the Beach on April 18th. As one of many independents supporting the action, Jason made the fatal mistake of trying to "do things legally" by applying for a sound amplification permit for a subsequent event at the Beach.

Police attacked the march before it reached its destination, and two months later Schwartz received a citation in the mail for not applying for another permit. Though Jason was not even on the march itself and took no formal leadership role, Mulligan went through his usual contortions to dance in tandem with the prosecution and found the peace demonstrator guilty with a 55 hours of Community Service penalty.

In what has become a standard repressive tactic, Maddog refused to hear any constitutional arguments unless Schwartz gave up his right to be present when the judge gave his ruling and pronounced sentence. Schwartz refused to agree to this bullying-from-the-bench, so the very real and pressing questions he raised about the Police Dept. as Political Censor were not heard.

+++++WATCH FOR A VIGOROUS REPLAY of the Schwartz case as Slyshoes Sandra Loranger, Bathrobespierre Robert Norse, and Loudmouth Leith Austin face Maddog with attorney Grinning Ray Grueneich at their side on October 15 at 8:30 a.m. The three homeless rights activists* stand accused of walking through town in a parade that carried signs demanding Sgt. Hobohunter Hennig's suspension for roughing up Morpheus Mike Hobson the day before--"organizing and participating in a parade without a non-commercial event permit."

The three will argue that the police have no business harassing demonstrations they don't like with chump charges designed to chill basic constitutional rights. With Maddog Mulligan, however, if you're a cop speaking, it's "tell us the facts of the case!" If you're an ordinary citizen, abandon rights all ye who enter here! Come on down and have a gander at this judicial goosing. After all, you're paying his salary!

+++++EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS GOT THE BOOT FROM MULLIGAN in yet another case of his "fatal attraction" to establishment-approved idiocy the same afternoon Schwartz was stripped of his First Amendment rights. Locals since 1957, Robert and Jean Dore have owned a 6-acre piece of land within the city and allowed four trailers, without hookups, on pads, an emergency place to locate since last January in the wake of the earthquake.

4 Along with Youthlover Yahsehweh, whose case has been lost in the Traffic Court computer.
Squealing bureaucrats from the Planning Dept. and City Attorney's office moved to evict the 14 people from the land, using a vague zoning code that barred "eyesores." The trailers are set back 150' from the road and screened by two separate rows of trees. Federal money through FEMA was funding these families—who had literally nowhere else to go after the Scotts Valley Trailer Park they'd been living in became uninhabitable. Extensive inquiries up and down the coast reveal "no room."

City attorney "Barbwire" Barasone cited a code that includes undefined terms like "setbacks" and "side yard" that refers to an urban not rural setting. But Maddog swept common sense, constitutional rights, and compassion aside in one grand gesture and found the couple guilty as charged for a $260 fine. The several families have until October 4th to evapora or face the consequences, but Rustic Robert and Genial Jean have declared they intend to fight the matter in court, before City Council, and if necessary to take it directly to the community. Welcome aboard!

+++++MORE OF THE SAME OLD STORY for Rodent (Matthew Craner) and Stormin' Norman Gross as they face mundane malarky from Maddog on Sept. 18th with yet more Sleeptrials. Linda the Lark has declared she'll go to jail rather than do Community Slavery for sleeping. Rodent feels his time is better spent outside. And at prestime, we hadn't heard from Norman. Meanwhile "Judge Me Not" Joe Parker was in and out with only 5 days behind bars for a brace of sleeptime warrants as the courts moved to cut their losses.

And Bathrobespierre Robert had his own misdemeanor "failing to give birthdate and social security" charge put off until November 9 10 a.m. in Courtroom C, when he and Grinnin' Ray Gruneich would begin extensive Murgia Discovery Motion pleadings to show dry rot inside the D.A.'s office.

Special Sleepcriminal Tip from Jabberwocky Jay for all you slumberbunnies who plan to go to jail rather than do Community Slavery: Convert your Community Slavery time to jail at the traffic clerk's window in the basement of the County Building. Otherwise Maddog Mulligan may add 2 days per warrant for each Community Slavery sentence not performed.

RUTS IN THE ROADWAY

......CALAMITY JANE IMLER SEZ SHE'S HEADED WEST and after the Sippin' Soup Supper in front of City Hall last Tuesday in her honor, inquiring minds want to know "when?" Word by phone is that Jane's due back a few days before the Sept. 25th Public Hearing on the Sleeper's Sanctuary. Rumor has it that she's intending to recruit for her new group HOCO (Homeless Opposing Containment Camps) when she's not recuperating from a long-term illness.

As the grandmother of the Free Meal, Calamity Jane was bypassed by bitter bureaucrats, seeking a less outspoken manager, when they chose Karen Gilette to inherit the feeding program last spring. Jane has gone several rounds with Bathrobespierre Robert in times past. But when she was told that Norse had been evicted "political organizing in violation of the lease," Calamity laughed and said, "that's not in the lease; I should know. I helped write it. Somebody just doesn't want Bobby around."

......TERIBLE TOM, ON THE OTHER HAND, TIPS HIS HAT to Keystone Karen Gilette, Mistress of the Free Meal, who did a quick
draft of skinheads and punks, on hearing that local politicos and bureaucrats were paying a funding visit to her outdoor feeding site back of the River St. mini-Shelter.

Sporadic reports indicate food running out as early as 5 p.m. on some evenings, so more money may be a priority. Since the mid-summer fire that burned down her Emeline St. kitchen, Karen and her cooks have been operating out of the once-forbidden River St. kitchen. Due soon: a mobile kitchen unit being assembled in southern California.

Tom found her cast of "rehabilitated workers" colorful, and the move bold and plucky! But when will she turn her skills to rehabilitating "Bad Boy" Bathrobespierre—who continues to absent himself from the Meal after Gillette-orchestrated attacks on his forbidden flyer and homeless-meeting?

......COPWATCHERS ALERT! BEFORE BEING LOCKED UP for habitual sleepcrime, Jabberwocky Jay and Paddywagon Pete kicked off the Copwatch program with a special tribute to that Hohenzollern of harassment, the esteemed Sgt. Hobohunter Hennig. Providing him with a free escort, the two trafiled the lighthearted lawman for block after block, always keeping a respectful distance. Hennig nimbly lost them at the Silver Bullet bar, but Linda the Lark later noticed Hennig's squadcar sported a new message: End the Camping Ban! (Speaking for himself and not the Department, Hennig found value in the proposed Sleeper's Sanctuary, but was not yet prepared to make a formal speech before City Council, saddening his many homeless fans.)

POSTCARDS FROM THE PROVINCES

MIXED RESULTS IN SANTA BARBARA, reports No-Nonsense Nancy MacGruder of the Homeless Rights Coalition, after a 4-3 vote in a Tuesday City Council meeting. The new ordinance reinstates the Sleeping Ban in all downtown areas, including City Hall, the parks, and—for the first time since 1986—the sidewalks. But it permits sleeping and secures all the homeless property you can carry on all "unimproved" city property—presumably the "Jungle" next to Highway 101.

It was in 1984 that a protest demanding the right to vote stopped freeway traffic and initiated two years of demonstrations. These actions led to the historic 1986 victory ending the downtown Sleeping Ban, the funding of the Homeless Rights Coalition, and the homeless management of the winter shelter Armory.

As reported in Street Shit Sheet #76, local court decisions eroding the 1986 victory led to renewed sleep-ins at City Hall—which continue with reduced numbers to the present. The reinstated Sleeping Ban is slated to take effect around October 11, unless it's thrown out in court first. Hang on, Santa!

On a more positive note, Nancy noted the County will begin charging the city $150 for every prisoner booked into the jail come January 1. With annoyed sleepers refusing to sign their citations and choosing to go to jail instead, this could become rather costly for the sleepbusters. Don't count the Santa Barbara homeless out yet.

FOOD NOT BOMBS' UNQUENCHABLE KEITH McHENRY, chief cook and merry ringleader of the outlaw San Francisco bellystuffing food provider group, was systematically beaten by seven police
officers, county sheriff, and plainclothes narcotics agents inside police headquarters on Sept. 13th. Arrested at 6th and Mission where he was serving food at the invitation of the local Merchant’s Association (!), McHenry was hauled in along with his food and car for violating a 1989 injunction against serving food without a permit. [McHenry’s permit was suspended July 14th in the face of a new city ordinance eliminating any permit process for free food groups serving the homeless and street community.]

The brutality apparently began at the station after Keith identified several nars, noting “hey, those are the narks that sell crack near our table on Mission St.” After several other civilians loudly agreed, McHenry found himself handcuffed in the elevator getting pummeled by uniformed officers on the way up to the sixth floor. Professionally pounded for a maximum of pain and a minimum of telltale marks, McHenry says this was the most serious attack yet by city soupsnatchers, who proceeded to repeatedly smash his face against the wall, as they swung him by his ponytail.

On the sixth floor, Keith’s beating continued in the “rubber room” for 15 minutes as nars joined in. There, he reports, he was stripped, his arms and legs twisted, and he was kneed in the groin. Made to get down on his knees, his face was smashed into the floor. Police up and down on him. At one point, he confessed, he feared he was going to have a heart attack. Bruised and battered, but unbowed, he was put into restraints, held on a “littering” warrant until anxious attorneys got him released the next day.

The San Francisco Chronicle (9/14) carried a brief buried story, omitting all mention of any violence. McHenry recently won an unexpected victory at the Health Dept. where he exposed a malicious attempt to suspend his permit for imaginery “health violations” [the issue is still “under consideration.”]. Food Not Bombs continues to feed people daily in spite of occasional police harassment. Volunteers can call 415-330-5030. Call for meeting times. Donations should be sent to 3145 Geary Blvd. #12, S.F., CA 94118.

Good Faith Gestures to Those Lacking in Compassion?

“The city hall keeps coming across with the attitude that we should somehow appease them with ‘good faith’ gestures and the like, because of our ‘crimes’ of public sleeping or ‘maintaining a public nuisance.’ They are smug and insulting in their pride, while riding high on the hog.

“Lacking in compassion, their decisions are marked by self-interest and the denial of reality. Their eyes are shut by fear. Their ears are deafened by prideful indignation. Their crimes are directed by greed. They conspire to deny us our civil and human rights, to censor us, to harass, imprison, and even to beat and kill us.

“How ashamed of their fortunes they must be to react so violently to the sight of the poor. They demand good faith gestures from us?! Rather it is they that should be required to show good faith for once and seek forgiveness from us.”

“This is my personal opinion.

--Jay Green (7/16/90) Santa Cruz
Talking Back to Chief Bassett

"The SCPD Police Chief’s statements about homeless activists are bluntly hostile and discriminatory. They are a disgrace to law enforcement. Where is the unbiased professionalism?

"Chief Bassett’s statement that homeless activists are "social parasites" and his accusation that they "drain necessary social service dollars away from people truly in need" are part of a personal and political attempt to discredit their cause. The real abuse of public funds is done in the name of the law--police out hunting hobos and deadheads. What? Is there no real crime going on elsewhere?

"The chief also called the activists "self-serving." Sure, chief. Now that you’ve got folks whipped up into a reactionary frenzy over the street people, you can justify more harassment and increased enforcement of repressive city codes.

"I’m calling on all concerned with human rights to speak out. Contact those in our community whose responsibility it is to serve the needs of all citizens. Stop the oppression. Stop the rejection.

---Robert L. Patton, Santa Cruz, (427-4533)

Barnett attacks officials, judges, and the Sentinel

"...As a beneficiary of the mental health system, I would choose to live a wretched existence on the streets of Santa Cruz rather than be a drugged-up inmate in a mental institution. On the streets, I’m a human being. In an institution, I’m an animal who had better perform his circus tricks.

"Give me my right to be free, regardless of my ‘mental state.’ I want a jury of citizens, not mental health professionals to determine if I am competent. Jury trials make the county think twice about pursuing phoney conservatorships. Unlike lock-em-up results from local kangaroo-court judges, jury decisions reflect skepticism with psychiatric testimony.

"Like the failed Communist systems of Eastern Europe, the mental health monstrosity excludes its victims from any real say in governing their own lives and treatment. As long as Rama Khalsa, Paul Bellina, and Police Chief Jack Bassett are at their posts, labeled "mentally ill" and/or homeless people should tremble in fear like the Jews in Nazi Germany.

"With the Sentinel’s hideous campaign publicizing right-wing agitator Carolyn Busenhart, the move to persecute the weak and the deviant continues. It is obvious that the organizers of this campaign reject the example of Jesus Christ in reaching out to the wretched. Brute force not kindness is their solution for the complex problems of being strange and/or homeless.

---Fred Barnett, Felton, CA

COMING NEXT ISSUE: What to do until the Sandman comes after City Council gives the Sanctuary plan a sandbagging? Demonstrate together? Or wait to get picked off one by one? Keep your cards and letters coming on folks. Address: the Homeless Table
"Sleep is a sort of innocence and purification.
Blessed be the One who gave it to the poor children of humanity
as the sure and faithful companion of life,
our daily healer and consoler.
—adapted from Amile, Journal, 20 March, 1893.

SUPPORT SANDRA LORANGER'S FAST FOR HOMELESS FREEDOM!
REGISTER YOUR SUPPORT WITH SANDY PERSONALLY AT HER TABLE
LET HER KNOW WHERE YOUR SYMPATHIES ARE, 11 AM - 1 PM
Monday Oct 8 in front of the Food Pavilion on Cedar St.
Wednesday Oct 10 in front of the County Courthouse
Friday Oct 12 in front of the County Courthouse

WHAT'S INSIDE!
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BATHROBESPPIERRE BOOED FROM FREE MEAL AGAIN OVER "FLYING";
ACTIVIST BLAMES BUREAUCRATIC POWER-TRIPPING, POLITICAL TIMIDITY

On Tuesday Oct. 2, for the first time in a running war of words at the Free Meal, Q.C. Karen Gillette brought armed police onto the site of the Free Meal to remove Bathrobespierre Robert Norse for "trespass." The Free Meal boss's plea to police followed imposition of a new set of rules barring the distributing of flyers, the gathering of reports of police abuse, and the presence of "journalists." The rules, Karen privately confided to at least one homeless person, were tailored to provide a pretext for removing Norse from the meal.

Observers noted that it was only Norse's flyers that the staff tore down, while those from the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep and Midlife Mike continued to be readily available several days after the new "rules" were posted. Still canvassing to register voters on the site was Gingersnap George, who reported no interference from the management. At presstime, site manager Bubbah Brian Koepke had reportedly offered to set up a segregated off-site "journalists' doghouse" where Norse could sulk and receive homeless guests.

In the past, Bathrobespierre and Cupcake had frequently been on different ends of the homeless advocacy spectrum, Robert organizing high-profile demonstrations and CD to embarrass and

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1 Sandy Loranger in no way endorses the Street Shit Sheet, its coverage of homeless events involving her, or this announcement of her whereabouts. We simply present it to our readers as a public service.

2 Short for "Queen of the Cupcakes," the (cont. next page)
pressure the city into legalizing foodserving and sleep, Karen working behind the scenes with officials and bureaucrats to set up the current Free Meal. Controversy flared in mid-August when J.U.S.T. (Join Us, Sleep Tonight) announced an informal meeting at the Free Meal to discuss what to do when the "Gang of 7"* [City Council] turned down the emergency sanctuary zone. Cupcake and her cackling kitchen crew interrupted and disrupted the quiet meeting with shouts and arguments.

Karen's hecklers claimed that the Meal lease was "endangered" by "political meetings," particularly meetings at which civil disobedience was discussed or planned. Since such meetings had taken place with the official approval of Karen at the end of May and again in late June, Bathrobespierre dismissed Karen's interference as a form of political censorship.

In the days that followed, Karen's kitchen crew continued to spread the claim that Bathrobespierre's actions would "force the meal to close down." After a flyer announcing a third J.U.S.T. meeting at the meal site appeared, Karen and her cooks fanned the fears of the crowd eating there against Bathrobespierre and in the ensuing tumult, called for and secured a vote without discussion that "barred politics" from the meal. A second vote seeking to bar Bathrobespierre himself won only scattered support, but Karen nonetheless informed the beleaguered Street Shit Sheet meal boss was previously known in these pages as Keystone Karen for her work in supporting and then running the Free Meal. Her new nom-de-cuisine, Queen of the Cupcakes, was bestowed in honor of the sweets she uses to please her customers and the moral character of the crew of one-time activists that has gravitated around her in recent months.

3. Mike M., previously known as Toothless Mike and Middle-of-the-Road Mike, denounced this most recent unauthorized namechange, but has yet to offer an acceptable substitute. Submissions for the most appropriate sobriquet can be left at Linda the Lark's Metro Homeless Table with a modest prize to be given the winner.

4. Actually only 5 of the 7 rejected the plan. The Street Shit Sheet has fairly consistently applied the term "Gang of 7" to the City Council and "gangmember" to its constituent chairwarmers—specifically relating to their backwardness on homeless rights issues. Denounced as "namecalling" by some, these characterizations actually appear rather mild and whimsical to us, given the intensity of the Gang's hostility to homeless rights and the duration of its misinformation campaign about the treatment of the homeless in Santa Cruz ("Everything is beautiful; it's a national problem; it's a county problem; look how much money we spend, etc."). In fact, some of Carolyn Busenhart's arguments about how well off the homeless are here may have originated with Wormhoudt, Laird, Yokoyama, Ghio, and Mahaney—the Gang of 5.

The hard work, eloquent oratory, and subsequent actions of Councilmembers Catherine Beiers and Don Lane require they be removed from the category of "Gangmembers." They remained in that status for so long only because of their public silence on vital issues. We are glad to see them emerging from the darkness, salute their recent work and public statements, and only regret that it took so long to come to this point.
editor that he was "86ed" thereafter.

Sobered and somewhat intimidated by these events (and by a subsequent Santa Cruz Urinal newspaper story trashing the tremulous street writer), Bathrobespierre took a week’s leave from the meal during which he spoke with the meal founder, Calamity Jane Imler, to investigate the legal basis of Karen’s claims that the meal was in danger. After she’d assured him it was not, Bathrobespierre returned to the meal on Sept. 29 with copies of the lease and use permit pinned to his 'I Am Beyond Rehabilitation' t-shirt and resumed gathering reports of police abuse there, though he announced no new J.U.S.T. meetings. The lease agreement and use permit, obtained from the City Clerk and Planning Dept., revealed no clauses necessitating a political gestapo at the meal. The "funding agreements"—cited by Q.C. in later conversations as the real basis for concern—remained under lock and key at the William James Association.

Repeated phone calls to "Deadend" Davidson, the secretary there, ran head on into her refusal to reveal the secret documents. When Calamity Jane spoke to her informally, Davidson confided that there was actually nothing specific in the documents authorizing political censorship. Rather it was Davidson’s own interpretation that such control could be exercised. Could the documents be seen for others to make their interpretations? Only with a court order, Deadend retorted—ever-loyal to Q.C. Karen and her entourage.

After a few days relief, Karen’s staff renewed their attack on Bathrobespierre, engaging him in loud arguments and denunciations—which then became the basis of charging him with "disruptive" behavior. At a meeting of activists and homeless in Louden Nelson park on Sept. 29 to consider a response to the Gang of 7’s "no sleep for the homeless" decision, Karen’s kitchen cubs monopolized the meeting with shrill denunciations of Bathrobespierre and their determination to wield exclusive exclusionary power at the Free Meal. Bubba Brian Koepke served him with a "legal notice" that he would be legally restrained from

5 See Street Shit Sheet #77, p. 3, footnote 3, and flyer Friends of Homeless Rights: Enough of Blackballing, Time for Common Sense (9/19/90)

6 Peddled to innocents through a city-wide system of paperracks under the misleading pseudonym, the Santa Cruz Sentinel. Also known to oldtimers as the Santa Cruz Senile and the Santa Cruz Seconal.

7 Creative rumormongers have recently spread a story saying Calamity Jane is somehow prompting Bathrobespierre to "attack" the Free Meal so that she can reclaim it for herself. Since Imler continues to suffer in frequent pain from Epstein Barr virus (or myelitis—she’s not sure which) allowing her only half a day out of bed at a stretch, this theory seems to lack substance. Its companion theme is that Norse is seeking to close the meal out of pique, or possibly to restart a confrontational Town Clock meal himself that would serve as an organizing base for attacking the Sleeping Ban.

Theorists propounding this view overlook several facts: (a) Norse supported the meal’s lease at City Council (cont. next page)
returning to the meal.

On his return to the meal, Karen's Cupcakes resumed demands that he leave, warned they could not protect him against impending violence, threatened to 'tow his car and loudly interrupted quiet conversations he was having with others. Requests to the management that such harassment be ended were availing, claims Bathrobespiree. When Karen herself called armed police on Tuesday Oct. 2 to deal with the menace of even more quiet conversations Norse was having with locals there, the mischief mistress explained that such "disruptions" and "the will of the homeless" were the basis for her reluctant decision to call in the bulls.

When Calamity Jane offered to mediate between Q.C. and Bathrobespiree to spare the Meal the sordid spectacle of a non-violent advocates being led off in handcuffs, the "no hassles" hostess cut her off with a curt, "It's too late. He's crazy anyway."

After consultations with police and supporters, Norse decided to leave the Meal saying "I've spoken to the folks I wanted to and the Meal is over anyway." The next day he returned with a copy of the trespass law, a letter from attorney Grinning Ray Grueneich, and a personal note to Karen urging mediation. Norse said he was leaving the Meal for a few days to allow a "cooling off" period and to give Q.C. time to consider before calling the police again. The note requested a soup war ceasefire and a foodfight summit to allow everyone to turn their energies to real issues.

The Grueneich opinion held that since the Free Meal was "open to the general public," there was no legitimate basis for alleging "trespass," even though the city property was being administered "privately" by the William James Association. Accordingly, any arrest demanded by Q.C. could become the basis of

Sept. 25th when it was renewed—though he urged there be no censorship there; (b) the CD of Norse and others started the Meal in the first place; and (c) Norse has a known aversion to cooking.

Once the coordinator of the Homeless Rights Alliance and an articulate champion of human rights, Bubbah Brian Koepke's new position as site coordinator of the Free Meal seems to have produced a significant reactionary shift in his attitudes. Would the old Koepke have announced he was calling the police to tow an activist's car? The threat was not carried out, but a megalomaniac manner of bureaucratic bossism has invaded the spirit of the old Brian.

Koepke described himself at the Louden Nelson meeting as the man in the middle—eager to rid the meal of Norse so that Q.C. Karen wouldn't "close down the meal" because she couldn't stand the sight of Norse—as Koepke publicly said she had threatened to do. Others, having heard Q.C. bragging that she had the support of her homeless soup servers against Norse, wondered if the Santa Cruz kitchen countess was more concerned with personal power and winning some sort of private battle than with securing a "no hassle" meal. After all, it would only take a word to her soup serving sycophants insisting that Norse not be hassled unless he grew loud, abusive, or violent and that would end the entire controversy. The fact that she declines to rein in her

a false arrest suit.

At press time, Q.C.'s only response to Norse's overtures was a reported offer to exile the undesirable to a "Journalists Only" outhouse on the edge of the Shelter property so that he could sulk in solitary splendor and hold court there.

Norse, for his part, says he will continue to frequent the Free Meal, both because he feels it is the most natural and convenient place to contact homeless people with concerns and complaints and because he feels it is unwise to succumb to intimidation on political matters. "If they can evict me, they can evict anyone," he noted. "It's too bad the Free Meal has joined the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep in adopting a 'muzzle the militants' policy, but then that's what happens when liberals move in to coopt a movement."

**SANTA CRUZ STREET SOAPS**

From the Loins of Nytol Quibblesnatch:

Soapless Opera for the Unshowered

For all you soap opera fans who've been missing out lately, here's a chance to have your say about where to go, what to do, and how to get there. Here is an update of Santa Cruz's own soap operas. They're a bit offbeat, but definitely entertaining, just like Santa Cruz itself. For your amusement...

*********** AS THE FREE MEAL TURNS ***********

Meanwhile back in the slave feeding quarters, Big Bad Bruce showed up again. "Oh, no!" quavered Scarlett, "not more in-flame-a-tor-ee flyers? How will I ever serve these poor dears when I'm so upset!" She teetered on the brink of a swoon and nearly fell into the cornbread. Gathering her in his manly arms, Rubbah Rhett stroked her fine auburn hair gently and murmured, "I'll take care of these Yankee carpetbaggers."

Striding swiftly toward the bearded intruder, Rhett assumed a commanding air of authority, "You don't belong here among our darkies. We take care of them well, and they love us." "Want a flyer?" glowered Big Bad Bruce, digging into his knapsack feverishly. Scarlett looked on from afar as her favorite overseer moved to deal with the crisis. "Perhaps I won't have to resign and flee to Savannah after all," she confessed to one of her favorites, the sensitive and soft-spoken Jefferson, whose ukelele-strumming had so often soothed her troubled spirits in times past.

"Ah'm so glad I have Rhett heah to protect me and preserve our way of life," she continued, "but will he be able to stop that outside agitator from stirring up confusion and discord among our troubled people? Quickly, Mike, Mike, Mike, and Mike! You--fly to Rhett's side and help him before it is too late."

As though moving as one, the many Mikes swept over the battleground, rekindling Rhett's courage and stiffening his stamina. "You outlandish devil," declared the heartened Rhett, "reveal your true purpose here!" A cackle from the side sent a shiver down Rhett's quivering spine. It was none other than the evil crone Aunt Jemima, who had cleverly insinuated herself between Rhett and his prey. "Your rules suck," she croaked, "and, besides, who the hell seasoned my soup with toxic cement..."
In the resulting turmoil, Rhett had to withdraw unsatisfied, and Big Bad Bruce continued rousing the slaves the mutiny and madness.

Luckily, beyond the plantation gates as night fell, the friendly constables were rounding up wayward slaves and gently guiding them to the land where the sun don't shine.

