

SPECIAL Harry Potter ISSUE!

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UNITED STATES



MAD

December 2001

NUMBER 412

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THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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Dec. 5, 1996

Bill Clinton bribes self to sleep in Lincoln Bedroom.

Dec. 8, 1971

Blue Cross capitulates, agrees to cover chronic chafing for nudist policyholders.

Dec. 10, 1947

A depressed John Wilkes Booth IV shoots up a Lincoln Continental.

Dec. 21, 1998

Anne Heche attempts to enroll in Berlitz to become more fluent in "Alien."

Dec. 24, 1952

Mrs. Claus and next door neighbor begin annual "same time, next year" tryst.

35



"It's not the work that keeps most people from doing volunteer work — it's the pay!"

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22



FRONT COVER ARTIST:
MORT DRUCKER

FRONT COVER WRITER:
DESMOND DEVLIN



October 2001

Dear Readers:

Like all Americans, we at MAD were saddened by the recent events at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. We express our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of those who were lost. We would also like to thank the many readers who called, faxed or emailed us concerning the MAD staff's safety. Thankfully, we're okay.

Like many of the late night comedy shows, we have struggled with the question of what humor is appropriate in times of national grieving. Because we work on issues several months in advance, some articles written and scheduled prior to September 11 may now be deemed unimportant or even inappropriate. We have done our best to remove or re-edit this material. But with passions running so high, some may find offense in places where many others may not.

Next month, we will be presenting the MAD 20 — our annual roundup of the 20 Dumbest People, Events and Things of the past year. There will be no mention of the World Trade Center attack. To include it would be an unforgivable trivialization of the tragic event.

Do not misread this letter, however, as MAD will not be abandoning its editorial mission of pointing out the extremes, missteps and absurdities in life. In 2002, our 50th year of publication, we will continue to poke holes in all deserving areas of society, including our elected officials, their policies, the media and more.

MAD-ly,
The Editors

9/11/01

I was very sad to hear about the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and I thought of the well-known producers of MAD first. I hope all are doing good, and thanks MAD for the many years of comedic literature that has been passed down in my family. If it were up to me, all Americans would have to read MAD because it is such a good magazine.

Zeb Williams
Candler, NC

The tragedy of September 11th was horrible, but we need to laugh and smile again. Hoping all is well with you and yours.

Larry and Darlene Lupton
Albuquerque, NM

I've been a MAD reader for years, so I feel compelled to write after the events of September 11th, 2001, a date I and the world will never forget, especially New Yorkers. I live in Canada, am from England and what I saw on TV sickened me beyond words. I felt anger and rage. Forget protocol, forget what the United Nations may think, strike hard and swift.

Mark Frere
Winnipeg, Canada

I know this is not the place to send this letter, but I just had to let someone in New York know how we feel. All of us here in Tennessee watched with the rest of the world the horror that took place on Tuesday, September 11th. I cannot imagine how you all are managing with everything that is going on that has turned your beautiful city into a nightmare. Our hearts are aching with you. We cry at odd moments and although we are trying to help, we still feel helpless. We have blood drives, take up donations for the Red Cross and whatever else we can. On Friday, a ten-year-old boy in my neighborhood went door to door and gave candles out in memory of those who are lost. My next door neighbor runs a small company and has donated a truck and trailer that is being loaded with donated supplies today and should be on the way to you tomorrow. A few families here have relatives who were in that Tower and they are on their own tragic searches. I don't know why I am sending you this really, maybe it's because I have read your magazine since I was a kid and I feel somehow like I know you. Or maybe it's just that I wanted you to know how we are hurting for you and with you. Please know that you are in our prayers, our hearts are heavy with your sorrows and we here in the Volunteer State are doing everything we can to help. Stay strong. God bless you.

Dona McAlister
Knoxville, Tennessee

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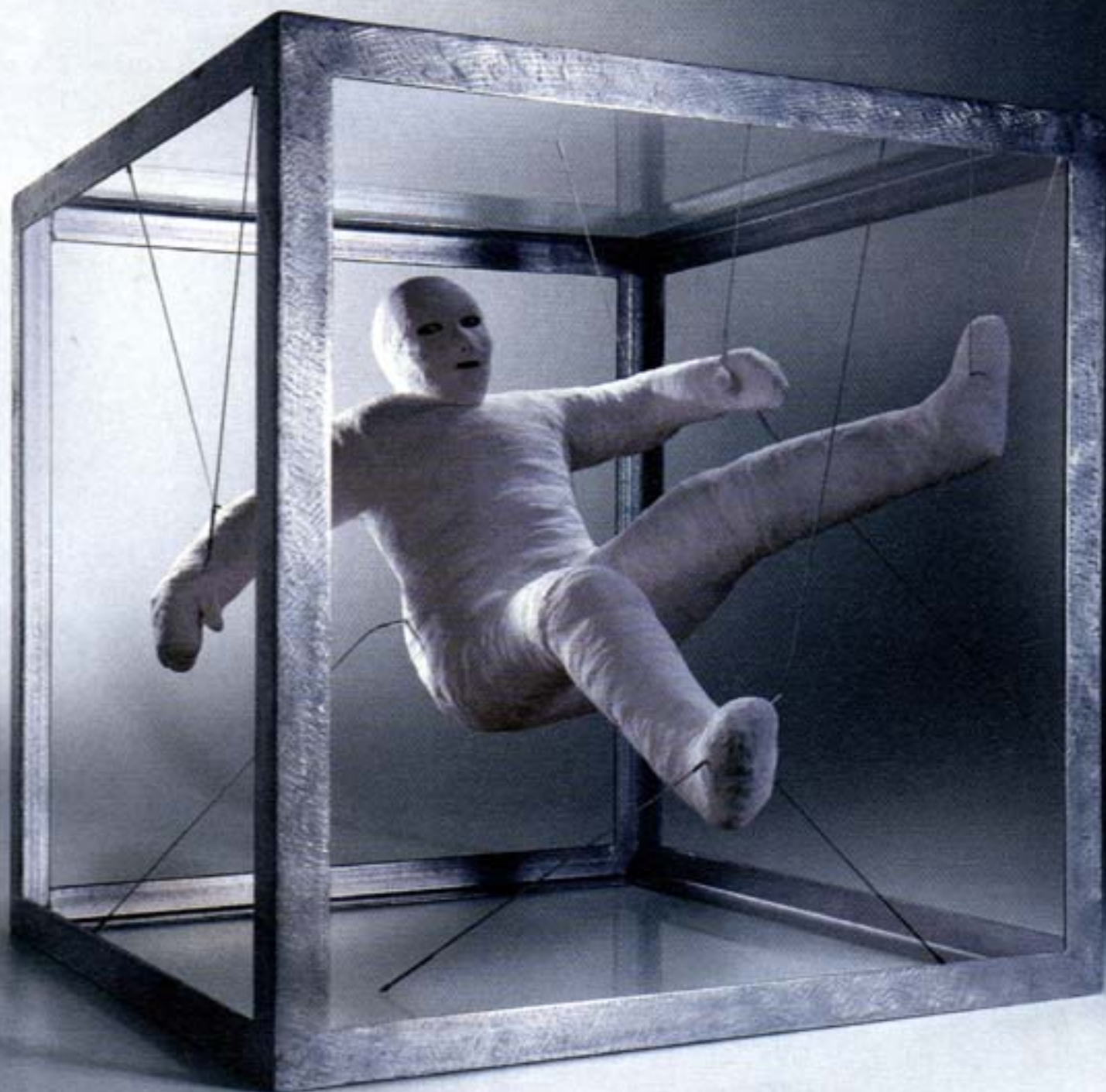
the usual gang of idiots

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Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™

I have a dumb wish for your *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*. I would like to see a sports satire on Major League Lacrosse in an upcoming issue. Many of my friends are MLL fans and I'd like to see what you come up with.

Alex Flannery
Glen Ridge, NJ

Flan — Bingo! You have certainly fulfilled a main requirement in making a request to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*, namely that the wish be dumb! It is therefore with exceptional regret that we must decline to fulfill your wish of seeing a "sports satire on Major League Lacrosse in an upcoming issue." Our reason is simple, we know nothing



at all about the sport, nor does anyone we know know anything about the sport. That's 'cause we don't hang out with LOSERS! Thanks for writing to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*! —Ed.

LETTER FROM A SPOIL SPORT

In issue #408, you listed "MAD's 50 Worst Things About Sports" and you dedicated seven pages to the crack-snorting, over-paid felons who play basketball, baseball and hockey. How about you use your rag to mention the sport of professional Bass fishing tournaments? It's a lot more popular than soccer ever will be and you mentioned them. The B.A.S.S. master circuit attracts millions of viewers, requires actual skill and often pays out over \$100,000 to the winners of the major tournaments. For Gods sake, one of the tournaments was broadcast on primetime FOX!

Matt Somma
Williamsburg, VA

Matty — Bass fishing? Bass fishing? We'd rather devote seven pages to Major League Lacrosse! Face it, let's wake up and smell the chum here! How much skill does it take to push the little red button on Big Mouth Billy Bass and hear "Don't Worry, Be Happy" over and over and over again? Good luck with the lures! —Ed.

P.S. Here's something we always wanted to know — does that Pocket Fisherman gizmo really work?

THE FLESH PRINTS

As a faithful reader of MAD I decided it was my duty to point out an error which could cause chaos and pandemonium if it isn't cited now. In issue #409, in the "Maimed Flesh" article, the first place winner of Most Stretched Bosom in the male division has a bowling ball attached to his bosom. For some reason, the brilliant and gifted staff of this wonderful magazine simply miswrote and said this was a bowling pin.

Glenn Schieck
Rochester, NY

Glenn — Eagle eye observation. The brilliant and gifted staff member in question is writer Scott Maiko. We've been having a lot of trouble with Scott lately. Yours wasn't the first letter we received regarding Scott's performance. A meeting was held of the highest echelons of the MAD organization to discuss Scott and this whole bowling ball debacle and whether Scott should be fired. Ultimately deciding Scott would end up in the gutters, the medical board decided that Scott be spared. Gotta go — I have an appointment to get some new ink! —Ed.

D' LO DOWN

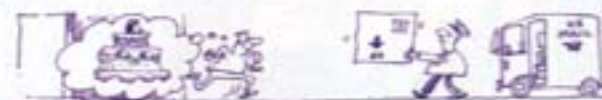
I am writing this letter to reply to your Letters Page of issue #409 and in particular the one from Gary Orton. Just who in the blue hell is he to question The Great One. I never said D'Lo Brown never had ho escorts, but it was The Godfather who always had the hos as escorts. For the record, D'Lo Brown only picked up the pimping storyline to try and save his career in the World Wrestling Federation. Gary should stop visiting his orthodontist and start making more trips to his optometrist because his eyes are very bad. That is my story and I am sticking by it, if you smell what Eugene is cooking!

Eugene Lumley
Bronx, NY

Blue Gene — Well, well, well, meow! Nothing we like more than a petty little squabble on the Letters Page and about something important, too — a three-year-old wrestling storyline! Well, Gary O, it's your turn to respond to this simmering D'Lo/pimp/ho controversy. We just hope you have an orthodontist appointment and see this letter! —Hardcore Ed.

HOW TO REACH US

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MAD, Dept. 412, 1700 Broadway, New York, New York, 10019. MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope! MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!



SCHOOL OF HARD KNOXVILLE

Jackass Boy — Yes, you are the first pseudo-celebrity (some might say the cheapest!) to stoop so low as to send in your own picture to wrangle a free subscription. But hey, a deal is a deal regardless how ill conceived! A three-year subscription is on its way to the Knoxville residence!



Jackass star Johnny Knoxville and MAD #407

John,
June 22, 2001
Am I the first pseudo-celebrity to stoop as low as to send a picture of himself holding his ~~own~~ cover of mad magazine in hopes of getting a free three year subscription? Jesus H. Christ, I hope so. Thanks for putting me on the cover.

Sincerely,
Johnny Knoxville

P.S. Now where the hell is my subscription?

Johnny Knoxville
L.A., Ca.

