

New Arts & Entertainment Section, See Page 15

# THE BERKELEY DAILY PLANET

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THE EAST BAY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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## Dellums Comes Out Against Oakland Unified Land Sale

By J. DOUGLAS ALLEN-TAYLOR

Breaking a silence of several weeks, Oakland Mayor-elect Ron Dellums announced last week that he opposes the proposed sale of Oakland Unified School District Lake Merritt-area property by the state superintendent's office.

The proposed sale is "outside the democratic process," Dellums said at a City Hall steps press conference on Thursday. The incoming mayor added that he was opposed to "continued ad hoc development in Oakland. I don't want to pre-judge the [TerraMark/UrbanAmerica] project. It may turn out to be a good project. But we ought to do it within the confines of a coherent process."

In addition, Dellums said that the district should be returned to local control "as expeditiously as possible."



Doug Buckwald

*An arson fire early Sunday morning at 2445 Dwight Way, at the rear of the Reprint Mint on Telegraph Avenue, caused an estimated \$25,000 in structural damage and another \$20,000 in damage to the building's contents.*

## Six Fires Set in Telegraph Area

By RICHARD BRENNEMAN

Berkeley police apprehended a homeless man just after 6 a.m. Sunday—after he had set at least six blazes in the Telegraph Avenue area south of the UC Berkeley campus.

The blazes did an estimated \$70,000 in damage, said Deputy Fire Chief David P. Orth.

Berkeley Police spokesperson Ed Galvan said the suspect "is presently being held for a psychiatric evaluation" and might not be criminally charged because of his mental state.

Orth said the first fire was reported at 4:25 a.m. in a trash bin at 2508 Benvenue Ave. Firefighters arrived to find a neighbor dousing

## Chamber of Commerce Spends Big Bucks to Stop Landmarks Update

By RICHARD BRENNEMAN

The second round of campaign filings reveals that the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce has outspent proponents of Measure J by nearly three to one.

That initiative would update the city's Landmarks Preservation Ordinance, preserving its key features while—backers say—bringing the law into conformity with all state ordinances.

Business for Better Government—the chamber's Political Action Committee—

spent \$61,793.58 between July 1 and Oct. 21, according to their filing with the Alameda County Registrar of Voters.

Most—64 percent, or \$39,600—went to mailers opposing Measure J, and much of the rest went to candidates

*Continued on Page Twenty-Two*

## Other Campaign Efforts Dwarfed By Chamber PAC

By RICHARD BRENNEMAN

A rally to protest what Councilmember Kriss Worthington is calling "hit piece distortions" in recent Berkeley Chamber of Commerce political action committee mailers will be held at noon, Wednesday, Nov. 1 on the steps of Old

Besides the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce's Business of Better Government Political Action Committee (PAC) and the backers of Measure J, the most active PAC to report contributions was the Berkeley Democratic Club's PAC.