**GANG OF 5 ARROGANCE BRIEFLY UNITES SQUABBLING ACTIVISTS**

**LAME DUCK PSEUDO-PROGRESSIVES BUSHWACK SANCTUARY PLAN**

Ignoring an overwhelming tide of homeless and middle-class support for an emergency sanctuary for sleepers, 5 members of the Gang of 7 pressed forward with what seemed a preplanned agenda, piously larded with "caring concern" for the homeless.

Bathrobespierre Robert Morse and Keystone Karen Gillette—entrenched in a two-month long feud over Gillette’s exercise of censorship—through-mob-terrorism at her Free Meal—nodded at each other in sympathy and disgust as Gangmember Laird recited a familiar litany of pretexts.

On-the-spot reporter Midlife Mike filed this report from City Hall:

This was my first time at a SC City Council meeting, and what I saw, while hardly surprising—this council has supported the notorious camping ban for years—was very disturbing.

Speaker after speaker, many representing major constituencies, pleaded for passage of a use permit for a temporary campsite behind the River Street Shelter. In (non) response, Vice Mayor Jane Yokoyama, in a moment of absurd paternalism, suggested that homeless persons defer to her queasiness about their not having a roof over their heads, and settle instead for the armory.* But wasn’t she really only using the armory as a cover for her own abandonment of human rights issues when they are not far away or involve symbolic gestures?

Besides, the city has already put the armory to use as a homeless shelter. So Yokoyama was probably being disingenuous with her phony curiosity and rhetorical questions about the armory and the Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program. She had to have heard—somewhere—what every street person already knows—that the Satellite Program didn’t always have enough beds available last winter, and often used the armory to meet the need.

Incidentally, about a week before that fateful City Council meeting, Conable et al. invited the Satellite Program’s Andrew Morin to a meeting of the Coalition, where he very magnanimously offered to take over the campground’s management in exchange for funding the project. Homeless members of the Coalition were suspicious that Lorin really wanted to take away a key provision of the campground proposal, self-governance by residents. Morin was strangely reluctant to provide any assurances on that issue, and the Coalition quickly tabled further discussion of the offer. I couldn’t help wondering whether Morin’s offer was really the council’s. Apparently, another deal was then struck, this one behind closed doors, and involving the city funding "transitional housing" on the same site.

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8 Or "Lord Laird," as he is occasionally termed among the the more irreverent homeless rabble and their clique.

9 Unlike last year, when the earthquake (cont. next page)
As for our mayor, Her Sliminess carefully distanced herself from some of the extreme, "dehumanizing," comments by the Take Back Our Town loonies in the audience, even as her vote clearly aligned her politically with them. As a lame duck, Mayor Wormwood could have voted to "do the right thing," as many who spoke urged. But nooo! She spoke instead of how it "pained" her to break with her erstwhile friends (hemorrhoids maybe? Or perhaps a headache from having to endure so much freedom of speech...), but she must resist all pressure and vote for the status quo. What was to me the evening's moment of highest absurdity—more so than the Agnewesque ramblings of a clearly disturbed individual, Carolyn Busenhart—was this attempt by the mayor to present her rejection of the homeless as a profile in courage.

This proposal was indeed, as Sherry Conable observed, "the least (the council) could do" about the continuing and obscene problem of homelessness in our community. Conable's Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep had presented the council with a golden opportunity to begin to do something positive, constructive, even exemplary, about an issue that plagues not only our town, but the nation, in its post-Reagan nightmare. But council members could only see political risk. Their cowardice was shameful.

Correspondent M.M.'s dispatch breaks off here. Also present at the historic "Hobble the Homeless" session were Carolyn Abusin' Heart and her small coterie of "Take Back Our Town" companions, once more brightly arrayed in redshirts. Unlike July 4th and July 24th, when the Soquel hairdresser's legions were present in massive numbers, less than a dozen trolltrashers could be found in Council chambers. After several days of half-page newspaper ads urging a huge red-shirt turnout, the small pack of povertybashers struck a hearty pose and launched into their familiar litany against "violent drug abusers" and "the homeless-by-choice."

However slim their numbers, the Busenhart philosophy was victorious at the end of the evening—firmly in the driver's seat and wielding the mayor's gavel, though masked with time-tested liberal cant.

Politically-correct Coalition speakers and old-time homeless advocates alike urged the Gang loosen its reins on the throats of the homeless, but to no avail. Calamity Jane Inler was virtually alone in denouncing the River St. site as unsafe with freeway exhaust, cement dust, and old toxic waste being among the health hazards there.

Also parading about the premises was a Klan-like figure styling himself "the Grand Bizard" and sporting a "It Takes Courage to Attack the Homeless--At least I got guts!" sign. His loud cries of "Take Back our Talcum Powder" punctuated the evening

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disaster shook complacent bureaucrats into opening the Armory, there are still no plans to open the Armory this year. Meanwhile at their Oct. 2 Gang meeting, the City's elected officials went ahead to okay an $8 million dollar parking garage project to shelter vehicles—while human beings are told to become criminals or get out—over the angry but lonely objections of Bubbah Brian Koepke.

10 Elsewhere Calamity Jane suggested that the (cont. next page)
and attracted the attention of hovering media, who demanded to
know if the masked intruder was serious. Insiders detected the
flash of Bathrobesp Pierre's Beards under the Imperial Gizzard's
flowing red robes, but who could tell for sure?

MORE SANTA CRUZ STREET SOAP

Nytol Quibblesnatch strikes again:

***************************THE GUIDING LIGHT***************************

It was not just another ordinary meeting of Miss Bliss's
Committee for a Safe Way to Raise Money. The word from the
city was bad, vagabonds were everywhere, and the doors were locked
against the impending invasion. "Latch the screen door!" urged a
cautious cavalier. And none too soon, for up the walk sauntered
Jean Valjean and a band of beggars,

"Another interruption!" groaned the Exchequer, "how will we
ever decide when to vote on whether to approve the preliminary
minutes of the subcommittee on membership's last report?" "Ah,
Marquis, you take the situation too lightly. This scoundrel is
well-known in Paris as one who rouses the rabble with lies and
free coffee." Miss Bliss stood a moment on her porch, then
withdrew behind closed curtains, "Our process is being compromised
here," she sighed, as she stretched her arms to the sky in silent
supplication.

Outside on her porch, Valjean and company moved about
restlessly, trolleying for cigarettes, coffee, and somewhere to
sleep. A few members of the court slipped outside past the
locked gates to exchange hurried whispers with Valjean:

"You aren't wanted here," hissed the three MuskyMikes in
unison. "No one enters beyond these gates who is not a true and
loyal subject of Miss Bliss. She will lead us past your negative
vibes to the promised campground. Thus hath she promised!"

"Nonsense!" cried an unbowed Valjean. "What has this woman
done but belabor the air with sanctimonious sounds and strange
calisthenics?"

"You lie, Valjean!" roared Morphuette. "She has raised a
$10,000 ransom to free the enchanted sleepers and protect them
from the clutches of the evil dragon Wormwood."

"And I," he added, breathless with fury, "I have urged that
all commoners be made welcome here, so that they may see there is
nothing amiss with her beneficence. Yet you inflame them with
suspicion and sarcasm! She is our only hope against the dread
Wormwood and her companion, the turgid Bureaucratosaurus!"

"But she has only parleyed with these beasts and stoked
their hunger!" shouted Lark, a red-eyed urchin colorfully dressed
in shreds and patches. "Yes!" shouted a mighty voice from
within, "I can be silent no longer! You must open the gates and
let the people in!"—it was one of the MuskyMikes breaking rank.

"I know not what the deceived eyes of my brothers may see, but I

very choice of the River St. mini-Shelter back lot had pre domed
the proposal. She wondered at the sense and sincerity of the
Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep, suggesting their real agenda
may have been not to get a sanctuary at all, but to defuse real
anger against the Sleeping Ban and solidify the "Progressives"
before the election by removing the "homeless issue" as a point of
contention.
know that Miss Bliss is blissed out!"

"Truly. 'Tis spawning season, and the beast and her consorts will soon migrate to Election Land, where they will hatch a new
danned brood of clucking Hypocrites, eager to swallow our
liberties and feed upon our slumbertime."

"Hush, Valjean, or you will alarm the respected dignitaries
at their vespers within!" cautioned Cardinal Andre; "if you value
your soul, you will allow our deliberations to proceed
unhindered."

"We don't need no stinkin' containment camp!" screamed Lark,
provoked to rage at the sight of the churchman's fine garments.
"You all just want to control us and keep us out of sight."

The heated dialogue was interrupted then by a mournful howl
from the darkness beyond the gates. All stopped to listen and at
length could hear the whimper of Wormwood's victims. "Sleep, not
talk!" was their pathetic cry. "Onward," roared Valjean, "we
must go take notes!" And with that, he led his company forth to
confront the bluebacked dragonspoor. And within the walls of
Castle Conbull, the Court continued late into the night discussing
weighty matters of much pomp and high procedure.

MAILBAG

Selective censorship shields the "politically correct"
(The following letter was printed in part by the Watsonville
Register-Pajaronian on Oct. 3 under the heading "Let Them Camp."
Notice that all parts of the letter dealing with the Coalition
were snipped out, fundamentally altering and emasculating Mike's
message. We reprint the entire letter as yet another public
service!)

To the Editor:

Our City Council's rejection of a proposed camping sanctuary
for homeless persons, despite wide and enthusiastic public support
for the plan, clearly shows the futility of the consensus-building
strategy of Sherry Conable and her Coalition for a Safe Place to
Sleep.

Council members have acknowledged Santa Cruz's urgent need
for more affordable housing. In fact, the phrase "housing
emergency" has been bandied about. Well, apparently the mayor and
her heiress-apparent, Jane Yokoyama, are willing to talk about the
problem as long as nobody expects them to do anything about it.

Similarly, the yuppie activists of Conable's Coalition prefer
talk—meetings, press conferences, letter-writing—to effective
action designed to bring home the seriousness of homelessness in
Santa Cruz and in the nation as a whole. The Coalition has been
effective in building support for a specific program, a
campground.

Its members are silent, however, on the issue of expanding
housing stock in the city and county. They are also silent on the
camping ban. In recent Coalition meetings, homeless persons have
been told to wait until after the election in November before
bringing forward any other proposal. It sounds like there is some
truth to the charge that the campground proposal was meant to
pacify "homeless activists" before the election.

If the mayor and City Council remain unresponsive to the
citizens they allegedly represent, and continue to refuse to do
anything substantive about homelessness, even something as pitiful
as the rejected temporary campground, they should repeal the
camping ban. The camping ban is unjust until and unless there is enough affordable housing for all citizens. If our elected officials refuse to deal with this crisis effectively, we should replace them. Hand-wringing speeches are not enough, whether they are given by city officials or well-meaning liberals.

The only rights are those we create for ourselves
(The following letter was sent to the Santa Cruz Sentinel but, needless to say, never saw print. Judith was recently in court for sleeping out at the Post Office with the homeless last November; she ran a sanctuary for several months that provided all-night coffee.)

Dear Editor:

Everywhere you look, all over the world, people are reclaiming their freedom from Moscow to Johannesburg. But in Santa Cruz, the city council is doing its impression of the Election Eve Stall.

Look how the Council is treating the very modest proposal to give homeless campers a legal place to sleep on the outskirts of town. It's temporary; it's an emergency; it's being paid for by private funds. It's on a parcel of land in back of a shelter purchased with federal "homeless funding."

Why not? The council has been ignoring, gagging, and arresting homeless rights demonstrators for years rather than deal with the sleep issue. Our progressive Council wants to demonstrate their obstructive power once more by strangling the plan. Mayor Wormhoudt still doesn't believe the Short-Term Housing coalition when it tells her there aren't enough beds. Believe it, Mayor, and end the camping ban!

Meanwhile, the liberals behind this plan have been doing their bit to break up unsightly homeless demonstrations that might threaten "progressive" successors. They've turned the homeless rights movement against itself by barring activist Robert Norse from its meetings and turning him away from the Free Meal for being "too political."

It's largely because of Norse's politics and the Homeless Table that we have any talk at all about a sanctuary. Folks who should know better are trusting a few Johnny-come-lately liberal experts who think if they only say "please" and expel the loudmouths, the politicians will jump on board.

These tactics stink, and they don't work for the homeless—only against them. Divide the group and we turn on each other. Saddest of all is that the homeless people are falling for this stuff. We need rights not crumbs. And that's not going to come out of the generosity of politicians or the elitism of "politically correct" leaders. We've got to do it ourselves. However dirty the job or long the struggle. They did it in Santa Barbara. They did it in Oakland. The only rights we're going to get are those we create for ourselves.

Sincerely,
Judith Beinert

STILL MORE SANTA CRUZ STREET SOAPS

A Final Thrust from the Loins of
Nyotl Quibblesnatch:

*************THE YOUNG AND THE SLEEPLESS*************

Everyone arrived on time at high-noon for the big meeting of the two rival gangs, the Yups and the Demos. The participants
gathered warily in a large circle on neutral turf with Gentleman George keeping a wary lookout for trouble. The preliminaries went smoothly as the two gangs agreed that something had to be done about Madam Mardi's recent takeover of the Sleeping Rackets.

Big Janie said it all: "We gotta let bygones be bygones or these downtown creeps will pick us off one by one. What we need is One Big Union and then our organization can make 'em squirm." Several rough voices from both gangs spoke up in favor of Janie's plan, but then trouble broke out.

Cabrillo Curly, one of the Yups' main mouthpieces, fingered Demo chieftain Bobby ("The Paper Boy"), and accused him of bringing the heat down on everyone on the street by planning to rub out Madam Mardi's Wiseguys in broad daylight near the River St. hideout. "That's conspiracy, you clown," hissed Bugeyes, an ex-Demo who had joined the Yups and was now one of their main honchos. "You gonna get the feds down on our case!"

"Yeah, they gonna shut down our operation, asshole," spat Slam duke, a tall lanky Yup.

"Who told you that shit?" growled Gentleman George.

"I seen the secret papers," burped Bugeyes. "Now if you don't back off, we'll carry you off in a pine box."

Rival cries of "Die, Yup scum!" and "No more polite talk!" by the Demos and "More meetings!" by the Yups suddenly filled the air.

In the midst of the shouting, Blondie, a Yup chick, tried to bring peace to the gathering by getting everyone to hold hands, but a Demo broad, Loonie Linda, screamed that she didn't want any part of "that peace and love shit; you just stop fuckin' with Paperboy—that's all! It's all the crank you been dolin' out, Blondie, been turnin' the Yups' brains into mush."

"You've muscled in on our turf, Paper Boy!" Bugeyes started in again. "I don't like manifestoes with my meatloaf, get it? And if I lose my mushbucket, I can get real crazy."

"Yeah, my belly says you're tryin' to shut down our operation, Paperboy," snarled Pitbull, who had already taken a bite out of Paperboy in a previous encounter.

"We've had a bellyful of you, Bugsie," screamed Loonie Linda, rising to confront the gnarled Yup.

"Yeah, Paper Boy," said another Yup, the gnomelike Moondog.

"All your writing almost got me into a fight with Jeeberweebie! It's closedown time."

"You better back off, Paper Boy, 'cause we don't like you messin' with our people, and we don't like how you got Hippie Chick freaked out when you showed up at her private picnic," warned Slam duke.

"Leave Paper Boy alone!" shouted Snaggletooth, a heavyweight Demo with a reputation for fancy writing. "Why can't you Yups see that Blondie and Hippie Chick are working for Mardi and the Man? They ain't our friends, and they ain't yours either!"

But the peace was broken and no one was listening.

"Here's a big fat subpoena for ya, Paperboy," shouted Bugeyes triumphantly. "Now you come back to our hideout, and you will go up the river for good!"

Everyone stalked off, but the gang war was on.

Will Rhett protect Scarlett from Big Bad Bruce? Will the cement dust keep seasoning the soup? What about the Many Mikes? Can Valjean fight the bluebellied sleepbusters alone? Who
gets the ransom money now that the Bureaucrataurus is loose?
    Will Bugeyes go off again? Can the River St. gang stop Paper
Boy's "deliveries"?

Tune in to the next Street Shit Sheet for the answers.

COURTROOM KUNG FUOGEY

****WIN ONE, LOSE ONE was the boxscore for Bathrobespierre
Robert in Mulligan's Marshlands down in Dept. F. On Tuesday
morning, the aging activist found himself slated for a bench
warrant for not appearing to answer a year-old camping ticket
dated Oct. 15, which mysteriously popped up on the court docket.
That afternoon not to be nabbed napping twice, Bathrobespierre was ready and eager to fight a "hitchhiking"
ticket given him minutes after being released from jail July 5.
Hauled away for refusing to give his birthdate and social security
number a Homeless Table sleep-in the night before, the wayward
jailbird was thumbing his way home from the courthouse busstop
when he got bagged by Officer Vogel on direct orders from the
sharp-eyed Deputy Chief Bartle, himself. [see Street Shit Sheet
#75, p. 3.]

But when Showdown Time came, Officer Vogel asked to
approach the bench and confided to Grinning Ray Grueneich, Maddog
Mulligan, and Bathrobespierre himself that he himself had not seen
the roadway crime. "I'm not a liar," the uniformed officer
informed lawyer and client in the hall afterwards; "if you're
dirty, I'll get you, but if you're clean, you're clean." And
with Bartle himself unwilling to waste valuable time in court
pursuing roadway rascals, Norse was free again for "lack of
prosecution" to stick out his thumb. Watch for him on a
thoroughfare near you.

****OUT OF JAIL, OUT OF TROUBLE? Could it be freedom at
last for Jabberwocky Jay--finally released from the hoosegow
September 30th after more than a month behind bars for felonious
catnapping after dark? Judge Kangaroo Kelly has reportedly
promised the elfin activist amnesty for the bogus Public Nuisance
citations he's been fighting in court since January if he
continues complete dissociation from the dreaded post office
Homeless Table with its pile of unsightly backpacks and sleeping
bags. Linda the Lark Edwards, on the other hand, is reportedly
seeking a speedy trial rather than a deal on the issue--and will
take the matter to jury as soon as she can get her public
defenders to return her phone calls.

COALITION CONTORTIONS

(Straight from the secret chambers of Sherry Conable's living
room comes this report on the latest meeting of the Coalition for
a Safe Place to Sleep and its plans to powderpuff the sleeping ban
to death.)

######## SANDRA LORANGER'S FAST WAS IN ITS 12TH DAY and the
Coalition found itself unable to agree on definitive and official
support for her. After at least two press conferences informally
supporting her, the Coalition drew back from officially signing on
the dotted line for fear that her activity was too sensational.
The image-conscious Coalition coterie did agree to write a press
statement, but not to endorse her strike, for fear of being blamed for prolonging Sandy’s fast.***

@@@@ HAVING LOCKED OUT 3 HOMELESS WOMEN the week before as well as unrepentant badboy Bathrobespierre Robert, the Coalition once more considered its "membership and guests" policies. Up for consideration was a plan to allow only "established members" free access to the Coalition’s inner sanctum while "guests" would be subject to a "consensus" vote behind closed doors (that is, one anonymous person could blackball any "undesirable"). The resolution was mercifully tabled, but the exclusionary policy remains since Sherry Conable continues to rule the roost and hold the exclusive gatherings in her house. Is this a country club or a homeless coalition? Need we ask?

@@@@ OPPOSE NEAL COONERTY FOR SLEEPBUSTING SYMPATHIES?

Never! Always seeking to view politicians in a positive light, Sharin’ Sherry reportedly vetoed a plan to publicly oppose Booktent Santa Cruz City Council candidate’s election bid, "Moxie" Margaret Marr, pro-homeless attorney recently turned legal locksmith, angrily demanded Coonerty be brought to book for his "no sanctuary for sleepers" stance. But Sherry blocked "the. consensus" with her time-honored wisdom: Better to look on the possible side—and, incidentally, not split the SCAN/"Progressive" vote. No newcomer to the twisted trails of local politics, savvy Sherry managed the successful 1988 City Council candidacy of homeless hopemasher Mo Reich. After all,

11 The 1985 and 1986 hunger strikes of Jane Imler and others are credited respectively with opening the first homeless shelter on Cedar St. and facilitating the purchase of the River St. mini-Shelter. Imler was denounced as a "terrorist" during those fasts and actually made an FBI list, by her report. Apparently the Coalition prefers a more discreet and "non-confrontational" approach. As does Sandy herself, it must be confessed.

12 Coonerty is soon to be featured in a forthcoming expose in a new homeless publication Watcha Want. The "bookstore tycoon/earthquake video starlet" (as W.W. editor terms him) will be the subject of W.W.’s merciless curbside expose revealing his role with Darkness Santa Cruz backing the notorious Checkpoint Mardi plan to transform Santa Cruz into the Gray Greed Galleria of the 90s (more inaccessible planters, jagged bricks, no benches, an armed shopper-helper on every corner).

13 Marr reportedly advised locking Norse out of the Coalition and the Free Meal through threatening trespass suits.

14 During the campaign, Reich promised a moratorium on sleeping tickets in return for a suspension of demonstrations, then promptly refused to meet with homeless advocates after election. Little has been seen of Mo since he sent a "fuck you" valentine to the pompous Scotts Valley mayor and then publicly lied about it—prompting his resignation. One silver lining to the affair was that Reich’s sordid treatment of the homeless was followed by the advent of Catherine Beiers, who was appointed in his place. Beiers, though the newest Council member, has proven the most outspoken on homeless issues.
the homeless are an election eve issue, but a successful politician in office is a joy forever!

@@@ SLEEP-IN AT TUESDAY'S GANG OF 7 GOOSESTEP?

In the wake of troubled consciences in the Coalition and growing grumbling from the homeless without, the Coalition actually authorized a study of the possibility. Don't hold your breath. As of Sunday Oct. 7, one member of the "Action Subcommittee" reports nary a whisper from the get-tough gang that plans to make the City Council anxious if not nervous after its recent "go west!" decision on the homeless campground.

SNITCH'S REPORT: A turncoat homeless man (Sore Throat) filed this report from Conableland: "The only thing the Coalition can agree on is that there should be a campground. They can't agree on whether to make a statement of moral principle, whether to endorse candidates, anything. I was a bit taken aback by Brian Koepke's role as a leader in trying to adopt the exclusionary membership policy. Even as it became clear that there was no consensus on the policy as written, Brian insisted that it be adopted as a temporary guideline until the next meeting.

"Since the Coalition's inception, its leaders have been fumbling around to find suitable words to ensure that Robert Norse is barred from its meetings, whatever the wishes of individual members to open up the meetings. It would probably be a good idea to go back to meeting in a public place--something I thought had already been agreed to, but still the meetings continue to take place in private."

MEMO FROM THE MENTAL PATIENT'S LIBERATION FRONT

(John Telfair is an ex-inmate and advocate for the rights of those detained in psychiatric prisons and/or stigmatized by psychiatric labels. His group the Mental Patients Liberation Front can be reached at 426-3201, as long as the money for his phone bill holds out.)

*****John T. tells us he's been visiting Dominican Hospital psychiatric ward several times a week to comfort and advise different patients as a personal as well as MPLF service. Six months ago he found the ward had been strapping patients to chairs as a form of punishment or. perhaps, therapy. He filed complaint with the state Advocacy and Protection Agency in Oakland protesting the practice, which apparently ceased for a time thereafter.

In the last week however, three women have been bound to chairs--a fact he took note of as they shunted him off to the secluded visitor's area, eager that he not be allowed contact with folks on the ward generally.

*****John also reports that officials from the state licensing board have been lurking around his house, trying to charge him with running an illegal board and care home because he provides a private sanctuary for some psychiatric victims. "Is there adequate supervision here," the roaming bureaucrats asked. "That's a word I don't like," shot back John, "we're all equal here."

COMING NEXT ISSUE: More Soap Operas!...Real-life reports on whether the Coalition or anyone else brought their sleeping bags to City Council on Oct. 9. On-the-spot photos of Bathrobespierre Robert being dragged from the Free Meal to jail....And, as always, your postcards and letters. Be there.
October 13, 1990  Saturday

Houseless price: 5¢  All others: 25¢  Or borrow & return!

"For the poor of this world, two major ways of expiring are available: either by the absolute indifference of your fellows in peace-time, or by the homicidal passion of those same when war breaks out!"

--Louis-Ferdinand Celine, Journey to the end of the Night (1932)

LATE FLASHES!

HOMELESS WOMEN TAKE NOTE!

TODAY, SATURDAY OCT. 13, "TAKE BACK THE NIGHT" WILL MARCH AT 7 P.M. FROM PACIFIC AND CATHCART TO SUPPORT THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN TO TRAVEL FREELY AND SAFELY AT NIGHT.

COME AND ASK MAYOR WORMHOUTD--WHO WILL ADDRESS THE GROUP--IF THERE IS A RIGHT TO SLEEP AT NIGHT AS WELL AS TO WALK! IF NOT, TAKE BACK THE NIGHT AND WORMHOUTD WILL BE INVITED TO JOIN YOU IN YOUR NIGHTLY SLEEPWALK TO ENSURE SAFETY AND RAISE SPIRITS!

ANOTHER MEETING WITH THE MEALMOUTHS! ASK THE POLS WHY THEY'VE GOT NOTHING TO SAY ABOUT THE RIGHT TO SLEEP NOW!