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Dorothy Crouch, Associate Publisher September 17, 2001

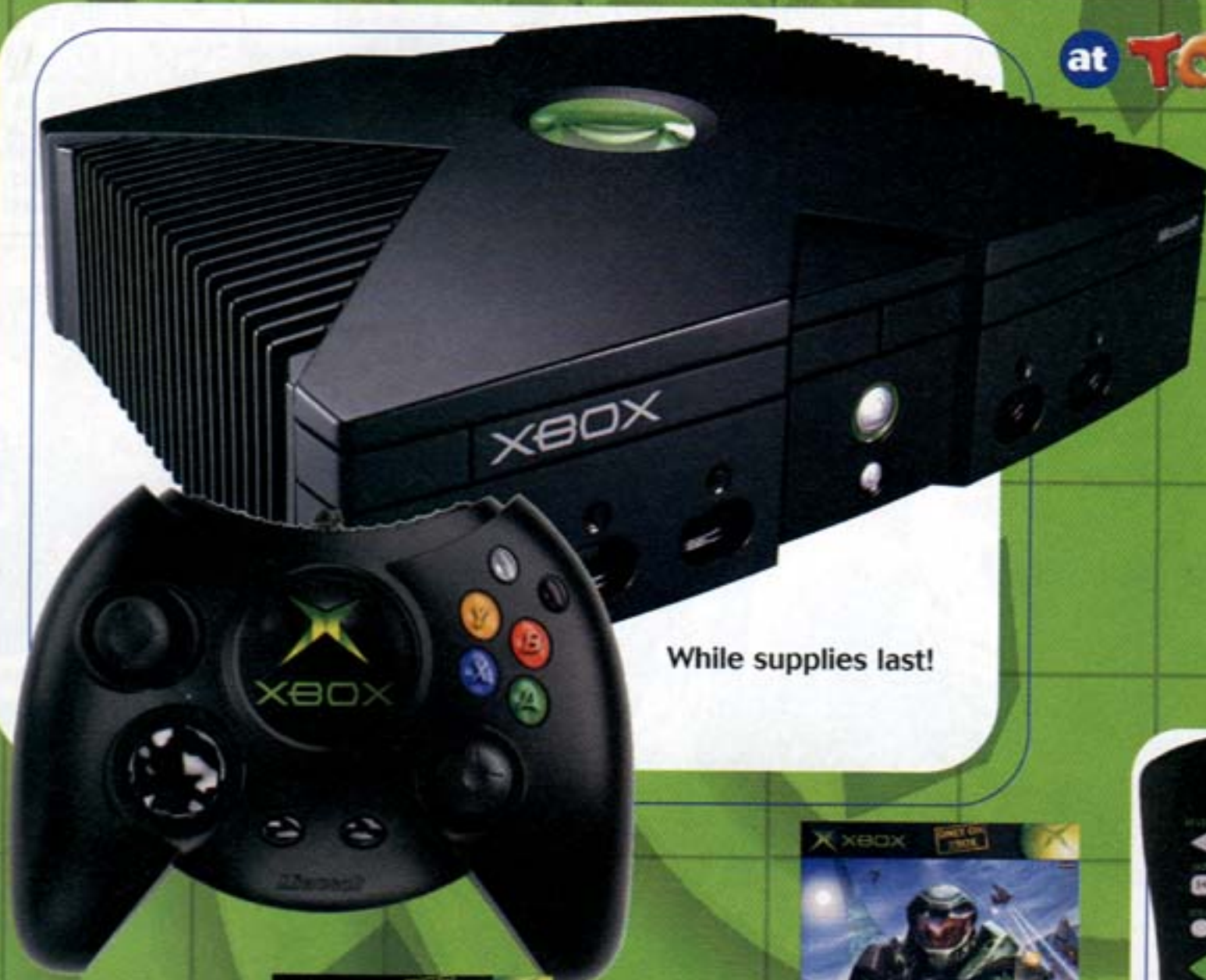


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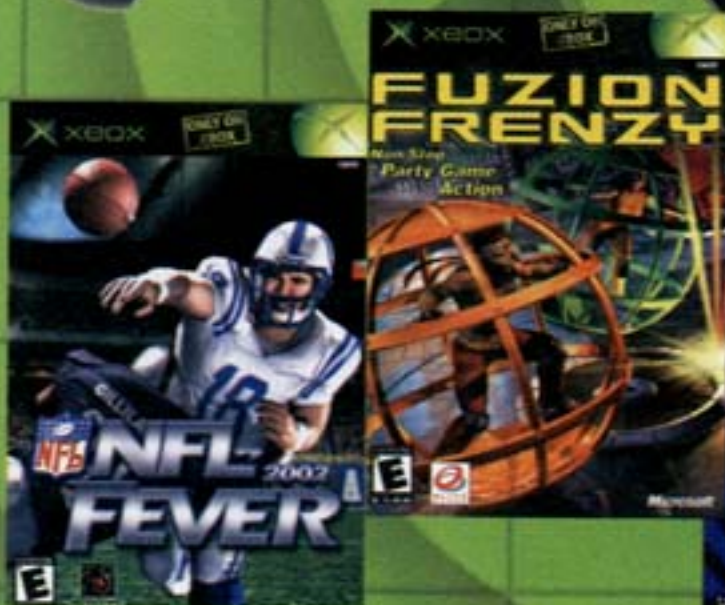
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THEY'RE OFF TO BE THE WIZARDS DEPT.

J.K. Rowling wrote a book that changed the way kids read.
By the second, Barnes and Noble faced a huge stampede.
Hollywood took notice, as their eyes lit up with greed.
"Grab the rights," screamed agents, "There's no way this won't succeed!"
At last, the movie's in the can, and fans can't wait to peek,
So they can jump online and post a withering critique.
For every detail overlooked, they'll howl and curse and shriek.
Well, we don't care. We got it wrong. Now shut your pie-holes, geeks!

Harry

I'm Harry Plodder, boy wizard, and my story is unique! You'll see me slowly discover the ability that I always had hidden inside! Just like the young characters in *Toy Story*, *Terminator*, *The Sixth Sense*, *The Matrix*, *The Lion King*, *Ghost* and every single *Star Wars*! What makes my character unique? I have an owl!

I'm the most powerful wizard in the world! As soon as I picked the weekend to open our movie, look at how fast I made every other chickenshit movie company in Hollywood disappear! Poof!

I'm Runt Queasy, wannabe wizard and fulltime whiner! Usually, the "sidekick" gets all the funny lines, but the hero gets the girl! But in this movie, there aren't any funny lines, and nobody gets anybody! Why do you think I spend so much time up in my dorm room dressing my pet rat in sexy outfits?

Herwhiny Grungy here! Me and Runt add a little "masculine-feminine" dynamic! Except I bring the masculine, and he's in charge of feminine! All three of us are making our film debuts! The producers entrusted their blockbuster to newcomers because we have a youthful freshness, we don't come with "past role" baggage...and they don't have to pay us squat!



I, Severely Snapped, am here to provide a classically British tone with my withering sarcasm! Unfortunately, when it comes to wit, my comedic idols are the Spice Girls!

I am Druckermort — pure evil! I killed Plodder's parents but failed to kill the boy! To protect him, Doubledork inexplicably sent Harry to live for 12 years with the Doodlys — a family of powerless buggles who don't care if he lives or dies! Is it just me or is Doubledork's wizard hat on too tight?

Professor Qwerty here! Even though Prof. Snapped acts scary and evil, the bad guy is secretly ME, ME, ME! This should come as a shocking surprise twist to anyone who didn't read the first book...or in other words, all three of you out there!

Plodder

AND THE SORRY~ASS STORY

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

My name's Drano Malformed, and if you've read the book series, you know that I am an obnoxious child of privilege! But despite my superior connections and wealthy background, somehow Harry keeps beating me! That's why they file the books under "Fiction"!

My name is Albus Doubledork, and I run the Halfwits School for promising wizards! Our school is comprised of four houses! Griddlecake, Flavorflav, Ramensoup and Slipslide! We provide our students guidance on living in a world of buggles! In wizardspeak, a buggle is a helpless person with no power whatsoever. Kind of like a liberal trying to speak on the Fox News Network!

I am Professor McConjugal, Deputy Headmistress and Creepy Dame! We on the faculty provide constant encouragement to the children so that, if they work hard and apply themselves, they too can become weird old coots like us! No wonder the school's dropout rate is 94%! I hope these first years stay, though! We need to film the next six sequels FAST, before these three kid actors grow up into non-cute ex-kid actors! A 23-year-old Harry Plodder is NOT going to be pretty!



Booooo, I'm Nearly-Headless Schmuck! Think it's weird for a guy to walk around with his head hanging sideways? Just take a look around this theater! Half the audience is already in the same position, sleeping! Some of these poor parents are here for the 15th time!

I'm head galoot Rubiks Haggard, an' I handle all o' Doubledork's secret missions! After all, what could be more inconspicuous than sendin' a 400-pound biker wih an accent that makes Antonio Banderas sound like books on tape? They play dirty in Hollywood, though! Lucas Films is already suing me, for impersonatin' a Wookiee!

Rrrr! Woof! We're in charge of guarding the secret chamber that holds the Cirrhosis Stone! You know what they say... three heads are better than one! Especially when you're licking yourself!



It says here that you've been accepted to study magic at the Halfwits School!

Blimey! I must be getting THOUSANDS of acceptance letters!

No, only one of them is your invitation! The rest are all free "Join Now!" AOL sign-up disks!



Eek! That crazed behemoth smashes in our door, terrorizes our family, and orders us around in some weirdo voice! I've never experienced anything this frightening!

I have! I used to date Mike Tyson!

YIKES!



Now that yer in London, 'Arry, yeh has to get yer money! Jus' watch out for that elf there! He's still a little grumbly 'bout spendin' 50 million bucks just to finish third in th' 1992 election!

Perot



Actually, we're all a little ticked off around here!

What have you got to be angry about?

Look at me! I'm a 90-year-old elf! I haven't worked since *The Wizard of Oz*! Getting regular acting jobs is tough when you're as short as me!

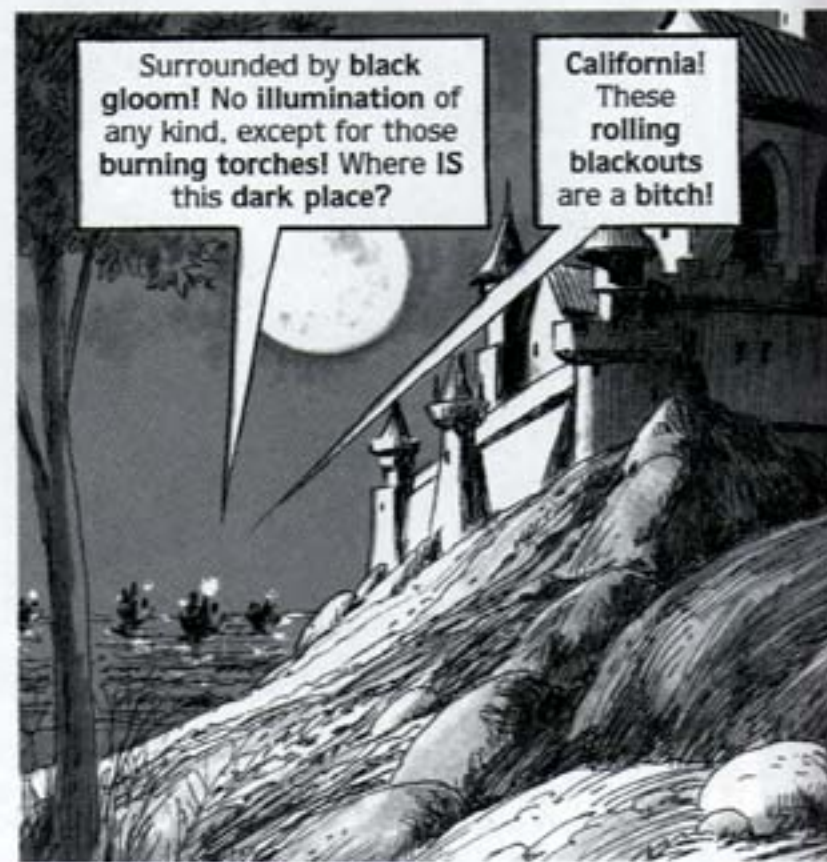
I don't know... Tom Cruise does real well!



This is Dialtone Alley, the invisible street where yez can buy yer school supplies!

Wild! All around us are wraiths and specters and gargoyles! And just look at this strange money! It's got pictures of horrible, grotesque monsters in six different colors!

Actually, that's just regular British currency! And them's th' Royal Family!



Surrounded by black gloom! No illumination of any kind, except for those burning torches! Where IS this dark place?

California! These rolling blackouts are a bitch!



Welcome to Halfwit's School of Wizardry and Window Repair! You will be separated into four houses, each of whom will gain or lose points according to their respective residents' behavior! A triumph such as bravery or outstanding achievement will get between 5 and 25 points, but rule-breaking will cost your house an amount up to but not greater than a triumph of equal magnitude...

...unless the action is committed by two or more students from opposing houses, in which case, professors from the unaffected houses will be given a secret amount of points, which will be divided between the alternate students based on seniority and/or culpability, including the inactive period between terms!

