SPY vs SPY • SPIDER-MAN 2

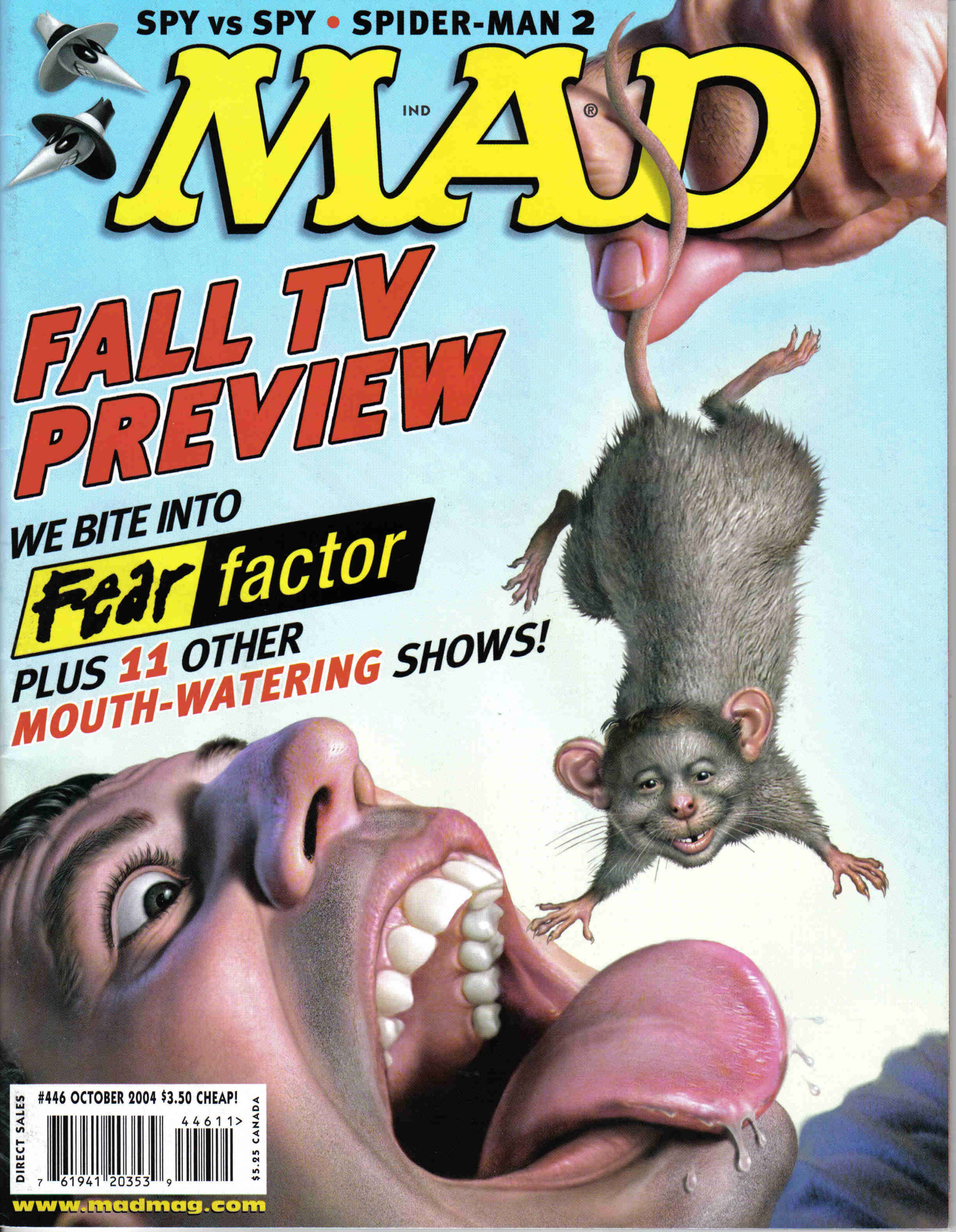
MAD

IND

FALL TV PREVIEW

WE BITE INTO **Fear factor**

PLUS 11 OTHER MOUTH-WATERING SHOWS!



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MAD

OCTOBER 2004 NUMBER 446

DEPARTMENTS

LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPARTMENT:
Random Samplings of Reader Mail 2

RANDOM ACTS OF MINDLESS DEPARTMENT:
The Fundalini Pages 8

THE WEB ZINGER DEPARTMENT:
"Spider-Sham Too" (A MAD Movie Satire) 12

SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPARTMENT:
A MAD Look at Paparazzi 18

PAPA DON'T TEACH DEPARTMENT:
The Downsides of Home Schooling 22

KEVIN CAN WAIT DEPARTMENT:
Five Degrees of Bacon 24

BETWEEN IRAQ AND JIHAD PLACE DEPARTMENT:
George W. Bush's 10-Point Plan for Fighting Terrorism 27

JOKE AND DAGGER DEPARTMENT:
Spy Vs. Spy 30

THE BASHIN' OF THE CHRIST DEPARTMENT:
The Bush Campaign's TV Commercial if He Was Running Against Jesus 32

THE NOT READY FOR CRIME TIME PLAYERS DEPARTMENT:
"Without a Trace of Interest/Old Case" (A MAD TV Satire) 33

BIAS BEWARE DEPARTMENT:
Your Candidate and My Candidate 40

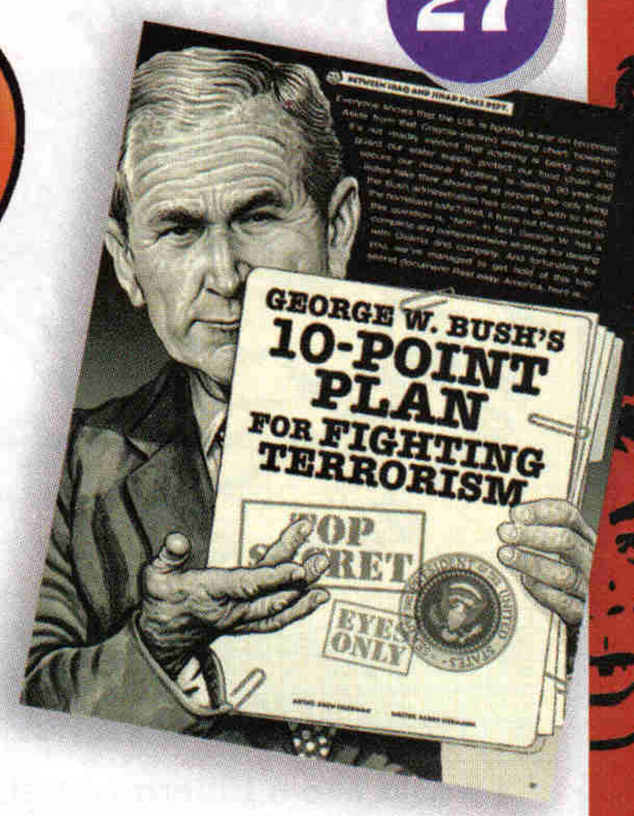
ANGSTER'S PARADISE DEPARTMENT:
Monroe and...Europe Part Three 42

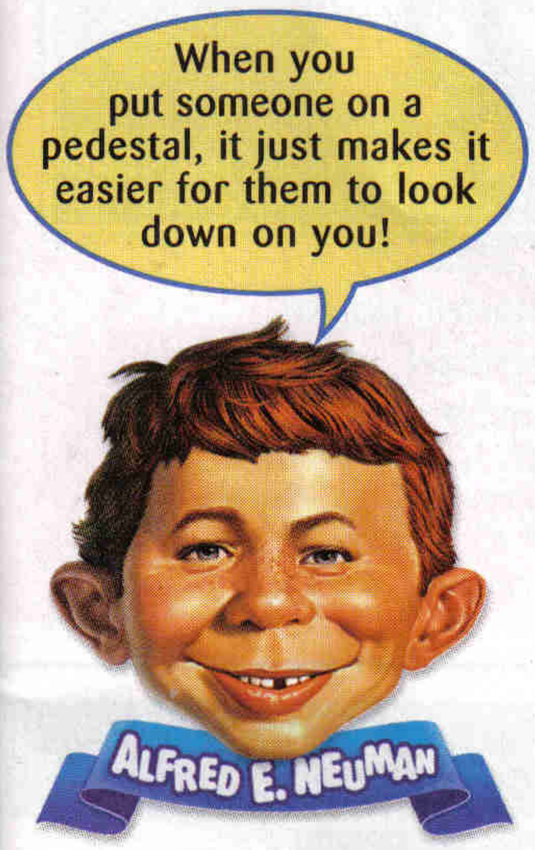
THE PASSION OF THE MICE DEPARTMENT:
If Mel Gibson Had Directed *Stuart Little* 44

SLACK TO THE FUTURE DEPARTMENT:
The Underachiever's Timeline 46

SHOW-FLOPPERS DEPARTMENT:
MAD's Fall TV Preview 48

MARGINAL THINKING DEPARTMENT:
"Drawn Out Dramas" by Sergio Aragones ..... Various Places Around the Magazine





FRONT COVER ARTIST:
MARK FREDRICKSON

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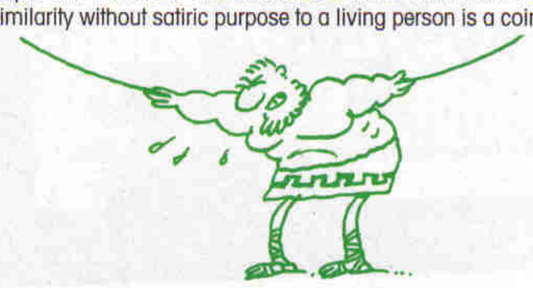
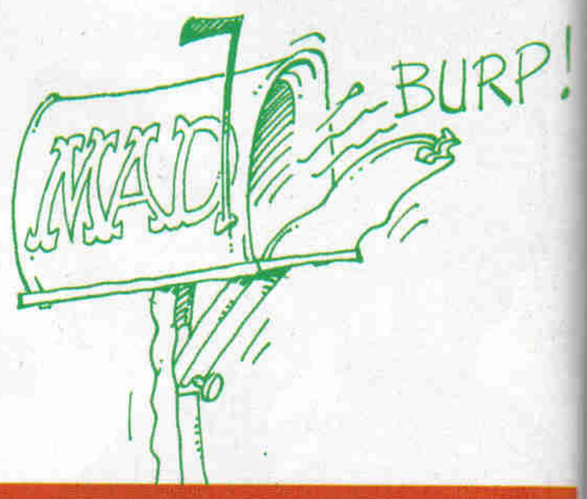


DEPARTMENT • TOMATOES • AND • LETTERS •



WHEN THE T-SHIRT HITS THE FAN

I would like a Bitterman t-shirt in large or extra-large. If you haven't made them yet, you're missing out on a great revenue item as that is the best thing in the magazine! Please send me in the right direction.

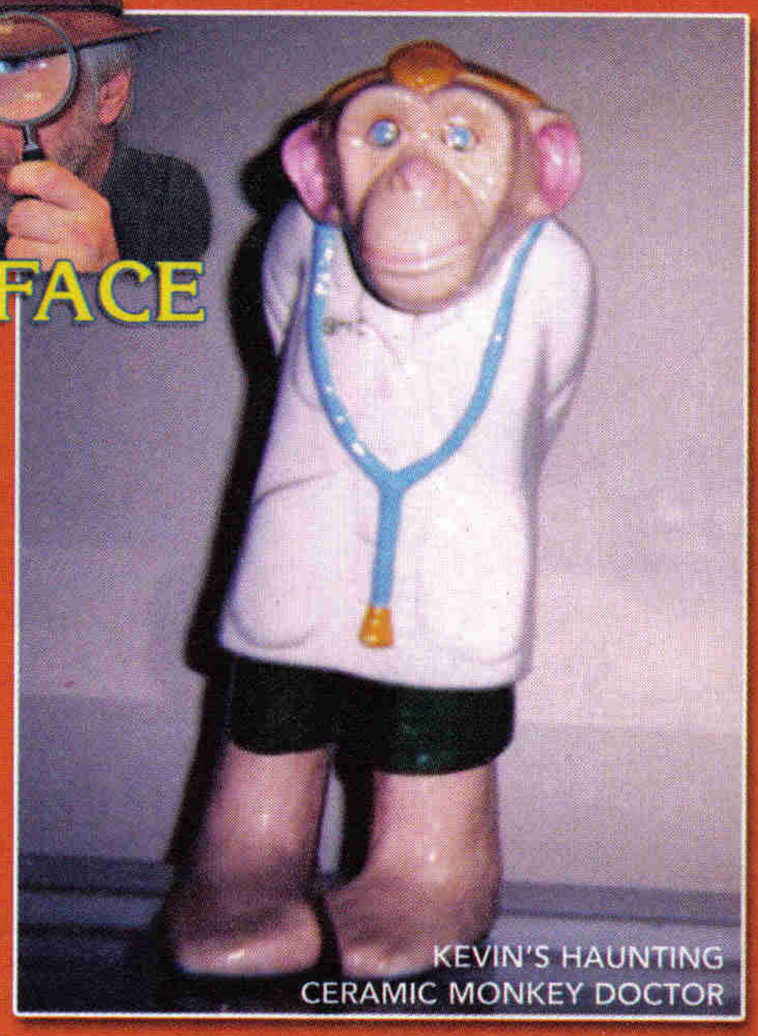
Tim Bucaro, Coconut Creek, FL

Bucaroo — Unfortunately, there is no Bitterman merchandise available at this moment. The good news, though, is that it has never been easier to make your own officially licensed Bitterman products! Here's how it's done — first you need to buy the exclusive rights from Bitterman creator Garth Gerhart and MAD Magazine, then apply for a small-business loan from a local money-lending institution, hire a design team to brainstorm graphics and materials for the shirt, then research which third-world children have the nimblest t-shirt-making fingers, and finally, find a "mule" to bring your finished t-shirt back to the good ol' U-S-of-A! Congratulations on completing your one large Bitterman t-shirt — repeat the above steps to make your very own extra-large t-shirt! —Ed.

ANTIQUES FREAKSHOW WITH HANS BRICKFACE

This ceramic monkey doctor has been in our family for at least 30 years. My dad was a doctor and a patient said she made it for him. His initials are on the coat pocket. When I turned 18 years old and was moving out of my house, I found Dr. Monkey in the garage. Much to my surprise, my father said I could have this priceless antique for free! I couldn't believe how generous my father could be. What a great man! Please tell me how much my monkey doctor is worth. That way, I can truly know the generosity of my father.

Kevin Behrens, El Paso, TX



KEVIN'S HAUNTING CERAMIC MONKEY DOCTOR

Han's Appraisal — If you had brought this item to my attention six months ago, I would have simply labeled it a disturbing and worthless hunk of crap and left it at that. But a lot has changed in the last six months, thanks in no small part to the runaway popularity of the MAD feature "Monkeys Are Always Funny." I have good news and bad news. The good news is it's a seller's market and if Dr. Monkey was in my shop, I could easily get you $40 for it. Now the bad news: if you had the complete set of "Professional Monkey Workers" (including Monkey Lawyer, Monkey Securities Trader and the ultra-rare Monkey Telemarketer) it could fetch upwards of $5,000 at auction. Call me when you find these three remaining gems!

ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

Just another rabid fan saying you guys rock hardcore! I love MAD! Hope you like the envelope!

Sarah Abele, Midwest City, OK

Honest Abe — Boy oh boy, between the request for Bitterman merchandise and this Envelope of the Month, it seems like the whole world is coming down with Bittermania! It's just a matter of time before Tim Bucaro's officially licensed t-shirts are electrifying the fashion scene of Midwest City, OK! —Ed.

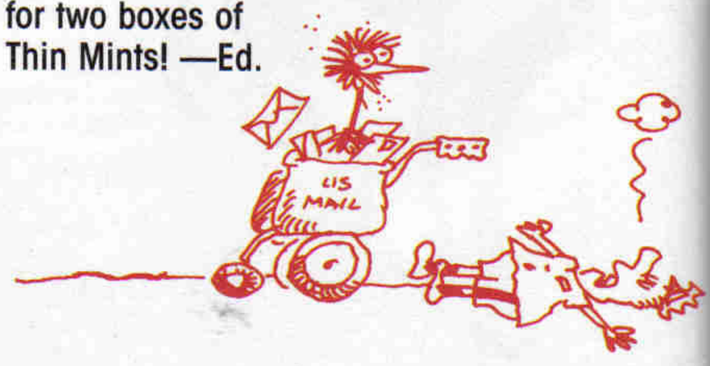
SARAH ABELE'S BITTERMANIACAL ENVELOPE

READ BADGE DISCOURAGED

I really enjoyed the article "The MAD World of High-Tech Communication" in issue #443. See, I'm in Boy Scout Troop #8 in Hinsdale, IL and I'm working on my Communications Merit Badge. I'm 14 years old and I'm the Senior Patrol Leader of this troop. This article helped me get this merit badge and I thank you for printing it.

John P. Anderson, Hinsdale, IL

Port-O-John — Thanks for your letter and congratulations on getting your Communications Merit Badge. With any luck, the Boy Scouts will soon debut a new merit badge for writing boring, boastful letters! Say hi to your Scout Master and go ahead and put us down for two boxes of Thin Mints! —Ed.



THE ED.'S NIFTY FIFTY™

Here's my submission for the **THE ED.'S NIFTY FIFTY™** — a picture of me, my current issue of MAD and Harvey Pekar. I work at the department of Sociology at the University of Minnesota. My department hosted a lecture with Mr. Pekar and also another small private discussion session with graduate students. He was impressed that he was identified as a "comic book superstar" (there was no acknowledgement of the "socially maladjusted" part). He also mentioned MAD Magazine during his public lecture, saying that MAD was one of the comics he first read as a youngster. Thanks MAD! Although my friends make fun of me that I still have a subscription to MAD at age 26, it's still one of my favorite reads!

Tovan Tran, Minneapolis, MN

A SKITTISH HARVEY PEKAR AND TOVAN TRAN

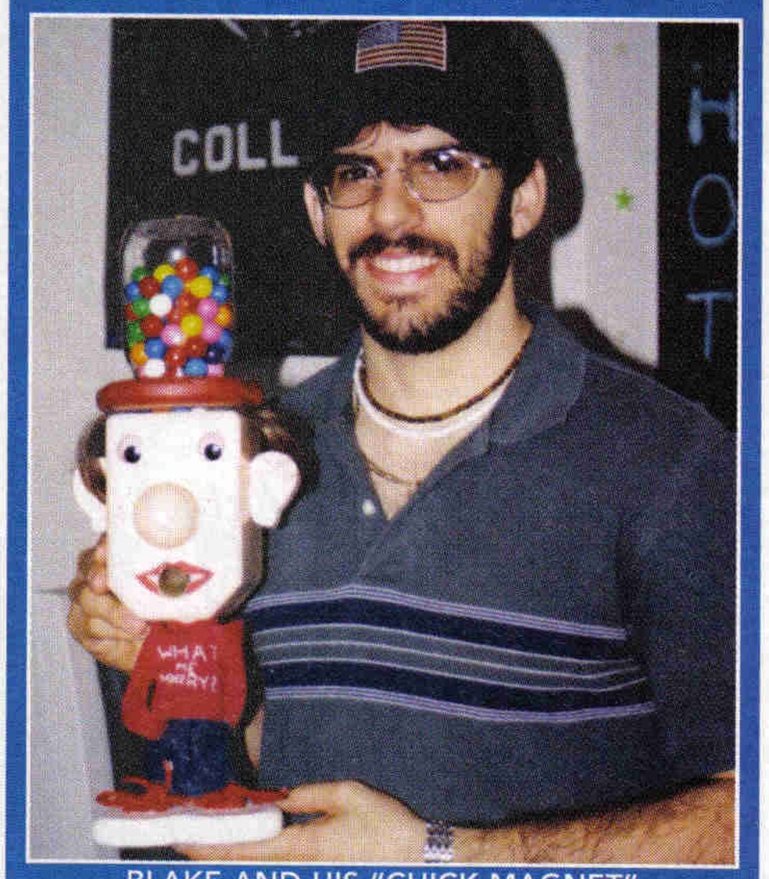
Tran-tastic — We have one question: why does *American Splendor* creator Harvey Pekar look like he's recoiling in disgust? We don't know if it's the magazine or you, but he looks a little scared and confused by the whole picture-taking process. We hope your shameless grab for a free three-year subscription hasn't scarred poor Harvey permanently! —Ed.

The Big Easel

This is me holding an Alfred E. Neuman gumball machine that I made back in 7th grade shop class. I am now a sophomore in college (as if the lack of facial grooming didn't give it away) and it's been sitting at my house ever since, so I figured it's about time I share my creation with those who inspired it. Needless to say, I was one of the few kids who failed shop that year.

Blake Young, Lake Jackson, TX

Shake 'n' Blake — Between your unsettling facial hair and the creepy bootleg Alfred gumball machine, we're betting that the ladies on campus are just *filling* the dry-erase board on your door with loads of sultry messages. For your sake, we hope you've changed the gumballs since you made it almost a decade ago! —Ed.



BLAKE AND HIS "CHICK MAGNET" GUMBALL MACHINE

READ IT AND CHEAP

I have been subscribing to your magazine for about eight years now. In that time, countless movies have been made. Because of your movie spoofs, I have not had to waste my money seeing any of them! I would like to thank you for saving me hundreds, possibly thousands, of dollars that would have been spent at the movies or the video store. And because my subscription is a gift subscription eight years running (thanks mom), I haven't paid a dime!

Chris Paladin, Baldwin, MO

Chris-tal — Thanks for your letter and for being such a loyal reader. However, if we may make a suggestion, perhaps you could take those "hundreds, possibly thousands, of dollars" that you saved and finally move out of your mom's basement! —Ed.

CAMP GROUNDS FOR CONCERN

I am a 12-year-old kid that reads your magazine a lot. I have been at summer camp for three weeks and I have nothing to read except two MAD magazines. I was hoping that you could send me one of those package things with MAD stuff, because my brain is dead reading the same crap for three weeks.

Max Eingorn, Nassau, NY

Tex-Max — Reading your letter got us thinking. Your parents sent you to some "camp" for the summer, and after three weeks, they still haven't sent any care packages? We have some bad news for you, Scout — clearly, your parents have lost interest in you and have moved on. We hope they taught you some survival skills at this "camp," 'cause you're on your own for the foreseeable future! We would gladly send you a batch of MADs, but it doesn't look like you're going to have a permanent address anytime soon! —Ed.

MAD FAN OF THE MONTH

MAD FAN OF THE MONTH, FRED GAGIN

This odd creature is my Grandfather-in-law, visiting Arizona from Canada. His name is Fred Gagin — besides being a MAD fan, he is probably the oldest MAD fan!

Wyatt Loren, Ontario, Canada

Wyatt Riot — Not only is Fred the oldest MAD fan, but in our estimation, he's also the creepiest! On the upside though, since he is only an in-law (as you were so eager to point out) at least you don't share any genes with him! Vive le snug Spy Vs. Spy boxer shorts! —Ed.

ALFRED LOOK-A-LIKE

DERRICK'S SCARILY ACCURATE ALFRED LOOK-A-LIKE

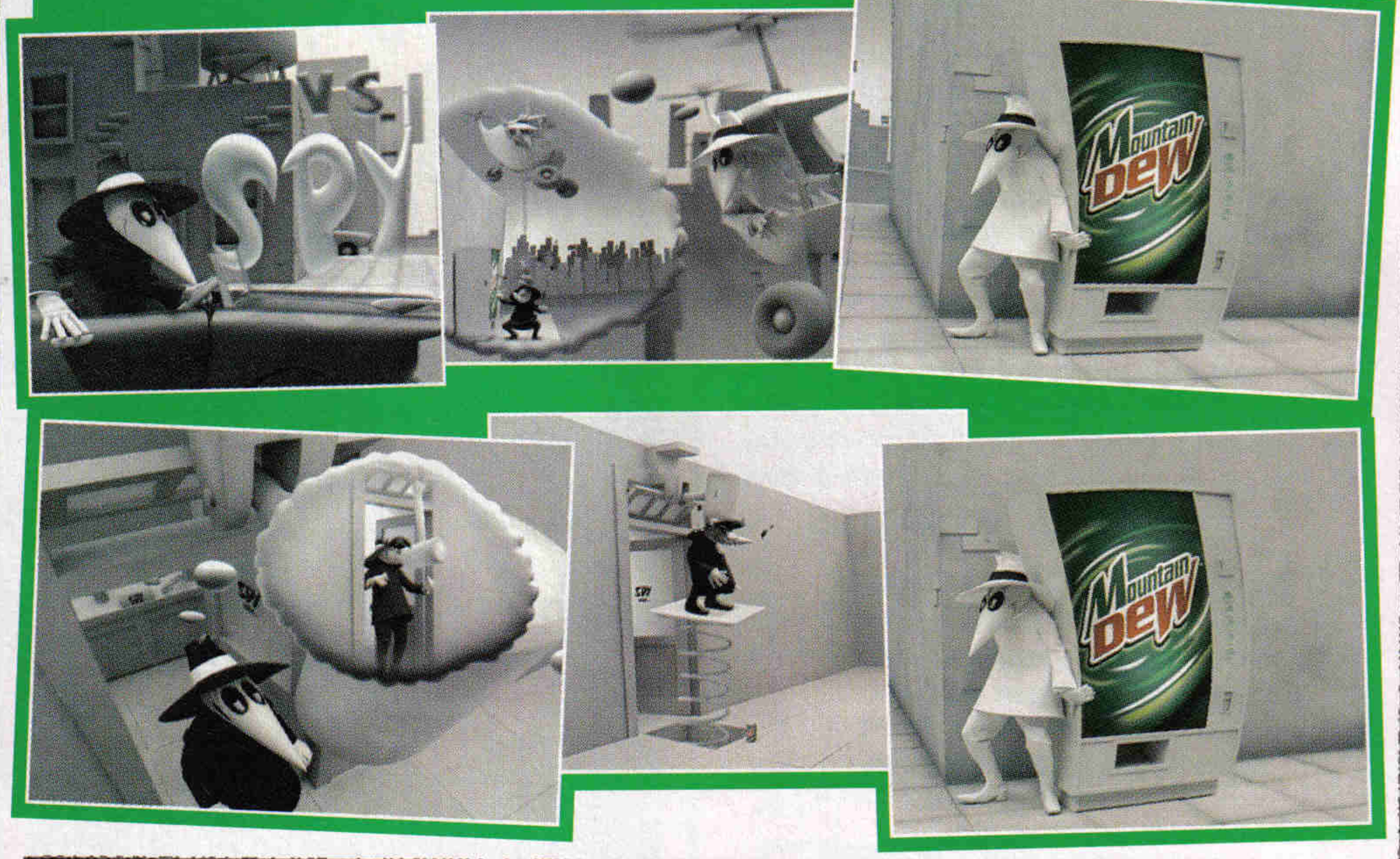
While at my brother's baseball game, I noticed a young boy who resembled Mr. Neuman. Jordan Whittingslow of Puyallup, WA, age seven, was eager to make his contribution. I hope this lands me a prize of some sort!

Derrick Morlino, Spanaway, WA

Sunny D — We're happy that you sent in this picture, unfortunately, no prize is given for Alfred look-a-likes. However, what we can give you is a valuable life lesson — as a rule of thumb, it's probably not the best idea to approach strange young boys and ask to take their picture. (Even the most innocent of intentions can be wildly misinterpreted, take our word on this!) In any event, we're sorry that you risked arrest for nothing! —Ed.

THE SPIES HAVE IT

MAD fans and soda lovers everywhere were overjoyed to see the new Mountain Dew ads featuring MAD's own deceitful duo, Spy Vs. Spy, battling it out over a can of Dew. Below are a few pictures from the two commercials that are currently running. They can also be viewed at mountaindew.com!



NEXT MONTH IN MAD #447 ON SALE OCTOBER 12!

OUR BIG POLITICAL ISSUE!

NEXT MONTH IN MAD XL #30 ON SALE OCTOBER 12!

AN ALL-NEW SPY VS. SPY JACK-O-LANTERN STENCIL, MAD ARTIST OF THE MONTH: IRVING SCHILD AND A HALLOWEEN FILM FESTIVAL!

READER ALERT!

Check out MAD XL #30 for an exclusive Spy Vs. Spy jack-o-lantern stencil! As if their Mountain Dew commercials weren't exposure enough, soon our very own Spies will grace countless pumpkins around the world!

MAD

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founder

John Ficarra
editor

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Dick DeBartolo *creative consultant*

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Contributing Artists And Writers
the usual gang of idiots

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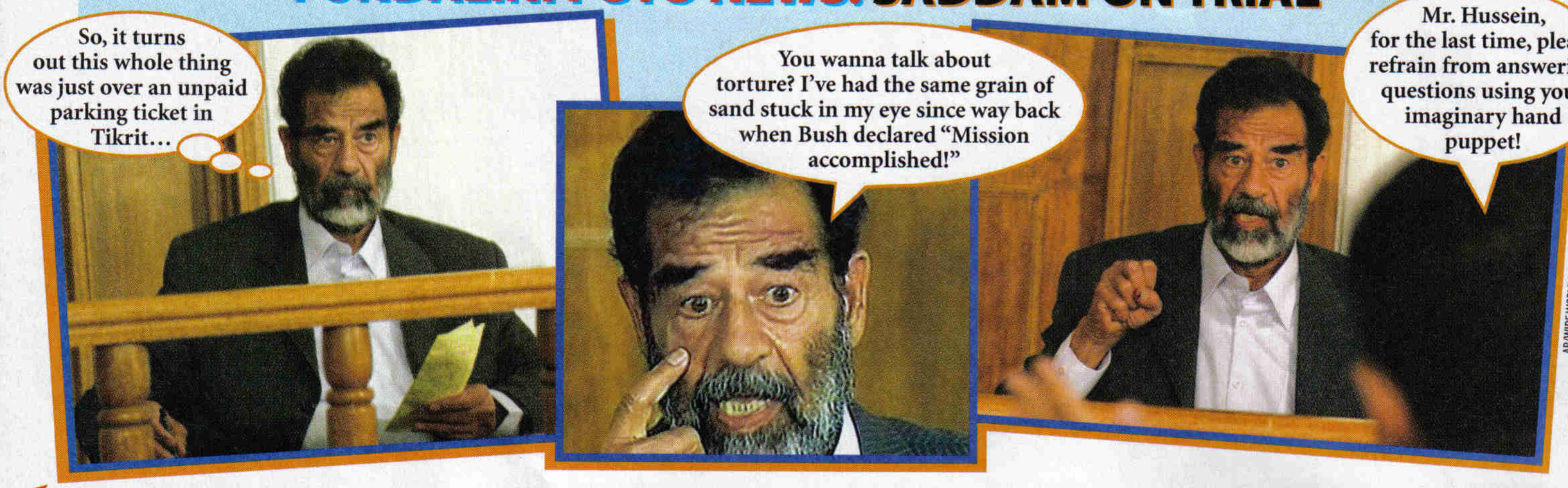
Fax MAD at 212-506-4848!

