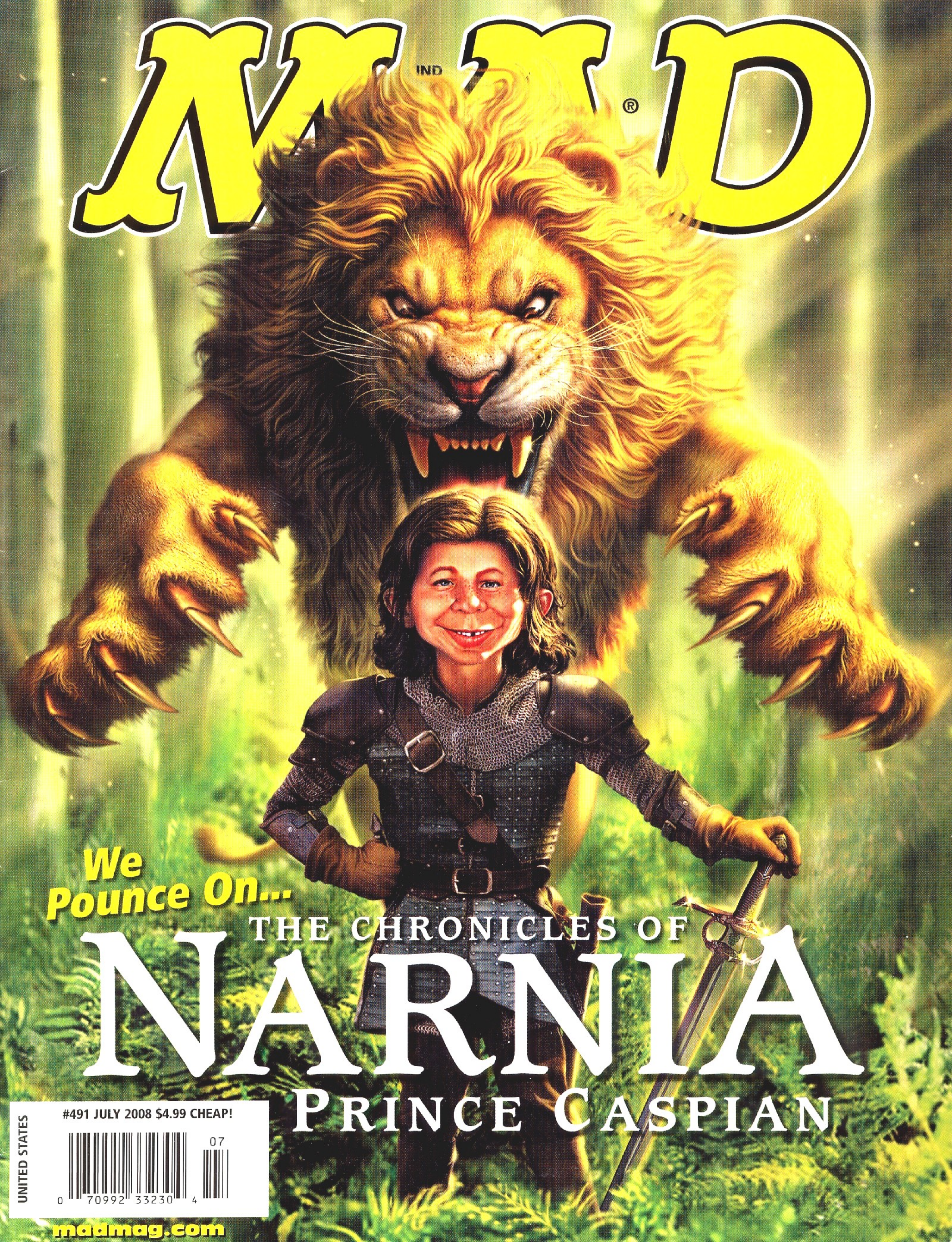


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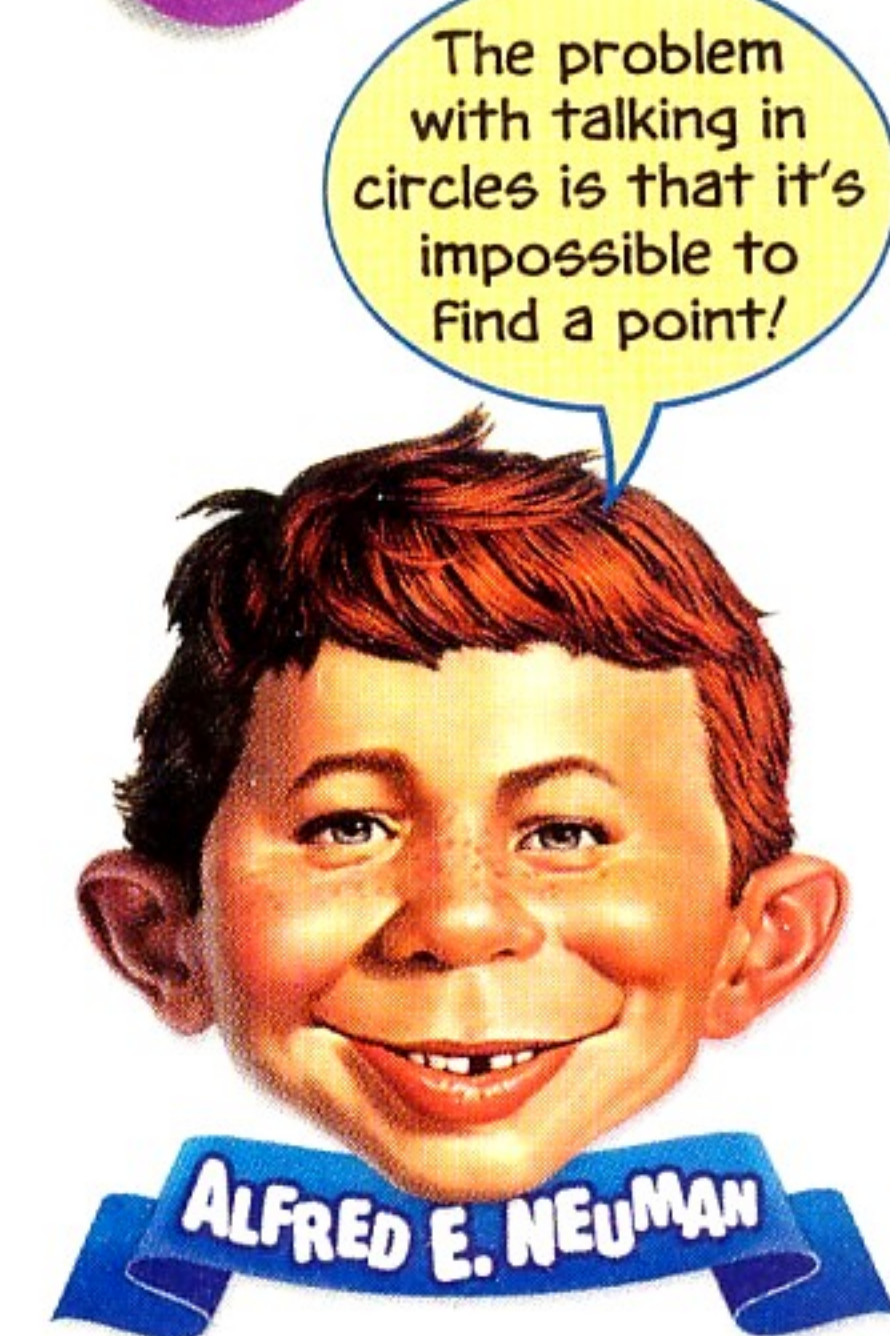
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COVER ARTIST:
MARK FREDRICKSON

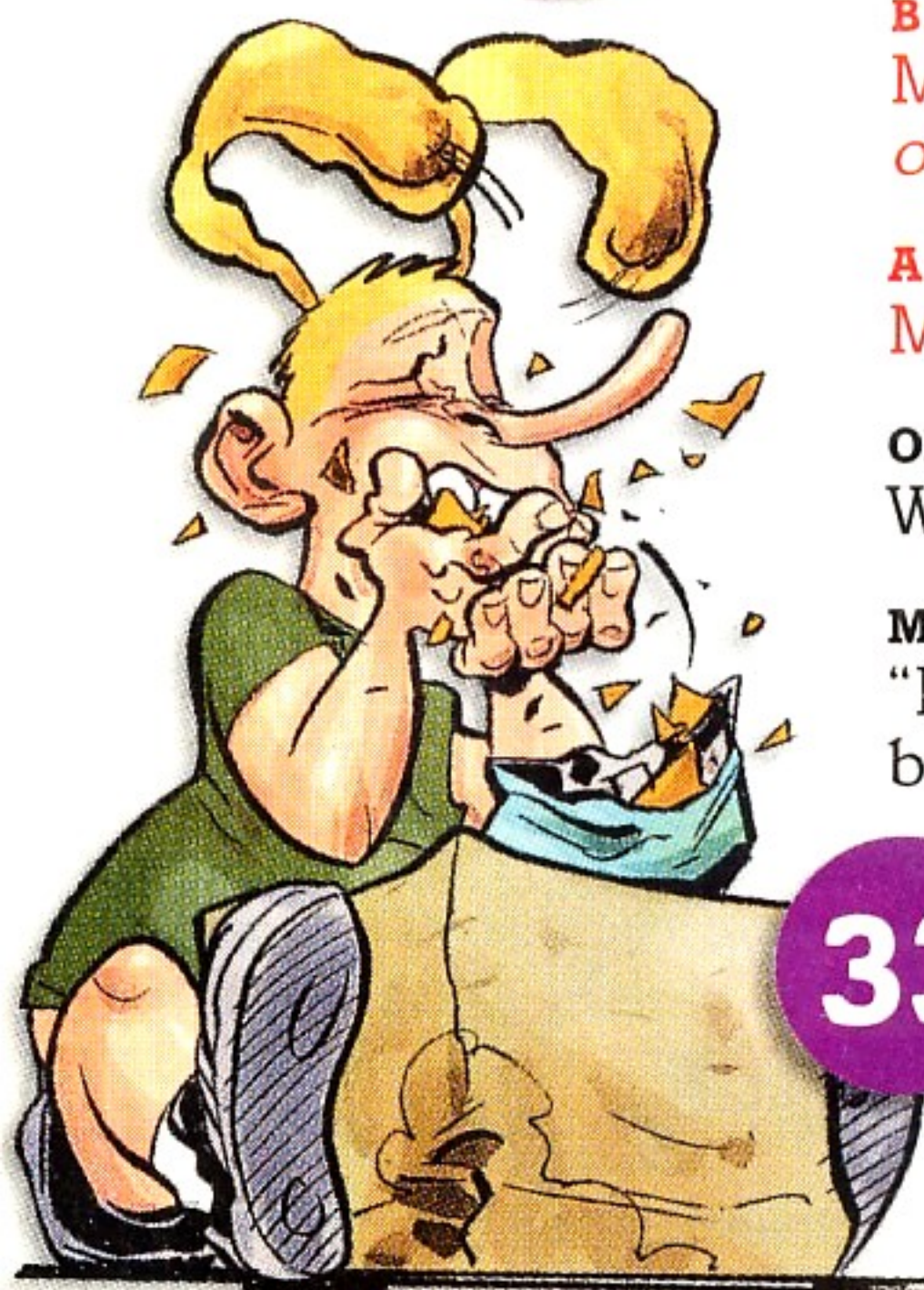
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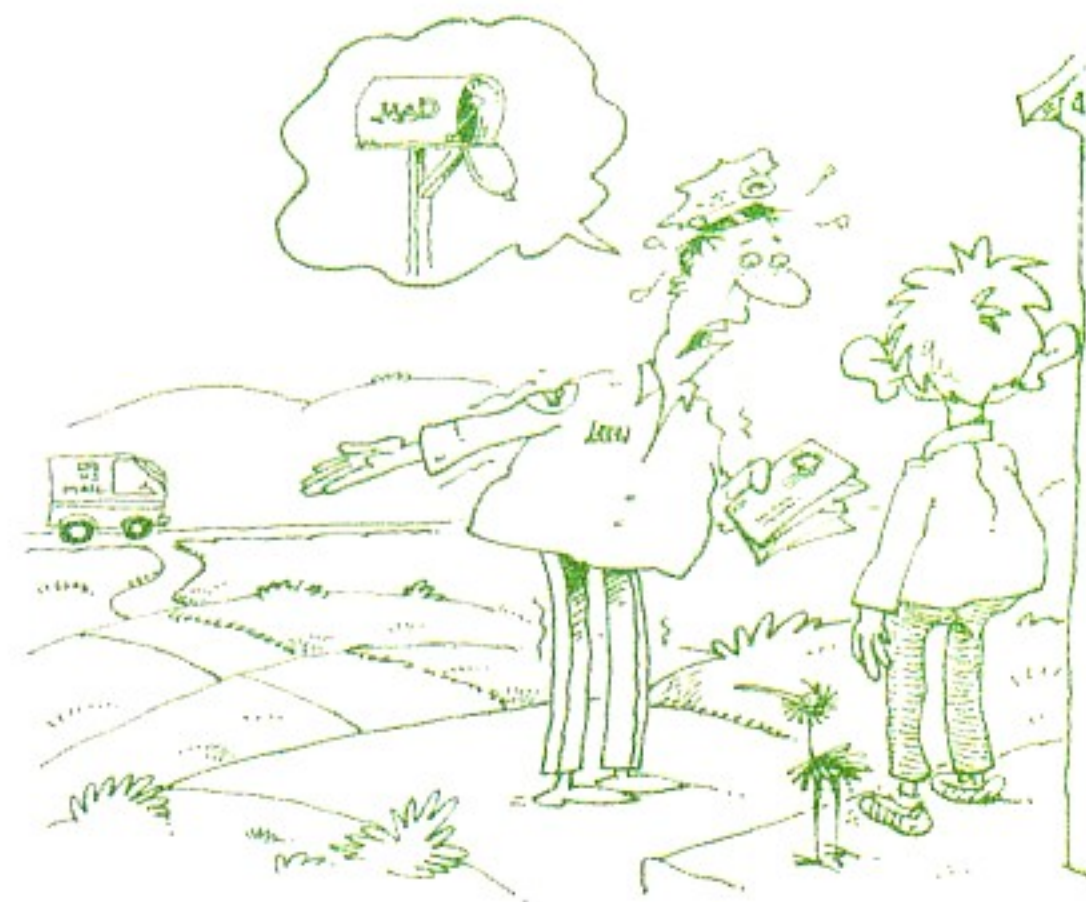
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FLAG, YOU'RE IT!

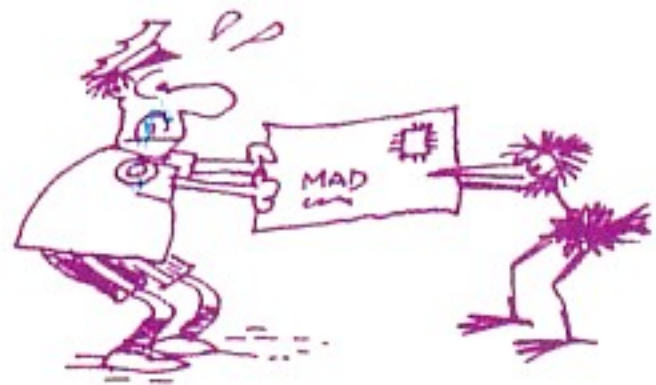
So it is standardized testing season around here, and I had to take a super long English exam. Luckily, the teacher allowed us to bring reading materials for when we get done early. I, being the idiot I am, decided there was nothing better to bring but my good ol' MAD magazine. I finished the test and when the time came I pulled out the contraband and began reading. After a few minutes I looked up and happened to see a Pledge of Allegiance poster on the wall. Then a brilliant idea struck me and I spent the remainder of my time in that classroom thinking up this:

Anthony Beaulieu, Noble, OK

"Pledge to the MAD"

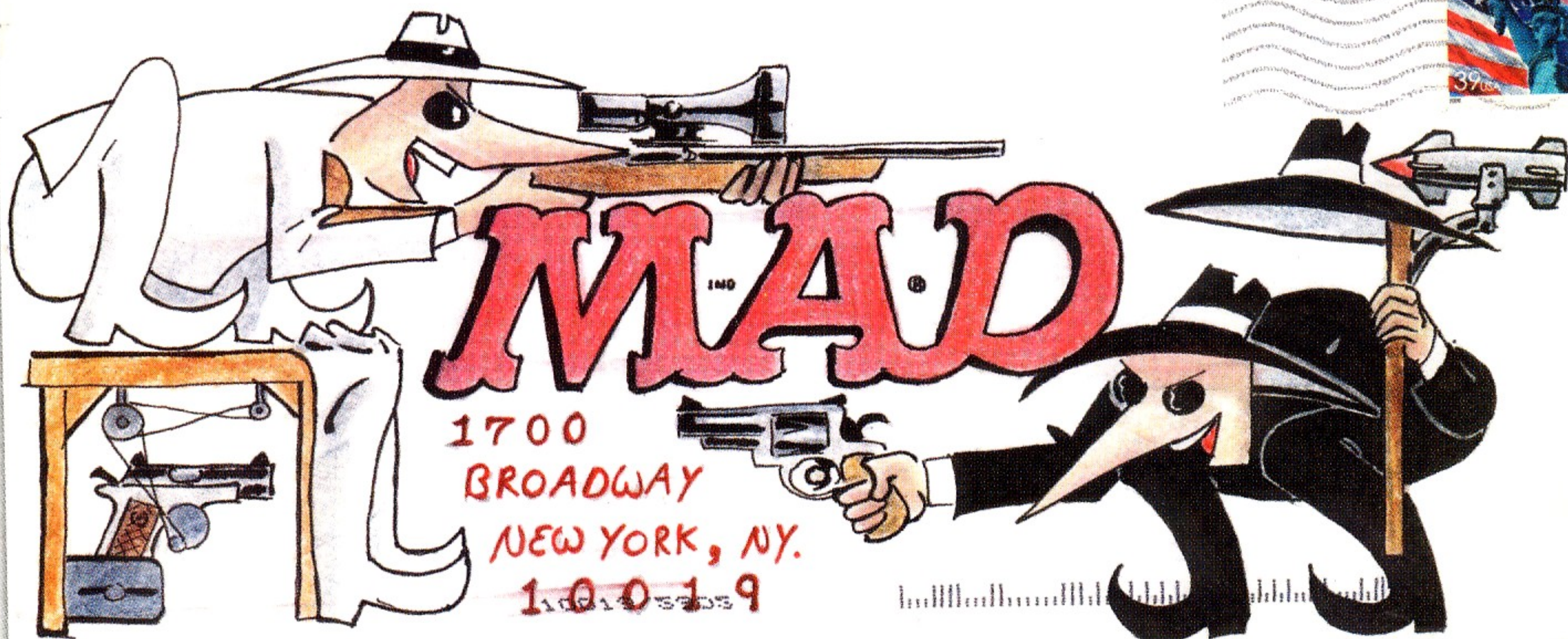
I pledge allegiance to the MAD
Of the United States of America
And to the Repugnant
for which it stands
One publication, under clods,
indispensable
with laughter and joking for all

Beaulieu Cheese — We think the only salute you'd get for your version of the Pledge would be the one-finger salute! Still, if your pledge is going to catch on, it's going to need a MAD flag to go along with it. So, we're opening it up to readers to design and send in a MAD flag that we can proudly pledge our allegiance to. Send it either snail mail to Amy "The Big Flag" c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 or to our e-mail address (make sure you put "The Big Flag" in the subject line.) We'll print the best ones in an upcoming issue! —Ed.



ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

This month's Envelope of the Month featuring the battling duo of Spy Vs. Spy was drawn by Anthony Tinsman of Forrest City, AR. Hey, Anthony, we'll make sure Peter Kuper doesn't steal your idea!



AGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

In MAD #489, it states that Tad's age in binary is 1110. After some calculation, does this mean that he's 14 years old?

Alex Carrillo, Brooklyn, NY

Alex in Wonderland — We're not sure about Tad's age but, after some calculations of our own, we've determined that you're a big dork! Thanks for writing! —Ed.

THE BIG TEACHER'S PET

My history teacher, Mr. Faris, loves MAD magazine. Out of everyone in the world, I would never have guessed that he loves it. Once I told him that I collect them, Mr. Faris got a surprised face on him and begged me to bring some to class. Since then, he's never been more awesome. Thanks, you bunch of schmucks! Keep the mags coming!

Matthew Zarr, Fountain Valley, CA

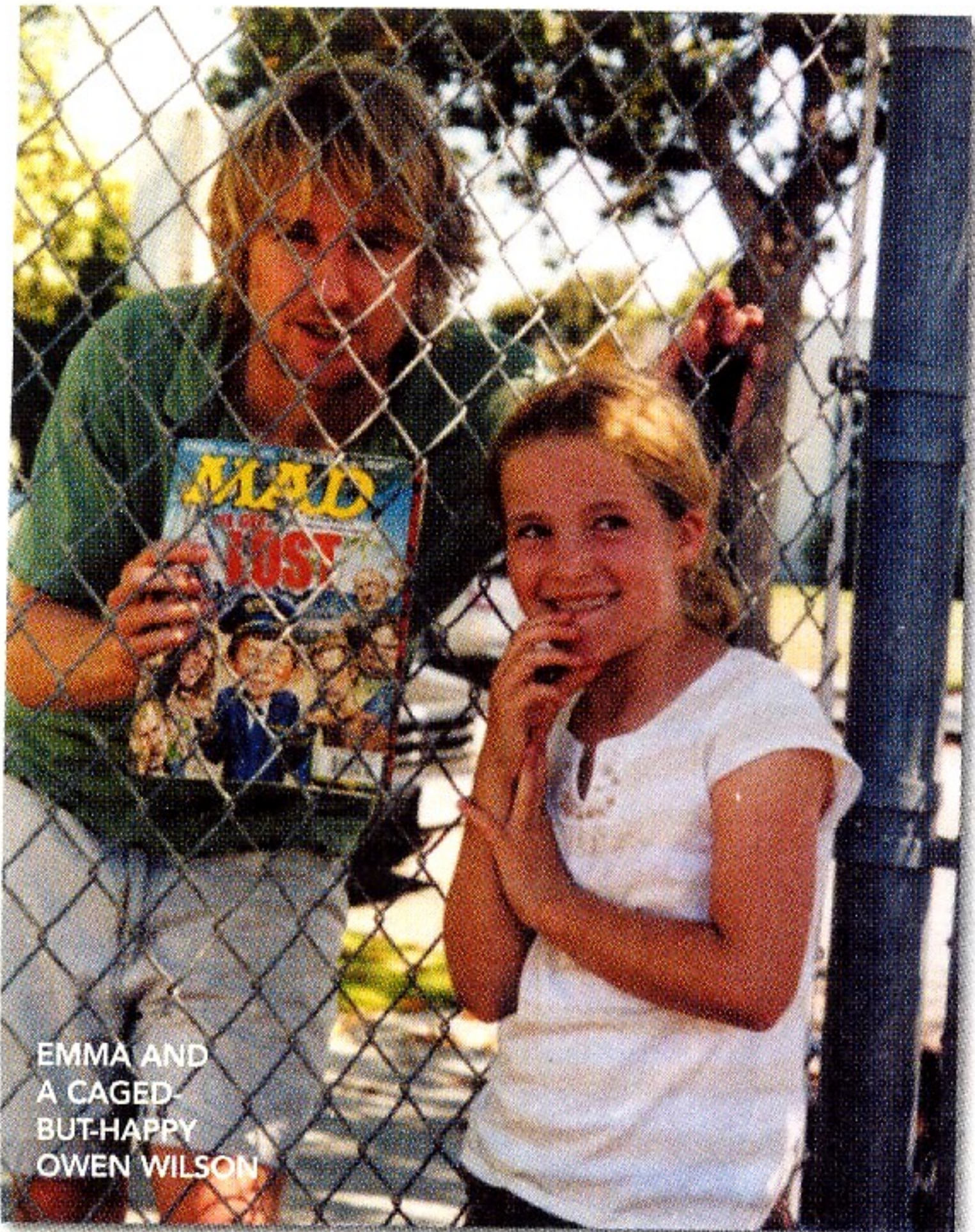
When You Wish Upon a Zarr — We remember we had a teacher just like Mr. Faris, but in our case, he begged us to bring in our copies of *Playboy* (specifically the one featuring the article "Girls Who Bowl Naked")! He got fired soon after that. —Ed.

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

I was reading a MAD magazine on the sidelines of my brother's baseball game and I stumbled upon Owen Wilson. Apparently he was watching his nephew's team get creamed by my brother's team. Owen said he was on the other side of the fence because of the paparazzi, but I think he got *Lost*!

Emma Polhemus, Los Angeles, CA

Emma Enchanted — Congratulations! We didn't think anyone could fence in The Butterscotch Stallion! He may have avoided the paparazzi, but there's no way he could stop the Schmuckarazzi, our name for the legions of MAD fans willing to stalk a star for a free subscription! Enjoy your three-year subscription! Everyone else, learn from Emma and get busy looking for celebrities at Little League games, bowling matches and the occasional cockfight! —Ed.



BETTER DEAD THAN READ

Last year I bought my Uncle Tom a gift subscription to MAD for his birthday. He loved MAD growing up and (to my mother's chagrin) even gave my brother and I his old MAD paperbacks from the 60s. I don't think I've ever seen a gift make someone so happy — when the first issue arrived, he even e-mailed me to thank me again. Five days later, he died. Oddly, the one thing that never turned up when we cleaned out his house, car and office was that new issue of MAD. We like to think he took it with him (as farfetched as that sounds). I've been receiving the remaining issues and whenever one arrives I can't help thinking of how much Tom would have enjoyed it. Thank you MAD for helping me put a smile on his face during the last few days of his life.

Lindsey Parker, Huntington Beach, CA

Parker Lot — Thank you for your heartwarming letter and we're so sorry for your loss. However, touching as your theory may be, it seems unlikely to us that your Uncle Tom took MAD with him into the afterlife. If it were us, MAD would be the one thing we'd be sure to leave behind! —Ed.

BORE OF DUTY

I am almost 14 and am a huge fan of MAD. I buy both current and old issues and really enjoy reading them. Most times I read it at night in my room. I'm not able to read it during the day because I have school, homework, chores and other crud to deal with. But when I try to read it at night my dad always barges into my room and tells me lights out. Could you please print this and give me something to show my dad and make him quit bugging me when I'm reading MAD at night in the privacy of my own room. I'm one of the biggest fans of the number ecch magazine!

Jeremy Schwartz, Syosset, NY

May the Schwartz Be With You — Here's your problem — you have your priorities all screwed up. You're putting school, homework, chores and crud ahead of reading MAD! You need to reverse the order! Start with MAD then focus on the crud (whatever that might be — ear wax? Eye crust? What?) Then do your chores and finally, and only as a last resort, school and homework! Then, when your dad barges into your room telling you lights out, you'll just have to stop doing homework! Enjoy your wonderful new life! —Ed.

THE CHOKE'S ON US

I just recently attended the funeral of my friend's hamster. The death was tragic; he passed away a few days ago when his wind pipe clogged with the paper head of Alfred E. Neuman. Fluffy was a constant reader of MAD, his owner put MAD under the shavings after cleaning the cage. Fluffy got a kick out of digging through the shavings to the cover and then chewing his way to the more tasty Fundalini Pages. Please carry on Fluffy's legacy by printing this letter in your next magazine. He would have wanted it that way. P.S. Fluffy always liked the "Letters and Tomatoes Dept."

Steven Grolle, Sonora, CA

Grolle With the Punches — Fluffy's tragic death really hit close to home. A few years ago, we almost lost long-time MAD writer and artist John Caldwell in the exact same way. No, wait. Check that, it involved a hamster, but I don't think Caldwell inhaled anything! 'Nuff said! —Ed.

COUNTERFEIT TO BE TIED

Larry Manofsky of Ashville, NC sent in this modified Iraqi money that we're pretty sure violates some international counterfeiting law! We didn't think anything could screw up Iraq even more, but congratulations, Larry, you've managed to find a way!





WRITE AND WRONG

Dear MAD,

I think your "What The Heck Is The Difference?" feature is the best new addition to your magazine in years! And to pay tribute, I'm writing you two (nearly) identical letters. Can you find the seven subtle differences between them? Anyway, I have such fun trying to find all the changes you've made, and I'm getting better and better all the time! In fact, last month I managed to find all the changes in only 47 minutes (a new personal record, I might add). Keep up the good work. You're the greatest!

Sorry, I guess that last one wasn't so subtle.

Neal Angell, Rockford, IL

Hell's Angell — We pored over your letters for minutes and minutes on end! However, try though we might, we couldn't find any difference between your dueling missives! As far as we can deduce, they're exactly the same — they're both soul-crushingly boring wastes of time. Thanks for writing! —Ed.

Dear MAD:

I think your "What The Heck Is The Difference?" feature is the best new addition to your magazine in years! And to pay tribute I'm writing you two [nearly] identical letters. Can you find the 7 subtle differences between them? Anyway, I have such fun trying to find all the changes you've made, and I am getting better and better all the time! In fact, last month I managed to find all the changes in only 47 minutes (a new personal record, I might add). Keep up the good work. You guys stink!



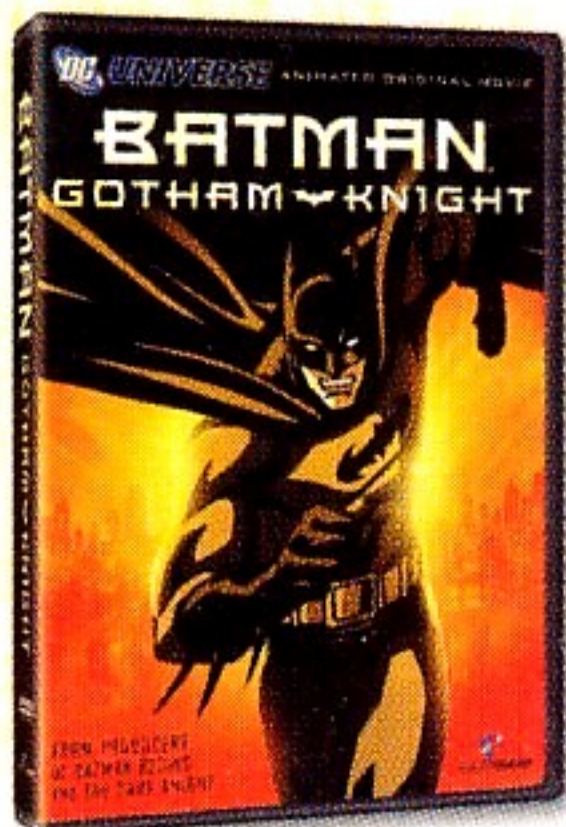
MAD CELEBRITY VISITS

We never know what stars are going to drop by the MAD offices! Recently, Scott Adsit, who plays Pete Hornberger on *30 Rock*, dropped by and read our spoof "30 Crock." We're glad to see Scott is still smiling!



READER ALERT

Those of you lucky enough to have your missives printed in this month's Letters Page will receive the DVD of *Batman: Gotham Knight* courtesy of our friends at Warner Home Video and DC Comics. For those who didn't make it, don't get your cape in a twist, it's on sale now!



COMING UP IN
MAD #492,
ON SALE JULY 15!

OUR SPOOF
OF IRON MAN!
PLUS A
MAD OLYMPIC
PREVIEW!

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Steve Rotterdam senior vp • sales & marketing

Cheryl Rubin senior vp • brand management

Jeff Trojan vp • business development, DC direct

Bob Wayne vp • sales

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS

the usual gang of idiots

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New York, New York, 10019.

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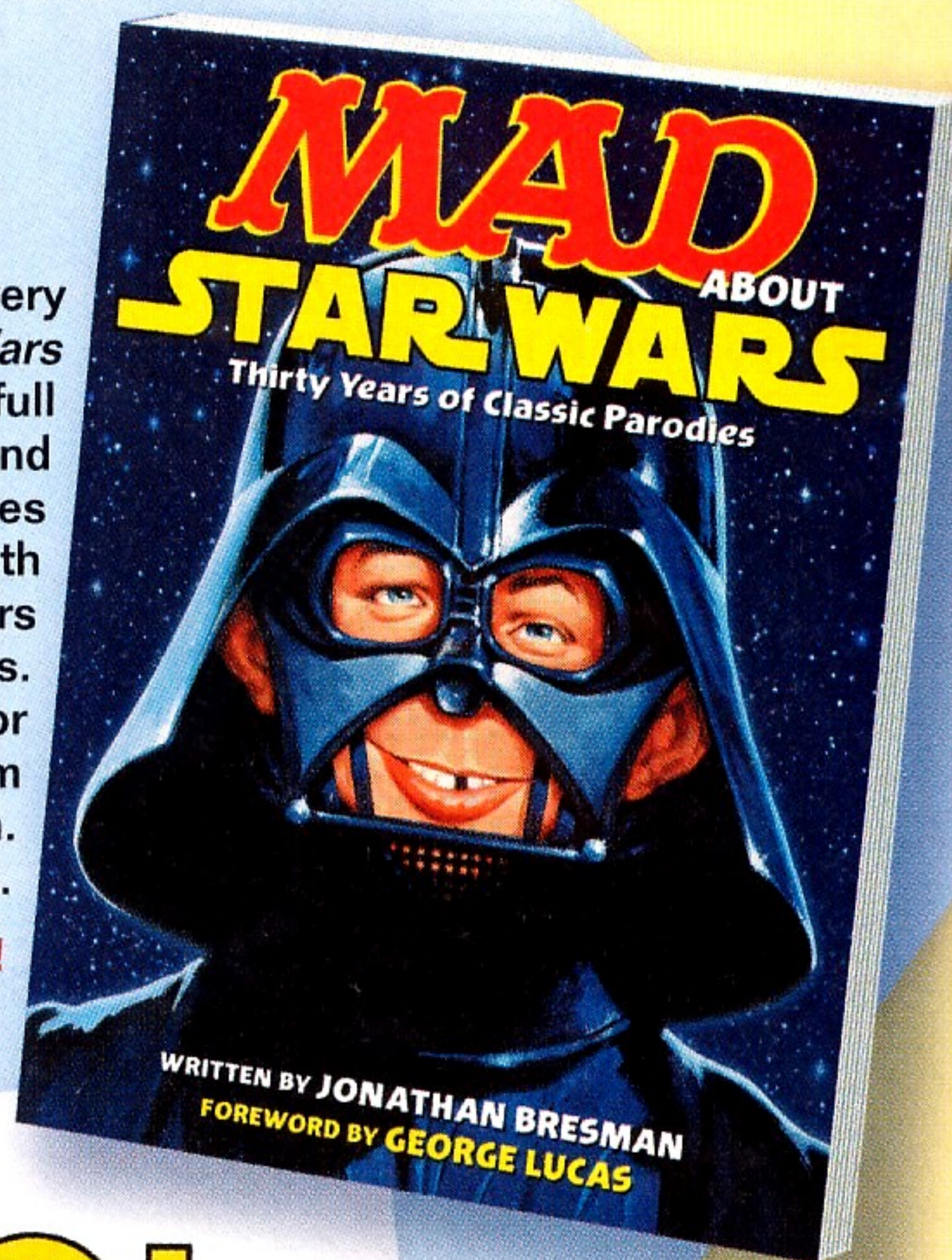


Over 200 Spy Vs. Spy strips, many in full color, by Peter Kuper! Plus a complete collection of rare Spy Vs. Spy newspaper strips, Spy Vs. Spy Jr., and much, much more! Written by former MAD Editor David Shayne. Published by Watson-Guptill Publications.

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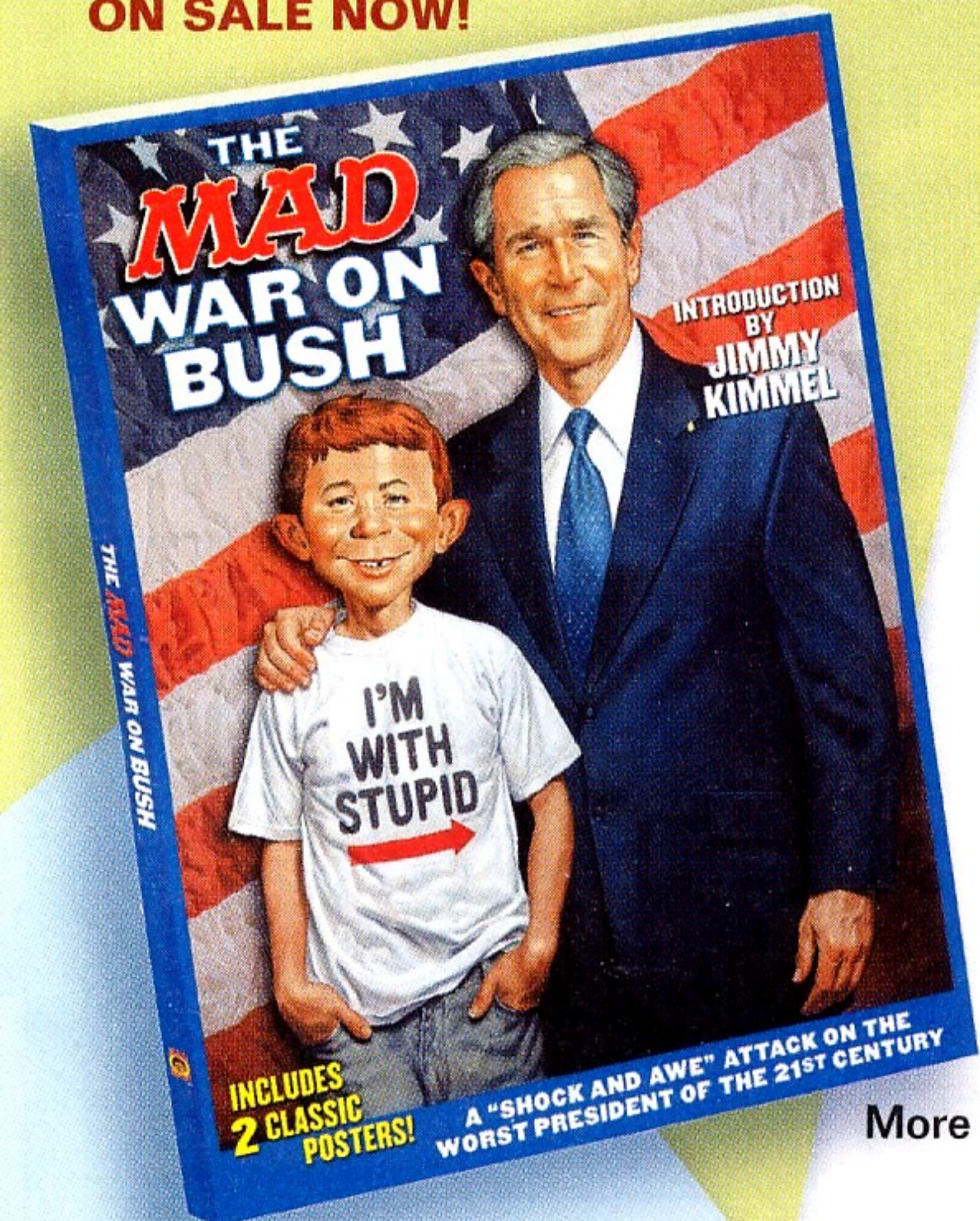
Virtually every MAD Star Wars article! Chock full of annotations and behind-the-scenes memories from both MAD artists and writers and Lucasfilm veterans. Written by MAD Senior Editor and former Lucasfilm lackey Jonathan Bresman. Published by Del Rey Books.