What does the winning house get?

No one knows! Nobody's EVER been able to figure out this cockamamie points system!



I am the amazing Snorting Hat,
I go on top of each head,
And I pick the house
for every student,
While I sing my dumb poem,
Which sounds horrible,
And doesn't rhyme,
But come on,
it's not bad for a damn hat!

Every first-year has
to put on the
Snorting Hat! That
way, all students
start their education
with something in
common!

Yeah! Head lice!

Your
studies...
shall
begin...
at
DAWN!

Did you ever notice
that the people in this
movie try to juice up
really boring dialogue
with dramatic pauses
and emphases?

For
breakfast...
I shall
be
eating...
MUFFINS!

But
tonight...
let
us
watch...
BECKER!



'Arry, say hello t'
yer very own owl!
From 10 am to 11:30,
'e helps you with yer
spells! An' from 4 pm
to 5 pm, 'e helps yeh
send letters!

What
happens
from
11:30 to 4
in the
afternoon?

Yeh'll be
scraping
owl poop
off every
flat surface
in here!
Filthy beast!



Excuse
me,
is
this
Flying
Class?

I'm sorry, but I'm unable to answer that at this time! Your regular instructor was unavoidably held over with an earlier class! There will be a brief delay while the 9 am class is rescheduled...for 3:30 tomorrow afternoon!

This
is
air
travel
all
right!



Well, well, it seems we have a celebrity! We haven't had this sort of magical star power since Siegfried made something disappear inside Roy!

Ugh! Is there anybody who knows what it's like attending a school where prying eyes are watching your every move?

Yes! Jenna Bush!

What's the matter, kiddies? Afraid of a little three-headed dog?

What scares me is he's not fixed! And it's NOT just his head that comes in triplicate!

We're never going to get past that dog, into the chamber and grab the Cirrhosis Stone! But that's just what the bad guy's going to do! Who do you suspect, Harry?

Suspect? There are only four Professors in the damn movie! Scrappy-Doo could crack this feeble mystery!



We're here to save you, Herwhiny! We're...huh? How'd they get here?

Ever since *Shrek* bumped Disney down to the #2 animation company, those guys despise all trolls!



It must be difficult, teaching the children how to play Squamish!

Not really! When you think about it, the brooms do all the work! The worst part about coaching Squamish is getting a cooler of bat eyeballs and lizard blood dumped over my head when we win!



Harry, you're the sports star of the school! Do you know what this means?

Yes! I can smoke crack, crash cars, get arrested, and none of it matters! Now take off your top and give me a table dance!

This mirror reveals your heart's most secret desires! Tell me, Harry! What do you see?

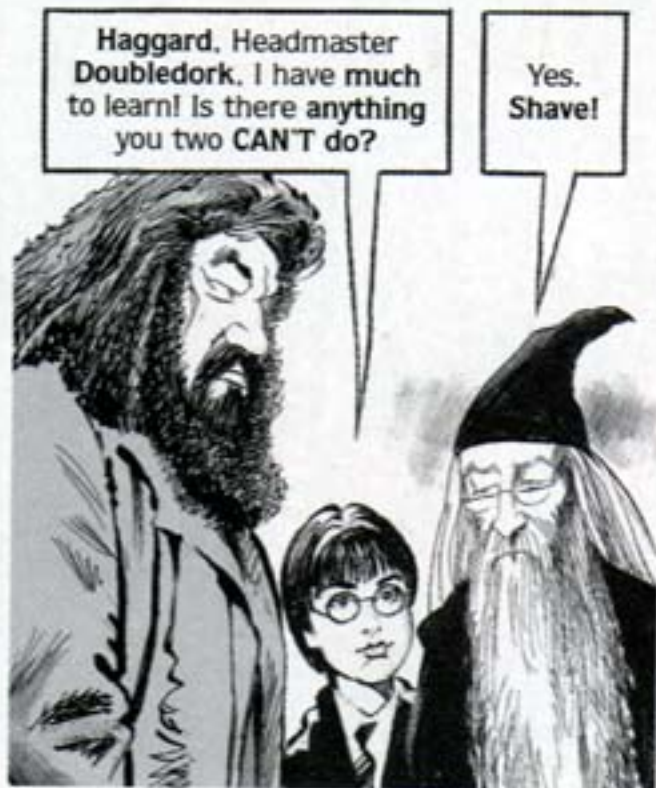
I see...I see... "Harry Plodder and the Swedish Bikini Team"! "Harry Plodder and the Vibrating Slacks"! Anything! I'm in my prime puberty years and J.K. Growling still has me hanging out with owls! Goblets? Chambers? Please! Have a heart, Growling! Make book #5 "Harry Plodder and the Almost Legal Nympho"!

Plodder, it's time you learned of the Cirrhosis Stone! The Cirrhosis Stone is an incredibly powerful plot device! It can turn any metal into gold, and it can produce the elixir of everlasting life! Why, it can even make the women on *The View* seem clever and interesting!



MIRROR, MIRROR OFF THE WALL...





Haggard, Headmaster Doubledork, I have much to learn! Is there anything you two CAN'T do?

Yes. Shave!



I don't know about you, but I'm scared! Mostly because the way this movie's grinding along, the plot's actually being lived up by a game of Chess!

I know how to win! You've got to let the white queen knock me out!

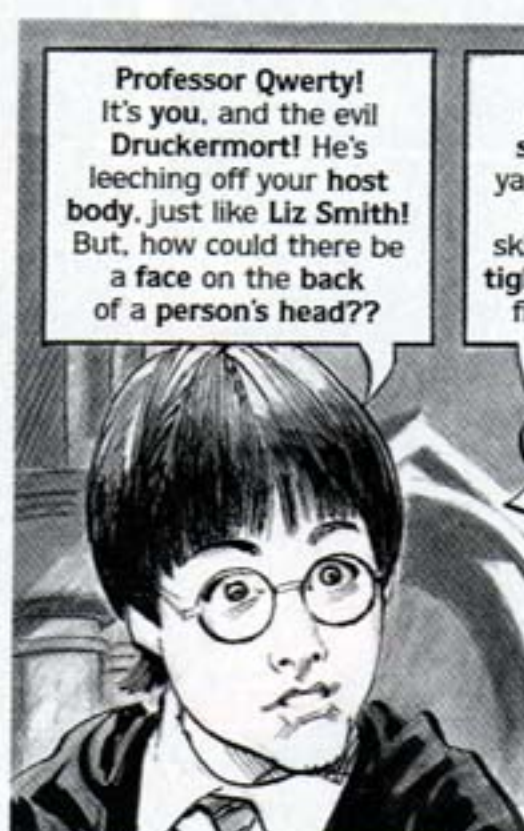
Runt, we can't!

Do it! It's the only way to defeat Druckermort! And besides, it'll be the first and probably last time I ever get touched by a woman!



Two of these vessels contain safe elixirs! Two contain poison! And three contain the deep-down satisfying flavor of Diet Coke! Mm-mmm! Just for the thrill of it, just for the chill of it, just for the taste of it, Diet Coke!

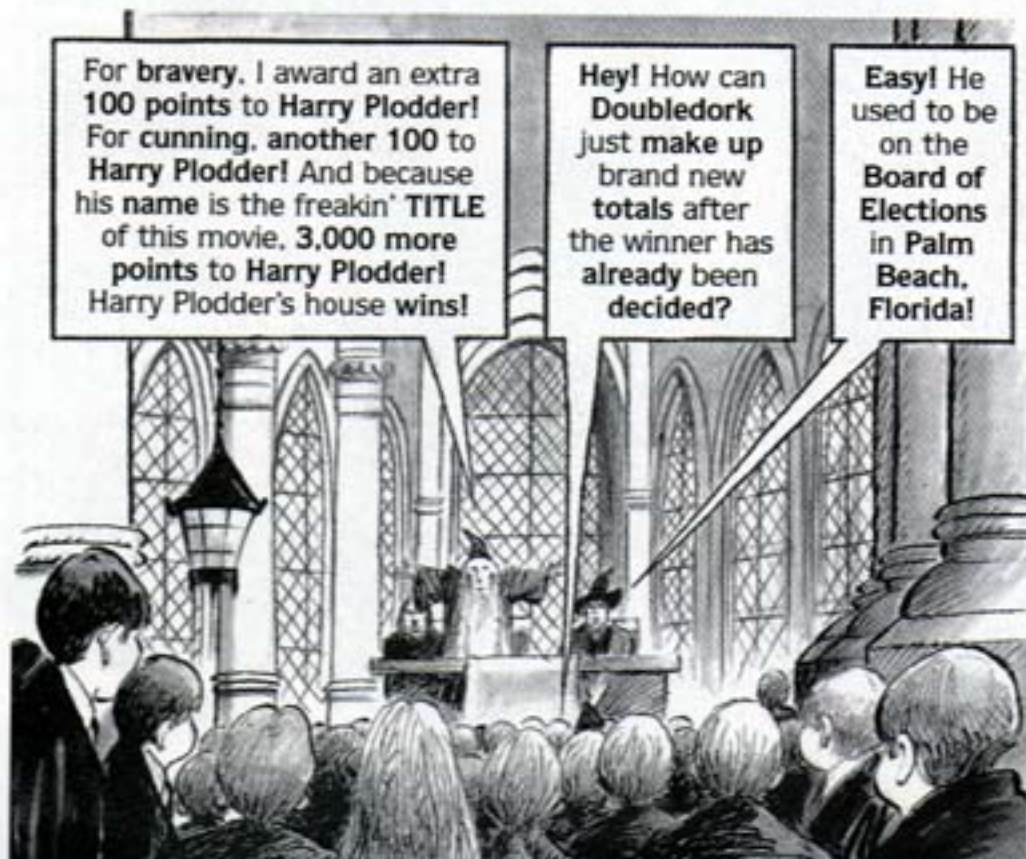
Is it me, or is "product placement" in movies getting out of hand?



Professor Qwerty! It's you, and the evil Druckermort! He's leeching off your host body, just like Liz Smith! But, how could there be a face on the back of a person's head??

If her plastic surgeon yanks Joan Rivers' skin up any tighter, we'll find out!

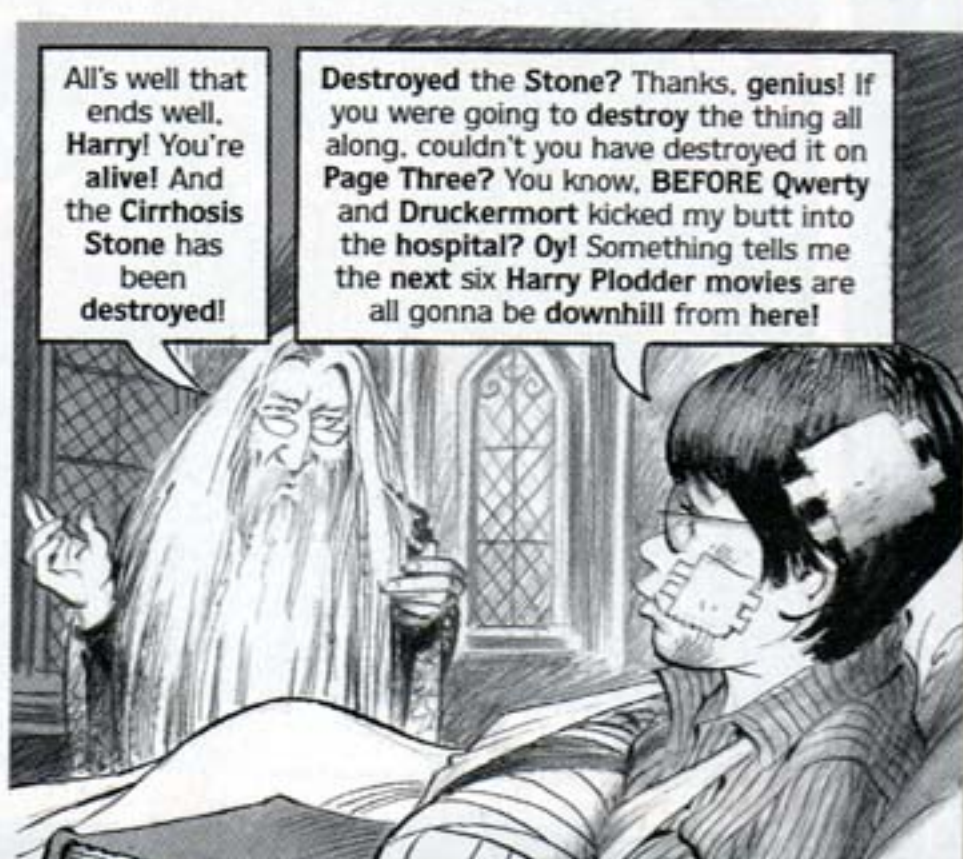
I've already got the turban, and now I've got an extra face! I could be the perfect New York City cab driver! But tell me, Druckermort, and be honest! From back there, does my butt look big to you?