THE FUNDALINI

FUNDALINI FOTO NEWS: SADDAM ON TRIAL



AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

THINGS YOU'LL NEVER HEAR ON ESPN

COLLEGE BASKETBALL
"He looks off the open man and launches another ill-advised, off-balance, running one-hander! I haven't seen shot selection that bad since Jayson Williams showed off his shotgun!"

COLLEGE FOOTBALL
"You know, the Miami Hurricanes are fielding a frontline of six convicted felons. That's a new NCAA record!"

SOCCER
"This game would be considered one of the all-time classics if anyone in America actually gave a damn about this sport."

FIGURE SKATING
"This guy's so effeminate on the ice he makes Tara Lipinski look like Mark Messier!"

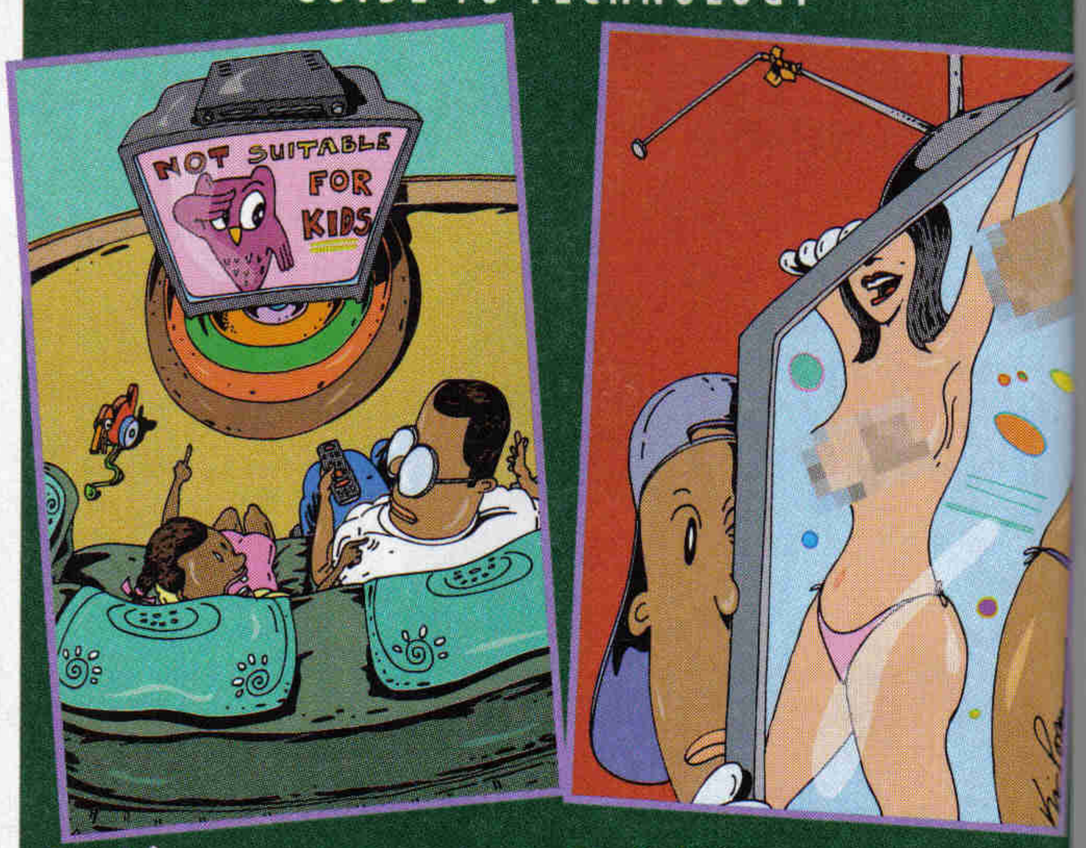
NBA
"Could this game be any more boring? At least if this were the WNBA, there'd be lesbians making out in the crowd to look at."

NASCAR
"And here come the cars around the track. Only 499 laps of the exact same thing to go, folks!"

BASEBALL
"Fans, this pitcher's working so fast that you barely have time to grab a beer and take a leak in between pitches!"

HOCKEY
"That's the sixth fight of the game — not counting the one that's been going on in the stands since the start of the second period!"

MELVIN & JENKINS' GUIDE TO TECHNOLOGY



Jenkins doesn't like censorship, but feels that some sort of lookout device may be a necessity for parents with small, impressionable children.

Melvin still hasn't figured out that it's impossible to see the naked boobies behind those squiggly squares on the E! *Hot On The Beach* specials even by sidling next to the TV and peeking at a super-sharp angle.

MAMA-MAFIA

PAGES

ON SALE NOW!

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 MEET HIS DEMISE!

This month:
MICHAEL MOORE

CAUSE OF DEATH	ODDS
Shot in Iraq (after being drafted by special Presidential order)	2:1
Killed by bad vibes of millions of Conservatives just *thinking* about him being dead	10:1
Massive shock when one of his films actually changes someone's mind	20:1
Infection from sweatband-borne bacteria inside unwashed baseball cap he's been wearing non-stop for 10 years	35:1
Sexually transmitted disease	12,000,000,000:1

NEW REALITY SHOWS CURRENTLY IN DEVELOPMENT AT FOX TV

- Pimp My Riding Mower
- The Amazing Race Riot
- Who Wants to Slip My Dad The Tongue?

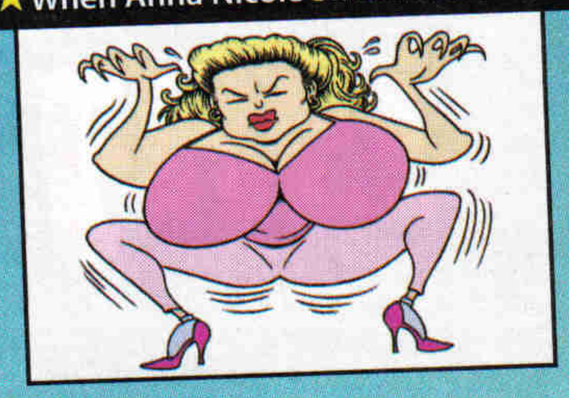
Celebrity Strip Poker

- Last Crackhead Standing
- Who Wants to Be an Organ Donor?
- Deaf, Dumb and Blind Date
- I'm Amish, Get Me Out of Here!
- My Big Fat Obnoxious Goiter
- When Animals Have Heart Attacks
- The O'Reilly Fear Factor
- Who Wants to Buy Me a George Foreman Grill?
- Real World: Survivor
- Colonial Sorority House
- Who Wants to Shave My Chinchilla?
- Trading Braces

Who Wants to Touch My Cyst?

- Who Wants to Kidney Punch Donald Trump?
- Extreme Pap Smear
- America's Next Top Mohel
- Who Wants to Give Dick Cheney an Angioplasty?
- Homo-Erotic High School Reunion
- Extreme Makeover: Cadaver Edition
- Who Wants to Marry The Apprentice?
- I Want a Prostate Exam
- Trading Races
- Survivor: Bayonne
- Who Wants to Be an Actor With No Lines Who Dies on a Star Trek Episode?
- Self-Love Cruise
- Scar Search
- Who Wants to Tell the Angry Homeless Man on the Subway to Shut Up?

When Anna Nicole Smith Attacks



- Pimp My Bride
- Who Wants to Get Knocked Up by My Dad?
- World's Craziest Restaurant Chases
- America's Next Drug-Addicted Model
- Celebrity Cockfights
- Who Wants to Pull the Plug on My Big Fat Comatose Grandmother?
- Who Wants to Help Me Dispose of the Body?
- The Apprentice's Apprentice
- When Radiologists Attack
- Who Wants to Give My Dad a Happy Ending?
- Roadkill Rules
- Average Joe Priest

Who Wants to Bitch Slap Tori Spelling?

- Project Greenspan
- Celebrity Photographer Beating
- Who Wants to Steal Another Election?
- Tranny Island
- My Loud Bloated Dyslexic Podiatrist

THE PUZZLE NOOK

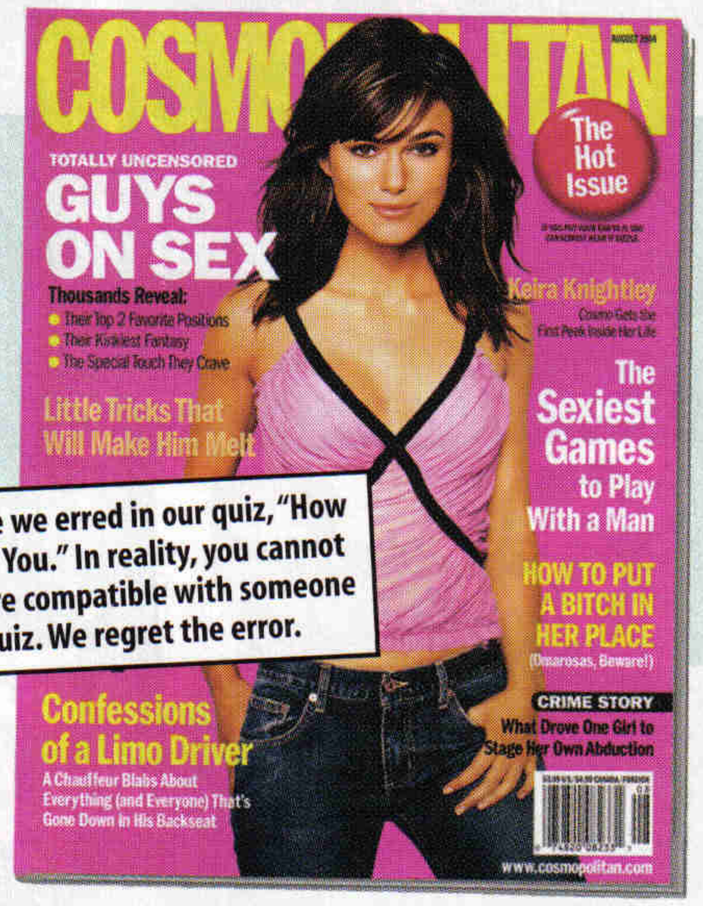
Which of the 4 choices best completes this phrase?

_?_ RA MAKES YOU LOOK 10 POUNDS HEAVIER.

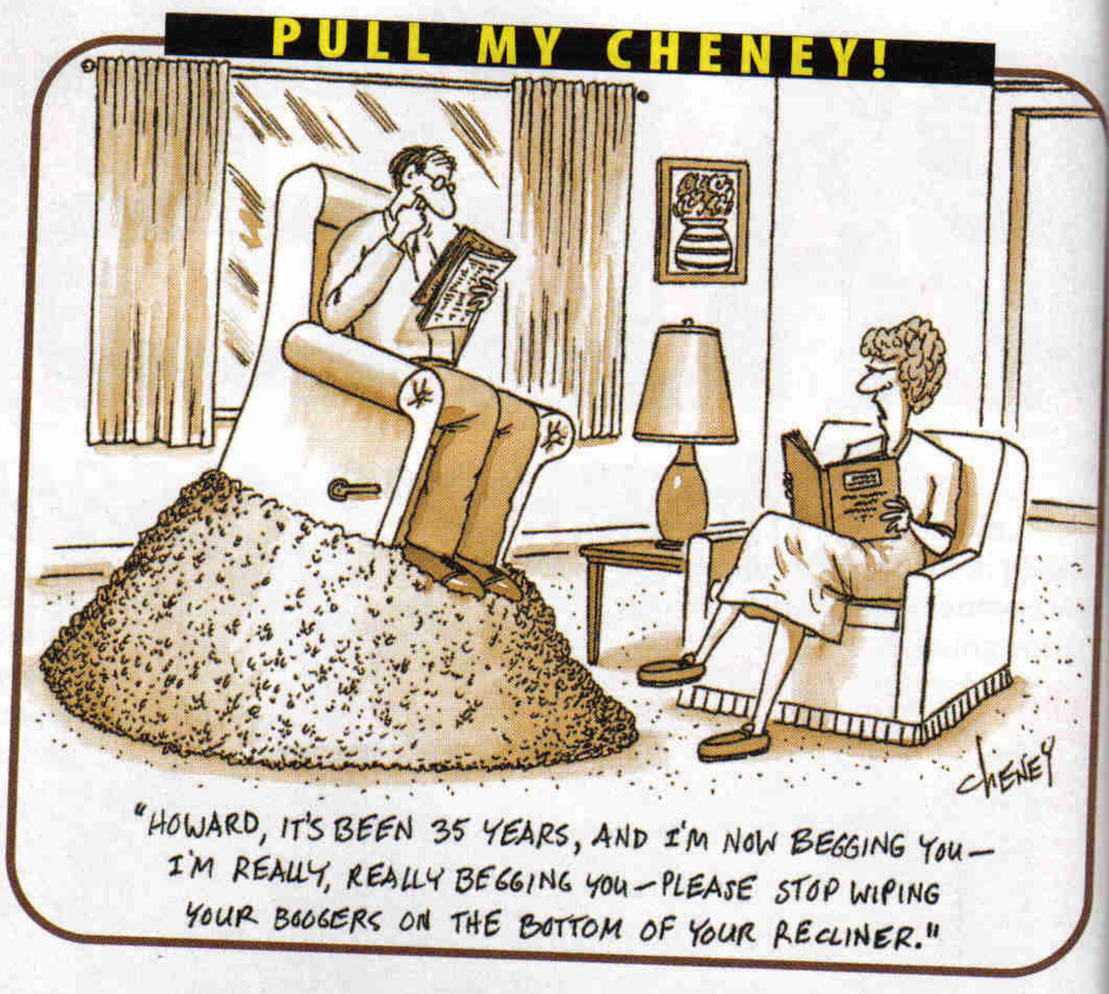
1. THE CAME-
2. USING VIAG-
3. WEARING A MIRACLE B-
4. STANDING NEXT TO CHRISTINA AGUILE-

THE FUNDALINI PAGES

MAGAZINE CORRECTIONS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



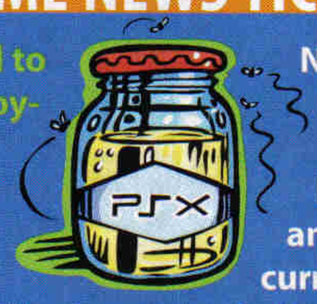
In our August, 2004 issue we erred in our quiz, "How to Tell if He's the One for You." In reality, you cannot tell whether or not you're compatible with someone on the basis of a short quiz. We regret the error.



BITTERMAN

VIDEO GAME NEWS TICKER

Next generation PlayStation console rumored to ship bundled with pickle jar to eliminate annoying bathroom break pauses...Release of *NCAA '05* on hold until designers work out the "bribery recruitment" software virus... Square Enix game designers: "Nothing ironic about a game called *Final Fantasy XI*"... Democratic Presidential nominee John Kerry throws away his Electronic Arts' *Medal of Honor* disc to protest video game violence... Sony Pictures announces rapper DMX to star in *Grand Theft Auto:* The Movie... Gamers complain: "*Conflict: Desert Storm II: Back to Baghdad* takes much longer to finish than game designers led us to believe"...



Nintendo President Satoru Iwata announces re-release of classic 8-bit console aimed at nostalgia market; boasts bulky cotrollers, primitive graphics and tinny sound; will sell at same price as current model...High scoring *MLB 2005* gamer admits to using corked-bat cheat code...To reach broader demographic, Nintendo announces new gay themed titles: *Richard Simmons' Final Fantasy, Queer Eye for the Donkey Kong Guy, The SIMS: Massachusetts Same-sex Wedding expansion pack, Sweaty Navy Seals,* and *WWE Rubdown*...

FRIENDS OF FUNDALINI

Charles Akins
Tom Cheney
Desmond Devlin
Duck Edwing
Josh Eiserike
Garth Gerhart
Charlie Kadau
Jeff Kruse
Patrick Merrell
Kevin Pope
David Shayne
Mike Snider
Jack Syracuse
Rick Tulka

THE WEB ZINGER DEPT.

Peeper Porker is having trouble expressing his feelings of love for MT. And he's not sure he can reveal his identity to his friends and family. Oh, and he has to fight a scientist friend who just went crazy. Sound familiar? Sure, they can add some new special effects, but don't be fooled – it's just the same endless parade of boring problems and plotlines as the first movie! Which means it's just a...

SPIDER

My **goal** was to **create** a **perpetual sun** that **never stopped shining! Ten percent** of it was **funded** by **OurCrap Corporation** and the **other 90%** was **funded** by **Coppertone!** But now I **wish** it was **funded** by **Allstate**, because this **piece** of **crap** I built is **totally** out of **control** and it's **definitely** ***not*** in **good hands!**

Help! Spider-Sham, help us! **Doc Schlock** is having a **wardrobe malfunction** of **epic proportions!**

When my **father** was **killed** in a **fight** with **Spider-Sham** and I took over as **President** of **OurCrap Corporation,** I **promised him** I'd continue to **fund experiments** that were likely to go **out** of **control** and **destroy innocent lives!** I mean it ***is*** the **family business!** That's **why** I put **money** into backing this **physics genius!** The **problem** is, he keeps **asking** me for **more** and **more funds** — and now he's ***really*** putting the **squeeze** on **me!**

It's at **times** like **this** that I wish my **husband Been** was **here** — but then I **think**, what **good** would he **be**? He's **dead!** Didn't you **schmucks** see the **first** ***Spider-Sham*** **movie**?

ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

-SHAM TOO

Peeper Porker was **supposed** to **meet** me here, but I'm **still waiting! Actually,** it would be great if he **showed** up **now!** Maybe he'll **get jealous** if he **sees** me in the arms of **another man**, even *if* they're **razor-sharp metal alloy arms!**

DAILY ? BUNGLE

MAN BITES DOG

DOG SUES

MAX KORN ANNOUNCES BID FOR PRESIDENT

Spider-Sham's not doing a **thing** to **help us!** He **must be** in another one of his "**split personality" quandaries!** Anyone know how to **get** in **touch** with **Superman?** At least **DC characters** save **lives** with **none** of the **angst!**

Oh God, another crisis! **What** should **I do?** The more **I** follow my **inner superhero instincts**, the less **I** follow my **outer "average Joe" instincts** and the less I get to see my **girlfriend, MT!** And I want to **see** her **more, not less!** At least that's what **I think**...**more** or **less!**

This will **shut down** Doc's out of control **machine!** I **hope** it's the **right plug!** I'd hate to **accidentally disconnect** his **VCR,** or worse, his **answering machine! Resetting** the **clocks** on those things is a **bitch,** even if you *are* a **brilliant scientist!**

At last **Spider-Sham** is **taking** some **action!**

Look on the **bright side!** The **super magnetic force** the machine created when it went **haywire** brought us some **taxis! Normally** it's **impossible** to get a **cab** in this **part** of **town!**

You **ruined** my **life's work, Spider-Sham!** This **machine** would have developed **free electricity** for the **entire world!** Plus, all **these arms** were sure to **bag** me the "Best Apple Picker" title! But you **ruined everything!** You are my **archenemy** for all of **eternity, Spider-Sham!** Well, okay, you're my **archenemy** for the **next two hours and ten minutes!** But it will **seem like** an **eternity, trust me!**

THIS OUTLET RATED FOR 500 TRILLION GIGA-AMPS DO NOT OVERLOAD

TAXI

SUPER VILLIAN'S GYM YONKERS

Q TIPS

I just **got** a **phone call** from **St. Overdose Hospital!** A **man** with **four extra arms** has gone **berserk!** I **want him** on the **front page!** I'll **dub him** the **Obnoxious Octopus!**

Octopus? An **octopus** has **eight arms! How** can you call him **octopus** when he **only** has **four arms?**

Because it **sounds better** than the **Quad Clod,** you **idiot!**

GAS AWAY

I **didn't want** to **tell** you, **Peeper,** but I **need** to get a **loan** to **save** my **house!**

I **know** that the **bank** is **foreclosing** on your **mortgage, Aunt Mayday!**

How did you **find out?**

You put **a copy** of the **foreclosure notice** in with my **birthday card** last **week!** By the way, **thanks** for the **$20 I.O.U!**

LOAN DEPT.

MOVIE PRODUCTION FINANCING

I **need money!** Lots of **money** to rebuild my **machine!** Oh my **God,** I just thought of **something!** I'm **not wearing** a **mask!** I hope **no one** can **identify** me after I **leave!**

He's **making off** with **millions** of **dollars** in **cash!**

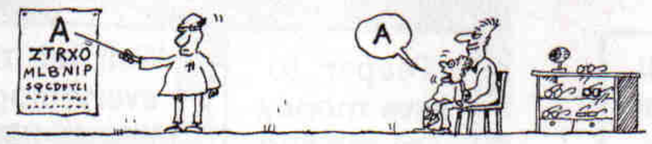
Look at the **bright side, Harry!** Our **branch never held** the single day **deposit record,** but now no other **branch** will **ever top** our single day **withdrawal record!**

Peeper, I'm in a **play** that **everyone's seen** but **you!** I even sent you **free tickets!** I have to **stop thinking** about **you,** because you obviously **don't care** about **me** or **listen!**

MT that's **ridiculous! I think** about you **all** the **time! I hang** on your **every word!**

So why **didn't** you **come** to **see** my **play?**

What, you're in a **play?** That's **great!** Let me **know** when it **opens** and **I'll** be **there!** Maybe you could **send** me some **free tickets!**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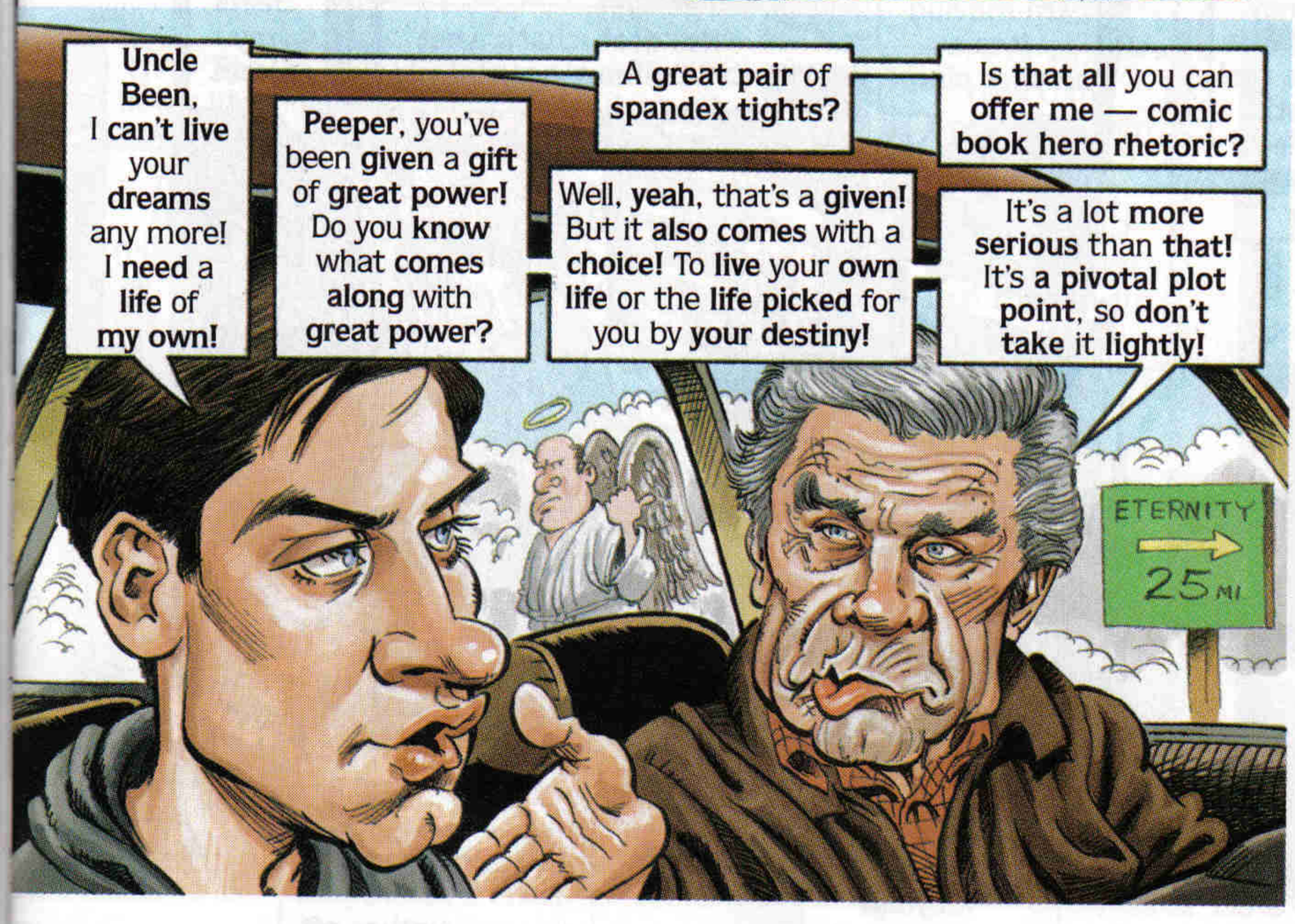
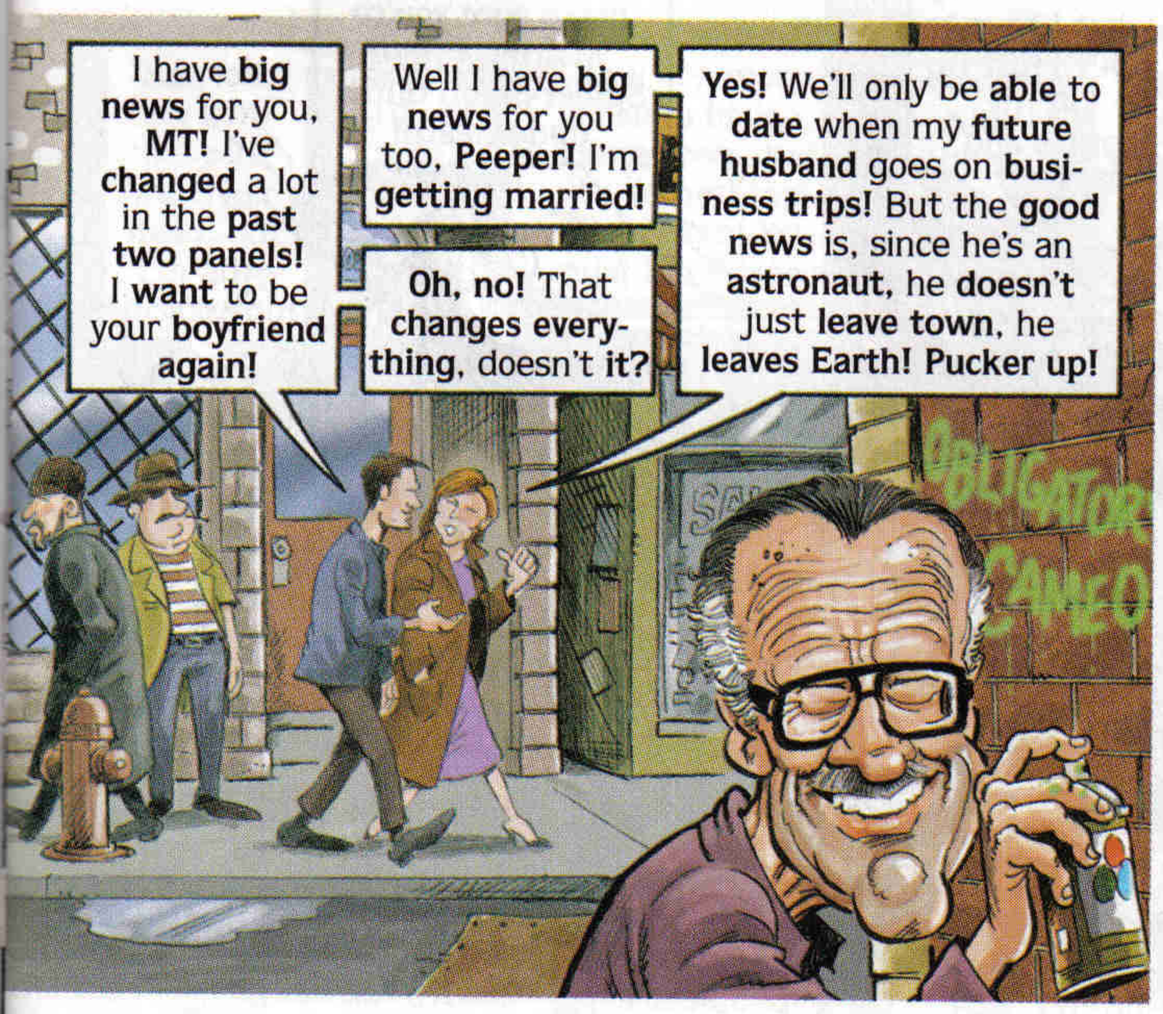
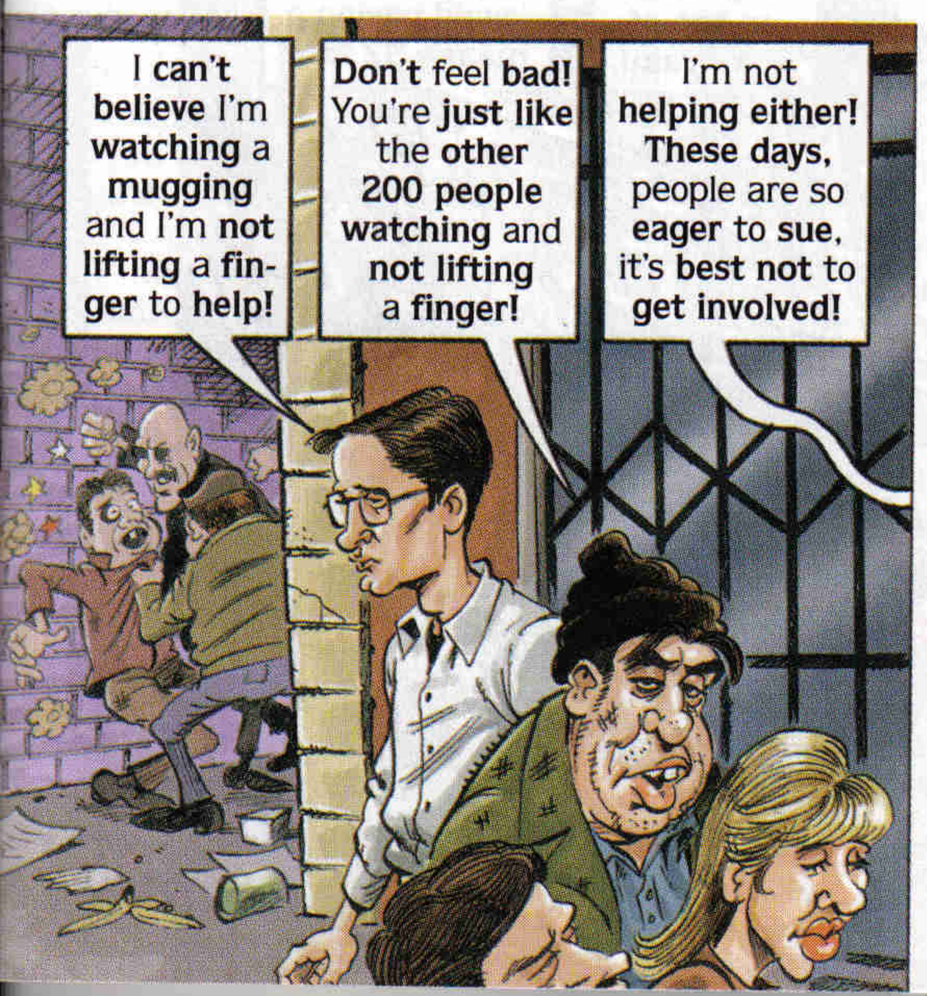

