

IGNITE!

denver's newspaper for anarchists, anti-authoritarians,
and anti-socialites

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generous

HOPELESS...?

Suggestions, critiques, and pleading for
a tactical overhaul at Occupy Denver.

<<<page 3.

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PAGE ONE

LOCAL PERSPECTIVE: BLACK BLOC

by ZOR TM - Ignite! bestie

AGE 13. It's O22—the National Day of Action Against Police Brutality. After an army surplus store shopping spree I'm outfitted head-to-toe in black. I cut a hole in my face mask so I could still smoke. We meet on Denver's 16th Street Mall, share our "action names" and wait as a crowd of similarly black clad comrades amasses around us. It was my first time at an explicitly anarchist march. I promised my parents I wouldn't end up in jail. I was terrified. And yet, as soon as we linked arms and took the streets in a march to the jail, my fear turned into a sense of strength.

In a bloc, I found a power that this society doesn't frequently offer queer women. My voice mattered as much as those around me. My safety was a priority. My presence had power and significance. I learned about white privilege, about class privilege and about allyship, both in blocs at actions and in the lengthy planning or debriefing dialogues we had around them. In the blocs, I learned about solidarity, consensus, compromise and the incredible strength a small, organized group of people have.

I grew up as an anarchist and an activist in what Chris Hedges calls the "Cancer of Occupy," though if you read his article, you wouldn't know it. Hedges conveniently erases non-dominant identities—women, people of color, queers, transfolk, the poor—from his beloved quest to save the middle class.

Hedges states that the anonymity, strength and camaraderie of a Black Bloc "turns human

beings into beasts." He accomplishes what so many journalists strive for—demonize and even primitivize any group that defies the roles that society built for them as well as the allies that fight by their side.

At an all lady and trans bloc in Take Back the Night, we were safe enough to speak out against the sex assaults that we experienced as individuals as well as asserting that we would not let society rest until rape culture ended. In Pink Blocs and Bash Backs, we rejected not only the demonizing of queer folk, but demanded liberation for all people. In mass mobilizations, our Black Blocs—comprised of many non-dominant identities—have defied the sense of powerlessness we were raised with and defended medics treating patients, shielded unprepared crowds from chemical weapons, helped people escape arrests and held liberated spaces.

Perhaps this is the enemy that Hedges is truly fearful of. As a white, cis-gendered straight man with education and a cushy job, the demands of communities that use Black Blocs challenge every ounce of his privilege. We demand that all voices are heard and valued. We demand an end to the patriarchy, white supremacy, class structure, heteronormativity and transphobia that give him the ability to write poorly researched liberal articles for a living. We work to dismantle every institution that Hedges—and others like him—rely upon to live his comfortable life.

If this—the heart of Black Bloc tactics—is a cancer, may it metastize.

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Local Events

4/4 - Denver Anarchist Black Cross Political Prisoner Letter Writing Night 6:30PM @ 27 Social Centre

4/10 - State Repression and Political Prisoners Workshop @ Auraria Campus, Plaza Building Room 114 @ 10AM

4/14 & 15 - DABC Street Safety Trainings 11AM @ 27 Social Centre

4/20 - Never Alone Tour Stops in Denver @ 27 Social Centre

4/24 - Rally Outside DNC Headquarters on 8th and Santa Fe @ 6PM to Free Mumia Abu Jamal

4/27 - Denver Critical Mass - Lincoln Park @ 6PM

4/28 - Secret Cafe Brunch @ 27 Social Centre 11:30AM



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REPORTBACK FROM THE BOULDER BLOC PARTY LEAP DAY ACTION

by Falcon

AFTER dark on Feb 29th, small groups of radicals and free thinkers began trickling into central park in Boulder, Colorado. A week or so prior, a call had gone out to come to Boulder for a Funeral of the Earth march and an anti-capitalist skillshare. The event was designed to spread awareness of “greenwashing” and the myth of sustainable industrial capitalism.

Braving near freezing temperatures and harsh wind, the groups huddled close together, feasting on fresh warm burritos supplied by a local free kitchen. Two uniformed Boulder police officers attempted to gather information on the event, but were roundly ignored save for a few pointed questions by the mostly masked crowd.