7:30 P.M. MONDAY OCT. 15, CANDIDATES FORUM BY THE LESBIAN AND GAY ACTION ALLIANCE AT LOUDEN NELSON CENTER

LORANGER FAST ENTERS 19TH DAY WITH NO RESPONSE FROM CITY HALL

SLEEPBUSTERS SWOOP DOWN ON HOMELESS NEAR RIVER ST. SHELTER

Her voice softer but still determined, homeless advocate "Slyshness" Sandy Loranger reappeared in public last week staffing a table at the County Courthouse and downtown near the Food Pavilion to urge a legal place to sleep after 11 p.m. for the Santa Cruz homeless. The diminutive activist also put in a 'silent appearance' at last Tuesday's Gang of 7 Sab-and-Gobble® session

1. So called because of her successful food-smuggling activities in the spring of 1993 during the police siege of the Town Clock Meal. Loranger and Calamity Jane Imler, with the help of dozens of criminal kitchen helpers, streetside soup-_servers, and sympathetic onlookers, fed the hungry each day at 4 p.m. at the cost of tickets, arrests, and a three-week stay in jail for Sandy. The food moll's monicker came from her use of disguises to avoid being served a preliminary restraining order against feeding the homeless.

The Injunctabean eventually cornered her, however, and was spotted again last month near the County Courthouse, when health officials approached Campground Coffee Giveaway, organized to honor Jabberwalty Jay Green and his month-in-jail-for-sleep. Close it down or we'll be back "with the Injunction"--was the newest threat.

2. City Council is known to bleary-eyed critics as The Gang of 7, of course, although 2 of the 7 (Don Lane and Catherine Deiers) now actively support the right to sleep at night in spite of the ongoing 11 p.m. - 8:30 a.m. Sleeping Ban. (cont. next page)
where the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep (CSPS) made another decorous effort to appeal to the conscience, wisdom, and common sense of the Gang's "no sleep in Santa Cruz" majority [see following story].

Taking in only fruit juice, the 90 lbs.-and-dropping hunger striker reported increased weariness and weakness, but as of Oct 16, was still able to drive a vehicle to the Business Forum for City Council Candidates. None of the herd of political predators--including SCAN-backed Neal Coonerty and "liberal" Scott Kennedy--mentioned Sandy's ongoing demonstration: the only significant response from the community to the Council's abrupt execution of the Coalition's "Sanctuary for Sleepers" proposal last month.

HUFF (Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom) and the Coalition have both given different forms of support to Lothier's fast. HUFF's street flyers urge citizens to call City Hall (429-3550), the Board of Supervisors (425-2201), and the Police (429-3700) in support of Sandy's three objectives.* The CSPS has held several press conferences and provided the fasting activist with personal support.

Aggressive demonstrations demanding city response to the Sleeping Ban Scandal continue to be spotty or non-existent. JUST (Join Us, Sleep Tonight), a group whose meetings provoked controversy at the Free Meal in August, did hold a morning campground coffee at City Hall protest daily for a week to "wake up the bureaucrats" and incidentally warm homeless bellies. The CSPS with dozens of supporters and thousands of dollars is reportedly considering "a response" but not before October 25th at the earliest, apparently dissatisfying some of its members, who believe that an immediate reaction to the Gang's Sept. 25th homeless-roasting was necessary, appropriate, and timely.

Rumors of a return of the Northern California groups supporting Homeless Independence Day July 4th, and a Rainbow Family Thanksgiving gathering in solidarity, could not be confirmed but continued to circulate. Divisions between local organizers continued to make any unified response uncertain, though anger at the City Council's callousness and indifference to community sentiment remained strong at press time.

Meanwhile back on the frontlines, homeless sleepers experienced a taste of Progressive police procedures when Mardi's Mashers descended on a group of homeless people trying to sleep.

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3 The Coalition continues to stir amusement from some and amazement from others at its continuing exclusionary membership and guest policies, which have divided homeless activists and supporters. (Bathrobe, S. Robert and Calamity Jane continue to be persona non gratae as of this writing.)

CSPS' is alternately known as the Coalition for a Safe Place to Meet for shifting its semi-secret meetings from one private house to another; the Coalition for a Safe Place to Weep for moaning—but-not-demonstrating after the Council's hasty burial of the Sanctuary plan; and the Coalition for a Safe Way to Make Money for its top-dictated decision to establish a costly non-homeless administrative position.

4 (i) no new tickets until there's a legal place to sleep;
(ii) negotiations with the homeless as equal participants;
(iii) a civilian police commission;
On Thursday Oct. 11, at the very site of the vetoed sanctuary area back of the River St. mini-Shelter, police raided an area where 20 or more people were sleeping outside. Reportedly instigated by the rantings of a "wingnut" who directed the attention of the police, Officer "Bums Away" Baker led his loyal law enforcement on a successful 4 a.m. thugge assault. Eight to eleven people received $138 "camping" tickets (no fires, no tents, just sleeping people on the ground), and an equal number filed in disarray.

Rueful Rebecca, 6 months pregnant, was one who escaped the dragnet. She had not gone into the shrunken Satellite Shelter program because she needed the support and company of her boyfriend (a no-no in the church-sponsored shelters). The Satellite Shelter program is not slated to expand until November 1, when it will again resume for 75-90 people nightly on a first-come, first-serve basis.

DOWNTOWN GANG COLD TO COALITION PLEA FOR SANCTUARY REHEARING

HOMELESS ADVOCATES DEMAND RETURN OF MALL BENCHES TO SIDEWALK

The largest and best organized group of speakers yet--many from the CSPS--filed up one-by-one to the City Council microphone October 9th to present a succinct and "unconfrontational" plea for homeless sleeping rights. But Gang leader Wormhoudt took special time to quash CSPS hopes. Sanctuary proposal writer Nora H. asked the Gang to reconsider the Sanctuary proposal so that they might have a chance to put the specific questions that Wormhoudt claimed were "unanswered." Wormhoudt quickly responded that bringing back the plan would require at least 5 of the Gang's 7 votes--a novel interpretation as well as an unlikely prospect. The City Attorney, recently notorious for wasting city money defending an ordinance requiring permits for "non-commercial events", i.e. free speech, declared himself uncertain on the question, but few were betting he'd cross the mayor.

Moue-Master Mardi then listened impatiently while "Moxie" Margaret Marr proposed a compromise change in the current Sleeping Ban, allegedly based on Mardi's own spoken concerns.

5 Or Mayor, as the title-conscious Earthquake Empress insists on reminding us.

6 Using that claim as one of her reasons, at the previous Council meeting Wormhoudt had voted down the Sanctuary. However, CSPS critics later noted, the iron Mistress of Manners hadn't bothered to direct a single question to any of the many CSPS members present before cutting the plan's throat with appreciation." The Progressive First Lady said later she'd asked all her questions two weeks before.

Smiling spectators suggested rather that she'd made all her decisions three years before and was trying to spruce up her predetermined agenda with a few tasteful rationalizations. Old-timers shook their heads and noted Mardi Wormhoudt seemed mired in concrete—even in the face of serious community opposition, from organizations and individuals who had supported her own election.

7 Moué: (pronounced moo) A grimace expressive of petulance, dissatisfaction, or the like. Mardi's annoyance with homeless speakers is legendary. She altered her practice of munching food during homeless speeches, but continues to stare elsewhere restlessly.
that would mandate tickets only on specific complaints with a particular health and safety concern, if there were some other legal place to sleep. "Either a complaint, or a health and safety concern, and I said nothing about a safe place to sleep," Wormald retorted.

When Wormald then moved to amend Marr's speech, the attempt dissolved in a gale of scornful but spontaneous laughter from Gingersnap George, Catholespierre Robert, and other sans-coulettes in the cheap seats, familiar with the muzzling Mayor's past history of gagging the homeless at Oral Communications.\footnote{8}

Back on the Mall, Linda, the Lark's Metro Homeless Table has been faced with repeated harassment from "cattleherding" cops who have been issuing infraction citations to folks sitting on the brick planter surfaces. The City Parks and Recreation Dept. has torn out three or four benches from the two-block area around the Catalyst/Metro on Pacific Ave, in the last few weeks. Merchant complaints and backroom pressure have apparently prompted this continuation of the Wormald-Laird Mall Defoliation plan.\footnote{10}

Grumpy greyhairs from local tourist traps and scapegoat-seeking shopkeepers (such as the Union Grove Music crew who authorized police arrests for those bold enough to lean against their parking lot fence\footnote{9}) apparently prefer armed force to inclusive discussions. They apparently initiated this latest plan to deprive "undesirables" of the right to sit--now that their politician proxies have already successfully stripped them of their right to sleep.

In response to this new obscenity, Linda has been circulating a petition demanding that benches be returned so that the citizenry could rest its backside without fear of yet another backlash from their friendly police. She seeks to counter the secret pressure tactics of those who deplore the countercultural and homeless street raggamuffins daring to socialize outside their sacred establishments. Interested in signing? Leave a message for Linda at 427-1205 or join her at the Metro homeless table on Pacific usually between Cathcart and Elm.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: Dr. Geri Rose's "Who Sleeps Daily in Santa Cruz?"--the poem that pinched the Council in the privates; More letters from displaced homeless activists; More hotly-awaited soap opera sags from the streets; News clips on the Free Meal Ceasefire... if and when your editor comes out of hiding.

\footnote{8} At Wormald's initiative this spring, public input time was cut to 30 minutes with new anti-homeless rules added.

\footnote{9} Cattleherding is the term used by Sgt. Bob Hennig to describe policies towards "undesirables" on the mall in a May report to the Downtown Association Block Captains meeting.

\footnote{10} See "Petition Opposing the Proposed Pacific Garden Mall Renovation." 8/9/90. This "sweep away the streetpeople" project was initiated months before the earthquake and is now being carried forward by Vision SantaCruz and John Laird's bureaucrataheavy Social Problems Task Force (which has no homeless or street people on its membership).

\footnote{11} The famous Forbidden Fence, tabled in song and Street: Shit Sheet, against which it is a misdemeanor to lean.
"...we are soup cans in trembling hands
and the small change of a spring
night in the America of sorrows..."
from "Underground" in The Bottom Line (1988)
by Jack Hirschman

LINDA THE LARK BUSTED IN FIRST POST-WAR PEACE DEMO ARREST
HENNIG ORDERS ACTIVIST JAILED FOR AIDING HARASSMENT VICTIMS

A generally subdued police reaction to street protests was
not extended to activist Linda Edwards Thursday afternoon (12/17)
when she found herself the second Persian Gulf war prisoner,
complements of her old nemesis Sgt. Bob "Hobohunter" Hennig. 1
Edwards, a militant homeless and peace activist, had been involved
in numerous prior peaceful but civil disobedient demonstrations
including the Highway 17 blockade on January 16th, the Capitol
recruiting-center shutdowns (mid-November, Jan. 17th), and
numerous vigils at the Town Clock.

By her report around 3 p.m. on the afternoon of the
17th, she and other protesters at the Town Clock were forcibly
driven from a street blockade of Water St. Shortly thereafter two
motorcycle cops stopped two women in a van driving North on
Water/Mission St. apparently for the "crime" of excessive
enthusiasm in supporting the blockers with a timely hand-given
peace sign. [A prominent local attorney observed two motorcycle
officers stopping another van near the courthouse around the same
time in what he suggested was a similar action.]

When Linda, Genial Gene, Whiplash Windy, and a dozen
others went over to observe the police action and offer support to
the women, they were told by an unidentified male officer with his
billy club raised, "cross this line, and we bust your head."
After the police had released the two women, the determined
activist moved to speak with them and was seized by Hennig and two
other officers who informed her she was under arrest for "blocking
the street," the only person so charged.2

After initial reports that she was being held on $60
bail until court the next day, the jail released the defiant
protester on her own recognizance several hours later. Edwards
divided her scorn between the police and those she termed "do-
nothing liberals"—noting that the police were "doing their usual
harassment trip," but the "damn liberals were screaming 'non-
vioence' at us for doing non-violent but direct things to stop
business-as-usual."

[Numerous activists were upset and angered at the "go
home and come back tomorrow" outcome of the huge County building
rally Thursday night, orchestrated by liberal politicians and some
UCSC student leaders, who monopolized the microphone at the
courthouse. Later at the Town Clock a much smaller group of
demonstrators carried out a successful blockade of Highway 17 that
the liberal whizkids had earlier vetoed.]

1  Hennig won his nickname from his grim enthusiasm in harassing
the homeless in and out of court last year, his gratuitous
expeditions against the Post Office homeless table, his physical
attack on activist Morpheus Mike Hobson (cont. next page)
********** A WHITENASH FOR "DON'T FUCK WITH ME"  
Sgt. David Onge's assault on sometime homeless activist Raucous Rocky Stone in a year-old December 1989 case. The two-day jury trial of Stone ended in a sentence of 5 days in jail and 2 years court probation from the generous gavel of Muni Court Judge Robert "Artichoke Heart" Attack.

Attack, previously notorious as the first in the nation to jail an activist for serving food to the homeless, did permit testimony from activist-attorney Grinning Ray Grueneich. The barebones barrister repeated a charge he had made publicly before City Council in the spring of 1989 when he indicted St.

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last May for "criminal leaning" (against the Union Grove Music parking lot fence) and his quaint paternal references to city property as his own ("get off my street"). On January 17, Hennig was dubbed "No Drums" by Town Clock peace vigilers, for driving away street drummers, who were, Hennig reportedly commented, beating out a rhythm "wakening people as far away as Baghdad."

2 The first Persian Gulf protestor arrested by our reckoning was Troy Gibbons in a Vet's March on the afternoon of January 15th the day before the Bush war began. Gibbons was one of several dozen high school students who blocked Mission and Hiway 1 for several minutes.

Sgt. "Goofy" Aluffi, formidable in his reputation for impromptu and inappropriate anger, reportedly drove his squad car towards the demonstrators to encourage them to leave. Witnesses complained at the police station afterwards that he slammed Gibbons on the hood of his squad car before hauling him off. Gibbons faces misdemeanor "resisting arrest" charges and, in an unusual move, was held in jail an extra day for "inadequate ID."

Persian Gulf Coalition anti-war liberals, busy arguing about politically correct language for their anti-war resolutions were unable or unwilling to raise the $500 bail necessary to free Gibbons at their Tuesday night meeting, frustrating some of Gibbons' supporters who had seen the issue as one of solidarity.

3 Attack [pronounced "attic"] was secretly awarded the Mumpsimus-Chichevache citation by the Street Shit Sheet for allowing the outrageous charges in his court in the first place, sentencing Loranger to jail in the second, and smearing her with falsehoods lifted from the local Santa Cruz Urinal (aka Sentinel) about "dangerous foreign matter" in her soup. There have been threats, but no further prosecutions against 'soup servers' since the summer of 1989.

Mumpsimus A person who refuses to correct an error, habit or practice even though it has been shown to be wrong. It comes from a pigheaded 16th century priest who always said "mumpsimus" when reciting the mass even though he had been shown many times that "sumpsumus" was correct. The error that Attack declined to correct was the political harassment of Loranger under color of "health" concerns. He has never publicly apologized for this travesty.

Chichevache A medieval monster, said to have fed on the flesh of virtuous women.
for his abusive use of "pain-compliance" hold enthusiasm in the February 1989 UCSS/Homeless demo against the Sleeping Ban at the Town Clock.*

But the jury apparently dismissed Grueneich's grim tale, as well as disregarding eye-witless testimony from homeless activist Bubba Brian Koepeke that Rocky was tracked down and assaulted on December 4, 1989 in an ongoing police program against the Post Office Homeless Table. [The bizarre assault reportedly involved a police officer throwing down a pair of glasses on the street and St. Onge demanding of Rocky "did you do that?" followed by St. Onge's attack.]

********** INNOCENCE THROUGH UNCONSCIOUSNESS produced a "Not Guilty" verdict for Linda the Lark Edwards from the lawbook of Traffic Court Referee "Maddog" John Mulligan last week. Charged by mail* with "misusing a public structure," or--in this case--"brick-molesting" (see Street Shit Sheet #79), Linda's Metro Homeless Table had been the kindly focus of SCPD-led calisthenics as Linda was forced to jump up from her seat on the brick planter every time a cop happened by to avoid violating the newly-discovered "law" against "sitting on the bricks." Combined with City Park and Rec's removal of downtown benches to combat the "homeless/street people menace," the "rest your bum, pay a fine" tactic was another weapon in the arsenal of Sgt. Hennig's behavior modification squad, which includes bicyclists, dog-walkers, and skateboarders among its recent targets.

At her lengthy non-jury trial before Maddog in December, attorney Grueneich argued the ordinance was unconstitutionally vague and that Linda was not violating it anyway (since behavior that was "customary and traditional" such as sitting on the bricks was specifically permitted).

Maddog, after hearing testimony that law-flaunting "brick-sitting" was widely-practiced among Santa Cruz yuppies, tourists, and parish groups alike and inspecting front-page Sentinel photographs of city officials posing on the bricks, retreated into one of his classic Catch-22 stances: he offered to consider the legal argument involved in chambers later, but only if Edwards would give up her right to be present at the verdict and at sentencing.

4 "Don't Fuck With Me" has acquired some notoriety among the homeless: For his famous chokehold captured in photo by a Register-Pajaronian photographer against "No Guns" Antoinette Radici in the first food arrests in December 1988 in front of City Hall; for his "box-kicking" and body shoving contest with "Judge Me Not" Joe Parker in the spring of 1990; and his tainted testimony in the "no demonstrating permit" prosecution of Jason Schwartz last fall.

5 Edwards was not cited at the scene, though Officer James spent half an hour threatening to do so, because others present, outraged at the harassment, demanded they too be cited for "criminal sitting." Additionally Edwards indicated an interest in going to jail rather than embarrass herself by singing such a ridiculous ticket. Instead, prosecutors sent her a notice in the mail--duplicating the practice followed by police in the spring of 1989 after citing and/or arresting people for serving food to the homeless became politically unpopular.
Caught off guard, Edwards waived her rights, and Mulligan responded weeks later with an unusual "not guilty" verdict. His action, he later noted, was not taken on constitutional grounds, but rather because the ordinance's legitimate concern was with "damaging plants." Some were further cheered by word that Mulligan would be notifying "appropriate agencies" by letter of his new standard for accepting thinly-disguised police harassment. Our advice: have a camera or a witness with you to testify you didn't damage the shrubs. And hope that Maddog believes your word rather than that of Hennig's Honchos.

********** AN OCCASIONAL EAR & TONGUE ON THE CITY COUNCIL? For the homeless, that is. Maybe so, but keep your powder dry. In spite of a media blackout on the "criminal sitting" issue [see letter to City on a Hill Press, p. 4.] Bathrobespierre Robert Norse and Bubba Brian successfully brought the matter of bench removal and "brick-crime" before the Somnolent Seven at their mid-December City Council meeting. Councilmember Kennedy startled observers by asking Council staff for a report on the AWOL seats. If and when Bush's Desert Adventure is ended by a fed-up citizenry, we might see the new Council member turn his attention to other festering homeless issues (the absence of public toilets downtown, the need for civilian police review, and the importance of legalizing sleeping for the poor). Informed at press time the overdue staff report has been retrieved from the catacombs and mailed our way, the Street Shit Sheet will reveal its stunning secrets next issue!

********** DISMISSED! DISMISSED! DISMISSED! was the long overdue outcome of months-old misdemeanor charges against Linda the Lark in early January. Perhaps prompted by the activist's determination to take each case to jury trial, the prosecution decided to spare us the time and spectacle of watching Linda defend herself for (a) going in to buy a cup of coffee at Ocean St. Denny's in February ("trespass"); (b) trying to disentangle herself from an officer who'd instructed her to leave ("interfering with an officer") during an anti-Hennig demonstration last May, and (c) interrupting a bigot during a July 24th City Council meeting ("disrupting an assembly").

Also freed from the coils of justice was July 4th Homeless Independence Day organizer Bathrobespierre Robert. The court apparently decided not to buy the "resisting arrest" prosecution for Norse's refusal to give his birthdate and social security number at a demonstration July 5th protesting the City's loathed 11 p.m. - 8:30 a.m. Sleeping Ban.

5 Or the seven City Councilors. Previously known as the Gang of 7 under the leadership of Wormhoudt and Laird, their new membership (Kennedy, Coonerty, and Rittenhouse) has yet to take any action, or make any substantive comment on proposals for police review, a revision of the sleeping ban, or any of the other homeless issues that marked the fall election campaign. The 5-2 Progressive majority continues to have the power to legalize sleeping somewhere in the city for those without houses, but has declined to do so.
********* DUELING DEFENDERS IN THE QUEST TO REIN IN THE COPS are Margaret Marr's Coalition for a Civilian Police Review Commission (CCPRC) and Bathrobespierre Robert's Stop Police Abuse Now! (SPAN). Marr's group continues to hold "organizational" meetings in search of a "consensus" for the ideal police review board. Her group has done extensive research about such boards in other cities and countries, called on ACLU head John Crew from S.F. to advice, and continues to debate details behind closed doors. Info: call Marr at 427-1774.
Barred from CCPRC meetings by Marr and impatient with the snail's pace of the group's proceedings, Bathrobespierre has formed SPAN with the intention of (a) publicizing and assisting anyone in filing police complaints and claims against the city, (b) organizing a Copwatch Santa Cruz along the lines of Berkeley's successful program, and (c) setting up a hotline to report police abuse (currently 475-2012). Bathrobespierre has invited CCPRC to pool energies but initial contacts have yielded little cooperation. Given the current crisis, it's time to pull together.

********* SHELTER PROGRAM BULGING, POLICE HARASSMENT UNEVEN ...are the messages from Interfaith Satellite Shelter Program director Andrew Morin and A Free Meal site manager Bubba Brian. Morin notes his program, taking nearly 100 people a night in Santa Cruz is near capacity and finding more homelessness than ever before this time of the year. Brian reports Sleeping Ban tickets are down around Santa Cruz, but harassment for homeless campers near the Emeline St. complex continues unabated. For those seeking occasional shelter from rains and cold in the tents on the Free Meal property, others say, apparently the only steady static has come from River St. mini-Shelter bureaucrats across the road.

********* OBEDIENT JURORS ONLY! was the word from Muni Court Judge Linda Morse's court some weeks back, according to Antoinette "No Guns" Radici. Called to serve on a jury panel, No Guns corrected Morse on a fundamental matter and was discharged from the jury panel for her courage. Morse demanded that jurors follow the law as she interpreted. "No Guns" responded she would consider her conscience as well as the letter-of-the-law in her decision. The flashpoint: do jurors have a right to decide on the meaning and justice of the law as well as the bare facts of the case?

Jurors as ultimate guardians of justice have the obligation to decide what is right and fair, and whether a defendant--regardless of the machinations of legislature, police, district attorney, and judge--deserves to be punished. This right

6 Marr's determination to exclude Bathrobespierre from her group apparently stemmed from her previous membership on the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep, a group of well-intentioned but ineffectual liberals, who adopted a similar policy of excluding him and other "unacceptable radicals." Marr worked closely with Bathrobespierre in her spirited defense of Homeless Table cases last spring and summer, but turned against him with a vengeance when he attacked the CSPS's elitist admissions policy and "no demonstrations" stance.

Marr also publicly denounced Norse for continuing to frequent A Free Meal and distribute homeless rights literature there after management claims that he was imperiling their lease (see Street Shit Sheet #77, 78).
to acquit—jury nullification—has been an unchallenged power of
the jury for over three hundred years [since Bushell's Case
(1670)], but judges refuse to allow defense attorneys to so
instruct the jury.

Former D.A.—gone-Blackrobe Morse was bad enough in
blocking No Guns from exercising her basic citizen-right to serve
on a jury. But worse was the official misinformation she laid
down on the remaining jurors. Dissident attorney Ebullient Ed
Frey suggested Morse's conduct might be grounds for a lawsuit to
stop the intimidating nonsense that potential jurors must check
their sense of justice at the courtroom door and follow orders
unthinkingly from those cloaked in authority.

### LOST IN THE MAIL !!! LOST IN THE MAIL ~~~ LOST IN THE MAIL

(Maid Marion Fischer, a Santa Barbara homeless activist and
poet, was arrested in 1988 fall homeless encampment in back of the
River St. mini-Shelter. The following letter tells a more recent
tale—one which City on a Hill decided was not worth printing.)

"In late September I got a taste of how the police are treating
people down on what's left of the Pacific Garden Mall. I was
walking along Pacific near Catchcart in mid-afternoon when I saw
Linda Edwards at her Homeless Table being harassed by Officer James.

James's complaint was that Edwards was sitting on the brick planter
surface—as I and many others have always done. Linda explained to
James that the three benches previously on that block had been torn
out in the last two weeks. Merchants said they drew "undesirables."

I found this so outrageous that I joined her and sat down. Arriving
soon after were homeless advocate Robert Norse & others. James re-
fused to ticket me or Norse and insisted Edwards sign her ticket or
go to jail. Finally after half an hour's hassle, James, uncomfortable
with the prospect of carting a bunch of people to jail on frivolous
charges left, warning Edwards she was "taking down her name."

Edward was eventually sent a ticket in the mail. I know since it
came to my address. She faces more court appearances and maybe a
$138 fine for "criminal sitting." Norse, Edwards, and I tried to
pass this story on to City on a Hill, but we were told our informa-
tion was "not reliable" based on conversations the City Clips editor
had with the police and other unnamed persons.

The story is true; people get more "sitting" tickets every day; and
it's a damn shame City on a Hill chooses to believe the police rather
than eyewitnesses and victims."

Anti-War Addenda: Rumblin' Richard Q. sells great t-shirts and
buttons with slogans that include "Fuck War", "War Sucks", and
"Bush is a bigger Dick than Nixon"—wearable and readable at $1
and $10 for the moneyed among you. Call him at 685-1435.