Uncle Been, I can't live your dreams any more! I need a life of my own!
Peeper, you've been given a gift of great power! Do you know what comes along with great power?
A great pair of spandex tights?
Well, yeah, that's a given! But it also comes with a choice! To live your own life or the life picked for you by your destiny!
Is that all you can offer me — comic book hero rhetoric?
It's a lot more serious than that! It's a pivotal plot point, so don't take it lightly!
ETERNITY
25 MI

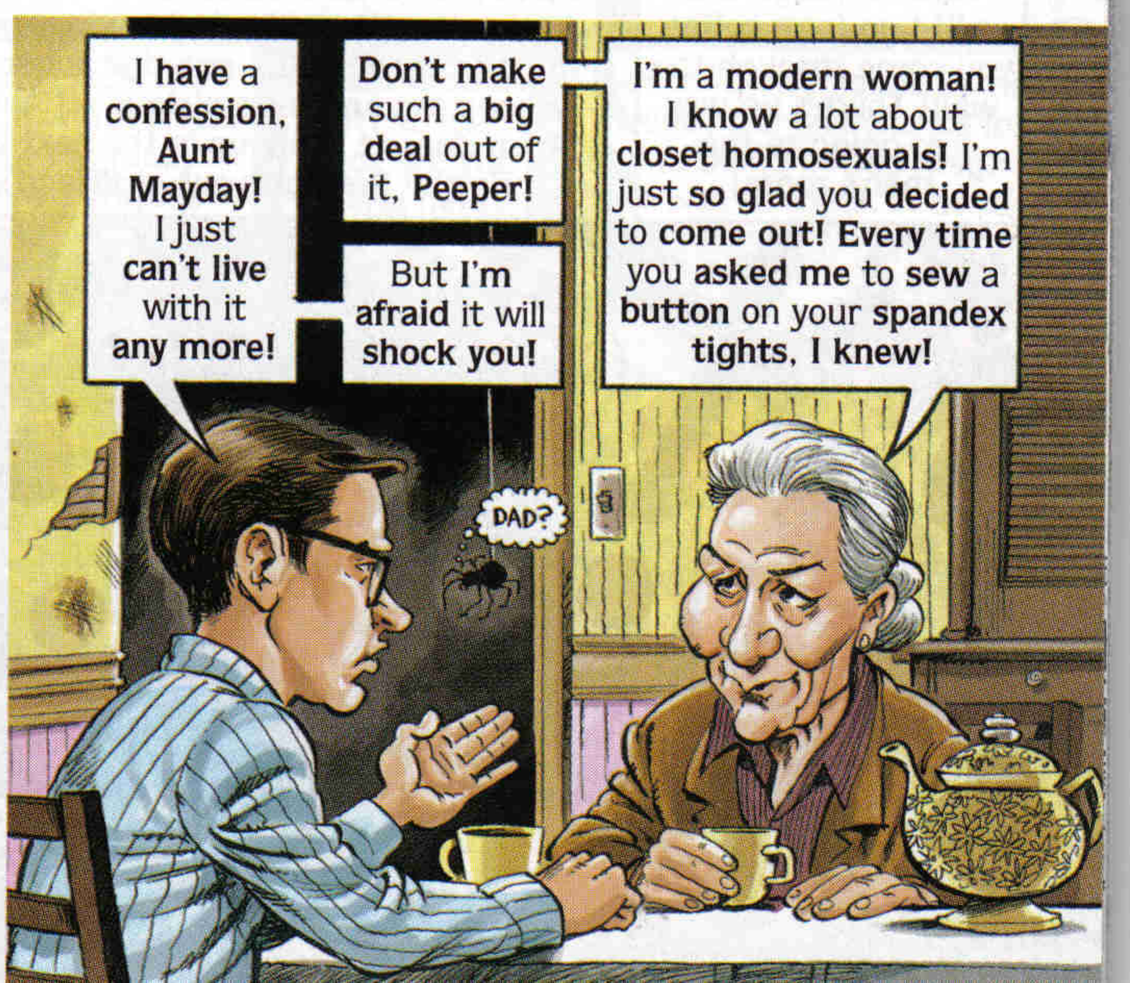
Hey did you throw this uniform in the garbage?
Yes, sir!
Well, listen up! Monday, you can put out newspapers! Wednesday, you can put out metal and glass! Friday, it's plastic and Saturday, it's discarded superhero costume day! Today's Friday! That's gonna cost you $25!
Big deal! I'll send them five bucks and my aunt's $20 I.O.U.!
LOST!
AUDIENCE'S ATTENTION DURING THESE LONG, BORING, NO SPIDER-MAN SCENES!
IF FOUND, CALL SAM RAIMI 555-PLOT


I have big news for you, MT! I've changed a lot in the past two panels! I want to be your boyfriend again!
Well I have big news for you too, Peeper! I'm getting married!
Oh, no! That changes everything, doesn't it?
Yes! We'll only be able to date when my future husband goes on business trips! But the good news is, since he's an astronaut, he doesn't just leave town, he leaves Earth! Pucker up!

I found this in the garbage!
Stop the presses! I want a new front page headline! "Spider-Sham Ends Career!" Then a smaller headline: "Sends publisher of Daily Bungle his Uniform As Proof He's Retired!"
Chief, how can you make up headlines that aren't true?
Easy, I trained at The New York Post!
NEW YORK POST
KERRY'S


I can't believe I'm watching a mugging and I'm not lifting a finger to help!
Don't feel bad! You're just like the other 200 people watching and not lifting a finger!
I'm not helping either! These days, people are so eager to sue, it's best not to get involved!

Who said that?
I did!


I have a confession, Aunt Mayday! I just can't live with it any more!
Don't make such a big deal out of it, Peeper!
But I'm afraid it will shock you!
I'm a modern woman! I know a lot about closet homosexuals! I'm just so glad you decided to come out! Every time you asked me to sew a button on your spandex tights, I knew!
DAD?

It's **nothing** like **that, Aunt Mayday!** It's about **Uncle Been!** You see, **before** he **died,** he **drove me** to the **library**, but I went some-**place else!** I **entered** a **wrestling match** and **won** some **money**, but then the **guy** who **owned** the **arena** wouldn't **pay me!** Then a **thief stole** the **owner's money** and **tried** to **take Uncle Been's car!** So, **because** of my **desire** for **revenge**, **Uncle Been** got **shot!** I tried to **tell you** this so **many times**, but you always **fell asleep!**

ZZZZ--zzz-z-z-z-zz-z-z!

Peeper, to **save money**, I'm **moving** into a **smaller place!**

Well, **let me help!** Should I **put everything** in this **big carton?**

No, dear, *that's* **what** I'm **moving into!**

Not bad! Beats my **place!**

HOME SWEET HOME

See that **boy?** One **day** he **wants** to be **Spider-Sham...**

Yeah, well **tough**, because I **got** a **five picture deal!** I mean, **really?** He **does?**

Spider-Sham is a **hero!** And **everybody loves** a **hero!** And sometimes in **order** to be a **hero**, we **have** to **give up** our **dream!** Or **even** a **girlfriend! Even** if that **girlfriend** is **named MT!** If **I'm being** too **subtle** here, let me **know** and I'll **dumb it down** for **you!**

No, **Aunt Mayday**, I know **exactly** what I **have** to **do!** I'll **just rip off** my **clothes** and...

BED ROOM

KITCHEN

UP

SECRET SPIDER LAIR

RIP!

One other **piece** of **advice!** Before you **rip** your **clothes off**, make **sure** you're **wearing** you're **Spider-Sham outfit underneath!**

What is **it** with **you?** I **go** to the **bank**, **you come** through the **wall!** I **go** for a **coffee**, **you come** through the **wall!** There's **no way** I'm **going** to the **men's room!**

Find your **friend Spider-Sham** and **tell him** to **meet me** at **42nd Street** and the **Hudson River! At** the **pier** that's always **blowing up** and **shooting** off **fireballs!** The **one** that for some **strange reason**, **no one** is **suspicious** of! And if **Spider-Sham doesn't show up** in the **next 24 hours**, I'll **rip** the **flesh off** your **girlfriend's bones!**

Okay, but **no kissing her!** I **couldn't stand that!**

LATTE SPECIAL

PICK UP ORDER

Look! Two people are **fighting** on **top** of that **train!**

Some **cheap-skates** will do **anything** to **avoid paying** a **measly $2 fare!**

Raid

CLEARANCE 12' 4"

Th — Tha — That was the most difficult thing I did in my life, but I stopped this speeding subway train!

Yeah and you ripped up six miles of track and almost destroyed the train!

If you had just waited another 15 seconds, the automatic brakes would have stopped the train with *zero* damage! You fool!

How come Uncle Been with all his sage advice never metioned the lack of gratitude that comes with this job?

DOES THIS GUY *EVER* WEAR HIS MASK?!?

Spider-Sham is Peeper Porker! My best friend murdered my father!

Murdered is a strong word! I did kill him, though! He was trying to take over the world!

Take over the world? He combined two apartments into one to make a workshop! Granted he was concocting lethal gas, developing powerful bombs and generating tons of toxic waste, but at least the man had a hobby! Cut him some slack, will ya?

Harried, my son! It's your Father! I'm dead, but I'm alive inside you!

I-I-I see you! Is it a psychic spirit?

Naw, it's more like a little cameo role, but it's something! Now listen! You must kill Peeper!

Kill him to avenge your death?

No, you moron, to set up another sequel!

Doc, your Thermo-Nuclear Titanium Sun Ball has erupted beyond your control! You know it must be stopped! How about we drown it in the river?

That may not work! What if the ball can swim?

That's a chance we're just going to have to take!

MT, I thought you were marrying my boss's astronaut son today!

I couldn't marry him! We found out we have a personality conflict — I have one and he doesn't! Besides, I love you! Marry me!

I want to, but I can't! I'm Spider-Sham, and to get back at me, people will try to kill you!

That's not a problem, Peeper! I have a secret, too!

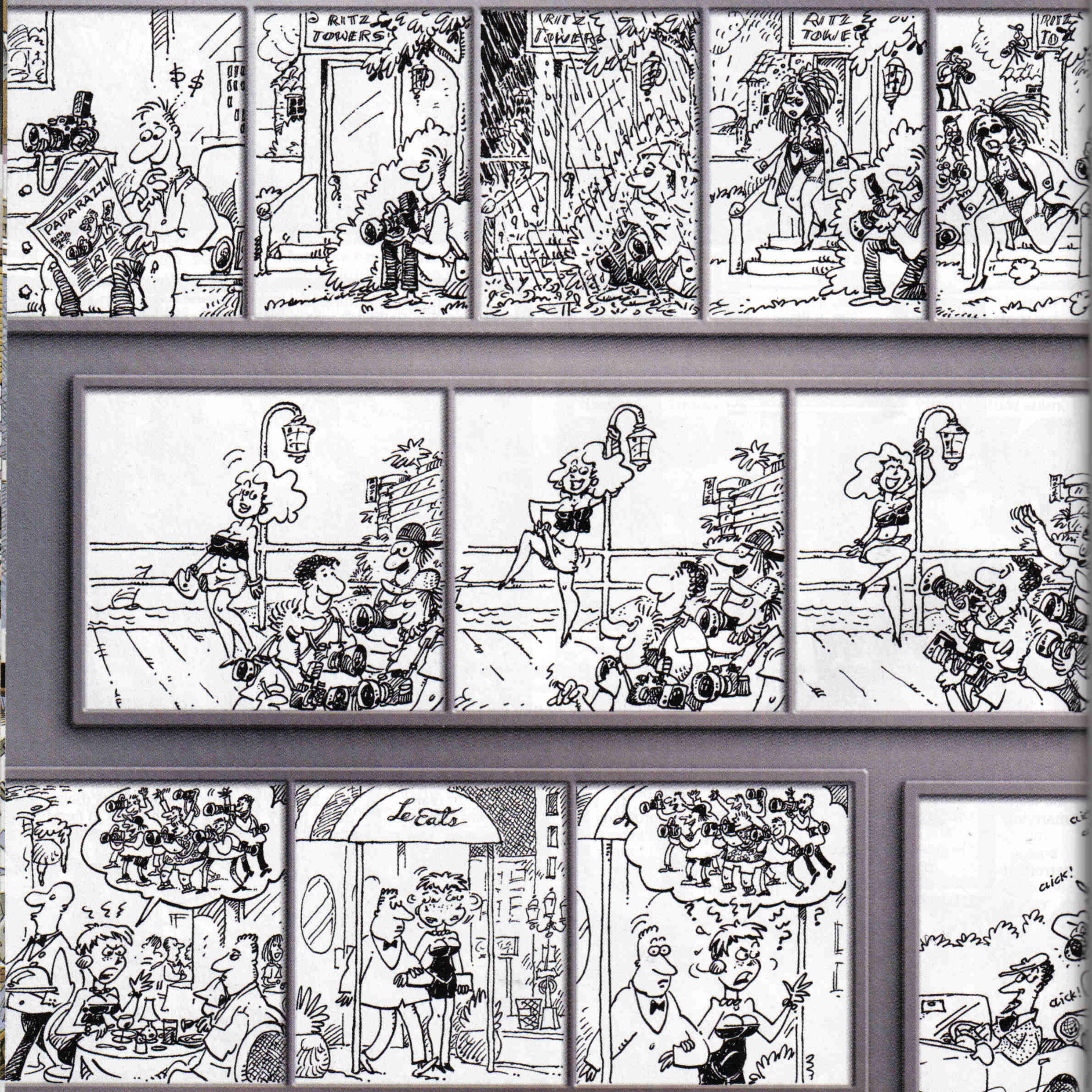
JAKE

I may look like MT, a white chick, but I'm really Shawn Wayans!

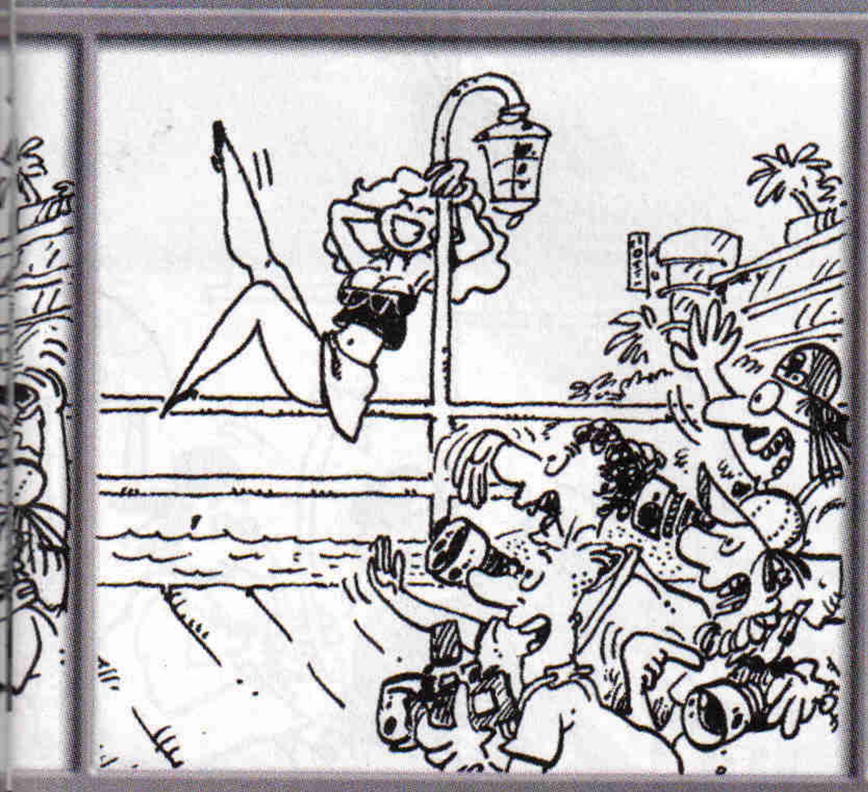
What the heck are you doing here?

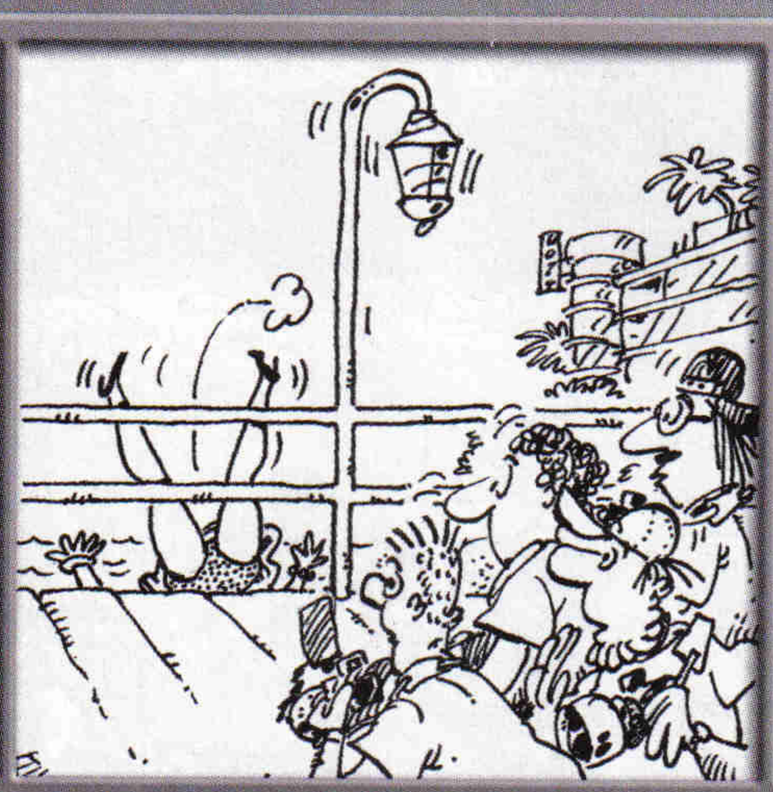
Since MAD only sends up hit movies, the one chance in hell of being in this magazine was to sneak in here!

sergio ARAGONÉS presents A MAD LOOK AT

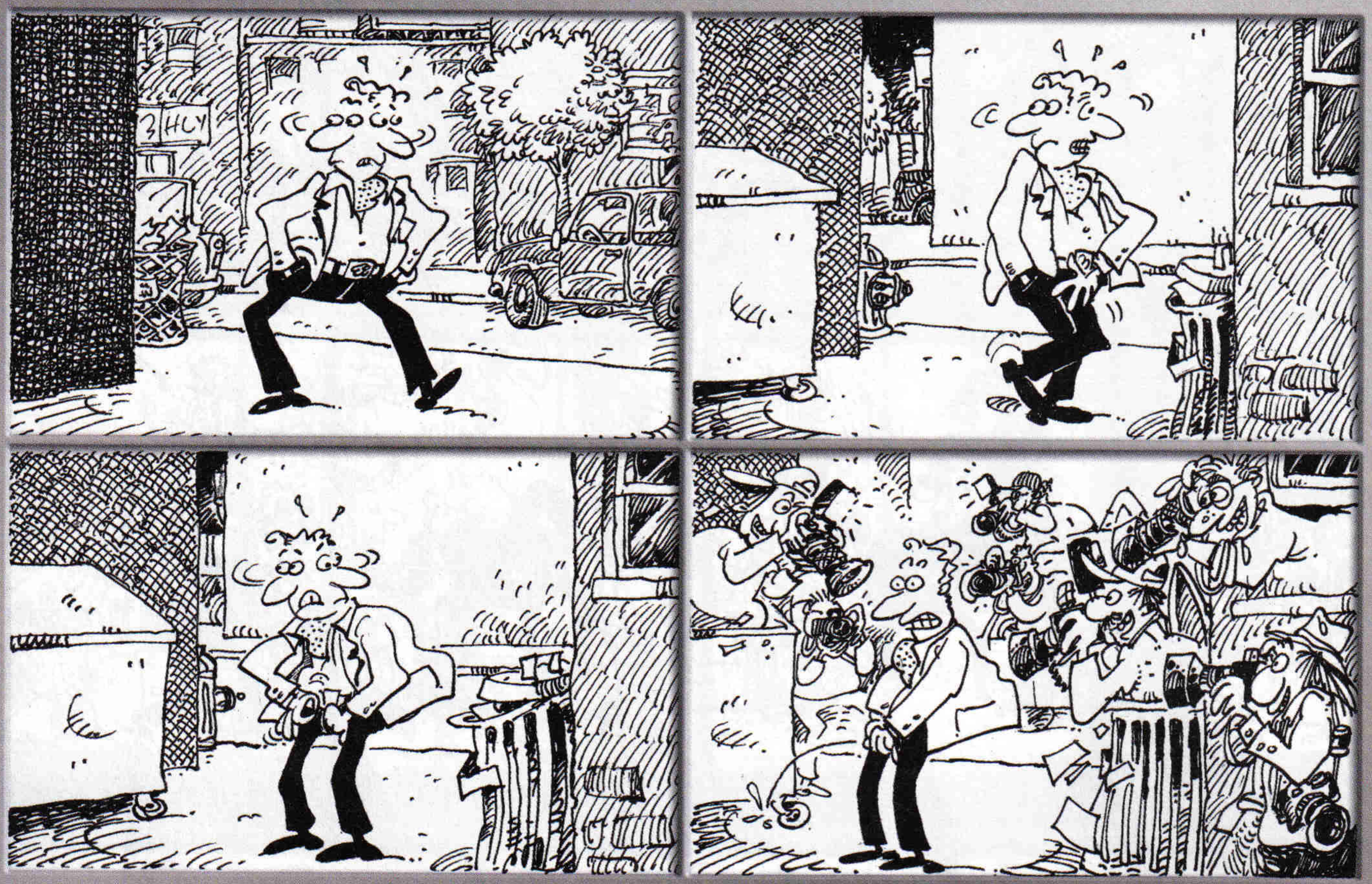


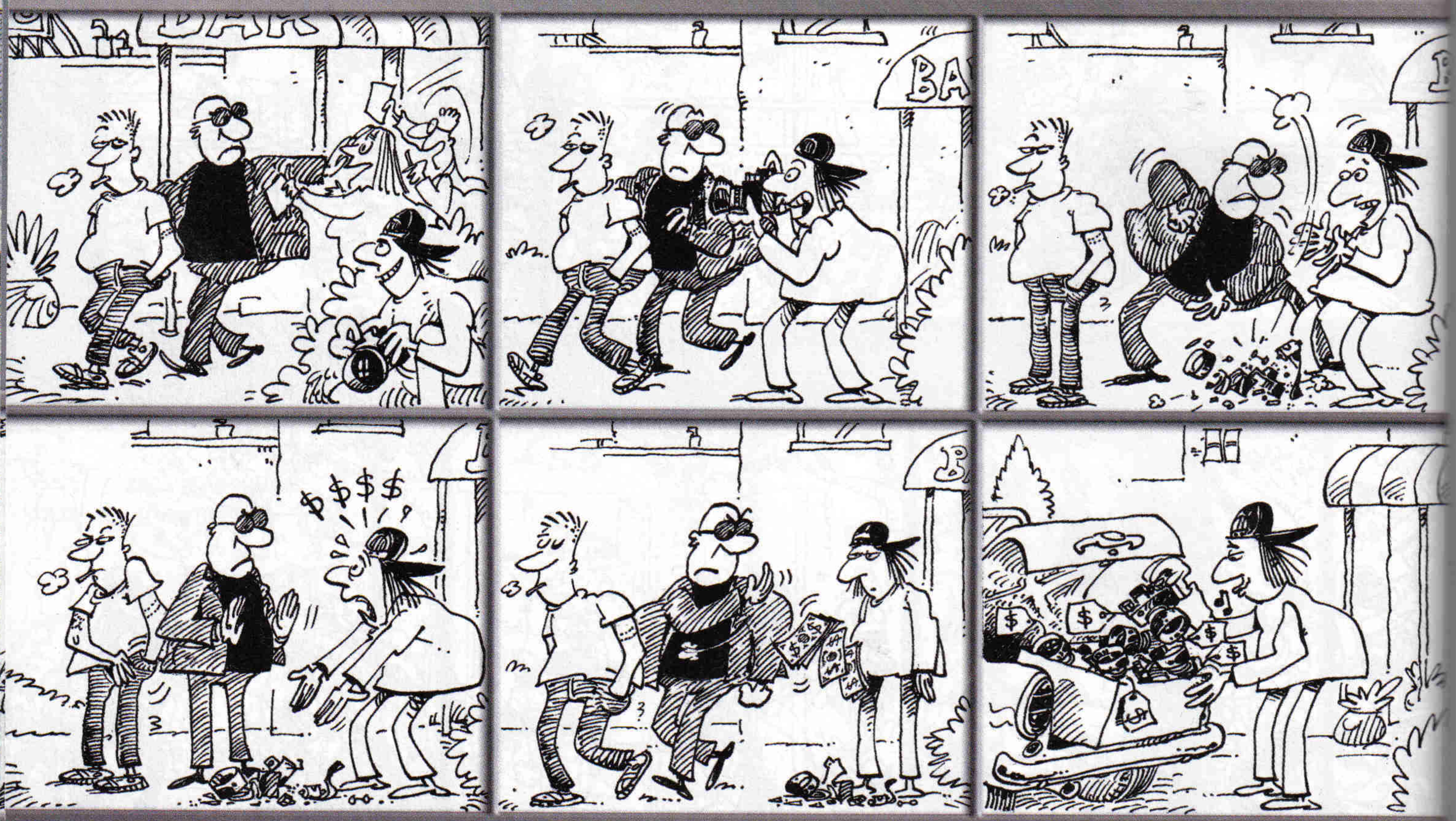
PAPARAZZI





ARTIST AND WRITER: SERGIO ARAGONES



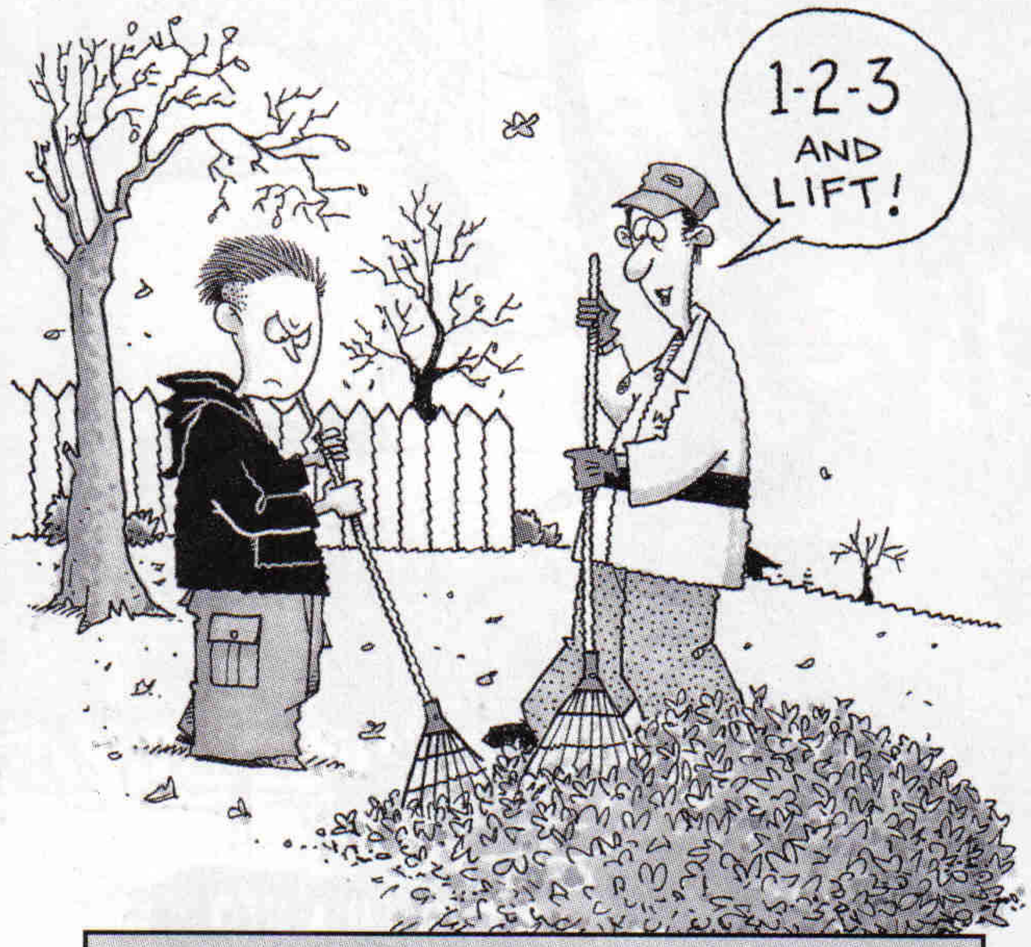


PAPA DON'T TEACH DEPT.