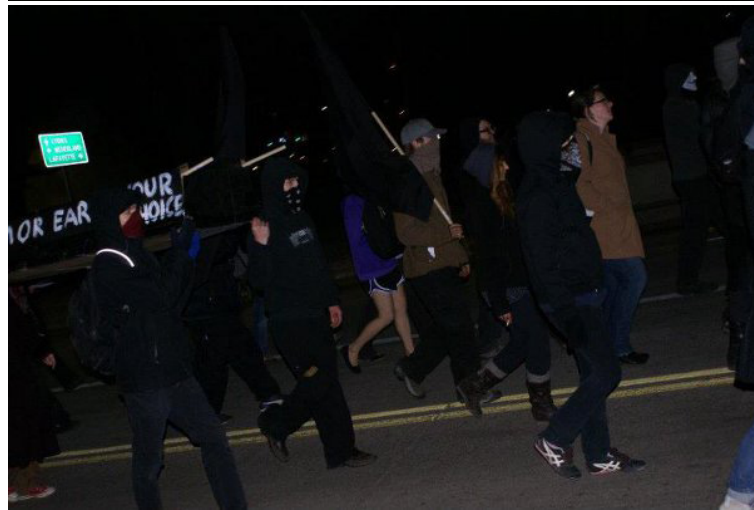
A little after 8pm the group of 20-30 began marching East on Broadway. The banners read “The only green capitalism cares about is \$\$\$”, “Greed isn’t green, Earth isn’t for sale” and “Resistance is fertile”. Four pallbearers carried a black coffin in the middle of the march, scrawled on the sides it said “the Earth or Capitalism, you decide”. A short time later the march took over 15th street. The shouts of “Who’s streets? Our streets!” echoed off of the glass and concrete walls. Diners in an upscale restaurant peered out of the windows as protesters chanted “for the Earth, we will fight, we know where you sleep at night”.

As the march headed West onto the Pearl Street pedes-

trian shopping mall, fliers describing the inherent destructiveness of capitalism were passed out to people waiting outside of the many bars that litter the area. At Pearl and Broadway the march took to the streets again, first shutting down one lane on either side before forming up and taking over both south bound lanes. An aggressive driver nearly took out the front part of the march when his over-size truck fishtailed as he sped around the march. As traffic backed up for several blocks B.P.D. was nowhere to be seen.

The marchers filled the air with cries of “We are unstoppable, another world is possible”, their black flags flying proudly in the wind. As the march neared the “Hill”, one participant was harassed by a lone pig in an SUV. The march stopped to show support but police were mobilizing all around. The march crossed the median into oncoming traffic briefly before making its way on to CU Boulder campus.

There, nearly surrounded by patrolling squad cars a countdown to dispersal was shouted. In the blink of an eye the black clad group vanished. All that was left were a few leaflets blowing in the wind. Campus police cruisers with glaring headlights and flash lights covered grid patterns across campus looking for any individuals from the group, but all that could be seen were brightly dressed college kids toting book bags and backpacks.



DABC AND OD OCCUPY FOR THE PRISONERS

by Chris for COIMC

The Denver Anarchist Black Cross and Occupy Denver organized an Occupy for Prisoners Rally and March outside the ICE GEO Detention Center on February 20th in solidarity with calls from Occupy Oakland and other Occupy groups.

The rally kicked off with a phone call from a death row inmate encouraging Occupiers on the outside to continue

fighting because the 1% are scared.

They then took the streets with banners, signs and a make shift drum, marching from the GEO ICE Detention Center to the Denver County Jail and the Women’s Correctional Facility.

The march was a success in spite of the <<<<cont. pg 4

For a Spring and Summer Front

Taming Fractioning and Shifting Gears for a Cohesive and Effective Social Movement: Responses “from a rebel.”

by Ignite! Collective

AS Spring begins to break and a summer full of national actions and convergences starts to take shape, longtime veterans of social movements and those initiated into “activism” over the last year through the Occupy Wall Street movement are for the most part wondering the same thing: Will the momentum, fury and energy of last autumn translate and continue into a pre-election burst of action and organizing in 2012?