Maybe Next Issue: Whatever happened to...Midlife Mike M's Watcha
Want?, the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep and its promises
for basic homeless rights, People's Park in Berkeley, homeless
activist-gone-peace demonstrator Backyard Brian Staley, the first-
ever S.F. trial of free food server Sara Menefee, Santa Barbara's
Sleeping Ban struggle, and more...more or less.
"An accordion and a pennywhistle
- play music on the street among the same soggy leaves
that do not last
that did not last before and never will
but they have the last laugh
glittering and brief as winter sunlight."
--from "Street Musicians," The Underclassified (1989)
by Julia Vinograd

50¢: those with houses 10¢: those without or borrow & return

24-OUR PEACE VIGIL AT TOWN CLOCK: OPERATION SLUMBER SHIELD
ON-GOING SLEEP-OUTS, VIGILS, & DEMOS BUFFER HOMELESS SLEEPSEEKERS

Harassment but no tickets or arrests is the current tally at the Town Clock Peace Vigil, which has been operating continuously since Bush sent his bombers over Baghdad a week ago Wednesday. Some homeless folks have left their out-of-the-way foxholes for the solidarity and company of the peace picketeers with sleeping bags, blankets, and warm clothing, finding shelter at night in and around the drained fountain.

Activist Linda the Lark Edwards reported that SCPD continue to stage spontaneous raids on the Clock—such as Monday night’s search-and-ID expedition, involving six squad cars, supposedly seeking to track down the owner of a pair of knuckledusters (African fighting sticks). Hotline Horace reports that over the weekend police returned four times to put out a burning barrel, lit to keep vigilers warm in classic New York City homeless style.

Meanwhile, across the street near World Savings Bank, a smaller demonstration of flag-waving "Support Our Troops; Liberate Kuwait!" chanters prompts an occasional honk of support from passing pro-military drivers (the honk poll continues the favor "Get the Troops Out" about 4-1 by this reporter’s count). Homeless activists Boston Bob and Moonrise Mike were spotted consorting with youthful fans of President Bush there; even Bathrobe-spiere Robert was seen hugging female warbooster (as well as peace-lovers back at the Clock).

Dialogue between the two groups is competitive and boisterous, sometimes acrimonious, but nonviolent. "They’re still innocent and believe they can trust the government," said one anti-war activist; "when we speak to them as human beings, we find we agree on many things."

A Wednesday afternoon Die-In, organized by Linda the Lark Edwards, Tchai, and Whiplash Windy featured a panoply of a dozen volunteer corpses, lying about the Town Clock in honor of the ongoing "Bombs over Baghdad" campaign, with Bathrobe-spiere Robert blaring out "news bulletins" to passing motorists. No

1 Drained either as a water-saving measure or to eliminate the embarassment of red-dye and soap bubbles that kept bubbling out of the fountain last week during protests on the eve of Middle East Mayhem.

2 Linda faces misdemeanor charges of "obstructing traffic" on February 8 in Muni Court for witnessing an incident of police harassment [see Street Shit Sheet #80].
arrests were made, but when police demanded Linda—wrapped up in a black bodybag—move back on the curb, she declined; Nutcracker Nick and several other overly-anxious demonstrators moved her defiant body out of the street, even over her protests.

**Court Dismisses Most Penalties**

Tenderloin hotel operator Adam Sparks had court penalties of 294 days in jail and $94,000 in fines thrown out by the state Court of Appeals yesterday, but he plans to continue fighting a city law restricting the conversion of residential hotel rooms to tourist use.

The court left intact additional penalties of six days in jail and $3,000 in fines and rejected Sparks' constitutional challenge to the city law.

Sparks runs the Pacific Bay Inn on Jones Street, where 69 of the 84 rooms are designated for the ordinance for residential use. He had twice been found in contempt of a San Francisco Superior Court injunction requiring him to comply with the law.

In February 1989, the court found 32 violations and sentenced him to a day in jail and a $250 fine for each violation; it found 178 more violations in November.

The 32 penalties were thrown out because the city’s affidavit accusing Sparks of the violations was never formally introduced as evidence and thus could not serve as proof. The court also dismissed 172 of the 178 contempt findings, calling the evidence against Sparks inadmissible hearsay proof.

**Judge asked to stop arrests of homeless**

Advocates say police harass those with no choice but to stay on streets

By Steven A. Chin of the Examiner Staff

A coalition of groups working with homeless people has requested a court order forbidding San Francisco police from arresting or otherwise “harassing” the homeless. ‘We all need a place to sleep and there’s no room at the inn,’ said Stephen M. Bingham of the San Francisco Legal Assistance Foundation during a hearing Friday before Superior Court Judge A. Brown.

Homeless advocates contend that homeless people are being locked out of shelters because the shelters either lack the space or aren’t equipped to handle women, families and couples. According to San Francisco’s Independent Housing Service, 8,600 people were turned away from shelters between July 1 and December 31, 1990.

“We’re asking the judge to enjoin the police from arresting people who are homeless through no fault of their own. We call it involuntary homelessness,” said Bingham.

Brown has 90 days to rule on the request.

In arguing against granting the temporary injunction, Randy Riddle of the city attorney’s office said the court had rejected a similar request in August. “They do not have a statutory or constitutional right to convert city parks to campgrounds,” said Riddle.

In the previous suit, filed against Mayor Agnos, a judge declined to grant a preliminary injunction prohibiting arrests made under Penal Code 647(i) and Park Code provisions that outlaw sleeping overnight in parks.

According to The City’s interpretation of Penal Code section 647(i), homeless people can be charged with “illegal lodging without permission” when they stay in a public place with their belongings.

The latest injunction request is part of a class action suit filed in October by Bingham against Agnos and The City claiming that The City was not fulfilling its responsibility in meeting the needs of the indigent.

(see p. 6 for more s.f. homeless news!)

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**Shoplifter sentenced to two years in prison**

Richard Carroll Reynolds, 63, of Santa Cruz, was sentenced to two years in prison by Santa Cruz County Superior Court Judge William Kelksey for stealing from Zanotto’s Market. Reynolds was spotted acting nervously as he rearranged a store display. After he left the store police found he had a package of unopened cigarettes and denture cream that was stolen from the market. Reynolds reportedly said he had money to pay for the items but preferred to save it to buy a drink.

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SWIMMING AGAINST THE STREAM—that's the direction of the incorrigible Sergeant Bob "Hobohunter" Hennig, according to watchful one-time Homeless Table activist Moonrise Mike Carreiro. Under scrutiny from Councilmember Scott Kennedy and criticism from Traffic Court Referee Maddog Mulligan, the SCPD Life-Style Patrol suspended its "brick-sitting" ticket blitz against youth, homeless, and street people down on the mall [see Street Sheet #80].

Not Hennig, apparently. Moonrise saw him farming out fines as usual earlier this week in what he hoped was either a last hurrah or a case of lamentable war hysteria. Are we really back to the old "rest your bums, go to court" routine? Come on, Bob, update your target selection! Make those next street sorties cost-effective and successful!

CONTINUING TO CAUCUS SECRETLY is the Coalition for a Safe Place to Weep—-the liberals "peaceful and quiet" answer to unseemly protest actions like The Homeless Table and H.U.F.F. (Homeless United for Friendship and Freedom). Rumor has it that some of the funding raised by the group has been returned to its donors as the Coalition's taste for combat on the side of the homeless against the "no sleep" edicts of City Council has cooled.

The Coalition's practice of holding "executive sessions" with invitation-only membership keeps uncomfortable opinion at a minimum and allows for a small centralized group to move things in the "right direction." Conable and Marr, to their credit, have been spotted at the trial of Rocky Stone [see Street Sheet #80], the Board of Supervisors' meeting that modified but essentially buried the call for a Shelter Emergency, and City Council meetings where Bubbah Brian Koepke, Bathrobespierre Robert, Linda the Lark, and Stormin' Norman continue to bring police abuses before the public.

But is that all the Coalition can do? Petitions by the bushel, bucks by the thousand, and politically-correct contacts with sanitary respectable organizations up the ying-yang—can't this inactive group of elitists get it together with all the support they've so carefully amassed and directed away from demonstrations and direct action? Must we conclude that for the politically timid, legalized sleeping is a good idea certainly, but not one worth going to jail or frightening the horses about?

Find out for yourself at the Coalition's next meeting.

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Or the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep, as it still calls itself. Headed by Sharin' Sherry Conable, the CSPS has kept a very low profile since the fall fiasco when it split the homeless movement, successfully elected some SCAN-endorsed Progressives, and abandoned its much ballyhooed plan to set up a homeless-run campground back of the River St. mini-Shelter.

CSPS leaders "Moxie" Margaret Marr and Sharin Sherry continue to confer with a group of carefully-selected homeless favorites to "get input" and fashion a credible "homeless stamp of approval" on their carefully-limited and prefabricated agenda.

Gone without a trace are Marr's fall proposals for a modification of the Sleeping Ban, Conable's plans to reintroduce the Homeless Campground at the new City Council or the Board of Supervisors, and the hopes and expectations so publicly paraded before the November elections.
talkathon--slated for February 6 at 7:30 p.m. at 215 Ocean View Drive [to get past the guards, it may be wisest to seek an engraved invitation at 425-8921]. Carrying a copy of the Street Shit Sheet or announcing any affiliation with Bathrobespierre Robert is not advised. The Coalition leaders have made it a practice in the past to meet secretly and exclude radicals.

********** NO TIME FOR SHOWERS at the River St. mini-Shelter since September. Moonrise Mike saw a guy evicted from Denny's for "incorrect odor" some days ago. Maybe if the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep would loose some of its treasure trove of bucks to fund showers at the mini-Shelter, they could reopen their program again. Right now Carota's Soup Kitchen is the only place to go for a washing. If you do, make sure you don't wear a "legalize hemp" T-shirt; we hear that the Christian charity there doesn't extend to those who prefer pot to booze and make their views known.

********** DON'T PROTEST THE WAR-TO-END-ALL-WARS TOO LOUDLY--that's the word from the Sequel Flea Market, according to Rumblin' Richard Q., the outspoken button-and-t-shirt salesguy. When he tried to sell his "War Sucks" T-shirts to market merchants, he was approached by irrate pro-war blowhards who objected to his message. Using a technicality about stall space, the management insisted he leave, but Richard continues to offer anti-war t-shirts, reading "Support Our Troops--FUCK WAR!" "Make Love, FUCk WAR!" and, the more succinct, "FUCK WAR!" Call Richard at 685-1435 if this message appeals to you.

********** A CASE FOR UN INTERVENTION? Homeless sympathizer C.M. Berger notes an alarming parallel between U.S. POWs, being tortured by sleep deprivation to break their spirits and the local homeless being rousted regularly and told sleeping is no go if you ain't got the dough. Seems there's a 1949 Geneva Convention about that--but then the Somolent Seven (City Council, that is--or the Gang of 7, as it was fondly known) were told about that by peace activist Charles Grey before he left for Nicaragua to build houses for the homeless down there. Our police--torturers? Nah. Well, perhaps a quick note to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar suggesting an investigation--just to be sure.

********** ROUGH TIMES FOR THE RATMAN Writer, photographer, and vandwelller Steve S., known to some intimates as "the Ratman" for his collection of pet rodents, reports increased harassment from sheriff's deputies North of Santa Cruz. Though county law permits "roadside resting" in vehicles, he was given the third degree by some tough-talking troopers a few nights back and told to move along or else. Or else, what? Since a 1985 ordinance sponsored by Gary Patton permits sleeping in vehicles by the side of the road if you're traveling through. Could it be that those lovable brownshirts are again misinforming innocents as to their rights? Somebody call Sheriff Noren; he'll put a stop to this!
Letters

Review the police

To the editor:

I'm glad proposals for a police review commission are getting some front-page attention. The issue is equally important for homeless Santa Cruz citizens who face harassment in the street and stone wall at the police station.

As part of a homeless rights group, Homeless United for Friendship and Freedom, I personally witnessed police reaction to several dozen citizen complaints. Last spring and summer when homeless people tried to reclaim blankets and backpacks seized by the police during Homeless Table protests, victims were directed to other departments (the D.A., the city clerk, the city attorney). As the police warehouse filled up with homeless possessions, people trying to get their clothing back were told that their goods had been disposed of, directed to "get a court order," or even given a misdemeanor citation ("public nuisance") for the presumption of having raised the issue.

Written complaints to Jack Bassett's Police Department are routinely met with an undated unsigned form letter. I was present on three occasions when the watch sergeant refused to take a complaint from a homeless person unless that person was willing to speak to the sergeant alone (something none of the three were willing to do).

When dozens of demonstrators descended on the Santa Cruz Police Dept. last May to demand the suspension of a sergeant who had arrested and rousted a street musician for leaning against a fence on the Pacific Garden Mall, Deputy Chief Dunbaugh responded by ticketing and arresting four people for "taking cell phones" for the demonstration, whom he invited into his office to talk.

more to the point, the sergeant in question was never removed from the beat, not retrained, and certainly not suspended.

The political brawn and brain behind the current Santa Cruz City Council's "progressive" majority - the Santa Cruz Action Network - overwhelmingly passed a call for a Civilian Police Review and Policy Board a year ago, yet this council has taken no action to make that Board a reality. Citizens have got to demand of Santa Cruz and Watsonville that they establish real Review Boards.

The Boards should be independent of the police and not under the City Council's thumb. They should have subpoena powers, and the ability to seek injunctive relief against abusive police policies (such as arresting people for sleeping). Finally, they should educate citizens on filing complaints and claims, asserting and defending their own rights, and keeping a helpful eye on the police to correct when appropriate, to correct when necessary.

Sincerely,

FOLKART NORSE (427-1920)

ROBERT NORSE
Santa Cruz
SFPD CONTINUES CRACKDOWN AGAINST FOOD NOT BOMBS IN CIVIC CENTER
HOMELESS SLEEPERS HASSLED; VET'S VIGIL DISRUPTED; MCHENRY ARRESTED

With the advent of massive anti-war demonstrations in downtown San Francisco, a reinvigorated Food Not Bombs reestablished 24-hour feeding facilities at the Civic Center Plaza there. Its round-the-clock homeless feeding operation forcibly dispersed by Mayor Art "Busts Not Bread" Agnos in the summer of 1989, FNB had continued a more limited and low-profile program nightly at the Civic Center and other spots around the city in spite of an ongoing injunction, obstruction from different city agencies, and the occasional brutal beating from the SFPD.4

The night before Bush's War exploded, FNB again set up shop at Civic Center across from the main library and within eye view of Agnos' office. San Francisco homeless citizens have felt the lash of Agnos forked tongue earlier this year: one half of it murmuring that the two Multi-Service Centers are providing adequate beds for the 6500+ who need them5, the other half issuing the police orders to roust and jail sleepers6.

Occupied with pursuing peace demonstrators enraged by Bush's bombing blitz, police reportedly took no action against peace and homeless encampments that sprung up in the Civic Center for the first few days of the war. But after Saturday's 100-200,000-strong anti-war rally7, the blue-bellied blanket burglars

4 A new Parks and Rec regulation has apparently made it impossible to get permits for feeding the homeless in parks. Also, see Street Shit Sheet #79 for details of FNB organizer Keith McHenry's unhappy visit to Policelands. Other useful sources for following the trials of FNB and the Agnos/SFPD harassment of the homeless are By No Means, 191 Golden Gate Ave., S.F. 94102; the [San Francisco] Street Sheet, Coalition on Homelessness [COH], 126 Hyde St., S.F. 94102; and The Tenderloin Times, 49 Powell St., S.F.

5 Rubbletime Ray of the COH reports a maximum of 2200 beds available through Multi-Service Centers and Hotline Hotels (also known as Patel Hells).

6 Taking a page from San Diego police, who dusted off an ancient (1870s) and irrelevant anti-lodging trespass law in 1988(647i), the San Francisco Sleepbusters cited and arrested dozens under this law during the summer of 1990 to depopulate the downtown Civic Center. Their terrorist raids, where homeless bedding and possessions were tossed into a garbage truck and compacted, met opposition from demonstrators, who slept out in protest, were arrested, and finally freed with charges ultimately dismissed.

When pro-homeless groups sued the city to stop enforcement of 647i [now in limbo awaiting a court decision], yuppy sleepslayers shifted to park codes 3.12 [no camping] and 3.13 [no sleeping 10 p.m.-6 a.m.] to establish probable cause to search and harass the visually-undesirable and drive them into the back alleys. Rubbletime Ray tells us that the park codes have been selectively used to target peace vigiliers, both homeless and otherwise.

7 That demo, the largest in two decades, turned into a huge
reportedly returned to their old tricks, rousting and threatening shivering sleepers. Eight were arrested for sleepcrime early in the week. Tuba' grub Tom reported police sweeps four to six times a night—perhaps part of the SFPD's "war readiness" plan to keep the homeless on their toes and off their backs. When police threatened to seize homeless bedding, FNB workers immediately claimed the material as their own, but cops nonetheless dismantled protest structures, some of which were retrieved by stealthy protesters.

Soursoup Sara noted that FNB fed thousands during the huge Saturday rally, then several hundred on Martin Luther King's birthday. The same day police savaged the Homeless Vet's Vigil for Peace. The next day (Tuesday, Jan. 22), cops seized soup and dismantled the wooden structure out of which FNB was serving. Angry foodseekers and soup servers marched to the Board of Supervisors meeting, where more than a dozen people spoke—denouncing the soupsnatchers, while homeless vets also reported police seizure of tables, chairs, banner, bedding, and blankets. As it was in Santa Cruz during the winter of 1989-90 at the Homeless Table, it is apparently now a violation of the Sleeping Ban in San Francisco for those on the political vitlist to wrap up in blankets against the cold. Said Sara, "They don't want to see people on the holy ground of Civic Center plaza—especially the ones who need it."

Hauled off in handcuffs on Wednesday morning was Keith McHenry, FNB's red-faced and round-bellied Main Merry Prankster. The jovial carrot cutter was seized in a police fishing expedition for "driving without a license" though no reason was given for the vehicle stop. Once at the station, Keith's black past was laid bare when an unpaid littering ticket turned up on the computer. Some months ago in Berkeley, Keith had apparently thrown a "no cooking without a diploma" citation to the ground before the eyes of outraged officialdom, who used the occasion to immediately write a second ticket.

Emerging many hours later, Keith laughed and responded that the feeding would go on, with yet another police abuse incident to be added to his multi-million dollar suit against San Francisco (still in judicial limbo at presstime).

Also scheduled in court: Soursoup Sara Menefee, the first-ever Frisco food felon to be apprehended and actually taken to the brink of jury trial. Observers doubt if her Friday 9 a.m. hearing in Dept. 16 will result in anything other than another postponement, but celery-pushers are ready to flood the courthouse with edibles if a jury is actually impaneled. Stay tuned for details. And contact FNB at Civic Center or at 415-330-5030 to help with cooking, serving, and ending the war.

picnic with only miniscule direct action emerging from it. Rally sponsors reportedly pulled a woman away from the microphone by force when she sought to address the crowd on non-violent civil disobedience. Sounds a little like liberal leaders down here in Santa Cruz, who preferred there be no speeches about civil disobedience for the thousands gathered at the County Building the evening of January 17th. Return to your homes; write your congressperson; and don't alarm the media!
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...

++++ BACKYARD BRIAN STALEY, wild-eyed hunger faster for SWAP (Soup Without A Permit) and first man in the country convicted for feeding the homeless in the spring of 1989, is now slinging soup again at the Food Not Bombs guerrilla feeding ground in the S.F. Civic Center program. He lives in the remains of his car and requests hugs be sent to him at either location.

++++ MIDLIFE MIKE MISHLER, intrepid editor of the sometime homeless periodical Watcha Want?, is reportedly working when he can, living somewhere between the River St. mini-Shelter and the Town Clock, and organizing Zombies for War, a new support group for President Bush.

++++ GINGERSNAP GEORGE POLITOWSKI, or "Salad George" to those who clamored for his lettuce and tomatoes during SWAP II's Free Meal outside the Post Office last spring, is now living in a trailer, working for "mentally ill" children, and proofreading the Street Shit Sheet in his spare time.

++++ CALAMITY JANE IMLER, the Mother of the Santa Cruz homeless movement, whose hunger strikes and civil disobedience, helped establish the first public homeless shelters, and the first "prayers optional" free meal, is recovering from parathyroid surgery and chronic fatigue syndrome, and writing nasty letters to the St. Louis Post Dispatch back in Missouri.

++++ TUG-A-PEACE TROY GIBBONS, the first peace demonstrator arrested in Santa Cruz the afternoon before the war broke out at the blockade of Mission and Hiway 1, is reportedly out of jail after three days behind bars for "insufficient ID." Thanks to those who contributed to his bail and to Battlin' Bob Taren for looking into his case.

++++ GRINNING RAY GRUENEICH, better-late-than-never homeless attorney, still practicing law from his lair on Chestnut St., and still offering free legal help to any and all caught in the toils of the Santa Cruz City Sleeping Ban [plead not guilty, get a trial date, and show up for your trial; he'll try and be there].

Problems with the Police? Contact SPAN (Stop Police Abuse Now!) at 475-2012. Nutcracker Nick will help you fill out complaints and claims forms. All absolutely free! At no extra charge! Do yourself and others a favor. As witness or victim, report all cases of abuse.

Next Issue!: Guarding the free clothing bin at People's Park in Berkeley, Struggles to the South in Sleepslayer Santa Barbara, more notes from the North, a special Squatter's Report from NYC by Hotline Horace, and whatever else you send in!
with houses: "I would like to heal the silences...
50¢ All the cigarettes ever lit instead
of saying something that might have helped...
without houses: People just standing there,
10¢ even the words 'spare change'
died in their mouths...."
flat broke: --from "The Silences" by Julia Vinograd
borrow & return The Blind Man's Peep Show (1990)

EXTRA! HOW TO FIGHT YOUR SLEEPING TICKET! (see pp. 1-2)

POLICE BRAND TOWN CLOCK PEACE VIGIL 'HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT'
ANTI-WAR PROTESTERS FIGHT TICKETS WITH PETITIONS, PUBLICITY

The velvet glove dropped from the iron fist of the
SCPDA on Thursday night (Jan. 24-25) last week when 6 or more
people found themselves branded sleep criminals with Sleeping Ban
citations to prove it. Why? For holding an antiwar nighttime
vigil at the Town Clock wrapped in blankets against the cold? The
"fine 'em til they flee" campaign intensified Tuesday and
Wednesday nights (Jan 29 & 30) in what seemed a regression to the
medieval days of SCPD Sleepbusting a year ago. Back then
Bassett's Bedbashing Bumbusters made regular raids at the Post
Office Homeless Table hauling away bedding, political literature,
and the table itself, as well as citing people for wrapping up in
blankets against the cold [see Street Shit Sheet #66].

Earlier that week, caterwauling cops on foot and
loudspeaker had periodically awakened vigilers throughout the
night. They specifically told their victims on Wednesday night
(Jan. 23), according to Saxophone Barry, that they would not be
cited if they were awake and so not in violation of the "No Sleep
for the Poor" 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. ban. However the next night,
armed city-funded Sleepbusters apparently changed their minds and
decided to unleash their ticket launchers anyway. Six were cited
for criminal midnight repose—including Barry and Moonrise Mike

1 Chief of Police Jack Bassett reportedly exercises significant
if not autonomous authority in the ongoing if somewhat muted
campaign against Sleepers Without Credit Cards. He has
persistently misinformed City Council and the Mayor's office that
ticketing sleepers was done "only upon complaint," and regularly
recommends against any loosening of the Sleeping Ban.

The top cop's public statements support a mall redesign as a
Consumer Concentration Camp freed from the clutter of counterculture
folks, trees, and benches. Bassett has also pursued a
singleminded policy of stonewalling and harassment against
homeless activists like Bathrobespierre Robert Norse, ranging from
pressing bogus "false information" misdemeanor charges in 1988,
1989, and 1990, to blandly sanctioning the improper towing of the
dumbfounded militant's car on the basis of a "computer error."

2 HOW TO FIGHT YOUR SLEEPING TICKET!

   Attorney Grinning Ray Grueneich has agreed to free lawyering
for all Sleeping Ban cases (violations of city ordinance 6.36).
WHAT TO DO: 1. Wait a few weeks for the ticket to reach the county
computers. 2. Line up at the Dept. F. window in the basement of
the County Building around 7:30 a.m. (M-Th), and get an (cont.)
Carreiro, one-time Homeless Tabluhteer from the winter of 1987-90.

A Thursday article in the Santa Cruz Urinal suggested Police Department masterminds were claiming the Peace vigil was actually a homeless-demonstration-in-drag. Rights for the homeless, as regular Street Shit Sheet readers know, are considered open game for blue-bellied Sleepers, but peace vigils—particularly in liberal—but-not-too-loudly(!)—Santa Cruz—are seen as a notch more respectable. So was this latest piece of intelligence work genuine Dick Tracy dimwittedness or a contrived but plausible excuse to smear—and-smother the on-going demonstration as grubby trolls demanding sleeping rights without the proper cash or pajamas.

Most saw an unpleasant pattern emerging: marginalize, isolate, and finally disband the No Blood for Oil resistance, which has attracted a whole new sea of faces, unknown during the homeless protests of the last few years. Saxophone Barry and others began circulating a petition, demanding that the First Amendment rights of the antiwar outpost be respected [see p. 4] and posted a large sign "Police Crackdown Seeks to End Peace Vigil; Be Here Tonight!"

On Saturday (Jan 25th), officers directed vigilers to move the Peace News bulletin board "out of sight" back on the dirt behind the clock along with all bedding and personal possessions. On Sunday morning (Jan 27th), Won Ton Dave got a "littering" citation for sitting on a pallet with a "Police Crackdown" sign attached; gun-toting censors went to confiscate pallet and sign, but demonstrators rescued the latter and it was still visible from the road as of Thursday morning, Jan 31st. Won Ton’s diary records that badge #189 announced that Rules-of-the-Day for vigils & signs had changed. By dusk, the tight-lipped Sgt. Bob "Hobohunter" Hennig appeared suggesting that the misdemeanor Public Nuisance charges he had used with such deadpan delight against Homeless Tabluhteeers the year before could also be used against unsightly Peace seekers. An hour or two later Officer

**Arraignment time for later that day.**

3. At the arraignment, plead "Not Guilty," state that you don’t "waive time" (i.e. want to be tried as soon as possible). Request a trial before the judge (jury trials not allowed on infractions), and get a court date (usually a week later). 4. You may get subpoenas for required witnesses at the Traffic Dept. win-downs as well as instructions on how to serve them. 5. Gregarious Grueneich will hopefully be around at your trial date to help you defend yourself (usually on Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. F.).