ON SALE NOW!



Savor the final days of a failed presidency by reading this hard-hitting satiric collection of articles on George W. Bush — the worst President since...well...Clinton! A MAD Book.

ON SALE NOW!



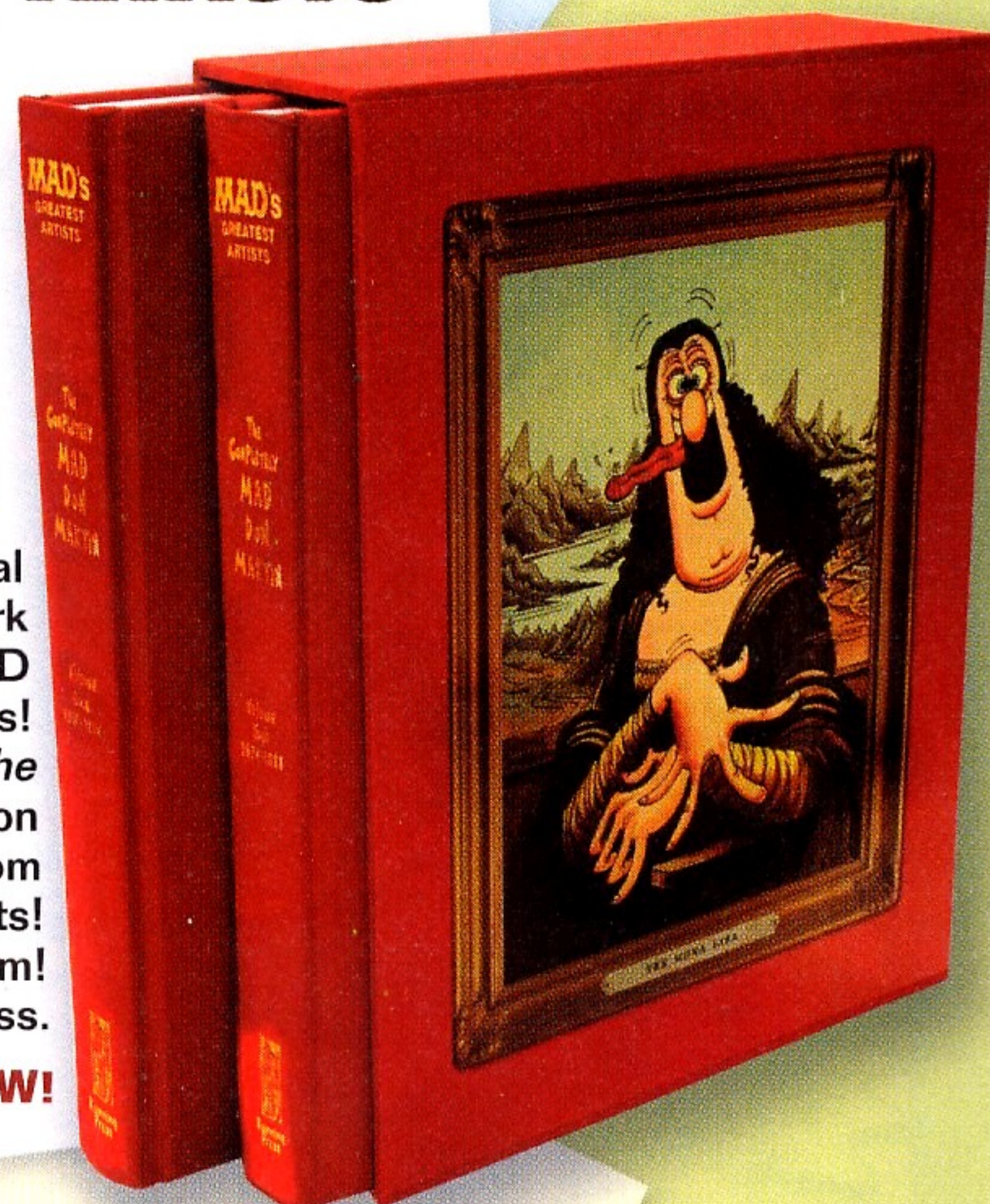
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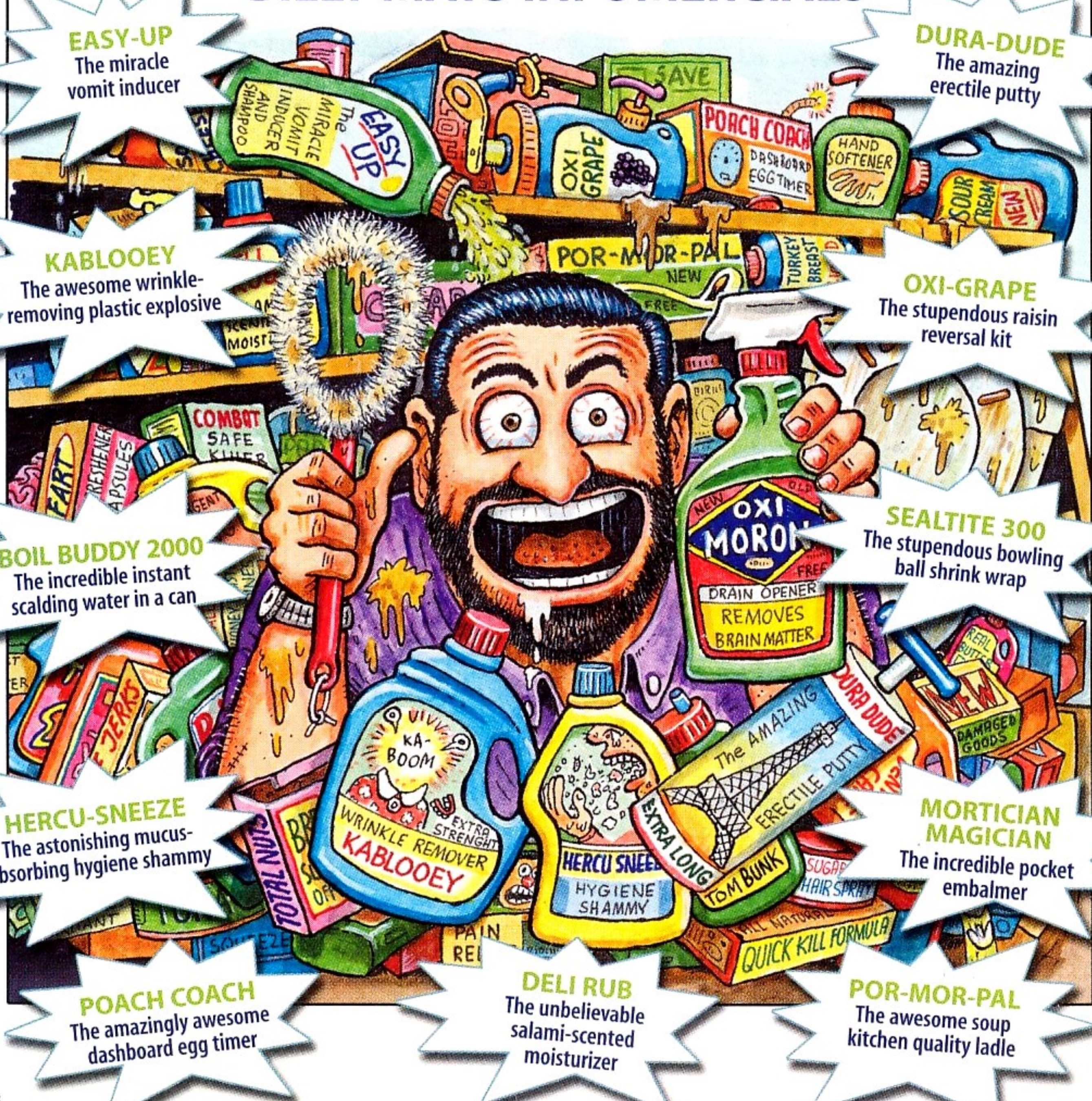


THE FUNDALINIPAGES

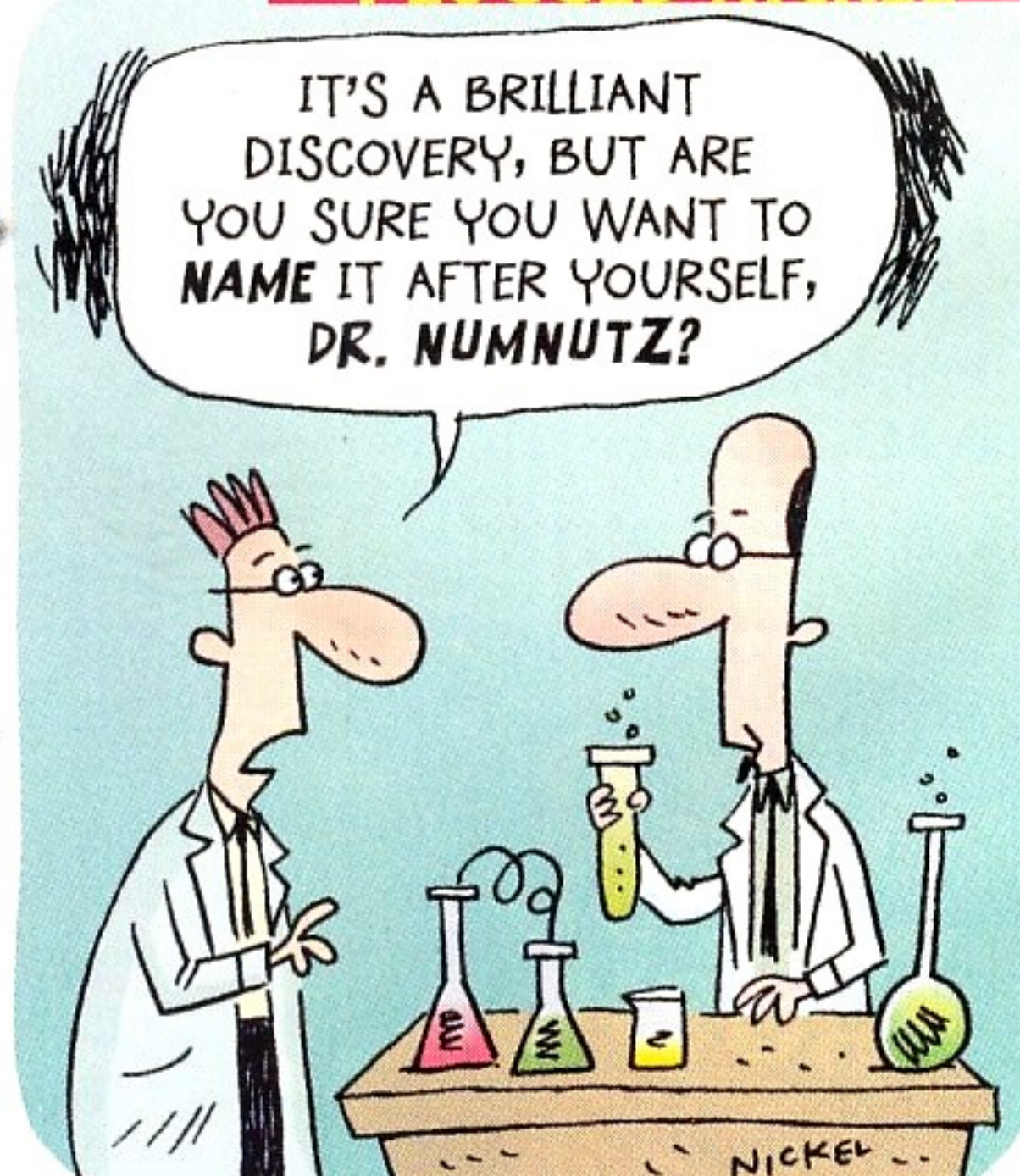
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ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S "MATCHSTICK MINDBENDER"

The solution requires that two of the matchsticks be bent at right angles and inserted into the left nostril. Sometimes the easiest answer is the most obvious!

NEXT MONTH:
"A Perplexing Pasta Puzzle"!

VEY TO GO!



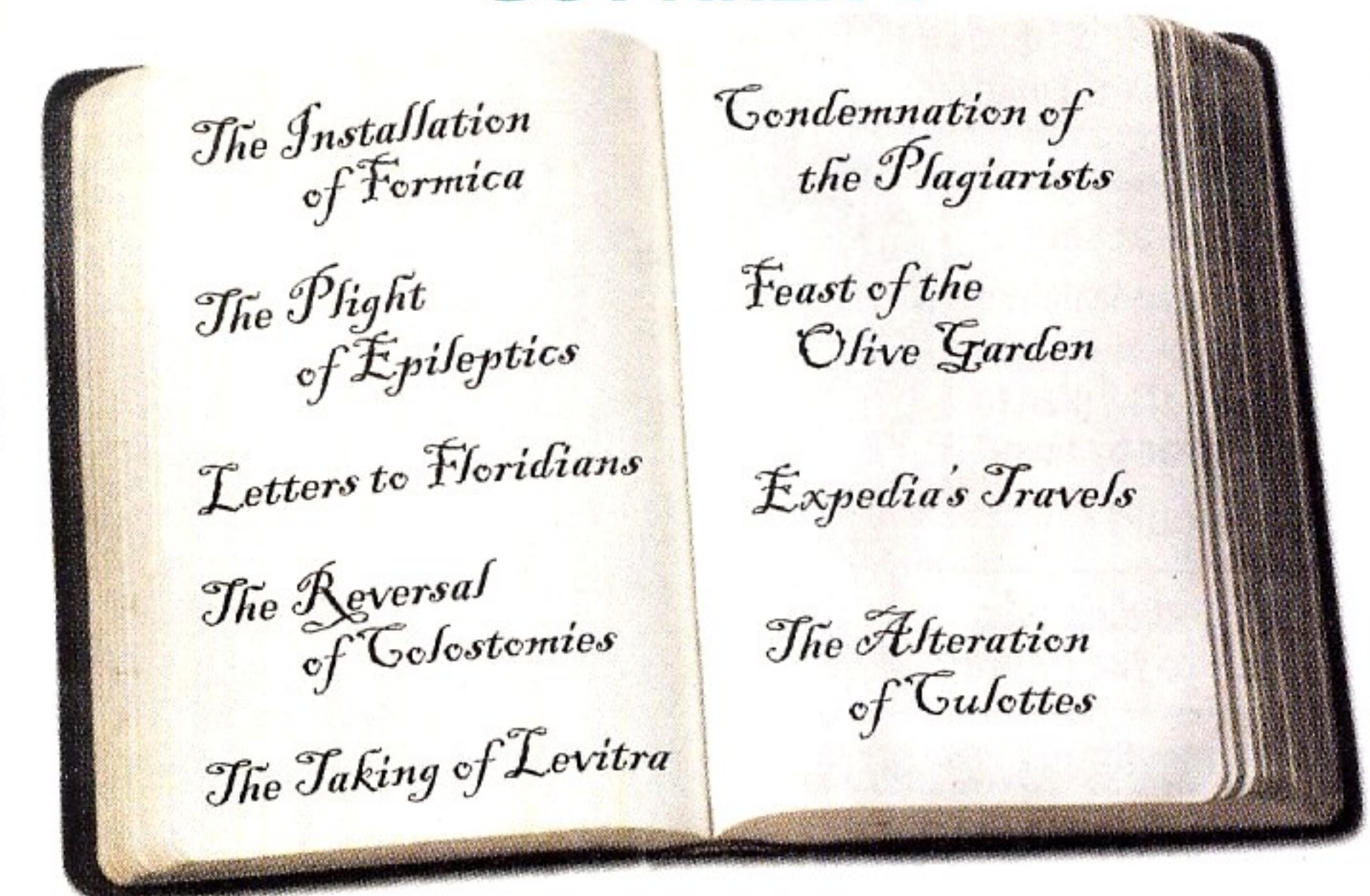
"I was kind of hoping you'd ask me about the series of horrendous murders I've been committing off and on for the last twelve years, but have it your own way. No, I'm not a registered Democrat."

THE FAST 5 REJECTED BASEBALL PROMOTIONAL DAYS

- 1 X-Rated Movies on the Scoreboard Night
- 2 Mass Cult Indoctrination Night
- 3 Throw Rocks at the Opposing Catcher Day
- 4 Third-Place Rings Ceremony Night
- 5 Fan Interference Night



PHRASES THAT SOUND LIKE THEY'RE FROM THE BIBLE — BUT AREN'T

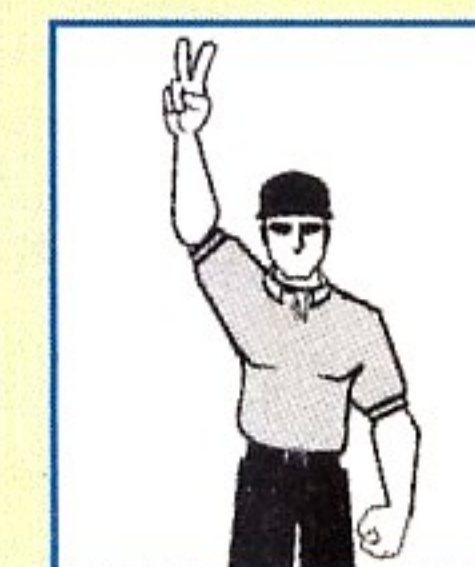


THE NFL'S REF REPORT:

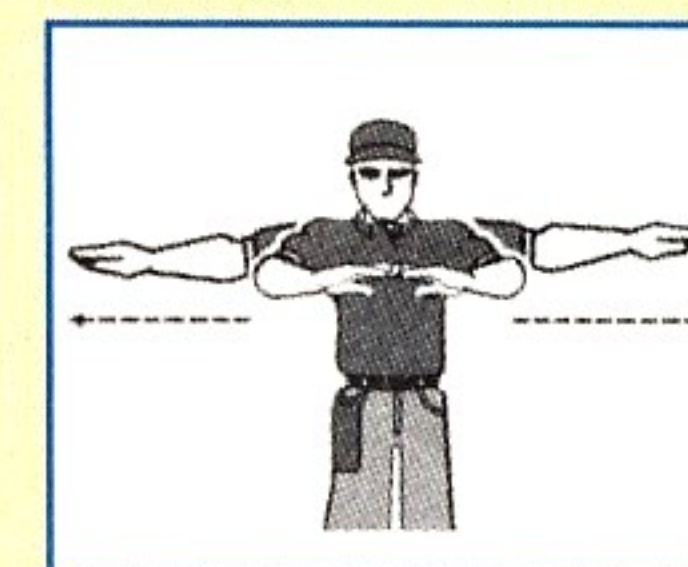
THIS MONTH:
Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull
With Special Guest...
The MLB Ump!



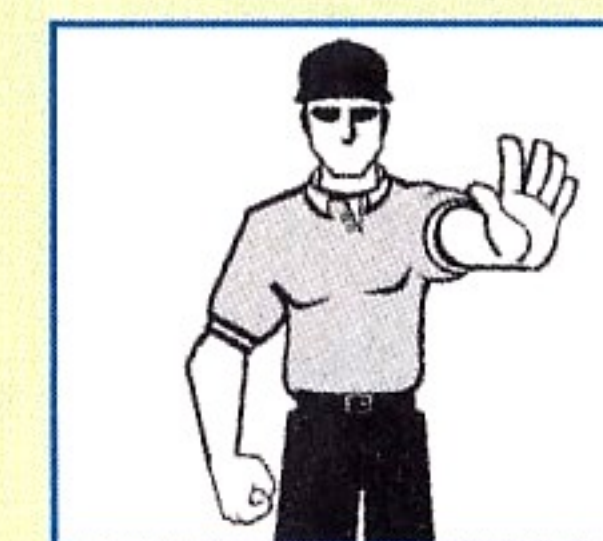
With the baseball season in full swing, the NFL Ref is taking a step back and letting his friend, the MLB Ump, have a try.



Indiana Jones needs to find two ancient crystal skulls to complete his quest to collect all seven...



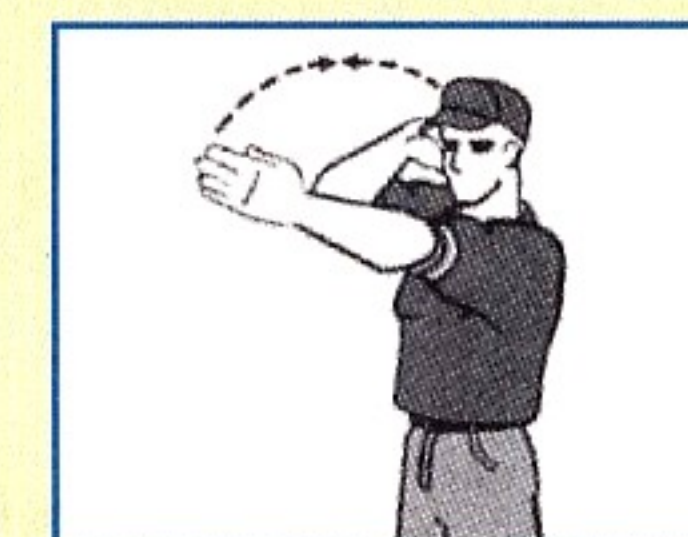
Which will allow him to open the doors of a magic Mayan temple.



Unfortunately,
some angry Soviets are
trying to stop Indy.



And they all fly down
to Mexico.



In an inspired twist, Indy escapes and finds some treasure, mostly by whipping a lot of things with his whip...



Good night everybody!

ROBOTS IN DISGUISE (OTHER THAN TRANSFORMERS)

ROOMBA IN A FAKE BEARD



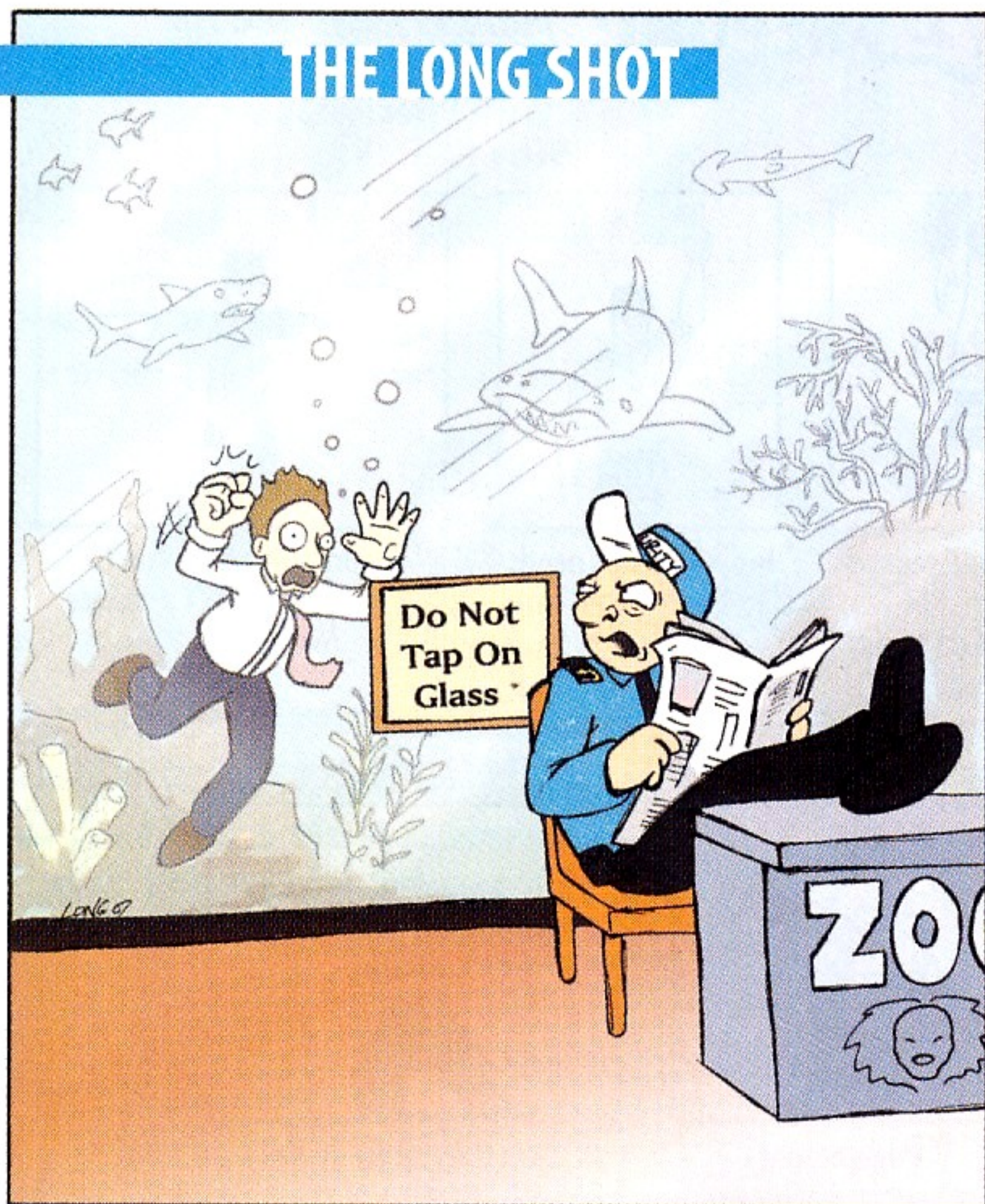
THE MARS ROVER IN GROUCHO GLASSES



C3PO IN A NIXON MASK



THE LONG SHOT



"Hey! Can't you read?!"

FUNDALINI ASKS "WHAT IF...?" This Month...

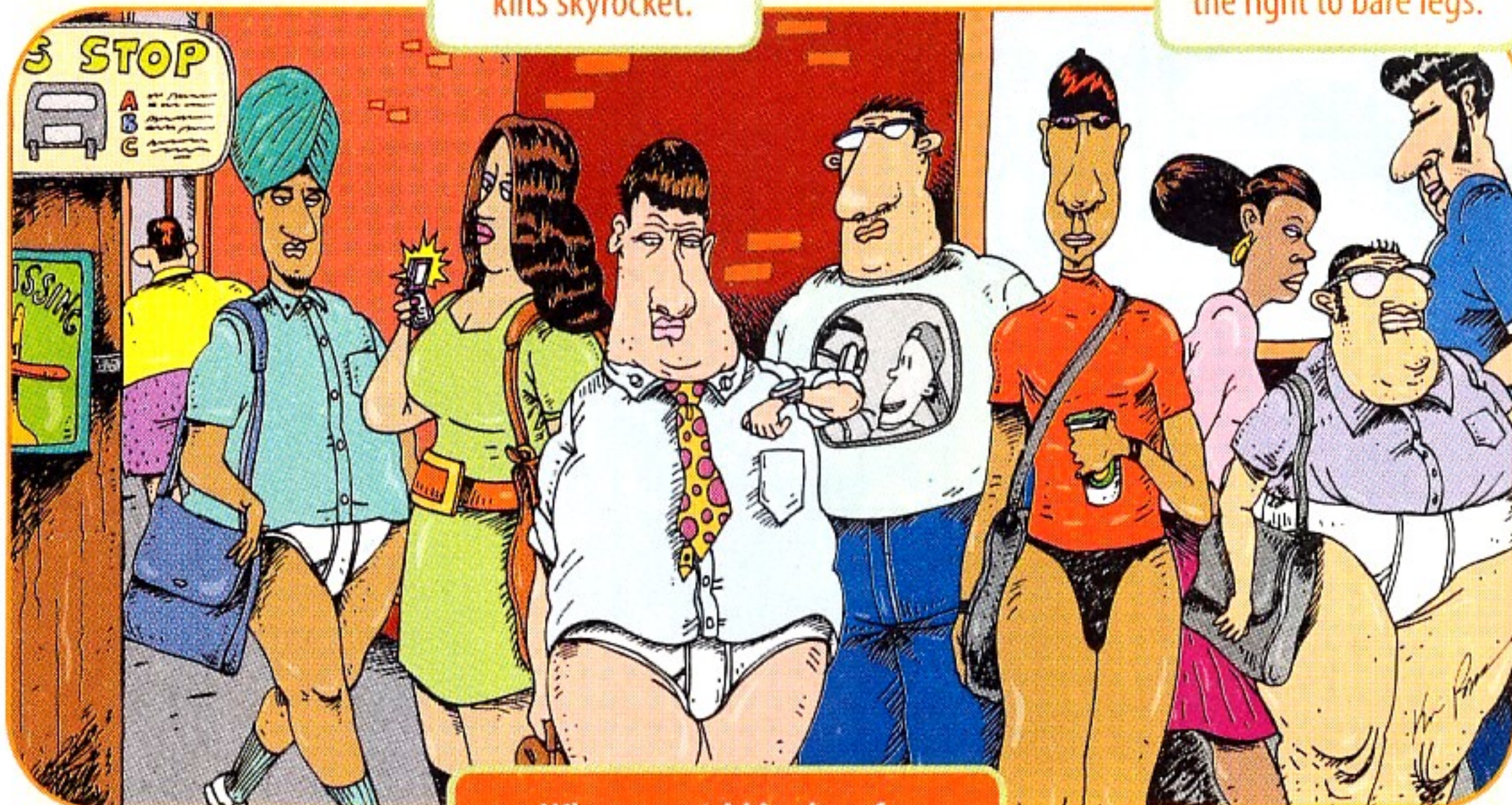
WHAT IF THERE WAS A FIVE-DAY WAITING PERIOD TO BUY PANTS?

Immediately, some wise ass will ask "Does that mean there's a 2 1/2-day waiting period for shorts?"

New Federal agency name: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Trousers.

Supreme Court to rule whether the law violates the right to bare legs.

Overnight, sales of kilts skyrocket.



Merchants would be required to keep strict records on sales of all Levi's, Guess and Osh Kosh B'Gosh.

When you add in time for alterations, some guys could be walking around for a week and a half with their junk hanging out!

The ghost of Charlton Heston would declare "They'll have to pry these khakis from my cold, dead thighs."

THE O'REILLY SPIN VS. THE OLBERMANN SPIN

If a Republican said...

"I must admit that I fathered ten illegitimate children by eight different women. I have also had numerous gay relationships."

O'Reilly would say...

He's a man of the people!

If a Democrat said...

"I hope everyone in the entire stinking Middle East is killed in a massive earthquake!"

Olbermann would say...

A man who dares to hope!

If a Republican said...

"We must overturn the Bill of Rights as soon as possible!"

O'Reilly would say...

Finally, a candidate for change!

If a Democrat said...

"America will only be saved when we sacrifice our firstborn to Zabonga the Deity of the autumn harvest."

Olbermann would say...

He's for God and country!

If a Republican said...

"We should not only torture terrorists, but we should also torture innocent people, because it's just so much fun to watch."

O'Reilly would say...

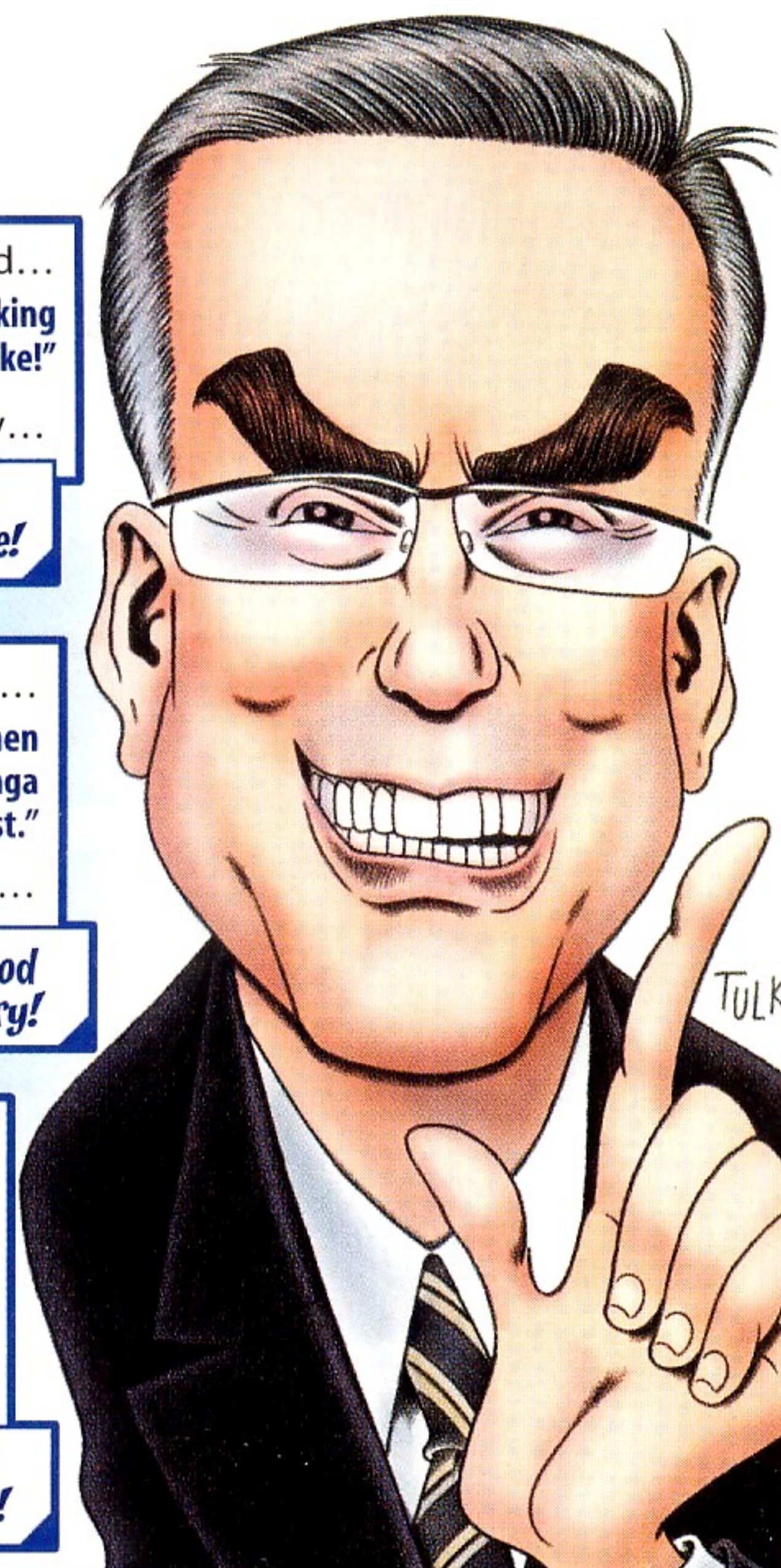
I admire someone with the guts to take positions that aren't always popular with the masses!

If a Democrat said...

"By 2050, our grandchildren will be slaves of Chinese Communists. I plan to be dead by then."

Olbermann would say...

A candidate who looks to the future!



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Kevin Pope

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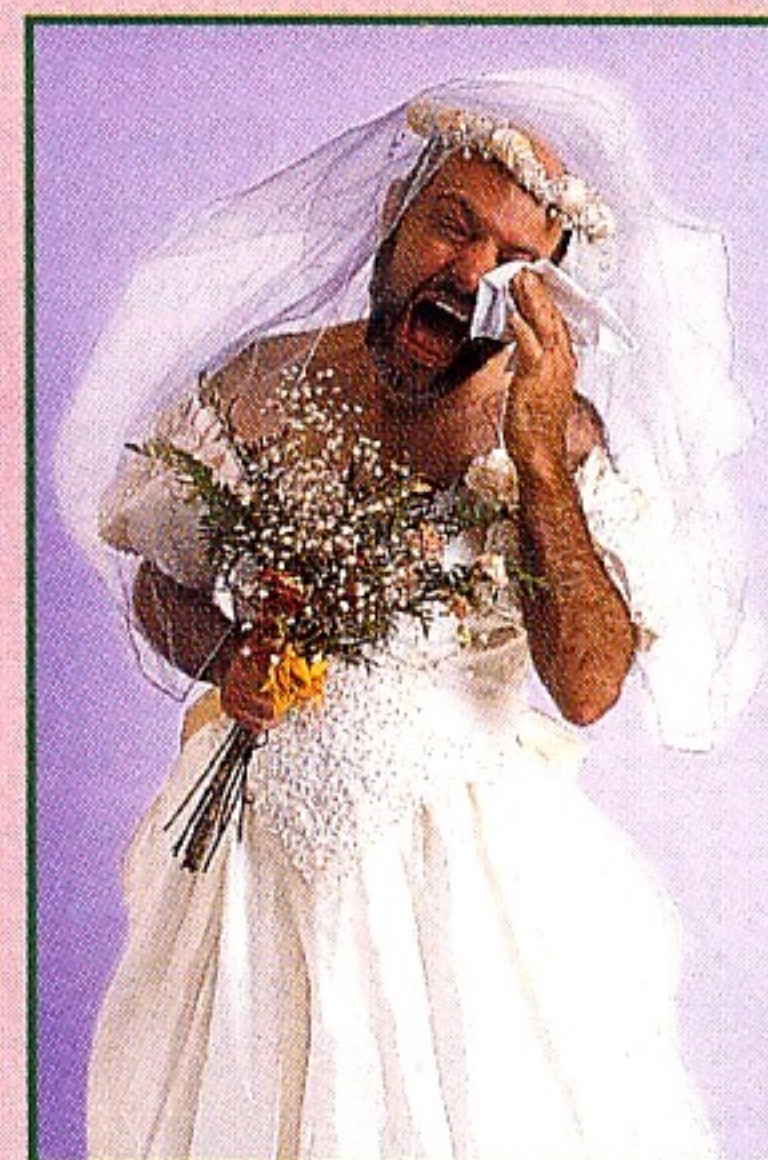
Dick DeBartolo
Bob Staake

Darren Johnson
Rick Tulka

Jeff Kruse
P.C. Vey

#1 In A Series

An important message from MAD's Director of Business & Development, **JEFFREY LOZENGE**



Commitment. It's a word often used. Commitment. See? I've used it twice already. But commitment is not contentment. It's spelled differently and pronounced differently and means something different because it IS different. This goes without saying, but I said it anyway.

Which brings me to MAD. Yes, MAD — the magazine whose time is and was and continues to be — says many things to many people that don't need to be said to anyone. But MAD says them anyway because it goes without saying that they MUST be said. Just like what I said about commitment.

The importance of this cannot be overstated because it has no importance. But just as things that don't need to be said must be said, things that don't seem important often are. And vice versa. Like marriage. Like MAD.

To recap: "Something old, something new, something borrowed, something MAD."

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Barack Obama's pastor, the Reverend Jeremiah Wright, made headlines recently when his fiery, spittle-filled, race-baiting rants (read: Sunday morning sermons) were shown on YouTube. The most famous of his diatribes is where he exhorted his parishioners with the heartwarming Christian message "God Bless America? No! No! No! G*d Damn America!" Well, to this we say, "No! No! No! Rev! You can't spout inflammatory sound bites like this and then not expect to be hung, like a rotting albatross, around your most famous parishioner's neck when he runs for president." So, without further ado, will all music-loving Americans everywhere please stand and join in a rousing rendition of...

"G*d Damn America"

(may be sung to the tune of *God Bless America*)



"G*d damn America!"

Hate...fills...the...church!

On his stage there,

With rage there,

Rev'rend Wright's

bashin' whites

from his perch!

Man, he's steamin',

Shoutin', screamin',

Like a demon,

All day long -

"G*d damn America!"

Re-write...the...song!

"G*d damn America!"

Brace...for...a...shock!

In a pew there,

On view there,

Could it be?

Yessiree,

it's Barack!

He's denying,

Alibi-ing,

Falsifying

What he heard -

"G*d damn America!"

His...spin's...ab-surd!

G*d save the Democrats!

Help...them...a-long!

Though Barack now

Seems a lock now,

Folks know well

He can't tell

Wright from wrong!