In Denver, the local Occupation has endorsed a call put forth by a coordinating committee of the local IWW branch for a General Strike on May Day, May 1st. The next two months of events organized by local radical legal support collective the Denver Anarchist Black Cross have all been endorsed and promoted by Occupy Denver as well.

This is a drastically different scenario than local radicals dealt with during the initial inception of the occupation. Primarily directed towards anarchists (many of whom were involved in direct logistical support, not action planning), many affiliated with the occupation and among the organizational structures of #OD shouted down anarchists as paid informants as well as threatened several in a variety of ways. This resulted in an exodus of much of Denver’s radical infrastructure, people power, and resources. Those left behind were those caught up in the enthusiasm radiating from the movement’s other chapters’ successes, hopeful for improvements, developments, and progress in Denver; those that were radicalized during Occupy Denver’s various police evictions and operations against the camp; and those with simply no other place to go.

Since then, many are hearing that the feel-good, dogmatic liberal organizers

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and far-right conspiracy wackjobs, by and large the biggest antagonists against the local radical community, have all been run out and replaced with “down folks.” In response, some local radical organizers have stepped into advisory roles, teaching occupiers how to run their own legal lines and offering trainings to improve their skills and “street IQ” at demonstrations.

An anonymous posting to Colorado Indymedia was quickly circulated in national anarchist media outlets in the middle of March. Written as an open letter towards anarchists and other assorted oppositional types presumably ignoring and/or harboring semi-hostile feelings towards the occupation, it made an attempt to highlight the explicitly anti-capitalist and anti-police sentiments of “The Row”, a collective within Occupy Denver that is primarily composed of homeless folks and, according to the posting, consistently the people the police repress the hardest.

This document also publically rechristened Civic Center Park, where the encampment is located, “Marvin Booker Plaza.” Marvin Booker was a homeless man murdered in July 2010 by Denver Deputies in the Van Cise detention center and became a spark for generalized revolt and radical organizing against the city and police department on multiple occasions. Many, including this writer, were dismayed early on in the occupation when a majority of the participants weren’t aware of most of the Denver Police’s casualties while simultaneously denouncing any advocacy for self-defense in the case of raids or attacks on demonstrations.

Without saying it directly, “To the Rebels” as the letter was titled, was asking for a large-scale push to reintegrate a

dug-in radical community with a floundering occupation. Numbers at demonstrations are down, with the occasional upswing, and the encampment has been evicted from Civic Center Park, opting to post up in a patch of grass nearby. Random arrests ending in trumped up charges and courtroom harassment have made the fly-by-the-ass-of-your-pants style of legal support floating since the departure of the DABC a near-impossible task. The separations between the more liberal, mainstream, polished and Facebook/Twitter savvy activists meeting above a cafe and the grittier, marginalized and generally friendlier crews camping together for necessity is another tough hurdle in plugging in.

Unfortunately, the actions and organizing undertaken by the occupation presently have yet to prove tactically sound, and with the amount of heat the encampment generates anytime it announces it is to take the streets or form an assembly, many radicals are still skeptical to take part. There is a question of goals and aims: the national conversation, even in mainstream political circles, has changed favorably for the Occupy Wall Street movement. People are talking about income inequality, greed in politics, and everything else Occupy sought to confront. The visibility is there and the movement needs to evolve tactically to reflect that.

Forgetting that there is a discussion to be had about a diversity of tactics and whether or not it is a complete waste of fucking time, money, and energy to attempt to peacefully redress a hopelessly corrupt political and economic system, here are a few ideas and strategies from a lone voice that has long abandoned the Occupy clusterfuckery and anti-anarchist clucking that was (once?) present in General Assemblies. <<<cont. pg 4

OCCUPY:

cont. from pg. 3>>>

Civic Center Park is Dead, Long Live Civic Center Park?

Occupy some different stuff! The park has more or less been lost to the authorities and city government. Occupy Denver likely won't have the strength, numbers, militancy, or tactical advantage to retake the park anytime soon, and as much as the idea of having the city's most marginalized residents camping in front of the capitol building is something to relish, it simply isn't feasible with the level of repression being faced. The occupiers, save the few that set fires and fought police in the January eviction and those that "helped" organize the laughably ill-planned, tactically disastrous and downright irresponsible Anonymous Fuck the Pigs demonstration at the end of February, have shown time and time again that they aren't willing to engage the police department with an effective amount of force, nor do they seem willing to reach out to local militant networks that have made things like Fuck the Police marches roaring successes in the past.