For bravery, I award an extra 100 points to Harry Plodder! For cunning, another 100 to Harry Plodder! And because his name is the freakin' TITLE of this movie, 3,000 more points to Harry Plodder! Harry Plodder's house wins!

Hey! How can Doubledork just make up brand new totals after the winner has already been decided?

Easy! He used to be on the Board of Elections in Palm Beach, Florida!



All's well that ends well, Harry! You're alive! And the Cirrhosis Stone has been destroyed!

Destroyed the Stone? Thanks, genius! If you were going to destroy the thing all along, couldn't you have destroyed it on Page Three? You know, BEFORE Qwerty and Druckermort kicked my butt into the hospital? Oy! Something tells me the next six Harry Plodder movies are all gonna be downhill from here!



Your job and your love life — after a Chalupa, they're the two greatest sources of heartache! For the brave souls who dare to combine them and seek a relationship on the job, the smallest faux pas can lead to disaster. To help those men and women seeking part-time passion or a full-time fling, we present...

The MAD Etiquette Guide for Modern WORKPLACE ROMANCES

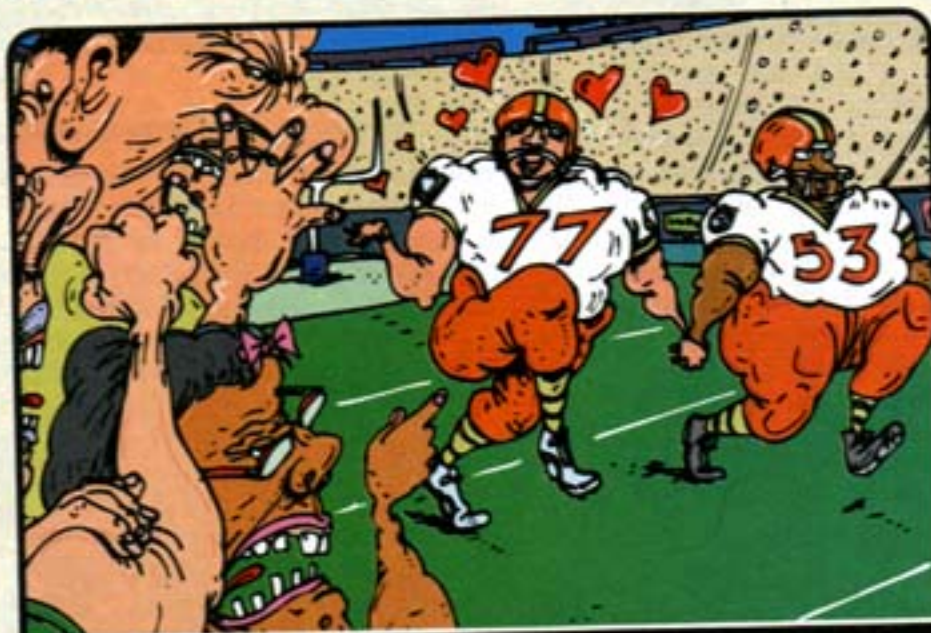
The Gentleman should always wipe off the copy machine glass for the lady after xeroxing his own bare buttocks (and prior to her doing so)!



After having a torrid broom closet liaison with a co-worker you met at the launch party for your new dot com company...



...it's impolite to ignore them at the going-out-of-business party the following week!



Be sensitive to the possibility that some may not be as comfortable as you about revealing your relationship with a fellow co-worker!

ARTIST: KEVIN POPE

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

Although delivering a romantic message in an unusual job-related way may be cute and charming — it can also be highly inappropriate and unprofessional!



While arguments are inevitable in any relationship, don't let your on-the-job spats interfere with your duties!

Whilst engaging in an amorous liaison on the job, the thoughtful couple shows consideration for those in neighboring work spaces!



If you and your partner both occupy high-profile positions at your company, it's especially important for you to be discreet!

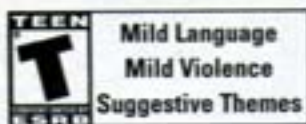
When working the night shift together at 7-Eleven, the gentleman always volunteers to take the first bullet for the lady during every robbery!







In the world, only this island is...



www.enix.com



Historians say that whoever is elected President of the United States invariably "grows in office." We're pretty sure these historians do not mean this literally or else Abraham Lincoln, who was well over six feet on the day he was inaugurated would have "grown" to freakish heights well over eight feet, scaring both children and adults alike. We think historians mean that a President "grows" in maturity and stature. And that appears to be the case with the current occupant of the White House, George W. Bush. Events have suddenly propelled him into becoming a potentially strong and decisive leader, which is a delightful surprise given his rather shaky start. Consider, if you will, some of the "highlights" of his first few months in office, as chronicled in this top secret document leaked to us by Dick Cheney's assistant:

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

THE FIRST 6 MONTHS



OFFICIAL PRESIDENTIAL DIARY

JANUARY

22-Spent the day aimlessly roaming Home Depot, after being told I needed to "select a new cabinet."

24-Forced out the Democratic contributors still squatting in the Lincoln Bedroom.

28-With the help of the First Lady, pushed beds in Presidential bedroom back together.

30-Excitedly noticed that the layout of the Oval Office is perfect for a giant slot-car racetrack!

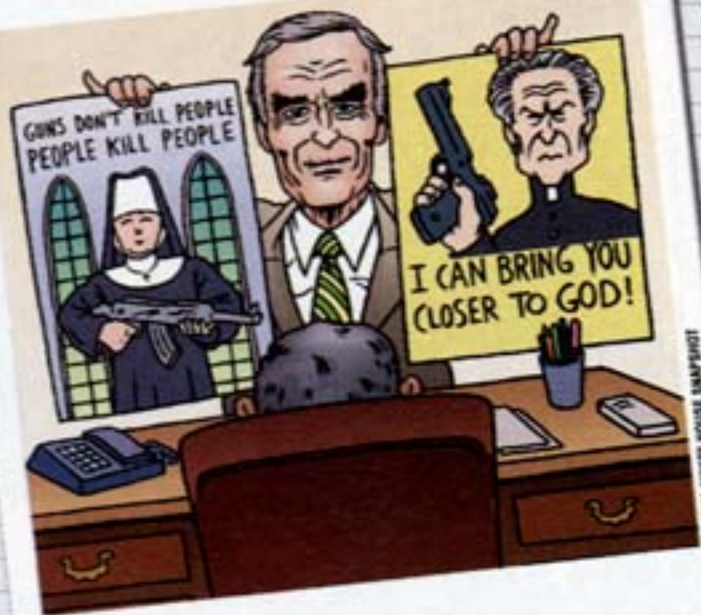
FEBRUARY

6-Removed Roger Clinton from the White House basement-"Elian-style."

20-After success in stealing Presidency, asked Katherine Harris if she could also get me named People Magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive."



21-Met with Charlton Heston, listened to his "arm the clergy" plan.



27-With energy crisis looming, noticed that Kennedy's eternal flame at Arlington National Cemetery always has plenty of fuel-pushed for exploratory drilling.



3-During press conference regarding downed spy plane, admitted that it was hard to stay mad at China when Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon was such a kick-ass movie!



8-Decided the congressional budget talks were fruitless - vowed to concentrate all future efforts on reuniting The Spice Girls.



21-At strategy meeting following the Chinese spy plane incident, pointed out that future incidents could be avoided if we developed invisible planes, like Wonder Woman's.



25-Put pressure on the Franklin Mint to finally get that Conway Twitty commemorative coin made.

APRIL



6-Didn't reach home plate when throwing out first pitch at a Brewers game- Milwaukee scouts express interest anyway.



11-Announced plans to pick up where Pop left off-pledged to reunite North and South Germany.

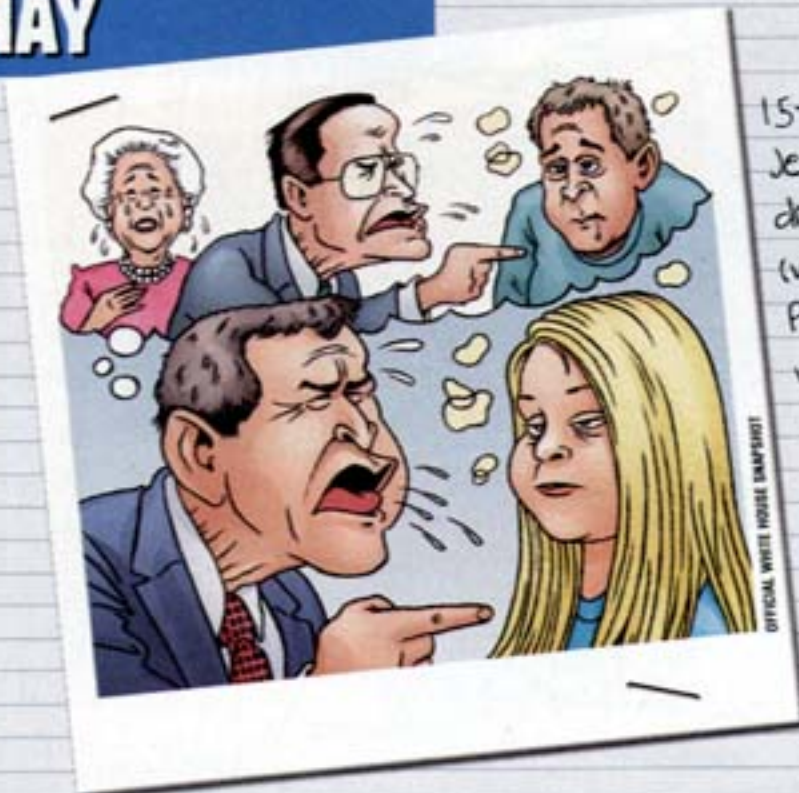
TV GUIDE.....

April Top Picks
• All month: Dukes Of Hazzard Marathon



22-Watched complete Dukes of Hazzard Marathon on TNN

MAY



15-Scolded daughter Jenna for being a drunken embarrassment (was able to remember Pop's old speech word-for-word.)



18-Had FBI perform a background check on myself to see if maybe they could help me remember anything I did in the '80s.



22-Met the governor of so-called "West" Virginia. Double-checked the Atlas on that one.



24- Vermont Senator Jim Jeffords declared himself an independent, giving the Democrats control of the Senate - I quickly packed my bags for Canada, figuring the jig was up.

6-Enacted a pay raise for the military, gaining their support - just in case I can't use the Supreme Court to give me the 2004 election and have to use military force!



13-Commanded staff to do something about the shameful lack of spittoons in the White House.



JUNE

23-Spoke to contractor about getting a mechanical bull installed in White House Situation Room.



29- Finally got the singing fish hung just right in the visiting dignitaries' dining room.



**RAGE AGAINST THE
CASH MACHINE DEPT.**

It's a story you read about every day. People being held up as they exit an ATM. After lots of bad publicity about the rise in ATM crime, banks leaped into action in order to help protect their customers by spending a few bucks on warning signs! As a public service, here, for free, is MAD's...



ARTIST: TOM BUNK
WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

ATM SAFETY RULES THAT BANKS SHOULD POST



1. Only use the ATM when plenty of people are around, like during regular banking hours. For total safety, never use an ATM during off hours, especially nights, weekends or holidays.
2. Do not hold the ATM door open for a person you do not know, especially if they are wearing a ski mask and it's the middle of summer.
3. Never withdraw more money than you can afford to have a mugger steal from you as you leave the ATM.
4. Protect your ATM card the way you would protect cash, even though we send out millions of them every day via cheap, bulk rate mail — making them an easy target for any nickel and dime thief to steal.
5. Never share your PIN number with the person who is mercilessly beating you inside the ATM.
6. Do not count your money openly. Instead, choose a dark corner of the ATM area to do that.
7. Above all, avoid dark corners of the ATM area!
8. Use the ATM phone to report any suspicious looking individuals. Be warned, however, that for tying up an ATM, you will be physically assaulted by the line of customers waiting behind you much worse than by any suspicious looking individual!
9. Before using the ATM phone to report a security incident, make sure the person reaching into your pants is in fact a thief and not just one of our bank personnel attempting to cop a cheap feel.
10. To avoid a public berating and possible physical altercation, we recommend that you tip any homeless vagrant who opens the ATM door for you 15% of your total withdrawal.
11. For ultimate banking security, we strongly suggest you avoid ATMs, carry no cash and charge all of your purchases on one of our convenient credit cards*.