He'll be hounded,

Till he's grounded

Daily pounded,

With disdain -

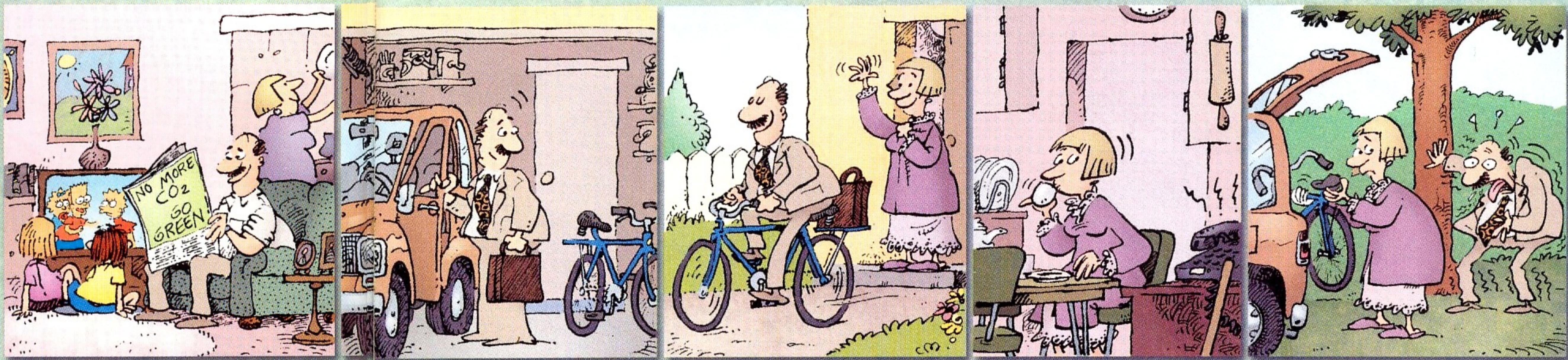
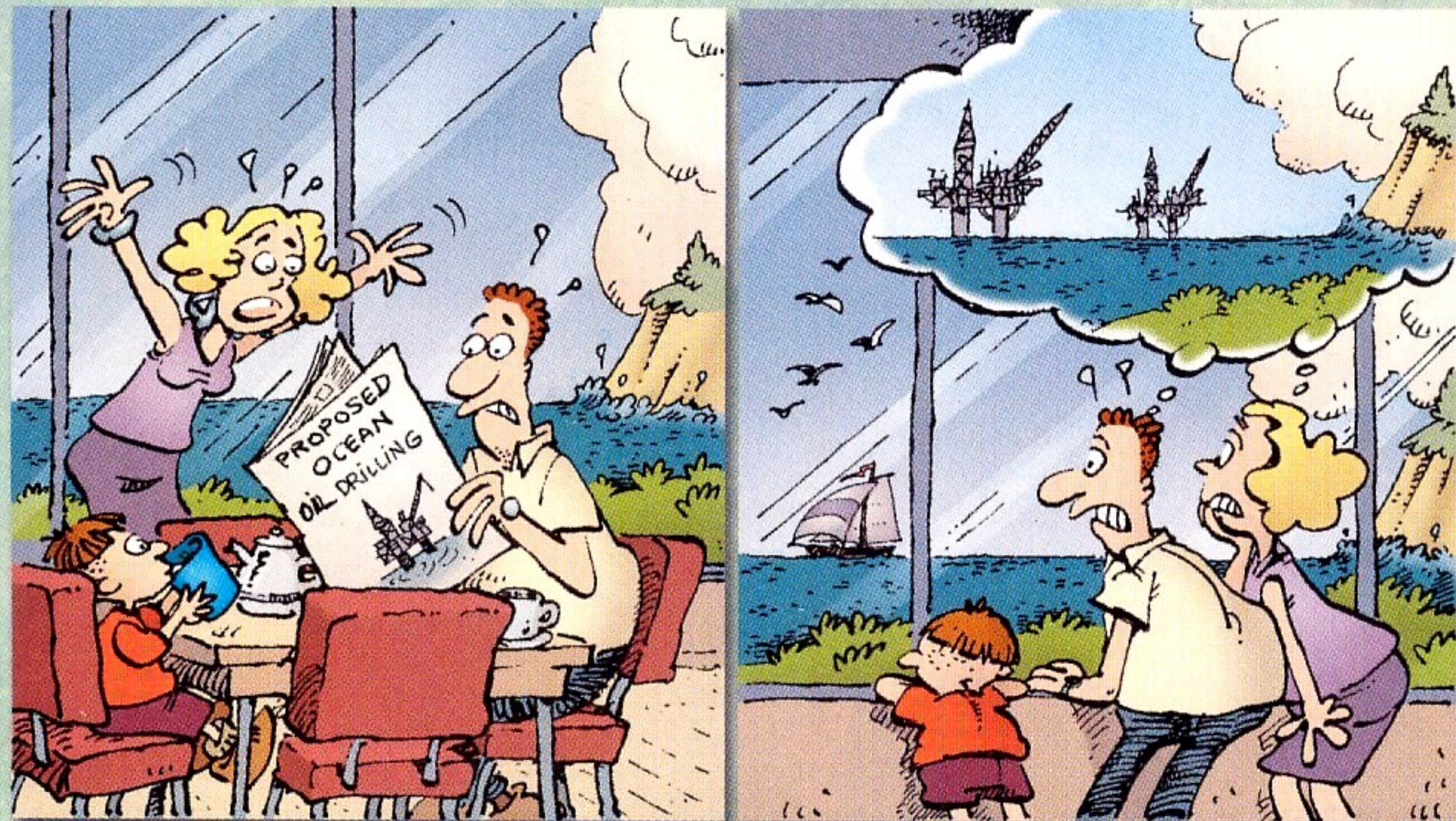
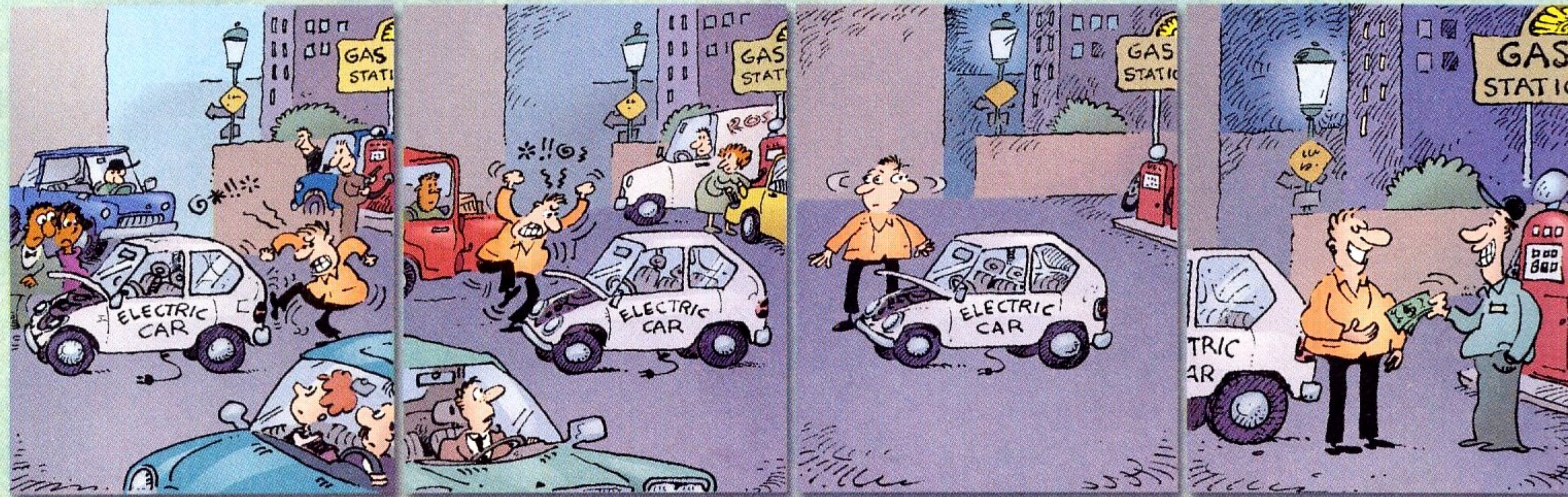
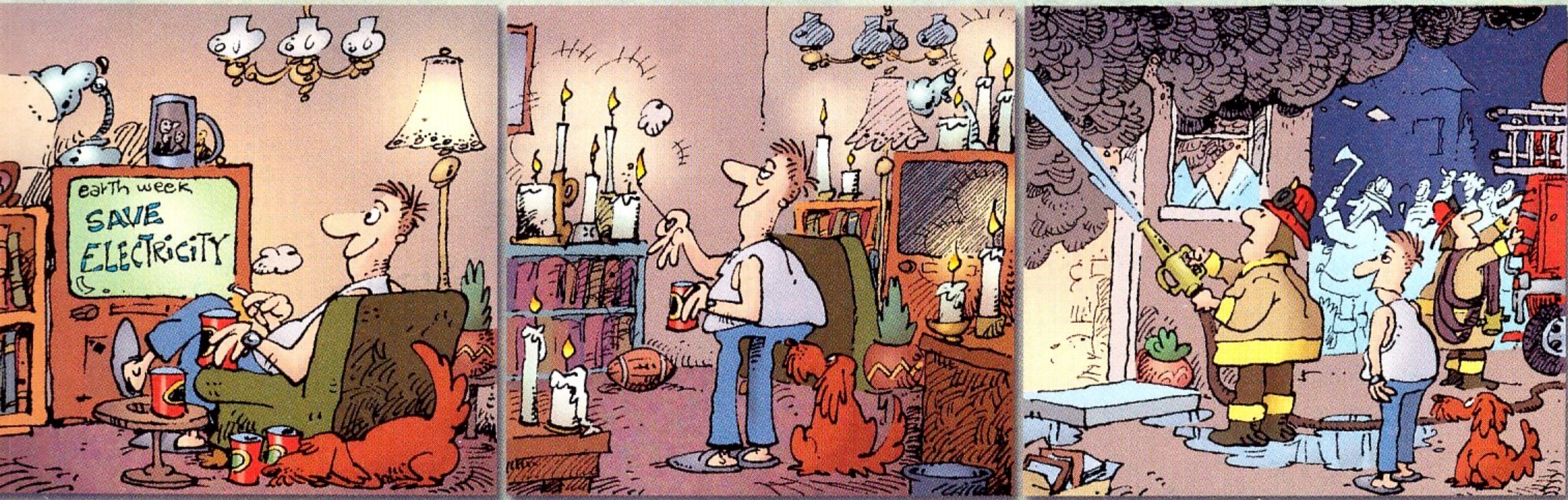
G*d save the Democrats!

Here comes Mc-Cain!

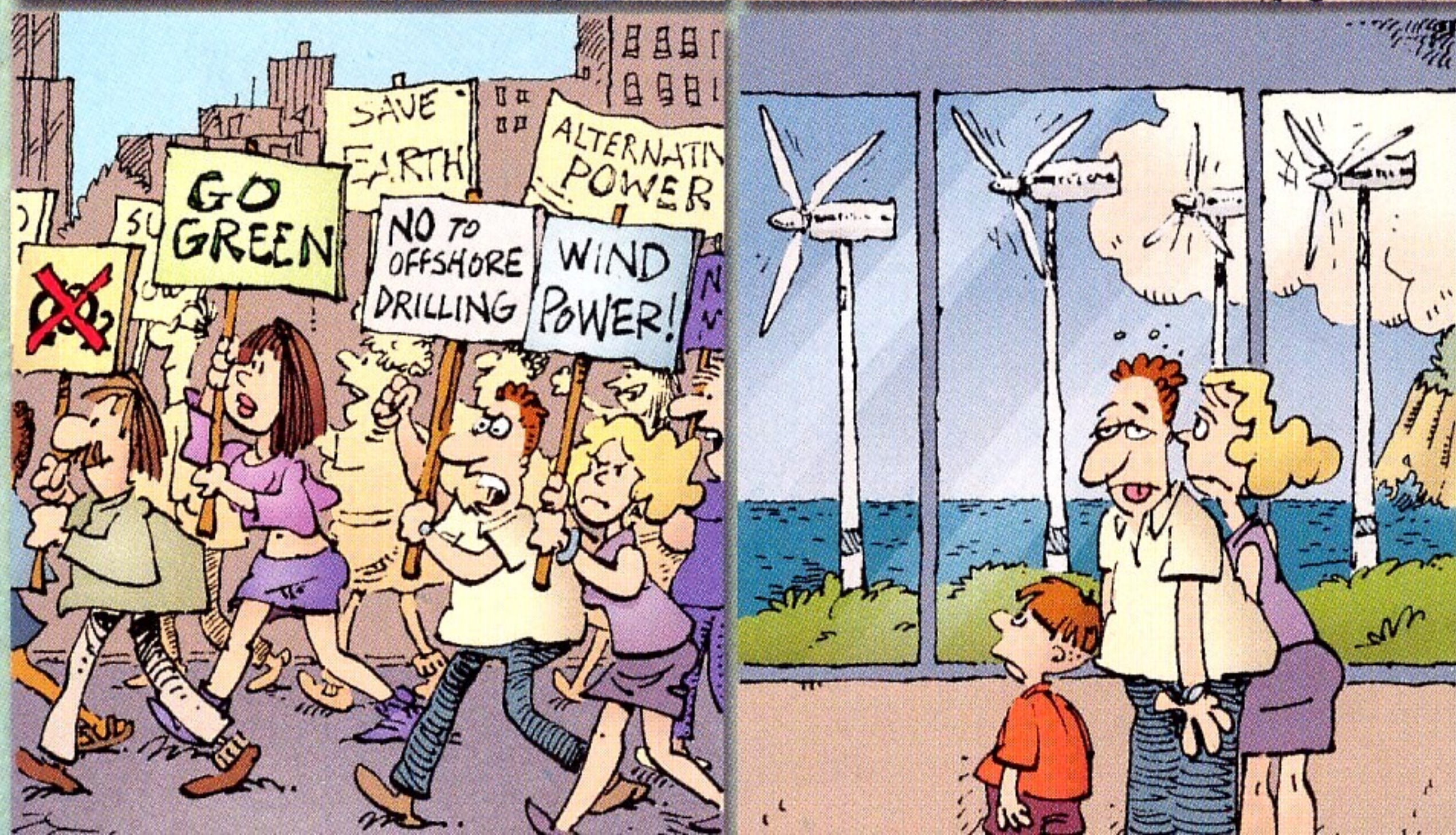


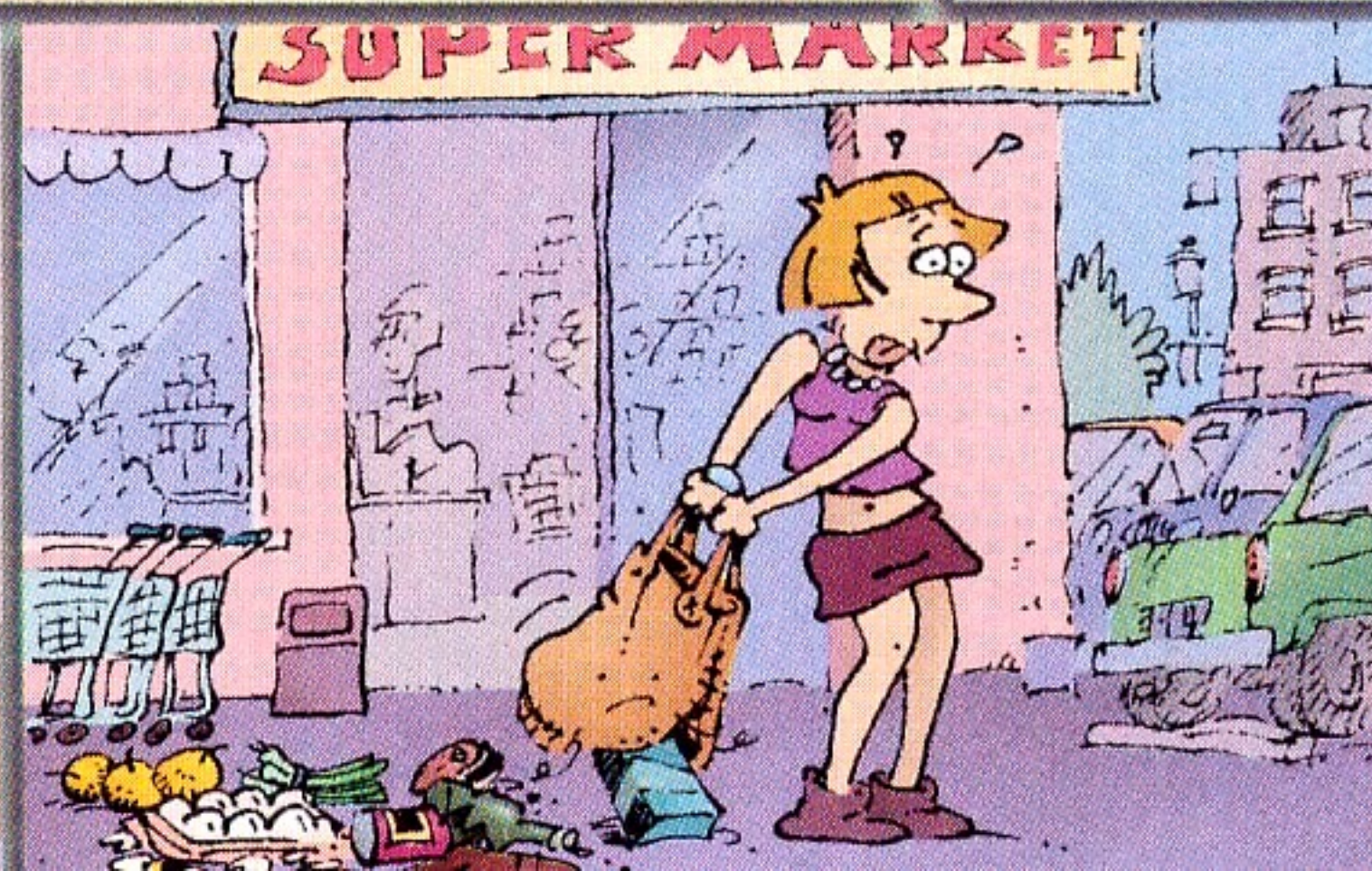
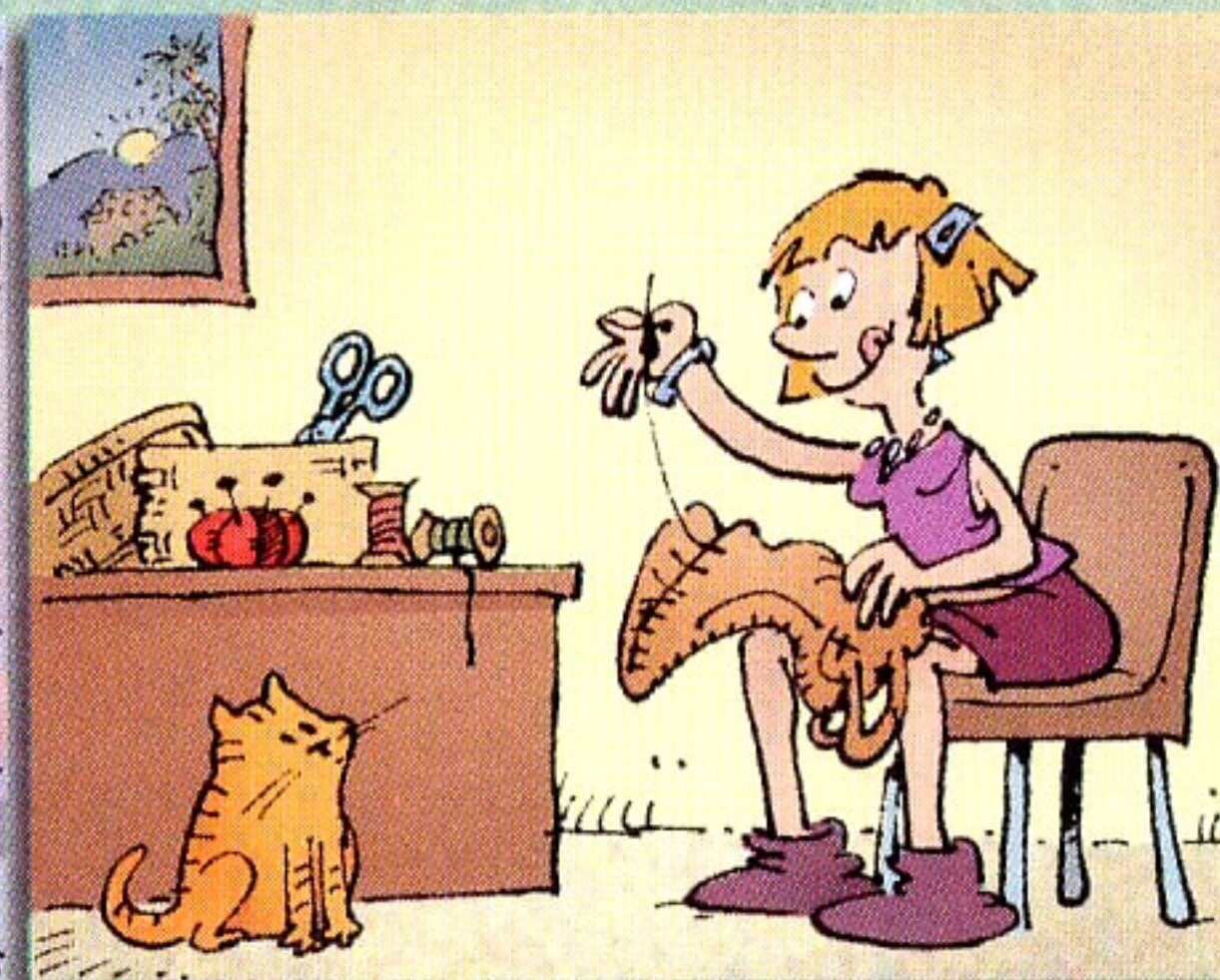
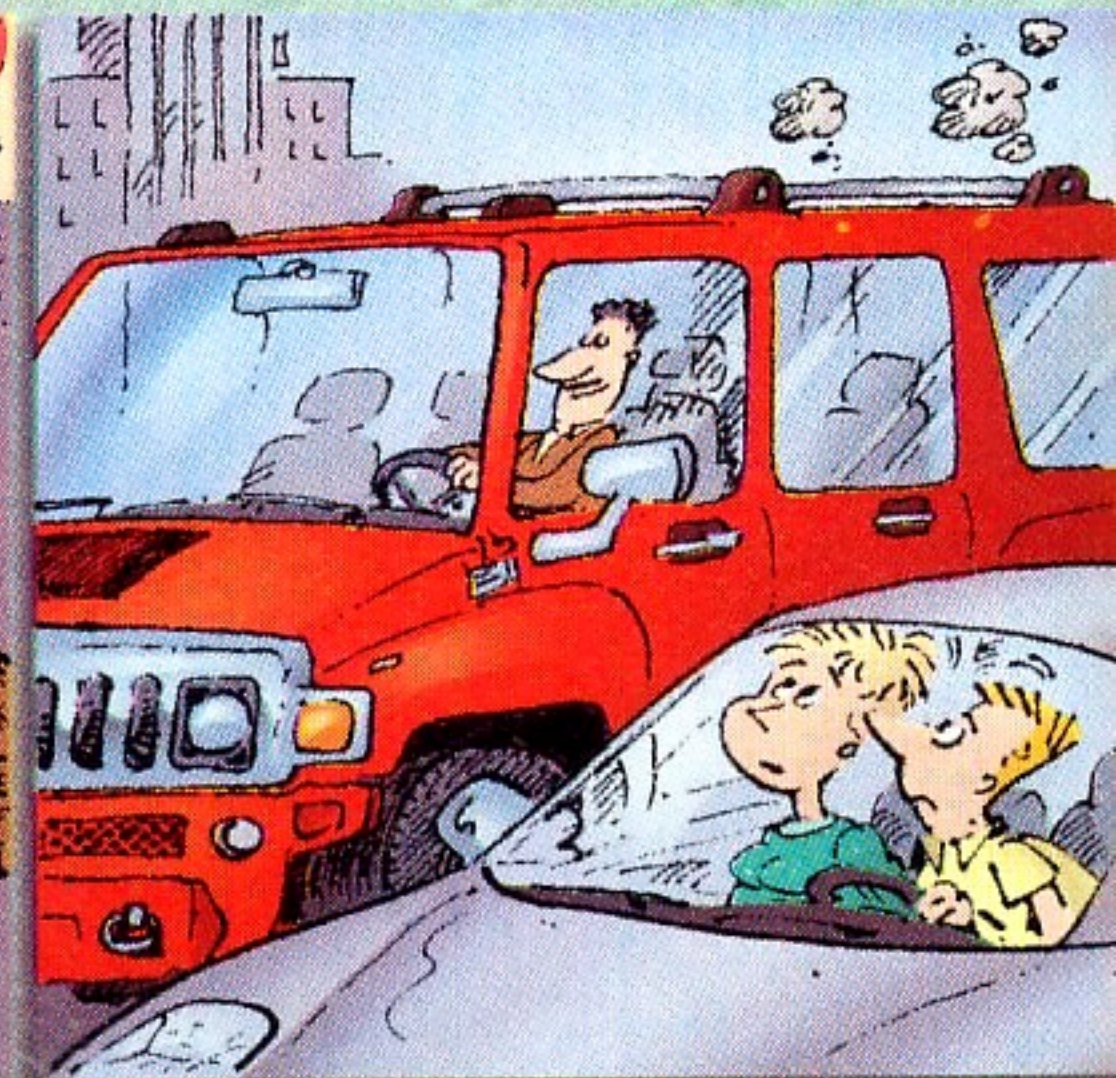
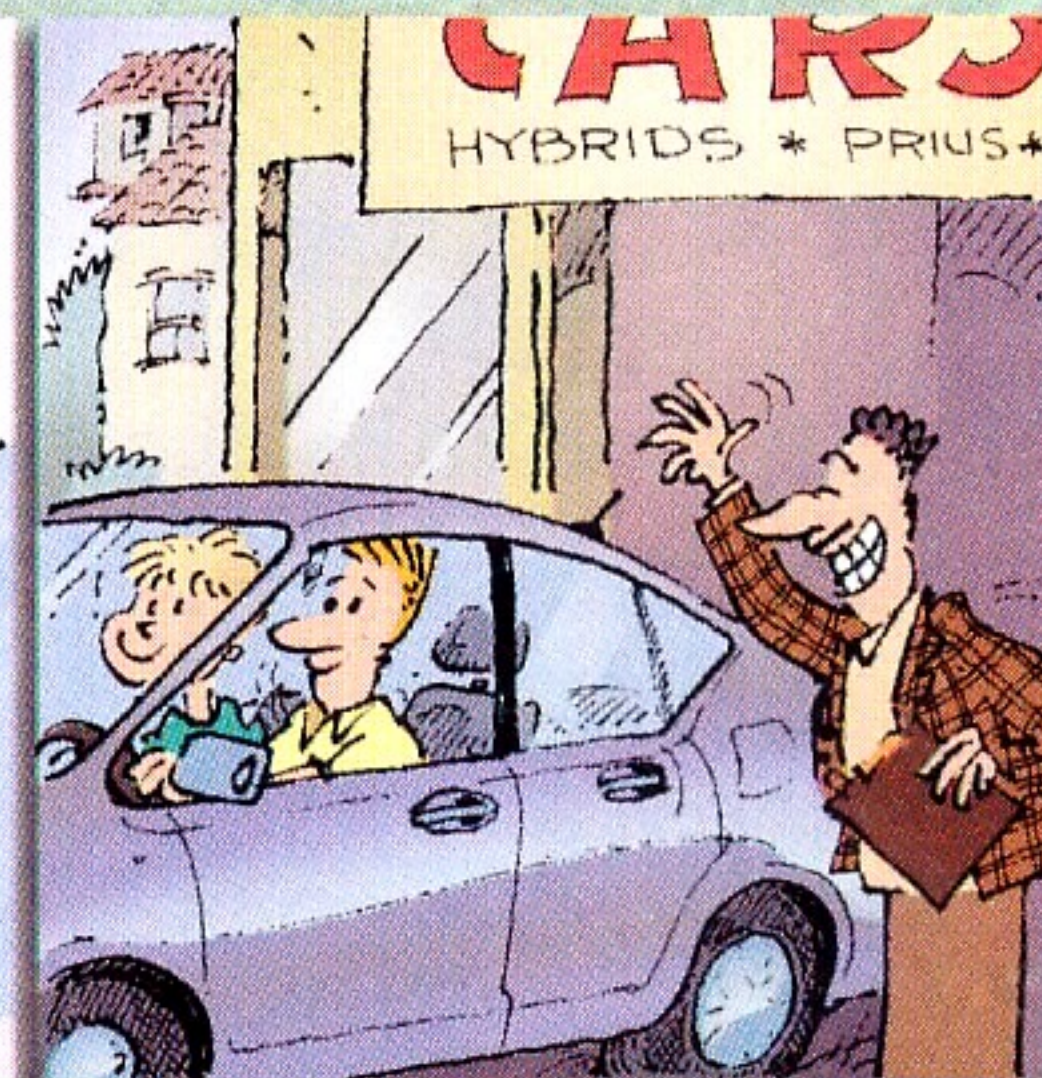
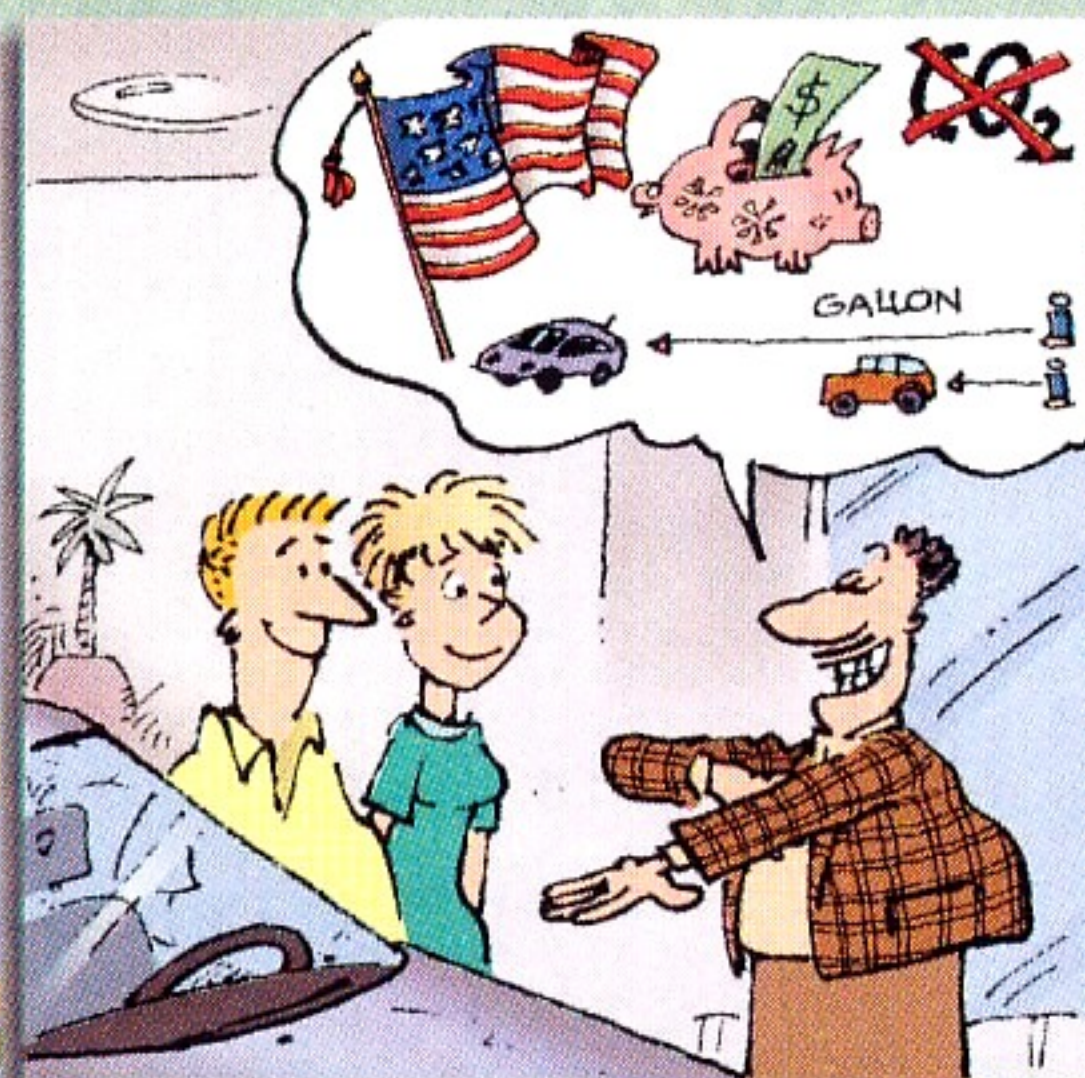
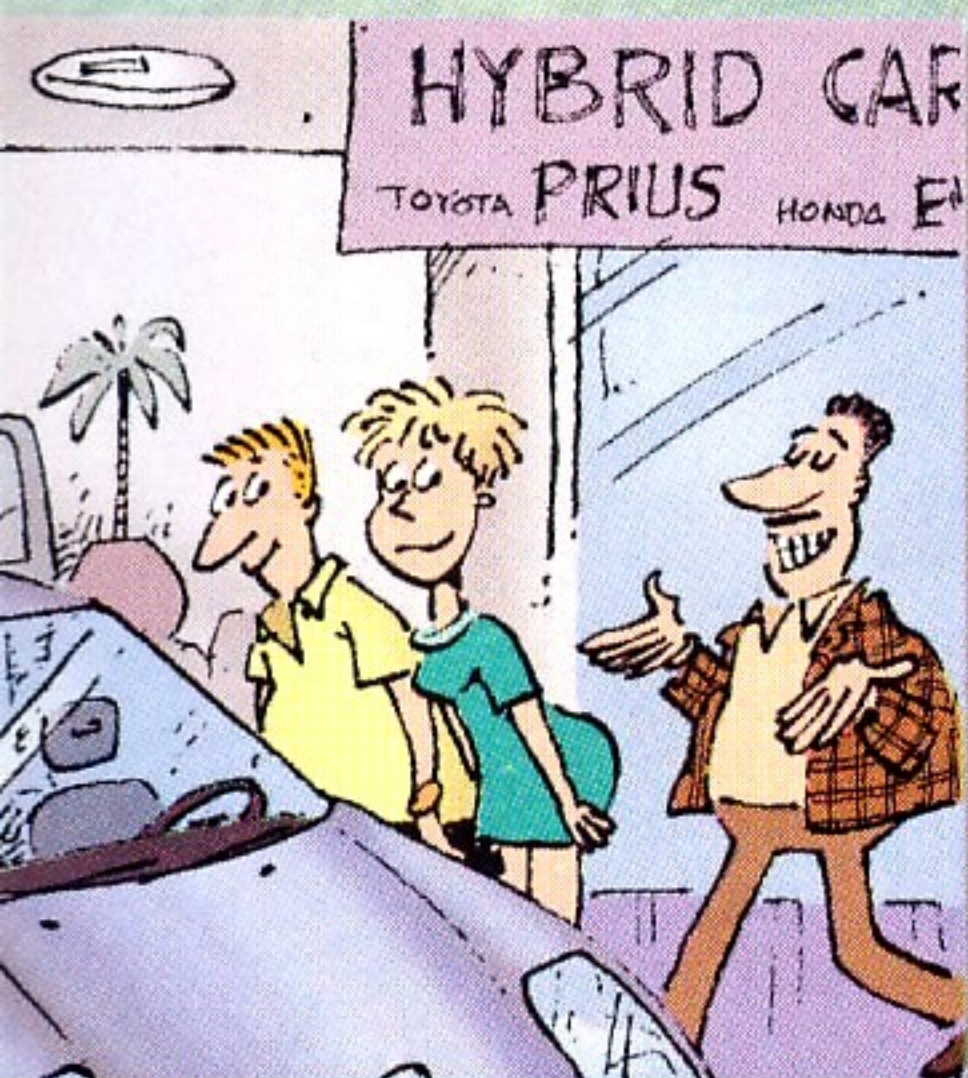
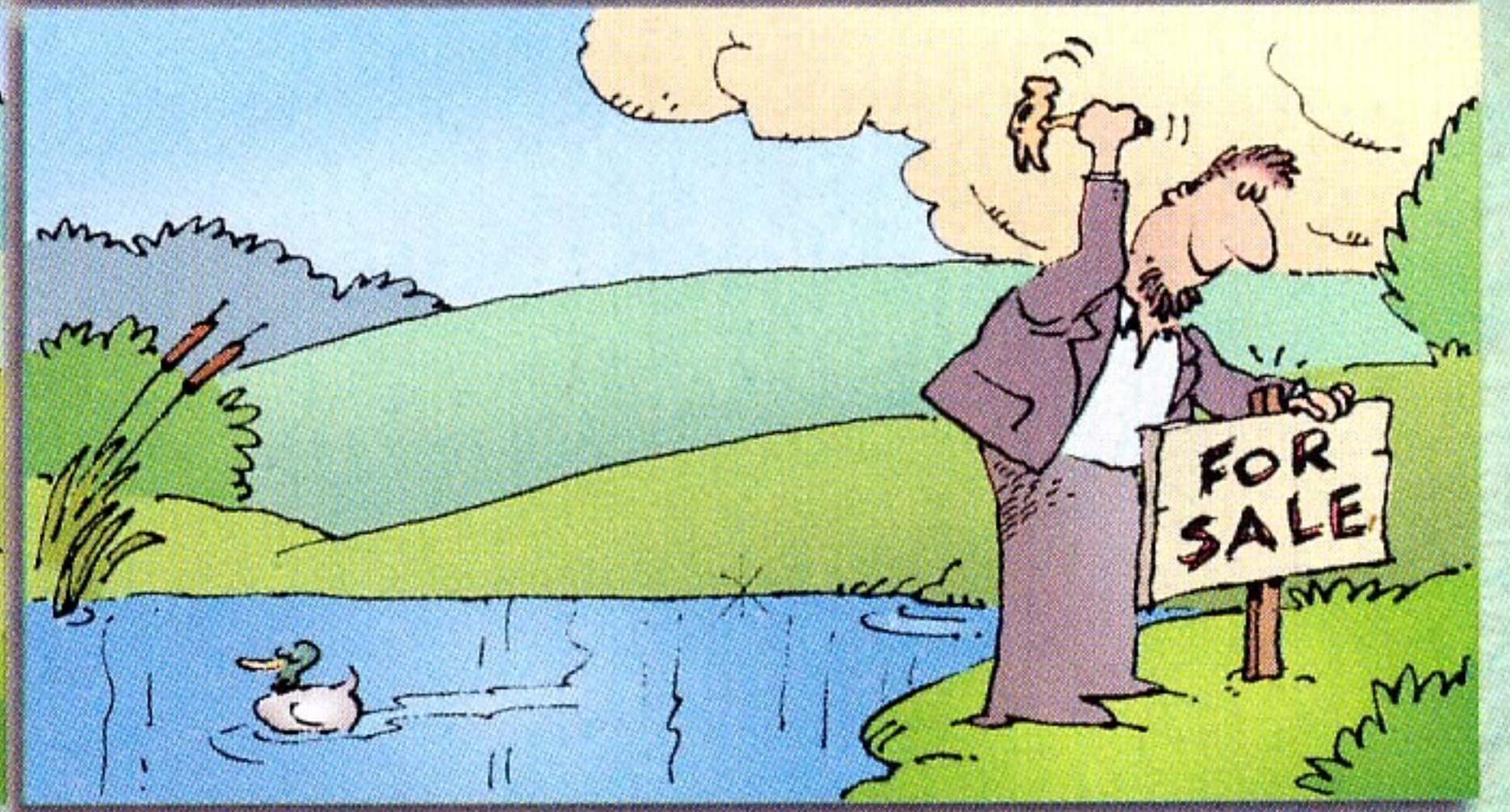
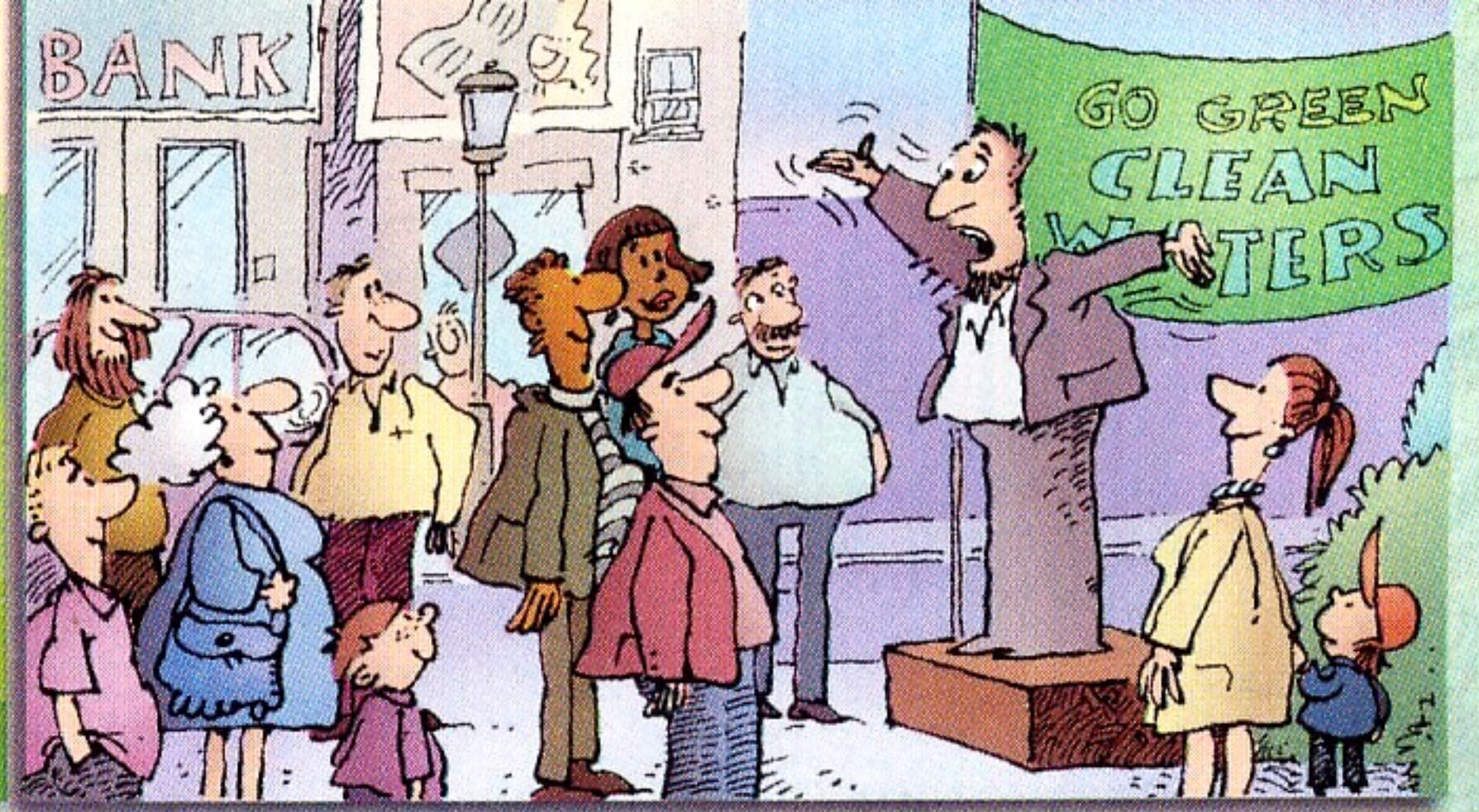
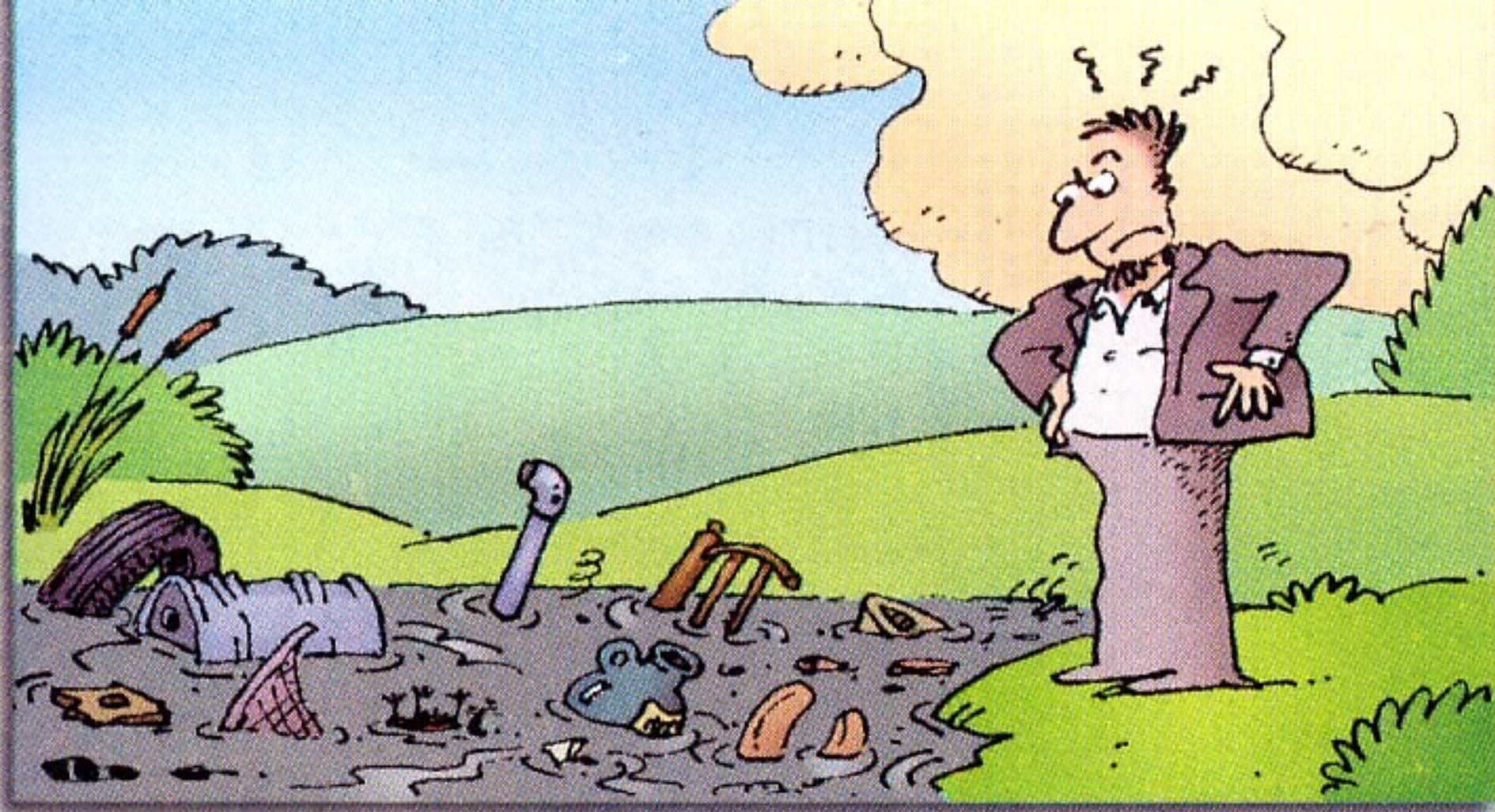
Sergio Aragonés
 Presents