Because many don't have homes to go to and choose instead to camp at "The Row", it would be advisable to bone up on squatting techniques and practices and engage in them over the spring and summer. This would effectively decentralize dissidents across the city and, if done properly, create a functioning network of squatters taking and hopefully defending space. This challenges the despicable property relations originally protested by the Occupy Movement, provide tangible resources for those who have none, highlights the issue of homelessness, which is rampant in the city, and could open up space for a more neighborhood level of community organizing, spreading the reach of ideas through a larger swath of the public.

Continue to Resist the Vote

Representative democracy is *so* 1776. One of the most inspiring ideas behind the Occupy movement was the idea that people could represent themselves directly rather than relying on politicians. A protest featuring an outright vote of no confidence outside of a swanky

Democrat fundraiser is a good indication that the present occupation has resisted MoveOn.org money and paid left-wing activists. If this trend holds, especially in an election year where political parties will sign up even the dead for a vote, expect an impressed radical community proud of Occupy's tenacity. Letting this momentum translate into the Democratic Party's answer to the Tea Party and pulling the lever for Obama in November would be a massive mistake.

Have and Develop Infrastructure

Fundraising, legal support, medical teams and cop watchers are just a few of the things Occupy Denver lost a lot of when the liberals ripped the teeth from the movement and they are things the present occupiers are seemingly hoping to get back by reengaging the radical community. Instead, why not learn from the radical community and develop the infrastructure on their own? This would present the body as prepared and well organized to both the general public and the activists, revolutionaries and militants that have abandoned the movement in search of better, more coherent things to do. Already, steps are being taken to bring this about, and that is a positive and encouraging development.

Hold Goddamn Press Conferences When the Shit Hits the Fan

One thing Occupy Denver has resolutely failed to do and which has proved nearly fatal is frame incidents that could impact them negatively in a favorable (and sometimes truthful) way. The media is clearly in the tank for the police department and city government, and once it came out that occupiers were hostile to *all* political parties, any journalistic sympathy should have been assumed gone. Disrupting a vigil for dead homeless people was a probably bad idea, but had occupiers done more than leave comments on the various media stories, the entire ordeal could have been explained a lot better, elaborated, and pointed out for what it was: a media smear.

When occupiers are seen making some kind of demonstration, it doesn't matter if the main media arms of the encampment disown it with a quick blurb. Ignoring something is not the same as addressing it, and it allows the media (and

their handlers in the local government) to run with the stories in whatever fashion seems beneficial to them. Holding a press conference, especially when the press was rabid to jump on any story Occupy related, is a great way to make sure your side of the story always gets out.

Have Concrete Goals and Aims, Hash Out Strategies to Reach Them

Protesting for protesting's sake is a dumb idea in the sense that it puts people at risk of police violence because "we have to show them we are still here!" or to "maintain relevancy." Sometimes it is good to step back, lick wounds, regroup and set back out. Occupy Denver, unfortunately, seems to be a victim of this logic.

Once the message was out, being raised every weekend by massive crowds and during the week by a scrappy camp, and being violently suppressed, there should have been decisions made to change tactics or figure out what to do next. Camping in front of a building for six months with some easily-ignorable signs isn't going to change shit, and certainly isn't worth the increasingly taxing efforts to counter repression.

Occupy Denver has a core now, a rank and file, a collective. They have needs. Why not address them? Fundamentally, the group needs to have a conversation about what to do now. A point was raised in the "To the Rebels" piece about dual power. What do they want the world to look like? How would they make that happen? Do they [shudder] want to support a candidate? Do they believe in capitalism? Do they believe in democracy? Having a more coherent set of goals and ideas could benefit the group by presenting themselves as a unified social movement, rather than a squabbling pile of shards constantly going off on their own thing (and probably getting arrested). Many radicals and people in town aren't even sure what Occupy Denver is about anymore, other than the fact that they are "pro-Occupy." While the diversity of ideas is interesting, operating as a single body, even with its offshoot collectives, doesn't grant a lot of intellectual autonomy to those with different views, goals, and tactics. Federate or become more cohesive to draw in better numbers and more demographics.