*\$75 annual membership fee applies.
Current Annual Percentage Rate 29%,
calculated hourly



Hibernia Rising

Wielding untamed
Elven magic supported by
Celtic steel, the Hibernians
are at last ready to
prove their mettle.

Three realms at war.
Thousands of players.
An epic awaits...

Live ^{The}
Legend

Dark Age of Camelot

www.darkageofcamelot.com

A massively-multiplayer online game.
Available October 2001 A.D.

Illustration by Terese Nielsen
www.tnielsen.com

MYTHIC
ENTERTAINMENT

ABANDON
ENTERTAINMENT



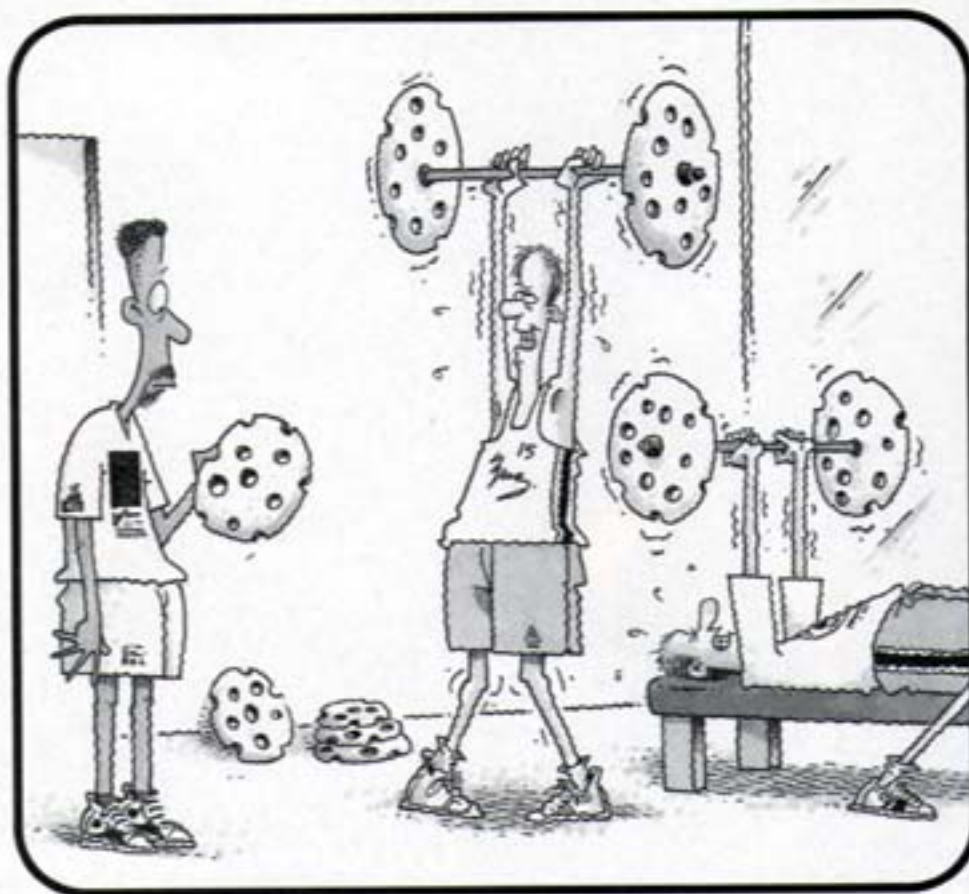
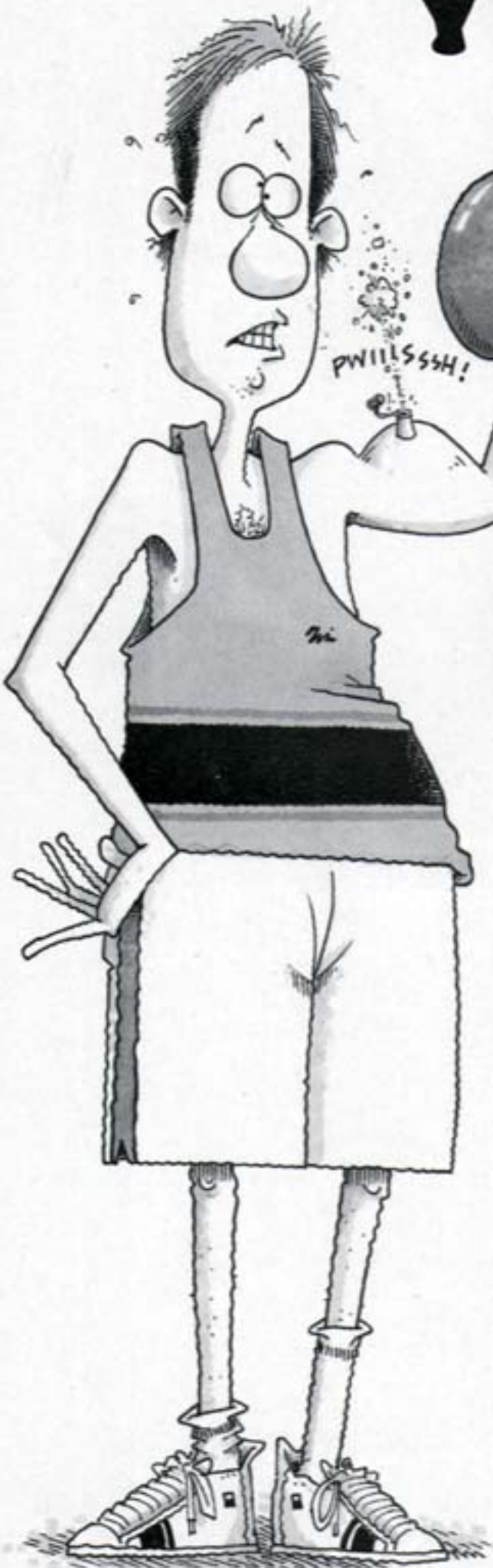
INTERNET CONNECTION REQUIRED

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With all of the stresses in daily life it's important to have a place to unwind and work the worries and anxieties out of your system. For many Americans, that place is their local bar — they believe there's nothing a good happy hour can't fix! But other Americans want weight training, aerobic conditioning and body shaping along with their stress reduction. For them, there's the gym! While any dark, smoky room with stools and bowls of peanuts can pass for a bar, a health facility without the latest state-of-the-art fitness equipment is, shall we say...less than Gym-Dandy! So, consider the spa *you* go to, because...

YOU MAY WANT TO RE-THINK YOUR GYM CHOICE IF...



...Their latest innovation in body building equipment — wiffle weights



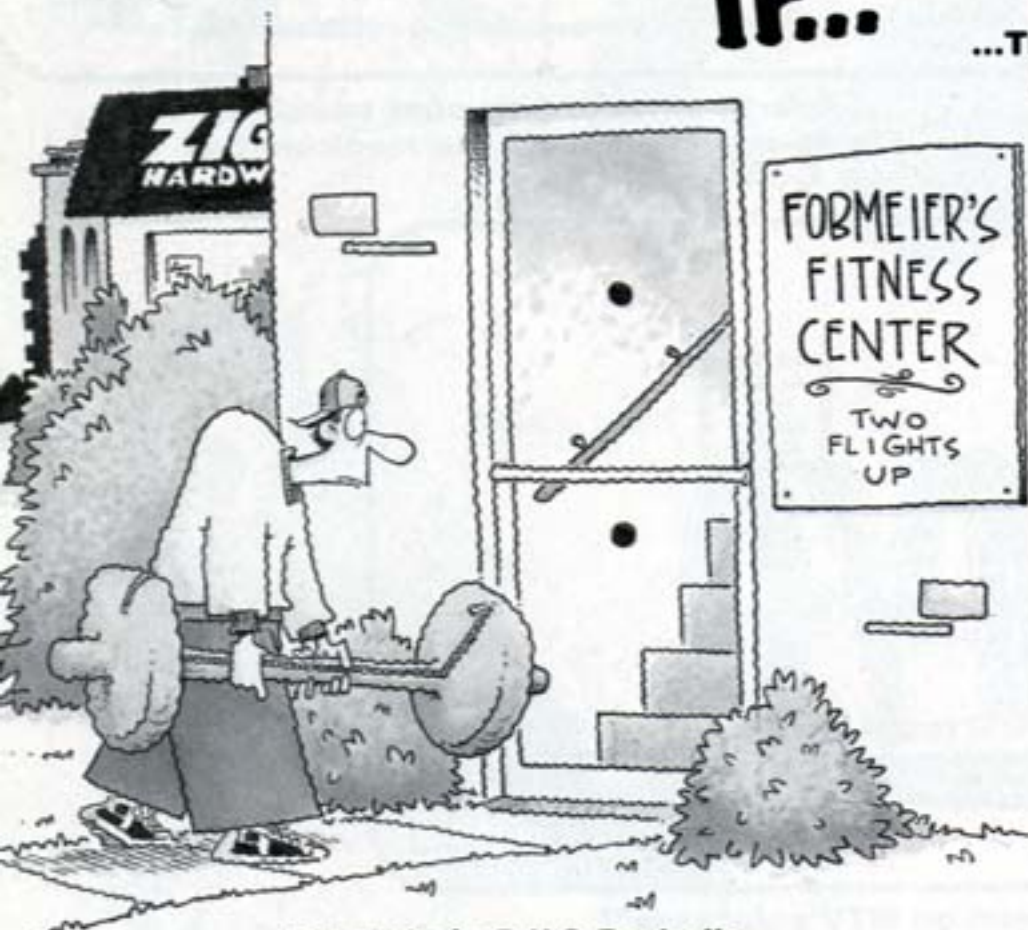
ARTIST AND WRITER:
JOHN CALDWELL



YOU MAY WANT TO RE-THINK YOUR GYM CHOICE IF...



...The "stairmaster" class meets at the foot of a mall's down escalator and runs from 10 A.M. until security arrives



...The rule is B.Y.O. Barbells



...The most popular cardio class is something called "Sweatin' to Pam and Tommy Lee"



...The masseuse has a pimp

...AT THE KEYPAD HERE, YOU HAVE MORE THAN TWELVE MEGS OF QUASI-RESISTANCE. THAT, PLUS FIVE GIGS OF TORQUE, TRANSLATES TO A PER CALORIE BREAKDOWN OF 8.6049% FACTORING IN THE ADVANCED PULSE RATE!

HOW COOL IS THAT?!



...You strongly suspect your personal trainer was hired more for his expertise with the high-tech equipment than for his actual fitness skills

www.techdeckdude.com



NEW

DUDE

MAGNA SERIES



FRANKENFINGER

X-CONCEPTS® PRESENTS

TECH DECK DUDE™ PRODUCT FRANK N. FINGER AND E. N. FINGER IN "FRANKENFINGER" MUSIC BY RAP MASTA THUMB EXECUTIVE PRODUCER RING FINGER DIRECTED BY INDEX FINGER

THIS PRODUCT NOT YET RATED

NOT AN ACTUAL MOVIE ADVERTISEMENT

X-CONCEPTS®

COLLECT
THEM ALL

LOOK FOR NEW DUDES COMING SOON





Want to see a feel-good movie with shiny, happy characters and an uplifting storyline that will have you leaving the theater in high spirits, happy to be alive, with a smile on your face and a song in your heart? Then stay away from...

THE

I'm Ice, a tightly-wound mother of two! I live in an isolated mansion on the British island of Jersey! My husband's missing in action in the war! I live with my two sickly kids! We are engulfed in dense fog! There are no phones, no electricity, no radio, and because this is the 1940s, no TV! As you can see from my warm, loving sneer, I've never been happier!

She's also never been crazier! I'm Antsy! My brother and I suffer from a rare disease! We're not allowed to be exposed to light or we shall blister and possibly die! Trust me, it's worse than acne! We live in a world of kerosene lamps and shadows! It's creepy, and incredibly dull! We're not alone in this house! I think there's another family living here! Obviously, it's not a family of clever screenwriters!

I am Nickelby! I am scared out of my wits! I am scared of my sister, scared of my Mum, of ghosts, even of this opening splash page! I am pasty, cadaverous and sickly! I am like a pre-pubescent Dracula without Dracula's aliveness! I live indoors! I fear this is going to make dating difficult unless I get emotionally involved with a drape! I am not a happy camper! I'm thinking about suicide! I may run outside and throw myself under a sunbeam!