A MAD LOOK AT GOING GREEN



WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONES

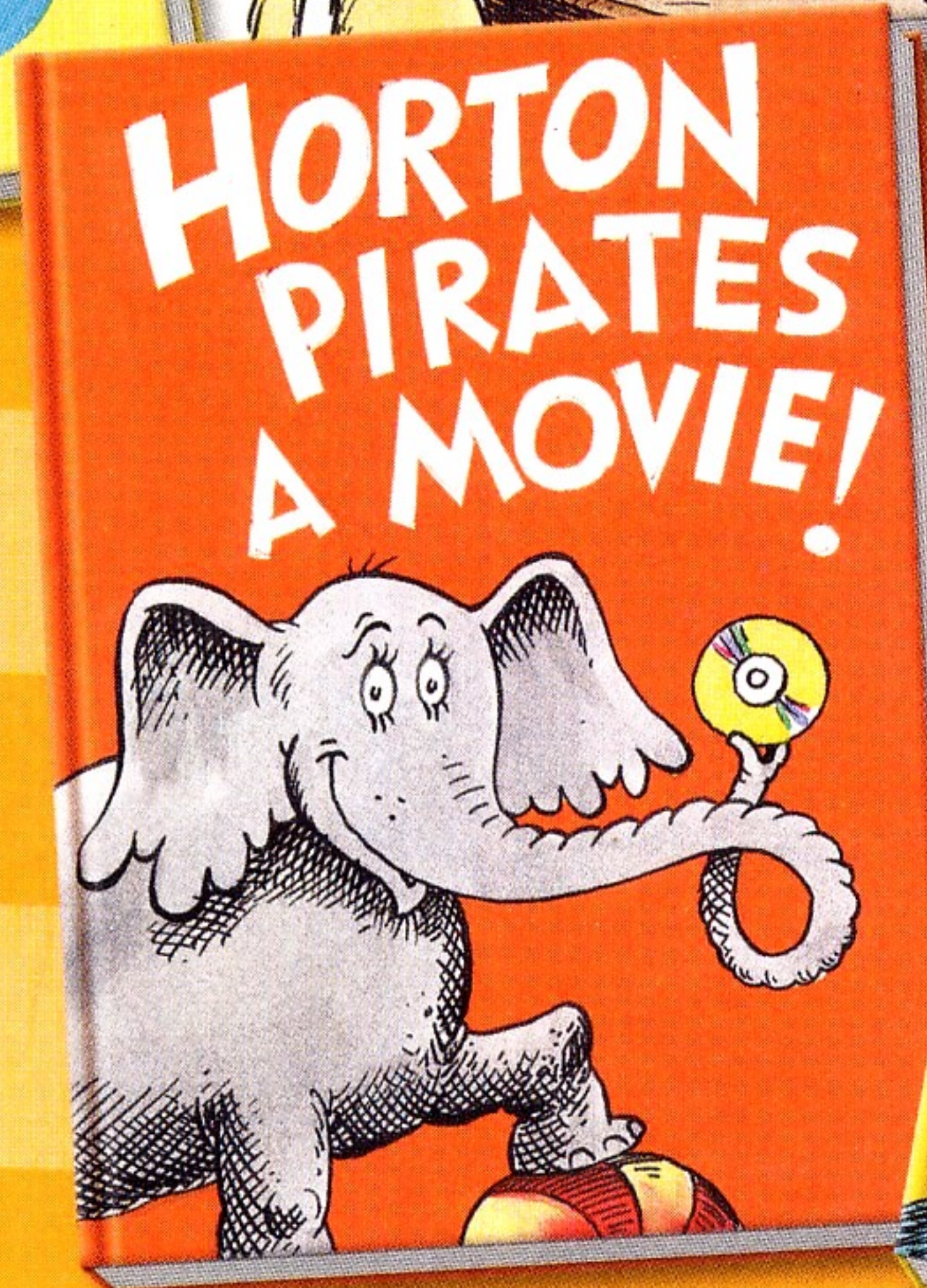
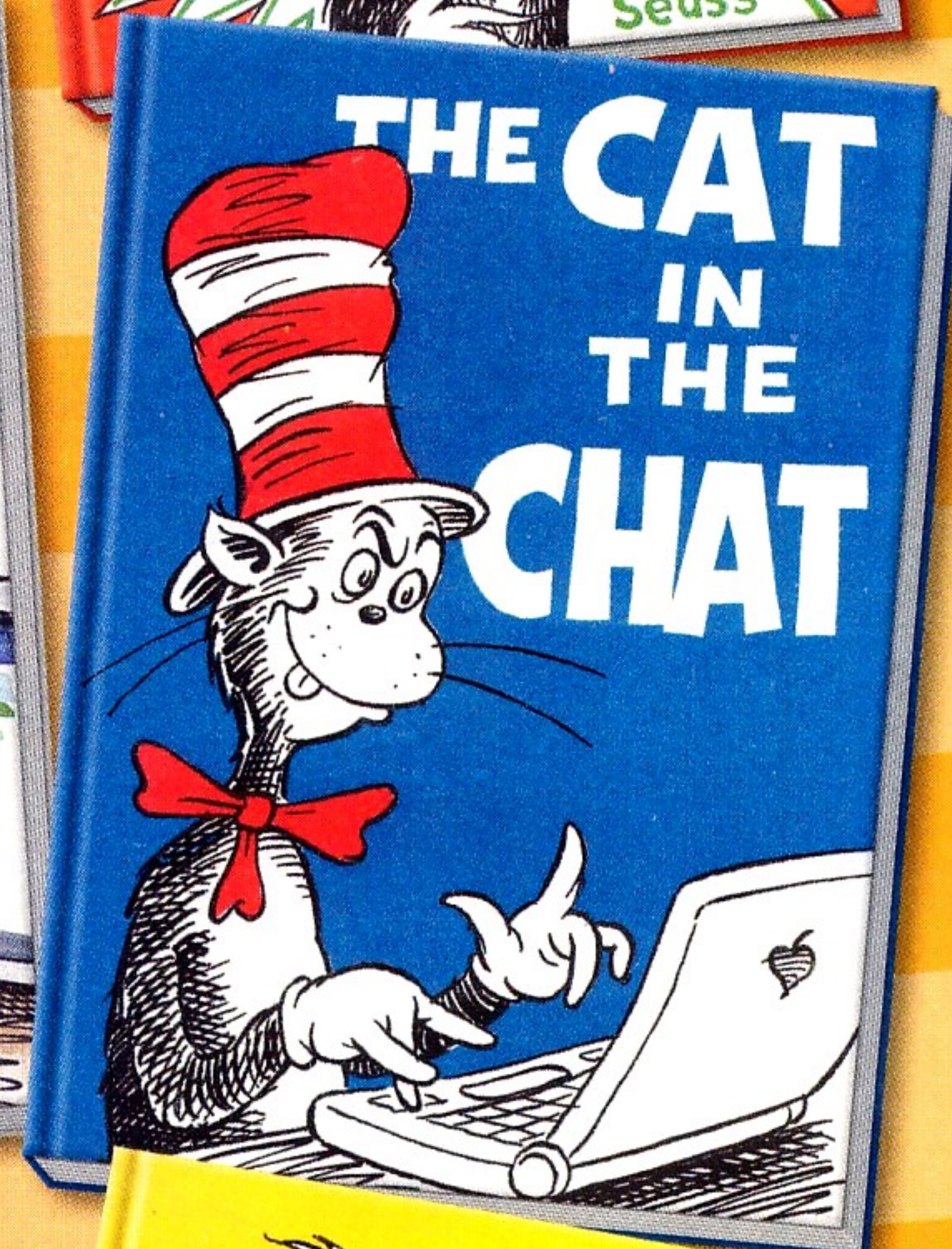
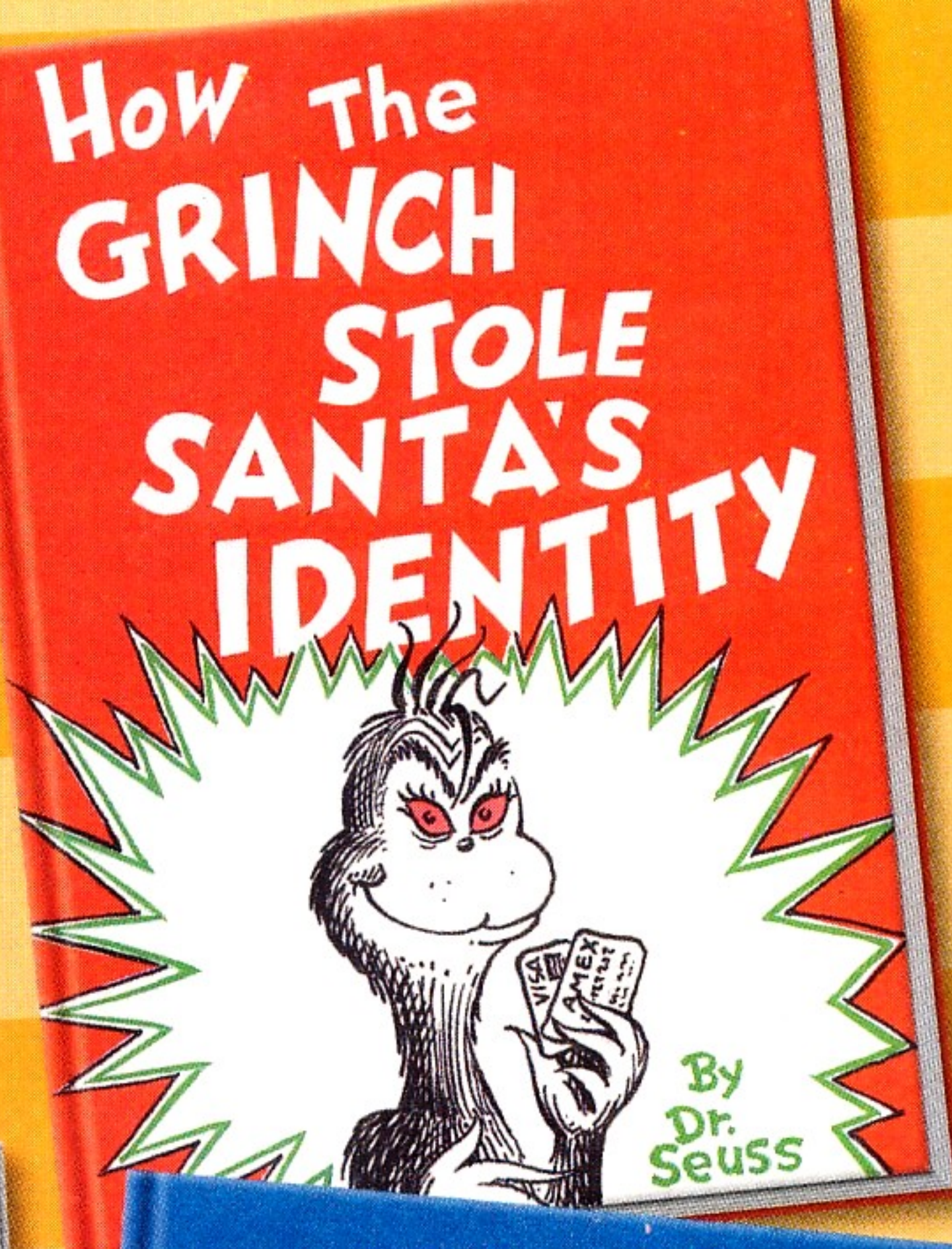
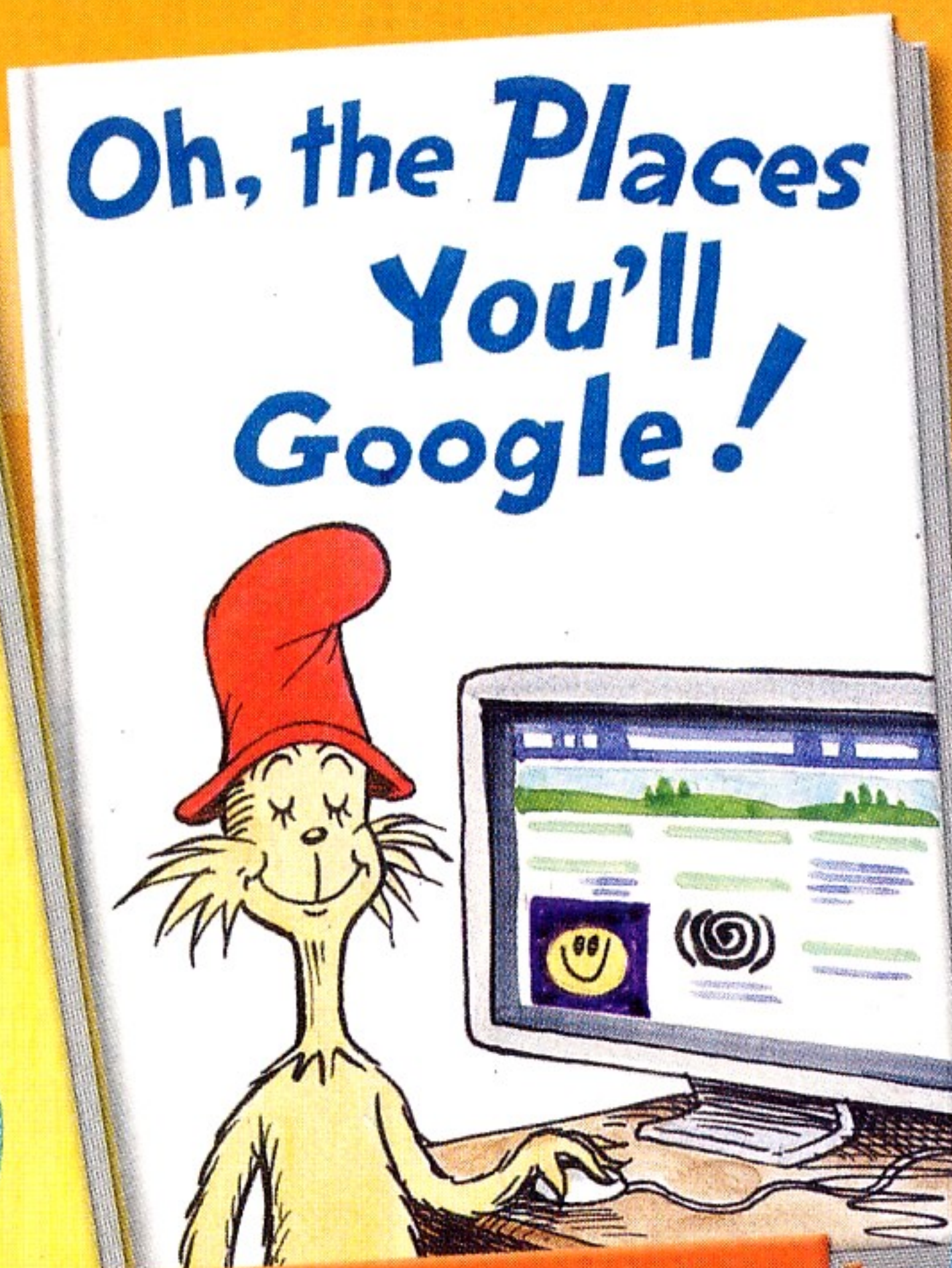
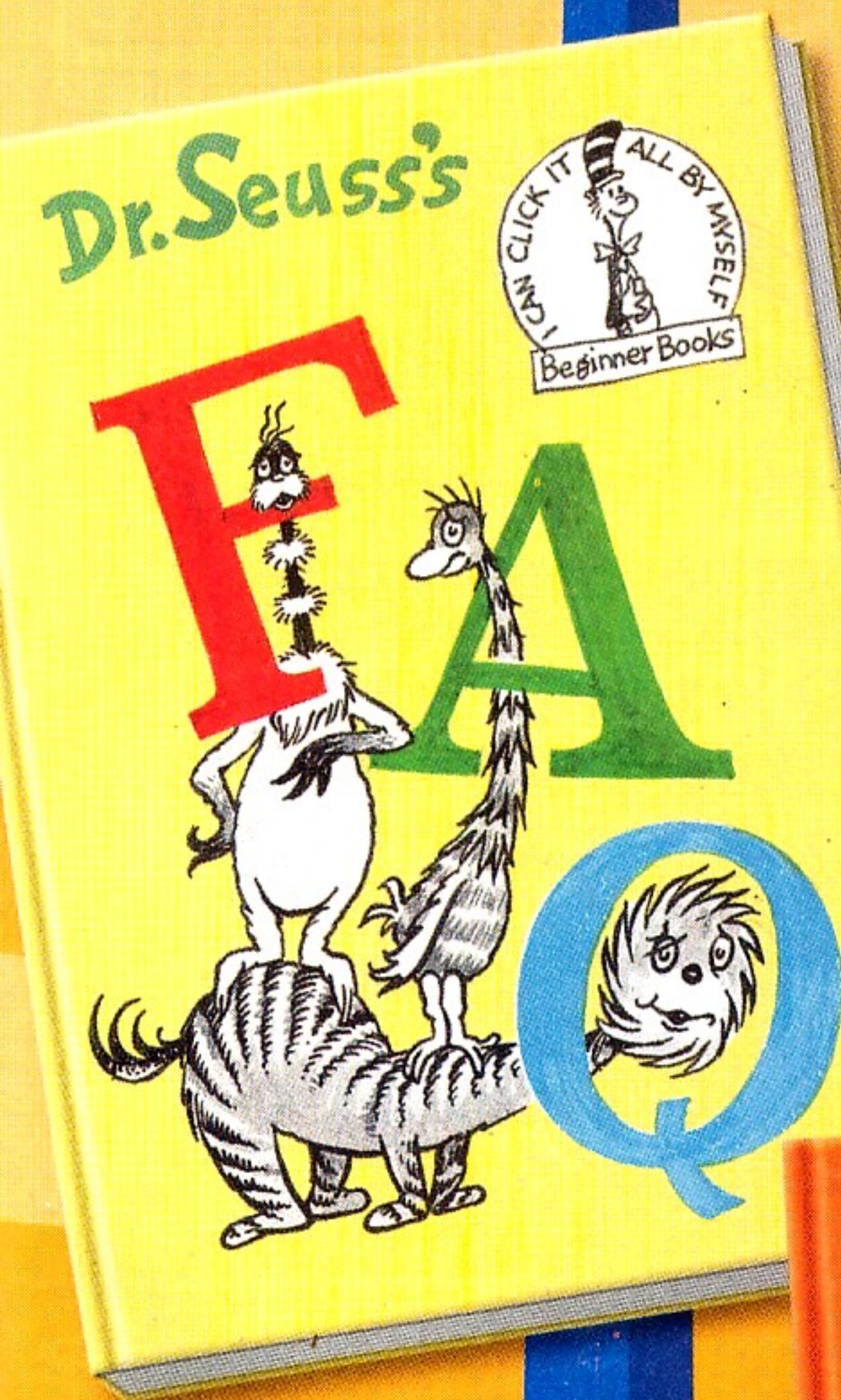






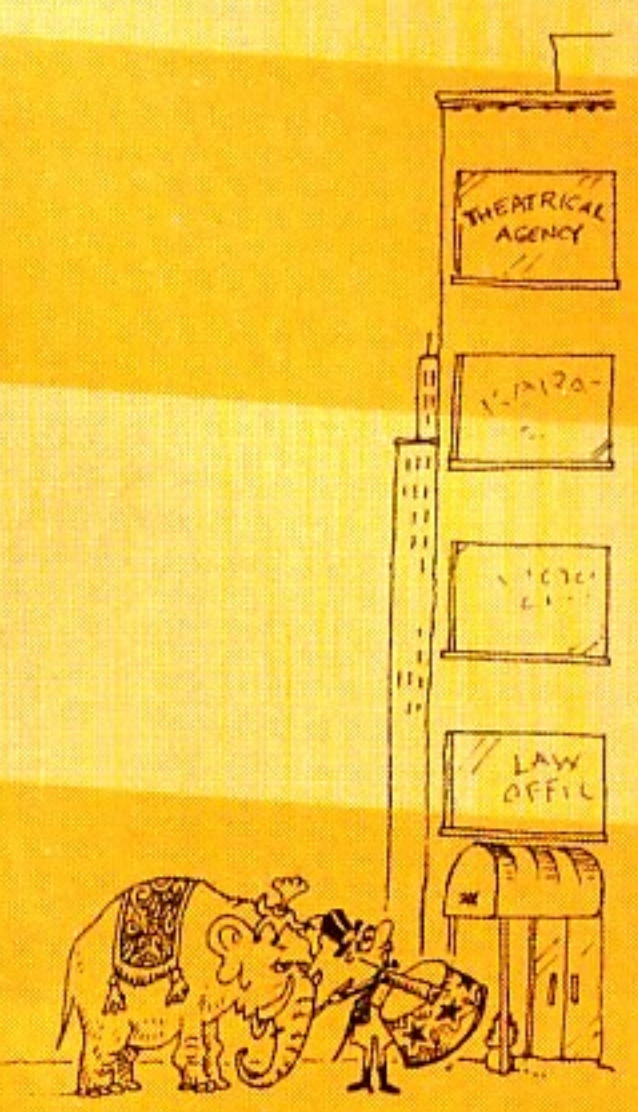
Dr. Seuss' books have entertained generations of children and adults. (Unlike Dr. Seuss' movies — yikes!!!) But if Seuss' books are to continue to entertain future generations, they're going to need some updating. Please scroll down as we present...

Dr. Seuss for the Digital Age



WRITER:
DARREN JOHNSON

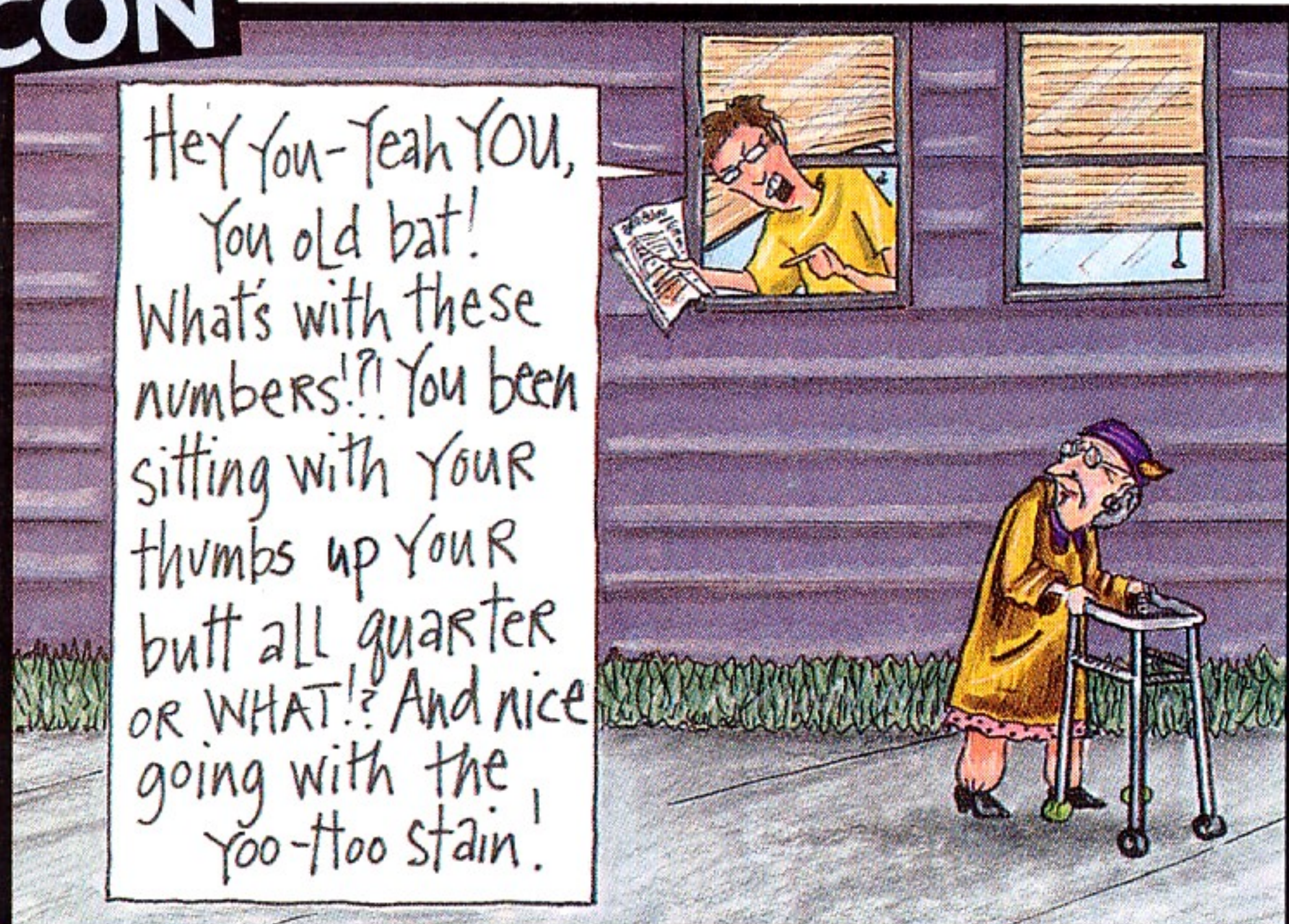
ARTIST:
GARY HALLGREN





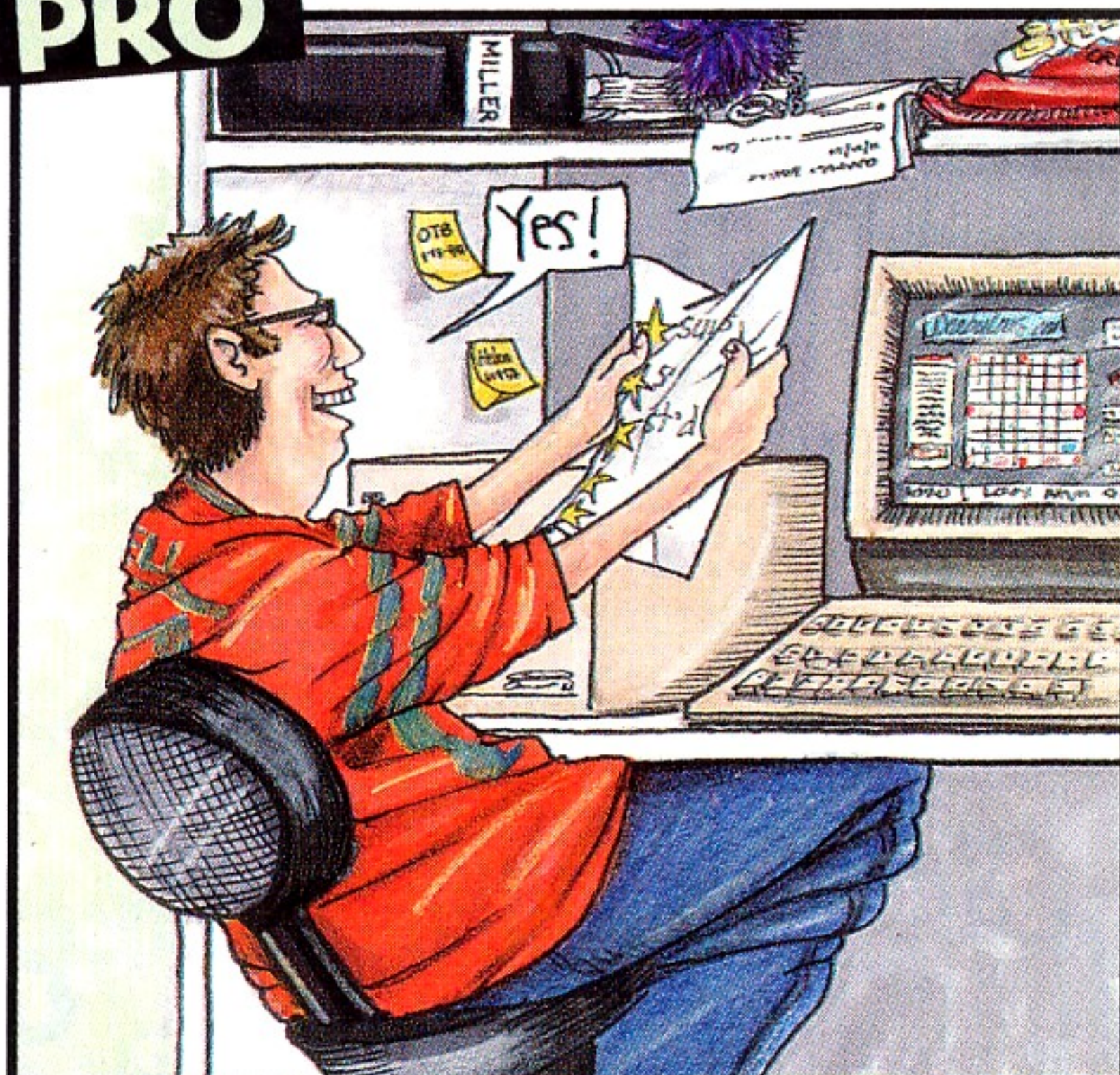
Everyone dreams of working from home! Of course, everyone *also* dreams of showing up naked for school...but that's a topic for a whole different issue of MAD. So before you tell off your boss and storm out of the Starbucks, be sure to carefully weigh...

CON



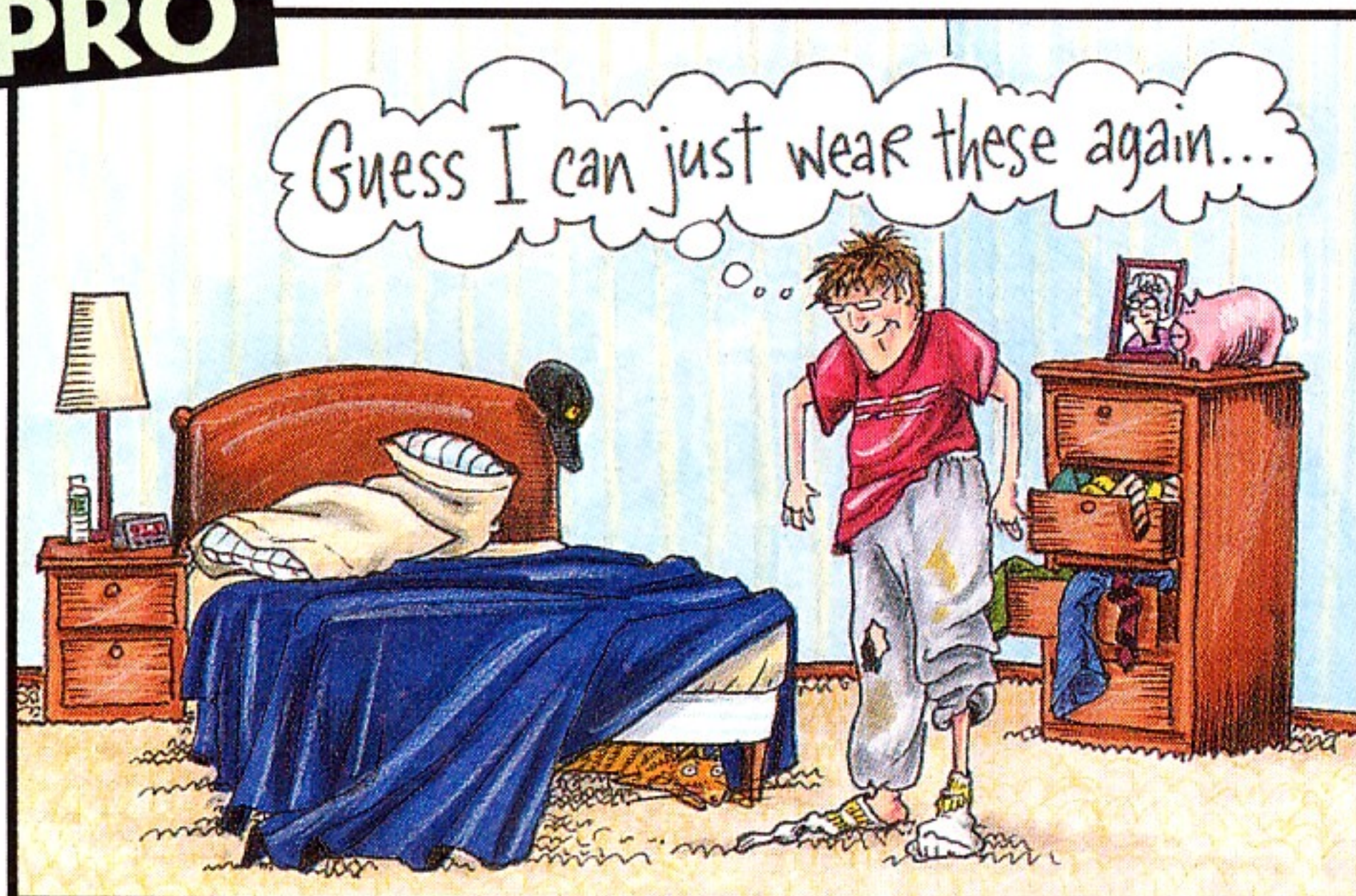
It becomes increasingly difficult to "pass the buck."