Be warned that probable "Judge" Maddog John Mulligan is notably unfriendly to basic human needs—particularly sleeping and protesting. When police are enforcing the "homeless go home!" subtext of the business-pleading Somnolent Seven [City Council], Mulligan is worse than a rubberstamp. In a recent case involving Bathrobespierre Robert, Maddog ruled that bundling up for warmth was apparently "not a good enough excuse" to avoid the crime—though he did admit "the case was a close one." Come prepared to be outraged and convicted.

3 Moonrise Mike, one of the original post-earthquake Homeless Table crew, in an 8-month night-and-day demonstration against the city Sleeping Ban, said adios to his protest days over half a year ago, when he signed on with Sharin’ Sherry Conable’s Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep (CSPS), whose agenda has no room for (cont.)
Bracher (#137) insisted protesters remove any signs from the clock tower itself, but declined to specify the ordinance being violated.

Shortly before 7 a.m. on Monday morning, the ticketing barrage began anew, reportedly with a surprise boot-to-the-body of one rester by one of the citing officers. After an uneasy calm for five shifts, police renewed their sleep deprivation tactics Wednesday morning with four tickets, though Won Ton himself escaped molestation because he was walking about. And on Wednesday night (Jan. 30), the SCPD demanded that all blankets, bedding, etc. be returned to the brick area of the clock itself in a continuing game of midnight musical beds.

Later that night early on Thursday morning, Santa Cruz's finest reportedly gave 10 to 12 sleeping tickets in what appeared to be an escalating campaign designed to "draw a line in the concrete," stop the "Blanket aggression" of the demonstrators, and possibly to "send a message" to the shabby sign carriers that they could not swallow up the helpless Town Clock without Bassett's Boys "kicking a few butts." The Peace Patriots' response: larger and more visible placards, increased outreach to sympathetic but less rugged liberals, and a determination to retain the First Amendment on this side of the world, at least as long as Bush's bombs continued to tear apart wrists, cheeks, and stomachs on the other side of the globe.

Police vs. Protesters

Protesters vow to stay

By MARK BERGSTROM
Santara staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — About a dozen anti-war protesters said Thursday that they are camping at the Town Clock as a legitimate vigil and that their number does not include "drunks and beggars."

A police official said Wednesday that officers would move in and clear out the growing crowd around the clock if they determined that the protest was really about the city's camping ban and not events in the Persian Gulf.

A number of homeless activists who had protested earlier against the camping ban told the City Council on Tuesday that they were now advocating for peace, but none of them were at the Town Clock on Thursday morning.

"I have a home," said Michael Mulher. He said he spent the night Wednesday because the crowd was sparse and he thought he should stay. Mulher said he works in inventory control at a local electronics firm.

"I know the homeless people here and none are here. There's a mixture of locals and people from out-of-towners mostly Rainbow People," Mulher said.

He and others complained that some of their members were attacked by rocks and fists Wednesday night. One young man displayed cuts on his face.

Alex Glazkov said Ben Leon had said he was standing at the clock "because I didn't want to waste away in front of the TV."

Allen Penn of Berkeley said he came to Santa Cruz shortly after the war broke out and has stayed to protest at the clock.

"People drive by and see people here who are the fringe element of society. We're not freaks, we just have different lifestyles," Penn said.

The Santa Cruz Urinal reports...
1/25/91

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such militance. Along the road to respectability, Moonrise also acquired a favored place on the cooking staff of Q.C. (Queen of the Cupcakes) Karen Gillette's Free Meal, which unsuccessfully sought to bar homeless rights discussions and flying at the meal site.

Perhaps nostalgic for his wilder days-of-yore, Moonrise has made a few veiled threats to revive the Homeless Table protest at the Post Office in the wake of the CSPS's sanctuary fiasco last fall. But so far the only table the Activist who Came in from the Cold has been seen at has been at one for the already well-funded Homeless Garden Project, run by the financially agile Paul Lee of the Citizen's Committee for the Homeless.

See above. The Urinal is more easily recognized by its
comical code name, the Santa Cruz Sentinel.

Petitions + Appeals
from the Town Clock Vigil

POLICE CRACKDOWN SEeks to end Peace Vigil

POLICE TRY TO CLAIM PEACE VIGIL IS A Homeless Protest. Police claim this lies despite the fact that the Peace Vigil has always called for an end to the war in IRAQ, to bring the troops home, alive. NOW! World Peace for everyone.

IN ADDITION, THE HOMELESS NO-SLEEPING LAW IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL ON ITS FACE in that IT BANS HOMELESS PEOPLE FROM EXPRESSING THEIR PREDICAMENT. THESE ARE ALL 1ST AMENDMENT FREE SPEECH ISSUES.

CALLING ON ALL PEACE SEEKING PEOPLE TO COME STAND, TALK AND SLEEP FOR PEACE TONIGHT, ALL WEEKEND AND WHENEVER YOU CAN TILL THERE IS PEACE.

STUDENT ALERT!!! SCHOOL DISTRICT SEEKS TO BUST STUDENT PROTESTERS!!! FIGHT BACK FOR YOUR 1ST AMENDMENT RIGHTS.

~~~~~~~~~~~~GROWLS FROM THE GUTTER~~~~~~~~~~~~

~~~~~~~~~~~~THE BATTLE OVER BENCHES AND BRICKS apparently continues down on the mall, or that was the word from Mad John Telfair earlier this week. Seems Officer "Bright Eyes" Beaver approached his Psychiatric Victims’ Rights Table across from the Metro on Pacific Monday afternoon and demanded everyone sitting on the brick planters "move along or get cited." Faster than a speeding Scud missile, everyone leaped up—everyone except Linda the Lark Edwards.

Having successfully fought the issue in court last month [see Street Shit Sheet #81], she drawled, "well, if you’re gonna have to ticket me, go ahead, but I’m tired and this is where I’m sitting." Bright-Eyes continued to wave his ticketbook about menacingly, but issued no citation. A lesson for the timid: hold your ground. For the more timid: at least stay and witness.

~~~~~~~~~~~~IF YOU’RE HOMELESS IN MONTEREY COUNTY, don’t say so to the Salinas County Jail authorities if you want to get out on O.R. ("on own recognizance" without bail) That’s what Linda the Lark and fourteen others discovered, as they awaited booking after an 80-strong anti-war demonstration outside Ford Ord Sunday evening (Jan 27).

The holding cell was a damned sight more comfortable than the cold floor and benches of our own Santa Cruz brig, Linda reports, and they even served hot chicken and potatoes to those awaiting processing (unlike our local lockup’s "no grub for the grubby"
pre-booking policy).

Then the Salinas deputies revealed that the bail for the cooked-up misdemeanor charge against the demonstrators ("standing on the median of a highway") was $1500, above the $1000 ceiling for O.R. release. And even worse, Mettlesome Meg, one of three homeless protesters, gave "no address" and was told they were going to hold her. "Then hold the rest of us as well," was the solid response from Linda (also homeless) and the others. That didn't appeal to the jailers, so they released all 15, but if you're ever over that way, have a friend's address along, unless you want to keep eating those home-cooked jailhouse meals. Linda's arraignment date is Feb. 19 8:15 a.m. in Salinas for dedicated fans.

"WHERE THE DEVIL ARE THOSE BENCHES?" actually got a reply of sorts in a City Council staff report: dated Jan. 16, commissioned by Councilmember Scott Kennedy back in December. Eager street[people] sweeper squads from Parks & Rec had removed 11 of the 37 benches there in 1980 by autumn 1989, writes Jitterbuggin' Jim Lang. Lang's report defends the removal of the benches as a "reactionary response" to merchant complaints, allegedly with the approval of the Mayor and City Council. Strangely enough, such removals never appeared on the Council agenda or were a matter of public debate. Quoth Lang, "there has not been any public process associated with this process."

In fact, under the 1988 regime of Lord Mayor John Laird and Motormouth Mike Rotkin, the public was informed that the Leask's and Bookshop Santa Cruz benches were removed "because the wood was rotten." A rotten lie, surely, but somewhat worse was the base hypocrisy of these "progressive" and "socialist" politicians, whose arrogance toward the street people and homeless lives on in the on-going police practice of terrorizing folks sitting on the mall [with the benches gone, they sit on the planters].

The Lang report, probably inadvertently, fully exposes the Laird-Rotkin fabrication, which was obvious to homeless activists at the time, but is now documented. Rumor has it that Kennedy may recommend restoration of some of the benches. Some is not enough. The four or five benches removed from the Metro-Mall area should be restored as quickly as they were removed, with apologies to the public for the inconvenience (and blatant prejudice) involved. And a public process should be mandated for putting the reins on any more bureaucratic bigotry designed to squeeze the powerless and the poor. Let us make sure that Darkness Santa Cruz is not riddled with similar "customers only" schemes.

5 Lang, a frequent target of the Street Shit Sheet, has been harpooned in the past for using his bureaucratic black thumb to initiate the very first food wars at the Town Clock (Nov. 1988), veto showers for the homeless at Harvey West (May 1989), and presumably sanction the ongoing merchant-sponsored bench-napping campaign of recent notoriety. Hopefully if the spotlight continues to focus on his jovial backstage maneuvers, he may find it more politically expedient to "jitterbug" down the road in a less repressive direction.

6 Known to the giddy of intellect as Vision Santa Cruz. In spite of the ongoing war emergency, we invite readers to keep a close eye on the Carmel-North leanings of some folks in this group. Be loud today or sorry tomorrow.
S.F. SOUPLATCHERS THROW COOKBOOK AT FOOD NOT BOMBS
--that's the word from organizer Keith McHenry, who notes he was served with a 500+ page indictment last week. Under an outrageous injunction barring him from feeding the hungry since the summer of 1989, McHenry and FNB has continued to provide vats of soup nightly to peaceniks, hobos, and passersby-of-all-hues down at the S.F. Civic Center, as well as elsewhere around the city. McHenry faces fines of $1000 and 5 days in jail/per meal on what may be over a hundred "contempt of court" counts. Worst of all, the Patstaffian foodman apparently will have to face a judge without a jury with Mayor Art "Busts not Bread" Agnos' looking on.

Still waiting in the wings for her jury trial in another "feed the poor; meet the police" case is Soursoup Sara Menefee, whose judicial jacking-up has been postponed yet again until mid-February. Old-timers suggest the Fatcats downtown have lost their nerve on this case and are just stringing her out until she collapses from exhaustion into a pot of vegetables. Knowing Sara, we doubt this likely.

STILL SMARTING FROM "A POLICY OF EXCLUSION" by the faint-but-not-forgotten Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep [CSPS] are Lifeline Linda L., long-time den-mother for the Welfare Parents Support Group, and Sidewalk Shannon, suite and street advocate for the poor and friendless. After securing her support for the ill-fated sanctuary plan of last fall, the CSPS apparently failed to inform Lifeline of upcoming meetings in spite of her repeated requests that they do so. "One reason they failed to win the city's heart was the imagination that was excluded along with the individuals."

Sidewalk Shannon felt herself persona non grata after Sharin' Sherry Conable broke up a September CSPS meeting at the Resource Center for Non-Violence. Unable to secure a consensus to blackball Bathrobespierre Robert, who showed up against Conable's wishes, Sharin' Sherry unilaterally moved the meeting to her house in a move which Shannon felt excluded her as well.

Why bring up this ancient history now? "McCarthyism must be resisted," Sidewalk replies, "We must speak out now, not thirty years later." Out but not down, Bathrobespierre Robert, continues to be locked out of CSPS as well as "Moxie" Margaret Marr's Coalition for a Civilian Police Review Board. Marr, Conable, and others justify the exclusions by suggesting that they are a "private" group, that some of the membership "does not want to work with Bathrobespierre," and that political honchos would veto their proposals if they knew the bearded activist was haunting their meetings.

Previews of Coming Attractions: Santa Barbara Homeless Coalition on The Sorrows of Santa Barbara Sleepers, The Low-Down on Berkeley's People's Park from Joie de Vivre Julie, Linda the Lark fights the Dominican Witch Doctors, Whatever Became of Maid Marion Fischer, Terrible Tom Schreiner, Jailtime Judith Beinert & Loudmouth Leith Austin? Marionade Mary sings out against the War, Chatanooga Charlie's Hijinks at S.C. High, Rumbling of Mutiny from Mid-Life Mike and SPAWN (Street People Against the War Now !), Prairie Wolf Patrice and Govt. Wilson's "Pummel the Poor" plans, and our endlessly-delayed report from Hotline Horace on How They Do It in New York! Reserve your issue today!
BASSETT–LANG BRUISERS RETURN TO TOWN CLOCK TO SEIZE SIGNS, "KICK ASS" VET VIGILE, "WON TON" DAVID, BRUTALIZED IN DAWN RAID

After several nights of relative calm following a strong showing of student support for the Anti-War Vigil at Pacific & Water Sts, city warlords reentered with a vengeance this morning at 6:30 AM with handcuffs and hoses to "terminate" the 23-night old "Stop the Killing" protest. Arriving on Sleepbuster duty around 4 AM were old favorites Officers "Bumbuster" Baker and "Cockcrusher" Carrie. Saxophone Barry says the latter announced himself with "God Bless America" and "we’ve just come from beating the shit out of someone." The two then ticketed a number of the 15-20 demonstrators there (for Sleeping Without A Roof), and left with a promise to return to enforce "new rules" on protest messages.

Return they did at 6:30 a.m. when Barry and Lightfoot Lance witnessed what they described as an unprovoked police assault on peace vet old-timer "Won Ton" Dave Jacobs, who was thrown to the ground and cuffed on charges Carrie and Officer Swanek refused to specify. Those who sought further information were threatened with arrest for "interfering." Officers then demolished sign platforms, carried off the carefully-lettered posters with messages like "Support Our Troops: Bring ‘Em Home Alive," and informed those remaining that they were to leave or be arrested. Parks and Wreck automatons then moved in to "hose down" the area.

Mid-Life Mike Mishler, one-time editor of the "truly homeless" Watcha Want? newsletter and a frequent demonstrator and occasional sleeper at the Clock, was wakened by the fracas. Mid-Life found police holding Won Ton Dave face down on the pavement in front of the clock in handcuffs that were cutting off his circulation. Mid-Life, contacting media afterwards, noted that police are now giving sleeping tickets for people who aren’t even lying down, much less asleep or "camping." He added that tickets

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1 Jack Bassett, capo de capos, heads the local cop shop. Jim Lang, City Park and Wreckers Dept. Squire, is apparently up to his old tricks, helping homeless and peace activists disappear from the streets through removing benches, curtailing park hours, sending out extra rousting squads to issue harassment ("minor in possession of tobacco") citations.

Those who wish to register their feelings on the matter may call Bassett (429-3700) and/or Lang (429-3777). We’re interested in what responses the Masters of the Mall give you: phone in your story to H.U.F.F. Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom at 427-1205.

2 Mid-Life called The Santa Cruz Sentinel (423-2121), City on a Hill (459-4384), and radio station KUSP (476-2800). We suggest you do the same if you have a pertinent news story. Keep your eyes on these establishment organs to see if any news drips out of them.

If you are a witness or victim of police abuse, call SPAN (Stop Police Abuse Now!) at 475-2012. Call in to KSRO talk show "Noon Balloon" between 12:15 and 1 p.m. each day to discuss peace and homeless issues (or anything else) at 479-1080.
are given selectively to those regarded as "core demonstrators" such as Saxophone Barry, Mike, and Won Ton in a transparent attempt to disrupt and disband the demonstration. He added that this was the first clear-cut example of police brutality he had seen since Bush's "Bomb the Baghdad Bistros" campaign began in mid-January.

Local high-school students, Mid-Life growled, were largely left alone. Others suggested that it was the homeless, the powerless, and the radical that got police attention and pressure. Those with middle-class families who might raise embarrassing questions with the downtown capos were left unmolested. Mike, Lightfoot, and Bathrobespierre Robert went to the Police Department and City Clerk's office afterwards to file 3 complaints and 7 claims against the city for the action. Angry activists set about lettering new makeshift cardboard signs; "Honk if you're 4 peace" held by Daft—but-Daring Dana prompted an intermittent chorus of car horns as he danced up and down the line of traffic encouraging people to show their rage and their caring.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~RUMORS FROM THE RIVERSIDE~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

~~~~~~ FROM FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO RUBBER STAMPERS? Is that the ignominious fate of the subterranean Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep? Word has reached us that it's now pressing for some sort of Day Center in collusion with merchants, nervous liberals on the Somnolent Seven [City Council], the police department, and the Downtown Social Problems Group—the lizardheart legacy of "Sleepers Get Out!" Lord Mayor John Laird.

Having abandoned its plans for a homeless run sanctuary or a change in the Sleeping Ban, "Sharin'" Sherry Conable now—see it, now—you—don't Coalition has apparently moved to more politically conservative terrain. Are you one of the homeless she claims to speak for? Tell Sherry how you feel about this at 425-8921.

~~~~~~ TIME FOR A SANTA CRUZ UNION OF THE HOMELESS? That seems to be the opinion of Mid-Life Mike, Linda the Lark Edwards, and Mudface Michael, homeless all, who feel it's time that the homeless took things out of the hands of well-wishers, bureaucrats, and acid-tongued Street Shit Sheet editors. In Santa Barbara, the homeless themselves run the armory; pets and "drunks" are permitted; working folks can come in late at night for shelter. Can it happen here? Call Mid-Life Mike at 425-3113, or ask Q.C. Karen Gillette at the Free Meal about it. "Send Donations," adds the ever-alert Mishler.

~~~~~~ BACK FROM THE GRAVE AND TWICE AS PUTRID is the Wormhoudt-Laird Mall Defoliation plan, which comes up for a vote at City Council next Tuesday, February 12th. Want a mall with few trees, benches, and curves, and "sitter-hostile" planters? Check out this monstrosity. Also comes with new trimmed-down Free Speech restrictions to remove those unsightly Homeless Tables.

Further Footnotes for the Faithful: This issue was planned as a 10+ page extravaganza, but your fumble-fingered editor accidentally erased 95% of the material at his trusty computer. Help us! Send your poetry, photos, complaints, and cartoons to The Street Shit Sheet, 614 Hanover St., Santa Cruz, CA 95062 or call editor Bathrobespierre Robert Norse at 427-1205.
"do not use the word violence for a protest fire set in a dumpster use it for the killer system that forces a human being to sleep in one burned and crazy because a fire started in the one where he slept that's the war that's being waged against us and all their escalations of burning terror raining down look at the bodies strewn all around right here he said and tell me that we aren't in one who after we've become numbed to the death-news will still be lighting a flame at those cold front lines a crowd of ten thousand that takes its own streets for peace is not a mob but a serpent with radiant scales and mind of flaming Omega every ashen crucible every roaring tongue hungriest Jubilee love-feast the songs we sung"

---untitled by hunger activist Sarah Menefee (1/25/91)

COPS AROUND THE CLOCK: MORE ARRESTS, CITY-ORDERED SIGN VANDALISM

DOZENS OF ANTI-WAR PLACARDS DESTROYED BY LANG'S PARKS & REC

Around 2:30 p.m. yesterday, half a dozen city blueshirts and a search-and-destroy squad from Jim Lang's Bark-and-Wreck Dept brought Bush's "Extirminate Iraq" war home to Santa Cruz yet again with a second day of systematic confiscation and destruction of peace signs. This latest free-speech smothering exercise boasted over 25 targets taken out [i.e. signs seized], and three wooden stand-up platforms "neutralized" (i.e. torn apart).

A city employee, who asked to be quoted anonymously had no patience with the latest hometown "surgical strikes" against protesters: "The men who are making the decisions--Jim [Lang] and Rudy [Quintanar]--act like they don't want to be left out of the war planning. They insist that the [Town Clock] area be immaculate and want to pretend that no protests are going on--almost like a form of denial. So what if people sleep there? They have to sleep somewhere."

One angry signmaker Daring Dana insisted that the signs were movable and legal, as specified by authorities, and that no warning was given before the the platforms were ripped up and the

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1 Soursoup Sarah, as we shamelessly call her, still faces misdemeanor charges Feb. 14 for feeding the homeless with Food Not Bombs in San Francisco in the first [endlessly postponed] jury trial case of its kind. FNB will lead a March for Peace & Justice Feb. 13, 5 PM at Powell & Market in SF, with a 7 PM speakout at Civic Center, followed by a party and all-night camp.

2 Various titled 'Jitterbug' or 'Gentleman' Jim (for his suave form of smiling Santa Cruz fascism) and 'Lebensraum' Lang (for his attempt to secure the entire downtown area for the 'right' kind of people) has earned a place in these pages for his quiet but effective crusades to filch food from the hungry (Nov. 1988), steal showers from the homeless (May 1989), and bust benches on the mall (1989-1990).

Let Lebensraum know how you like his work with a call to his taxpayer-funded phone line at 429-3777, or drop him a postcard at 323 Church St. Better still: call his boss, the City Manager at 429-3540 and recommend be given a combat position that better suits his talents closer to the frontlines...and further away from the powerless people he prefers to pummel.
signs thrown into a waiting city truck. Upset but undefeated, Dana was later seen distributing Street Shit Sheets to curious motorists, as he weaved in and out of traffic with his newly-made "Honk For Peace" placard.

Two protesters, Bumblebee Beobe and Saxophone Barry, were led off in handcuffs. Officer "Pretty Face" Prufer refused to tell watchers the charges against Beobe; Saxophone Barry was apparently hustled away for seeking to plant a peace garden at the Clock. Flowing up the sacred soil of the Town Clock is apparently a more serious crime than the hourly bombings over Iraq—for Gentleman Jim. Outraged demonstrators immediately made new signs from scavenged cardboard to the approving honks of passing motorists. A large sign "Stop Arresting Protesters: Call City Council 429-3550" advised the public of one possible response.

By evening Barry and Beobe had been released, but Lebensraum's reluctant P & R recruits had already returned with further threats to "de-politicize" the Town Clock, promising more city-funded mayhem on freedom of expression later when traffic was lighter and the city was asleep. True to their word, Lang's Longhorns made another raid around 11 PM, carrying off the personal possessions of Saxophone Barry and distributing Sleeping Ban tickets for the poor. Apparently determined that there should be no rest for the protesters, the Lang Gang made a final sortie at 5:30 AM, ticketing Won Ton Dave Jacobs and his lone companion for habitual sleepiness.

"Won Ton," seized and brutalized without warning Friday morning by SCPD blueshirts, was back at his peace post after a long day in jail. Through incompetence or design, sheriffs continued to tell anxious callers that Jacobs was not in their custody throughout the day. Jacobs reports when he asked to correct an error in the itemization of his property, he was threatened with a 30 day stay before trial.*

The Santa Cruz Urinal (aka the Sentinel) falsely reported (2/9, p. 2) that Jacobs was jailed for refusing to sign his "no signs over 14" ticket. Lightfoot Lance and Saxophone Barry, witnesses to the police assault early Friday morning, [see Street shit Sheet #83] confirm Jacobs' story that he was thrown to the ground, told no charges, and certainly not given anything to sign. Truthseekers are invited to contact the Urinal editor at 423-2121 to suggest less police pap and more accurate protest reporting as it reads off the daily Pentagon handouts.**

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3 Normally, because of overcrowding, minor offenders are released without bail on their own recognizance within 3-5 hours after arrest. Jacob's case, therefore, is unusual. If the jail sets bail, it usually holds prisoners and sends them to court for arraignment the second morning after their arrest (on weekends, the following Tuesday). After arraignment on a misdemeanor if the court refuses O.R. without bail (a rarity), you must be tried within 30 days, if you refuse to "waive time."

4 See Street Shit Sheet #83 for a listing of some media phone numbers to call. We need a volunteer media-coordinator—contact Robert at 427-1205, if you're interested in helping as reporter, writer, observer, or telephoners. Check out the occasional Homeless Table—sometimes at the main Post Office, sometimes at the Town Clock for back issues of the Sheet, plus suggestions on how to fight your Sleeping Ticket (see especially S.S.S. #82).
LAUGHIN' LEVY LEADS LATEST ROUND OF SIGN TRASHING AT TOWN CLOCK

PLEAS TO COUNCIL PRODUCE NO CEASEFIRE IN ANTI-PROTESTER CAMPAIGN

Battered by round-the-clock sorties from Sleepbust SCPD and property-seizing "Barks-and-Wreck" Rangers, the 28-day old Vigil for Peace at the Town Clock continues to maintain a tattered if tenuous presence successfully urging driversby to "Honk for Peace." Pro-Bush flagwavers previously across the road from the Town Clock have apparently withdrawn; adolescent egg-throwers continue to target peace vigilers, however, as Bush's war machine moves towards a genocidal ground war, and the majority of the Santa Cruz anti-war movement has retired to sofa and seminar.

Under the stewardship of Won Ton Dave Jacobs, a mixed and mutinous crew of local peace militants, homeless vets, and high-school students relayed the message: "Support Our Troops: Bring 'Em Home Alive Now!" Distorting events when they deigned to notice them were radio station KUSP and the ever-wretched Santa Cruz Urinal (aka Sentinel)—notably in the arrest of Won Ton last Friday and the Parks & Red destruction of picket signs.\(^1\) After what seemed a hopeful police-protesters ceasefire over the weekend, Cleansocks Gene reported his vigiler's rest disturbed by a whoop and a holler from a police loudspeaker about 2 AM TUES morning (Feb.12).