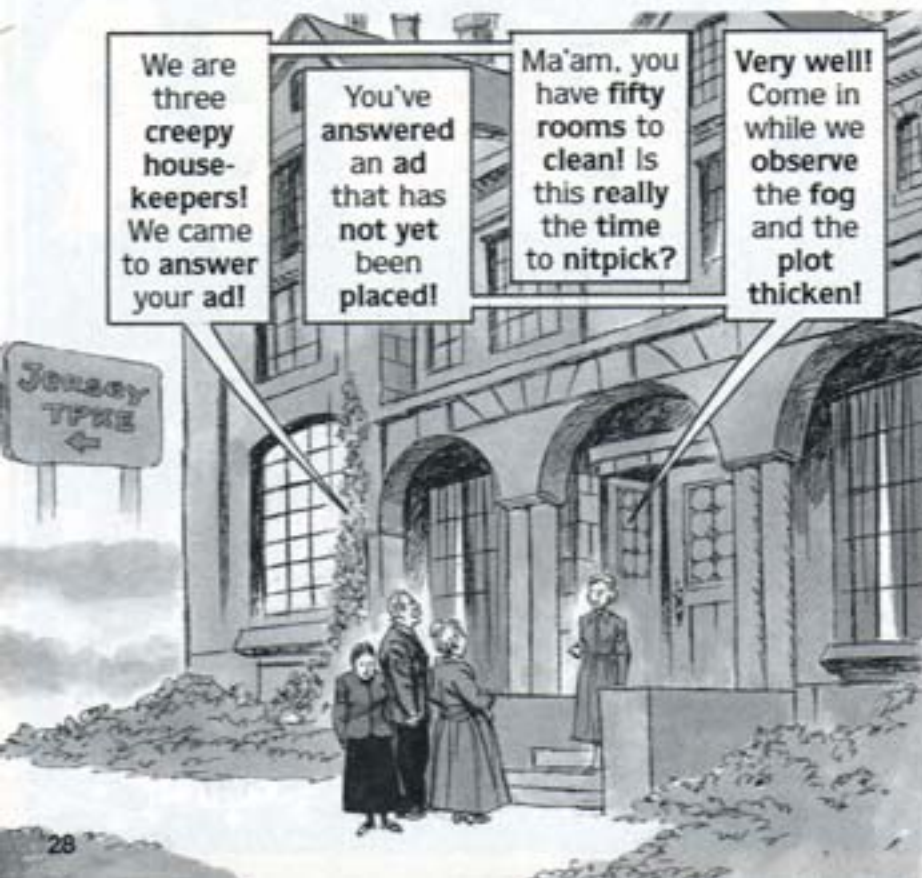


We are three creepy house-keepers! We came to answer your ad!

You've answered an ad that has not yet been placed!

Ma'am, you have fifty rooms to clean! Is this really the time to nitpick?

Very well! Come in while we observe the fog and the plot thicken!



My children are allergic to sunlight! The curtains must be drawn at all times! If any light streams in they could be seriously damaged! This house must be kept in perpetual darkness!

I understand, Ma'am! How very convenient!

Oh, do you mean for their protection?

No, I meant to pass off the absurdity of this story!



UGGHERS

I am Mrs. Mulls, part of a strange trio of housekeepers who have mysteriously walked in out of the fog! Our job, between cooking, cleaning and tending the garden, is to scare your ass off!

I'm Mr. Turtle, the groundskeeper! In school I majored in doddering! I move slower than a garden snail with a double hernia! The only thing moving slower than me is the pace of this film!

I'm Loonier and I'm a mute! I can't speak at all! Even so, of the three of us, I'm the one with the most personality!

I'm Chills, the husband! For most of this film I'm missing in action! Actually, I've been captured by the Nazis! I was starved, tortured, beaten! Then I escaped! Why haven't I returned home earlier? I had more fun in the war than in this creepy house!

ARTIST: ANGELO TORRES
WRITER: ARNIE KOGEN

What happens if the children are exposed to the sunlight?

Let's say it's "To Die For"!

That's such a strange expression!

It's from another time — another part of my life!

When exactly was that, Ma'am?

When my films were fun and entertaining!

Fine, Ma'am, I'll just keep my "Eyes Wide Shut"!

Let's make sure you understand the rules of the house! The curtains must remain closed at all times and none of the mansion's 50 doors can be opened without the previous door being locked first!

That key ring must weigh seventy pounds!

Yes! And I weigh sixty pounds! It's a tough town!





This place is creepy! I'm leaving you, Ice!

Seems every man I meet leaves me!

Another man left you?

It was another time, another life! Marrying him was more than Risky Business! It was Mission Impossible! Believe me, he was no Top Gun!

Okay! Okay! I get the picture!

Who-who-let the drapes out?

It was probably you, Ma'am! All movie long you've been chewing up the scenery something awful!



I dismissed the creepy servants! Then I found their gravestones and eerie old photos proving they've been dead for hundreds of years! What's going on?

Don't ask us! We're still wondering why our Daddy had less screen time than the drapes! Do you think maybe because the drapes were more interesting?

I still sense there are intruders in the house!



I'm Flecktor! Your secret playmate!

Which is more than I can say for you people!

Yes! Your mother went ballistic, smothered you and your brother and then killed herself! It's the most buzzed about movie ending since Tomb Raider!

Nobody's buzzing about the ending of Tomb Raider!

You're alive!

We're dead?

Exactly!



Come along, children! We must get out of this insane house! We're going to occupy another residence! One where there's sunshine!



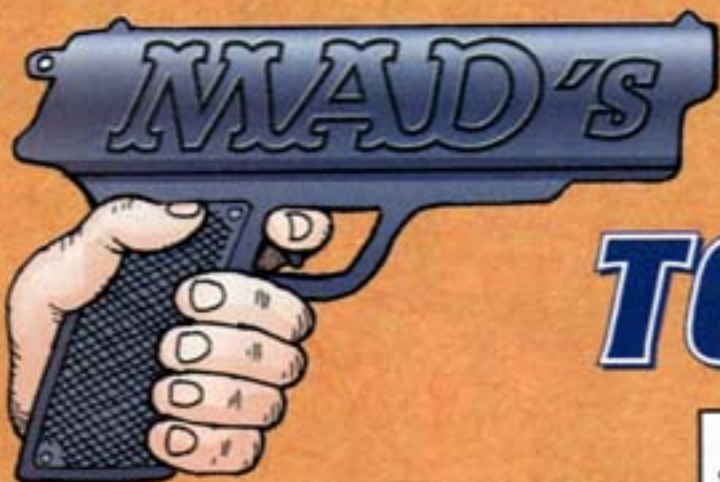
My Lord! These people are more disturbed than the last house!

Talk about warped, depressing people that are candidates for Hell!

Each week let's vote for a different one — and haunt them out of the house!



Is this an introduction to an article that needs no introduction? No, it's a postscript to an article that's been badly placed on the page! Here's...

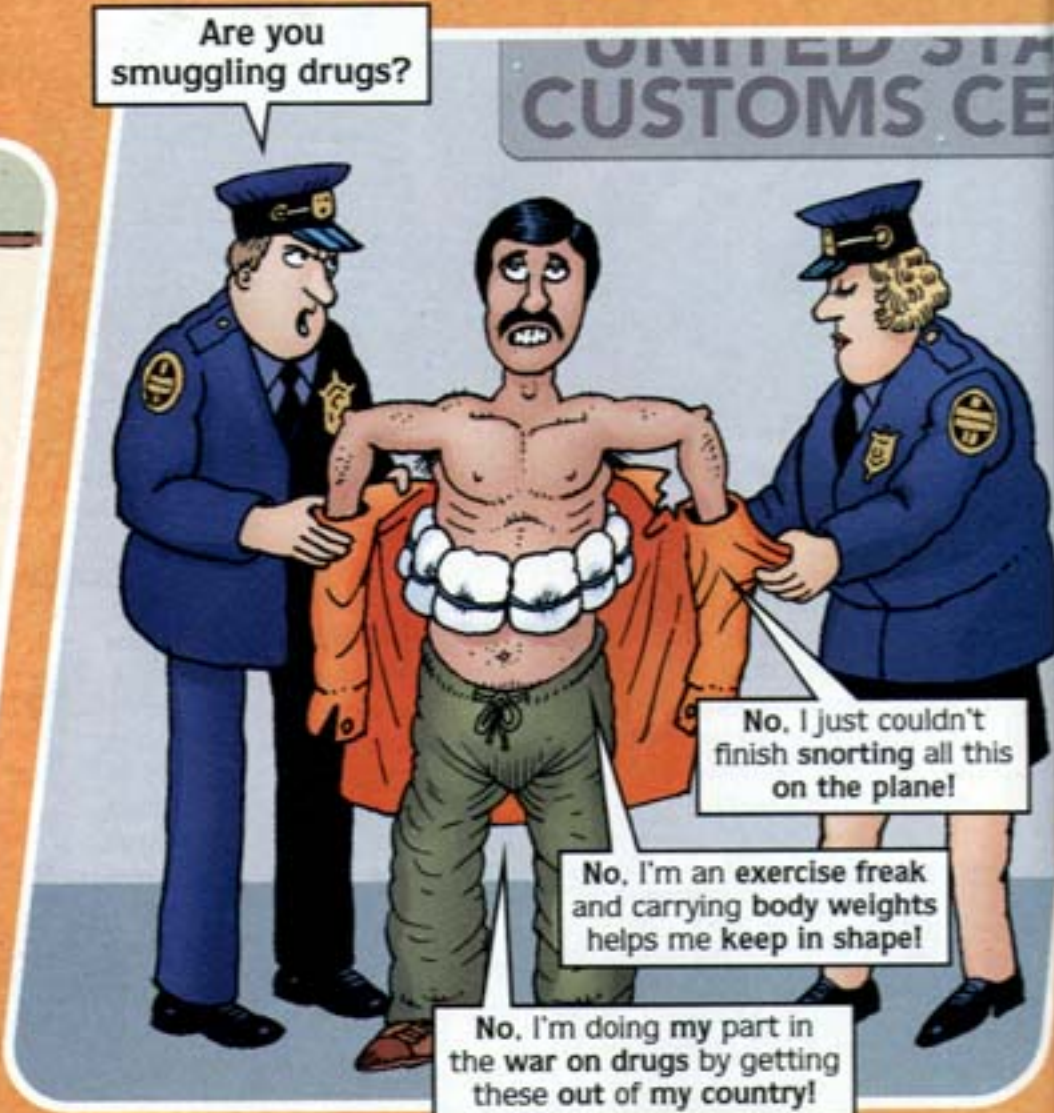


SNAPPY TO STUPID

Are you sniffing coke?



Are you smuggling drugs?



Are you roughing up that suspect?



ANSWERS QUESTIONS

SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT EDITION

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

Are you going to give me a ticket?

No, we're from NASCAR and are looking to recruit new drivers!

No, we're gonna give a ticket to that tree for jumping in front of your van!

No, we followed you at a hundred and twelve miles an hour just to give you a warning!

Did you stop me just because I'm black?

No, because your parents are!

No, I get lonely sitting behind that speed trap so I stopped you to have a little chat!

Yes, I just wanted to apologize for all the years of race profiling and oppression!

Did we overreact?

No, we just didn't have time to think clearly, what with all the terrible noise our guns were making!

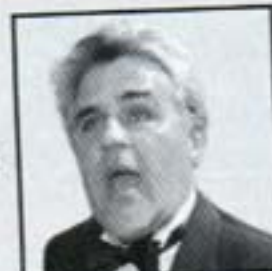
No, that unarmed scoundrel jumped in front of all 41 warning shots we fired!

No, his wallet could have been loaded!

**SEND IN YOUR OWN
SNAPPY ANSWERS TO THESE
SITUATIONS! WE'LL PRINT THE
BEST ONES ON THE LETTERS
PAGE OF A FUTURE ISSUE!**

OFFICIAL COURT NOTICE

ATTENTION



**IF YOU WATCHED *THE TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO*:
YOU MAY HAVE A CLAIM UNDER A NEW CLASS
ACTION SETTLEMENT. PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE.**

United States District Court
of Burbank, California

v.
The National Broadcasting Company,
Big Dog Productions, ET. AL.

No. 9276519

TO: all persons or entities or the legal representative or significant other of any persons or entities who watched three or more episodes of *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno* at any time from May 25, 1992 through July 31, 2001 (the "Class Period"). If you watched, you may be entitled to monetary relief under a new class action settlement.

Millions of TV viewers throughout the United States have had their sense of humor damaged, harmed and/or permanently compromised by watching episodes of *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno*. To determine if your sense of humor has been damaged, answer each of the following questions:

1. Have you, at any time, considered purchasing a Big Mouth Billy Bass?
2. Do you own a DVD copy of the films *Stop or My Mom Will Shoot*, *Pootie Tang* or *Dude, Where's My Car*?

If you answered "yes" to either of the above questions, your sense of humor has been damaged, perhaps irreparably.

