

Poet Found Living Near Berkeley!

by Jerry Ratch

Reports have been spreading fast
that an actual living poet
has been found right outside the
borders of Berkeley

Rumors grew into a wildfire of speculation
Saturday night when one of them
a tall graying older specimen
more or less in the shape of Bigfoot

was seen hanging out trying to write
you got it, a POEM,
inside a café just over the border
on College Avenue

but apparently he was
having difficulty and began
hanging his head and weeping
after first wringing his hands

and letting out an exhaustive sigh
then slamming the fledgling young
upstart poem around on the café
table more than once

but it was no use. After that
an emergency vehicle was dispatched
but the poem was stillborn

and he left it crumpled up at the café

and fled limping in a typical
hang-dog, Bigfooted way
back to his lair, rumored to be
somewhere in the Rockridge area

Anyone sighting a poet again
in the area is encouraged
under penalty of law to report
the sighting to the proper authorities

Thank God for public input
into this kind of nuisance
We must all remain ever vigilant
if we are to wipe out his kind

and be safe inside our homes
and have children we can
depend on to become the economic
slaves of our future