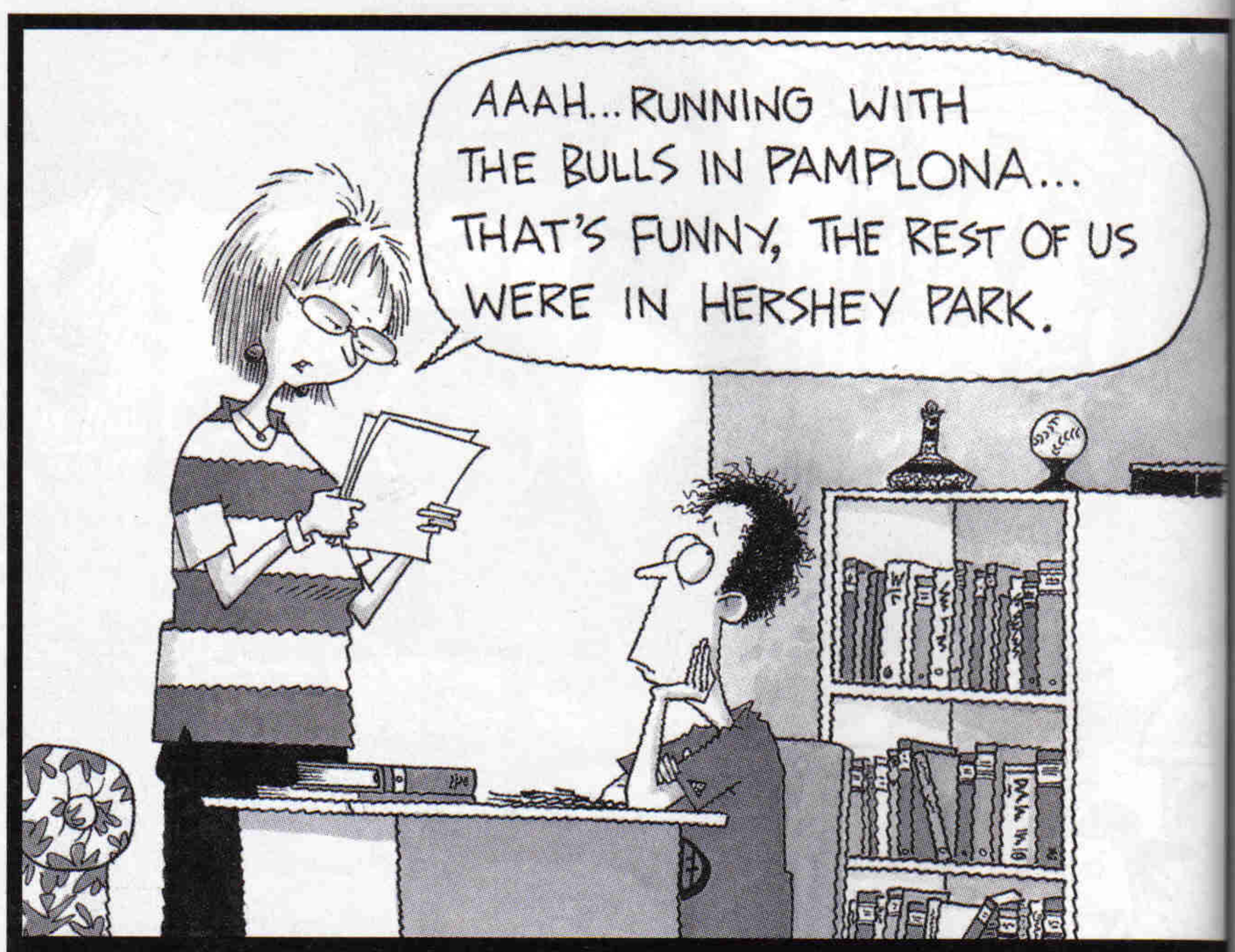
So your parents have pulled you out of school and you're ecstatic! With violence in the classroom at an all-time high and the popularity of dweebs like you at an all-time low, this could be the greatest decision your usually dim-witted folks have ever made. Sure, you'll be hearing volumes on God's creation of man and nary a mention of evolution or biology, but that's the trade-off. Hey, even a free car lease has its trade-offs! So sit down, be quiet, and learn...

JOHN CALDWELL's

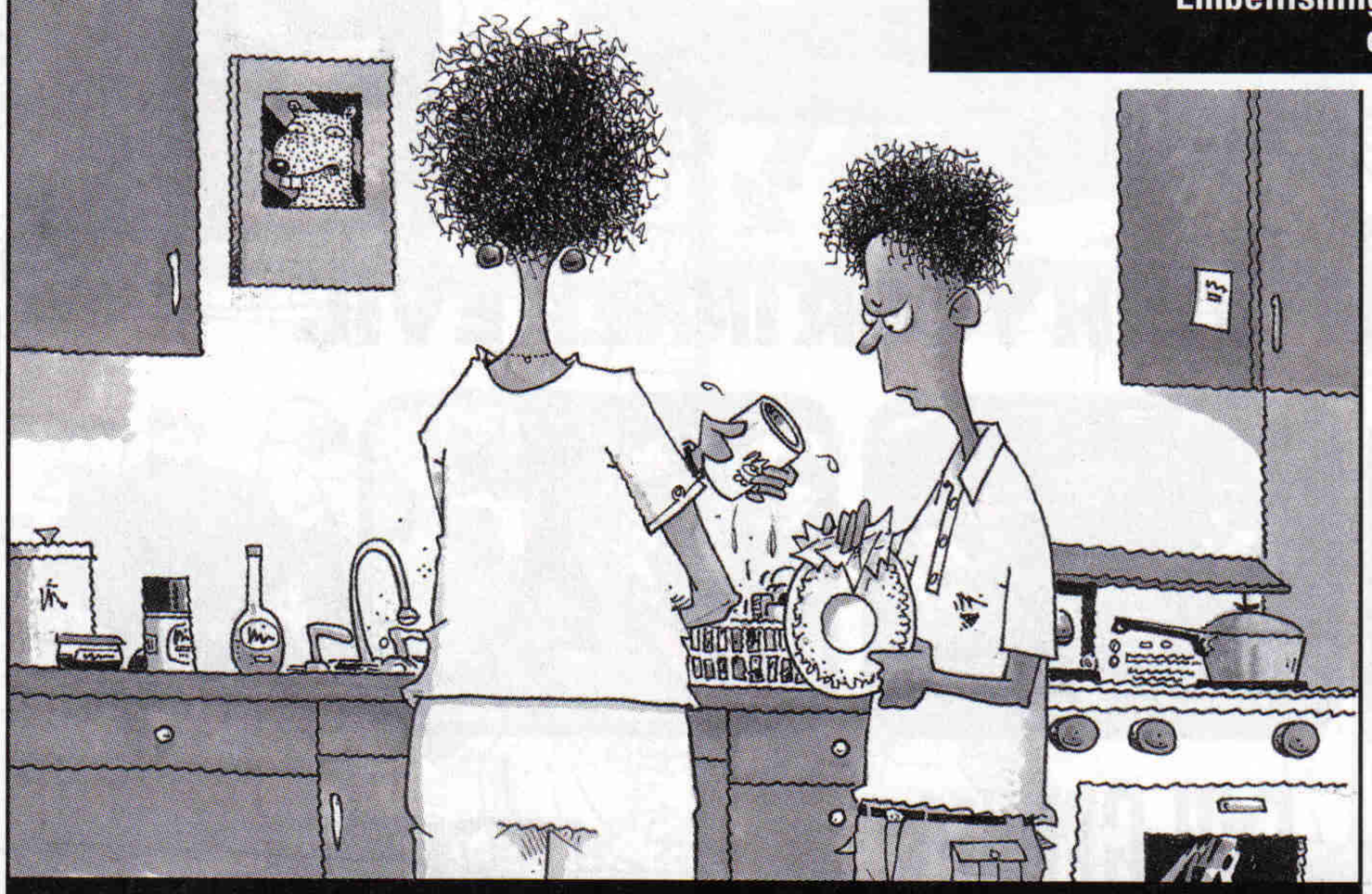
THE DOWNSIDES OF HOME SCHOOLING



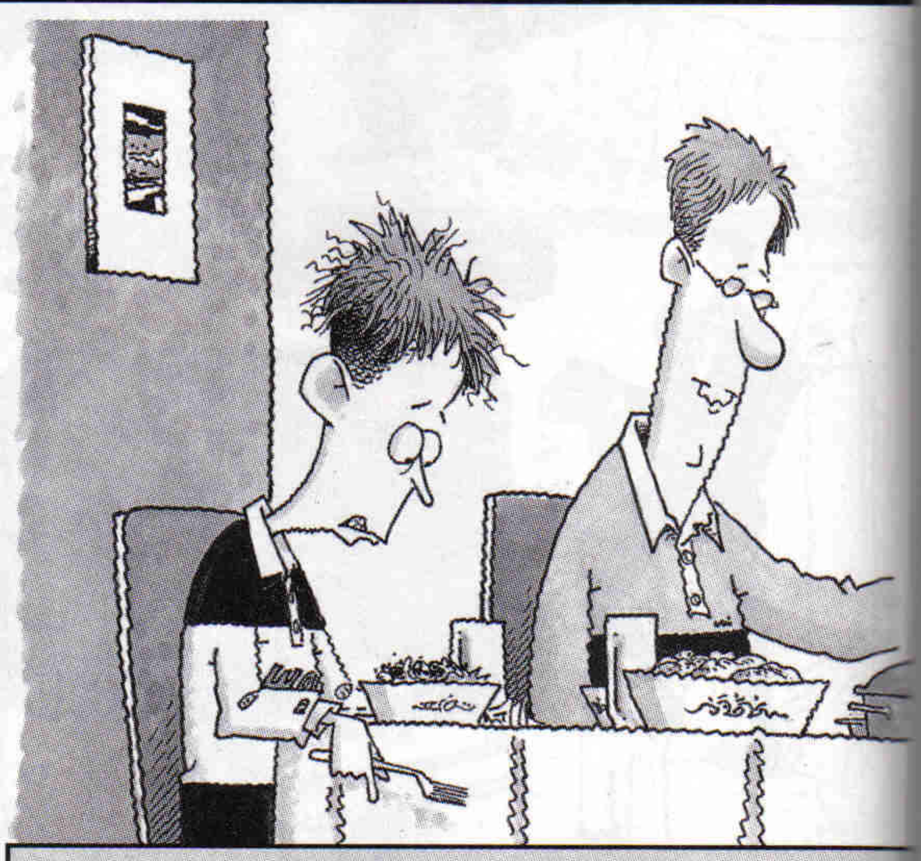
Phys-ed class very often involves a rake.



Embellishing "What I did on my summer vacation" essays are an uphill battle.

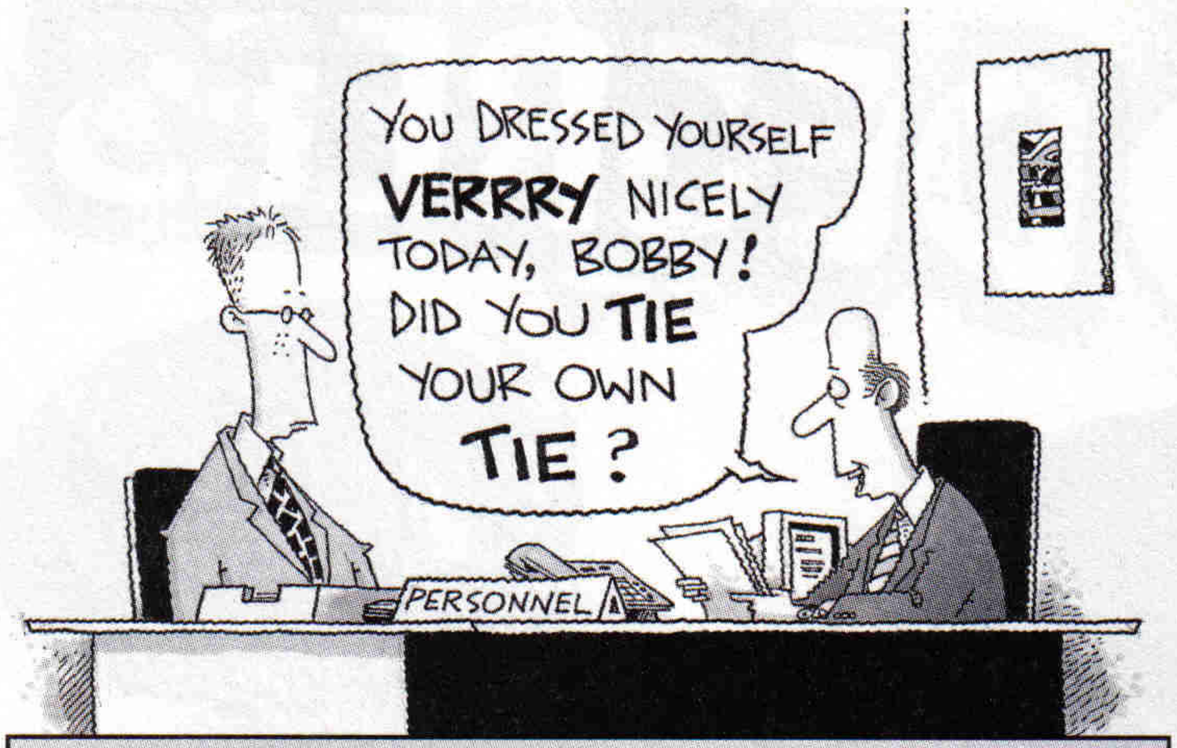


After every hot school lunch comes drying the school lunch dishes.

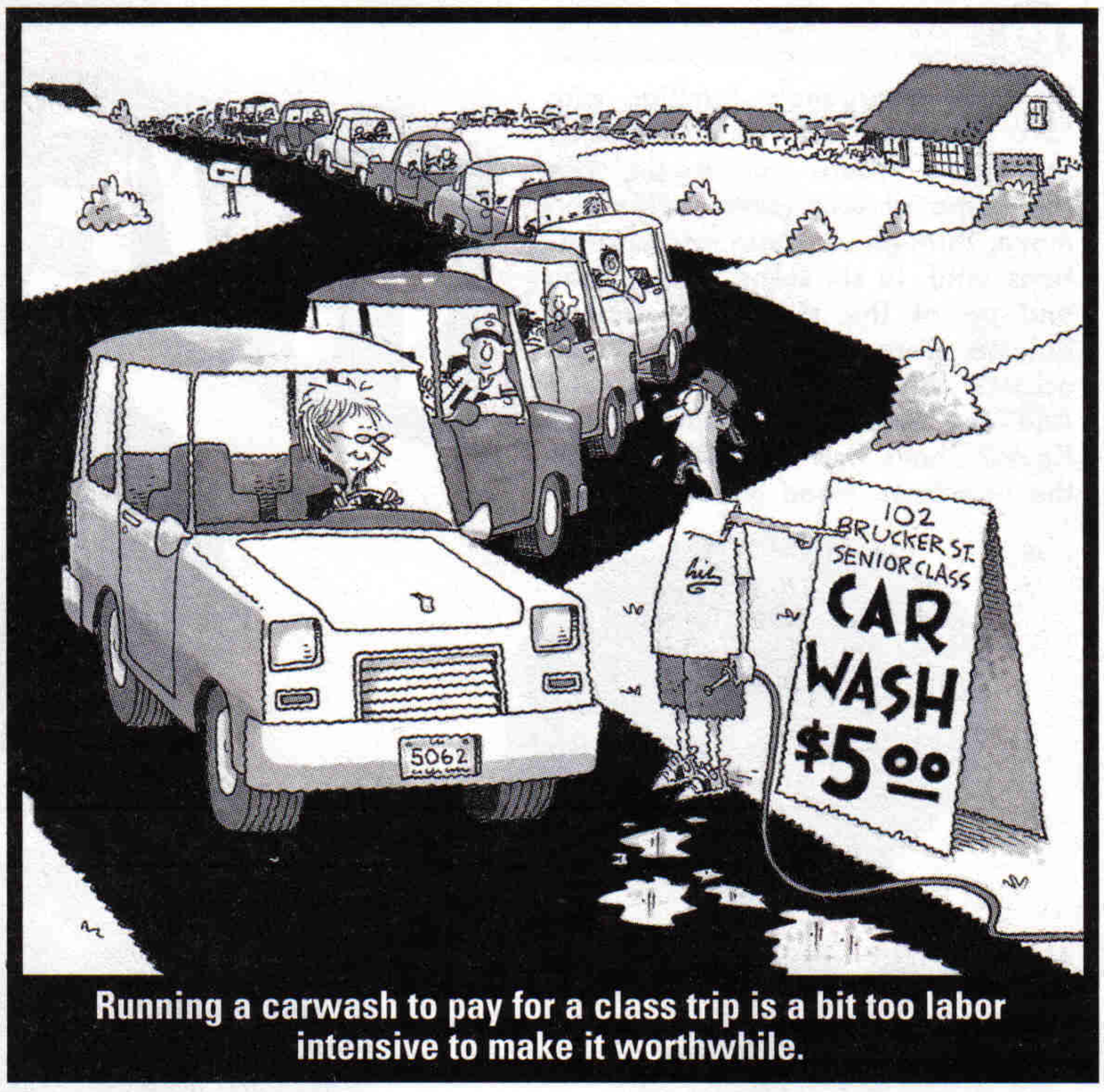


The cucumber that your mother used in the embarrassing sex-ed condom demo? Come suppertime, that bad boy's sliced up in your salad.

ARTIST AND WRITER: JOHN CALDWELL

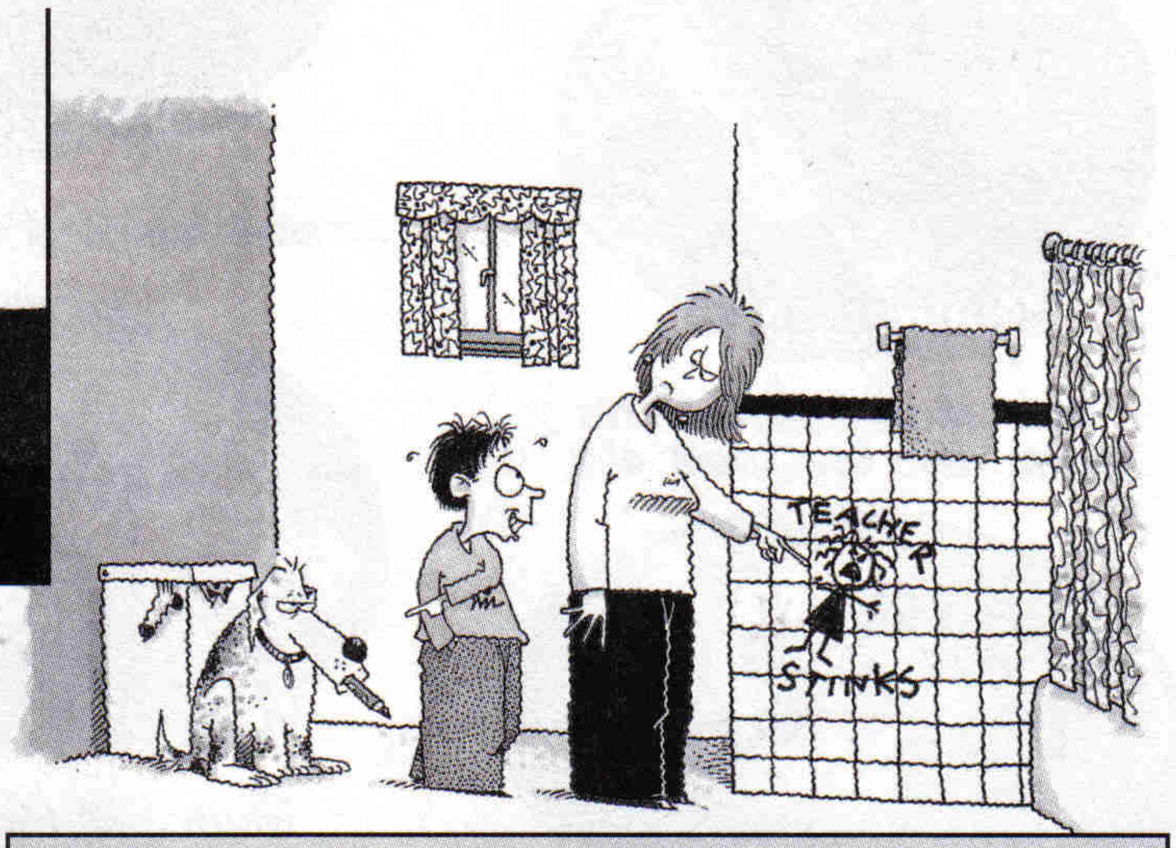


Statistics show that 64% of prospective employers associate "home schooling" with the term "group home," and speak louder and slower during interviews.

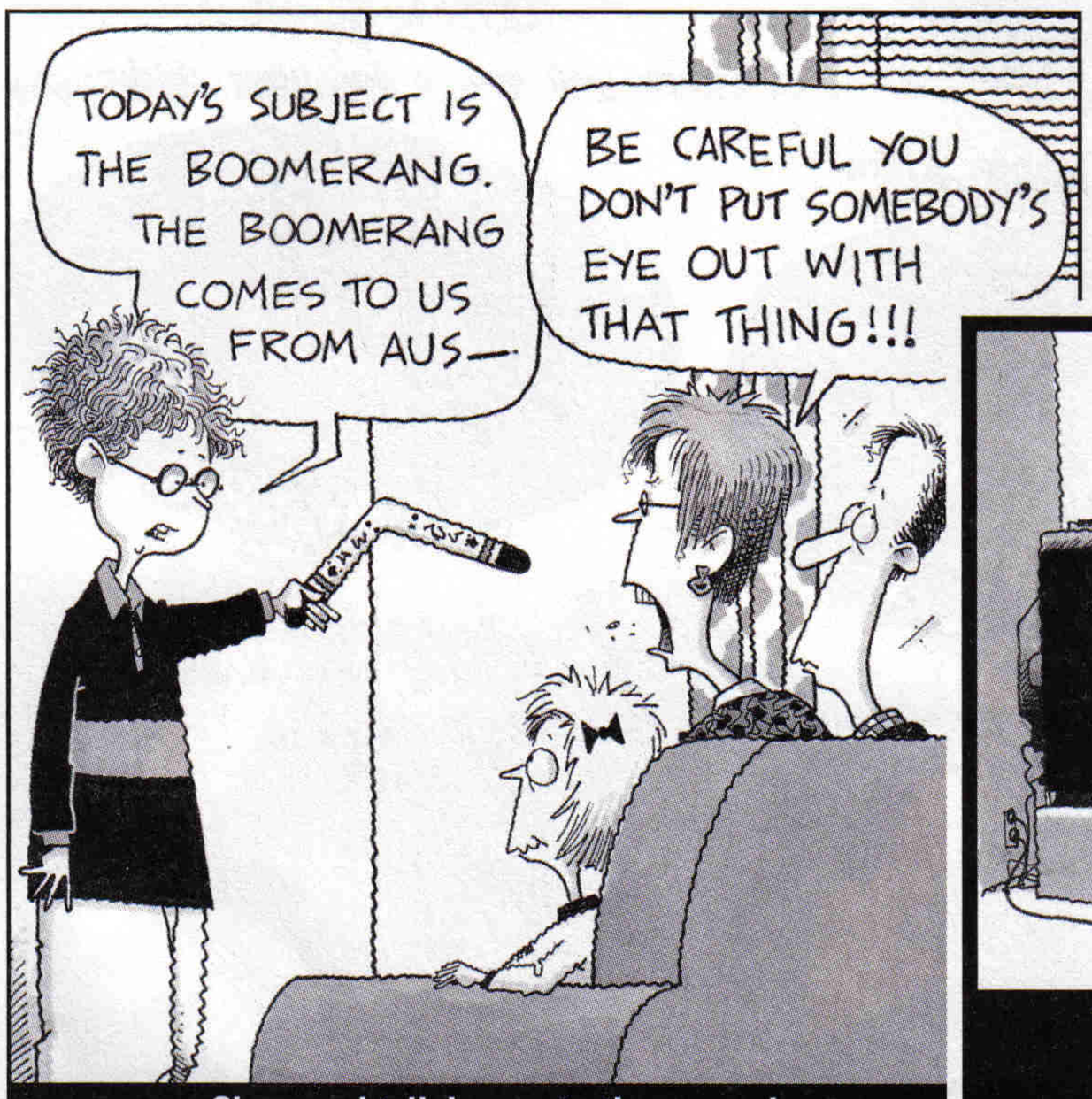


Running a carwash to pay for a class trip is a bit too labor intensive to make it worthwhile.

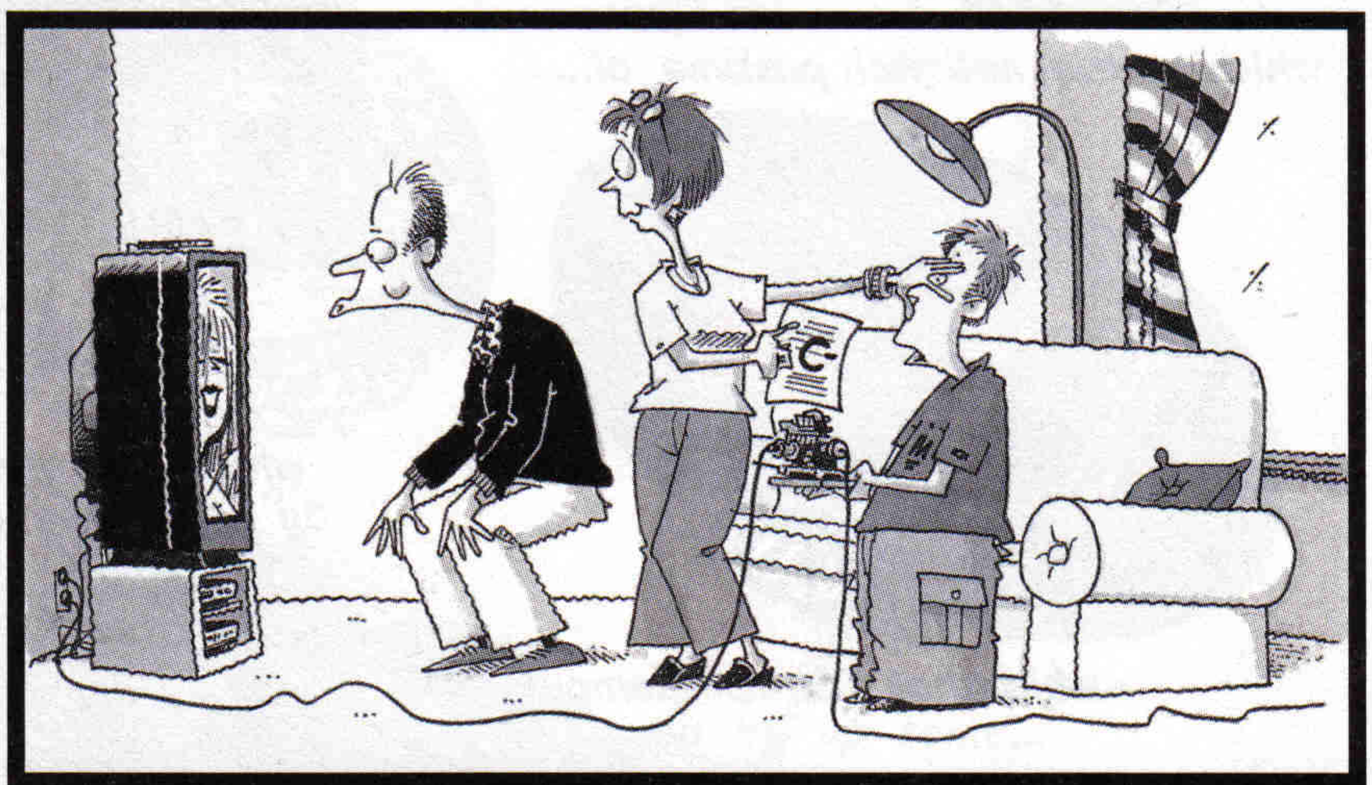
When it comes to "excuse" notes to your teacher, you're down to counting on distant relatives with very little influence.