Four hours later, rangers and blueshirts returned at 6 AM to haul off one "non-responsive" protester for refusing to rise to reveille in the on-going city-funded campaign to ween homeless from their intractable sleeping addiction. Of the ten or so folks there, only one other got a Sleeping citation from the 3 visiting police, but Lebensraum Lang's Park Rangers quickly appeared to

\(^{1}\) The well-known Lebensraum Jim Lang, Secretary of War at the City Parks & Rec. Dept., needs no introduction to our regular readers.

In their nightly "news" broadcast of Feb. 11, KUSP newsmen Vicki Voss and Matt Binder concocted an issue—the "problem" and "embarrassment" of "those messy protesters at the Town Clock"—in a campaign harkening back to the anti-homeless broadsides of the Fe Santa Cruz Urinal in the mid-8ans. Then, as now, public attention on police misconduct was redirected to "the troll menace downtown."

The unprovoked police assault on Won Ton Dave the morning of Feb. 9 [see Street Shit Sheet #53] was ignored; Binder falsely reported that Jacobs was offered an opportunity to sign an "inappropriate signs" ticket, and then taken in for "resisting arrest" when he refused. Jacobs reports—and says he told Binder—that he was assaulted before being told any charges with no option to sign a citation. KUSP thus missed the basic issue in the city's Protest Extermination Drive—blatant official suppression of free speech in wartime in favor of the Lebensraum Lang's "homeless mess" red herring.

The Urinal also falsely reported on Feb. 10 that Jacobs refused to sign a ticket. Reporter Mark Bergstrom, who took the story, apparently swallowed the police officialdom line without a burp and didn't even cite "police sources," thus concealing the origin of this fairy tale.
"clean up" the area.

In a move reminiscent of S.F.'s campaign to drive the homeless out of the S.F. Civic Center Plaza last summer by compacting homeless property in garbage trucks, Lang's Legionaires announced that all property that could not be held in the vigilier's hands would be confiscated. 3 police cars, 4 cops, and 3 city trucks confronted the tiny band of peacemakers in yet another of the city's "protective reaction" strikes. Protesters remarked that the invading force was polite, though intimidating, as they made off with a small flag, some placards, and some boards.

Doublegrip Dana and Cleansocks Gene reported that Parks & Rec Rangers continued regular two-hourly raids on the Vigil throughout the day, culminating in another display of force with 6 cops and rangers around 4:30 PM. Around 5:30 PM, Bathrobespierre Robert was seen rushing after Ranger "Locust-eyes" Levy\(^3\), who had eagerly seized his untended "Save the Humans: Wage Peace!" picket sign, which was caught leaning illegally against the Town Clock.

Snapping photos wildly, Bathrobespierre demanded the return of his property, but Levy hustled to his white mini-ranger van and broke the unfortunate poster in half before tossing it into the vehicle with a triumphant smirk. Four witnesses sought to console the ruffled Bathrobespierre with promises to file written complaints with Levy's boss [Lebensraum Lang].

Back at the Sittingroom of the Somnolent Seven [City Council], Bathrobespierre Robert demanded the city respond to his false arrest last July 5th after the Homeless Independence Day rally, but the claim was quickly denied on motion of Councilmember Don Lane. The 7 also approved the report of the "no homeless, thank you" Downtown Social Problems Group, headed by the notorious former mayor "Lord" John Laird, again on motion by sometime liberal Don Lane.\(^4\) Lane, former Free Meal genrallissimo Bubba Brian Koepke, and "no militants, please" Sharin' Sherry Conable's Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep now call for a token Day Center in the boonies rather than press for the right to sleep somewhere. Additionally, the report calls for spiked planters, sharply cut-back tabling-and-free-speech areas, and an obsessive focus on "commercial" activities.

Compressing her outrage into a rare written speech which she distributed to Councilwatchers, activist Linda the Lark Edwards called for massive local support of the homeless, the Town Clock vigil, and a renewed on-the-streets anti-war movement. At presestine she was still trying to contact Councilmember Scott Kennedy for the latest on his search to replace the magical "vanishing benches" on the mall. And, back at the clock, Won Ton Dave was waiting for the latest official line on how much "clutter" justified an image-conscious snip-and-pasting of the First Amendment under the gentle guidance of Lang's team of city bureaucrats-turned-warlords.

**Useful #s:** Street Shit Sheet: 427-1205, 614 Hanover St.
S.C. Union of Homeless: 425-3113; Stop Police Abuse Now!: 475-2012

**SUPPORT THE TOWN CLOCK PEACE VIGIL WITH YOUR BUCKS & BODIES!**
**SUPPORT THE ALL-NIGHT SAN JOSE PEACE CAMP AT M. 1st & SAN CARLOS!**

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\(^3\) Levy, formerly an SCPOD officer, got his rep on the streets as a ready-to-wrangle Republican, who was willing to debate issues on the sidewalk, and a nighttime roughrider, who spent his spare time off-duty on anti-sleeping posses along the riverbanks and the railroad tracks, seeking to bring weary pillowpushers to justice.
homeless: 10c
got a room?: 25c
"The slaying of multitudes should be mourned with sorrow.
A victory should be celebrated with the funeral rite."
---Laotse, The Character of Tao (6th century B.C.)

"Sleep lingers all our lifetime about our eyes, as night
hovers all day in the boughs of the fir tree."
---Ralph Waldo Emerson

BASSETT’S BULLS MARK CEASEFIRE IN GULF WITH RENEWED ATTACKS AT CLOCK
RANGERS AND COPS ROUST VIGIL; CARRY OFF SIGNS, BEDDING, JOURNALS

Climaxing a week of daily harassment and ticketing of
the Town Clock Vigil Against the War, SCPD Blueshirts, Greenshirt
Rangers, and more reluctant maintenance workers, converged on Won
Ton Dave Jacobs and his rain-soaked companions at Water and
Pacific St. this morning to begin unannounced confiscations of
property and placards. During the past two weeks, Park
Rangers have used a variety of pretexts to intimidate picketers
including cites and threats to cite for sitting on the monument, bicycle
blocking the sidewalk, walking on the bricks, and the ever-popular
sleeping-at-night-without-money. With reduced numbers, the vigil
has continued its 24-hour Peacewatch, garnering honks of support
and new activists from the street, local high schools, and the
antiwar community. It was the site of a peaceful traffic-blocking
Die-In Saturday night when Bushler chose tanks and Terminators in
the Ground War over a negotiated ceasefire and Iraqi withdrawal.

Police chose not to attack then, but by today their
attitude towards the undefeated outpost had changed. Redtop
Robert, a homeless Cabrillo student and math tutor, who had
rejoined the vigil after the Ground Killing began, reported that a
roaming police squad car hailed him Wednesday evening. Why,
asked city gunmen, were the waterlogged peace warriors were still
"pursuing the protest" when Fuhrer Bush had decreed a tentative
ceasefire for 9 PM that night? Replied Robert, "Bush says 'the
war is behind us, but Iraq has not surrendered; U.S. forces are
occupying Iraq; the innocent are still being victimized. Later
Redtop added, "we are challenging a power elite, seeking to fight
social apathy, and pressing to provide a space where people can
come—with companionship and coffee—even to sleep if need be."

Gussied up in tasteful green, Rangers from Lebansraum
Lang’s Bark & Wreck Dept.² had been paying frequent visits to the
6-week long vigil, with morning "clean-up" crews showing more
concern for the "cleanliness" of the area in the last month than they
had for the last year in what some called a cover for meddling.

At their Tuesday evening session after making her wait
an hour and a half, the Somnolent Seven³ reluctantly agreed to

1 Robert recalls being part of the group at the Clock that kept
a trash barrel blazing all night on February 15th to keep folks
warm, when Operation Desert Slaughter began its high-altitude
kills of the tiny brown-skinned Iraqi people below.

2 Clocktower Cock-o’the-Walk [and Parks & Rec. Supt.] Jim
"Lebansraum" Lang has apparently continued to keep his rangers
busy on hourly surveillance duty around the monument in his desire
to rid the area of human protesters whose alarming message
contrasts with the town’s downtown business needs. (cont.)
hear peace vigiler Lighteyes Lonato. Mayor Jane HokeyMama had cut Oral Communications off twenty minutes early, then rebuked Bathrobespierre Robert for "taking two minutes too much." Lonato reported that Lebensraum's Rangers had given her a ticket for "non-obedience to authority [sic]" when she protested their selective harassment of a man earlier that evening.

Shortly after Lonato's citation, Won Ton Dave was cited for "lying on the monument," which, he was told would be "worn down" by such abusive behavior. Obligingly, he moved to the sidewalk, but was then told there too he menaced the safety of the concrete. Police were called, but at that time were unwilling to arrest the deep-voiced denizen in spite of repeated pleas from the earnest and public-spirited Ranger.

Jetlag Joe reported a sudden hardening of city policy this morning when police insisted they leave, declaring the area "was not a storage facility." For the past two weeks, vigilers and maintenance workers had been cooperating to clean up the area with Parks & Rec junior 6-man insisting only that all possessions be personally claimed and moved by hand.

Under the deadpan direction of Sgt. Bob "Hobohunter" Hennig and Officer Butch "Bumbuster" Baker, the SCPD seized tools, blankets, sleeping gear, and food. Even protest signs, the journal of the vigil, and legal documents were carried off. When Chatterbox Charlie and Redtop Robert tried to take responsibility for the food there, they were threatened with arrest. Treadmill Troy, Cherokee, and Dragonfly watched three cops, several rangers, and four "cleanup" workers disassemble the vigil and trash it. Jetlag was told later that the workers had been told to throw away the protestor's property rather than store it.

No tickets or arrests were made in the sweep, and vigilers spiritedly decided to file complaints and claims to discourage future foraging. Redtop reports he and the others are more determined than others to continue the Clock vigil. Sympathizers can contact Chief Bassett (429-3700), City Council (429-3550), Supt. Lang (429-3777), or KSCD (12-1 pm) (479-1080).

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3 Or the Santa Cruz City Council, as its paychecks read. Some of its members are actually returning phone calls from homeless activists, though the much ballyhooed "sanctuary for sleepers" of last fall and associated changes in the city's Sleep Ban bane are no longer fit subjects for dicussion in polite society.

4 Hitherto known as Jane Yokoyama. We had hoped this progressive protege would break from her blinders and rediscover her independence and compassion for the homeless, which she showed as head of the Human Relations Task Force back in 1988. Instead, under the unnatural influence of the former mayor, Yokoyama/HokeyMama has shown signs of becoming the Daughter of Wormhoudtstein! This terrifying transformation into Wormhoudt Jr. is marked by continued silence on the harassment of sleepers and renewed assaults on homeless speakers at City Council meetings. HokeyMama earned her streetname by her oft-repeated claim she would end the harassment, citation, and arrest of women who slept outside because "camping is unsafe" and "the poor deserve affordable housing, not tents." Masterpieces of simpering hypocrisy, such howlers may yet earn her a place in the Homeless Hall of Shame. Keep tuned to future Street Shit Sheets.
**** CONTEMPT FOR COURT: CANKERS FROM THE COUNTY BUILDING ****

********** NO SHOWS FOR THE SHOW-OFFS! Both activist Bathrobespierre Robert Norse and SCPD's "Bumbuster" Butch Baker were AWOL in Maddog Mulligan's Courtroom F last Tuesday for Norse's long-postponed sleeping-without-a-bedroom trial. The more serious misdemeanor "obstructing an officer" charge [for not giving his social security number and birthdate] stemming from the Homeless Independence Day Protest last year was dropped a month ago in the face of fierce resistance from Grit-and-Grace attorney Grinning Ray Grue neich.

Apparently intent on giving up the ghost as quickly and quietly as possible, the city police declined to pursue Norse's remaining camping ticket, leading Grue neich to return to his computer for yet another letter to the Northern California ACLU suggesting they consider a closer look at S.C. police customs.

********** NO SUCH LUCK FOR FORMER ACTIVIST "RODENT," last year's sometime homeless City Council candidate & street-side politician, who found Bumbuster Baker in court and attorney Grinning Ray Groeneich gone, in yet another of the city's costly "sleep no more" court trials. Groeneich checked in several minutes later in time for Rodent's second and third tickets, but the citing officers didn't show, so the feisty sleepeeker was able to win 2 out of 3, squeaking out a victory of sorts. Rodent reports he is working and no longer roofless, but the long shadow of last summer's Homeless Table citations continues to shade his steps and tie up his Tuesday afternoons.

********** GUNNING FOR THE LARK is Monterey Muni Court Judge Marino, just one county to the South. A successful veteran of many Santa Cruz court battles, peace-and-homeless-rights activist Linda the Lark Edwards tells us "Mustardgas" Marino is about the most nauseating judicial notable she's had the privilege of being dragged in front of. A visiting judge, Marino was going to call Linda down to Monterey for four mornings in a row for "continued arraignment," but on morning 3, Linda forestalled this by securing a local volunteer lawyer.

Charged with "Pedestrian on the freeway," "refusal to leave," and "unlawful assembly ["resisting arrest" was dropped] for a peaceful leafleting march at the gates of Fort Ord in late January, Linda and fifteen others face a cluster of court dates. "Mustardgas" reportedly wanted to add "inciting a riot" but even the prosecutor said no to that one. More of this state humor on

5 For a copy of Bathrobespierre's longwinded oratory opposing police arrests of anti-Groundwar street demonstrators February 24th, see Won Ton Dave at the Clock or call Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom (H.U.F.F.) at 427-1205.

Councilmember Scott Kennedy took unusual if belated initiative to assure Lighteyes her speaking time. "Conservative" John "Mums-the-word" Mahaney complained that police abuse information and concerns about Council inaction constituted "harassing us," but reluctantly agreed to grant three minutes.

6 The Street Shit Sheet announces a small reward for the identification by name and number of this (Badge #351?) and other patriotic greenshirts whose crimebusting campaign is a model for us all.
March 6 in Dept. 1 at 8:15 a.m. Bring your gasmask.

And, locally, Linda faces yet another "witness an arrest--go to jail" charge for observing police harassment downtown (see Street Shit Sheet #80). Going before Muni Court Judge "Artichoke Heart" Attack earlier this week, Linda found "resisting arrest" was dropped, but the D.A. drew Artichoke's interest by bragging that Edwards had a rap sheet "this thick!". When the judge drew Linda back to the bench with threats that she'd violated probation, the activist proudly announced she'd never taken probation for any of her past convictions and never would. Attack released her D.R. but his attitude seemed to indicate no sympathy for the potential felon. Edwards goes to pre-trial hearing for "standing in a bicycle lane" on March 21st at 10 a.m. in Dept. C.

ACTIVIST ALERT: AN APPEAL FROM PRAIRIE-WOLF PATRICE

(Patrice Maxfield, single-mom of 3 and long-time welfare rights activist, has worked with the Welfare Parents Support Group [458-9070] and with RACK (Residents Action Committee for Kindness), a post-earthquake rights group for former St. George Hotel residents. She is now organizing to fight Gov. Wilson's recent cuts in the Cost of Living allowance for folks on AFDC, General Assistance, and Disability. She can be reached at 423-0806 and at P.O. Box 1735, S.C. 95061. Excerpts from her appeal follow.)

STOP THE WAR ON THE POOR

...Newly-elected Governor Pete Wilson has plans to keep us in destitution...another form of violation and isolation. His proposal to cut grants by another 10% after last year's vote not to raise COLAs [Cost of Living Allowances] is unacceptable.

...To add insult to injury, Wilson claims that this reduction would not impact one's ability to pay rent, but would only mean that "they will be buying less six packs of beer." This is a malicious attempt to stir public hostility toward the poor by implying that we don't really need the money we are receiving, that we are lazy drunks.

...We demand that all Social Service Programs remain the same with plans of raising grants above the federally-defined poverty level until homelessness and poverty are not a way of life in the State of California.

...Along with the Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, we demand that COLAs, including this year's, be reintroduced for welfare recipients; and that AFDC and SSI be exempted from state cutback triggers.

Coming Up in Street Shit Sheet #87 (or thereafter): A backlog of poetry, peaceflashes, and homeless news from San Francisco, Berkeley, and Santa Barbara. Is there a "lull" in Sleeping Ban Enforcement? Is Sharin' Sherry Conable from the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep sharing homeless funding as well? Is Margaret Marr's Coalition for a Civilian Police Review Commission dead or merely sleeping? The shocking truth behind the nasty rumors. Want to see your name and story in print? Call H.U.F.F. or leave a copy of your submission with Won Ton Dave at the Town Clock.
roofless: 10c  room of your own: 25c

"people seem to be in such nasty moods lately
of course they are they feel the fascist squeeze
nobody wants to turn his back while his brother dies
at night a man walks by a bloated figure
huddled in the niche of an automatic versateller
and looks away his heart constricting
a black bilge of impotence in his guts
his body cries out to make some tender gesture"
---sara menefee, i'm not thousandfurs (1986)

DAWN CRACKDOWN AT TOWN CLOCK: WON TON DAVE BEHIND BARS!
VIGILERS VOW TO CONTINUE 24-HOUR PROTEST UNTIL "REAL PEACE"

After a week of relative peace at the Town Clock’s post-ceasefire vigil to bring the troops home, protesters had hoped for a "kindler gentler" relation with Jim "Lebensraum" Lang’s greenclad Park Rangers and their stern sister sisters, Bassett’s bluebellied SCPD. Indeed, just the day before, Barefoot Brad had had successfully retrieved personal property swooped up in one of the many Ranger Raids of the past month from the city "Barks and Wreck" Dept. In spite of the incessant patrols, unnecessary citations [e.g. for flute-playing on public property], and occasional sign seizures, a regular routine of civilized banter and friendly interchange had developed between the Monument Mounties—Smilin’ Sam Cannon and his stiffer sidekick, "Bad Boy" Bowen—and the fun-loving pack of poorly-dressed pacemen.

But it was not to be. Arriving at first light on Friday morning, 4 cops (in 3 squadcars and a paddywagon) surrounded half a dozen demonstrators and led off Won Ton Dave Jacobs in handcuffs. Speareheading the antisleep squad was the inevitable Officer Butch "Bumbuster" Baker, master of the laconic one-liner, who had noted earlier in the week, "for $40/hour, I'm

1. Soursoup Sara, activist and poet from San Francisco’s Food Not Bombs, faces criminal prosecution for feeding the homeless in violation of an injunction. On a courtroom carousel of endless court dates, Sara took time out to lead a protest parade through city hall and into superior court in support of FNB’s fun-loving Keith McHenry in mid-February.

McHenry is charged with over a hundred counts of contempt of court for "felonious foodsharing" (i.e. feeding people without the Mayor’s permission in defiance of the same 1989 injunction, concocted to drive the homeless out of the Civic Center Plaza). The impish activist packed the courtroom with his supporters, flyered the hallways, and led chants of "Food not Bombs" near the lair of Mayor Art "Busts Not Bread" Agnos.

McHenry faces more judicial jaberwocky on March 22 at 9:30 a.m. in San Francisco Superior Court, Dept. 18. Supporters should gather at Civic Center at 8:30 a.m. ready to feed [and face arrest] or witness. More Info: 415-330-5030.

2. Jack Bassett is Chief Hound of the Santa Cruz Police Dept, Mother of all officially-Mandated Mischief against the homeless, Steadfast Supporter of the Sleeping Ban, and Amiable Architect of "Street People-proof" Mall, now under consideration by Darkness Santa Cruz. Recent reports have it that his Deputy Chief (cont.)
happy to go into court against you guys." Baker's comment this time: "How long are you going to keep this up?" "As long as you keep harassing us," replied one of the group. "That's what they said across the street," rejoined the curt clocktower cowboy; "you don't see them there any more, do you?"

On an earlier sleepershunting expedition around 2 A.M., Bassett's Blueshirts bagged four blanketed figures asleep at the wrong time, awarding Barefoot Brad, Won Ton Dave, Jetlag Joe, and Tripster taxpayer-funded sleepcrime citations. Though they threatened to return and arrest within twenty minutes, the slumbersmashers didn't come back to the Clock until 3:15 A.M. when they caught Joe and Dave stealing sleeptime and gave them a second set of "Get Into Jail Free" cards.

Raid #3 came at 7 A.M. with more tickets for Jinglebells Jim, and Redtop Robert—and a jailcell for Won Ton Dave. Dave became the first protester actually arrested and handcuffed for the simple act of sleeping since Jabberwocky Jay, Moonrise Mike, and Paddywagon Pete were hauled in for pillow-plumping in last summer's D.A.-police pogrom against the Post Office Homeless Table.

"Doubletalk" Dunbaugh, has been lauding "sensitivity training" and "liaison" with the gay and lesbian community in hopes of head off the recent liberal push for a Civilian Police Review Board [more on the Board—see p. 4]

3 Baker refers to the ruf-n-grubby Post Office Homeless Table Vigil/Sleep-Out in support of homeless rights against the City Sleeping Ban, which lasted / 1/2 months from Nov. 1989 to July 1990. Under the "don't make waves" leadership of the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep (CSPS) and optimistic Public Defender, Margaret Marr, weary Homeless Tablunteers closed down the protest in hopes of luring "respectable support" for a legal sleeping sanctuary. The CSPS's effort evaporated after a City Council vote, a symbolic sleep-out, and a "Progressive" election victory in November.

4 Police and court costs for prosecuting even low-grade 6.36 infractions are considerable and mount exponentially when warrants issue because sleepcriminals fail to make courtdates. Police continue to selectively haul in sleepers on "camping warrants" with jail costs alone ranging from $70-200/day.

5 Though Sleepcrime is technically an infraction, Courthouse Curmudgeon (and Traffic Court Referee) "Maddog" Mulligan has assigned jail for the offense in the past—for those unwilling to perform Community Service (or Community Slavery, as it is termed by the unrepentant). Activist Bukkah Brian Koepke reports that Community Options, the agency which handles C.S., now extorts "fees"—even from the poor: no dough? to jail you go!

6 To up the ante for determined vigilers by making free speech [and the need to sleep] punishable by arrest, police pulled out an obscure section of the city camping ban, 6.36.050, which brands falling asleep twice within 48 hours a "misdemeanor" and so a cause for arrest. D.A.'s have never prosecuted anyone under this section. Police use it as a convenient excuse to jail disfavored homeless protesters on charges which are later dropped to
Seized without ceremony or apology was Dave's sign "Police Harassment Does Not Create Peace," as well as other items which Barefoot Brad and his companions tried to claim as community property. Other gear, including food—which had been a favored target on prior police and ranger raids—was left unmolested. 

Badge #1467 launched a misinformation campaign that was speedily rejected by the protesters. When confronted with the cop's demand for personal information if they wanted to speak on behalf of Dave, Jetlag Joe and Treadmill Troy declined to be grilled and suggested the clocktower commandant review the camping citations he'd given them several hours before for clues and possibly the federal constitution for legal guidance.

Would the Bush-dictated ceasefire and the Bassett-led crackdown at the Clock mean an early end to the vigil? Replied Jetlag Joe, "We want to show people that peace can exist even through hardship and harassment. The current police actions are doing nothing but solidify our determination and purpose." Having secured obscure and rarely-used Parks and Rec. Dept. complaint forms in hand, Joe noted the anti-warriors would make a public record of official abuse at Parks and Rec., at the Police Dept., and at City Hall. As for Won Ton Dave, he was out of jail on 0.R. and back at his post in the afternoon noon—but not out of trouble or out of energy—just catching a few winks before the next bust.

CORRECTIONS AND UPDATES FROM THE EDITOR'S COUCH

***** LIGHTHEARTED LORETO, not Lonato, was the songbird whose wings were clipped by Mayor Jane HokeyMama at the last Somnolent Seven sleepalong [City Council meeting]. As reported in Street Shit Sheet #86, after being cut off at Oral Communications, Loreto had to wait an hour and a half to speak for three minutes about a ticket at the Town Clock for "non-obedience to authority."

Though she didn't move the Council to any action or response, Loreto apparently inspired Sgt. Bob "Hobohunter" Hennig, who was "guarding" the proceedings. On March 7, back on the beat, Hennig wrote a ticket for the same offense at the Town Clock in yet another breathtaking display of blueshirt bravado.

***** S.C.I.N. VOTES TO BACK POLICE REVIEW--and that's good news, right? The Santa Cruz Inaction Network®, after some

infractions [which do not require jury trials, pre-trial hearings, and court-appointed public defenders. The misdemeanor sleeping charge can theoretically cost 6 months in jail and/or $1000 [cont.] file [and possibly more under a new city council ordinance passed last fall--see next Street Shit Sheet].

7 Be the first on your streetcorner to win the hottest and hippies new parkside pastime--Name That Sleepslayer! The Street Shit Sheet is offering miniscule prizes for sharp-eyed bystanders, who can provide full names for pesky patrolpeople and amusing anecdotes about these paddywagon personnel including actual dialogue. Leave your entries with Jetlag Joe and Redtop Robert at the Clock; they can also provide you with Fight That Ticket! flyers and police complaint/city claim forms. If you actually witness or experience abuse, contact SPAN (Stop Police Abuse Now! at 475-2012). [cont.]
eloquent appeals from Sharin’ Sherry Conable, Simmerin’ Simba, Moxie Margaret Marr, and others actually voted to make a Civilian Review Board one of four priority projects for 1991--in fact, it was #1 in the SCAN voting.

Only problem is that SCAN voted to endorse the Board last year as well, but then did nothing. It also voted to make Homelessness and Affordable Housing one of its priority projects last year--but it took a special meeting of SCAN last fall to get it to undo its Don Lane-led vote against the right to sleep and to finally endorse the CSFP’s tame sanctuary-for-sleepers.

Rudely banished to the frosty hinterlands was a proposal from Bathrobespierre Robert Norse, asking that SCAN endorse non-violent CD by the homeless if there’s no legal place to sleep when the Satellite Shelter program ends in April. Motormouth Mike Rotkin, former Somnolent Seven chairwarming, wielded his granite gravel and refused to allow the SCAN membership a vote on the idea. Rotkin did allow Linda the Lark Edwards’ “Support the Town Clock Peace Vigil” resolution, but at press time, we were still unable to find out how the vote went.