NBC, who is responsible for the broadcast of this show, has vigorously denied the above claims. Let us not forget that former President Clinton also vigorously denied a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky—a denial repeatedly broadcast on *NBC News*!

There is a proposed CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT with NBC that gives all viewers of *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno* the right to receive humor counseling and reimbursement for the time wasted watching the show.

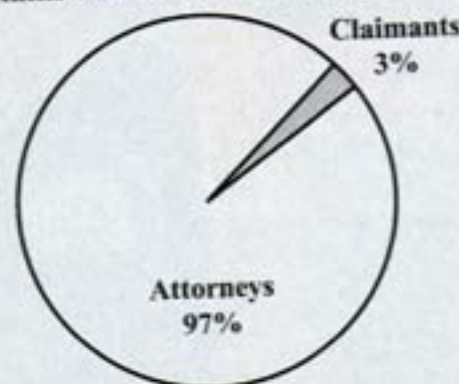
MEMBERS OF THE CLASS HAVE THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS:

1. The right to receive monetary benefits in the event the settlement receives final judicial approval.
2. The right to demand that the show's producers actually watch — and endure — tapes of EVERY episode of the program from beginning to end.
3. The right to require Jay Leno immediately cease and desist from recycling old jokes he was using at Jimmy Gator's Comedy Hut in 1979.

4. The right to not see on the show (at least occasionally) fawning, butt-kissing interviews with TV, movie or recording stars promoting their recent mediocre series, films or albums. That's what *Entertainment Tonight* is for.

This notice explicitly excludes episodes of *The Tonight Show* that were hosted by Johnny Carson, Jack Paar or Steve Allen, as well as episodes that were guest hosted by Burt Reynolds, Joan Rivers and even Lorne Greene for that matter.

Pending final judicial approval, the settlement claim will be distributed as follows:



This Class Action Suit is being administered by Low, Rotten, Scumbag & Snake, Attorneys-At-Law.

HOW YOUR CLAIM IS VALUED:

Below are estimated per claim amounts before deducting attorney's fees.* Actual per claim amounts depend on the total number of claim participants and the years when the episodes were watched.

Number of Claimants	If you watched episodes before 1995 (Pre O.J. Case)	If you watched episodes after 1998 (Post Monica)
4,000,000	\$540.00	\$280.00
12,000,000	\$260.00	\$74.00

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

- Did you ever have the feeling, while watching *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* that you had seen it all before on *Late Show with David Letterman*, *Not Necessarily the News*, *Candid Camera* and Art Linkletter's *People Are Funny*?
- Did you ever wish that the commercial break would go on forever?
- Did you ever wonder why only Leno himself and his music director, Kevin Eubanks, find ALL Leno's jokes extremely funny?
- After you watched *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* for a couple of weeks, did you have difficulty grasping other TV programs, other than ones shown on Cartoon Network?
- Have you noticed Jay Leno has a really big chin?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, you are most likely eligible to share in the settlement benefits.

HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION AND SUBMIT A CLAIM:

You can obtain a detailed notice and claim form by contacting Plaintiffs' Legal Counsel in this suit, Low, Rotten, Scumbag & Snake, Attorneys-At-Law at 1-888-SUE-JAY. The Plaintiffs' Legal Counsel also request that you contact them if you are suffering from any unrelated afflictions, including rug burns, a Sterno overdose or are planning on falling down in a shopping mall.

LOW, ROTTEN, SCUMBAG & SNAKE
Attorneys-At-Law

*Attorney's fees, as customary, may be no more than 97% of your total claim amount, though attorney's expenses take up the other 3%.



The Lighter Side of...



JUSTICE

We find the defendant guilty as charged! We furthermore suggest he write up his ridiculous defense and try to sell it as a TV comedy special!



ANCIENT HISTORY

ARTIST AND WRITER: DAVE BERG

COLORIST: WILDSTORM

Class, this is a copy of Mayan Hieroglyphics that were found in an ancient classroom! Does anyone have an idea about what it says?

I'll bet that I know, Miss Diaz!



"I will not talk in class!"
"I will not talk in class!"
"I will not talk in class!"



EMERGENCIES

The boat is sinking and I can't swim!

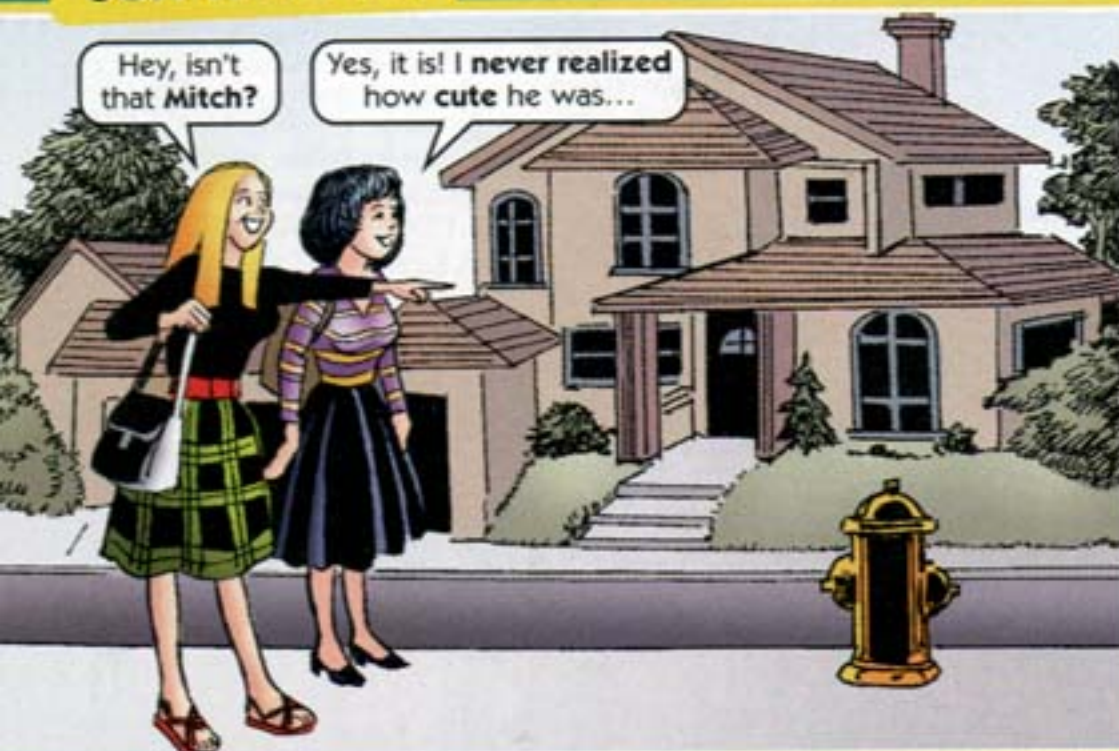
Oh my God! You've got to do something!



Like throw me your wallet!



SEX APPEAL



RELATIONSHIPS



ARITHMETIC



REPAIRS



COMMUNICATION



Martha, I've told you a hundred times never to call me when I'm working!



THERAPY

975 calories!



Dr. Forman, my stress is due to this guy I know who throws his money around on gambling, women and booze so much that he can't even pay his rent!

What does all that have to do with you, Mr. Moger?



I'm his landlord!



BUSINESS

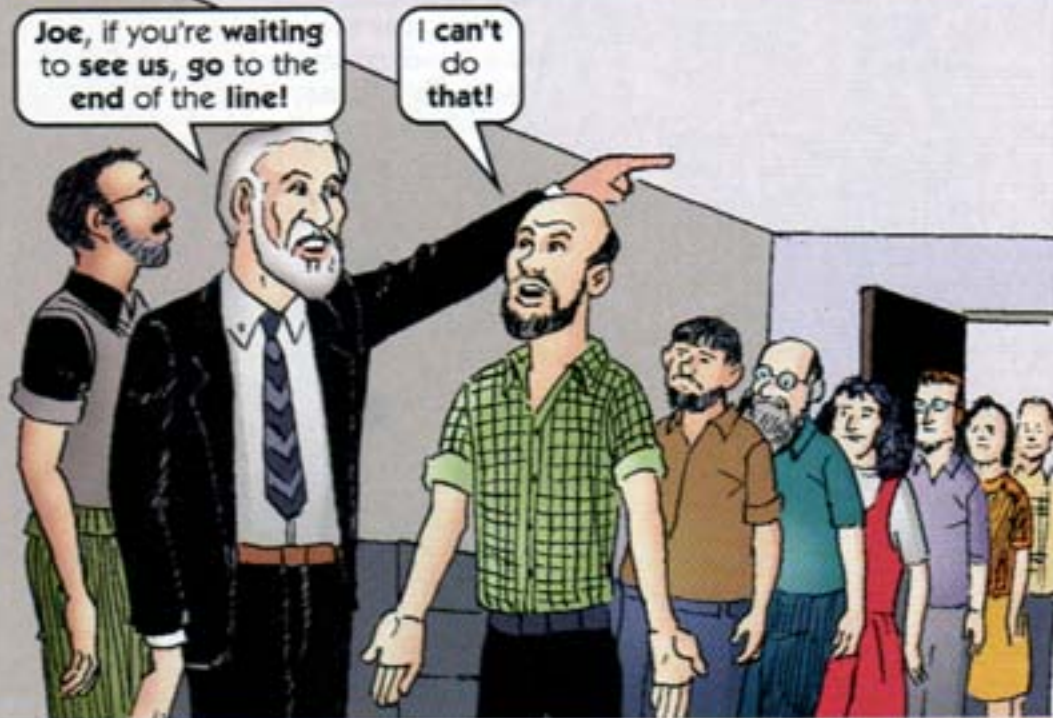
I know some of you are wondering why your C.E.O. is wearing a wastepaper basket on his head!



The answer is simple — one of the company's lower echelon employees just won the lottery!



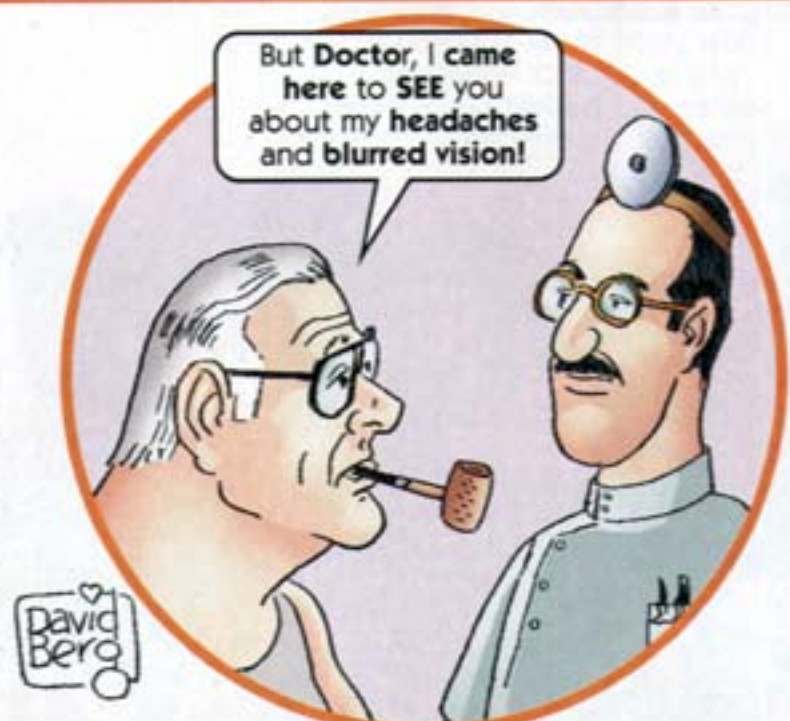
THE OFFICE



PRAYERS



DOCTORS



BOXING FEVER



EVERYONE
VIOLENCE



GAME BOY ADVANCE



www.majescosales.com

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MONROE and...



THANKSGIVING

(The Indians weren't the only ones who got screwed.)





I'LL DO THE CARVING! WHAT CAN I GET YOU, TRIXIE?

I LIKE THE LOOKS OF THAT TURKEY NECK, HANDSOME!



I BET YOU DO, SUGAR!

CHRIST, I'M GONNA PUKE IN YOUR STUFFING IF YOU TWO DON'T CUT THIS CRAP OUT!

PROBABLY TASTE BETTER IF YOU DID!



AT LEAST I KNOW HOW TO COOK SOMETHING OTHER THAN METHAMPHETAMINE!

LET ME AT HER!!



I'M THANKFUL FOR MEETING MY NEW COUSIN COLLEEN! AND I'D ALSO LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE'RE GOING STEADY!

GOIN' WHAR?



WHAT?! YOU CAN'T GO STEADY, IDIOT! YOU TWO ARE BLOOD RELATIVES!