Bathroom graffiti is a whole lot easier to trace back to you.



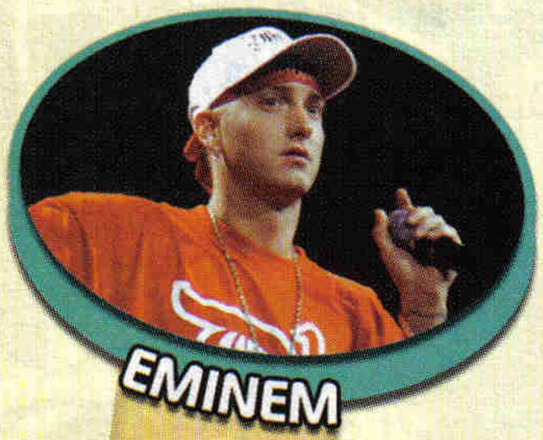
Show and tell demonstrations are always peppered with maternal warnings.



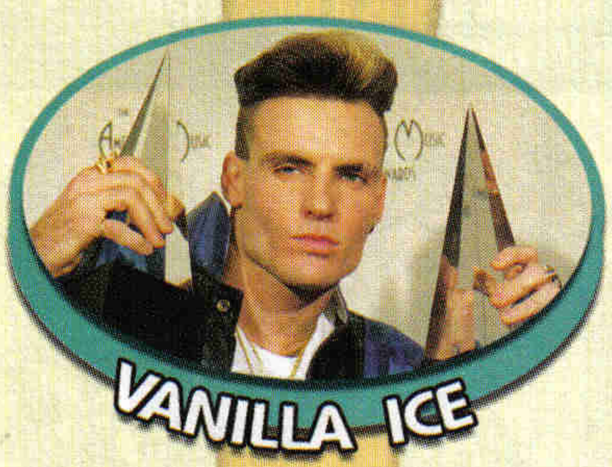
Your super strict, by-the-book parents give you a lousy C- on your science project, despite the fact that because of your hard work, they ended up with free HBO.

FIVE DEGREES

By now, everyone's familiar with "Six Degrees Of Kevin Bacon," the game where you begin with the name of any movie actor and move through a chain of associations until, in six steps or less, you end up at the star of *Footloose*. But we were thinking: who needs actors? Who needs six degrees? And for that matter, who needs Kevin? That's how we came up with the new lean, mean game we call...



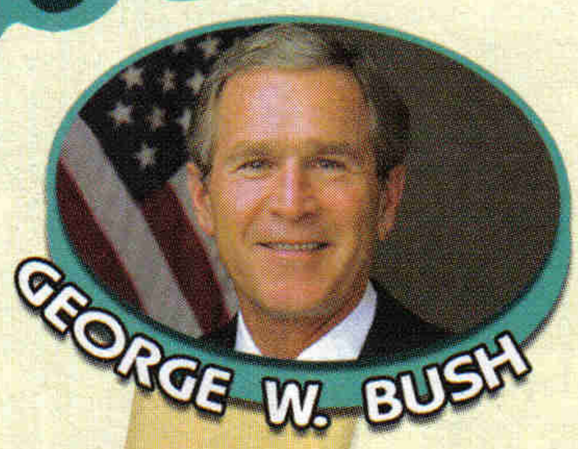
is a white rapper, as was...



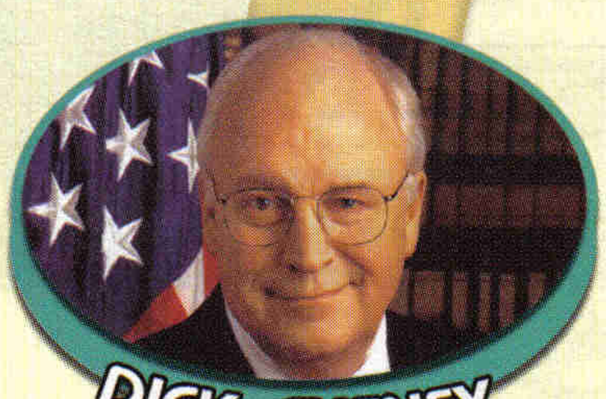
who shares part of his name with the sport of...

which is the national pastime of...

which has its own famous style of...

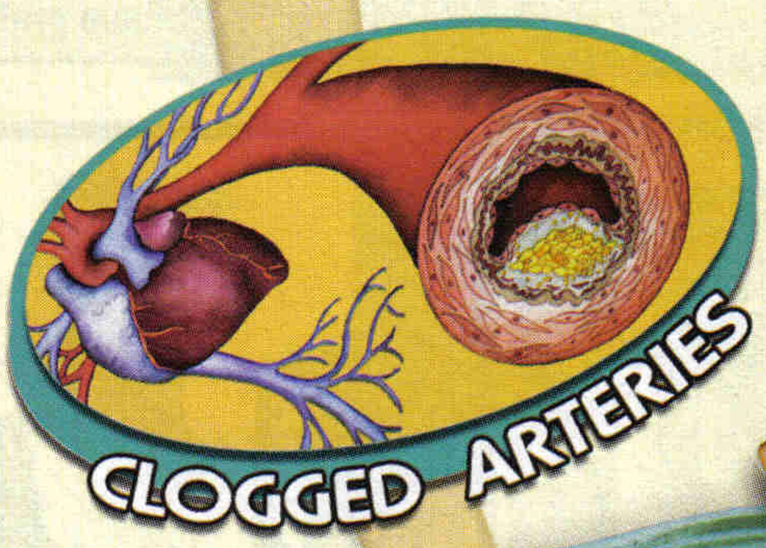


runs the country with...



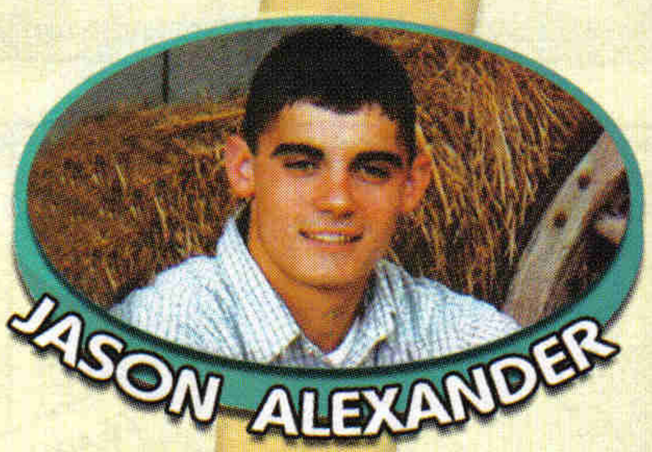
who has had several...

which are the result of...



which are often caused by consuming too much...

was married for about five minutes to a guy named...



which is also the name of the Seinfeld star who did commercials for...

where you can order your chicken...

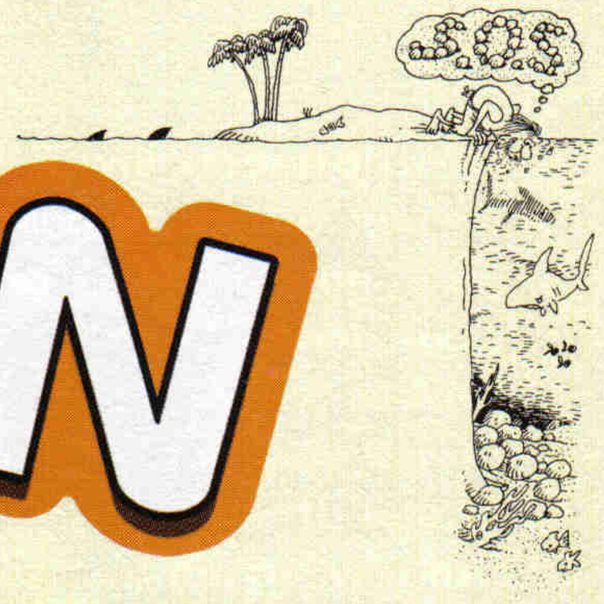
which is also how many people like their...

WRITER: MICHAEL RODMAN

BACON/CLUB SANDWICH PHOTOS: IRVING SCHILD

PHOTOS:
AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS
CORBIS • IMAGE SOURCE
PHOTODISC • RUBBER BALL

OF BACON



BATMAN

has a sidekick named...

ROBIN

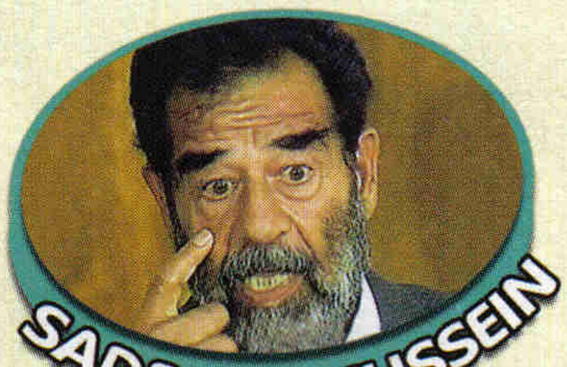
as does...

HOWARD STERN

who frequently encourages his guests to...

STRIP

which is what you call a serving of...



SADDAM HUSSEIN

is the former leader of...

IRAQ

which is a country that borders...

TURKEY

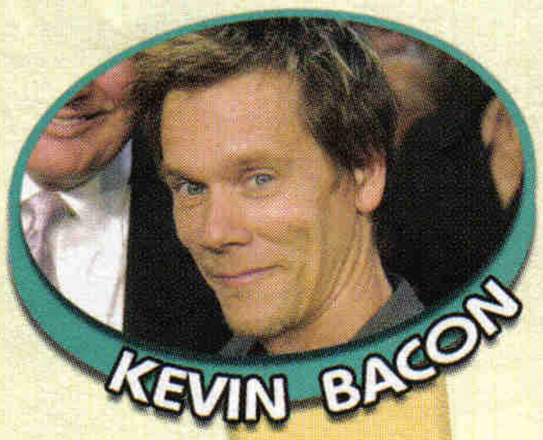
which shares its name with a key ingredient of a...

CLUB SANDWICH

which also includes lots of...

ON

which is what's left in the pan after you fry up some...



KEVIN BACON

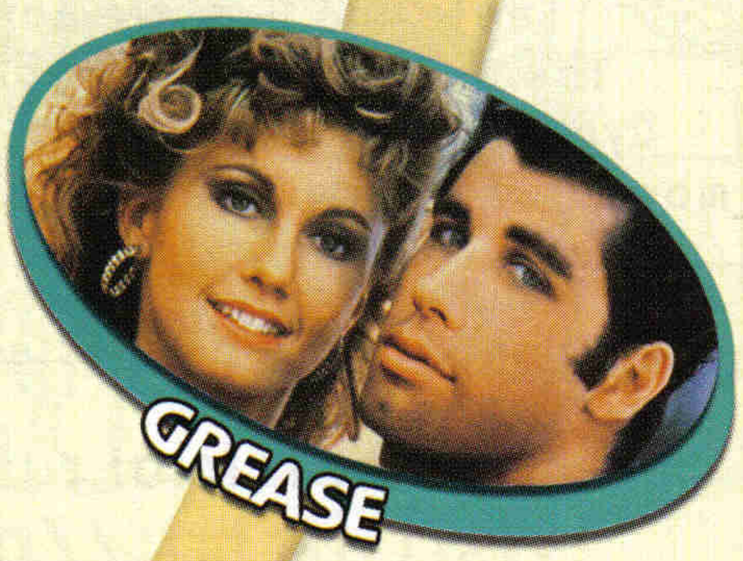
appears in Mystic River *with...*

SEAN PENN

who was in The Thin Red Line *with...*

JOHN TRAVOLTA

who was the star of...



GREASE

MAD thanks the Bacon Council for its invaluable assistance in preparing this article.

Everyone knows that the U.S. is fighting a war on terrorism. Aside from that Crayola-inspired warning chart, however, it's not readily evident that anything is being done to guard our water supply, protect our food chain and secure our nuclear facilities. Is having 90-year-old ladies take their shoes off at airports the only thing the Bush administration has come up with to keep the homeland safe? Well, it turns out the answer to this question is, "NO!". In fact, George W. has a complete and comprehensive strategy for dealing with Osama and company. And fortunately for you, we've managed to get hold of this top-secret document! Rest easy, America, here is...

GEORGE W. BUSH'S 10-POINT PLAN FOR FIGHTING TERRORISM

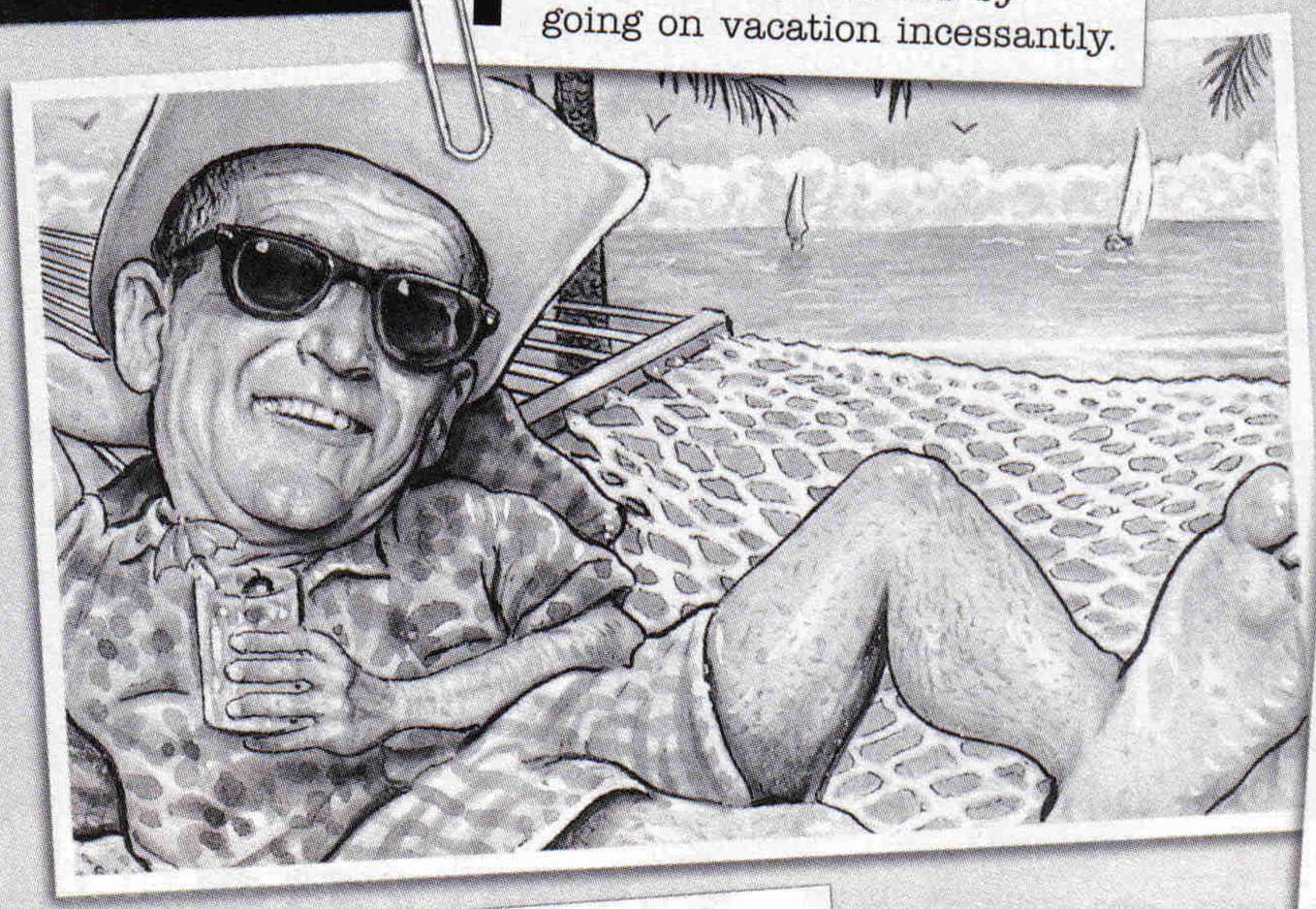
TOP SECRET

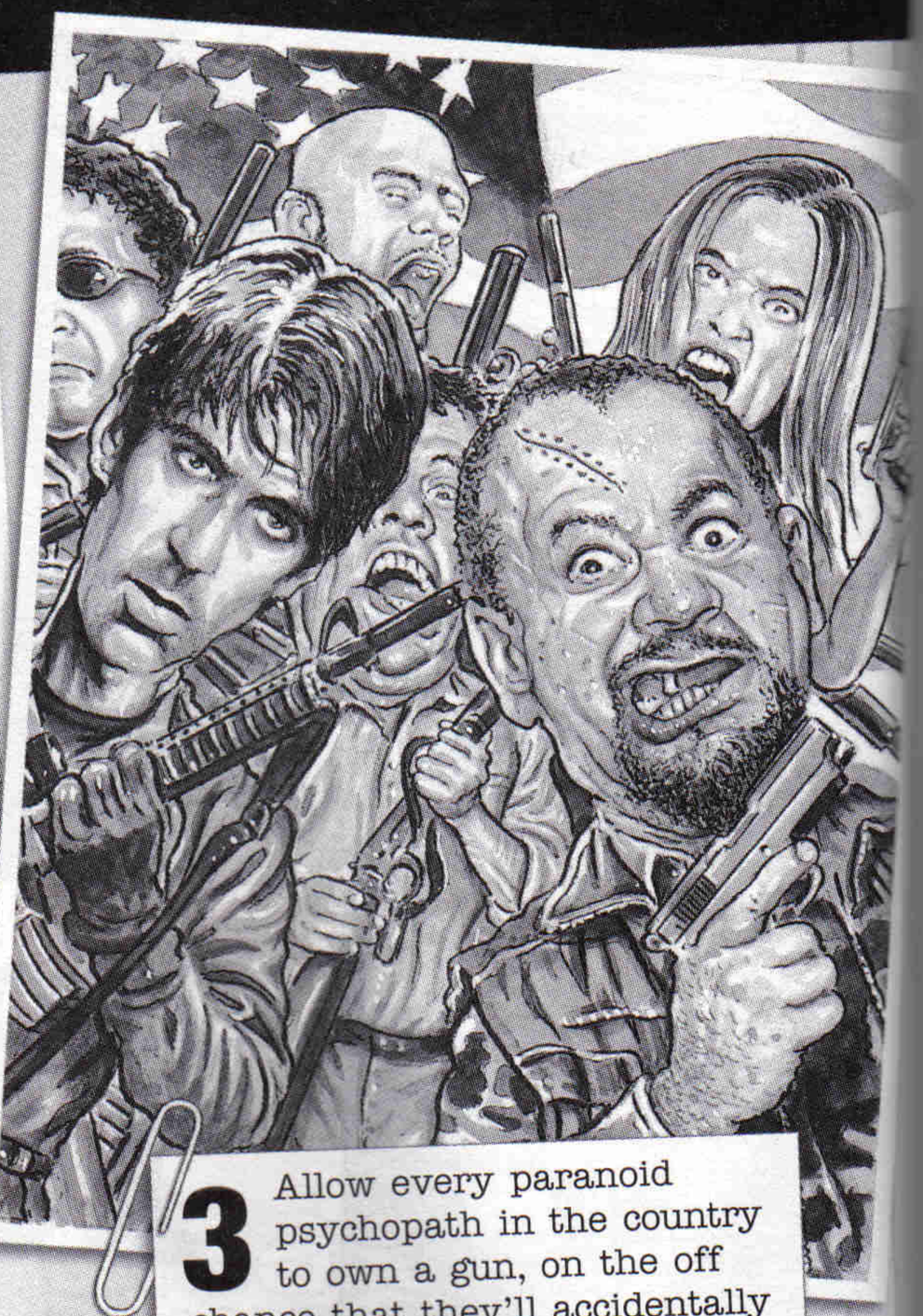
EYES ONLY

SEAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

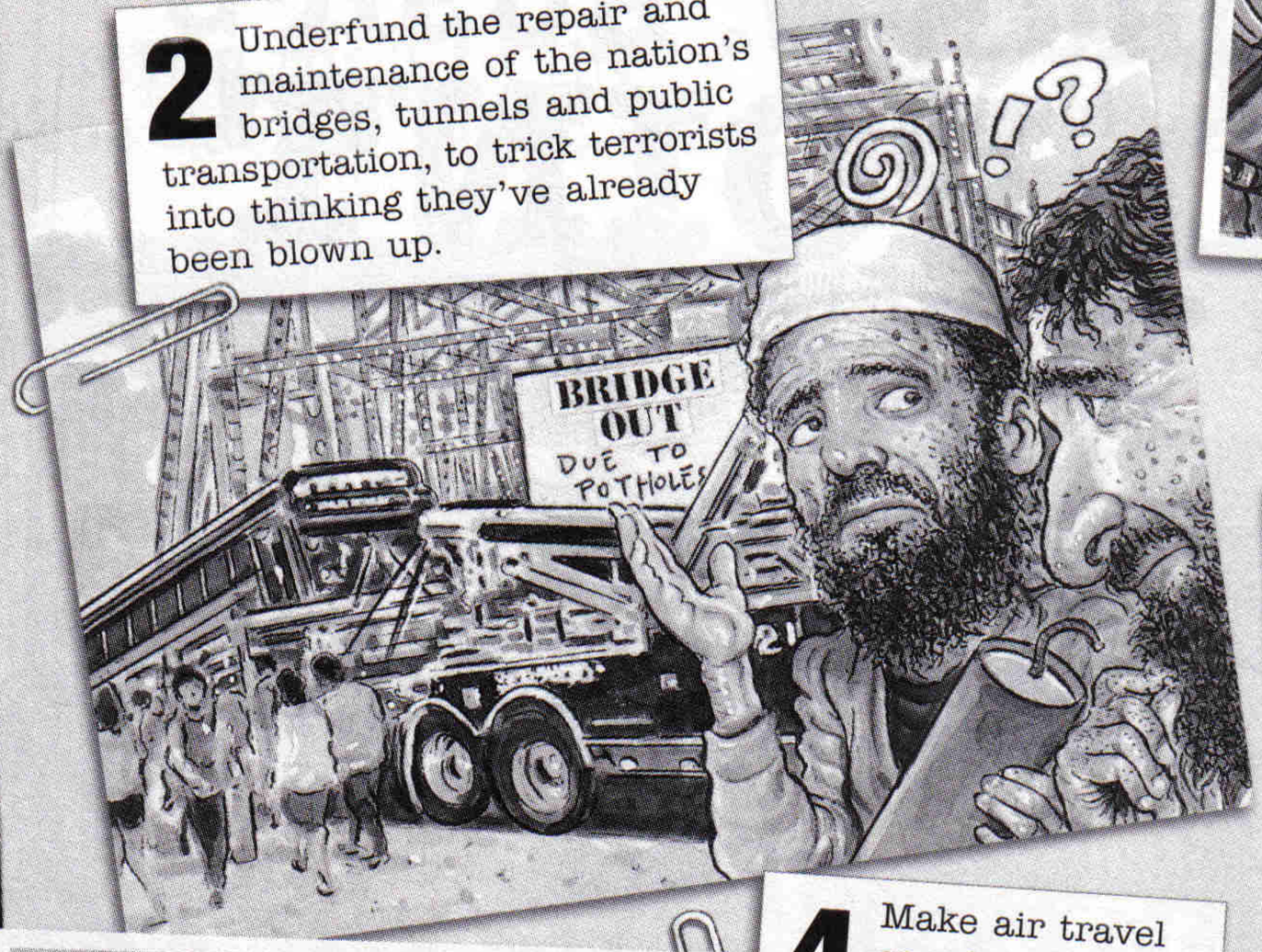
ARTIST: DREW FRIEDMAN WRITER: BARRY LIEBMANN

1 Show a calm, unflappable image to our enemies by going on vacation incessantly.



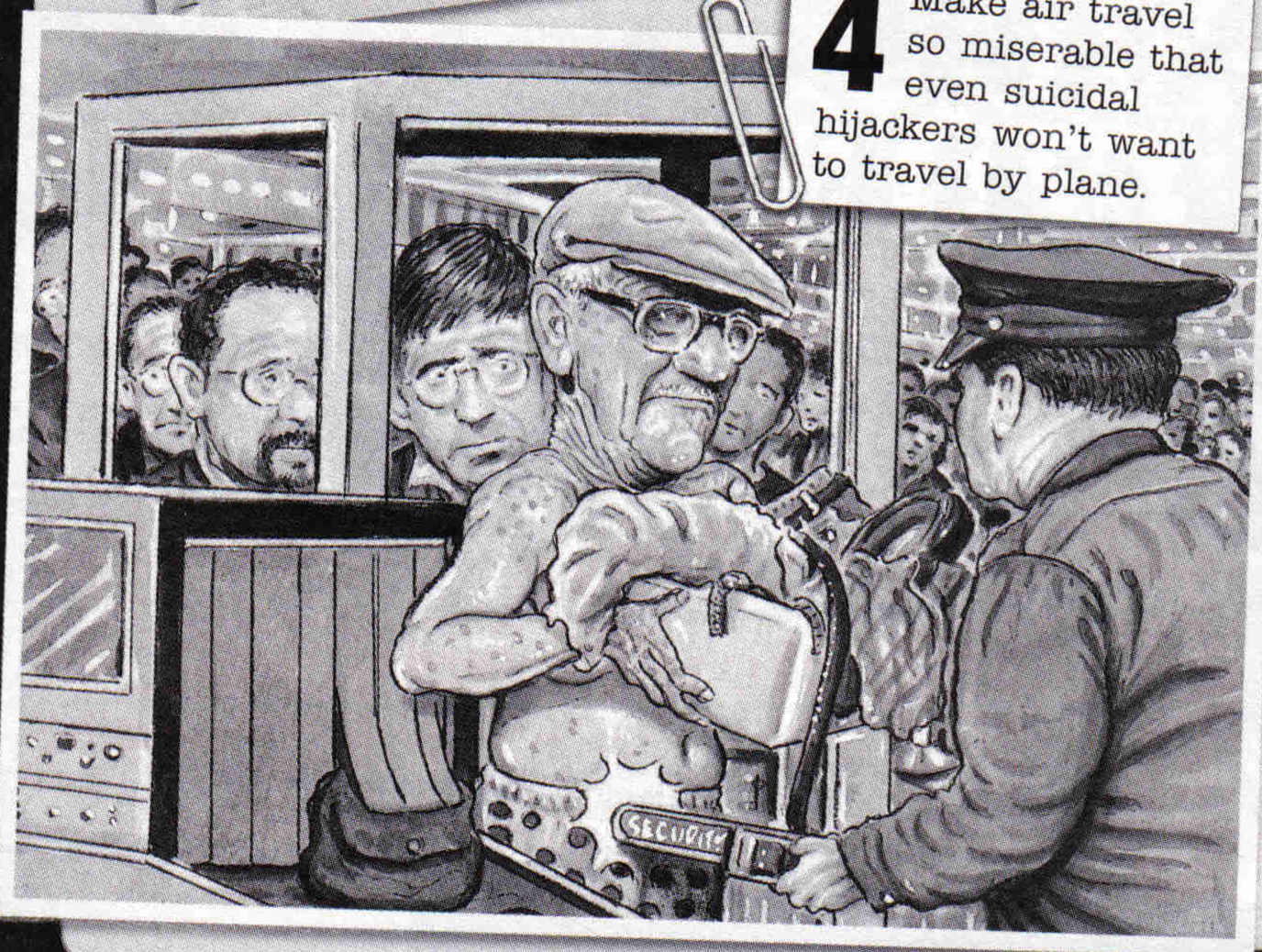


2 Underfund the repair and maintenance of the nation's bridges, tunnels and public transportation, to trick terrorists into thinking they've already been blown up.



3 Allow every paranoid psychopath in the country to own a gun, on the off chance that they'll accidentally shoot a few sleeper agents.