***** LINDA THE LARK’S LAMENT: Too many courtrooms, not enough sleep! Linda’s still recovering from judicial aftershocks from her January anti-war activities. On March 21st at 10 a.m. in Dept. C., she faces a pretrial for misdemeanor "standing in a bicycle lane" in another Hennig-inspired extravaganza--the Sgt.’s punishment for her insistence on witnessing a harassment ticketing of two peace demonstrators in a car.

On April 3rd, Linda and 4 others from the Fort Ord 16 return to Dept. 1 of Monterey Municipal Court to face charges of unlawful assembly, blocking the road, and failure to disperse. Or, perhaps, being insufficiently proud of our fighting- and-bombing boys-and-girls overseas. In plain English, they had a peaceful march to the forbidden gates of Fort Ord and will now be forced to pay piper. For support calls, donations, contact Linda c/o H.U.F.F. (Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom) at 427-1205.

Postscript: Linda’s house--her van--was released by police and towing yard terrorists on payment of the $100+ blackmail fee. On leaving the Anarchist Coffee House, some weeks ago, Linda was stopped by Officer “Brassheart” Bracher, who had apparently been waiting for her. Though proof of insurance is no longer required, the DMV suspended Linda’s license for not having enough money to buy it last year. Bracher ticketed her for driving on a suspended license, then refused offers by three licensed drivers to drive her van to a legal parking place. Linda intends to bring this incident of harassment and discrimination to the attention of City Council through use of a claim against the city. Insiders give low odds on any remedial action.


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8 Or SCAN (Santa Cruz Action Network), the political muscle behind the “progressive” majority on City Council. It acts to elect its friends, but subsides into silence when those progressives continue anti-homeless policies indistinguishable from those of conservatives.
"I saw one of the street guys; thin, no real age,
Time had collapsed around his elbows; and his floppy tennis shoes.
He was pushing the war around in his shopping cart;
Missiles, cardboard meals, tank treads / mashing the moon at night
When he let them out, speeches, sand, his old sleeping bag
And factory processed body bags tangled up.
Water canteens and a wine bottle / both empty.
Dog tags and a kitten / peeing on next month’s newspapers.
He doesn’t need camouflage / no one even looks at him,
But one of his wheels on the shopping cart was loose
And squeaking a little. / I looked up. / The war rolled on."
--"I Saw One of the Street Guys," Julia Vinograd, (unpub, 1991)


LULL IN POLICE HARASSMENT AS PEACE VIGIL PASSES HUNDREDTH DAY
VIGILERS FACE POSITIVE PUBLIC RESPONSE BUT DOZENS OF TRIALS

Two months after the San Jose’s Peace Vigil at the Federal Building there collapsed, Santa Cruz’s own Town Clock Peacewatch marked its 100th day April 24th. Going into their fourth month of 24-hour opposition to Bush’s bloody restoration of the Kuwaiti emir (no Kurds, Shiites, and Palestinians, thank you), the half-dozen faithful sign-toters reported increased support from the citizenry, ranging from ‘thumbs up’ and ‘V’ peace signs by passing motorists, to nightly food drops from sympathetic but anonymous local restaurants. Reports from the San Jose vigil, indicate it disintegrated in late February or early March, disrupted by police harassment, withdrawn liberal support, and undercover narc activity.

Locally "Won Ton" Dave Jacobs and the small but persistent circle of tattered Peaceketeers continue to call for real peace in the Middle East (see p. 3). By day Jetlag Joe Selinsky and by night Redtop Robert Flory have maintained their continuous presence for peace at the Clock, terming their demonstration "the Town Clock Vigil for Peace and Justice." Whether it’s the onset of spring, Redtop’s appeal of the newly-imposed 1 AM-8 AM curfew, or a mellower attitude on the part of "Lebensraum" Jim Lang’s Parks and Recreation [P&R] Department, the protesters report a definite decrease in the intensity of harassment and number of tickets.

Even the omnipresent Sgt. "Hobohunter" Hennig seemed more temperate, donning his dreaded gloves of doom on Tuesday afternoon (usually the signal for a legalized raiding expedition), only to return the "Sgt. Hennig Trashes Vigil Again" sign to its resting place. Perhaps the placard sparked memories for the stern sergeant. Surfing on a surge of adrenalin in early April, Hennig issued three more costly* Public Nuisance tickets and dragged off

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1 The city and county have not had a full-fledged Public Nuisance trial involving homeless protesters. The first (cont.)
Won Ton Dave for demanding a property receipt for his "liberty of a place for police to pillage?" protest sign. In a highly unusual move, radio station KUSP broadcast a full report of the early April incident complete with demonstrators' demands that Hennig resign, questions about the legality of his sign and property seizure, and an overview linking the incident with harassment of the homeless downtown.

A final upsurge of police surveillance and harassment followed the ominous "dead of night" curfew passed by the City Parks and Rec Commission April 1st (see p. 7). Three thousand-dollar signs posted a week later were uprooted and relabeled during the night, but quickly replaced by the city, which posted park rangers the next day to prevent further depredations of its model fascist theme park. With local reporters lurking about, authorities were reluctant to move. A long-suffering Channel 9 reporter from Salinas staked out the clock with notepad and video camera from the cover of the bicycle shelter across the street for three hours without success for several nights running.

Officers finally struck at dawn on the morning of April 13th, issuing five infraction tickets for curfew violation. His nose dipping deep into law books and the city code, Won Ton Dave discovered a week later that no tickets could be issued pending appeal, apparently invalidating the preemptive strike. Indeed, no further curfew stops have been made.

However, county prosecution of the vigilers grinds on without pause. For three months, Basset's Bumbusters and Lebensraum's Legionaires have carpetbomb the peace vigil with harassment, tickets, arrests, and property seizures.  "Won Ton" Dave, on the scene since the second day of the Vigil, reports dozens of 'camping' tickets, sometimes for sleeping, sometimes for covering up with a blanket against the cold. He faces an endless chain of court appearances for such sinister behaviors as "sitting on the fountain" and "too large a protest sign." Taxpayers will be footing the bill for numerous jury trials for "Public Nuisance" (being present with protest material, signs, and survival gear) and "interfering with an officer/resisting arrest" (refusing to give up a protest sign that the police wanted to confiscate).

Redtop Robert Flory, Meandering Mike Byrth, Linda the Lark Edwards, Barefoot Brad, Jughead Joe, Banshee Brian, and many others have amassed the most stunning collection of police and park ranger demerit certificates since last year's Homeless Table's Sleepout Against the Sleeping Ban. Redtop Robert, recently a homeless Cabrillo student and still an active participant in Cabrillo's Students for Social Responsibility, has actually gathered more "Public Nuisance" citations than any of last year's veterans.

of Jabberwocky Jay's Public nuisance charges went through over a dozen preliminary hearings last year costing tens of thousands of dollars before being dropped. Had the D.A. gone to trial, the cost would have risen substantially.

2 Though Won Ton Dave was arrested for having a protest sign 'larger than 14" on a side', police declined to even ticket or talk with conservative demonstrators on April 23rd who showed up with blank picket signs and blocked the sidewalk. Lt. Larsen declined to interfere and Sgt. Hennig hastened to explain adherence that handmade signs could be larger than 14" but....
CONCERNS OF THE TOWN CLOCK VIGIL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE
(The vigilers and their supporters are a mixed bag with different opinions, but the following statement is generally agreed to by the participants.)

(a) Stop arming the warring governments, justice for Palestinians and Kurds, a truly multi-lateral UN policy;

(b) Halt unilateral use of U.S. military force, essentially without Congressional consultation in pursuit of poll-pleasing objectives that change daily.

(c) Expose the shameless hypocrisy, utter opportunism, and the fabric of lies surrounding the real origins, conduct, and beneficiaries of Bush’s Oil War;

(d) Halt media complicity with Pentagon censorship and the government PR campaign to boost its military prowess and budget.

(d) End the glorification of soilder mercenaries, whose intervention has caused hundreds of thousands of death, an ecological disaster, and untold civilian misery in the Middle East: "Flags and Ribbons? No! Brains and Hearts? Yes!"

For Peace and Justice at home:

(a) An end to harassment of protesters and homeless people at the Town Clock--including the dropping of charges against those already victimized, the return of ‘confiscated’ property, and an overhaul of police procedures now used to target SCPD ‘enemies.”

(b) An end to the 1 AM to 8 AM curfew at the Town Clock.
(See story below)

(c) The creation of a liberated area where people feel free to demonstrate and gather, regardless of class or color, where they can come without having to pay or pander any time of the day or night.

(d) A living demonstration to the repressive forces in Santa Cruz that peace can be lived 24 hours a day, that those who support peace will not be driven away, however bizarre and bothersome the creative harassment tactics of the police, however odious the lies of local media, however obnoxious the pressure of city bureaucrats.

your rulers and rulebooks ready, folks!

3 The legendary Jabberwocky Jay Green, Homeless Table die-hard and inspiration of last year’s 4th of July rally for Homeless Rights fought lengthy discovery battles, seeking to show a conspiracy to violate civil rights by the police department and D.A.’s office. He, Linda the Lark, Paddywagon Pete, and others fought Public Nuisance charges which were eventually dismissed after Jay and the others [but not Linda] were talked into a sweetheart deal to take down the Post Office Homeless Table disappear into the bushes.

Patterson Robert, Jatilao Jos, and Won Ton Dave face up to 1 year
SHADOWS ON THE SIDEWALK

FEEDING THE HUNGRY IN THE SHADOW OF CITY HALL is still sending Food Not Bombs volunteers to jail in San Francisco in their twice-daily free food giveaways at the S.F. Civic Center Plaza. A compliant Superior Court judge threw out the many contempt citations against street chef Keith McHenry in March, but renewed and extended the 1987 injuction against outdoor food distribution 'without a permit.' [The city has refused to issue FNB a permit, even though it has met their standards.]

McHenry was then arrested outside the courtroom on a bogus traffic warrant and charged with 'resisting arrest,' 'inciting a riot,' and 'seizing an officer's gun,' when fifty or so demonstrators angrily sat down in the halls and stairway to protest. Reportedly an intoxicated off-duty police officer left his weapon in the car but in a fog of panic thought that the gun lifted by one of the FNB supporters. Police have renewed cop-seizing expeditions against the noon and dusk meals, arresting four people in mid-April. McHenry and four supporters face multiple misdemeanor changes in Muni Court May 15th.

FNB's Skylark Sara Menefee still faces an endlessly-postponed jury trial in S.F. Muni Court for grub giveaway last year, though Muni Court Judge Lillian has offered to put her into a diversion program where she will be ordered to serve free food for Food Not Bombs. Though supporters find the irony of the sentence a treat, Skylark is unamused by the absurdity of the Judge's antics. "I'm not coping a plea on this while they continue to arrest my brothers and sisters for the same thing," she commented acidly. She plans to demand her trial within forty-five days.

THE MOTHER OF ALL MEDIATORS STRIKES AGAIN! Seems Sharin' Sherry Conable of the Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep has gotten herself appointed to the Parks & Rec Subcommittee to mediate with Town Clock demonstrators, now that P&R has outlawed them after 1 AM at night. Though the Vigilers have reportedly neither sought out Conable's help, nor been invited to the negotiations themselves, Sharin' Sherry has again involved herself in another effort to "depoliarize the city."

Sharin' Sherry's past accomplishments as politically-correct shepherd to a dozile group of hand-picked homeless include

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in jail and $1000 fine per charge for a total of 7 "Nuisance" counts. Growlin' Greg Cobin, Robert's fighting PD, vows to defend Robert's roadside rights to the limit if he can't persuade the youth to shave, get a haircut, and abandon his vulnerable outdoor free speech pastime. Robert's response thus far: "Shoot your television."

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4) Previously slandered as "Soursoup Sara," Menefee satisfied customers have petitioned for a namechange. Rechristened "Skylark," Sara is a published poet, a reporter for People's Tribune, and an unshakable speaker at rallies for the rights of the homeless. Skylark: "the common Old World lark, noted for its song, as it rises in almost perpendicular flight."
(1) a partially successful attempt to derail July 4th demonstrations during Homeless Independence Day last year; (2) an unsuccessful attempt to establish an emergency sanctuary campground in the fall that blackballed militants and split the homeless movement into ineffectuality; and (3) a ravenous request for $557,000 in homeless funds to set up a Day Center that will put a smile on the face of merchants, police, and mayor by luring humble travelers and impoverished citizens to remove their blemished bodies from the fashionable downtown.

Left dangling in the wind all winter along with the fate of dozens of ticketed homeless sleepers and the reputations of slandered homeless militants, has been the fabled Safe Place to Sleep, which has been unceremoniously dumped as too unfashionable a cause. Connolly’s distaste for the Town Clock Vigil as as an unwashed affront to the more ‘respectable’ activists in town is fairly well-known. She made no public defense of the vigil’s rights before City Council or P & R, and criticized the vigilers outside Council chambers. Given her position and her history, her current role as mistress of ‘conflict-resolution’ showboating walks the line between the nauseating and the ridiculous.

CRIMINAL COVER-UP FOR MID-LIFE MIKE Mishler was the verdict in Maddog John Mulligan’s Traffic Court last week. Mishler, a peace and homeless activist who has gone indoors and is now working full-time as a computer operator, was caught keeping warm at 4 AM at the Town Clock in early February. In 35 degree weather, Mishler got ticketed for sitting up wrapped in a sleeping bag while wide awake. Overcoats only allowed, ruled Mulligan, the D.A.’s darling. Mishler, one of the working poor, plans an expose on how local homeless services discriminate against those who work. Look to see his outspoken newsmonthly, Watcha Want?, in a gutter of your choice in the near future. Call 426-3113 if you have a poem, protest, or proclamation for his homeless rag.

SPARE CHANGE STING OPERATION? That’s what Juglover Joseph ran into outside Zachary’s a few weeks back. Seems undercover cops actually walk the block jingling change in their pockets in search of desperate beggars. Joseph himself was apparently snared for seeking a coin from the copperclanging cops. For those who find this funny, remember that local judges have been giving panhandlers 3-6 months for repeat offenses.

Merchant paranoia against begging is being used to usher in a kind of street fascism with New Order police practices against homeless and transient people in order to “encourage investment.” This kind of mercantile cynicism is both astounding and sickening. As recently as 1988, bureaucratic bigots and yellow journalists were restrained enough to use bogus but well-ballyhooed public safety concerns as a cover for their police-state preferences (“machete maniacs on the mall”). Now, it seems, just blathering about bucks is enough to sanction a new mall devoid of bushes, stripped of benches, ramrod straight, lined with unsuitable planters, cleansed of undesirables, and designed without bike lanes. To stop this Darkness Santa Cruz nightmare, get your ass to the upcoming Streetscape Sub-Committee hearing (call 429-3045 for details).

PROFESSIONAL PROTESTERS TAKE NOTE! The heavy hand of Monterey County justice was stayed from smacking Linda the Lark
Edwards across the chops by timely solidarity from her 14 co-
defendants. Charged with a paste of crimes for a peaceful CD
demonstration at Fort Ord in late January, the peace group was
offered a plea bargain, dropping charges of ‘resisting arrest,’
‘interfering with an officer’ and other creative fictions down to
‘pedestrian in the roadway’ with a $20 fine. The tradeoff: Linda
alone, as the judge-designated ‘professional protester’
[salaried sit-ins?]) would still face a misdemeanor jury trial.

No thanks, said the tight-and-tough group, keep your
deals. Well, we’ll drop the charges on Edwards, returned Dept.
1’s presiding judicial bigot, but we’ll charge her $100. So
angered was the group that some of them have decided to demand
jury trials unless all charges are dropped. Jury selection for
Edwards’ trial begins May 17th at 11 AM.

########### MORE ROTTEN RETURNS FROM ZINOTO’S? Long-time
readers may recall last April when Santa Cruz’s largest downtown
grocery store declared Linda the Lark Edwards and other homeless
people unwelcome because of their appearance. Several days of
picketing that asked customers to turn in inquiry forms to the
management seemed to produce something of a change of attitude.
(Out of too much concern for ‘rebuilding the downtown,’ we didn’t
call for a boycott of the Granny of all Groceries, but just had an
informational picket.)

But lately Grim the Wanderer reports an attempt to use
food stamps there was met with uncompromising hostility. Are you
finding your local food emporium’s attitude a little too rich for
your blood? Let us know. Might be time to call on a sympathetic
attorney. How about a Bill of Rights for the homeless downtown as
requested of the Gang of 7 last summer?

########### A HOME IN THE HILLS? Linda the Lark may have our
gizzard for suggesting it, but one-time Council candidate John
Mills reminded us the other day of the long-vacant Bulah Park area
with dozens of cabins on several acres of land up near Pasatiempo.
Dangerous Dan Green suggested buttonholing a compassionate
cast and buying the Park for renovation. Mills, in his
unsuccessful fall campaign, opposed the River St. sanctuary area
but supported Bulah Park.

We support both and several small legalized sleeping
areas within the city limits (Linda’s proposal). The
winter Satellite Shelter program will end within a week, throwing
over fifty people into ‘criminal sleeper’ status. If the
Coalition for a Safe Place to Sleep has gone into hibernation,
perhaps the activists need to forcefully bring the issue (and the
sleepers) to the doors of City Council and wake up our Somnolent 7.

6 The Laird and Wormhoudt Councils earned the sobriquet Gang of
7 for their flickering hostility and unremittent hypocrisy towards
homeless rights issues from 1988 through 1990. The advent of
the Yokoyama regime seemed to have more promise. Indeed it’s
pretty much been all promise as the grave Council slumbered
throughout the winter with not so much as a snore in the direction
of decriminalizing homelessness.

On the plus side, it must be admitted that the Satellite
Shelter Program got a few more bucks, the city police have been
less flagrant in their Sleepbusting expeditions, and the Mayor has
come out for a (not in Our Downtown) May Center, Kennedy (cont.)
JAILHOUSE JAWS SNAPED SHUT ON two community

Also taken straight to jail was backdoor barrister, list community gadflies and nearly-claimed one more in the last month or so. Grinning Ray Grueneich, for carrying a sign through the Superior Courts that denounced Bush’s blood-drenched holiday a week ago

Resolute Ray Gordon, citizen-at-law, gives seminars to the homeless on how to exercise little known rights protected by the preamble and declaration of independence. Though jailing paupers is supposedly barred by the 13th amendment abolishing slavery, Ray

Thursday celebrating the butchery in Iraq. Ray was particularly incensed that judicial blackrobes decreed that folks show up only to have their cases put over. Superior Court to the rest of us: Free speech is fine, but not in my court.

Dragged by bailiff and policeman from the courtroom of Traffic Referee Maddog Mulligan for wearing a “FUCK WAR” t-shirt was everyone’s favorite badboy—Bathrobespierre Robert Norse. Told that his message was ‘obscene,’ Bathrobespierre admitted that ‘war’ was a profane word, but one that had to be dealt with. He returned to court several times later that afternoon, once covering up the upper half of his shirt with the logo “Censored by Order of the Traffic Court Referee.”

PARKS & REC BENDS OVER FOR CONSTITUTION BLACKOUT AT CLOCK

PETITION DRIVE URGES COUNCIL REVERSAL OF CURFEW MAY 14TH

In March when Deputy Police Chief Michael “Doubletalk” Dunbaugh sought ‘closing hours’ at the Town Clock before the City Parks and Recreation Commission, his nighttime suspension of the Constitution did not even receive the dignity of a second. After a brazen and eloquent response from the street-hardened voice of ‘Won Ton’ Dave Jacobs, the motion to lock down the clock after dark died a quiet and unexpected death.

Since Parks and Rec has a history of jumping when Parks Superintendent ‘Lebensraum’ Jim Lang squeaks, its uncharacteristically independent behavior here seemed heartening and highly unusual. After all, when homeless activists Bubba and Bathrobespierre Robert proposed an hour of free showers a week for homeless people out at Harvey West in April of 1987, the Commission backed up the ‘too complex and expensive’ coverstory of Lang and vetoed the idea.

Again, when Koepke proposed at least one 24-hour park where penny-poor late-night owls could sit and talk without dusk-to-dawn police harassment, Lang’s NIMBY mindset was law, and the Commission fell over itself to back him up. In yet another undercover bureaucratic coup last fall, Lang ordered the removal of nearly half a dozen benches in the Metro-Mall area, without public hearing or discussion, in response to requests from favored merchants wanting to ‘cattle herd’ deadbeats, transients, and homeless people down the road: not a peep from the Commission. Finally and most tellingly, the Commission’s silence has been

and Beiers deserve particular mention for sensitivity to homeless input at City Council and opposition to the New Order mall plans respectively. The Council’s actions on the P&R Town Clock curfew for August after 1 AM will be instructive.
deafening as Lang's Legionnaires have spent thousands of citizen collars initiating trials that will cost the county tens of thousands more to harass the Town Clock peace vigil with a swarm of arcane tickets ("minor in possession of tobacco," "sitting on the fountain ledge," "protest sign more than 14" in size; "not sitting down when talking to a ranger," etc.).

Given this lickspit background, observers were amazed at the Commission's sudden spurt of sanity and independence. Bureaucrats and bigots, however, were not done. Councilmember John Baloney introduced a communication asking that staff investigate instituting a curfew and a fence at the Clock to deter unsavory demonstrators. Councilmembers Beiers and Kennedy retorted that their Washington, D.C. trip had shown them homeless people sitting, lying, and sleeping all over the monuments there—something that deepened rather than sullied their respect for the historic places.

Unfortunately, progressive-by-day, regressive-by-night, chameleons Mayor Jane HokeyMama and Vice-Mayor Gone Lane gave Baloney and Councilmember Louis Rottenhouse the votes they needed. In the "keep office and avoid controversy" tradition of former Mayors Wormhauthd and Laird, they voted to send Baloney's 'close down the clock' plan back to Parks & Rec for study and recommendation. Simpering she supported an examination of the issue, and 'other avenues such as conflict resolution,' HokeyMama swept this Constitution-clipping scheme back to Lang's Lair. A clear victory for 'conservatives' interested in conserving city areas for conservative citizens, this move was a signal to the Parks & Rec chickens who had taken temporary control of the henhouse from Foxy Jim, to stop squawking about rights and bend over.

The City Council action provided ammunition to crush the brief P&R rebellion. Whereas, P&R had formerly concluded, quite reasonably, that 'closing hours' for an area that had ever been posted as a park was a heavy-handed and untenable idea, now a wholly artificial pretext was concocted, presenting the preposterous claim that somehow city workers needed 7 hours (1 AM-8 AM) to 'clean' the clock area. So thin and obvious was this cover story, that P&R heard no testimony that there was any

7 In early April, Park Ranger Curbstone Kip was giving Jetlag Joe a ticket for 'inappropriate sitting' and then demanded Joe sit down. When he refused to do so, saying he felt comfortable standing, the caustic Kip gave him a second citation for 'disobedience to authority.' Having once been burned for 'sitting without a permit,' would Jetlag face a second ticket for doing so under orders—maybe so, suggested some wild-eyed wags. Recently Town Clock regulars have been muttering at the apparent change in Curbstone. Previously a model of lemon-tight sourness, the clockwatching Ranger has reportedly been seen conversing amiably with the ragamuffin crew and one watcher swears the stern soldier-of-fortune was actually seen smiling.

8 Known to City Council aficionados as John Mahaney and hitherto ignored by the Street Shit Sheet as an honest but hopeless reactionary on homeless issues. His ridiculous 'fence' proposal for the Town Clock and—worse—its divisive consequences
difficulty whatsoever in the morning cleanup.9

Yokoyama weighed in with a quote in the Santa Cruz
Urinal as denouncing 'defecation' at the Vigil and has never-
retracted this inflammatory lie. [No tickets have been issued for
this offense, or urinating.] Only Kennedy and Beiers have
seriously expressed interest recently in opening up all-night
restroom facilities downtown: if the Mayor were interested
in cleaning up the downtown, she might start with this obvious first step.

Naturally this kind of political pressure from on high
had its effect. P&R voted 5-2, April 1st, after some grumbling,
to establish the first-ever 'dead of night' curfew there. The
ridiculous idea that all citizens should be divested of their
nighttime free assembly rights to enable the city to further
harass one disfavored group was enshrined in law. If the
demonstrators move across the street to the site of the old
Homeless Table, will that area too be ruled a forbidden zone? How
about if they go to City Hall for the night (as Sleeping Ban
protesters did right after the earthquake)? Will P&R suddenly
discover another previously unknown "city park" there that needs
to be walled off at night? Would the merchants prefer that the
vigilantes move in front of the businesses that are so happy with
this unconstitutional curfew?

In 1988 merchants and the mayor initiated the infamous
Soupsnatching raids by baton-wielding policemen in full riot gear
because activist Calamity Jane Imler marched in a BagLady's Parade
and announced a vigil at the Town Clock to protest violence
against the homeless. The shame and stupidity of that campaign
cast long shadows. Santa Cruz police jailed dozens and made the
city a laughing stock across the nation. Are we about to see a
repeat of this foolishness?

Ah, say some liberals, can't 'legitimate groups' simply
apply for permits at the Clock if they want to hold an all-night
protest? What will be the criterion for such permits? Who will
be Lord High Judge of the Legitimate Cause? And who will pay the
fees for this friendly process? Who will pay for the attorney to
take the matter to court when the permit is denied? When HUFF
(Homeless United for Friendship & Freedom) applied for a one-night
permit on the San Lorenzo benchlands to have a tent city in
solidarity with Housing Now!'s March on Washington in October
1987, city bureaucrats met for hours and demanded fees and
insurance that would total $1200 or more.