PRO



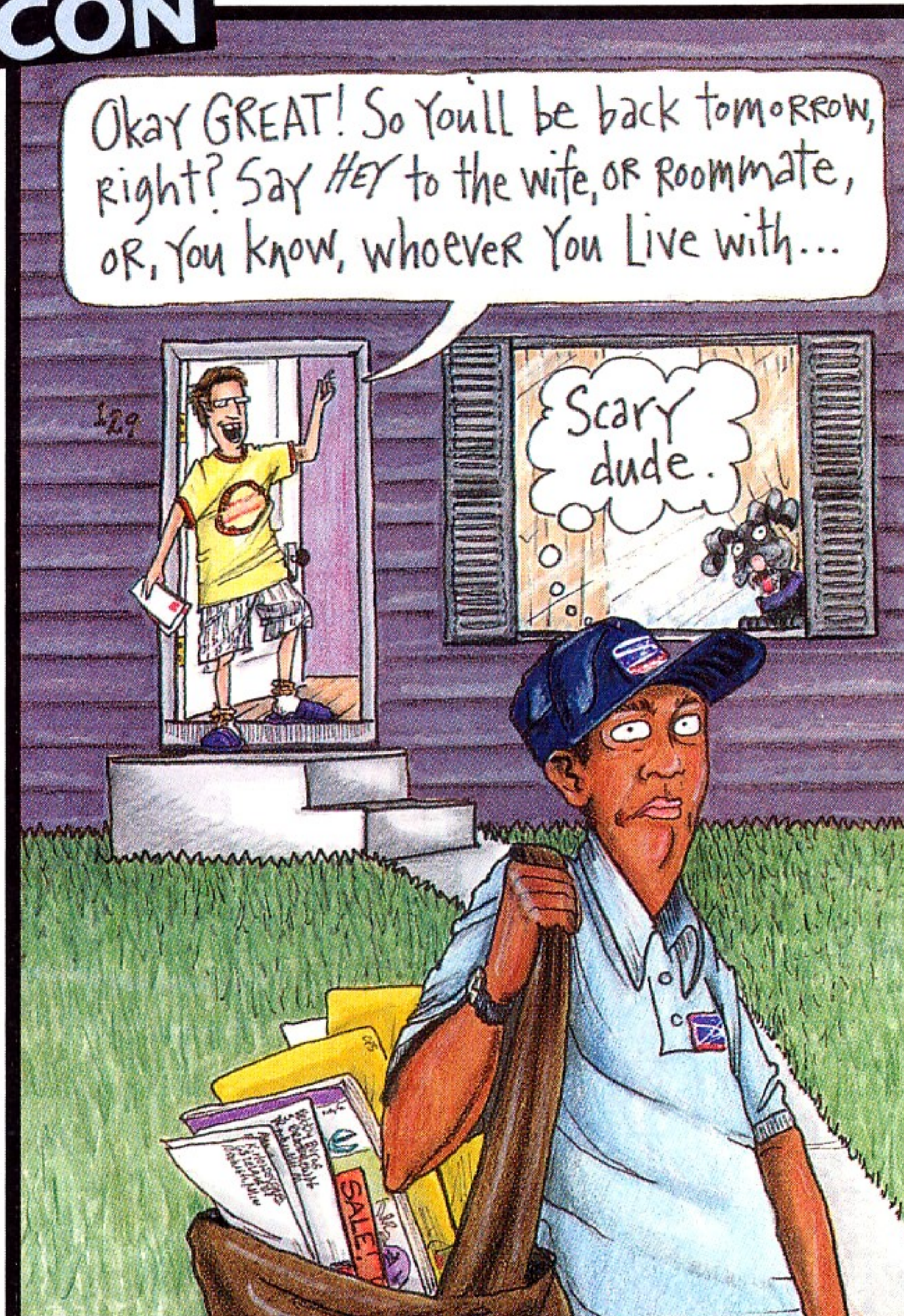
Employee evaluations always go well.

PRO



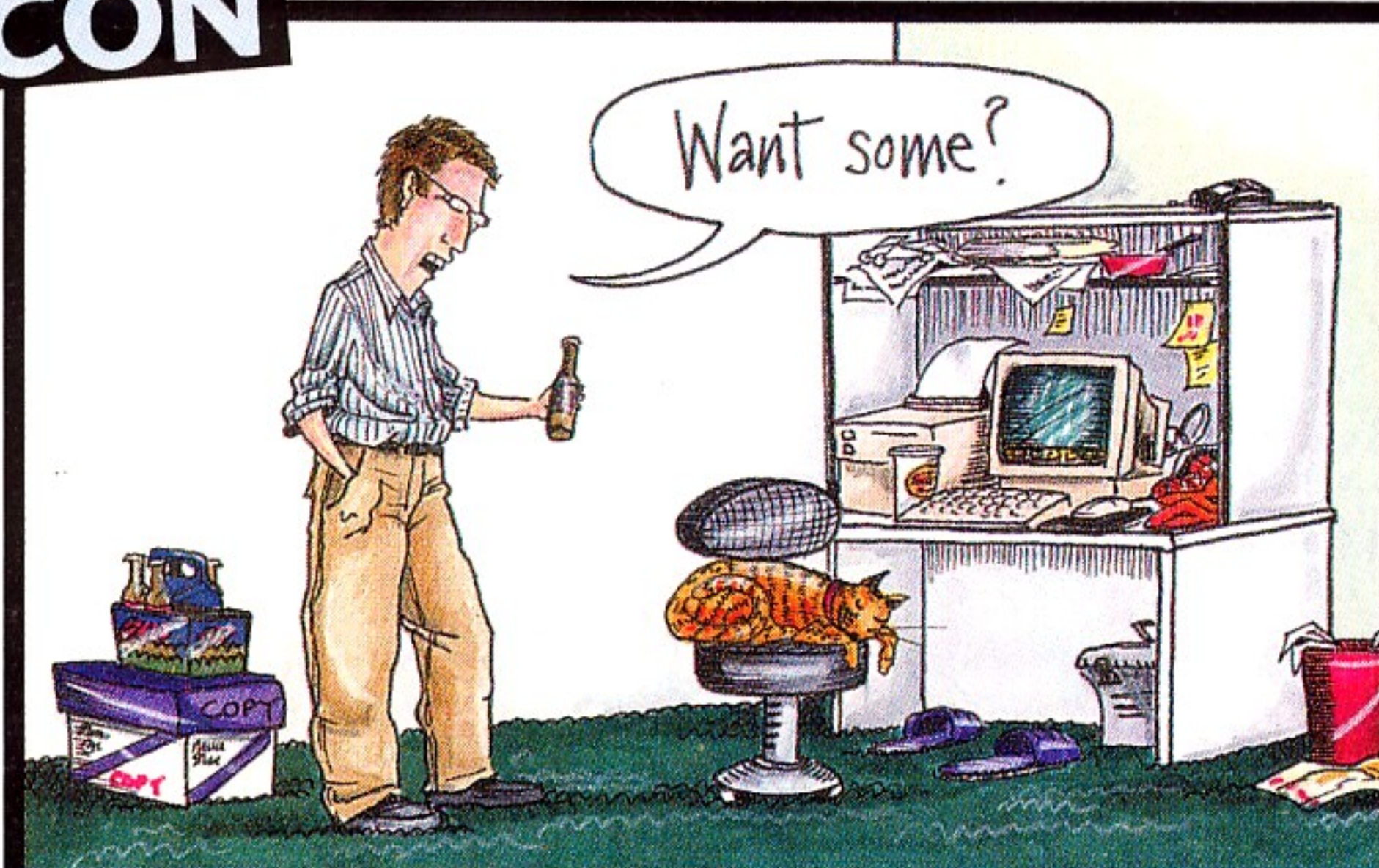
Laundry diminishes.

CON



Your relationship with your mailman deepens.

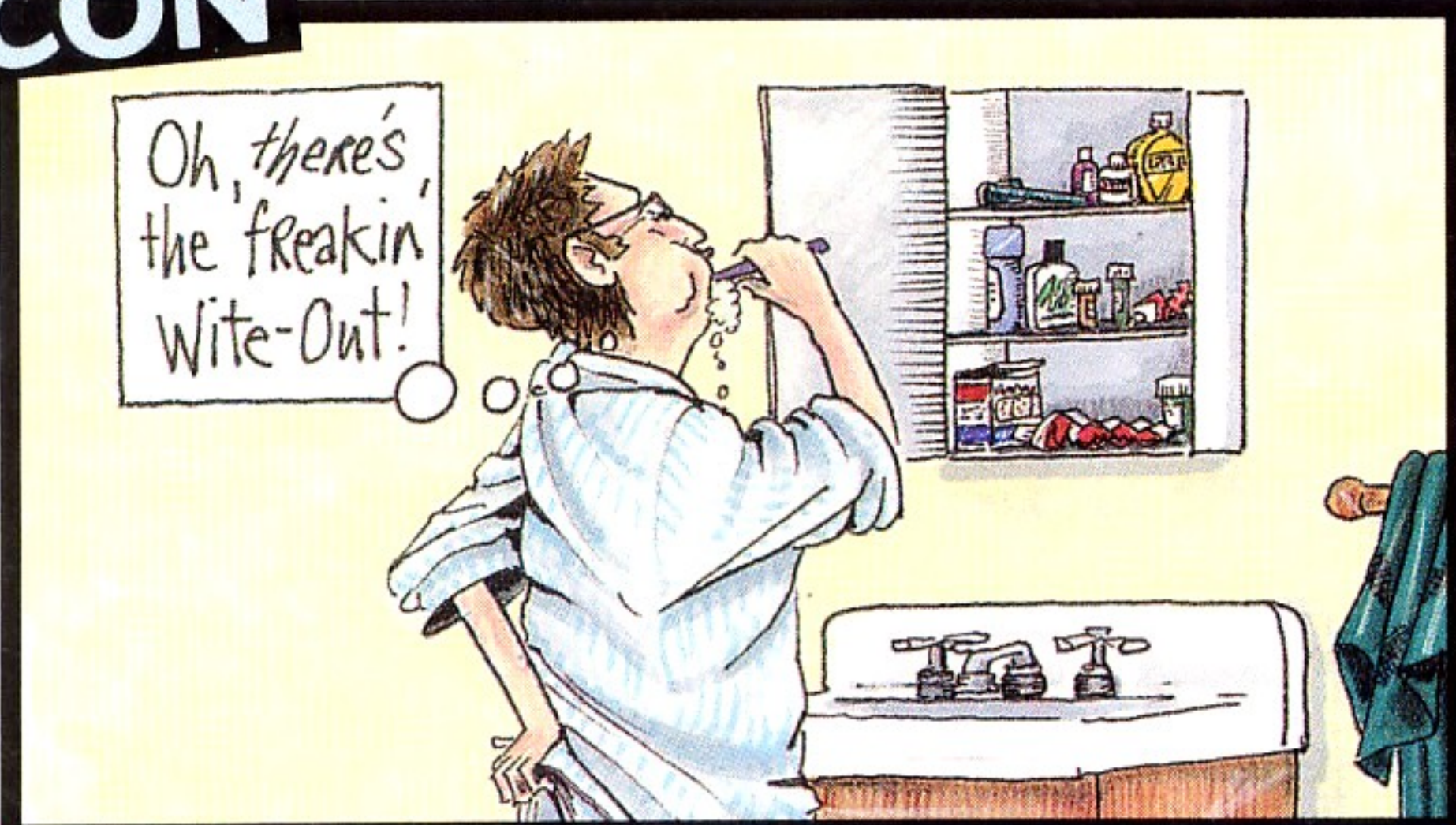
CON



Office parties suck.

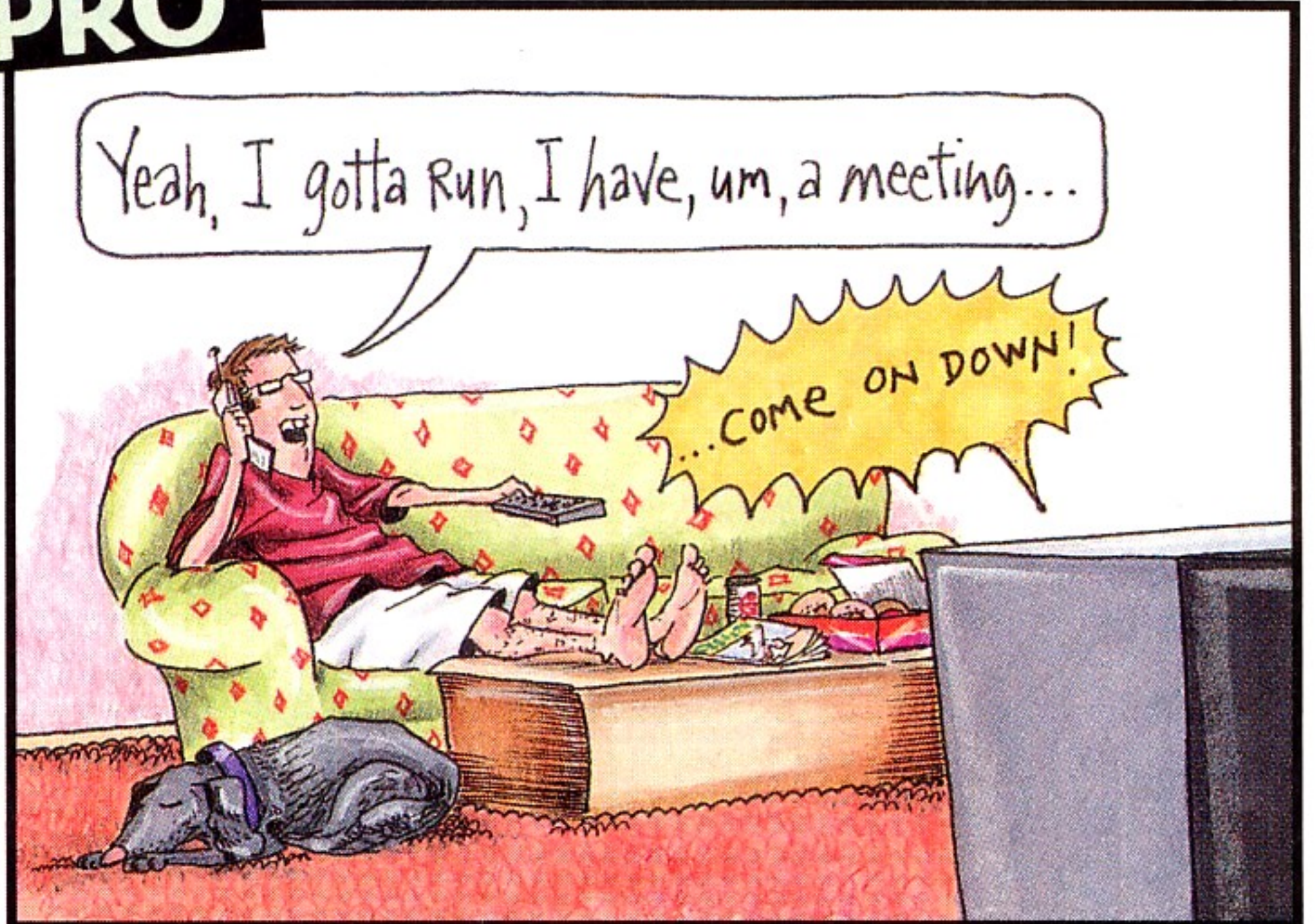
Pros and Cons of Working at Home!

CON



Personal and office supplies begin to co-mingle

PRO



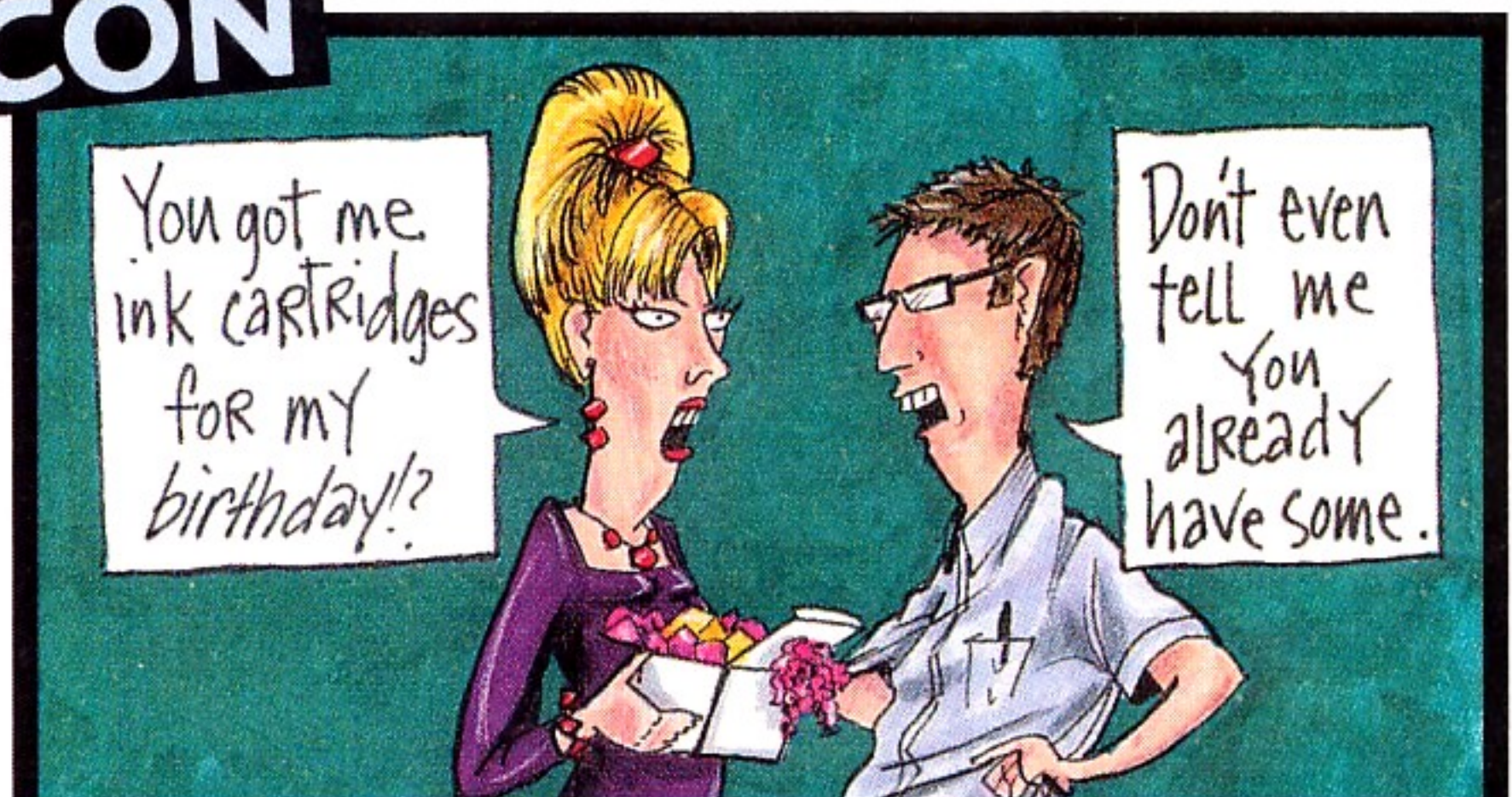
Mr. Drew Carey becomes a coworker of sorts.

PRO



There's no danger of your lunch getting swiped by grabby coworkers.

CON



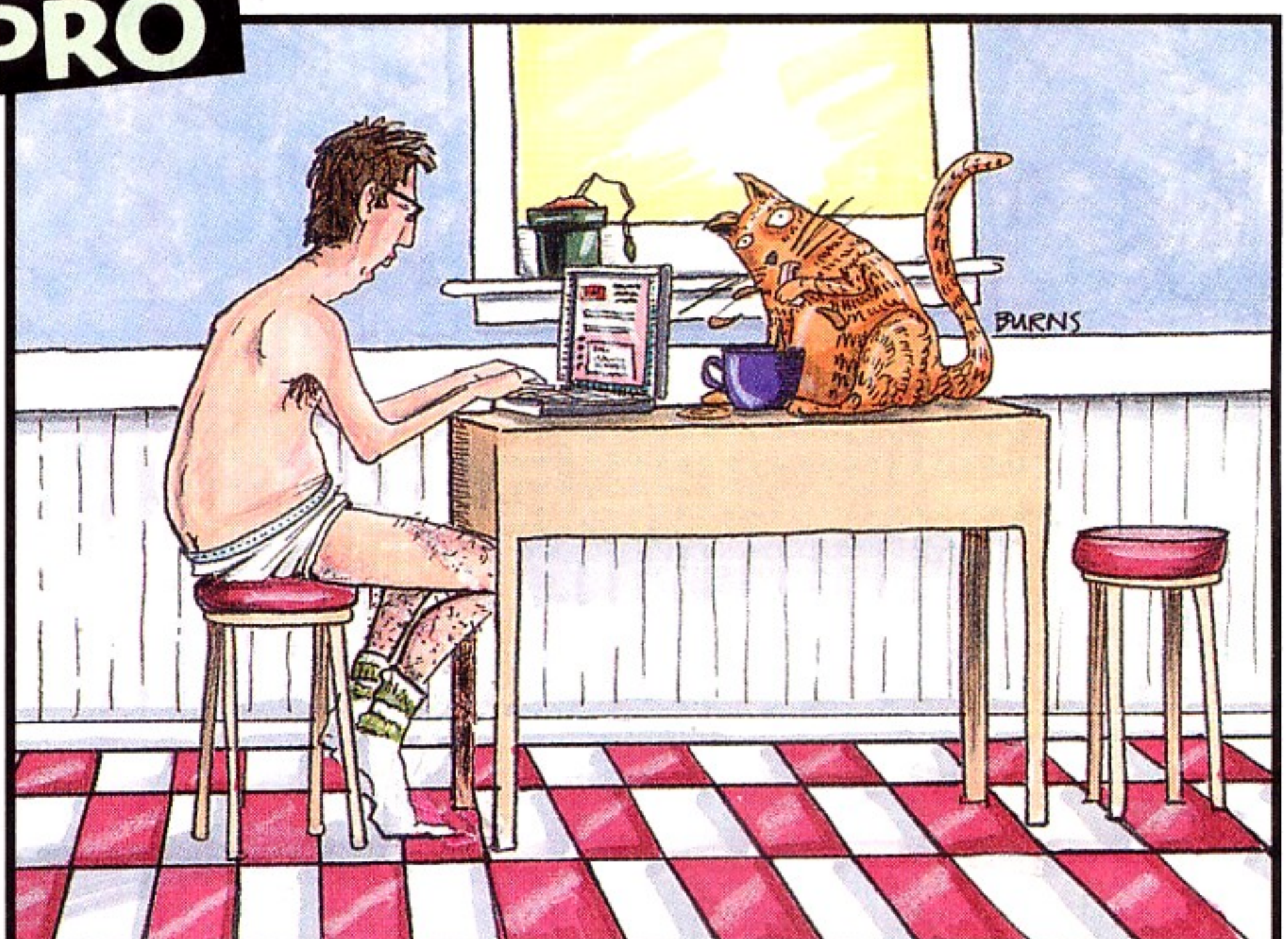
All decisions are made based on write-offability.

CON



You find out things about your pets that you're better off not knowing.

PRO



Every day is casual Friday.



WHEN YOU DIS UPON A STAR DEPT.

Reality-show contestants.

YouTube posters.

Barely-sane bloggers.

Thanks to runaway technology and Satanists like Simon Cowell, America is becoming inundated with "stars" whose lack of actual talent makes Heidi Montag look like Mozart. "But how will this actually change things in our country," you ask, thoughtfully stroking your chin. Well...

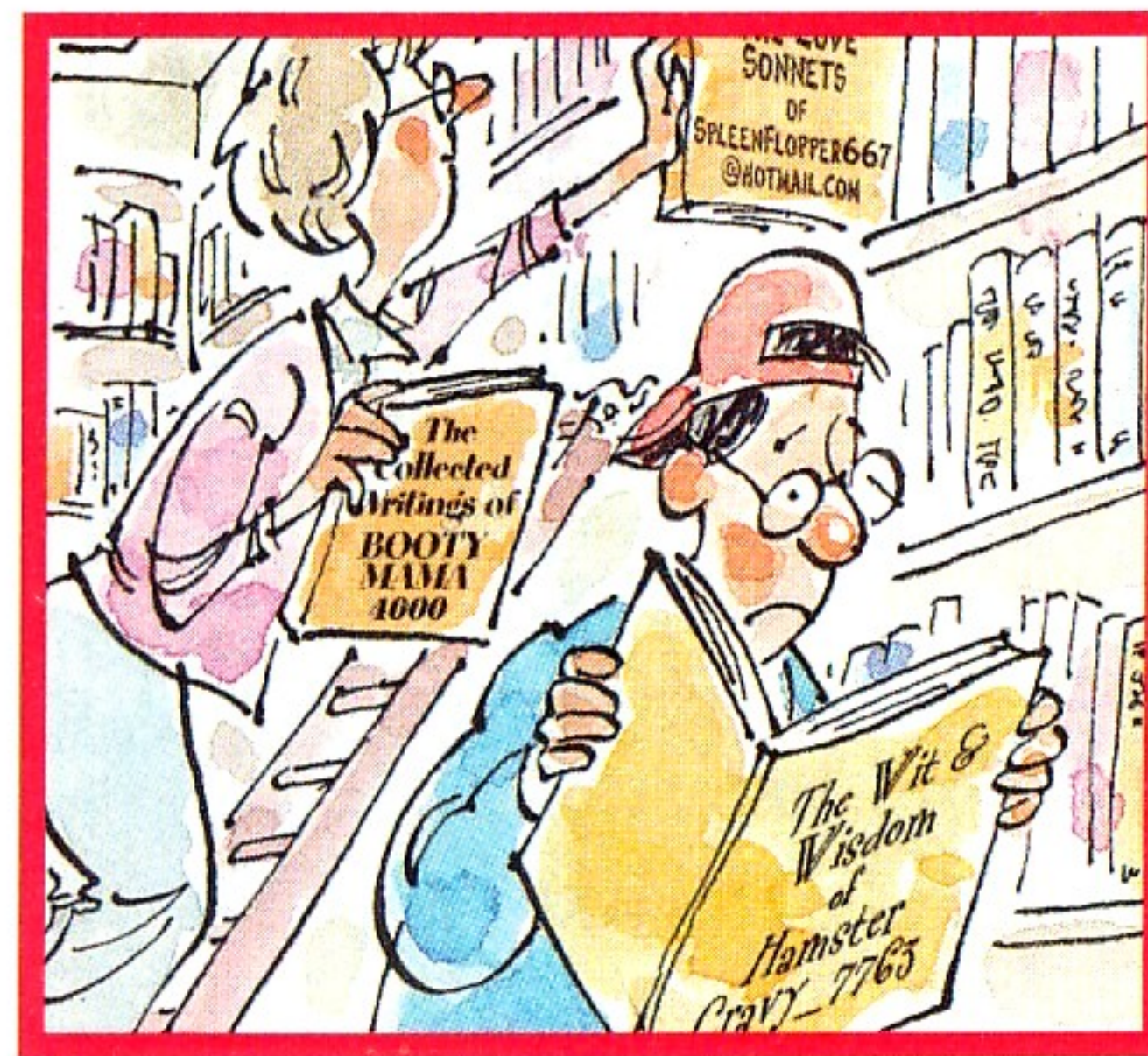
NOW THAT ANY★NE CAN BECOME A CELEBRITY★★★

WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT
ARTIST: PAUL COKER

SORRY TO PULL YOU OVER, SIR...
AT FIRST I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU
AS THE GUY WHO HAD HIS BACK
SHAVED ON QUEER EYE!



Arrest and conviction rates will plummet, since millions will now be getting preferential treatment from star-struck cops and judges.

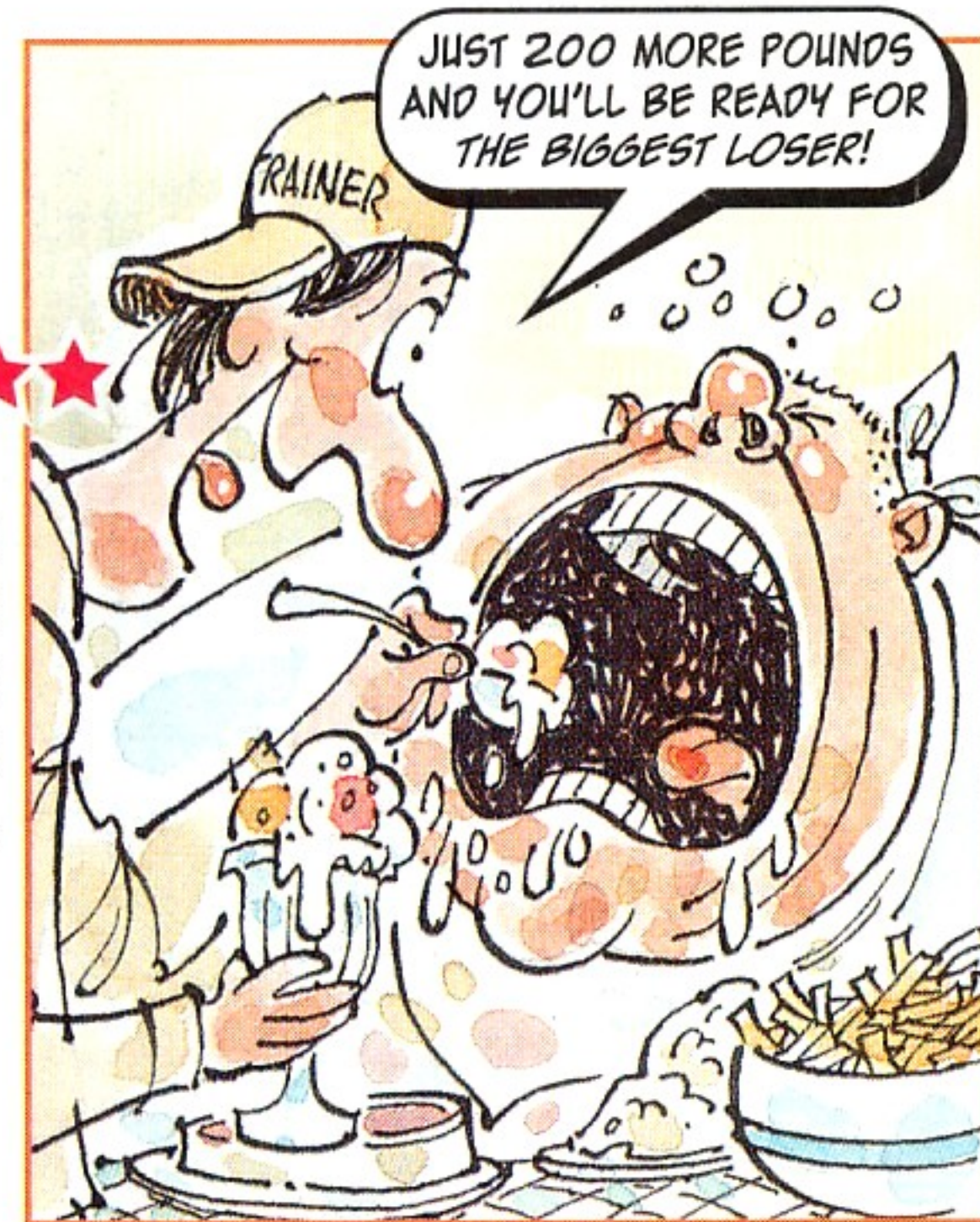


Bookstores will soon feel pressured to clog their shelves with sub-literate, blog-inspired titles.

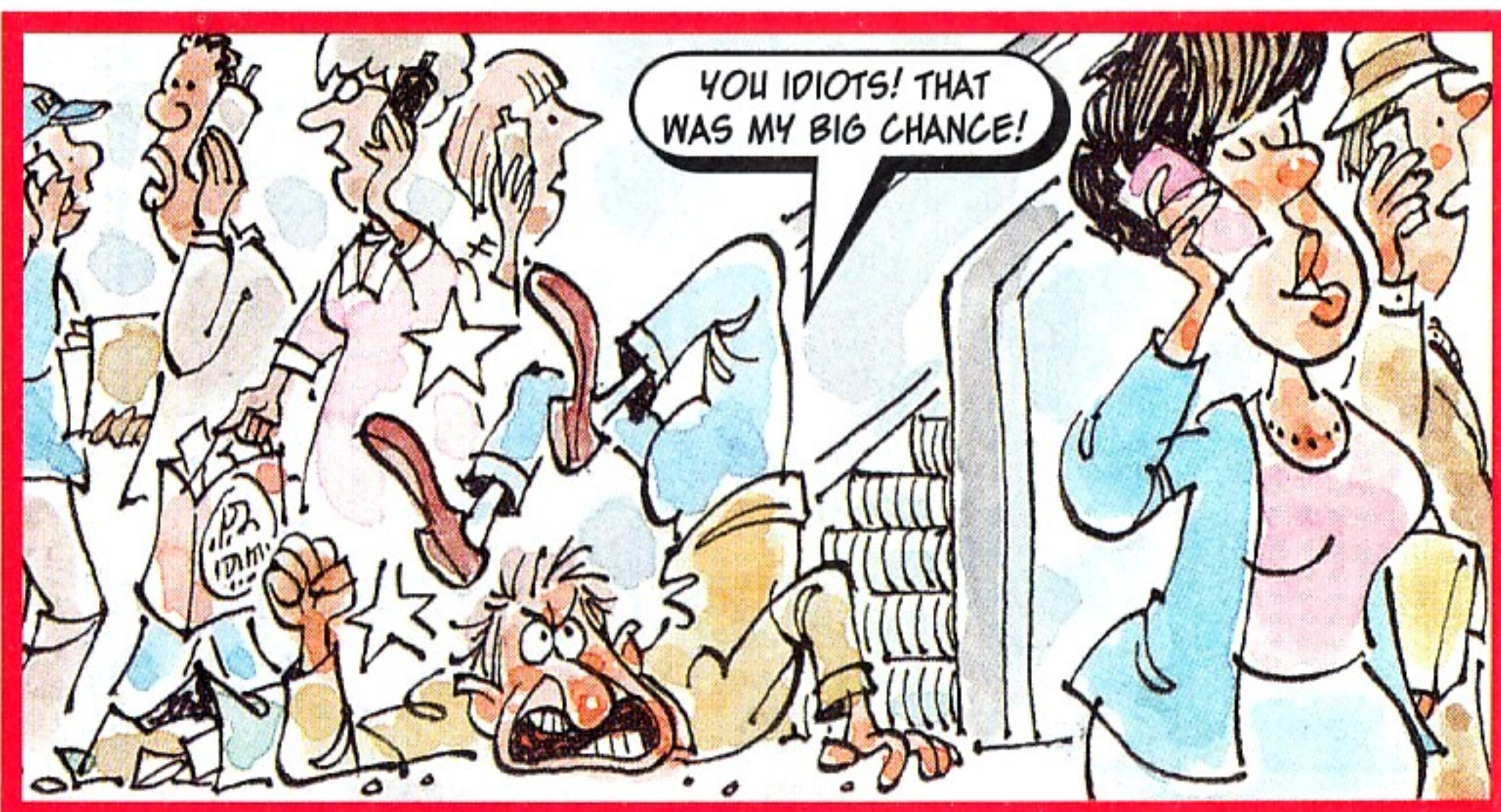


Schmucks who were previously just chronically unemployed can now get away with saying they're "waiting for the right project to come along."

Crushing, morbid obesity will come to be seen mainly as an exciting ticket to reality-TV stardom.

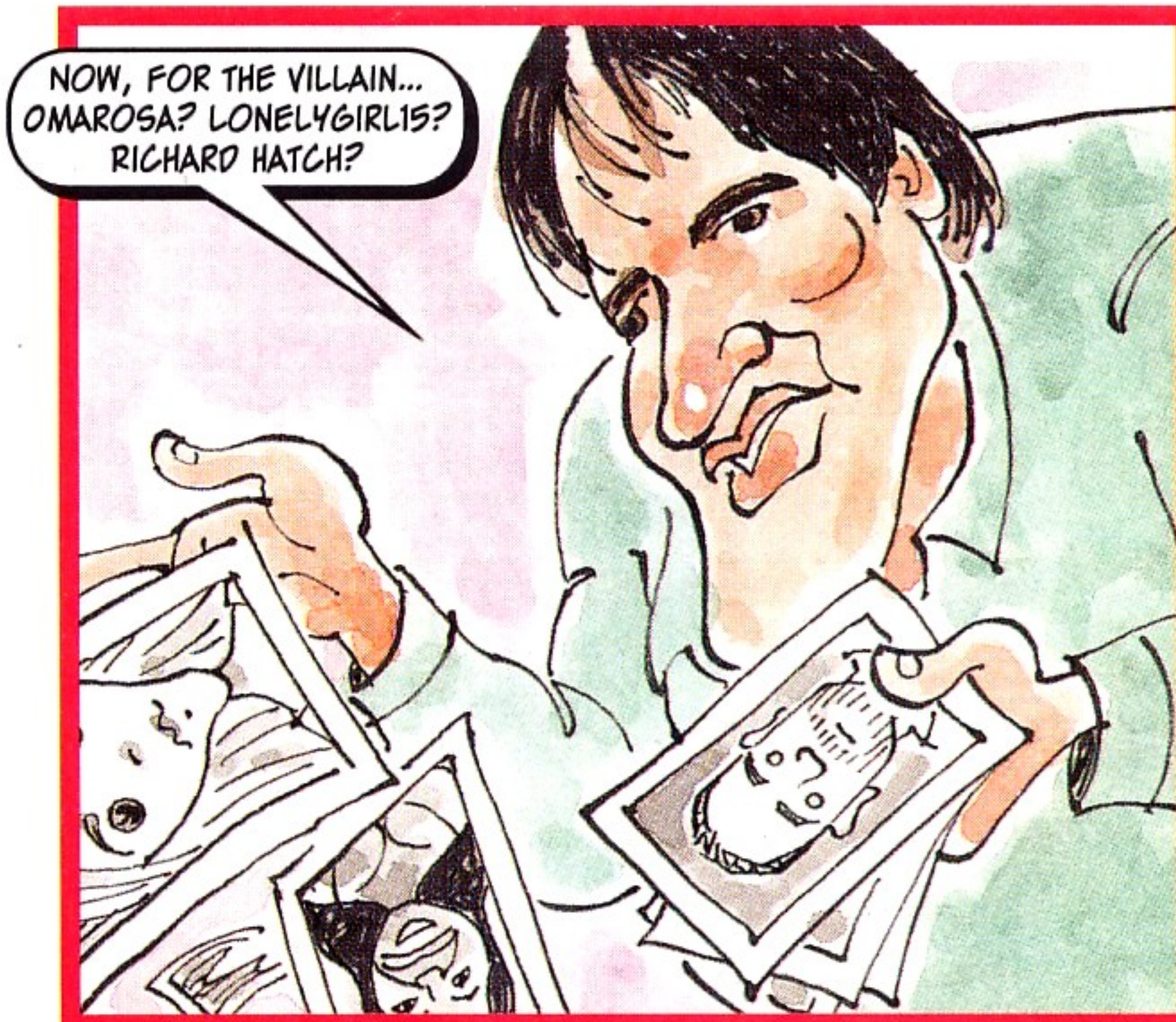


People will actually become angry when they trip down a mall escalator and nobody thinks to catch it on their cell phone.