Local Briefs

Two Young Men Allegedly Torch Green Mountain Falls Town Hall

Two men in their twenties are out on bail and nursing burns after allegedly setting fire to the “historical” Green Mountain Falls town hall for “anti-government” reasons. The two, according to statements apparently given to police, intended to smash computers, but they allegedly opted to torch the place instead. Both were apprehended after tipsters, presumably from the hospital in which they were treated for burns, alerted police.

Youth in Hoodie With “Lots of Patches” Takes a Shot at Cop

On the night of Feb. 20th

in Denver, a “young man” described as white or Hispanic and dressed in “a hoodie with patches” was approached by police swine for alleged “suspicious activity” on 17th and Julian. The youth, evidently not the type to take any shit, pulled a pistol, fired a single shot that missed the cop, and fled on foot successfully. No suspect has been apprehended at time of press. The local anarchist community upon learning the news breathed a sigh of relief at the lack of arrests and collectively said “too bad they fucking missed.”

Hundreds Gathering Behind Trayvon Martin Case

Denver has seen multiple actions around the murder

of Trayvon Martin in Florida last month. On Sunday, the 25th, dozens rallied at the Martin Luther King monument. Primarily composed of members of black religious communities, they held a vigil and urged for justice in the case.

The next day, hundreds took to the sidewalks from the Santa Fe district to march to the capitol building. While chants for the most part kept to the stock lines used in other “Hoodie Rallies” across the country, several times the crowd engaged in remembering community members such as Marvin Booker slain by Denver police. Supporters held placards demanding the Department of Justice to investigate the DPD.

Nation & World Briefs

St. Louis: Site of Police Violence and Home of Mayor’s Aid Vandalized

Graffiti that appears linked to a confrontation between Occupy protesters and police at Compton Hill Reservoir Park last week has appeared at the park.

The graffiti, which includes phrases like “Class war,” “The city has blood on their hands” and “Cops, pigs, murderers,” was sprayed on buildings, walls and statues at the park on Grand Boulevard just south of Interstate 44.

Paint on a door labelled “park police” reads “Only the blood of the rich will stop Occupy.”

Police have not released any information about the

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graffiti incident yet.

The park was the site of a confrontation Thursday night between Occupy Midwest protesters in town for a regional conference and police trying to enforce a park curfew. More than a dozen protesters were arrested. Two of them were injured.

Chile: Hearing Against Comrade Tortuga Suspended

Today, Tuesday March 20, the hearing of oral trial preparation against the comrade Tortuga was suspended. The hearing was rescheduled for April 11th at 9 AM.

The suspension of today’s hearing was at the petition of Luciano’s lawyer, who argued that he “was awaiting some expert reports.” Those reports are in relation

to the destructive capacity of the explosive device that Luciano carried the night of June 1, 2011. Furthermore, the lawyer indicated that he still did not have access to some of the prosecution’s evidence.

What the defense intends to argue with the missing reports is that the crime does not correspond to a terrorist character. According to the 18.314 law which specifies the behaviors that correspond to terrorism.

The South Prosecution and the plaintiffs did not oppose the petition, so the Tribunal decided to reschedule the hearing.

OCCUPY PRISONS:

cont. from page 6>>> Aurora Police Department’s continual attempts to disrupt and instigate protesters. One protester was hit in the leg three times by an Aurora police car. When asked why, the officer said it was for the protesters safety. They continued to insist protesters get on the sidewalk where there was no sidewalk. Causing at least one person to step in a prairie dog hole and injure themselves.

But spirits remained high in spite of the cold weather, blaring lights and police violence.

Some facts the protesters brought up at the rally included:

- The United States has 25% of the world’s prison population; more than Germany, France and Spain combined.

- Victimless Crime Constitutes 86% of The Federal Prison Population

- More Black men are incarcerated in the U.S. today than were enslaved in 1850.

- 11.7% of Black men in their late 20s are incarcerated.