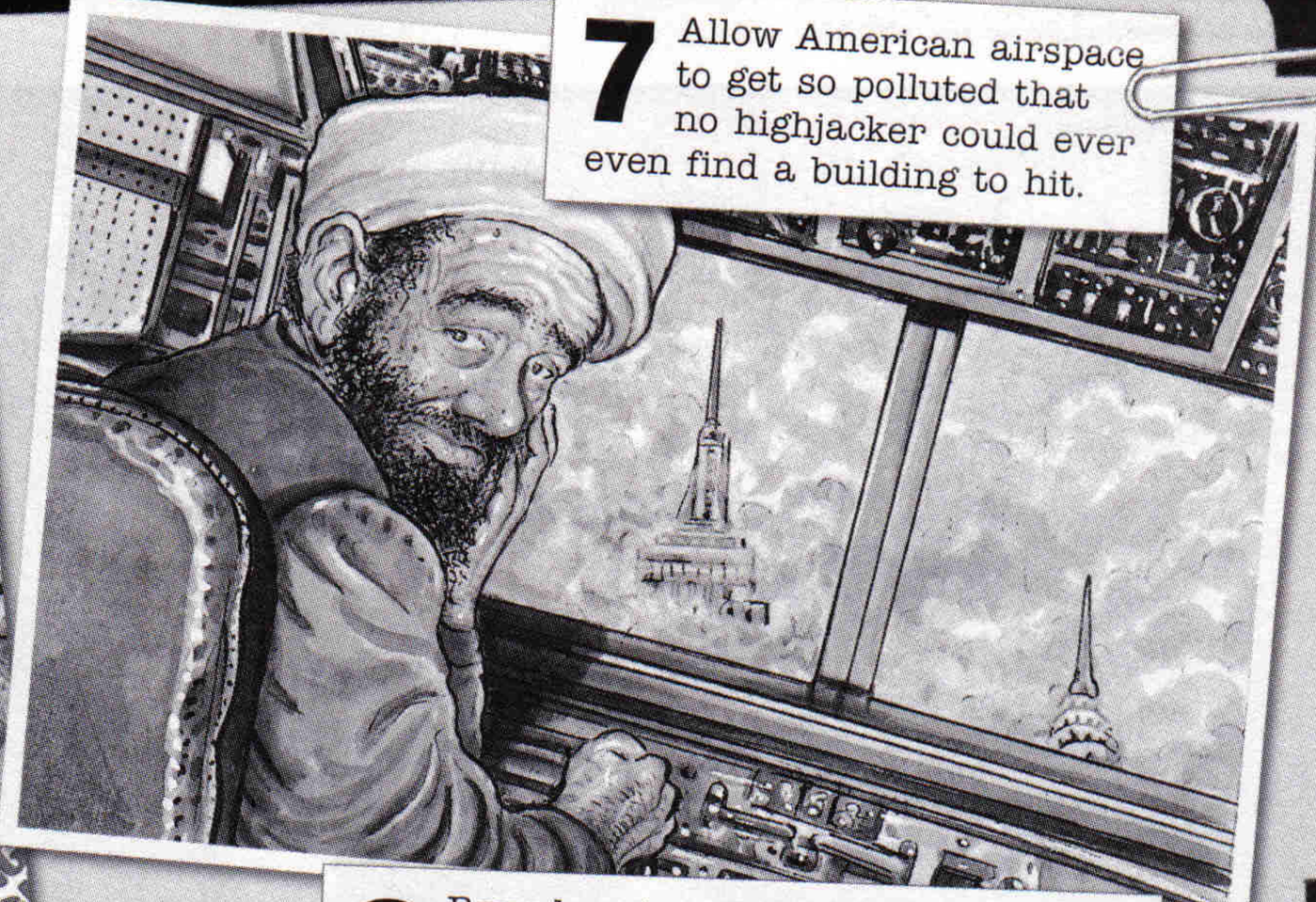
4 Make air travel so miserable that even suicidal hijackers won't want to travel by plane.



5 Make sure Americans have plenty of time to look for potential terrorist activities by not being saddled with mundane chores...such as going to work.

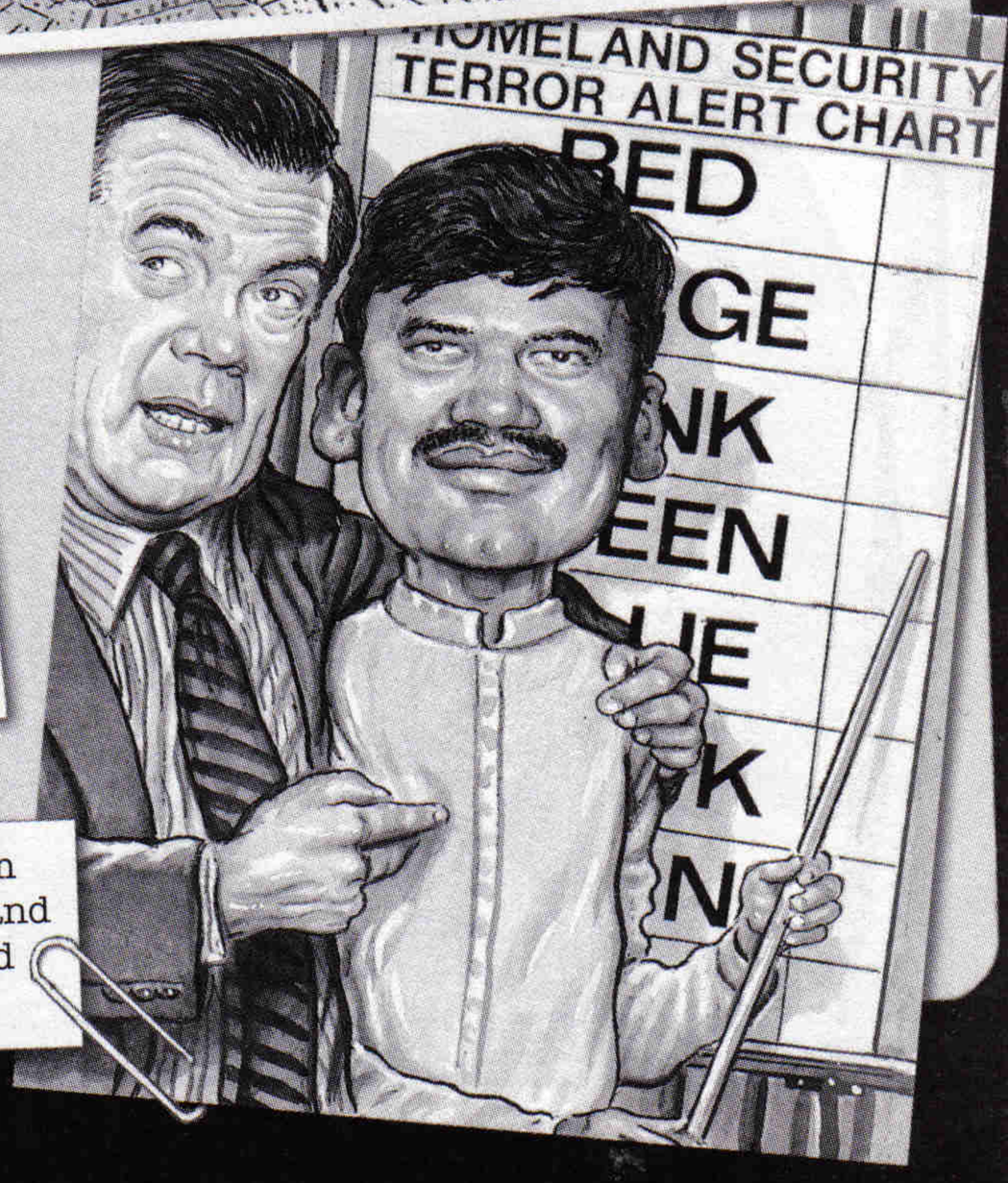
6 Screw up the economy so bad that impoverished wackos will no longer see the U.S. as a land of rich indulgence.

7 Allow American airspace to get so polluted that no highjacker could ever even find a building to hit.

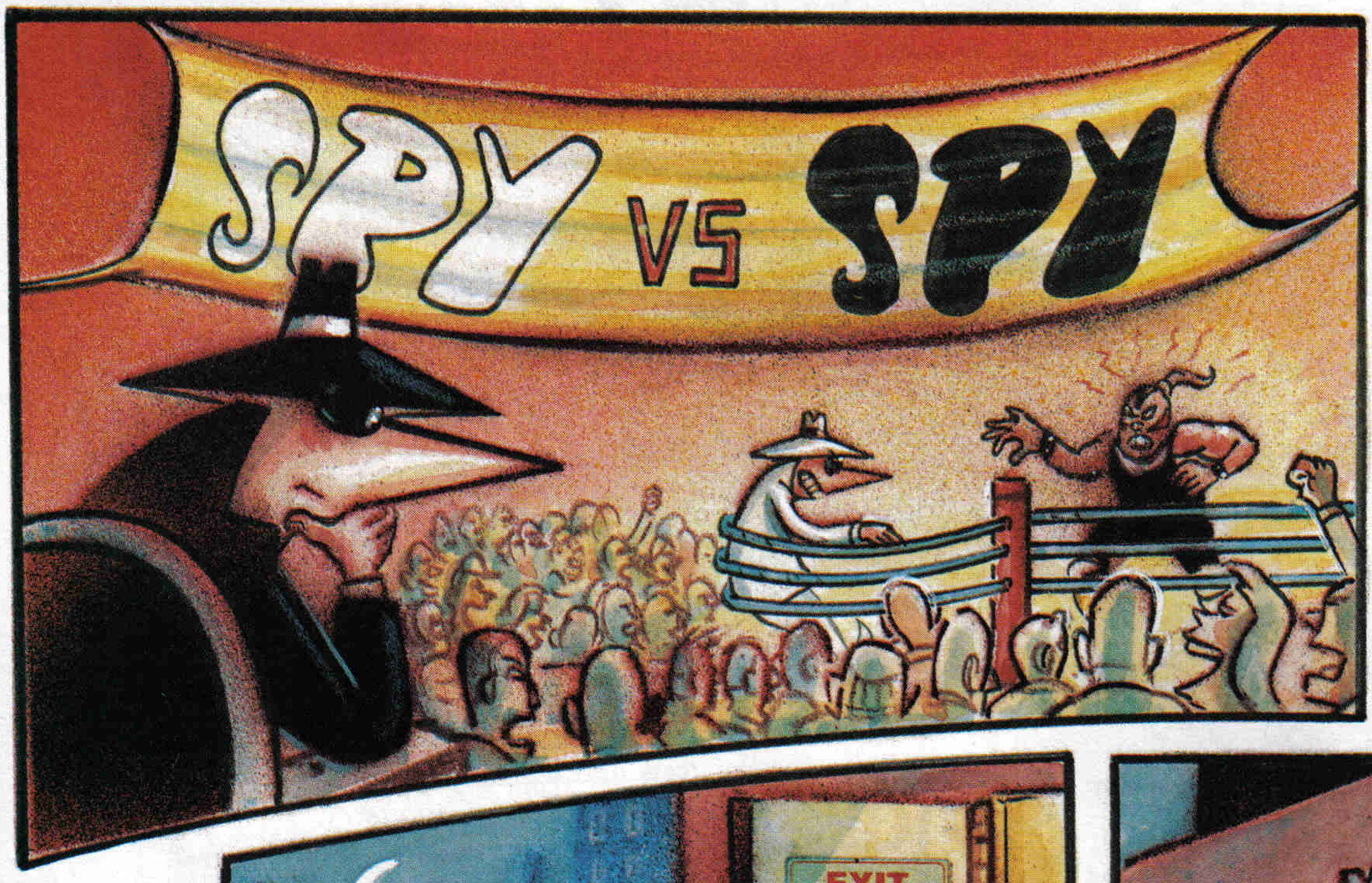


8 Round up top Republican thinkers, ship them to the Mid-East, and have them use their vast experience to fix elections and install leaders who are lamebrain shills for U.S. industry.

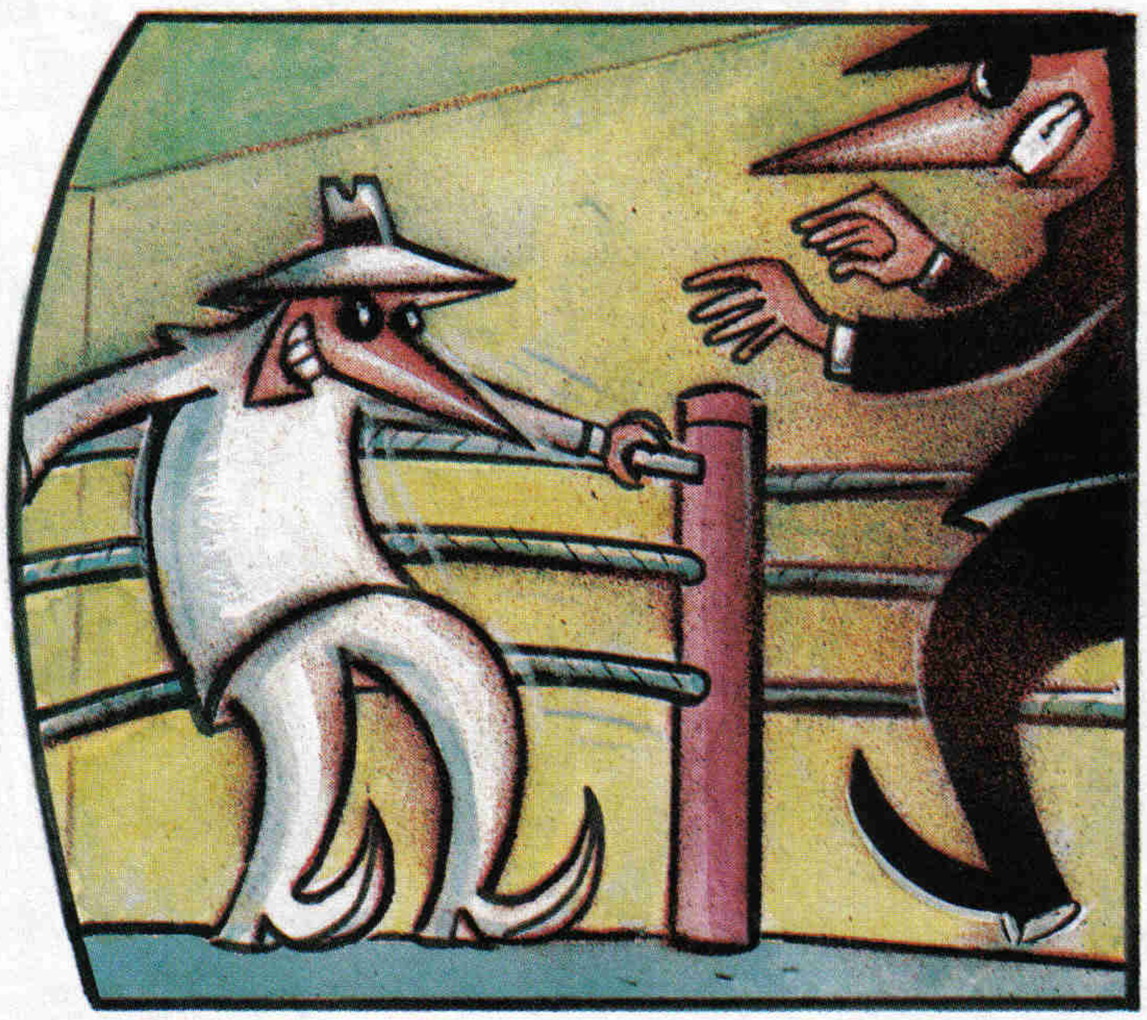
9 Allow American crops to be genetically modified, radiated, and/or sprayed with toxic chemicals so that terrorists will find poisoning our food supply redundant.



10 Let the task of fighting terrorism be accomplished the way more and more work is being accomplished nowadays — by outsourcing it to India.

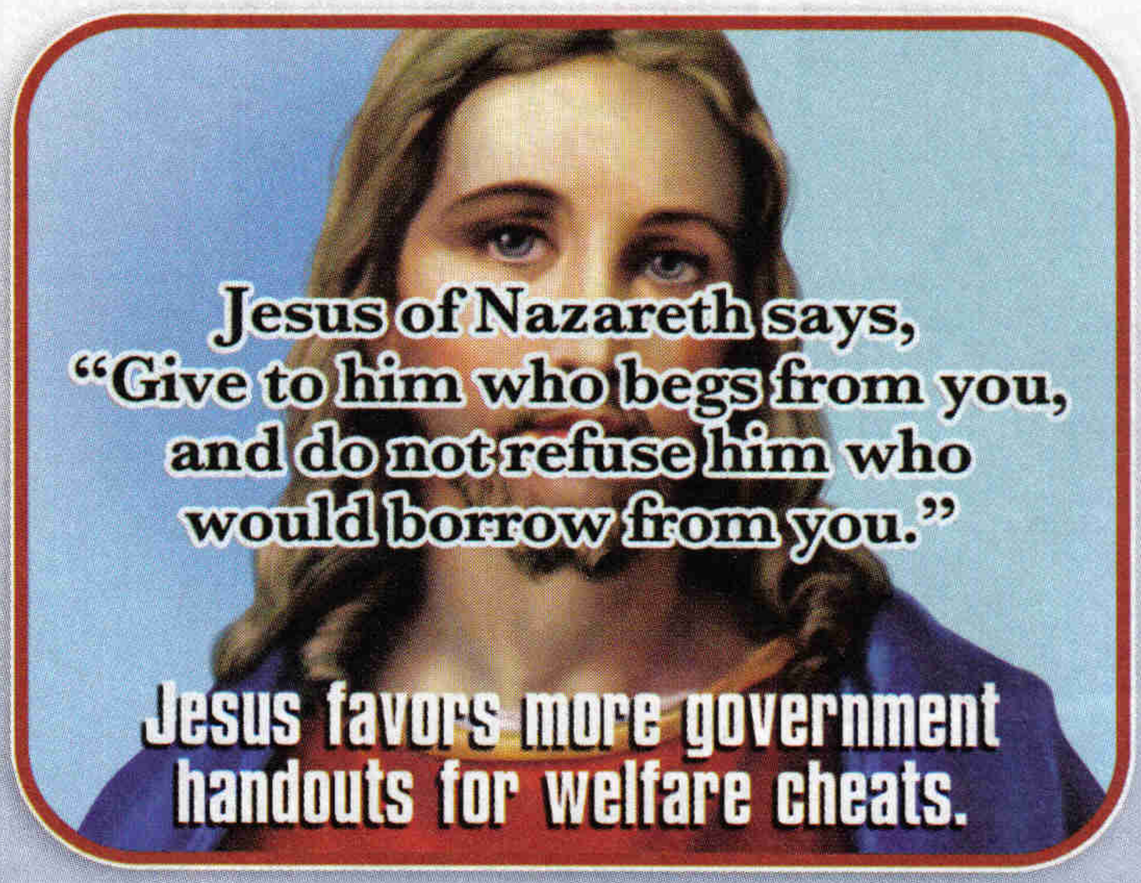

SPY VS SPY

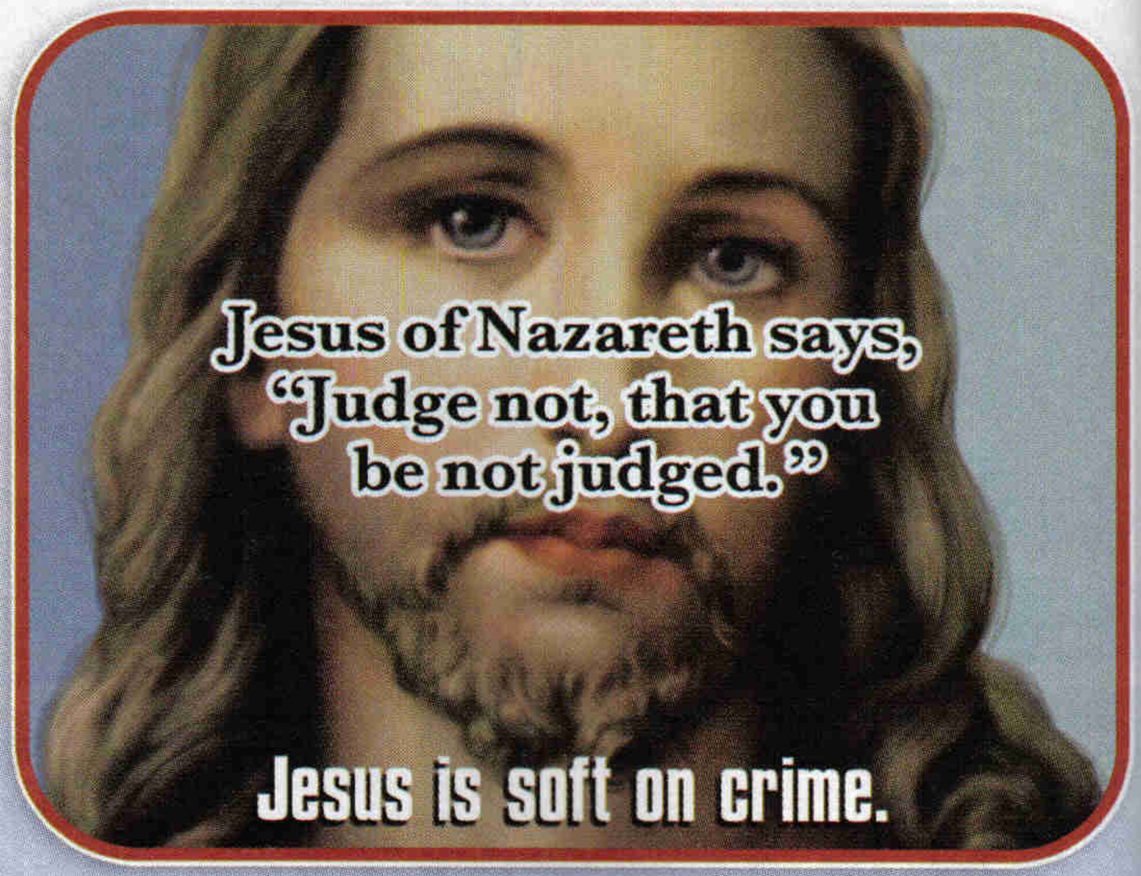
EXIT

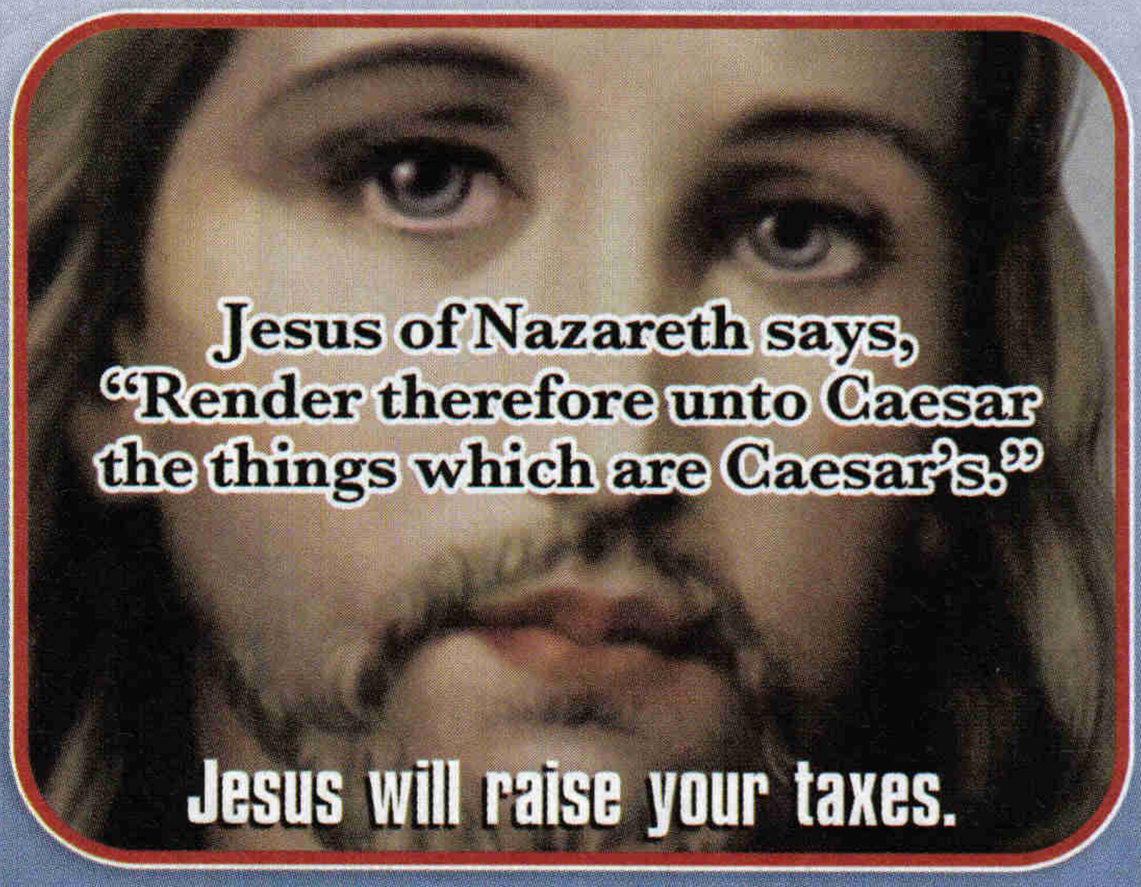


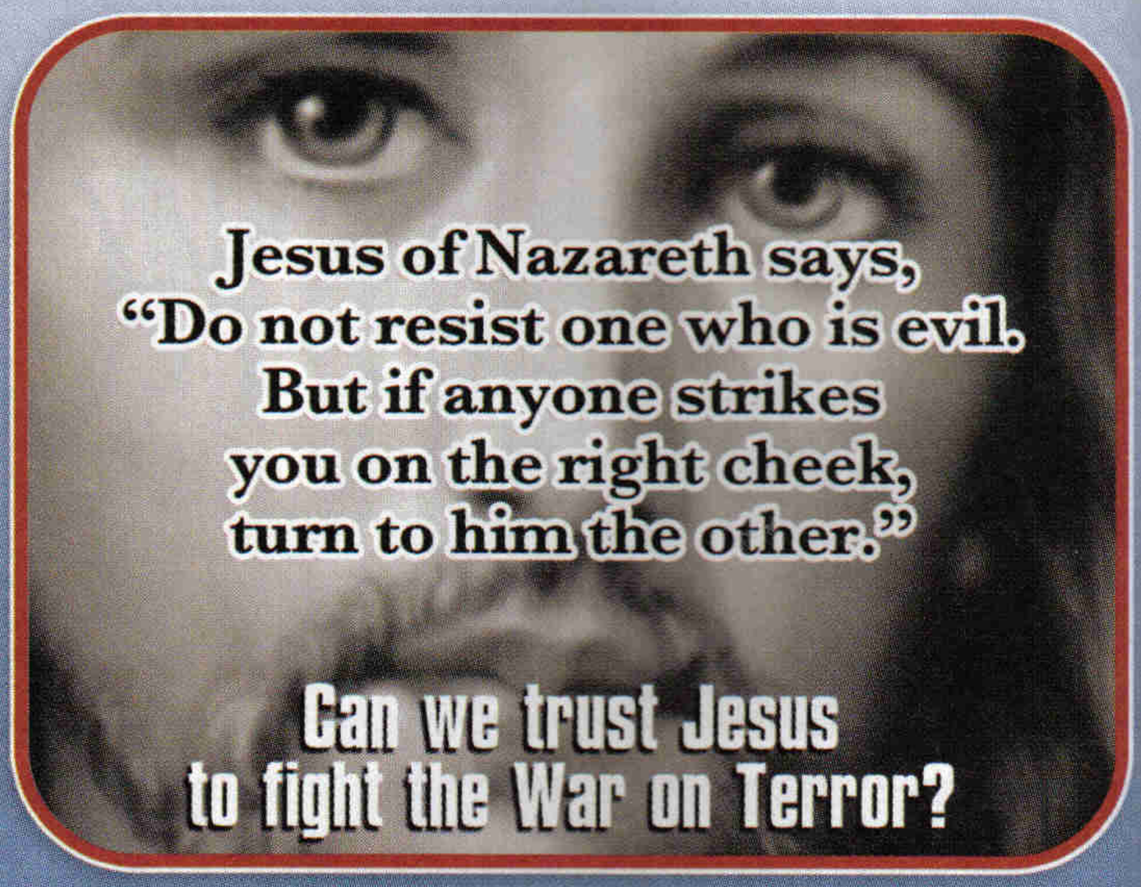
SPY GYM
SLICE!
?