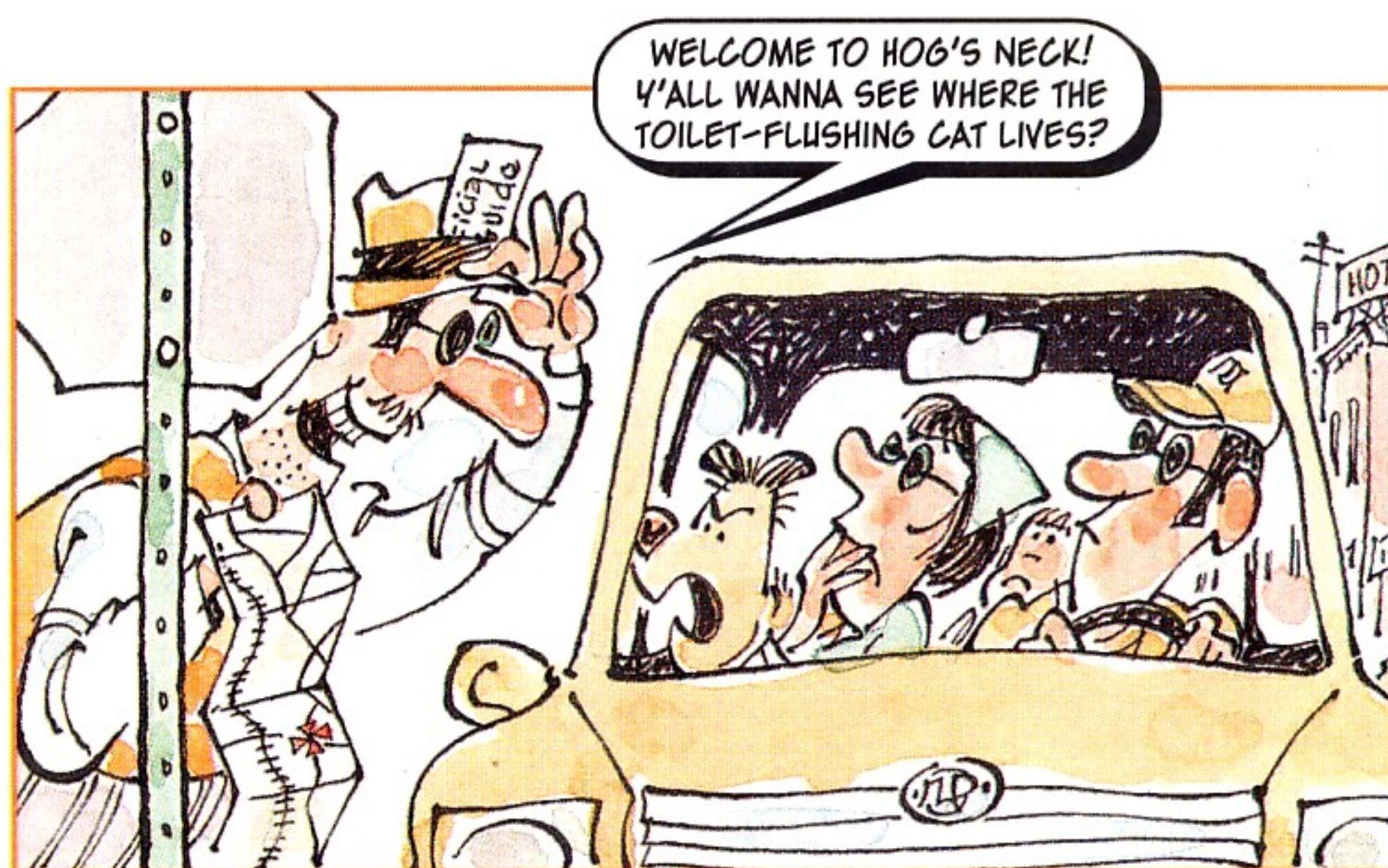
Early Internet embarrassments like the *Star Wars* lightsaber kid will come to be respected as the trailblazing Picassos of their "field."



Quentin Tarantino will be able to choose from a vast new batch of pseudo-trendy has-beens who'll work even cheaper than Travolta, Carradine and Pam Grier.



Current Z-listers will feel threatened even more by a new sub-tier of "celebrities" who are actually more pitiful than they are.



Nearly every town, no matter how fly-speck, will have a shady-looking guy selling "star maps" on the corner.

Trend-conscious movie studios will begin to feature the new no-name "stars" alongside the usual big names.



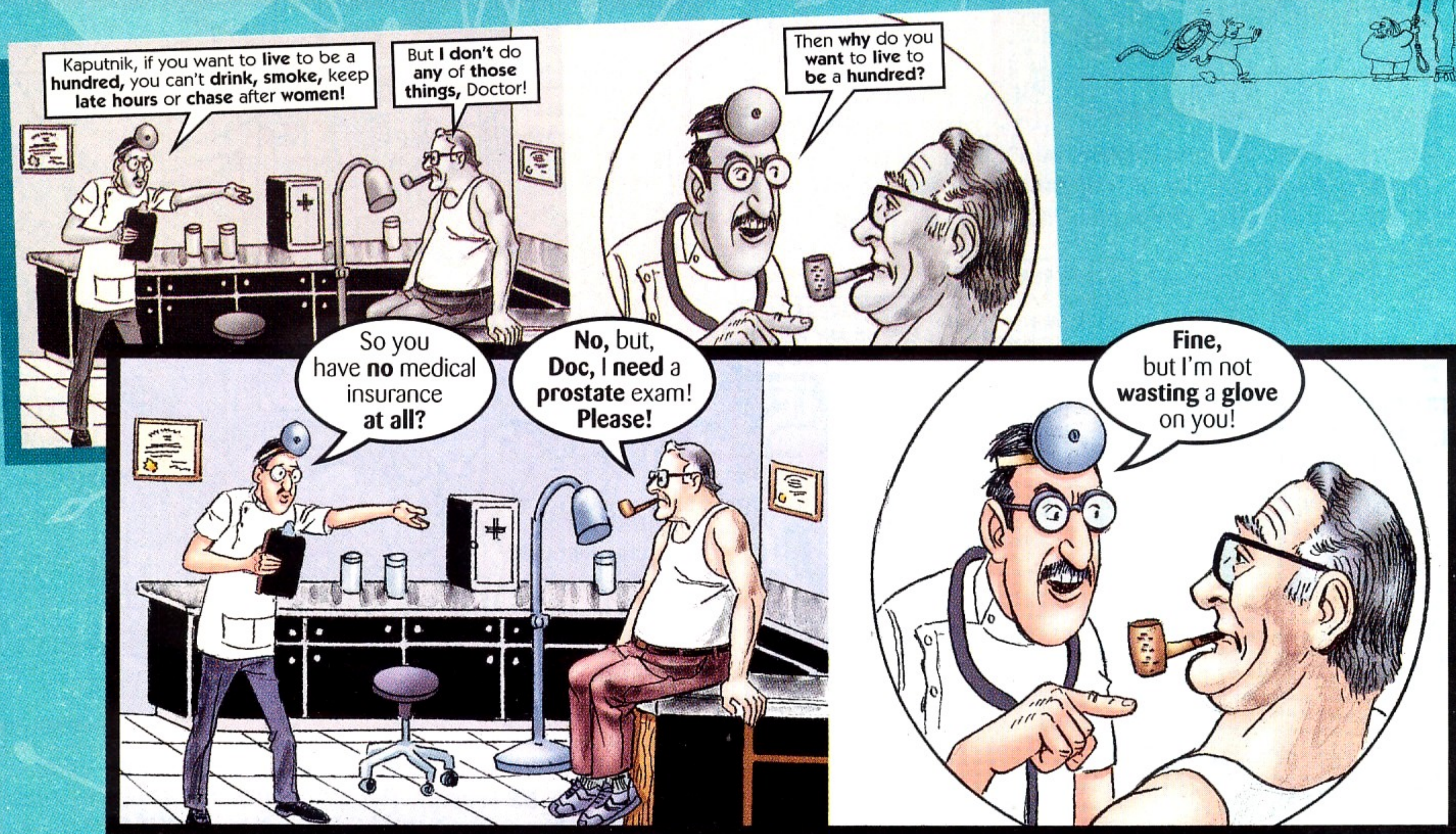
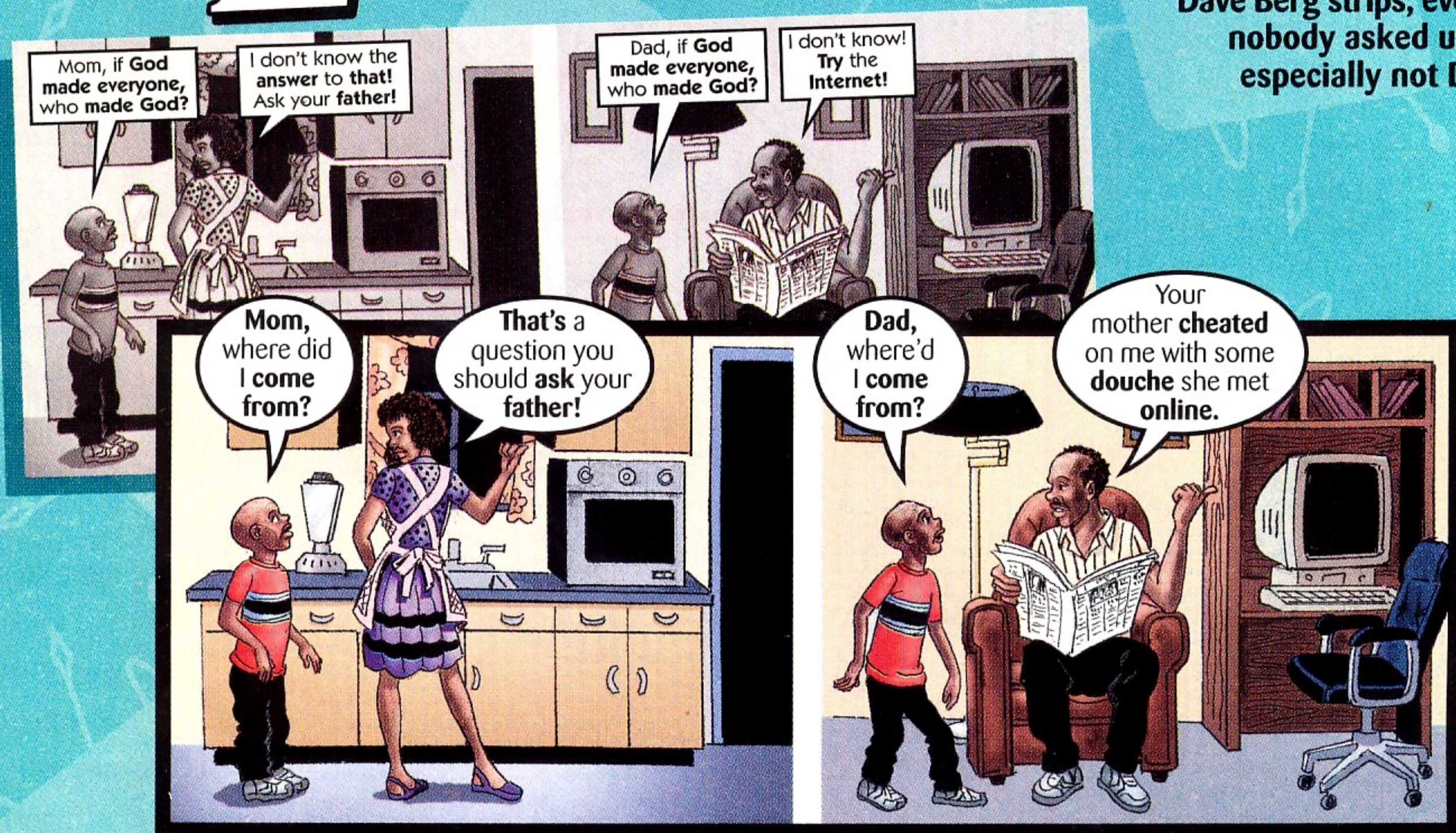
To accommodate the steady stream of new stars, rags like *US Weekly*, *People*, and *In Touch* will be forced to expand to a spine-snapping 600 pages.

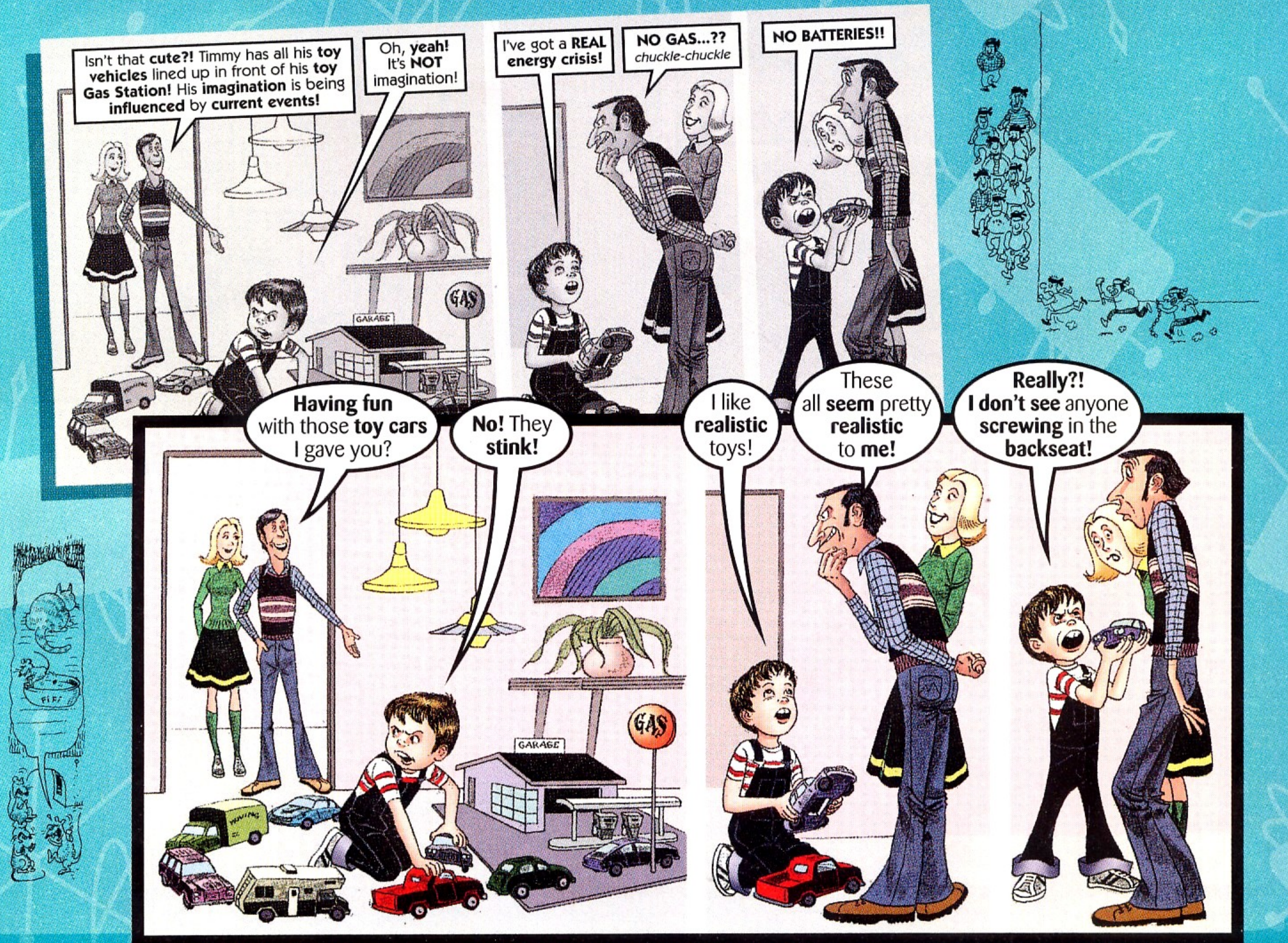
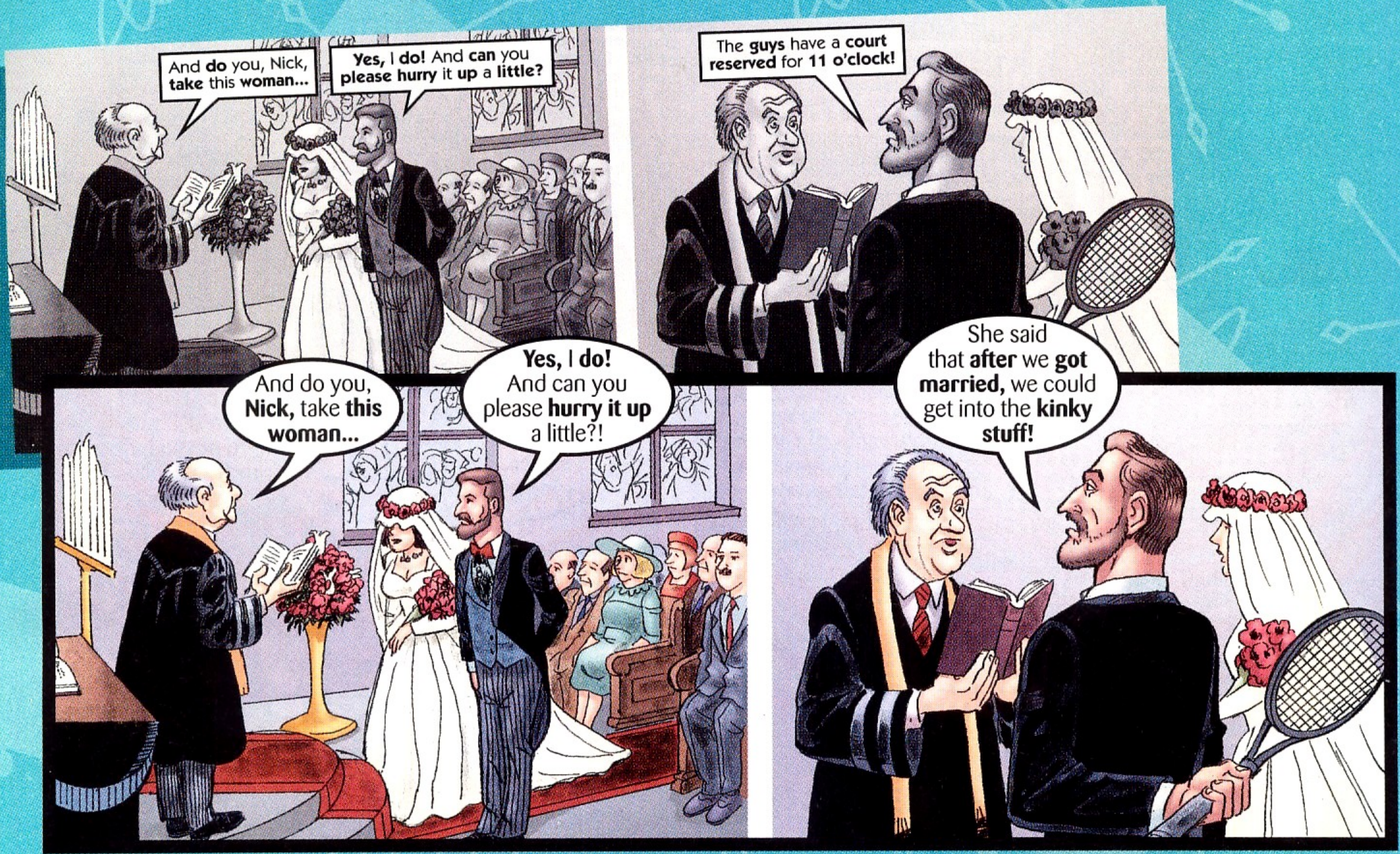


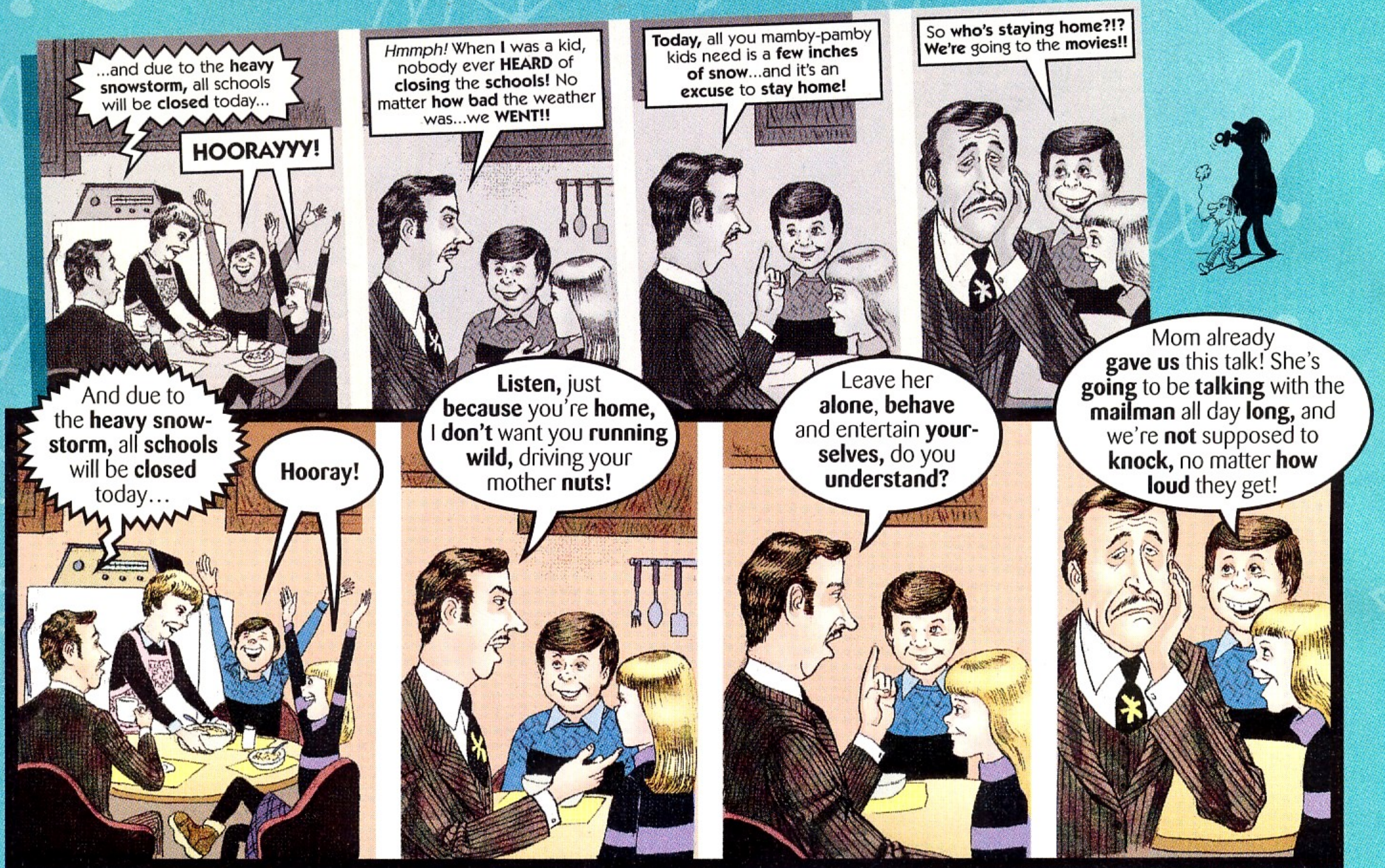
THE DARKER SIDE OF THE LIGHTER SIDE



We tamper with classic Dave Berg strips, even though nobody asked us to — especially not Dave!



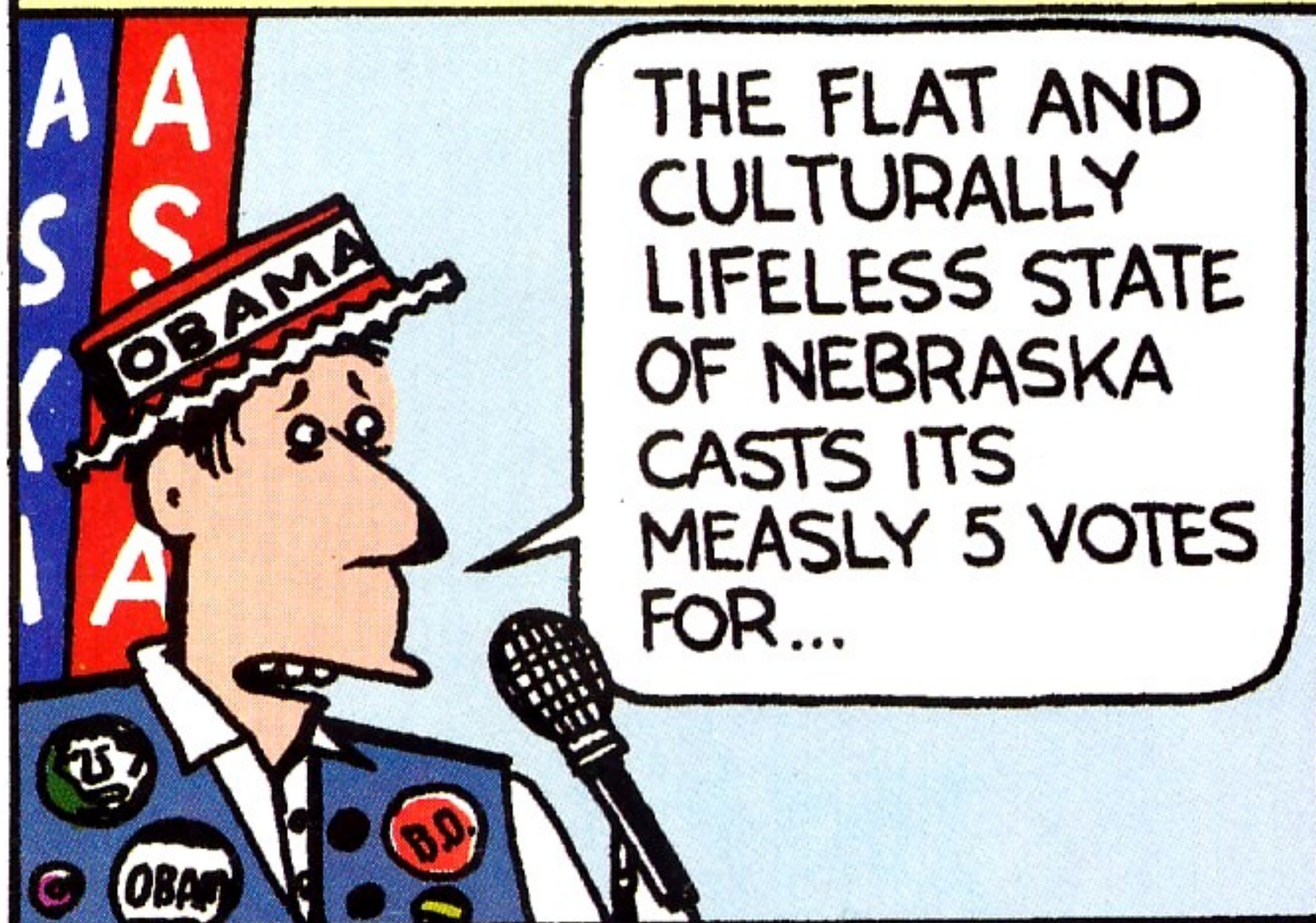




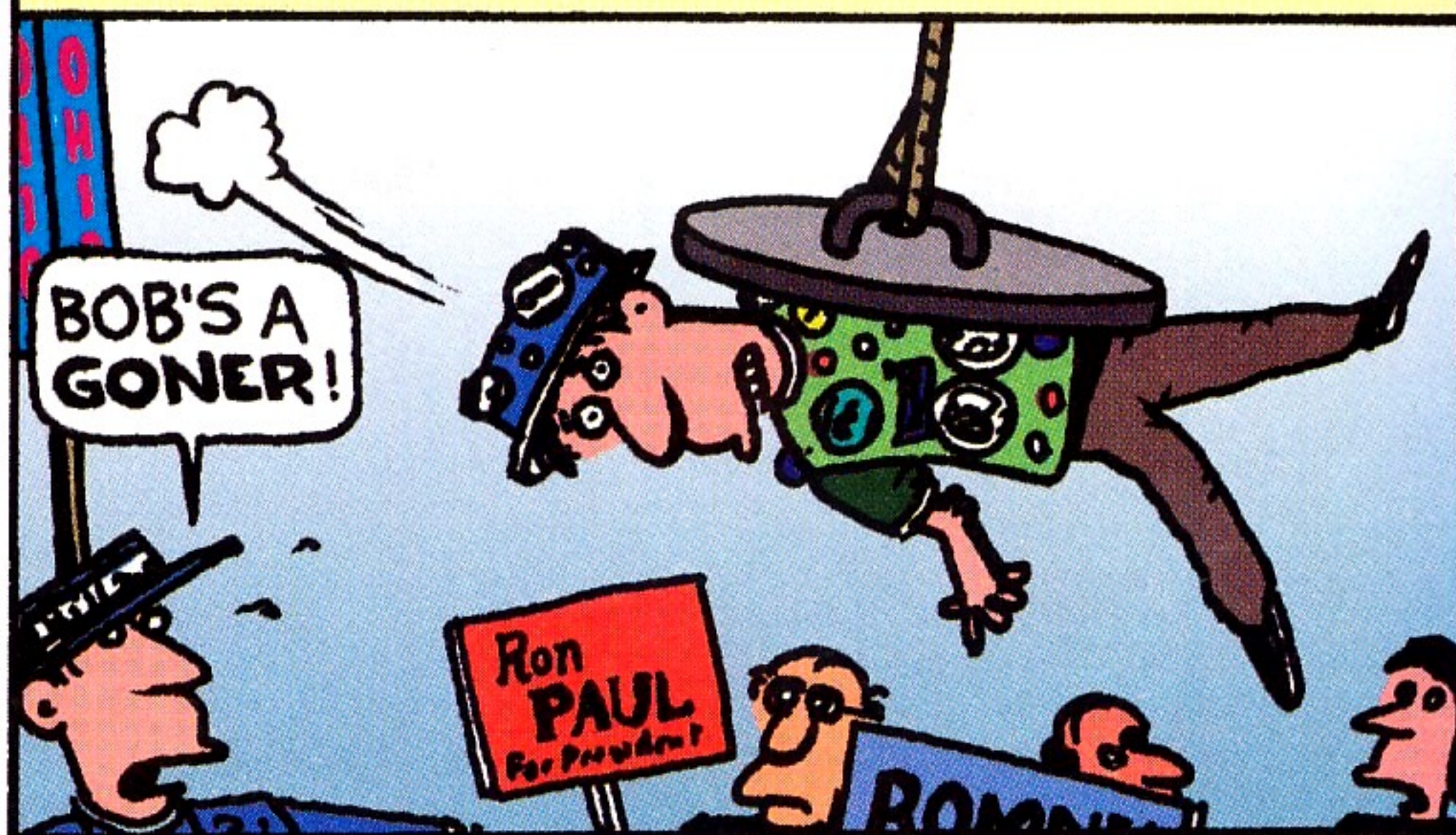


POLITICAL CONVENTIONS DON'T HAVE TO BE PREPACKAGED AND PREDICTABLE. HERE'S THINGS WE'D LIKE TO SEE AT THIS YEAR'S POLITICAL CONVENTIONS

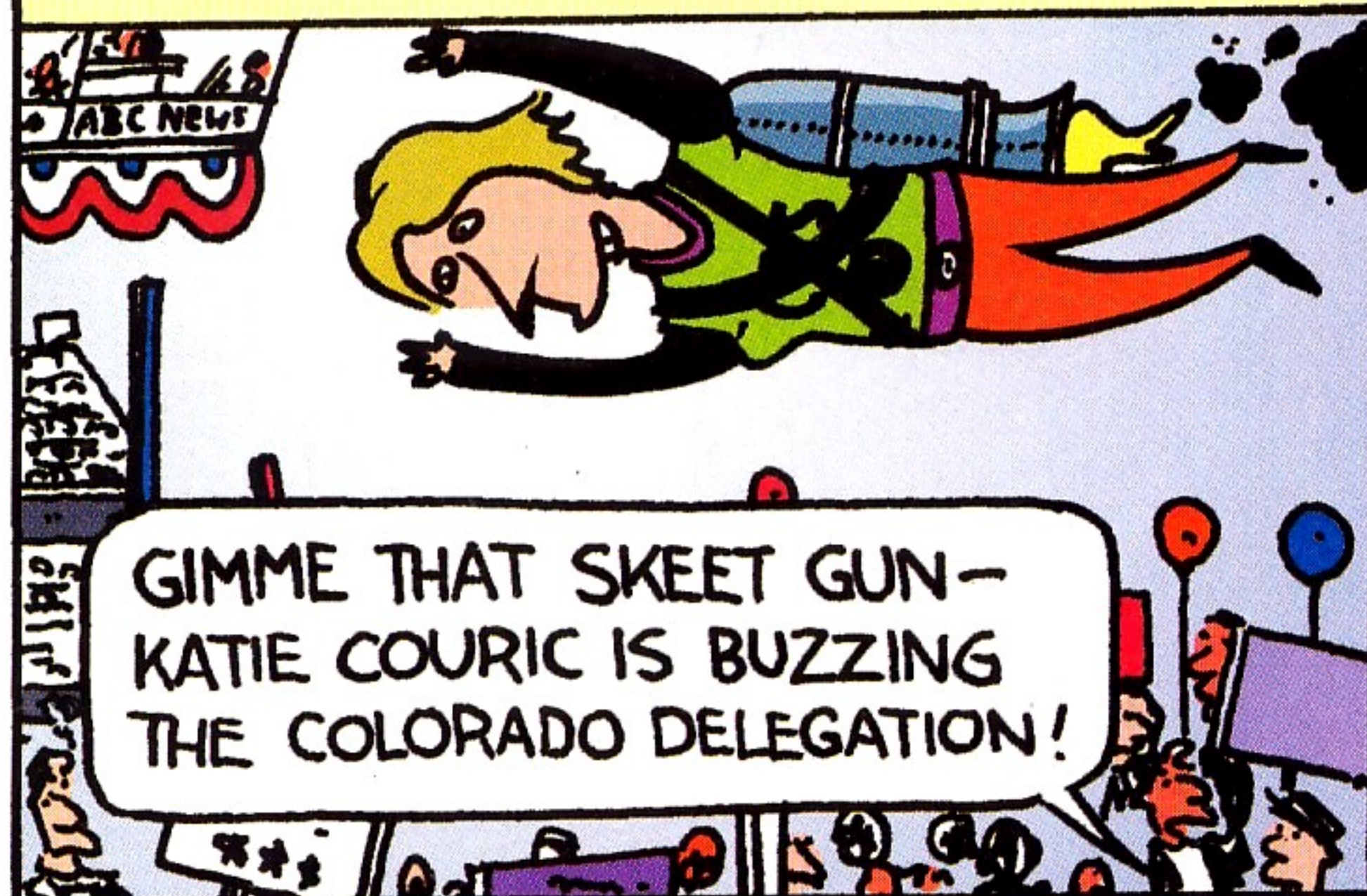
HONEST INTROS WHEN THE STATES CAST THEIR VOTES.



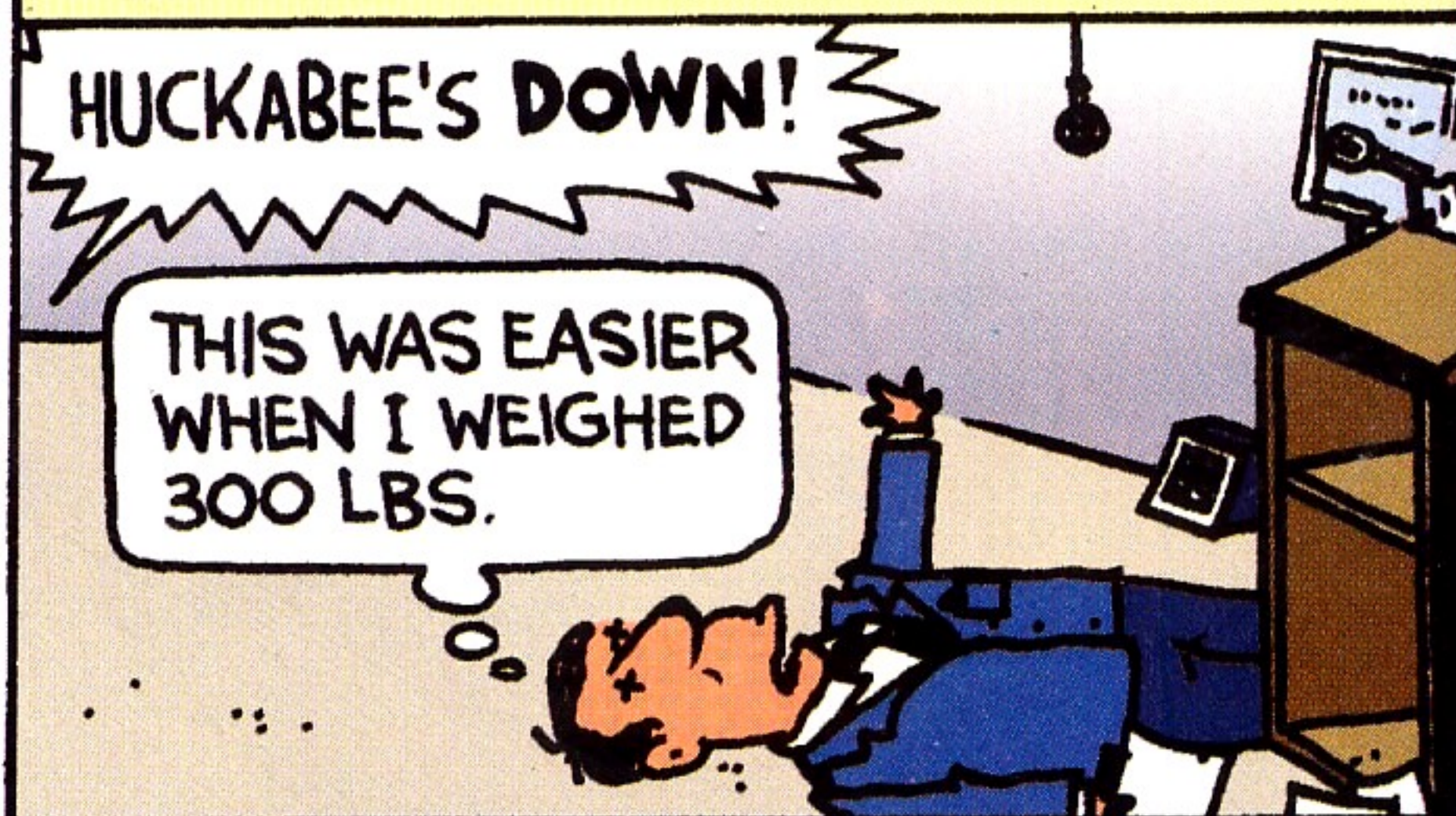
GIANT MAGNETS TO CATCH DELEGATES WHO WEAR ONE TOO MANY BUTTONS.