- 70% of the prison inmates in the United States are illiterate

- 200,000 inmates suffer from a serious mental illness

- Arizona paid \$10 million more for private prisons between 2008 and 2010 than it would have paid for publicly run prisons.



RAINING ON THEIR STUPID PARADE

by Ignite! Contributor

IN the middle of January, 22 business and governmental leaders of Colorado gathered in a downtown boardroom to take part in a top-priority meeting headed by our favorite hometown heroes, Mayor Hancock and Governor Hickenlooper. Their reason to be here: making plans for Denver to host the 2022 Winter Olympic Games. HickCock have been wanting these Olympics for a while, but recently they've started taking actual steps in pursuit of them, finalizing them with the creation of this Exploratory Committee. But are they cleaning up their act, changing their focus from using police to terrorize the community and illegalizing homelessness to finally work for a project based on brotherhood, universal understanding, and good old fashioned fun in the snow? FUCK NO!

Even if the Olympics were completely wonderful in every way, we would still want them to fail spectacularly, because we despise the politicians that want them to happen, and their dreams falling apart fills us with fuzzy feelings. But for those silly people that don't act out of gut hatred, the reasons why the Olympics would be terrible for Denver are numerous. One of the first issues that come to mind is money. The exploratory committee has already said that these Olympics would end up costing 1.5 billion dollars, a huge amount by anyone's estimate. But the Olympics almost always end up costing much more for the cities that host them than originally estimated, and Denver has a long history of its projects running many times over budget. The London 2012 games were estimated to only cost

2.3 billion pounds, already they have cost between 12 billion and 24 billion. The Athens Games were estimated at \$6.3 billion and wound up costing \$15 billion. The Olympics in Salt Lake were estimated at \$800 million, but cost more than \$2 billion dollars. Most intensely, the Atlanta Olympics were budgeted at \$1.6 billion and cost \$16 billion instead, and the Beijing Olympics carried the same estimate (1.6 billion) and wound up costing 40 billion dollars.

When Denver previously had the chance to hold the Olympics (more on that later) the original estimates went up from \$6 million to \$92 million. But the Olympic Overlords already have an answer prepared for that one. The Federal Government will pay a share of the costs, and even help out with some unrelated projects that are "good for Denver". One that Hickenlooper has already mentioned is an expansion of I-70 going into the mountains. But this is likely to continue the intense development of the natural world around Denver and is bound to be destructive to mountain areas where the highway expansion occurs. On top of that, one part of the proposed expansion would also involve expanding I-70 in the north side of town, using a blueprint that would demolish large parts of the Globeville and Elyria-Swansea neighborhoods.

Another area where the Olympics could be devastating is environmentally. The Olympics would likely be known as the Denver 2022 Olympics but given that many of the events would require undeveloped mountain areas, the impact

would likely be heavy far outside of the city limits. Denver's government knows this, as it hypes up the wonders of the Rockies while aiming to have them transformed and commercialized by these Olympics, to the point where they would be hardly recognizable. Not only would there be an increase of waste in these areas brought by the hundreds of thousands of spectators, but the actions taken to make the Olympics possible will undoubtedly have a massive impact of degradation on the Rockies. For the Vancouver 2010 Olympics, over 100,000 trees were cut down to build Olympic venues and arenas and national forests in Russia have already been defiled with construction waste, pipelines, and deforestation in preparation for the 2014 games in Sochi. The constructions made for Olympic events are oftentimes permanent, and the destruction of what was originally there and displacement of wildlife always is. Another way that the Winter Olympics degrade their host areas is in the requirement for clear roads, 24/7. The result is that chemicals are used on a constant basis, which not only effect the immediate area but often mix heavily into the groundwater, affecting both the natural and human populations for great distances downstream. Not only that, but the attention brought by the games and the expansion of Denver's reach into the mountains will help expand the humongous metro area, turning what little nature is left within 50 miles into more car dealerships, retail villages, Kookie Kutter Kondos and Applebee's. <<<cont. pg 5



black bloc demonstrators shut down downtown Vancouver during the last winter Olympic games.