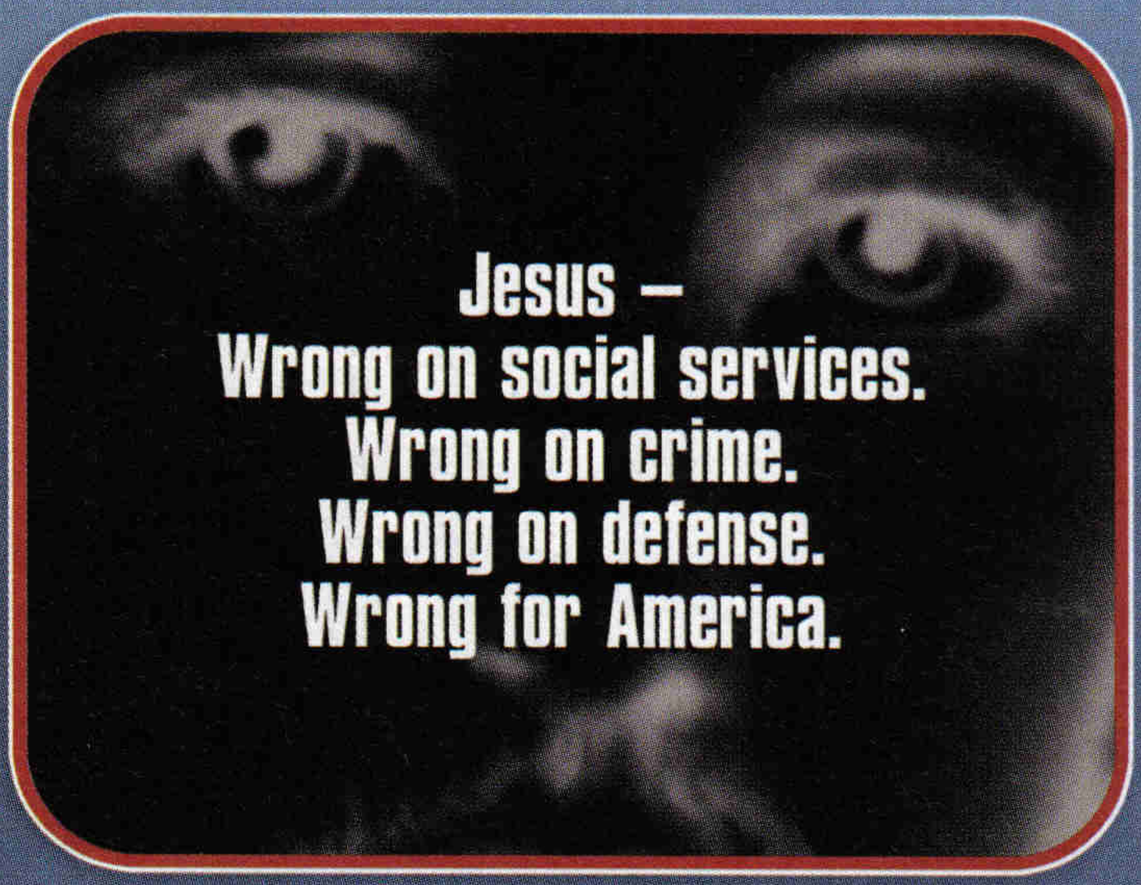
THE BUSH CAMPAIGN'S TV COMMERCIAL IF HE WAS RUNNING AGAINST JESUS

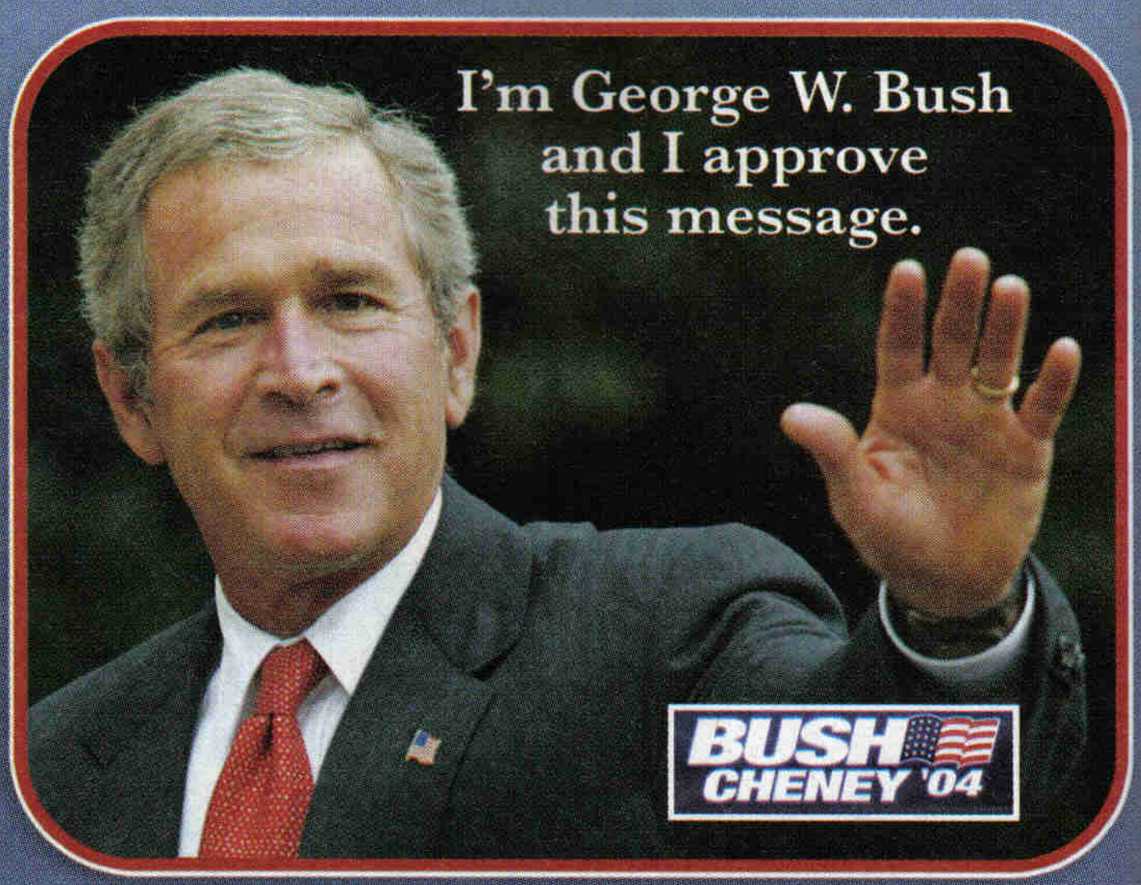












ARTIST: SCOTT BRICHER WRITER: DON VAUGHAN BUSH PHOTO: AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

THE NOT READY FOR CRIME TIME PLAYERS DEPT.

Sure, we're all fed up with "Reality Shows" but there's a genre (for you, average MAD reader, that means style, type) of TV show that's even more annoying: The Cop Drama! They're endless. ***Law & Order***, ***The Shield***, ***The District***, ***NYPD Blue***, and all the ***CSIs*** ...there's ***CSI***, ***CSI: Miami***, ***CSI SVU***, ***CSI: Staten Island*** (cable). They keep on coming! And, unlike Reality Shows, there's nobody warm and cuddly you can relate to, like William Hung or Donald Trump or Omarosa! Well, if you're fed up, here's *two more* crime shows to make you *more* fed up! The first one is very slow paced and very unexciting. In fact, you can watch this one....

WITHOUT A TRACE OF INTEREST

Okay, **what** do we have here?

Judson Hawke, 17, lead singer for an emo band, had a **drug habit, girls stalking him,** occasionally **frequented gay bars,** went out to the alley to **score some coke** and **flash** a **busload of tourists!** He suddenly **disappeared!**

Hmm... not much to **go on,** but we'll **give it a shot!** Did the **kid** have any **enemies?**

A **few! Other emo bands, his manager, his dance coach, his drug dealer, his twin and millions of music fans who love tasteful music!**

How do we **know** all this?

A **hair fiber!**

Good work, Dimmy!

On these TV crime shows, it's **amazing** how much **info** they get from a **hair fiber!**

Hurry! Every second counts!

Because we may **lose him?**

Because we may **lose our audience** to ***ER***! We have to make **psychological profiling** look more **exciting** than an **infected spleen!**

A boy rock singer dis-appeared! **What's** the **problem?**

He could be **kidnapped!** He could be **dead!** The world may **never see him again!**

As I said, **what's the prob-lem?**

Who are these guys?

They are a **special unit of the FBI** that is designed to **find missing people!**

Man, have we got our **priorities screwed up!** The FBI is conducting a **massive search** for a **coked-up, sexually-perverted, waste-of-life rock singer** and nobody seems to be looking for **bin Laden** and **al-Zawahiri!**

ARTIST: ANGELO TORRES · WRITER: ARNIE KOGEN · TONAL RENDERING: DAVID RODRIGUEZ OF WILDSTORM FX

Before we start, let's see if all the **TV crime show cliché characters** are here! **Great-looking blonde!**

Here!

No-non-sense **black woman!**

That's **me!** Got a **problem** with that?

Token Latino!

Yo!

Dull **white guy?**

Here! Don't forget the **B-list actor** who couldn't get a **gig** in **films!**

Yeah, **I'm** here! **Where else** would I **be?** Okay, **let's roll!**

Why is it that **every one** of these **TV crime dramas** has a **beautiful blonde detective?** In **real life**, the **female detectives** look like **death!**

I'm an **investigator first** and a **woman second!** I hope my **looks** won't be a **distraction!**

Certainly not! Tell me, do you **always butter** your **tie?**

Er... not always! Sometimes I use **cream cheese!**

Let's **reconstruct** the **"Day of Disappearance!"** Track **Judson Hawke's** last **24 hours!**

Looks like we've got an **anal retentive maniac** and **paranoid control freak** on our hands!

Nah, **Judson** just seems like a **mixed up young kid!**

I'm **talking** about our **Hack!** The guy's **obsessed** with **charts** and **graphs!**

He's like a **human *USA Today*!**

8:22 PM - 4:10 AM - PARTIED
4:18 AM - 5:02 PM - HOME SLEEPING
5:03 PM - WOKE UP
5:04 PM - BELCHED
5:22 - INCOMING CELL PHONE CALL
5:31 - READ BOOK
5:33 - LIPS GOT TIRED - PUT BOOK DOWN
5:46 - MET GROUPIE
5:47 - SEX ACT W/ GROUPIE
5:48 - DONE
6:10 - BAND
8:03 DI
8:14 :
VANISHED

21.5 HOURS MISSING

I'll **level** with you, **Vivo!** The **pressure** on this **job** is starting to **get** to me!

It's **rough!** But **all TV crime detectives** have **pressure! Michael Chiklis** from ***The Shield*! Jerry Orbach** from ***Law & Order*!**

Michael Chiklis and **Jerry Orbach** don't have a damn **ticking clock** running across their **butts!**

37.75 HOURS MISSING
18.2 MINUTES SINCE ANY NOTICEABLE PLOT TWIST

Found his **wallet! Cash**, a **fake ID** and **18 wallet-size photos!**

We need to **check out** those **people!**

That's going to be **tough! All 18** were **photos** of **himself!**

43.5 HOURS MISSING
18.2 MINUTES SINCE ANTHONY LAPAGLIA CHANGED HIS FACIAL EXPRESSION

Check this out! It's from **1959!**

Crime scene evidence?

It's the **last** time **Anthony LaPaglia smiled!**

He was a **baby** then! That **could** have been **gas!**

Whatever it was, it was an **improvement!** Right **now** he looks like he's a **finalist** in this summer's **"Russell Crowe 'Brooding Actors' Festival"!**

Hack, isn't it time we **interviewed suspects?**

I see it! I see the **damn timeline!** But **first** we have one of our **famous revealing flashbacks!**

61.7 HOURS MISSING
12.2 MINUTES SINCE VIEWERS STARTING DOZING

Yo! What up, **dawg?** **Cool!**

Hey! Just **chillin'!** **Later**, man!

That's revealing?

It **reveals** they're **idiots!**

We're definitely **not** going to be **checking** for **clues** at **Mensa!**

Judson couldn't **deal** with the **pressure! Emo bands** were **over!** His **15 minutes** were **up!** He **freaked!**

You two fought! He let you **go** as his **manager!**

He let **everyone** go! He let his **personal trainer** go! He let his **drug dealer** go! He had **burnout** at **17** and went to **live** at **home!**

What happened **there?**

After a **week**, he let his **mother** go!

Mr. Osbourne, you had a **feud** going with **Judson?**

I **hated** the **no-talent @$%^&**!** The **lad's** a **!@#$%^&! punk!** But I **didn't kill him!**

Where were **you** on **Jan 23rd?**

I was home **biting off** the **heads** of **chickens!**

Any **witnesses?**

There were **12 other chickens** who **lived! Ask** any of **them!**

71 HOURS MISSING
42.7 MINUTES SINCE VIEWERS GRABBED REMOTES AND STARTED SWITCHING TO ER.

I've got **good news** and **bad news!** The **good news...next season** the **writers** are going to **get into** the **personal lives** of the **agents!** I hear they're **creating** a **love interest!**

What's the **bad news?**

Rumor is it's going to be **you** and **Dimmy!**

Hack, we just got a call from **John Travolta!**

What's the **problem?**

His **career** is **missing!**

What, again?

It **vanished!** He needs help **finding** it!

We **don't** do **vanished careers**, do we?

We're **not doing well** with **vanished people!** Let's give **this** a **shot!** This **missing career thing** could be **huge!** We can turn this **rock singer mystery** over to those **dipwads** on...

OLD CASE

We're a **Philadelphia Homicide Squad** that deals with **unsolved crimes** from the **past!** We go back **decades** to solve **crimes** still on the **books!**

How old is the case **this week?**

Six days!

Six days?

A **rock singer disappeared!** Seems those **numbnuts** on ***Without a Trace of Interest*** couldn't **handle** it! It's **ours** now!

Shouldn't the **20** and **30-year-old cases** be solved **first?**

We got **orders** from **upstairs** to make this a **priority!** Now let's go down **memory lane** and try to think **six days ago!**

Wow! Who's **that?**

Her name is **Lolly Rash!** She's a **homicide detective!**

CBS has done a **complete 180** since the days when their **sexiest crimefighter** was **Angela Lansbury** on ***Murder, She Wrote*!**

This is one of the most **unusual crime series** attempted in the **last few seasons!**

Because of the **visual style** and **camera work?**

No, because it's a cop show **without Kim Delaney!**

How's it **going, Knock?**

Not great! I just had a **Philly cheese steak!**

Your **cases** are **backing up!**

My **lunch** is **backing up faster** than the **cases!**

What **decade** are **you** working on?

The **1960s! Hippies, love generation,** lots of **pot!** I'm not sure I can **believe** these **witnesses!**

Why **not?**

The **theory** is: if you can **remember** the **sixties,** you **weren't there!**

I'm **Jerry Bruckheimer, producer** of this **series!** I'm **proud** of this **concept!** This is **groundbreaking TV programming!** It's **absolutely unique!** Going **back** in the **past** for **episodes!**

Obviously you **haven't heard** of a thing called ***That 70s Show*!**

Primetime needs another **sophisticated procedural cop drama** like my **computer** needs **spam!**

You can get **rid** of **spam!** The **cop dramas** keep **coming!**

Have you **noticed** the **detectives** in all these **crime shows** are **very low key?**

Right! **Petersen** on ***CSI***, **Caruso** on ***CSI: Miami***, **LaPaglia** on ***Without A Trace,*** and now this gal, **Morris**, all speak **very, very softly!**

Yes! They bring a **"quiet confidence"** and **"gentle concern"** to the **role!**

Stop me if I'm **wrong,** but didn't that used to be called **"dull"?**

How come you're doing your **report** on a **manual typewriter?**

I'm **investigating** a **case** in the **1950s!** I want to **live** in the **past!** I want to **feel part** of that **era!**

Great! Here's your **weekly salary, forty three dollars!** Oh, and go out and **buy** me a **cup of coffee!** Here's a **nickel! Complaints?** Don't tell **me!** Tell **President Eisenhower!**

This is the **big gimmick** on **this show!** We see characters **morph** from **past** to **present!** We see them **30-40 years ago** and then see that **same character today** and **how much** they've **aged!**

Dramas like ***Hill Street Blues***, ***Homicide*** and ***Columbo*** became huge hits with **their** gimmick! But it wasn't **morphing** or **cool effects!**

What **was** *their* **gimmick?**

They had a thing called **solid writing** and **good acting!**

DAN LUMPP

DAN LUMPP

Listen up, everybody! We have to **forget** about the **old cases** and **investigate** this **new one!** Here's what we have: **Judson Hawke**, 17, **rock singer** for the boy band, **Bulge**, **disappeared** on **August 20th!**

Isn't **Thorn** a little **ancient** to be investigating an **emo band?**

He's a little **ancient** to be investigating **chamber music!**

Every week we see **Lolly** digging out **dusty files** in the **storage room!**

It gives a **gritty reality** to her **character!** She has **pert good looks**, but isn't afraid to get **down and dirty!**

Yeah! In **this scene** she actually has **two wisps of hair out of place!**

CLOSED

Look, guys, **Lolly** is a **tough, intelligent detective!** She **hates** it when you guys think of her as **just** a **pretty face!**

Hey! No way! She has **pretty legs**, too!

And an **incredible rack!**

And **look** at that **smokin' set of —**

Uh, **guys!** I think we're **missing** the **point** here!

Okay, here's the **scoop** on **Judson!** We've **narrowed** the **suspects** down to his **drug dealer**, his **twin brother**, his **grandmother** and **346 women** who have **stalked** him!

346 stalkers?

Yes! And **you'll** be **interviewing all** of them! Start with **Tiffany Shlemendrik** of **Altoona, PA!**

AIR FLEAGLE

J. HAWKE

You're his **drug dealer!**

Hey, **maybe!**

Can you tell me **where** you were at **7 p.m. Tuesday?**

Dude, I **can't tell you** where I am **now!**

Hmm! Perhaps we better **move on** to **other suspects!**

I'm with the **police!**

May I say I feel like **taking** the **law** into **my own hands?**

You **may not!**

Why **not?**

We're going back **30 years** for **plots!** We're **not** going **that far back** for **bad one-liners!**

Tiffany, you were **stalking Judson Hawke!**

Was not!

You had **court orders** to stay a **hundred feet** away from him! Yet, **last concert**, you **threw** your **panties** up on **stage!**

Lots of girls throw their **panties** up on **stage!**

But **you** were **in them** at the time!

It's the **twin brother, Hudson! He** did it!

You **interviewed** him?

Didn't have to! The **answer** was on **Google!** These days you can find out **everything** on **Google!**

Sure I did it! My **brother** had the **fame**, the **money**, the **hot chicks** and the **stretch Limo!** I'm a **stock clerk** at **Wal-Mart** and drive a **6-year-old Kia!** I **hate** him!

I am beautiful no matter what they say Words can't bring me down

Years ago, **murderers** were **cuffed, shackled** and then **slammed** into the **pokey!**

Now they're **escorted gently** by a **gorgeous detective** to a **moody pop soundtrack!**

This is the way we **end** our show **every week!** It's a hokey **slow motion arrest montage** set to **period music!**

Hudson, there's a **lesson** to be **learned** here!

That **crime doesn't pay?**

When there's a **weak script**, **dazzle** the **TV viewers** with **special effects, smoke** and **mirrors!**

BIAS BEWARE DEPT.

How's that? You really think voters can size up candidates fairly, without the slightest touch of bias? Not bloody likely, dude, as you'll see when you check out the differences between...

YOUR CANDIDATE

YOUR CANDIDATE flip-flops on the issues.

MY CANDIDATE has redefined his position.

YOUR CANDIDATE panders to lunatic fringe groups.

MY CANDIDATE reaches out to disenfranchised voters.

YOUR CANDIDATE shamelessly takes contributions from lobbyists and favor-seeking corporations.

MY CANDIDATE believes all Americans have a right to participate in the political process.

YOUR CANDIDATE surrounds himself with bootlicking toadies.

MY CANDIDATE puts together a team that shares his dream for a better America.

YOUR CANDIDATE mumbles weasel-like rationalizations when confronted with his drinking and womanizing in the past.

MY CANDIDATE admits to "youthful indiscretions."

ARTIST: PETER KUPER WRITER: FRANK JACOBS

AND MY CANDIDATE

YOUR CANDIDATE
stonewalls the press.

MY CANDIDATE reserves the right not to disclose information that could jeopardize the national interest.

YOUR CANDIDATE
waffles on the issues.

MY CANDIDATE
sees the merits of both sides of the argument.

YOUR CANDIDATE will pack the courts with judicial hacks who'll rubberstamp his extremist agenda.

MY CANDIDATE will handpick eminent jurists whose rulings reflect the will of the American people.

YOUR CANDIDATE sucks up to blacks, Latinos and Asians to get their votes.

MY CANDIDATE works to bring minorities into the mainstream.

YOUR CANDIDATE smears his opponent with vicious lies and personal attacks.

MY CANDIDATE simply wants to set the record straight.

PREVIOUSLY...

YOU, MONROE ARE THE HEIR TO THE THRONE OF CHIZBURGASTAN!

GREAT! TAKE HIM AND GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!

SHOVE!

I'M TAKING YOU ALL...ON A EUROPEAN HOLIDAY AND, THEN, TO RECLAIM THE Crown!

OKAY, SO LONG AS THE KID GETS A ONE-WAY TICKET!

SOUNDS GOOD TO ME.

ABSOLUTELY!

THIS IS PARIS, THE CITY OF LIGHTS.

ONE MORE FRENCHY GIVES ME THE STINK-EYE AND I'LL PUT OUT HIS LIGHTS.

Prepare to get royally screwed. It's...

MONROE and...

AND THIS IS WHERE THE GLADIATORS WAGED BATTLE AGES AGO.

Mmm, I CAN IMAGINE RUSSELL CROWE GETTING ALL OILED UP BEFORE A BIG BATTLE.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT MY APPETITE IS GONE.

HIS BODY GLEAMING AS HE WRAPS UP THE FIGHT AND HEADS BACK TO HIS TRAILER FOR A RUBDOWN. Mmm, RUSSELL, WHERE DOES IT HURT? Mmmm.

RIPP!

THAT WOMAN'S MOUTH IS FOAMY, MAMA.

MOM. YOU'RE CREEPING OUT THE TOURISTS.

THE SISTINE CHAPEL CEILING REMAINS ONE OF MICHELANGELO'S GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS. IT'S Spectacular.

HEY, MONROE, GIMME THE CAMERA.

FLASH!

EXCUSE ME, CHIEF.

OOPS!

BUMP!

WHOA, DAD! CHISEL THE CHISELER!

ALL THAT TIME IN THE DRUNK-TANK WAS GOOD FOR SOMETHING. LOTS OF CASH IN HERE. LOOKS LIKE WE'RE BOTH HAVING A GOOD DAY.

WE HAVE TIME FOR ONE MORE CITY. WILL IT BE MADRID OR BERLIN? LONDON OR DUBLIN? WHEREVER YOU CHOOSE.

Um, I DUNNO, IS THERE A WATER PARK SOMEWHERE?

LET ME HANDLE THIS, BOY. I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE WE WANT TO GO!

TRAIN ATION

AMSTERDAM!

EUROPE PART TRES

PERHAPS WE SHOULD MOVE ON.

THE *SOONER* THE *BETTER.* SOME GUY IN A *BERET* JUST KICKED MY BUTT WITH A *BAGUETTE.*

A LITTLE *"Eau de Toilette"* FOR *FRANCE!*

REALLY HELPING WITH THE AMERICAN IMAGE ABROAD, POPS.

DAMN RIGHT! NOW START *WHIZZING!* WE GOT A *WHOLE LOT* MORE COUNTRIES TO DEFILE.

NO-A PICTURAS.

LIGHTEN UP, *GIUSSEPE.*

THE PAINTING IS *VERY SENSITIVE.* THEY *DON'T* ALLOW FLASHES OF IT.

RELAX, I'M NOT SHOOTING *THAT.* =wink wink= I CAN GET *FIVE* BUCKS *A POP* FOR THESE ON THE *INTERNET.*

AH! UNO PERVERTITO!!

I THINK IT'S *ARRIVEDERCI ROMA.*

CLICK

LOOKIT. *HOBOS.* JUST LIKE HOME.

ACTUALLY, THOSE ARE *GYPSY PICKPOCKETS.* THEY ARE *EVERYWHERE.* IN FACT, HE'S *MOST LIKELY* LOADED DOWN WITH **STOLEN CASH.**

IS THAT *RIGHT?*

WAS IT THE *LEGAL PROSTITUTION* OR THE PERMITTED *NARCOTICS USE?*

IT WAS A PUSH.

YEAH, EVEN STEVEN.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

WHAT THE HELL IS WITH *THEM?*

IT'S THE AMSTERDAM *CONTACT HIGH.*

COFFEE SHOP

THE CITY IS *ENGULFED* IN A *PERPETUAL* HAZE OF SMOKE FROM ALL THE *POTHEADS.* YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, LOW TO THE GROUND LIKE *THAT,* SIRE.

HEY, MY *GLAUCOMA* IS *CLEARED UP!* BOY, ARE YOU UGLY!

WRITER: ANTHONY BARBIERI

MONROE

AND THIS IS THE **RED LIGHT DISTRICT.** WOMEN OF THE NIGHT *PLY THEIR TRADE* BEHIND THESE DOORS.

HEY! WHERE'S GRANDPA?

DAMN! YOU *KNOW* WE HAVE TO KEEP HIM TETHERED WHEN THERE'S *PROSTITUTION* AROUND! *I* BETTER GO LOOK FOR HIM.

NICE TRY, *STUD.* WE'LL WAIT *RIGHT HERE.*

I DON'T *EVEN KNOW* WHAT YOU'RE IMPLYING.

I'M *SURE* YOU DON'T.

SOON...

HERE'S OUR BOY.

CAN SOMEONE *PLEASE* TELL THESE GIRLS THAT A POST-DATED, THIRD PARTY, OUT-OF-STATE CHECK IS *PERFECTLY FINE?*

CHIZBURGASTAN.

FINALLY, THE *RETURN OF THE KING.*

JUST LIKE *LORD OF THE RINGS.*

MORE LIKE LORD OF THE *BOOORR-*RING.

GOOD ONE, OLD MAN!

GOOD *LORDS* AND *LADIES* OF *CHIZBURGASTAN.* I PRESENT THE *HEIR* TO THE *THRONE,* KING MONROE!

I APOLOGIZE, SIRE, BUT IT SEEMS THEY *DO* HAVE A CLAIM.

AS SUCH, ANY *DUAL CLAIM* SHALL BE SETTLED ON THE FIELD OF HONOR.

FIELD OF *WHO-WHAT?*

GOODY, JUST LIKE *RUSSELL CROWE!*

HOW ABOUT WE PLAY XBOX FOR IT? I DIDN'T THINK SO...

I *BARELY* TOUCHED HIM.

HOW'D I DO?

YOU *ALMOST* MADE IT THROUGH THE OPENING *HANDSHAKE.*

ALL HAIL KING CARL!!

I SPEAK SOME DUTCH.

I THINK THAT **SWITCHBLADE** SHE'S WAVING IS THE *UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.*

I CAN'T BELIEVE THOSE *HOOKERS* GOT MY *GYPSY SCORE.* *Hmmm,* NEVER SAID *THAT* BEFORE.

CAN WE GET *OUT OF HERE,* NOW?

WHERE IS IT *NEXT,* MY LORD?

REALLY, I *JUST* WANT TO GO *HOME.*

THEN *HOME* IS WHERE YOU SHALL GO. *HOME TO...*

AS IT WAS WRITTEN, SO A *KING* SHALL BE *CROWNED.* HE WILL EAT OF THE *FINEST FOODS,* DRINK OF THE *FINEST WINES* AND ENJOY THE COMPANY OF *THE FINEST MAIDENS.*

OH, *MAN!* I GOTTA BE *DREAMING!*

YES, YOU'RE *DREAMING* IF YOU THINK YOU WILL STEAL THE *THRONE* FROM *MY SON,* CARL!

WHAA?

FOR, YOU SEE, THE KING HAD *ANOTHER,* EVEN *LOOSER* DAUGHTER— *SERINA.*

SERINA... *SERINA...* *HEY!* I REMEMBER *THAT* ONE, TOO!

YOU *SHOULD!* IT WAS YOUR **DEMON-SEED** THAT *SPAWNED* THIS GRAND-SON!

LADY, IF *ANYONE* IS THE RESULT OF MY DEMON-SEED, IT'S *THIS* ONE!

SO I WASN'T THE *ONLY* KING. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN I *WASN'T* SPECIAL AFTER ALL.

'COURSE YOU SHOULD HAVE. *WE DID.*

OH, *STOP.* IT'S OKAY, HONEY, YOU'LL *ALWAYS* BE KING TO US.

REALLY?

YEAH, *STEPHEN KING!* 'CAUSE, KID, YOU'RE A **HORROR STORY!**

I SET 'EM UP, *HE* KNOCKS 'EM DOWN.

I MIGHT NOT BE *ROYALTY,* BUT HEY, I'M *STILL* MONROE.

WHY DO YOU GOTTA *REMIND* US?

LET'S GO *HOME.*

SS. USA

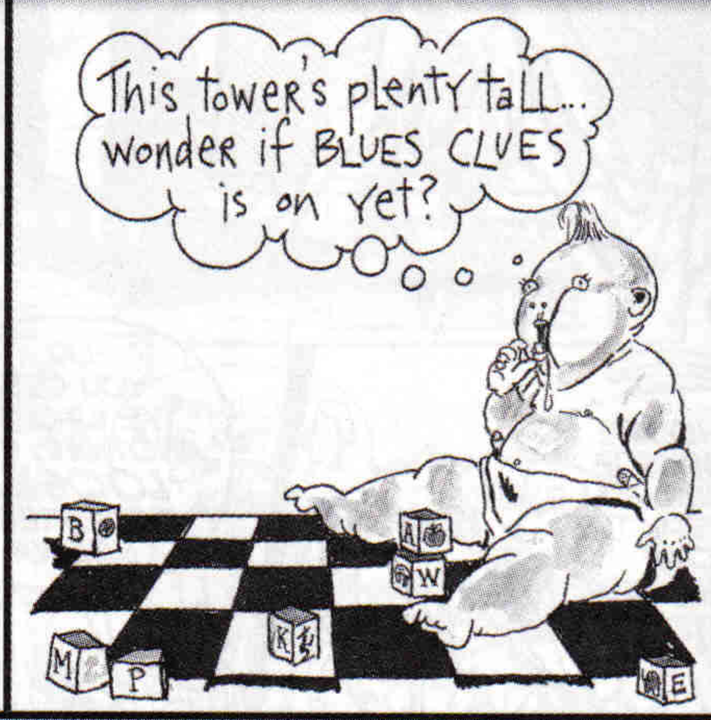
TONY B. FEW

If you're reading this magazine, chances are you're intimately familiar with what the life of an underachiever is like. But, since you probably haven't been paying attention, you can brush up with...