UNLIKE, SAY, TRIXIE AND I WHO ARE ONLY "TECHNICALLY" RELATED -- AS BROTHER-IN-LAW AND SISTER-IN-LAW!

"TECHNICALLY..." I HEAR THAT!

I'LL GO NEXT. I'M THANKFUL THAT ONCE THIS MEAL IS OVER MY SKANK-ASS SISTER WILL BE HEADING BACK TO IRELAND!

OH, THAT'S THE OTHER THING I FORGOT TO TELL YOU -- WHEN YOUR SISTER WROTE ME TO SAY SHE WAS MOVING BACK STATESIDE, I INVITED THEM TO STAY TILL THEY GET SETTLED! PASS THE MASHED TURNIPS.

YOU WHAT?!?!?



GREAT! THERE'S THE DOOR!

LOOK, I'M TIRED OF YOU TWO FIGHTING ALL THE TIME! WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MY TWO LITTLE GIRLS WHO USED TO LOVE NOTHING MORE THAN TO GET BLOTTOED TOGETHER AND THEN PICK UP LONGSHOREMEN?



YOU KNOW, MAYBE HE'S RIGHT -- WE DID HAVE SOME GOOD TIMES TOGETHER!

THINK YOU CAN KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF PRINCE CHARMING THERE?



YEAH, I DON'T THINK IT'S GOING TO BE AS HARD AS I FIRST THOUGHT!

I'LL GET THE JÄGERMEISTER!

SNOORK!



BTII WRAY



Is Jimmy Hoffa really buried in Giants Stadium?
Is a .276 left fielder really worth 4.7 million per season? Since when is Utah the home of Jazz? Yes, there are many unanswered riddles in the world of sports. But there are just as many confounding conundrums about sports broadcasts! So prepare to get turf burn from scratching your head as you ponder...

The Mysterious TELEVISED



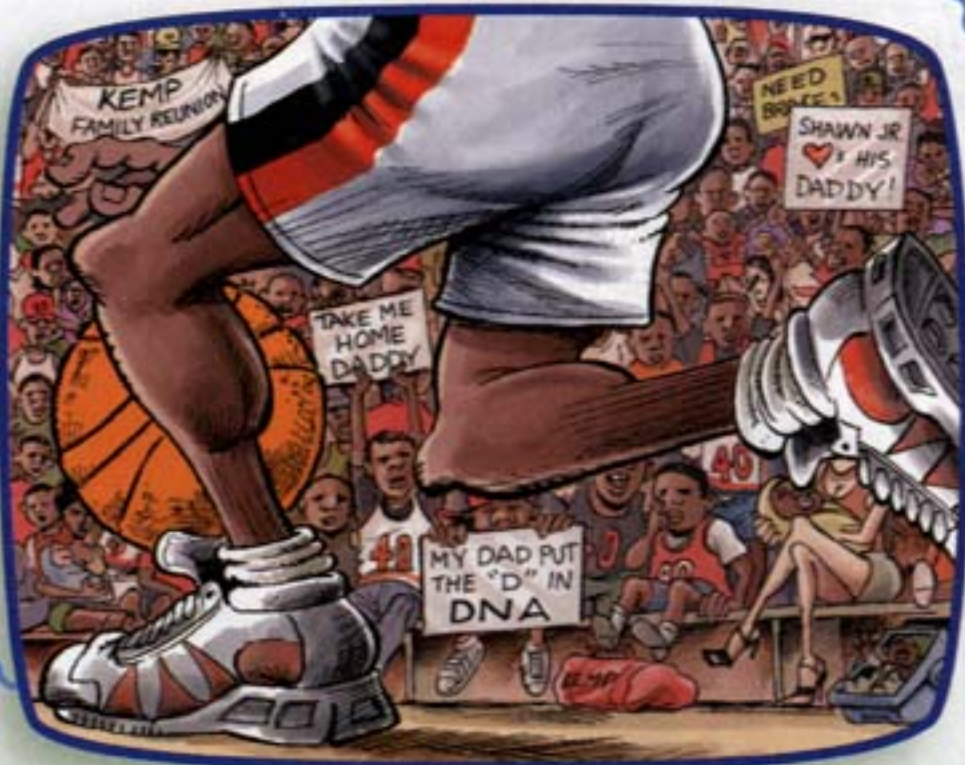
Why does NBC think that a viewing audience that's completely ignored every film that Spike Lee, Richard Lewis or Woody Allen has made in the past 10 years will suddenly be fascinated to see the same nerdwads sitting around watching the Knicks?



If FOX can electronically light up the hockey puck so home viewers can more easily follow its red glow, why can't they do the same to the players' teeth so we can see where they land during bloody fistfights?



Why do the networks pretend there's even a teensy bit of suspense when they show a ten-minute feature on an Olympic athlete right before showing the tape-delayed race that (sur-PRISE!) the same athlete just so happens to win?



Why are the NBA's television ratings dropping so fast when there's another hundred brand new illegitimate kids popping out every month who'd love to watch their daddies play?

Mysteries of SPORTS



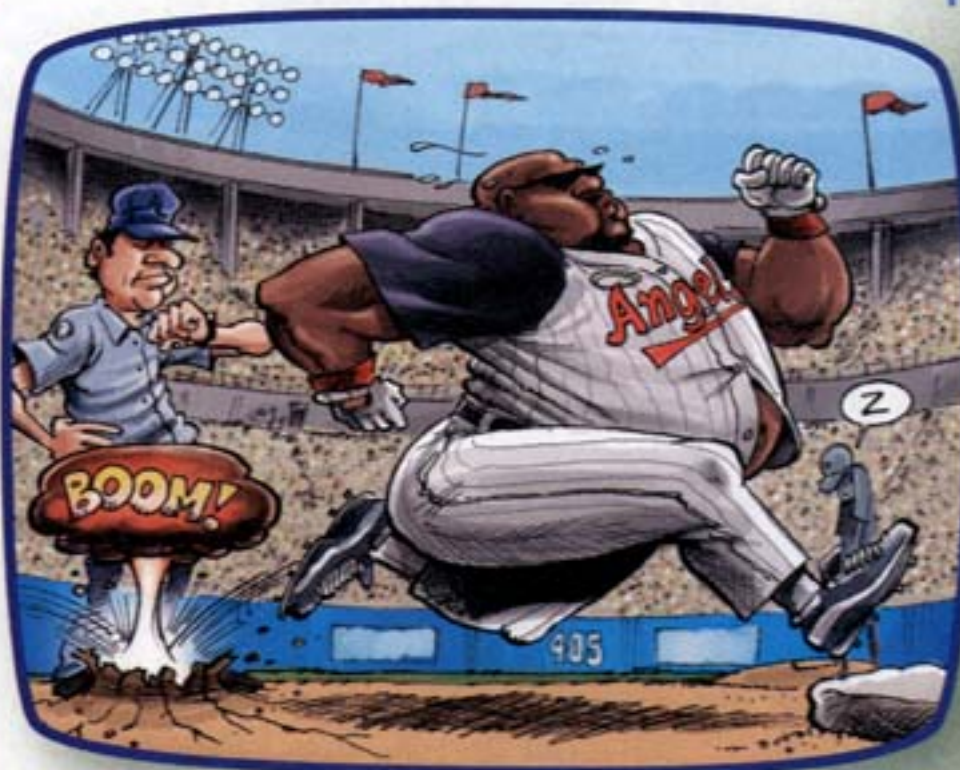
How come the announcers in golf are always whispering, when they're off in a soundproof TV booth nowhere near where the golfers are putting?



How come networks think showing top TV stars attending championship games is good promotion for their sitcoms, when it only makes us despise them and their shows for taking all the fabulous front row seats that are about a hundred times closer to the action than any of us will ever get?



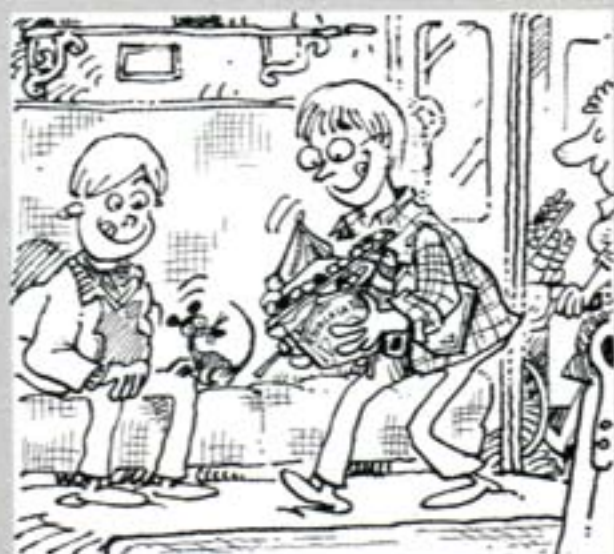
Why do announcers spend so much time discussing the "beautiful shots" being brought to us by the Met Life blimp...or the Fuji blimp...or the Budweiser, Goodyear or any other blimp, when every stadium looks pretty much the same from 5,000 feet?



Why do broadcasters keep calling the Kentucky Derby "the most exciting two minutes in sports," when nowadays, a much more likely candidate for that title is watching Anaheim's Mo Vaughn run the bases?



a MAD look at



ARTIST AND WRITER: SERGIO ARAGONÉS

Harry Potter











MAD's CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

Our team of crack oddsmakers gives you the latest Vegas line on how one of today's biggest stars will finally go out of print!

THIS MONTH'S FUTURE BODY TO BE BURIED IN POTTER'S FIELD:



J.K. ROWLING

CAUSE OF DEATH

ODDS

Killed by envious welfare mom/writers whose own napkin scribbles haven't sold squat

2:1

Run over by same literary critic who almost killed Stephen King with his van

5:1

Bleeds to death at book signing after being accidentally poked by 127 pointy wizard hats

10:1

Assassinated by TV industry for luring kids into the dangerous habit of reading

15:1

Sleep deprivation from worrying about impact of Christian Fundamentalist "Ban Harry Potter" campaigns on overall sales

200,000,000,000:1





sobeadrenalinrush.com

"The best crashes ever in a video game" - IGN

DRIVE
DANGEROUSLY.



The most spectacular real-time crashes. Ever.



The more reckless you drive, the more power you score.



Force your friends' cars into oncoming vehicles.



Drive like a madman through everyday traffic.

YOU GOTTA RISK IT ALL TO WIN IT ALL.

BURNOUT

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MILD VIOLENCE



PlayStation 2



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**WHAT
PROFESSIONAL
SECTOR IN OUR
FALTERING ECONOMY
IS ALWAYS
GUARANTEED A JOB?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS **MAD FOLD-IN**

The economy has slowed and a recession is looming, so unemployment is on the rise. Companies are downsizing and many employees are finding themselves out of a job. One group of trained professionals, however, are not scared by this slow-down a bit. To find out what group this is, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

**NO NEW
JOBS WEEK
29**



**SIGN UP FOR
UNEMPLOYMENT
CHECKS HERE**



**PLEASE
EXIT
DOOR 18**



MILLIONS ARE JOBLESS. POLITICAL REPORTS ARE CATCH-ALLS OF PHONY OPTIMISM. PEOPLE WORRY AND FEEL JOBS MAY BE GONE FOREVER. WHEN FAMILIES ARE LACKING RENT MONEY AND FOOD FOR CHILDREN THEY SOON BREAK DOWN MENTALLY. EACH AND EVERY PERSON'S PLAN MUST ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM. WE FACE A FANTASTIC SURGE IN UNEMPLOYMENT THAT COULD GO ON FOR MANY EONS

A

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

B

**WHAT
PROFESSIONAL
SECTOR IN OUR
FALTERING ECONOMY
IS ALWAYS
GUARANTEED A JOB?**



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A B

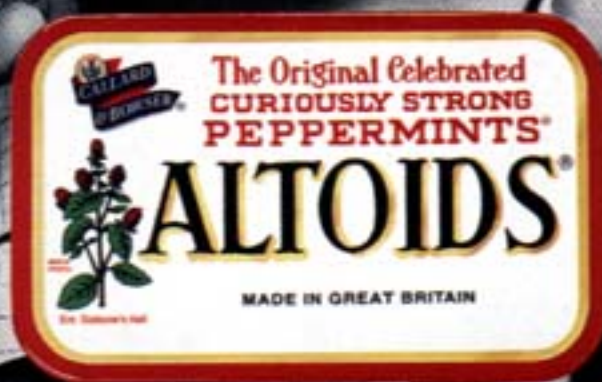
FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



**MICH-
AEL
JACK-

SON'S
PLASTIC
SURGEONS**

A B



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THE CURIOUSLY STRONG MINTS®