BOO OLYMPICS:

cont. from pg 4>>> The Denver machine will undoubtedly bring out tons of well paid experts to tell us just how green and sustainable the Olympics will be, full of new solutions that we're all just too dumb to really understand. But anyone with anything soft and squishy in their skulls should be able to tell that bringing massive constructions and millions of people to play games in the mountains will not be "eco-friendly". There may be steps that can be made to make this irrelevant money making venture slightly less catastrophic, but the only green Olympics would be no Olympics at all.

In the city, where other events will be held and where the Olympic Village will be built, the picture isn't any prettier. The Olympic games are a disgusting show of classism at its finest. Cities always try to clean up the people they see as trash before the games, putting on the prettiest face of purity, bourgeoisness and gentrification. During the Berlin Olympics in 1936, the Nazis arrested all known Gypsies in the town for the length of the games, but in capitalist democracies the attitude toward homeless people and other class "inferiors" is hardly any different. Sweeps and mass arrests are often made targetting the homeless, and in Atlanta bleach was poured on dumpsters behind restaurants and grocery stores shortly before the games, and not because these business owners wanted their thrown out food to be extra shiny. The same Olympics saw homeless people taken by truck out of the city limits and threatened with six months jail time if they returned before the games were over, in an operation going by the touching name Project Homeward Bound. Beijing's '08 Olympics were the worst in this respect, with a wall being built around the Olympic city and more than a million homeless people being displaced. The impact of Denver's Olympics are impossible to tell but given the size of Denver's homeless population and HickCock's attitude toward them, it looks bad.

But just because people have homes before the Olympics doesn't mean that they'll still have them afterwards. It's part of the routine for whole neighborhoods to be demolished to make room for stadiums and infrastructure. Every two years, thousands of people get pushed out of homes that have existed for decades for the sake of an entertainment bonanza that lasts a few weeks. And not to blow any minds, but its never the rich that have to start looking for a new place. When Denver was scheduled to have the Olympics in 1976, huge stretches of Five Points and Lincoln Park (two poor, predominantly black and Mexican neighborhoods) were set to be demolished to build housing for the press, with no assistance offered for those kicked out. Though the plans for 2022 might be different in the details, there's no way the politicians and corporate fuckfaces planning the games will sacrifice their homes in Country Club and Cherry Hills to build stadiums on top of. The Olympics are also used as an excuse to give the police more power, power that they hang onto after the events are over. Many cities have built prisons right after being handed the games, and in Athens the Olympics were used as an excuse to crack down harder on anarchists in the name of security.

So how likely is a Denver Olympics? As likely as we let them be. There are many things working against us, like America's desperate desire to have another Olympics after 20 years without one, but Dever's got one huge strike in its favor. This is the only city to have ever turned down the Olympics after being given the opportunity to host. For many of the same objections held by this author (cost, environment, expansion and class war), more and more of Denver's populace turned against the Olympics and organized opposition seemed to grow. Though some of this resistance took the form of militancy and direct action (the local Black Panthers fought the games from the get go and a ski jump was anonymously torched), most of it was accomplished by more mainstream activism, until the Olympics were forced onto the ballot and voted down. This is very good news for us.

Because Denver's already rejected and offended the International Olympic Committee, the IOC is very cautious in dealing with this town. As a result, any sign of opposition to the Olympics will hurt Denver's bid much more than it would for another city. The last Olympics were one of the last times Denver's elite allowed itself to be beaten by the public, and since then many of their goals, like the Light Rail, have been voted down in elections just to have the results ignored and the projects continued as planned, so it's unlikely that elections can stop the Olympics this time around. All other kinds of resistance are A-OK. The mainstream activist groups that will undoubtedly form to oppose the Olympics won't hurt, but as anarchists, we should focus on what we do best, education, action and mischief targetting the bid. The more attention we can draw, the better. The IOC *will *be watching for opposition, and for once the chance of beating the local government and ruining their fantasies is in our grasp if we start now. If you don't want the fascist, corporate, police state nightmare Denver's becoming to get any worse, or just want revenge on the mayor, the governor, the cops or the rich, then get creative and aim big. We all have skills and ideas to offer the opposition and every challenge helps.

**Lets
rain
on
their
stupid
parade!**