JET PACKS FOR FLOOR CORRESPONDENTS.



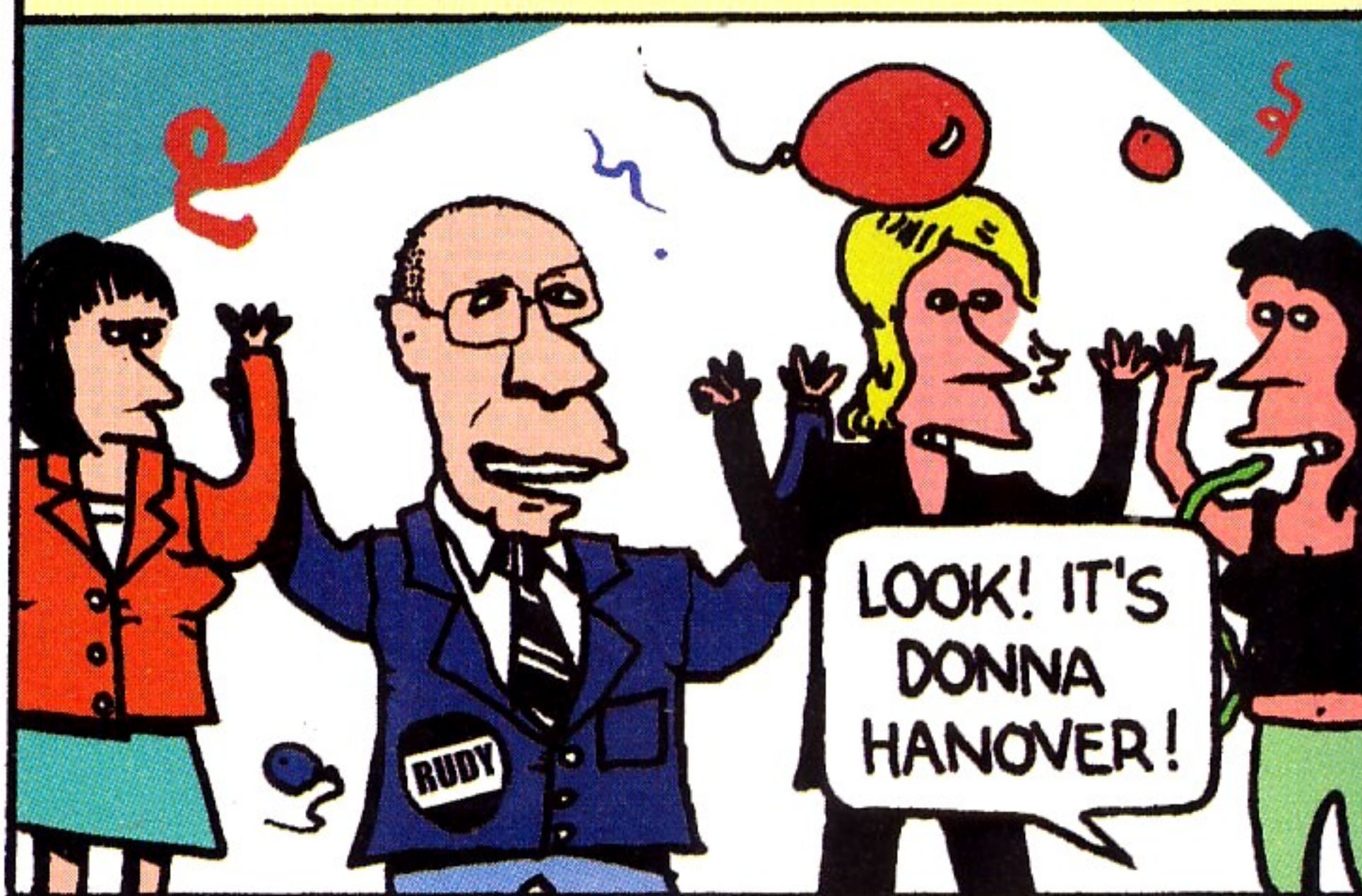
ALL SPEAKERS REQUIRED TO DOWN 12 JELLO SHOTS BEFORE ADDRESSING THE CONVENTION.

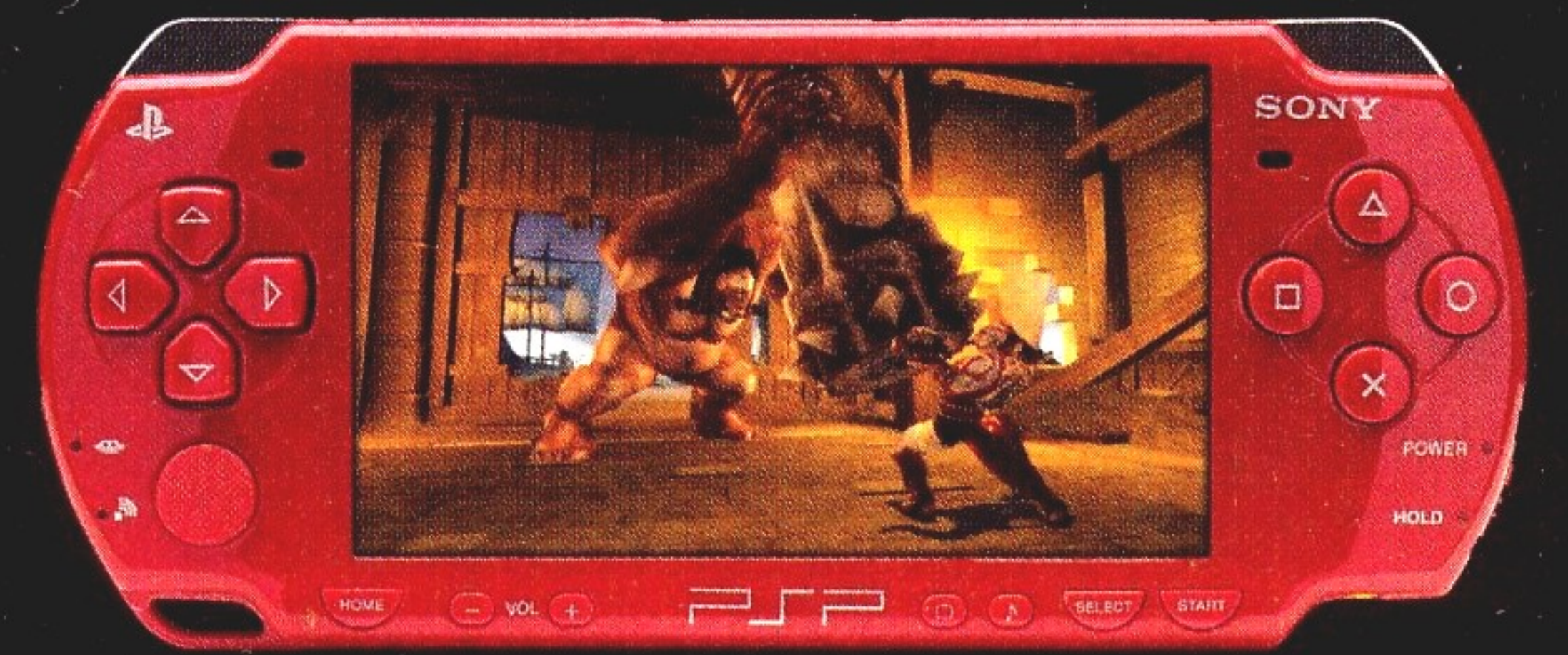


ACCOUNTABILITY FOR BROKEN PROMISES FROM THE LAST CONVENTION.



MEET THE EX-WIVES... AND MISTRESSES!





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SO YES, IT'S A LIMITED EDITION.**

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AVAILABLE ONLY IN THE
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Blood and Gore
Intense Violence
Nudity
Sexual Content

*Voucher Code good for download of Syphon Filter®: Combat Ops for the PSP® system on the PLAYSTATION®Network only via your PC or PS3™ system. Voucher Code expires 12/31/08. Voucher Code can only be redeemed through PLAYSTATION®Network ("PSN") Account Management. Requires PSN registration. Free voucher included. User responsible for all applicable Internet fees. ©2008 Sony Computer Entertainment America Inc. God of War is a registered trademark of Sony Computer Entertainment America Inc. Syphon Filter is a registered trademark of Sony Computer Entertainment America Inc. ©2007 Sony Computer Entertainment America Inc. Superbad ©2007 Columbia Pictures Industries Inc. All rights reserved. Superbad ©2008 Layout and Design Sony Pictures Home Entertainment Inc. All rights reserved. "PlayStation," "PS" Family logo and "PSP" are registered trademarks of Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.

PSP
PlayStation Portable

GOD OF WAR
CHAINS OF OLYMPUS





For a long time McDonald's has trained workers at its "Hamburger University," where generations of students have spent years studying the delicate art of lowering a fry basket into hot oil. Now, other well known companies have developed their own schools to teach their soon-to-be-store managers the essentials to excel in what they foolishly think of as their "careers." Here's...

WHAT'S BEING TAUGHT AT OTHER CORPORATE COLLEGES

WRITER: JOHN SAMONY AND SCOTT MAIKO
ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND

Foot Locker Academy



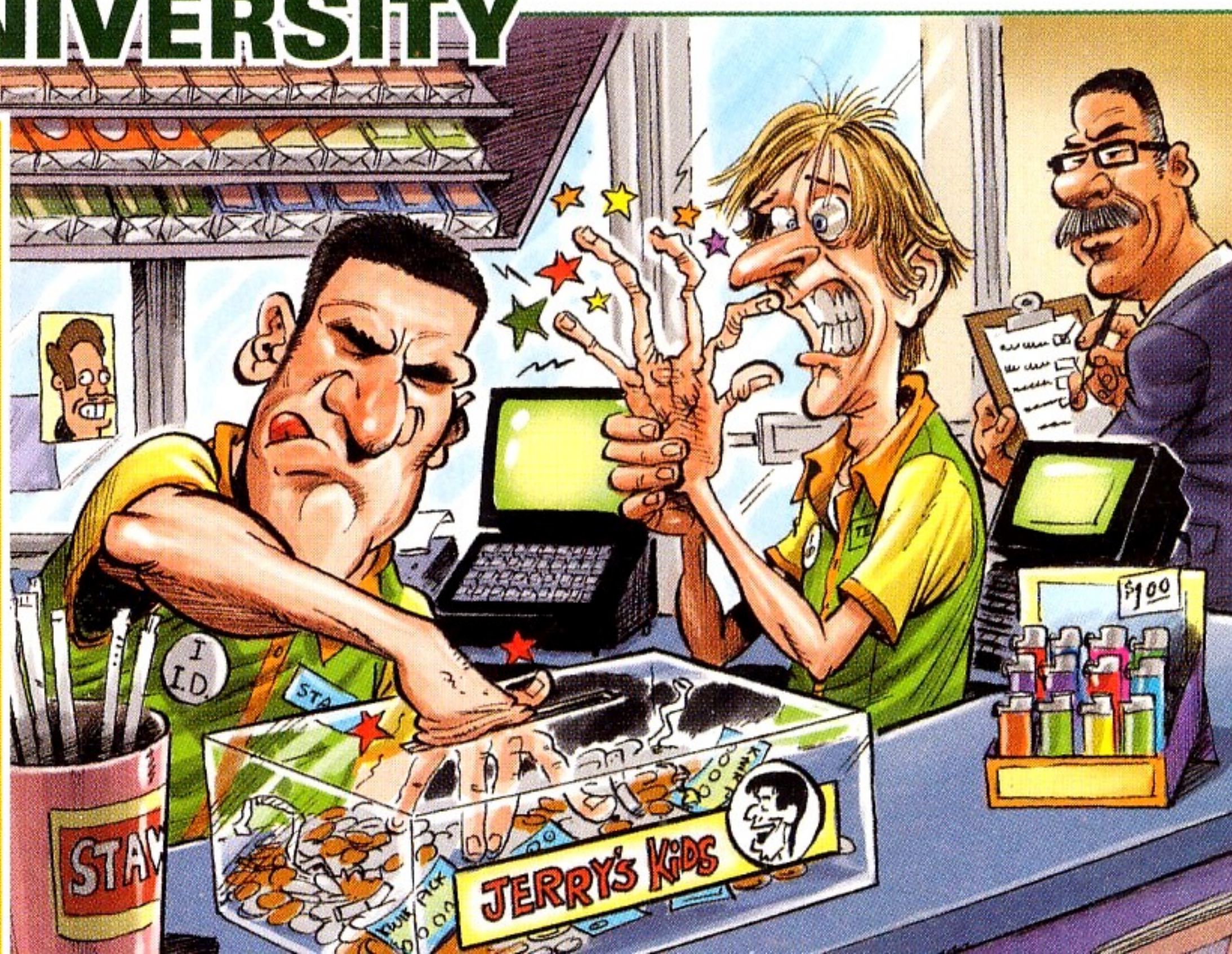
Let Our Trained Specialists Train You to:

- Effectively ignore customers by playing Nerf basketball in the back storeroom.
- Employ cutting-edge inventory control methods to ensure that customers will be offered only sizes above and below theirs, forcing them to consider pricier models.
- Tie and lace customers' sneakers to the point of causing them permanent circulatory damage.
- Insist, even when a pair of shoes clearly doesn't fit the customer, that he or she "take a walk around the store."
- Act as though working a sliding metal foot ruler takes as much high level training and technical skill as operating the robotic arm on a space shuttle repair mission.

7/ELEVEN UNIVERSITY

Learn from the Experts:

- How to best display the "Store Clerk Does Not Have Access to Safe" sign.
- Hollywood make-up techniques for making days-old hot dogs look only hours old.
- How to expertly identify the various Slurpee consistencies, including Syrupy, Thick Syrupy, Runny Syrupy, Thick Runny Syrupy and Gaseous.
- Prevent long-term respiratory damage caused by scratch-off lottery ticket flakes.
- Develop fingertip dexterity to fish straw wrappers and non-winning Quick Picks out of the "Jerry's Kids" donation box.





HOME DEPOT VO-TECH SCHOOL

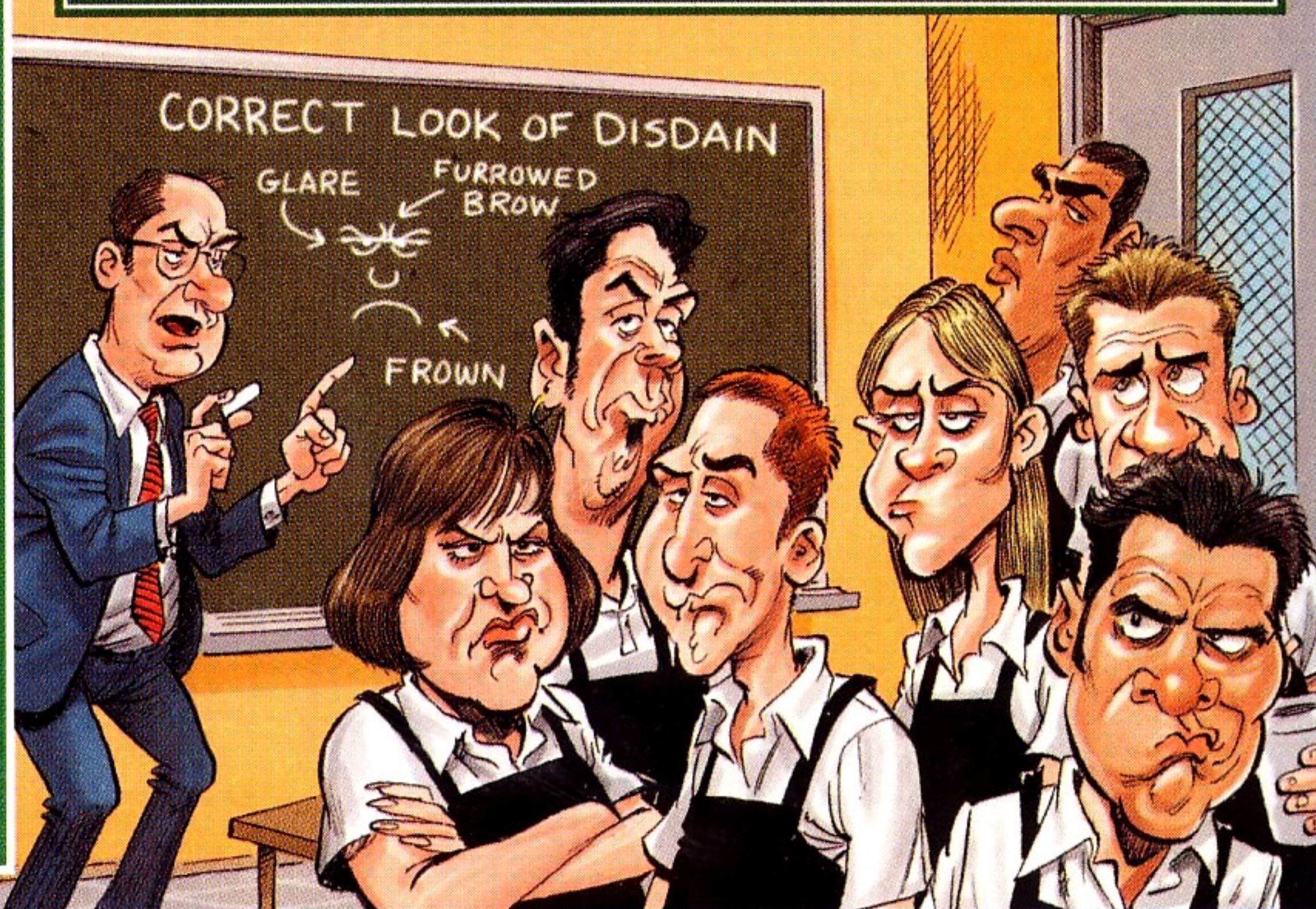
Train with the Pros. You'll Learn:

- How to stack the knot-free, unwarped lumber under an enormous pile of gouged, mildewed wood.
- How to advise customers on extremely complicated do-it-yourself projects with which you have absolutely no experience whatsoever.
- How to stand by the exit, demanding receipts, then absent-mindedly glancing at them before marking them with an orange highlighter.
- How to refer potentially dangerous undocumented workers loitering in the parking lot to clueless single women with ambitious landscaping ideas.
- How to hold up a line of twenty people while trying to ascertain the price of a half-inch steel washer for a customer who is making a \$600 purchase.

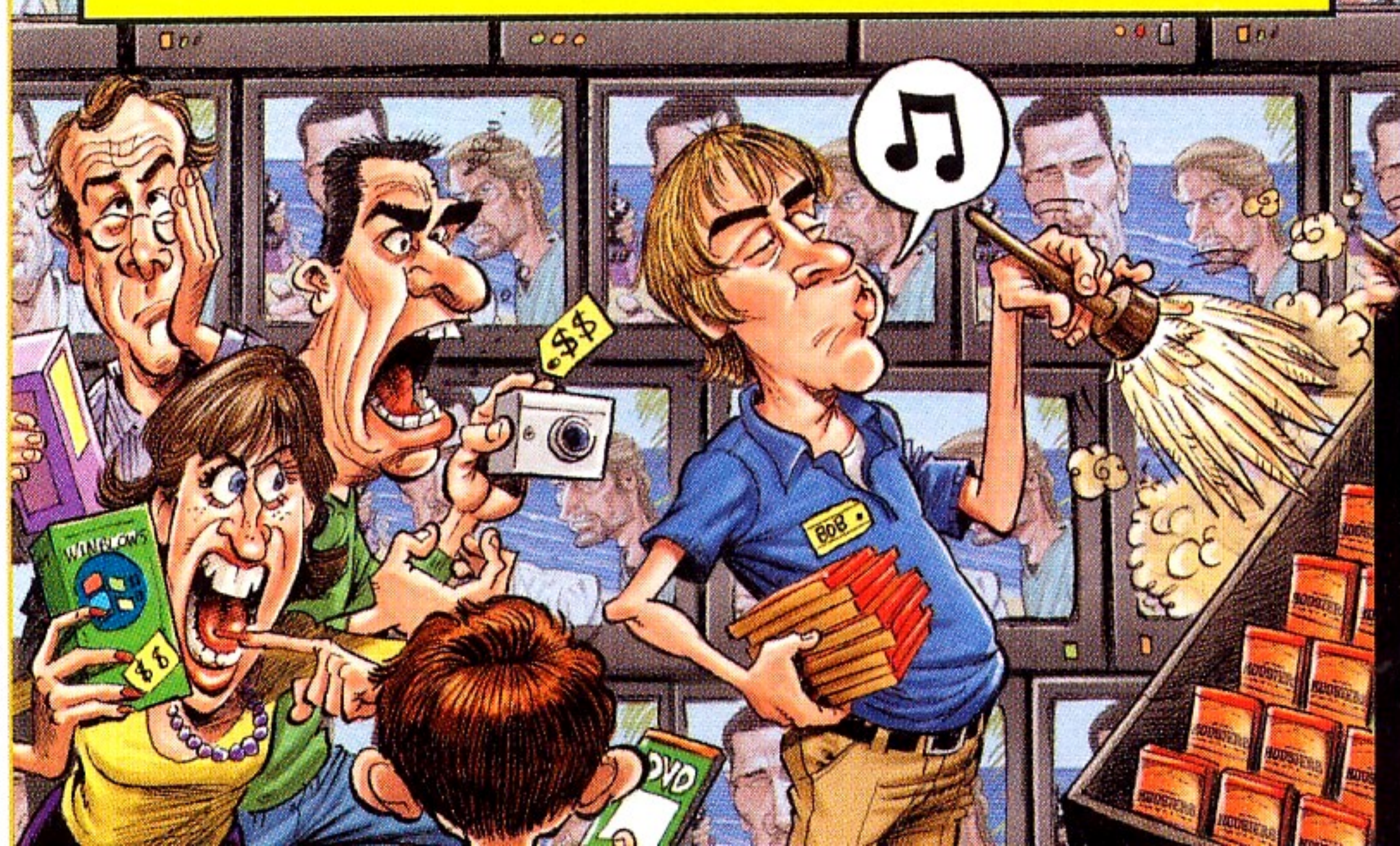
Students Will Learn to:

- Make that "foaming" noise with your mouth when the cappuccino machine breaks.
- Perfect the look of disdain when someone asks for a regular coffee.
- Convert any square foot of space anywhere into a Starbucks café.
- Seed the Lucite box by the register with a one-dollar bill to encourage tipping.
- Have an inane stream of caffeine-fueled mumbo jumbo prepared when asked to describe the differences between any of our essentially identical coffees.
- Numb yourself to the mindlessly bland Paul McCartney CD currently for sale that will be played endlessly over our sound system for the next year.

Starbucks Institute



BEST BUY COLLEGE



Enroll Now and Enjoy These Exciting Fields of Study!

- Tuning all TVs to the same channel.
- Exploiting "PriceMatch Guarantee" loopholes.
- Badgering customers to buy our "Performance Service Plan," regardless of how trivial their purchase.
- Avoiding customers who need help by purposefully walking past them with a stack of *Hoosiers* DVDs.
- Pretending that the "Geek Squad" is some elite group of super-genius techies and not just a bunch of computer science drop-outs from the local community college.



GETTING THEIR SHOOT TOGETHER DEPT.

Paparazzi are generally perceived as soulless cretins who will say or do anything to get a celebrity photo. And despite overwhelming and conclusive evidence to support this notion, we're here to tell you — that perception is wrong! The fact is, paparazzi adhere to a marvelous, self-imposed, strict code of conduct and behavior. It's all written down in a little book as you'll see in...

JOHN CALDWELL'S

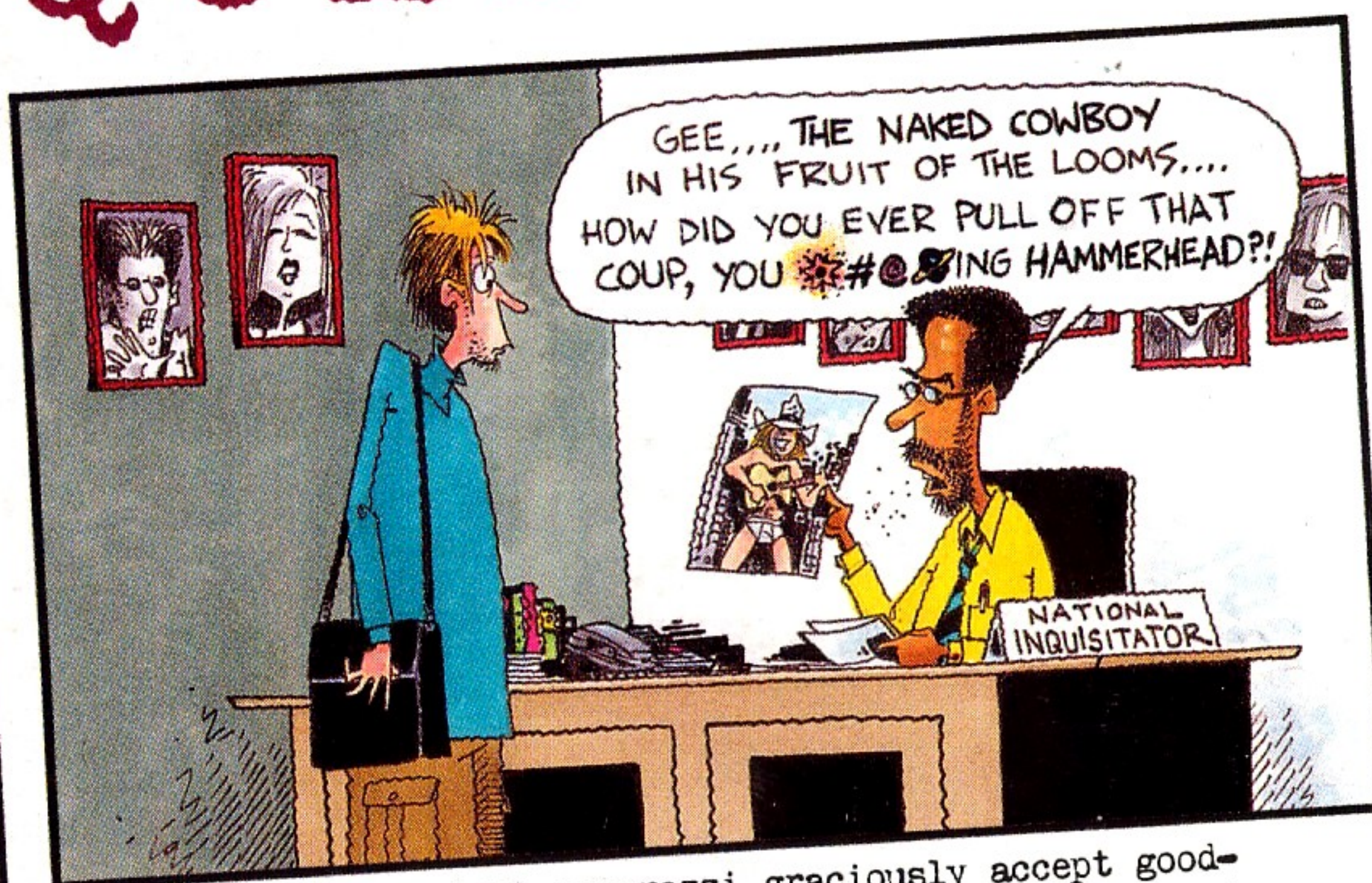
GUIDE TO PROPER PAPARAZZI ETIQUETTE



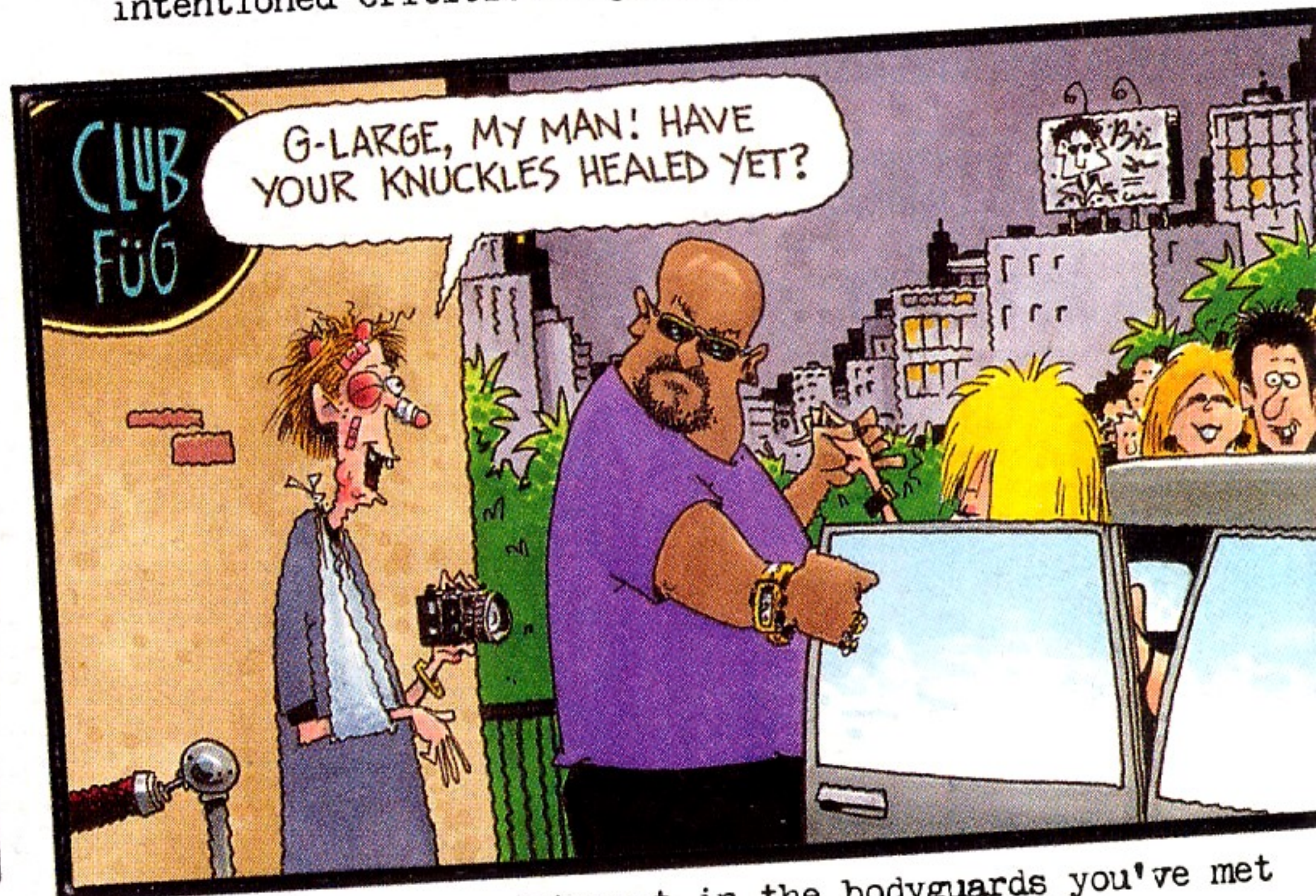
When catching a pair of cheating celebs outside a hot L.A. club, it is considered tacky to remind them that you also do weddings



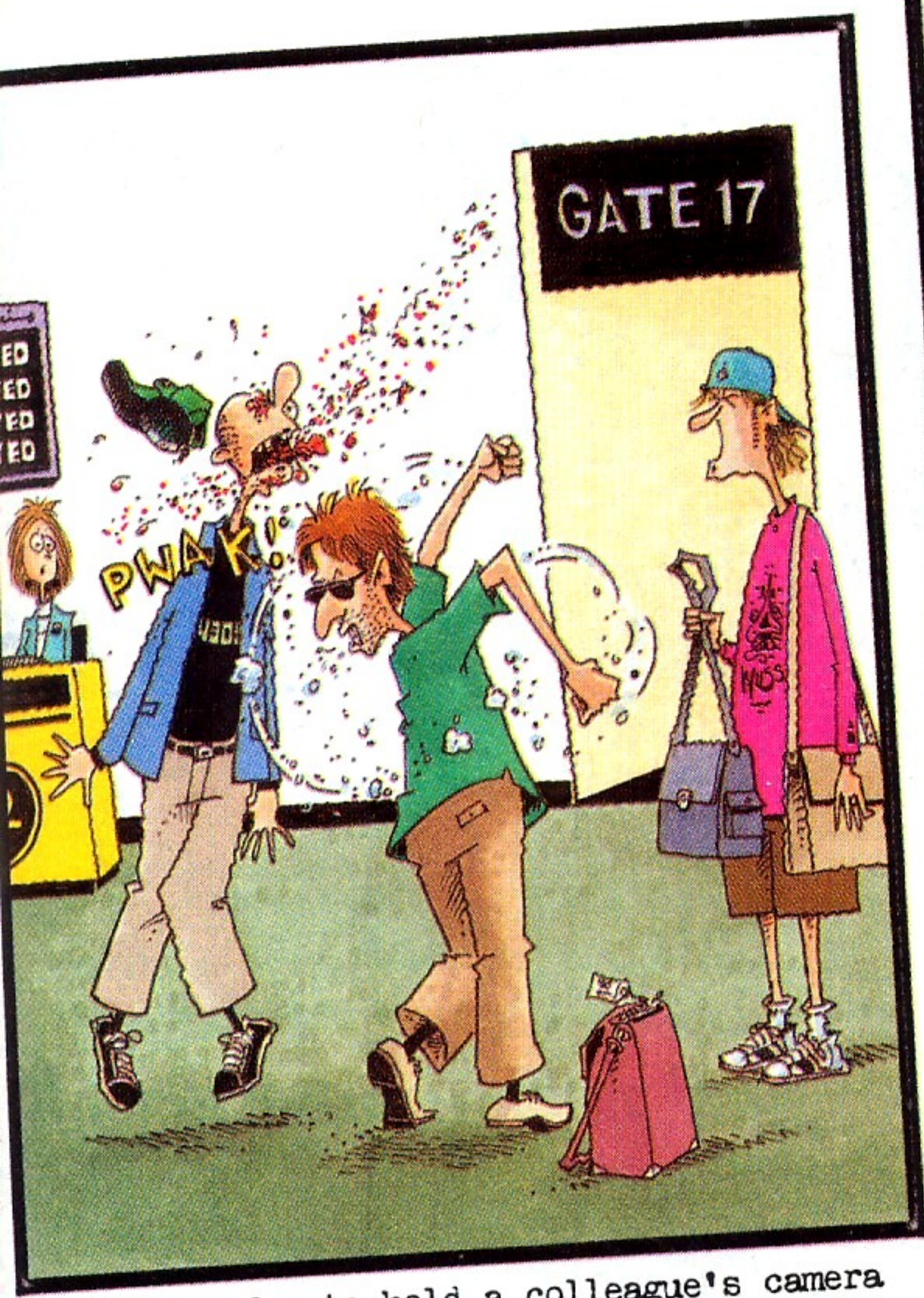
A thoughtful shutterbug knows that a good disguise is often the least intrusive strategy for landing a candid shot of a celebrity newborn



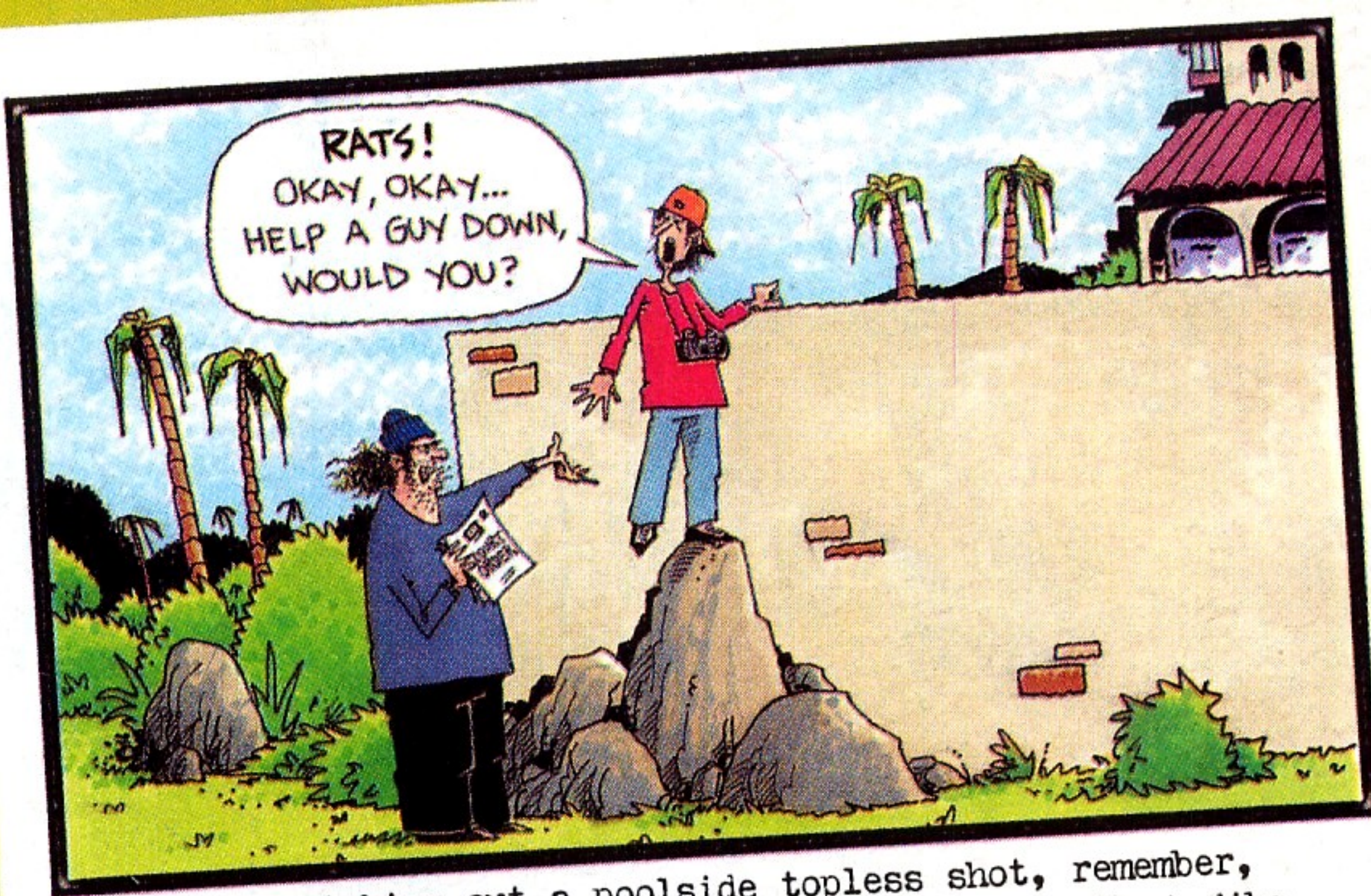
The thoughtful paparazzi graciously accept good-intentioned criticism regarding common rookie mistakes