THE UNDERACHIEVER'S TIMELINE

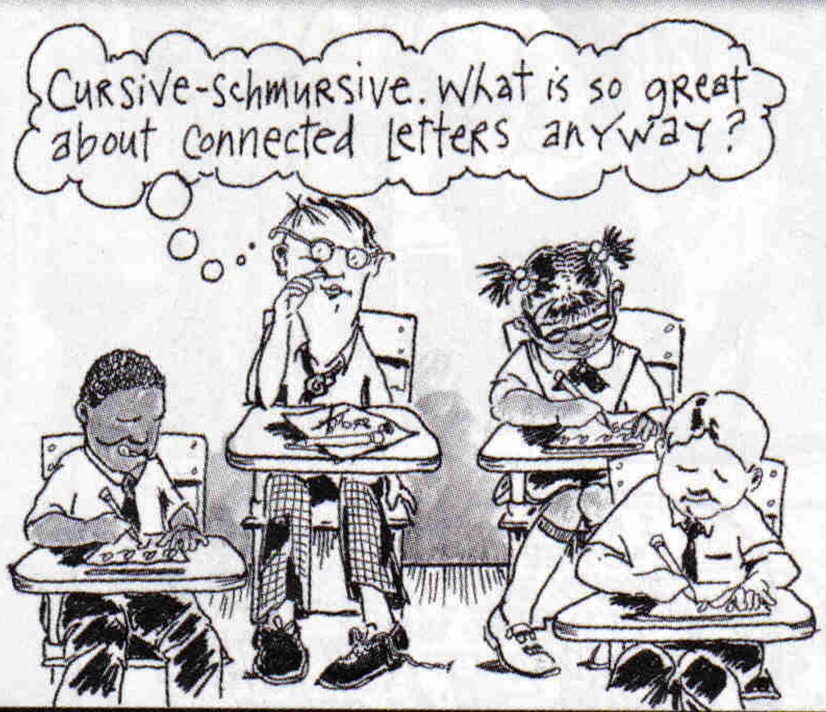
BIRTH

AGE: 0 - 3



AGE: 4 - 6

AGE: 7 - 9



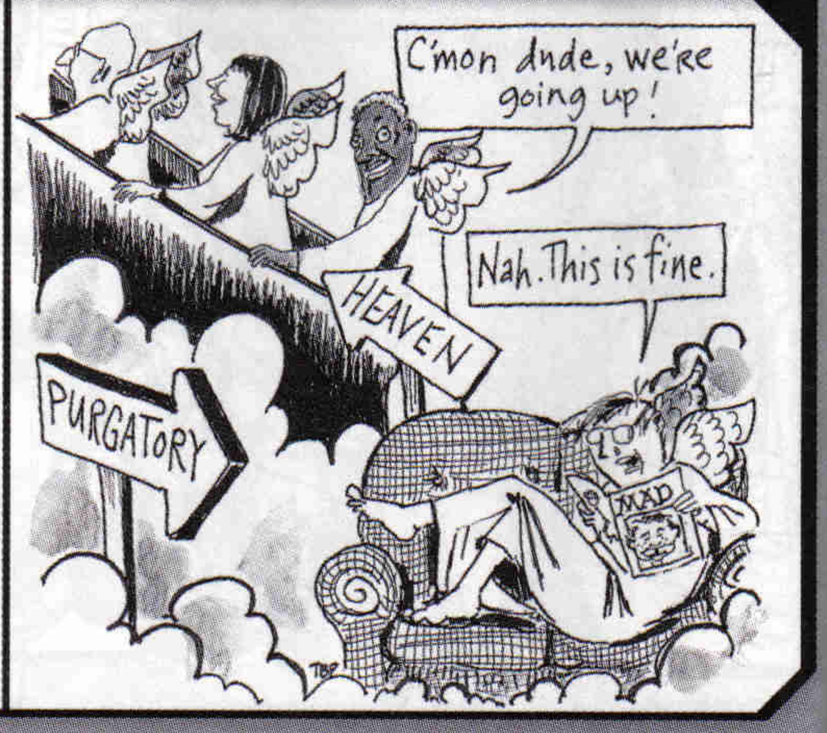
AGE: 10 - 17

AGE: 18 - 25

AGE: 26 - 30

AGE: 31 - DEATH

THE AFTERLIFE



ARTIST AND WRITER: TERESA BURNS PARKHURST

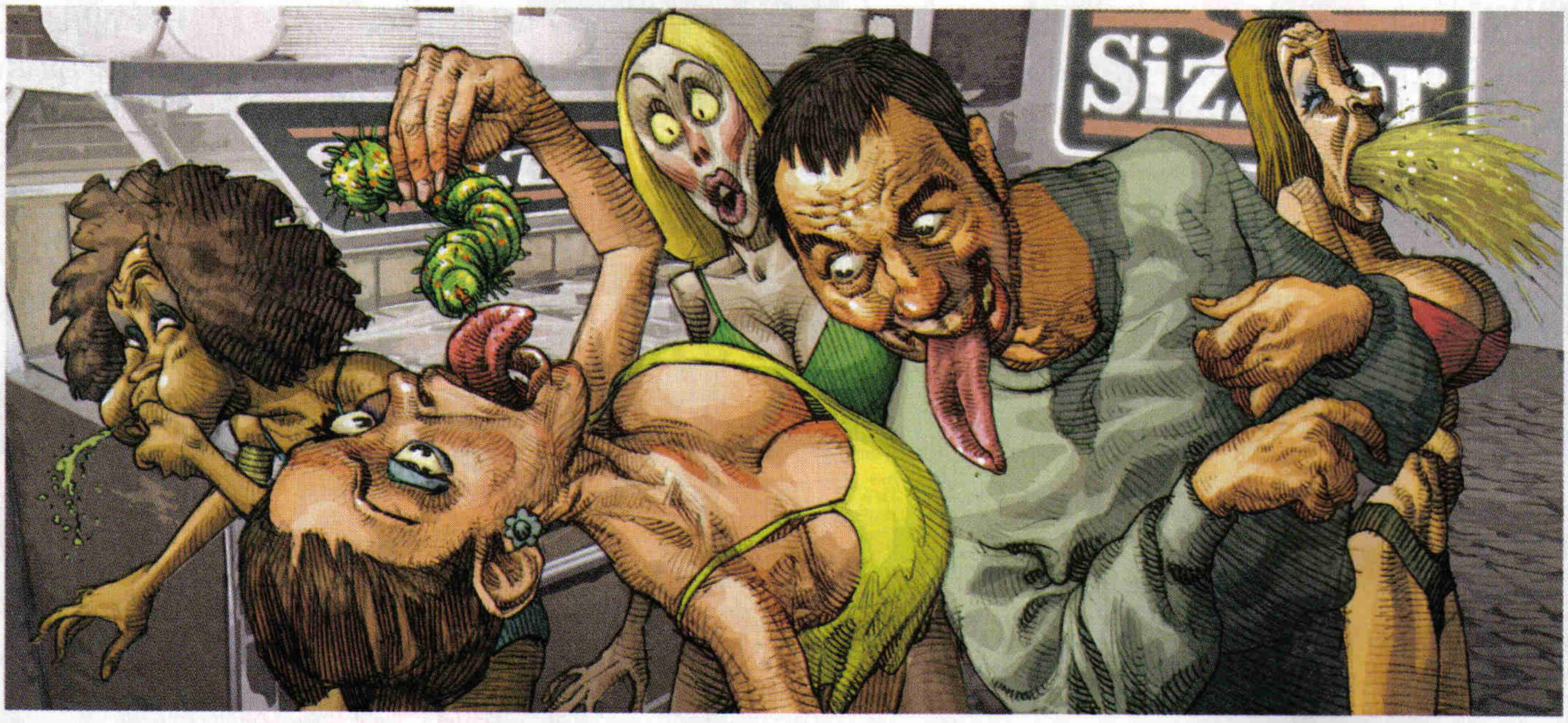
SHOW-FLOPPERS DEPT.

It's that hotly *un*-anticipated time of year again, when *TV Guide*, *People*, *Us Weekly*, *Entertainment Weekly* and every Sunday newspaper TV section in America bombard us with a plethora of boring stories about this season's lame new shows and lame new episodes of old shows the networks should have long since cancelled. We figure, why can't we waste some pages doing the same thing? With that in mind, we proudly present...

MAD'S FALL

FEAR FACTOR • 8 p.m. Mondays • NBC

As with each successive incarnation of the stomach-churning *Fear Factor*, actual adrenaline-pumping stunts continue to take a backseat to what viewers really want to see — contestants eating intensely repulsive stuff. Ape-like host Joe Rogan boasts, "We've lined up some really nasty-ass crap for contestants to chow down." Iron-stomached viewers beware: Among the "foods" those competing will have to swallow are bright orange circus peanuts, McDonald's Shamrock Shakes, low-grade chocolate pieces from a Christmas 2002 Advent calendar, heavily-salted Mexican candy and assorted fixin's from a Sizzler salad bar in Rosemead, California.



SPOILER ALERT! *Fear Factor* will be rolling out the big guns for sweeps weeks throughout the season with an "All-Implants" episode, featuring six contestants with breast implants (as opposed to the usual three) for Joe Rogan to ogle and drool over; and an episode — sure to become a fan favorite — with six players all prone to spontaneous bouts of chronic projectile vomiting — and poor Joe without an umbrella!

new! FATHER OF THE PRIDE • 9 p.m. Tuesdays • NBC

Armed with enormous amounts of money and obviously having learned nothing from the spectacular failures of *God, the Devil and Bob* and *Stressed Eric*, NBC has teamed up with the producers of *Shrek* to heave another animated primetime network comedy into the sacrificial pit at the feet of *The Simpsons*. John Goodman heads up a few-star cast as the voice of the leader of the pride of white lions who perform in the world-famous Siegfried and Roy show, presumably in some sort of alternate universe where Roy was not almost mauled to death on stage and continues to perform.

WATCH FOR: NBC desperately trying to recoup its hefty investment on this expensive, all-CGI show by canceling it after airing three episodes and selling the entire run for pennies on the dollar to the graveyard of failed primetime animation — Cartoon Network's late night lineup, probably around December.

TV PREVIEW

new!

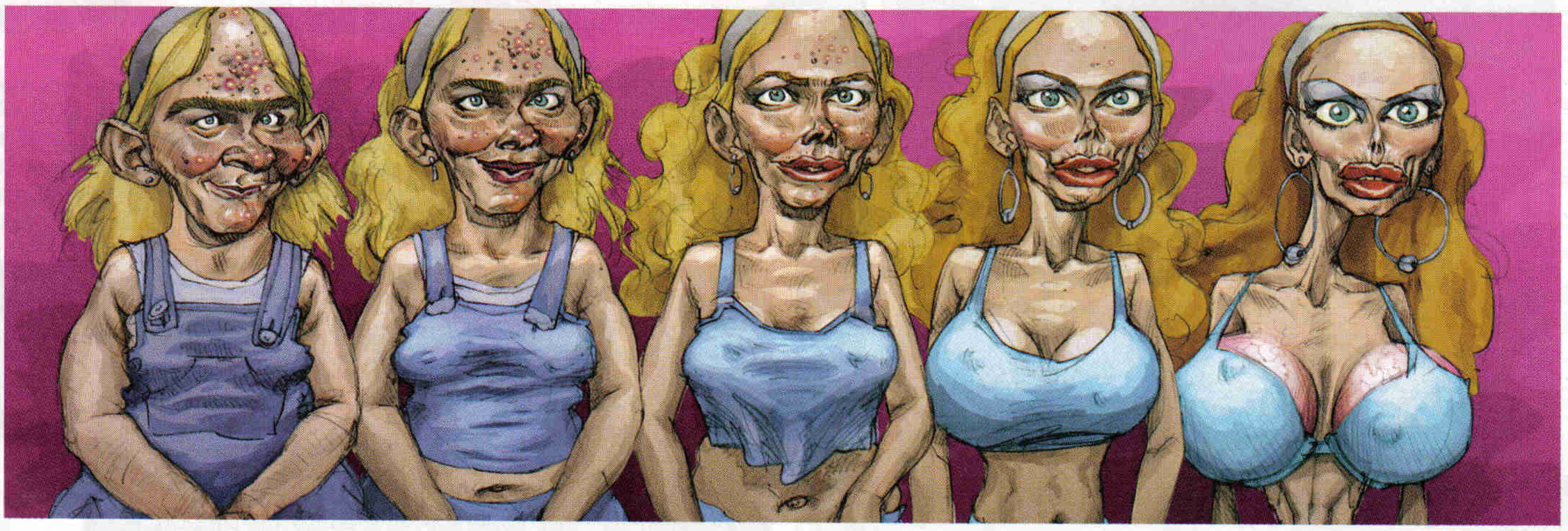
LOST • 8 p.m. Wednesdays • ABC

A stellar ensemble cast of nobodies stars in this drama broadly plagiarized from *Cast Away* and *Survivor*, while exploiting America's increasing paranoia with air travel. Producer J.J. Abrams offers this action-packed adventure in hopes of keeping his parking space on the ABC lot now that audiences are losing interest in his muddled and confusing *Alias*. 48 survivors of a Pacific Island plane crash must forget their differences and work together to ensure that all plots revolve around the four or five stars while forty-some-odd others remain in the background and safely out of all close-ups.

WATCH FOR: The cast of *Gilligan's Island* to make the all-too-obvious last-panel appearance in the unlikely event this series lasts long enough to warrant a MAD satire.

THE SWAN 2 • 9 p.m. Mondays • FOX

The old show-biz adage "You can't polish a turd" comes to life yet again as FOX's surprise hit of last season returns with more women in overalls than the audience at an Indigo Girls concert. This season's pathetic pack of self-esteem-challenged woofers will risk, well, really, nothing at all, in a dramatic transformation that will ultimately take one of them down the alley from fugly, pimple-faced porker to pole-dancing Vegas stripper in clown-whore makeup.



WHAT'S NEW: In a twist that would make Dr. Moreau proud, the losing contestant of each pair will relinquish whatever shred of human dignity and self-worth she still possesses and submit to plastic surgery and body modification where actual parts harvested from Canada geese and trumpeter swans will be grafted onto her body. These contestants will then begin a new life in various traveling carnival sideshows.

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO

THE O.C.
8 p.m. Thursdays • FOX

The O.C. is back for another season and you'll be surprised — that is if you've never seen a single episode of *Beverly Hills, 90210*, *Melrose Place*, or, God forbid, *Models, Inc.* In this non-ground-breaking season, oh, let's see…someone gets shot, probably; someone gets, oh, pregnant; someone's going to probably OD; someone inconsequential gets killed; something blows up and/or burns down, and someone who feels he or she doesn't fit in sits around and broods, all to a heavily-promoted and annoying soundtrack.

SPOILER ALERT! Emotions run high mid-season when Cohen family patriarch Sandy (Peter Gallagher) suffers a near-fatal surfing mishap and nearly drowns when his enormous eyebrows absorb so much water they pull him under.

new!

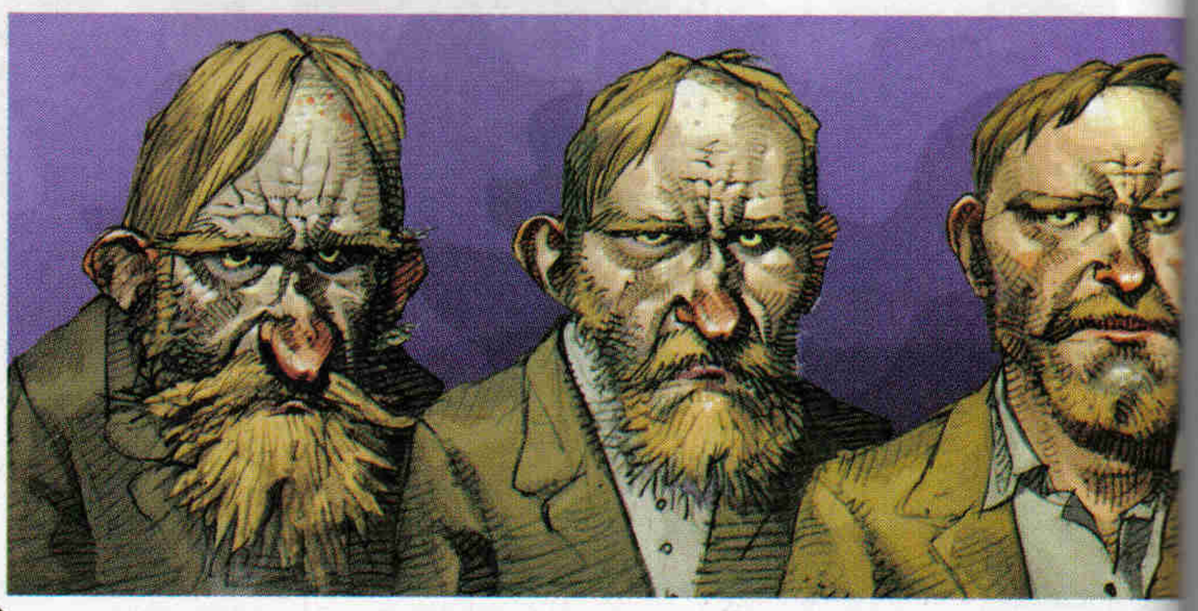
THE CONTENDER
8 p.m. Tuesdays • NBC

Fresh from a grueling workout as The Toymaker in *Spy Kids 3*, former movie star Sylvester Stallone continues his backslide into obscurity, completely bypassing the high-paying "Japanese Commercial" phase and stumbling directly into the ring of network television. *The Contender* follows the lives of 16 boxers not selected in a nationwide search for Oscar De La Hoya's (rip-off) reality show on FOX. Sly is cautiously optimistic about his show, hoping that it will provide the fibrous Hollywood buzz to help him pinch out yet another Rocky sequel. "If not," he muses, "maybe it will be successful enough so I can charge fifteen bucks for a signed still of me at one of those autograph shows."

WATCH FOR: *The Contender II, The Contender III, The Contender IV, The Contender V, The Contender VI.*

EXTREME MAKEOVER

The *Extreme Makeover* team has scoured America's trailer parks, food courts, bail bond offices, crack houses and NASCAR events for another batch of stringy haired, pockmarked, dentally-challenged freaks. Once again, the nation's most hideous misfits are rewarded for their lack of hygiene, negligent oral care, piss-poor diet and Goodwill fashion sense by being transformed into living, wheezing works of art.



new!

LISTEN UP
8:30 p.m. Mondays • CBS

Jason Alexander is back (for a few months maybe) starring, temporarily, as Tony Clineman, an irreverent sports show host. Poor Tony has got his hands full, juggling the show, a newspaper column, and a standard issue sitcom family — all the while waiting for the infamous *Seinfeld* Curse to rear its ugly, Grim Reaper-like head again by banishing this dog of a sitcom to the Land of Cancelled, and send Jason back to musical theatre and celebrity card games on the Gameshow Network.

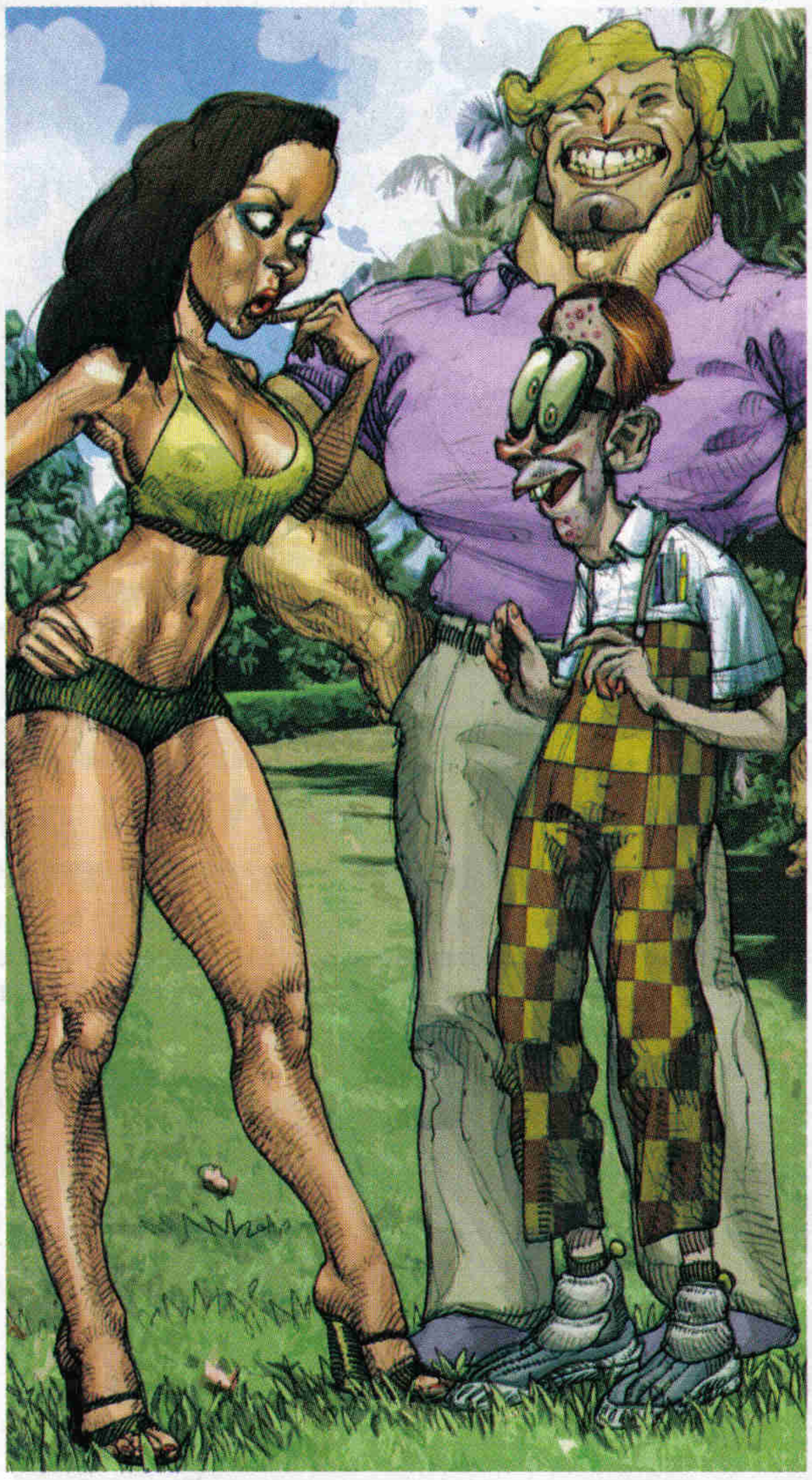
WATCH FOR: Old episodes of *Seinfeld* in syndication. Or even *The Cosby Show* reruns on Nick at Nite.

8 p.m. Thursdays • ABC

SPOILER ALERT! Controversy has already rocked this season's *Extreme Makeover* as 17 of the show's most pathetic cases were later revealed to be first season guests who reverted to their former selves (and reportedly were unrecognized by the producers) after being unable to keep up with their obscenely expensive makeover regimen — which typically includes $100-a-session-three-times-a-week personal trainers, current season designer clothes, $400 hair stylists, Beverly Hills make-up artists, nutritionists to the stars and toothpaste.

AVERAGE JOE
8 p.m. Tuesdays • NBC

It's the backne boys versus the Abercrombie crowd in yet another pointless, practically pre-determined go-round of NBC's one-note reality series where women are revealed to be just as shallow as the men they're always bitching about. Who will this season's horny hypocrite choose: the stick-armed CPA or the buff personal trainer? The balding file clerk or the long-haired rocker god? The computer programmer with braces or the unemployed actor with the killer smile? See our heroine fidget as she cuts loose more and more of the pencil-necks while trying to decide whether ab definition or bicep size will ultimately be the deciding factor on who gets to sleep with her first after all the losers have been sent packing.



WHAT'S NEW? Any "Average Joe" who is referred to in the blatantly disingenuous "I'm sorry I had to cut you" speech as "cute," "sweet" or "a really nice guy" wins immunity for another week and is immediately returned to the pool of contestants, forcing the woman to come up with new, more creative lies or possibly even resort to, heaven forbid, blatant honesty.

THE BACHELOR
9 p.m. Wednesdays • ABC

TV's most ruthless reality show, *The Bachelor*, returns to ABC's lineup, once again pitting one lone man against a vicious pack of crazed, man-hungry, desperate, back-biting women forcing him to dance a grotesquely contrived, cartoonishly romantic dance of death with each one until he's deftly vanquished two dozen would-be fiancées with the crushingly humiliating stigma of being rejected on national TV. Yet one woman alone will realize her dream: winning the hand of the stranger she "loves," appearing on the cover of three months' worth of *People* and *Us Weekly*, and unloading that engagement ring on eBay two months later, once it all goes sour.

WHAT'S NEW? This season, the Bachelor finds out exactly what sort of hell he's in for as each of the twenty-five contestants, one at a time (and with her mother!), are casually led into a wedding planner's boutique, while hidden cameras and microphones pick up everything.

new!

CSI: NY
10 p.m. Wednesdays • CBS

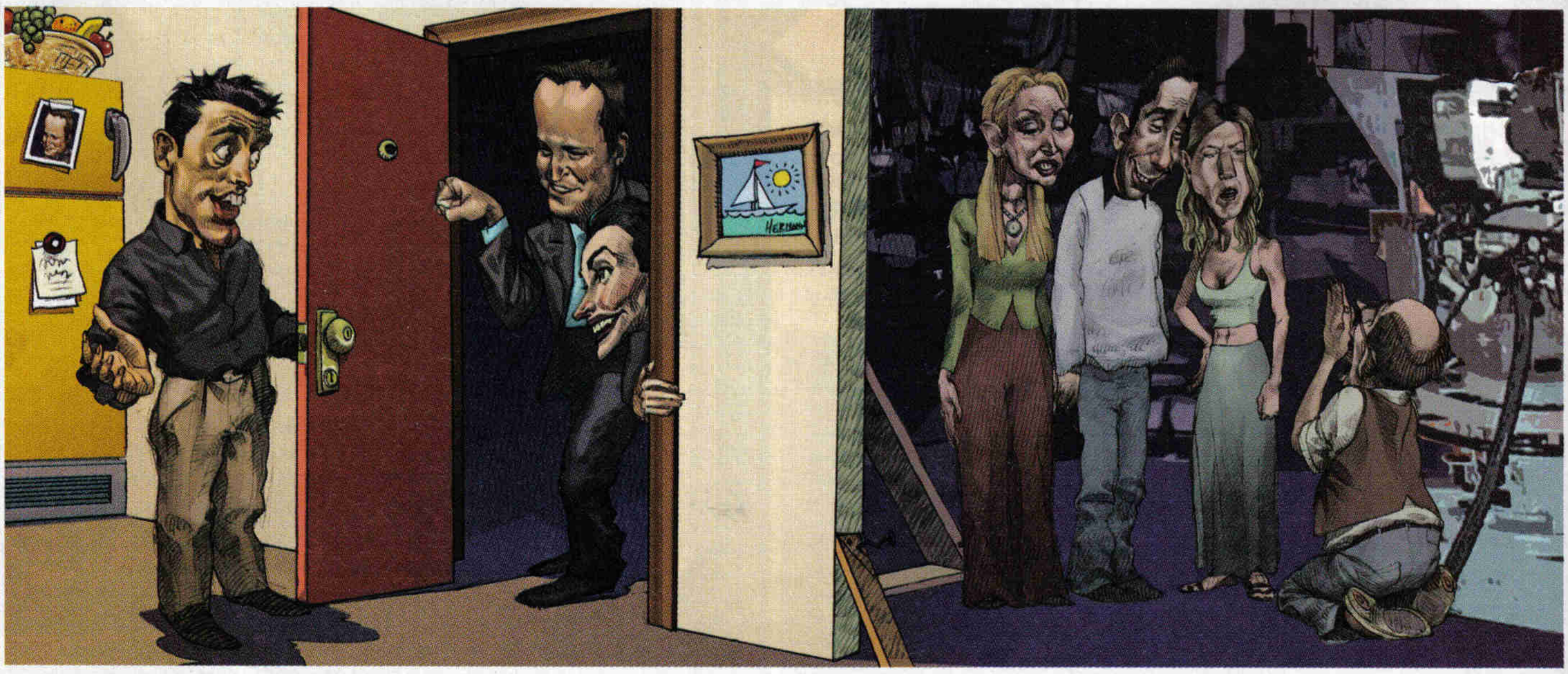
The newest addition to the popular *CSI* family of series stars Gary Sinise as Mack "Mac" Taylor, a dedicated and driven can-do New York City police detective with rugged good looks. Emmy Award-nominee Melina Kanakaredes plays his partner, a smart and sexy workaholic who's a jack-of-all-trades. Together, they lead a team of jacks-of-all-trades, can-do forensic experts who are either workaholics, dedicated and driven, possess rugged good looks, or are smart and sexy. These skilled investigators search the steamy underbelly of the city for evidence and clues to solve such mysteries as "Who killed Gary Sinise's movie career?"

WATCH FOR: Exciting business opportunities. If interested in owning a *CSI* franchise in your city or town, please contact Programming, CBS Television, 51 West 52nd Street, New York, NY, 10019.

new!

JOEY • 8 p.m. Thursdays • NBC

Emmy non-winner Matt LeBlanc evidently still doesn't feel creatively fulfilled after playing horny dumbass Joey for an entire decade, and reprises the most one-dimensional and expendable character of the *Friends* cast, now transplanted to Los Angeles, where the aspiring actor will continue to flounder through countless auditions and forgettable roles, which should be good practice for early 2005, when he'll be doing that for real.



WATCH FOR: Matt and the producers calling in five desperate favors to some old "Friends" as the ratings plummet.

WHAT'S CAUSING THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE TO RISE EVERY WEEK?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

MAD FOLD-IN

It seems it is harder than ever to keep a job in this country. Part of the problem stems from companies going bankrupt, outsourcing jobs to India or downsizing their staffs. There is, however, one main cause for the nation's skyrocketing unemployment rate. To find out what it is, fold page in as shown.

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

YOU HEAR A LOT ABOUT THE LOSS OF JOBS LATELY. THEY'RE FINALLY ADMITTING THE UNEMPLOYED ARE UNPREPARED TO COPE WITH THE UNHAPPINESS THIS CAUSES.

DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO BIGSHOTS WHO BOLDLY TELL BALD FACED LIES ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES. THEY TRY TO CONVINCE JOB SEEKERS TO BELIEVE THEM AND JUMP ON THEIR SIDE OF THE ISSUE. THEY LOUDLY PROCLAIM, "THE APPARATUS FOR JOB CREATION OPERATES QUITE DIFFERENTLY TODAY. JOBS ARE MOSTLY IN MILITARY SERVICE"

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

A B