Adding hypocrisy to harassment, P&R also established a
small sub-committee headed by Elizabeth Schick to investigate and
mediate the Town Clock protest 'problem.'10 Vet's Advocate Nora

9 Vigilantes regularly sweep the Clock area. Police raids now
require them to be able to hold all their possessions in their
hands or lose them as "trash" or "evidence of a Public Nuisance."
So those who vigil through the night there don't really have much
property remaining there. Cops have seized blankets and bedding,
with judges ruling (see p.5) that keeping warm is criminal
camping. This being so, defamatory accusations about "mountains
of debris" are all the more odious. Finally, vigilantes report
they cooperate quite carefully with cleanup crews when they do arrive.

10 Their first meeting is Sunday April 28th 3 PM at City
Council chambers; it is reportedly open to the public. [See also
Mrs. Mother of All Meditator Strikes Again" p. 4, 3]
Hochmann pointed out that establishing a 'conflict resolution' group was irrelevant, disingenuous, and insulting, since P&R had already unilaterally resolved the issue by decreeing that anyone with a sign and candle after 1 AM was a criminal. What was left to be discussed? Proper outfits to wear when arrested?

Prior City Council debate on the Mahaney motion created expectations that the P&R curfew vote would return as an advisory to the Council. Indeed, inquiries to P&R as to how to appeal the matter met with confusion and uncertainty. But when the matter did not appear on the next City Council agenda, vigilantes were informed that the curfew had gone into effect on April 1st, the day it was passed, and that the time to appeal it had almost elapsed. Council member Kennedy learned he had passed beyond the 5-day period allowed for Council members to bring such matters back to Council.

Town Clock peace vigil organiser Joe Selinsky attempted to appeal within the 10-day period allotted the general citizenry, but was refused because he could not afford the $50 appeal fee. Finally, ten minutes before the deadline, Redtop Robert Flory presented the City Clerk with $50 he had gotten from attorneys and supporters, and set the appeal.

The matter is scheduled to reach City Council on May 14th. Meanwhile Town Clockwatchers are circulating petitions "(No Curfew for the Constitution)" urging the Council to reverse the P&R coup. But since that coup was sparked by the Council's action on the Mahaney memo in the first place, few hold out much hope the Sonnolent Seven will reinstate the Constitution at a second reading.

But Bill of Rights buffs are active nonetheless. The petition and related literature can be speedily obtained from your friendly local war protestor at the Town Clock. Or call Bathrobespire Robert at 427-1205 and leave your number. Members of peace groups whose picketing rights are also threatened are invited to join the rest of us and call City Council at 429-3350 or write them at 909 Center St. The liberties you gave will be your own.

----------------------WHATSOEVER HAPPENED TO...LOUDMOUTH LEITH AUSTIN? now-you-see-him, now-you-don't "Die Yuppie Scum" dialectician, who faced down the Wormhoudtstaurus at City Council last year, talking truth to power last spring at City Council. Back from tye-dye sabbatical in Florida and sentenced to wander the Free Meal for his crimes, Leith (or "Rainbow" as his cronies call him) is planning a Homeless Talent Show and invites musicians, comedians, and eczemaists of all ages to belly up to the sign-up list out at the River St. Free Meal.

Up and Coming: More "Whatever Became Of"s, Squatting in NYC by Hotline Horace, Blackbadge Bassett squares off against the Coalition for a Police Review Commission; Will the Coalition continue its exclusion of ban-me-not Bathrobespire? , the latest update from SPAN (Stop Police Abuse Now!) (475-2012, for those
limited funds?: 10c    paying rent?: 25c    flat broke: free
"After another day of humiliation,
Sleeping, freezing, isolated, divided,
Penniless, jobless, wheezing, dirty
Skin wrapped around cold bones—that’s us...
Shudders so familiar to us, shivers so intimate,
Our hands finally close and clench
After another day panhandling, tongues hanging out,
Dogs ate more today or curled at the feet of beds
Can belch, fart, have hospitals they can be taken to,
They’ll come out of houses and sniff us dead one day,
Pieces of shit lying scattered here
In an American city renowned for its food and culture.
...we want the empty offices collecting dust!
We want the movie houses from midnight til dawn.
We want the churches open twenty-four gods a day."


JUDICIAL HYSTERIA BANS TWO FROM CLOCK WITHOUT TRIAL

An irregular proclamation from the bench of Senior Muni Court Judge "Kangaroo" Tom Kelly,* banished peace vigilier ‘Won Ton’ Dave Jacobs from the Town Clock last Friday (April 26th). A second imperial banning edict from Kangaroo’s Courtroom C followed on Tuesday April 30th. That morning, a brief outburst of judicial abuse against Redtop Robert Flory was led into a sorry spectacle in which the homeless peace activist was detained in court, searched, locked in a judicial holding area, humiliated, and divested of his free assembly rights—again without trial.

The banning of ‘Won Ton’ Dave came at a hearing during which Sgt. "Hobohunter" Bob Hennig* intervened to add another "Public Nuisance" charge to the rainbow robed rebel’s list of offenses. Several weeks before Hennig had seized Won Ton’s pack when the activist was off using restroom facilities. Unable to seize his prey, Hennig made due with Redtop Robert, one of the Town Clock’s chess champions and gave him misdemeanor Nuisance ticket instead for "watching backpacks." Kelly reportedly declined to level a second Nuisance charge against ‘Won Ton’ but instead came up with a thunderbolt from the bench: In an extraordinary and extralegal command, the former D.A. imposed a pretrial order: Won Ton was barred from the Town Clock and surrounding grounds.

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1 So called because of his unrelenting practice of bouncing in “hopstep” behind the SCPD and and the D.A.’s office with their flimsy charges to drive homeless demonstrators out of public view and back into the bushes. Last year police and prosecutors harrased Jabberwocky Jay Green and others with patently discriminatory “Public Nuisance” charges to abort their Post Office Homeless Table Vigil.

Kelly rubberstamped police seizures of homeless survival gear as "evidence" in a transparent attempt to punish demonstrators before trial. Kelly was also instrumental in getting a discovery motion by Jabberwocky’s PD, Margaret Marr, that sought to expose the conspiracy between Bassett Blanketburglars and Danner’s D.A.’s to selectively harass and prosecute Sleeping Ban foes. (cont.)
The issue is a particularly thorny one since protestors have appealed a recent City Parks and Recreation Commission decision 'closing the Clock' between 1 AM and 8 AM ['for cleaning' in the barebones balderdash of the Commission]. A City Charter provision suspends all ticketing under the "curfew on the Constitution" (as merry opponents dub it) until the May 14th public appeal is heard by the City Council. Kelly’s decision to impose a ban two weeks before the Council hearing shows a certain impatience with fundamental constitutional rights. "Won Ton" has faithfully made his court dates and stands innocent of the hokey "Public Nuisance" charges at least until he faces a jury.

On Tuesday morning, Redtop Robert, who had formally appealed the Town Clock curfew in mid-April, waited quietly in court to be arraigned on the second of four Nuisance charges then pending against him for round-the-clock vigilanting. Since the hearing was also being held on D.A. motion to consolidate charges, Redtop’s court-appointed but acid-tongued attorney, Growlin’ Greg Cobin, wondered why the D.A.’s office wasn’t ready with its files of a second case. To Cobin’s chagrin, Redtop chimed in that (at that time) there were five Nuisance charges in all.

At this, Kangaroo Kelly exploded in controlled fury. He abruptly dropped any pretense of judicial impartiality and snapped he would raise bail on Redtop if the blanket-clad picketeer were arrested again for rudely asserting his rights against the wishes of the SCPD. Countered Cobin, "that would be preventive detention, your honor, and that’s illegal." "That’s it!" Kelly burst out, "this Clock stuff has got to stop. Take him into custody." At which point, Robert was hauled downstairs, put in

2. Hennig’s unrepentant crimes against the homeless community number in the dozens, none of which have earned him any public censure or retraining from his boss, Police Chief Blackbadge Bassett. A stoneface master of harassment, Hennig’s rapsheet includes seizure of homeless property, self-professed ‘cattleherding’ of street people on the mall, brutalization of guitarist Mike Hobson last May, endless tickets for ‘criminal sitting’ [on planters] and ‘criminal sleeping’ [anywhere outside in city limits between 11 PM and 8:30 AM], and a possessive tendency to regard the mall as his own property.

Two weeks ago Hennig came up to Jurytrial Jeff and Groundhog Joe on the mall near the Metro Center and told him, “this isn’t a park; you guys need to get some exercise.” Returning a few minutes later, Hennig reportedly amplified: “Okay, your time’s up. Leave!” Intimidated, they left. Later they night, Jurytrial reported, Hennig’s squadcar screeched up to them: “Get the fuck out of here!” was followed by “You and me, hickman, are going to have a run-in; get the fuck off my street.” Hennig won points for candor, but witnesses concluded he was better suited to running a chain gang in the old South than sidewalk duty in Santa Cruz.

3. Traffic Court Referee Maddog Mulligan also has had a hard time reading and accepting the plain words of the Charter. When Linda the Lark Edwards and Meandering Michael Gyryth brought the relevant section to his attention during their arraignment for ‘curfew violation,’ the unconstructed prosecutor-in-blackrobes refused to quash the bogus tickets, demanded notarized copies of the document, and demanded the two return to court for trial in early June.
the dock with criminals and suspects in custody, made to wait another hour, and finally released without bail on his promise to 'obey all laws.' The newest law: Kelly's own legislation barring Redtop from holding up a picket sign at the Town Clock any time of the day or night. Redtop's rejoinder: Barring Kelly from hearing his case—dismissing him for prejudice.

While Kelly's court was rewriting the Constitution to facilitate removal of Santa Cruz's less fashionable protesters, Black badge Bassett's bulldogs and Lebensraum Lang's legmen in blue were rounding up political posters, picket signs, sleeping bags, leaves of bread, and the Town Clock broom.

Robert leapt up to secure his shoes before they were declared evidence of "a criminal mess" by the thieves-in-blue. As usual, Robert reported, the cops had no warrant, no charges, and no receipts for the property taken. Moved by Robert's plea that he be given back his trusty old straw broom, the blue-clad scavengers, headed by Officer "Mist and Manacles" Moore (and several unidentified sergeants operating from a distance) returned the prized dustbuster, and rumbled off with their haul.

Three days later on Monday April 29th, Hennig led another "this is not a closet" raid against the Clock, seizing the small law library the demonstrators had assembled, three loaves of bread, the complete works of Shakespeare, Linda the Lark's "Outcasts Downcast!" sign, and virtually everything else there including three sleeping bags. Rousting from his "Yes, this Really is an Urban Tribalist Sanity Creation Chamber" sun shelter, Robert received his fifth Public Nuisance ticket and Linda got her first.

The next day after Robert had agreed to banishment from the Land of Clock, the heavy-hearted demonstrator sat across the street with his sign "Banned—Peace Vigil" observing a group of middle-class demonstrators holding up a large blank sign (in apparent mockery of the Vigil protest). This group was left untrammled by the police, though Linda wondered why officers weren't hauling off their placards for being more than 14" on a side.

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4 Variousilly lampooned as Blackjack Bassett, Blackheart Bassett, Blackdog Bassett and Bumbaiter Bassett in past Street Shit Sheets, the Olympian police chief continues to be seen by shrewd observers as the guiding goblin behind his department's anti-homeless policies. Well-spoken, mild-mannered, and low-profile, Bassett's rhetorical skills serve him best when he avoid outbursts of character assassination. [See Bassett Balleyhoo Blasts the Airwaves, p. 4.]

5 Lebensraum Jim Lang, Director of Parks and Recreation, is familiar to Street Shit Sheet readers for the laundry list of petty humiliations he has handed the homeless. Bench-snatching, shower-closing, rigid curfews, and behind-the-scenes lobbying for a streetpeople-free New Order mall are a few of his recent accomplishments.

6 Linda earned her first Public Nuisance ticket this year by rushing to the Clock to save legal papers, petitions, and (!) Street Shit Sheets that Hennig was threatening to seize. Last year she and Jabberwocky Jay got the first PH tickets within memory as Hennig (again!) invoked this archaic device to cut off the Homeless Table Vigil in January 1990.
When the Hobohunter returned after noon to repeat his morning's performance, he confronted Linda the Lark defending Wailin' Wendy's protest sign. When he tried to take it as 'too large', Linda intervened and noted he'd made no move to molest middle class demonstrators holding up a large blank sign (in apparent mockery of the Vigil protest). "They're holding theirs up," said Hennig. "So's she," replied Linda. "She's blocking the sidewalk," fired back Hennig. "So're they," insisted Linda. "Well, you have to be walking around," fumbled Hennig. "They're not," concluded Linda. And the sign got a reprieve.

Future prospects for the vigil were uncertain. On noon Wednesday with all protesters and signs apparently gone (May 1), Barefoot Brad defiantly posted a Peace Vigil sign on the face of the monument—a sign removed within the hour. The previous two nights had seen no sleepers or vigilers at the Clock in the wee hours of morning. Won Ton Dave's reaction ranged from defiance (setting up a chair across Pacific Ave. from the Clock and sitting up Friday night) to despair ("the Vigil is dead"—Tuesday afternoon) to mysticism ("the Vigil must now become a guerrilla action"—Tuesday evening). The robed revolutionary was last seen the next day sporting a "Stop the War Machine" sandwich board and eyeing the Town Clock nostalgically from nearby.

Meanwhile on Sunday afternoon a rump subcommittee of P&R assigned to "investigate and mediate" the Town Clock 'problem' failed to invite the Town Clock protesters, and will apparently try again in the near future. Still unclear was how P&R could shift so radically from refusing to even consider a curfew to passing one 5-2 several weeks later. One source suggested P&R felt pressured by police at the first meeting, but found the "idea of closing hours reasonable" at the second. No one has yet explained why P&R didn't return the issue to City Council as Council requested and Yokoyama promised. Nor is it clear if P&R is subject to internal appeal on the curfew issue. Answers as we receive them!

Others proposed reactivating last year's Vigil for Homeless Rights several feet from Won Ton's new perch as a meeting place for the dispossessed. Still others spoke of moving the vigil to City Hall grounds to see if Parks and Rec would suddenly discover yet another hitherto unknown park to regulate with new 'closing hours.' At press time, malcontents continued to circulate petitions opposing the curfew.

Scattered and battered, but not defeated, the peace/homeless activists asked supporters to call City Council (429-3550), attend the May 14th Public Hearing appealing the nighttime ban, and be ready for the reappearance of the uprooted vigil. For others the question remained: Had Hennig, Kelly, Bassett, and Lang successfully established a protest-free zone at the Town Clock (and anywhere else they chose?) Would Council cowardice or judicial arrogance erase the Constitution after dark downtown? Tune in next issue.

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So twisted have the terms of the debate become that the timely and pressing question of police abuse at the Clock has been turned on its head: Parks and Rec, the Santa Cruz Urinal (aka the Sentinel), the Somnolent Seven (City Council), and reactionaries everywhere now bitch and moan that half a dozen protesters are creating an economic catastrophe, a health and safety problem, etc.
SIDESTEP THE STRANGULATION OF MADDUG MULLIGAN'S court! That's the advice of Bathrobespierre Robert Norse and other victims of the tutti frutti Traffic Referee's especial brand of lockjaw justice. To move your case to another Santa Cruz court (perhaps that of Commissioner Whiff o' Hope' Watts), leave a signed statement with the court clerks in the basement of the County building. Your statement should include case number and date of next appearance stating: "I swear under penalty of perjury that Traffic Referee John Mulligan is prejudiced. I move that he be disqualified from hearing my case."

Maddug has sought to drag out this process by occasionally demanding that those seeking to escape his fat fines and slambang sentences personally appear before him to present the disqualification motion. But Grinning Ray Grueneich, gutsy Gabriel to the gutter gangrels claims that a written statement passed to one of the three basement windows is sufficient. If they refuse to accept your disqualification statement, ask them to sign and date a statement that you attempted to file the motion, but it was rejected. An ounce of prevention may prevent a month of Community Slavery, bloated payoffs, or even jail.

BLACKBADGE BASSETT BLASTS THE AIRWAVES--on KUSP's Eddie Hudson show several weeks back. The Santa Cruz police chief began by saying that neither he nor his chief sergeant had ever seen police brutality of the L.A. sort, backtracking only when a caller challenged his "all is well here" bullshit. "On marijuana: a dangerous intoxicant [but would Jack criminalize alcohol?]. On a police review commission: I don't understand what they want. [Maybe a real response to complaints, Jack? Maybe independent investigations?]

Complaints? Only a handful for something other than 'rudeness,' replied the silver-tongued lawman. Actually, his Dept. got a fistful on just one day--May 29, 1990, when Sgt. Henning assaulted Morpheus Mike Hobson in front of Union Grove Music. His police department initially refused to accept more than one, but ultimately got over a dozen. There were dozens of complaints made about abusive police behavior at the Homeless Table, to no avail.

The Town Clock Vigil? Bassett repeated lies from Lang and Yokoyama that defecation and 'interference with city workers' justified unheard-of 'hours of operation' at the Clock. The politic police chief never mentioned that no citations have been issued for either of these offenses during the 3-month long vigil.

8 Gangrels: Scottish for 'vagrant.' Grueneich shows up at 1:30 PM Tuesday trials in Mulligan's Madhouse (Courtroom F in the basement of the County Building) with some frequency and defends Sleeping Ban victims without charge. He has also been known to visit Commission Watt's Courtroom G for the 10 AM Friday court trials of scofflaw slumberbums.

Frequently absent from town on legal business, the gangling globetrotter has been known to return early (at his own expense) to defend those charged with 'camping' under the city's unforgiving 'no sleep in Santa Cruz' ordinance 6.36. At your arraignment, plead 'not guilty,' get a court date, and disqualify Maddog Mulligan. Then leave a note on Ray's office door at 763 Chestnut St. with the trial date.
LINDA'S LOGJAM OF LAWLESSNESS: Fans of Linda the Lark Edwards have been having trouble keeping her court dates straight. As a public service, we present the following calender—in future issues we hope to do the same with the redoubtable Won Ton Dave, rascally Redtop Robert, and the whole pack of punchdrunk protesters at the Town Clock.

Linda currently faces a volley of jury trials:
May 6, 1:30 PM, Dept. C—standing in a bicycle lane; the real reason: witnessing police harassment
May 7, 1:30 PM, Dept. C—driving on a suspended license; the real reason: poverty, harassment by Officer Bracher
May 17, 9:30 AM(?) Dept. 1 in Monterey—unlawful assembly for carrying a picket sign outside Ford Ord,
May 28, 1:30 PM, Dept. F—court trials for year-old camping ticket; real reason: computer indigestion;
May 30, 8:30 AM, Dept. C—arraignment on her 'Public Nuisance charge when she will probably be declared illegal-at-the-Clock without charge;
June 4, 1:30 PM, Dept. F—court trials for 2 camping tickets at the Clock Peace vigil, 1 'curfew violation,' and 1 bicycle ticket; real reason: the Sleeping Ban, Mulligan as curmudgeon, and Officer 'Cutthroat' Connor's recent anti-bicyclist blitz of tickets downtown.

CELEBRATE FOOD NOT BOMBS' THIRD YEAR OF FREE FOOD AT HAIGHT AND STANYAN

Monday, May 27, 1991 (Memorial Day)

What’s Coming Next Time? Who knows? We never follow-up on these taste-tempting tidbits dangled before you as previews of our upcoming issue. Still, we may have: Denny’s Dumping the Discontented’, ‘Mad’ John Telfair’s ‘on the road’ report from the gutters of Reno, NV; Bremerton, WA; and Kingsburg, NJ; P&R meets the Mayor: the Yokoyama Mediation Mission that everyone forgot; and much more!

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Radio Station KUSP (1080 AM) now has call-in talk shows from 6-8 AM (John Sandridge), 12-1 PM (John Mooth), and 2-4 PM (Eddie Hudson), M-F. Call-in to talk at 479-1080. They'll also provide a schedule of upcoming speakers. One of whom will not be SPAN (Stop Police Abuse Now!), vetoed by Eddie Hudson when we attempted to reply to Basset's bastinados.
May 12, 1991

free to all

"O murderous system of munitions and inhuman rights
that has plundered our pockets and dignity,
O enterprise of crime that calls us criminals,
terrorism that cries we are fearful,
greed that evicts us from the places we ourselves have built,
miserable war-mongery that sentences us to misery and public
exposure as public nuisances to keep a filthy republic clean..."

--lines from Home by Jack Hirschman's The Bottom Line (1988)

JAYCEE SPRING FAIRE OUSTS HOMELESS PEACE PROTEST TABLE

BRIEF VIGILS AT CLOCK & POST OFFICE MARK TUESDAY CURFEW APPEAL

Town Clock Peace Vigiler Redtop Robert Flory found
his humble protest table surrounded by surly security volunteers
within fifteen minutes of arrival yesterday afternoon near the
County Courthouse. Representing the "No Curfew for the
Constitution" subcommittee of H.U.F.F. (Homeless United for
Friendship & Freedom), Redtop and Linda the Lark Edwards were
offering Spring Fair visitors information about Tuesday's appeal
of the Town Clock curfew before the onslaught of harassment.

The two blanket-clad homeless rights activists reported
they had begun gathering signatures for their petition opposing
the new 1 AM - 8 AM curfew when they were approached by two fair
officials and told, "You're not on our list of booths; pay $100 or
get out." Linda noted they had set up their small table on the
very edge of the fair, near the portapotties, on what appeared to
be a public area, and said they offered to move their table even
further away, but were told to "go back to the Clock!" Crying
"let's have some fun with them," one eager security man who
reportedly had to be restrained from a physical assault on the two
diminutive tablers. By the time Linda and Redtop retreated, they
were nearly surrounded by 8-10 "walkie-talkie" guards, a Parks &
Rec ranger, and an SCPD blueshirt.

Later in the afternoon, on a return visit to the green
and happy festival, Redtop encountered a walkie-talkie man in a
checkered shirt, who subsequently identified himself only as 'Ed.'
Looking at Redtop's "Spring Fair Ousts Protest" sign, Ed sneered,
"you'd better get that sign out of here or I can make it hard for
you." Jaycee workers later sought to 'rationalize' the behavior
of their hired thugs by noting that the gang bang of the
literature table was prompted 'only by a merchant complaint.'
However, a nearby anti-abortion activist, selling items and
distributing literature, noted he was paying $75 to have a booth
there and had no problem with a no-fee homeless information table.

Earlier in the day, another strolling leafletteer, "Won Ton" Dave Jacobs was also given the spring rush by "commerce yes!,
constitution no!" goons at the fair when he sought to give out
flyers in what was presumed to be a public area. Was Won Ton
whistling "Springtime for Hitler in Santa Cruz," in his raspy
voice as he yielded to the latest extension of the "homeless peace
protest" ban? Reports are sketchy.

Back at the Clock, Meandering Mike G., as yet 'unbanned'

1 Redtop noted the woman who gave this helpful advice had
apparently not heard the news: Muni Court Czar Kelly's barred him
from the fair. Oh well, even though the curfew is not yet
from the Town Clock has promised to retain a sometime presence there, calling for an end to Bush's abuses in the Middle East and Bassett's abuses at home. Won Ton Dave with HUFF volunteers is promising to help educate merchants and their customers, who seem to be the prime mover of the current ban on vigiling at the Clock, by setting up daytime protest tables in front of their stores.

Food Not Bombs' Airmail Eric may be providing "Courthouse Coffee" to homeless and other victims of the just-us system in front of the courts from 7 to 9 AM. The morning coffee has the dual function of supporting those harassed by the police locally for such crimes as "public nuisance," "too large a protest sign," "jaywalking," "sitting on the planters," etc. and providing something hot for people on the streets who've spent a restless night dodging police anti-sleep squads.2

Meanwhile back in the world of bureaucrats-in-bloom and free speech bans, the Parks and Recreation Commission's most recent exercise in brown-nosing downtown businessnoids comes up for the Somnolent Seven rubberstamp as agenda item 47 at the 7 PM session May 14th. At the debate that sent the curfew to P&R, Councilmembers Catherine Beiers and Scott Kennedy were eloquent dissenters. They did not buy the backdoor bashing maneuver that sent the curfew back to P&R after P&R had rejected it nearly unanimously back in mid-March.

But 5 members of the Council did buy it, Lane and Yokoyama indicating they were only doing so "to seek solutions," 'encourage conflict-resolution,' etc. The Council resolution directed P&R to investigate, consider alternatives, and report back to City Council. Instead the bureaucrat-backers did an endrun and passed the first-ever curfew at the most frequent vigiling spot in town. As a parting hypocritical flourish, P&R added a 'mediation/investigation' session [Monday, 5:30 PM, outside Public Works Dept.]-offering to 'discuss' what it had already dictated.

Tuesday's debate on the Redtop Robert's appeal will show whether there is any substance to the Mayor's flowery phrases and whether Beiers and Kennedy will hold their ground. Redtop and Won Ton plan to present several hundred signatures supporting the traditional free speech policy at the Town Clock.

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2 Those interested in helping early-morning reprobates can leave a message for Eric at 427-1205. Good samaritans are advised that "Courthouse Coffee" was last done in the fall to support Jabberwocky Jay Green and Paddywagon Pete Pascoe, sentenced to two and one months respectively for "sleeping without a condo." At that time Health Dept. heavies staked out the mini-demonstration and threatened to arrest coffee servers for violating the ever-lurking Injunction against serving food to the homeless "without a permit" [without official favor, that is]. The bureaucrats never carried out their threat, but be ready for idiocies, & intimidation.

3 Not all of the City Council can be fairly classified as asleep at the wheel. But no Councilmember has spoken out publicly in the last few weeks to oppose this casual trashing of protest rights simply to remove 'eyesore homeless people.' It's up to the citizens themselves to oppose the constitution-shredding activities of paranoid shopkeepers who prefer to dispose of inconvenient sections of the Bill of Rights to encourage investment downtown.