Showing sincere interest in the bodyguards you've met before is a considerate way to break the ice



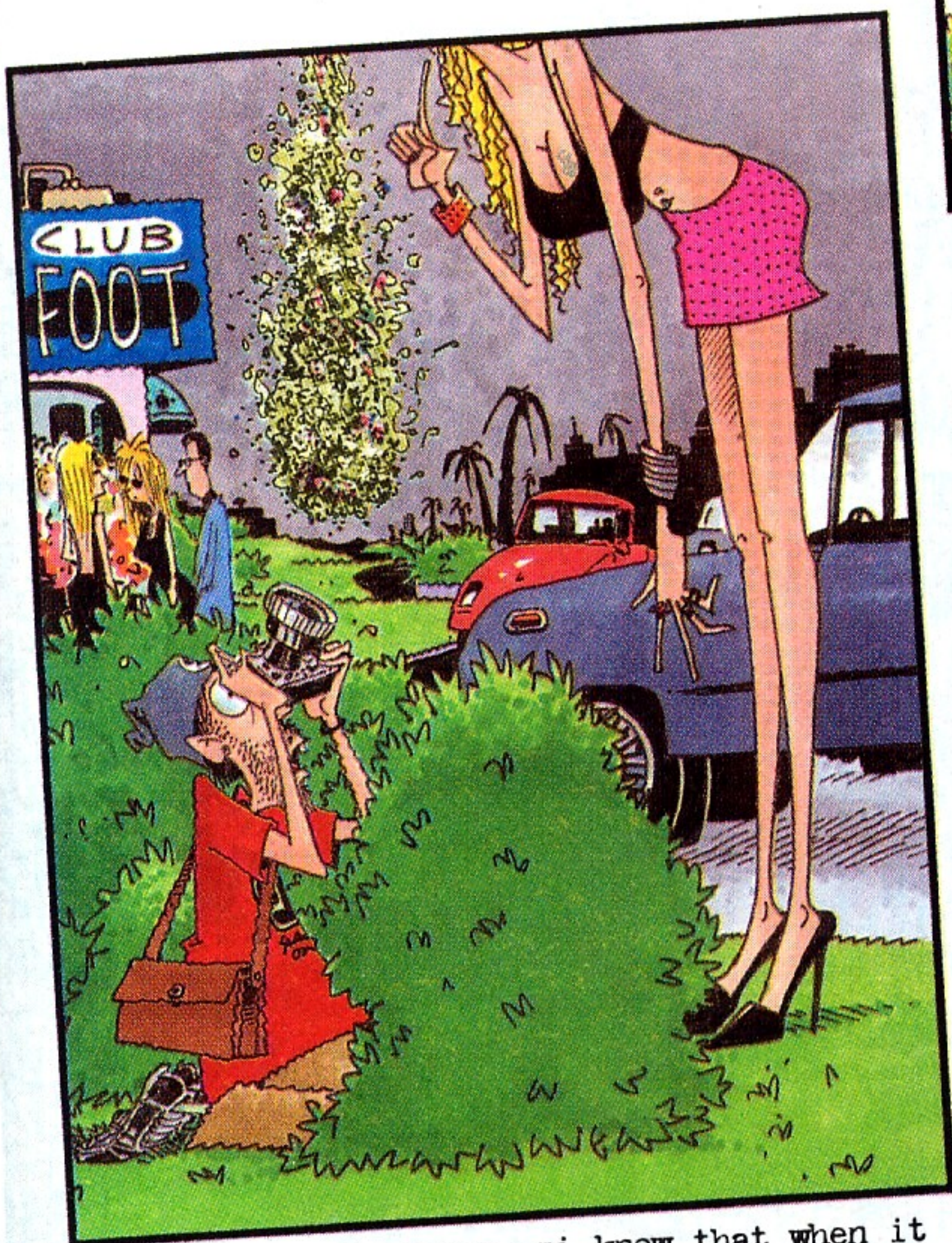
Always offer to hold a colleague's camera bag while he undergoes a serious Sean Penn ass-kicking



When staking out a poolside topless shot, remember, the certified homicidal stalkers always get first dibs



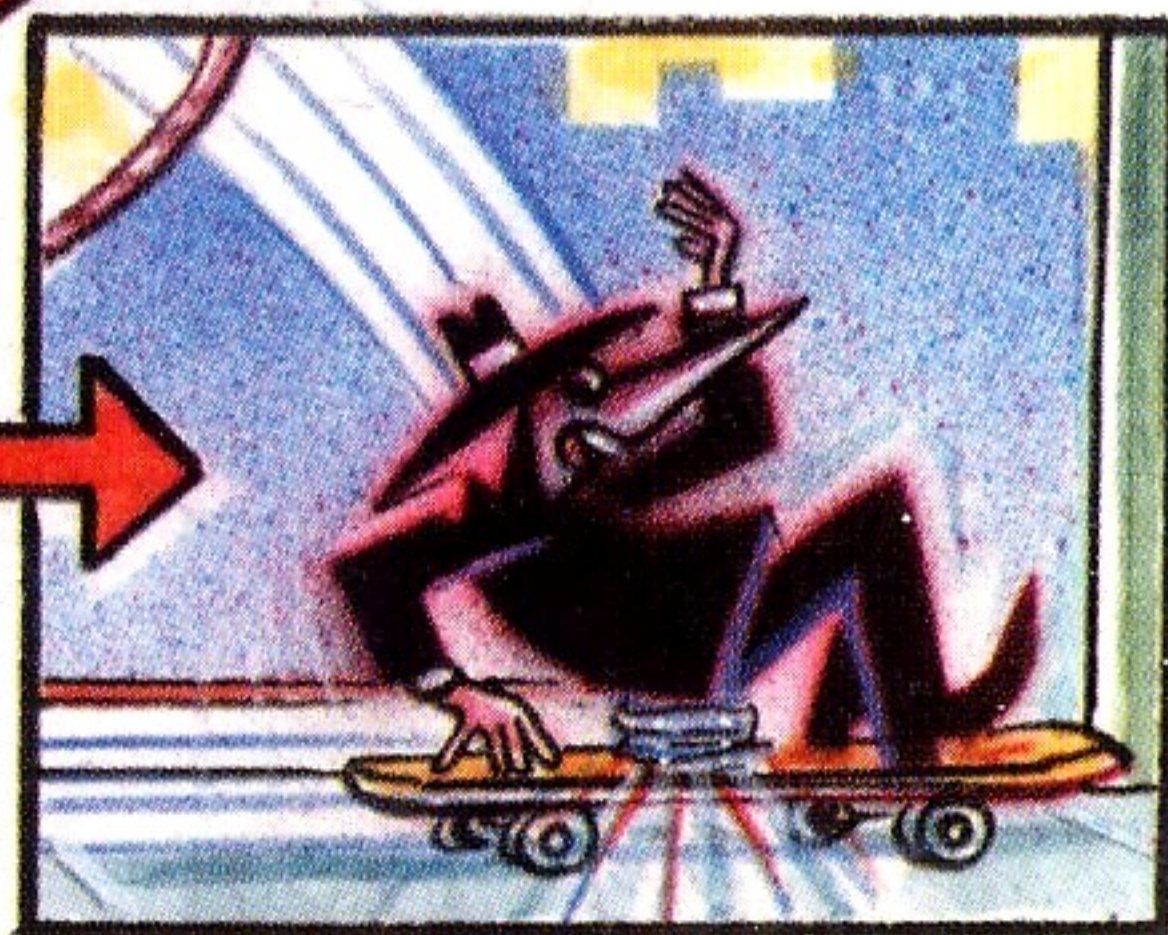
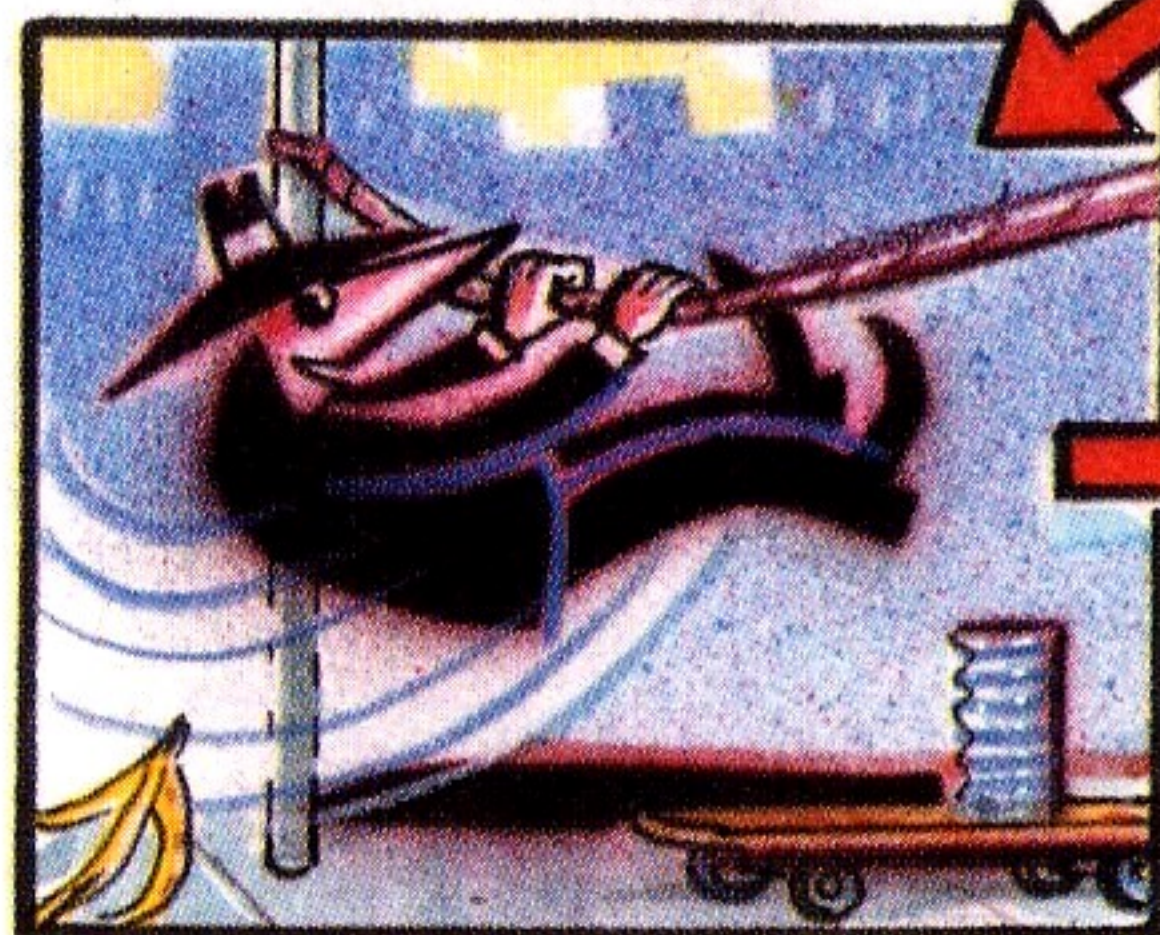
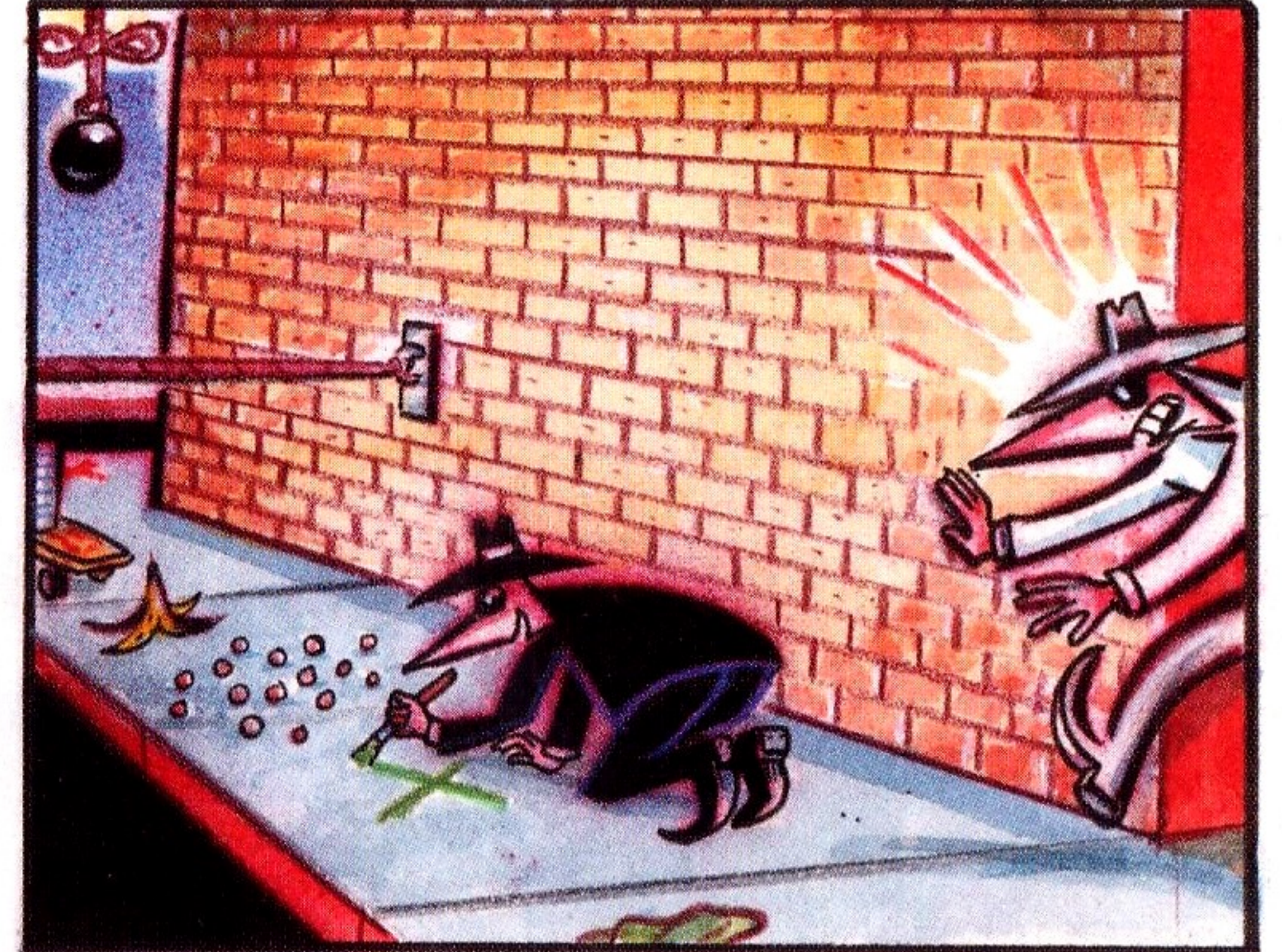
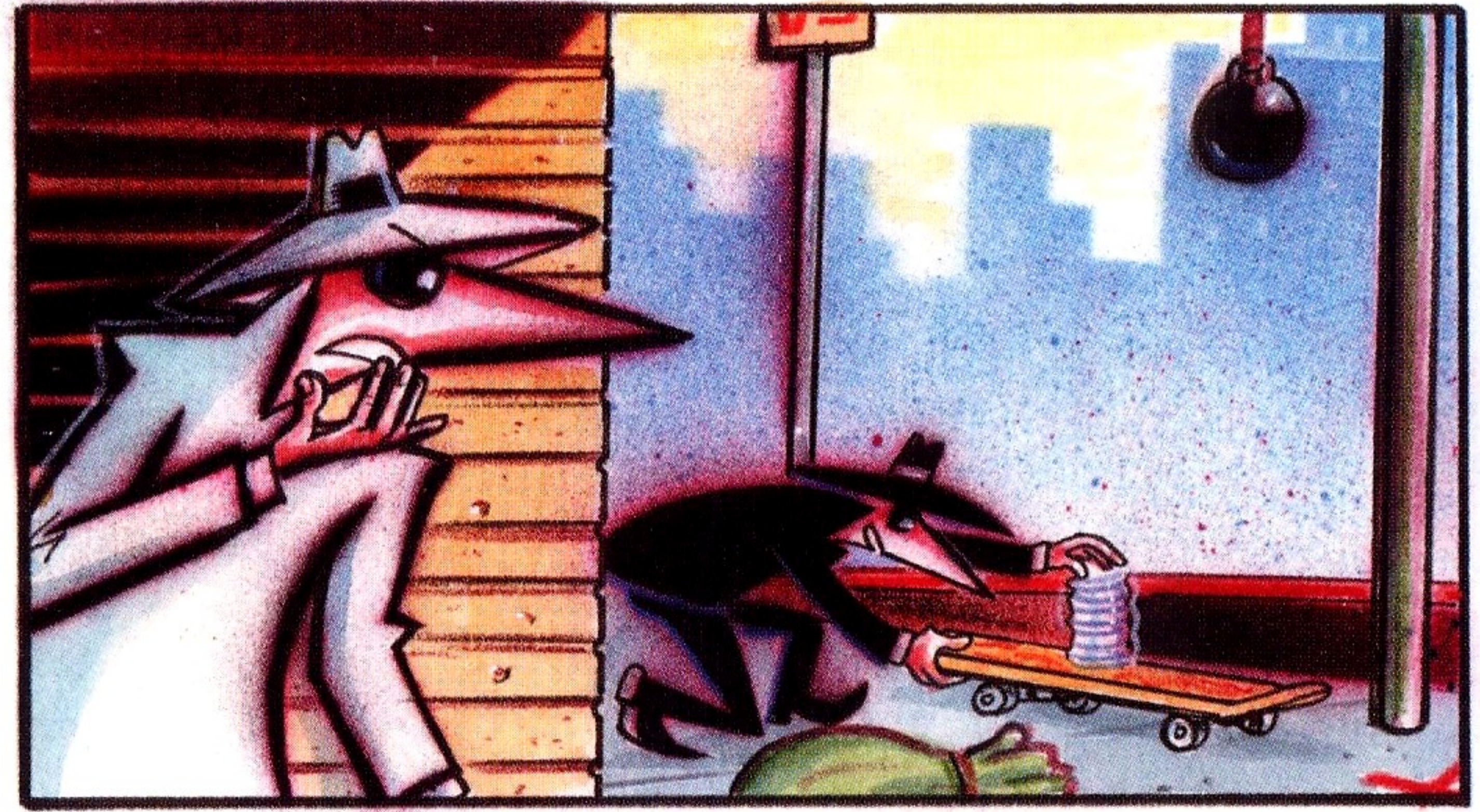
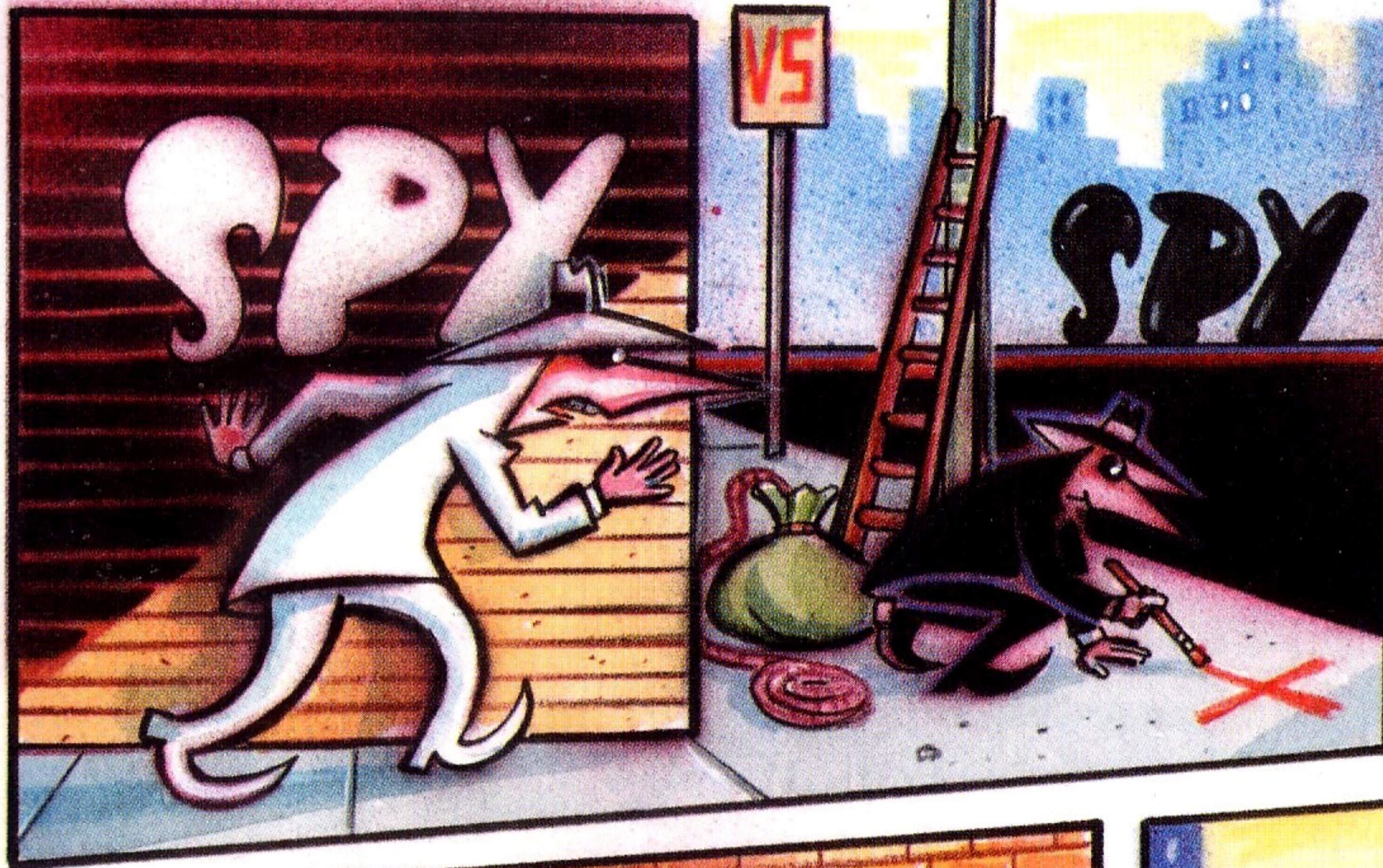
When in search of those "celebs without make-up" shots that are currently so popular, never humiliate a subject by asking for two forms of I.D.



The considerate paparazzi know that when it comes to bulimic supermodels, nothing is off limits, except, maybe, the bulimia part



The polite celebutoographer knows that any shots of recently departed stars must be taken before actual burial - to show up at the cemetery would be in bad taste



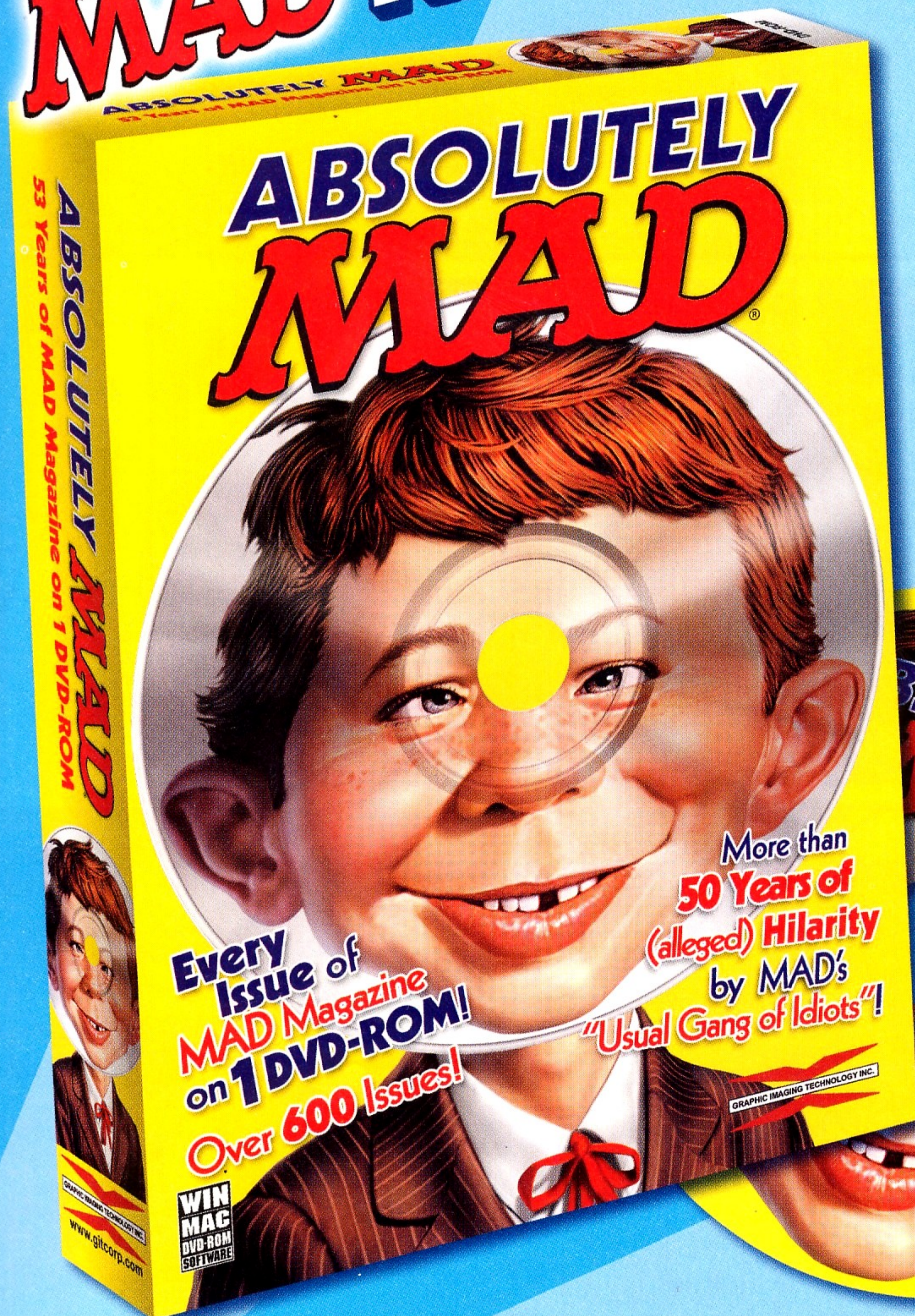
WRITER AND ARTIST: PETER KUPER

KUPER

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And we mean
absolutely
EVERYTHING —

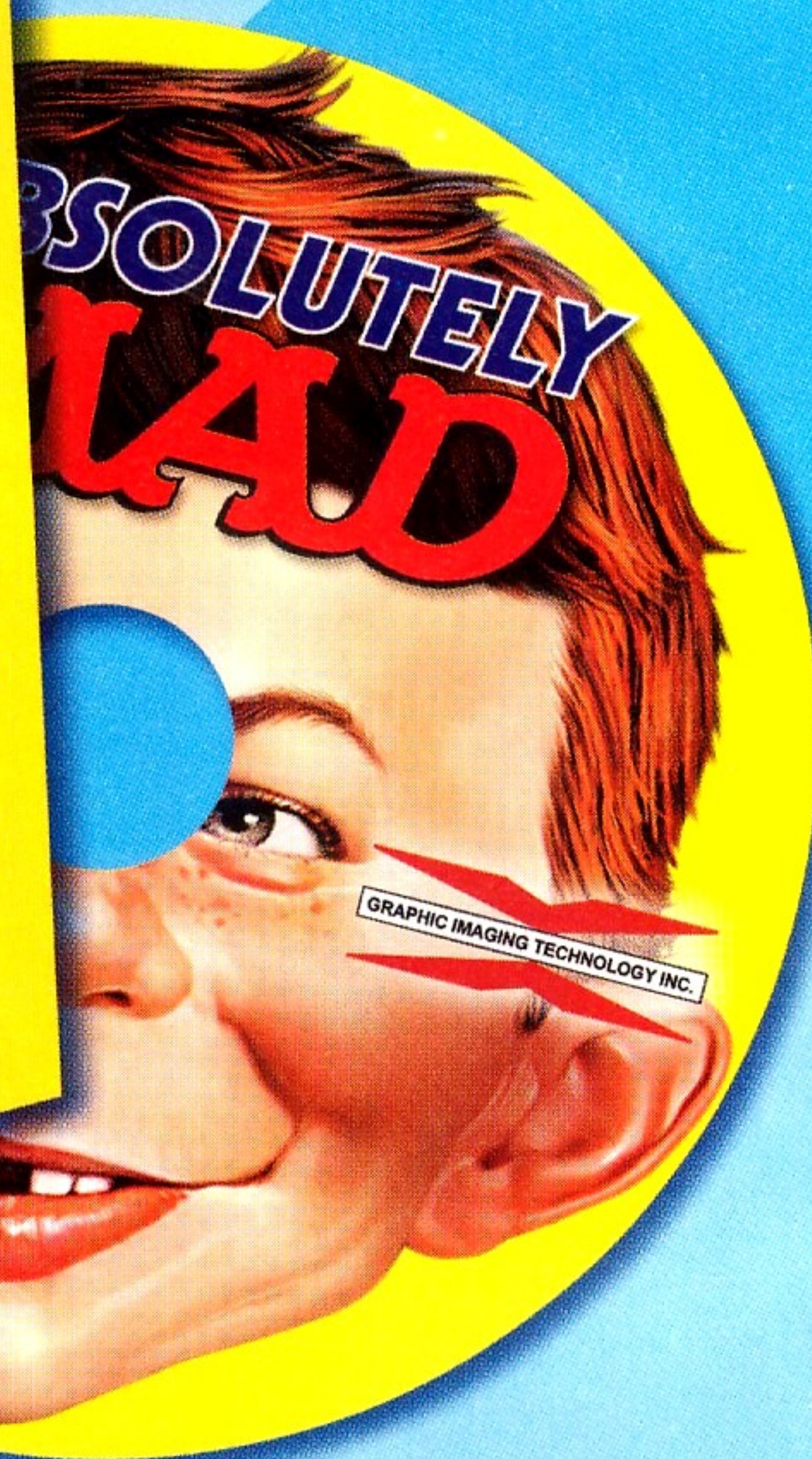
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They're fattened up
and ready for
the slaughter. It's...

MONROE and... Teen Obesity

STUDENTS.
IT'S BEEN REPORTED
THAT **NEARLY 275** OF
THE **400 STUDENTS**
IN THIS SCHOOL ARE
OBESE.

BETTER
MAKE IT
276.

MAYBE
THE **CHAIR** WAS
DEFECTIVE.

THEY'VE
HELD UP SINCE
1932.

YOU **HAVE**
PUT ON A FEW, WALTER.
MAYBE I SHOULD FINISH
THAT **KIT KAT**
FOR YOU.

IT'S A **SAD**
STATE OF AFFAIRS,
KIDS, WHEN **ONLY**
SIX OF YOU CAN FIT
INTO A ROW OF
TEN CHAIRS.

KE-RASH!

IN RESPONSE,
THE SCHOOL HAS APPOINTED
COACH MIKE THE NEW
HEALTH CZAR.

YOU **HEARD**
HIM. I NOW HAVE
MILITARY
POWER!

NOW GIMME
THAT **KIT KAT** AND
HEAD **OUTSIDE,**
LARDOS!

DEAR **LORD,**
DO YOU **FAT-ASSES**
LIVE AT
McDONALD'S?

I THINK IT'S
MORE LIKE A
TIME SHARE
DEAL.

ZIP IT,
MONROE.

BUT I'M NOT EVEN FAT! AND I HATE GYM! CAN I JUST SKIP THIS AND GO TEXT IN THE LIBRARY?

I'M LOL-ING MY ASS OFF. NOW HIT THE TRACK WITH THE JUMBOTRONS!

UGH, THIS IS WORSE THAN WHEN WE ACCIDENTALLY JOINED THE ARMY.*

AT LEAST THERE WE HAD A CHANCE OF GETTING KILLED AND ENDING THE SUFFERING.

SAVE YOUR BREATH, CHUNK-OS. YOU'LL NEED IT FOR THE TUG OF WAR.

*See MAD #472 and #473

WELL, THIS SHOULDN'T BE TOO BAD; WE'VE DEFINITELY GOT THE WEIGHT ADVANTAGE ON COACH.

YEAH, BUT DID YOU SEE WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST?

AHHHHH!!

THE NEXT DAY...

CLASS, I JUST GOT YOUR PRELIMINARY WEIGH-IN RESULTS. WE HAVEN'T MADE ANY PROGRESS!

COACH, I DON'T THINK RUNNING PAST THE VENDING MACHINES IS HELPING.

GOOD LORD! HEY, FATSOS! GET AWAY FROM THOSE MACHINES!

COACH, I HOPE YOU'RE NOT FORGETTING OUR LUCRATIVE SPONSORSHIP WITH THE VENDED SNACK INDUSTRY.

OF COURSE NOT... OKAY, WORK AROUND IT, FOLKS. THEN GO HIT THOSE REVOLTING AND TRAUMATIZING SHOWERS.

YUCK, WHEN DID EVERYONE GET SO FAT?

SINCE THEY INTRODUCED ALL THOSE AWESOME DOLLAR MENUS. BURGERS, TACOS, PIZZA...

OKAY, CALM DOWN, DUDE.

...BURRITOS, HOT DOGS... CAN I BORROW A DOLLAR, MONROE? NOW!!!

YOU'RE HAVING A FATTY WITHDRAWAL FREAK-OUT, JUST BREATHE.

IT'S TRUE. THE HOT WATER OPENS OUR PORES AND THE OIL LEECHES OUT.

WOW! YOU GUYS ARE GONNA DIE BIG TIME.

IT'S THE ONLY WAY WE DO THINGS.

I AM, BUT IT SMELLS LIKE FRENCH FRY OIL IN HERE!

HOW GOES THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE?

FOR THE LAST TIME, I'M NOT FAT! THIS WHOLE THING IS STUPID AND ANNOYING.

AND YOU'RE TAKING OUT YOUR FRUSTRATION ON THAT PEPPERONI HOT POCKET?

YOU BET I AM. I'M NO SUCKER.

ONE MONTH LATER...

CONGRATULATIONS, SEMI-LARGE CHILDREN. WE NOW FIT EIGHT PEOPLE INTO A ROW OF TEN!

HURRAH!

YOU KIDS ARE ALMOST... SORTA FIT! YOU! HOW DID YOU DO, SON?

I LOST 14 POUNDS!

OUTSTANDING! HOW ABOUT YOU?

I LOST 23 POUNDS, COACH! WHOOOO!!

KEEP IT UP, CHUNKY! HOW ABOUT YOU, MONROE?

WHOOOOAAA!

FINE. 26.

Uh... I GAINED LIKE 10 POUNDS.

I GOT STRESSED OUT WITH ALL THIS FITNESS JUNK AND HAVING TO SHOWER WITH ALL THESE FAT DUDES AND STUFF!

YOU, BOY, ARE AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY.

C'MON, COACH. MAYBE MONROE JUST NEEDS A LITTLE MOTIVATION.

MOTIVATION, HELL! HE NEEDS HIS JAW WIRED SHUT.

WELL, I BELIEVE IN YA, MONROE.

WOW. I ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT THAT PHRASE WOULD SOUND LIKE.

WHO SAID THAT?

IT'S ME, KARL...

...THE SNACK MACHINE GUY!



HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING, KARL?

HAVE YOU?

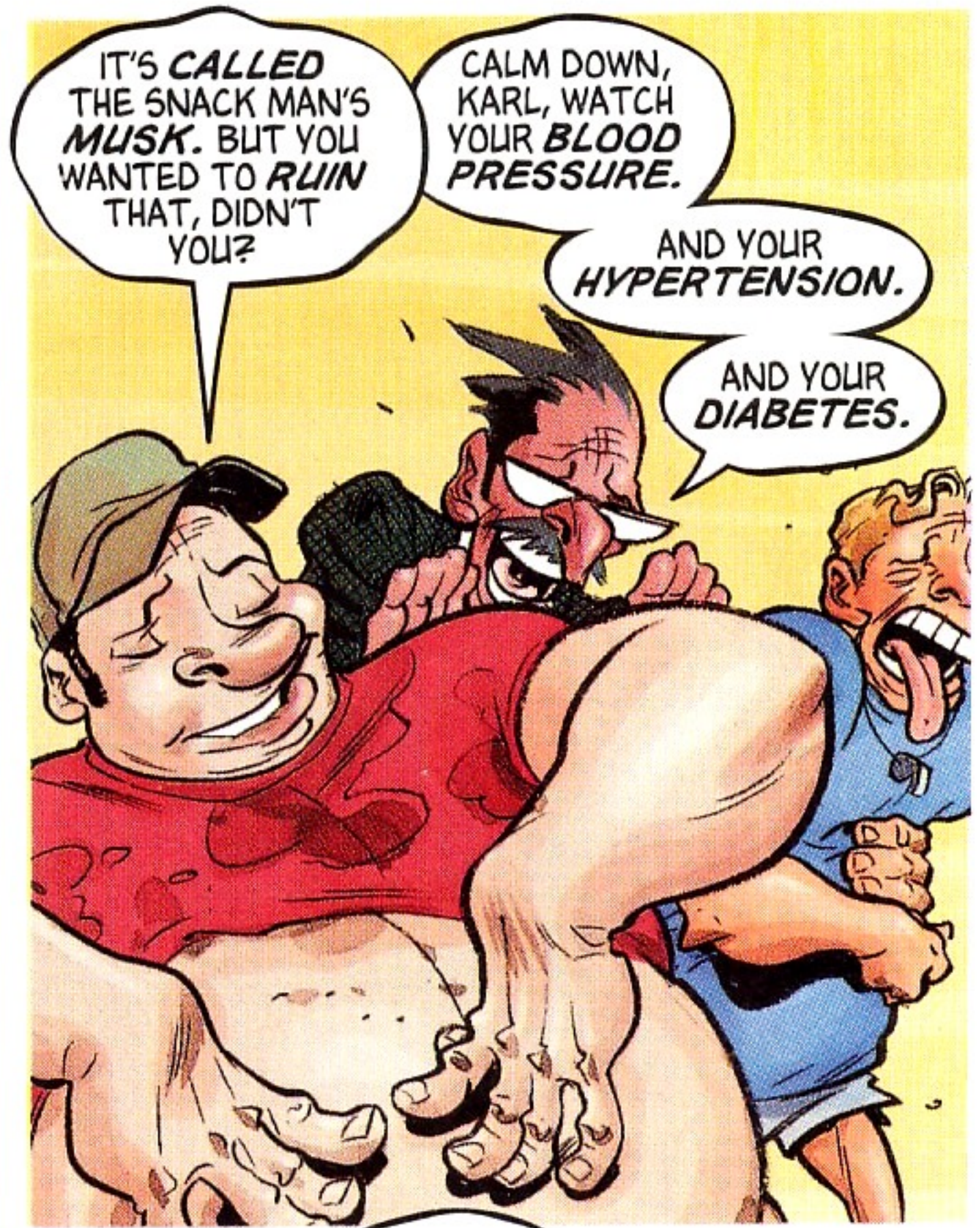
TOUCHÉ.

SOMEONE GET THIS TRANS-FAT PUSHER OUT OF HERE!



YOU'D LIKE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU? COACH HITLER!

UGH, YOUR BREATH SMELLS LIKE FUNYUNS.

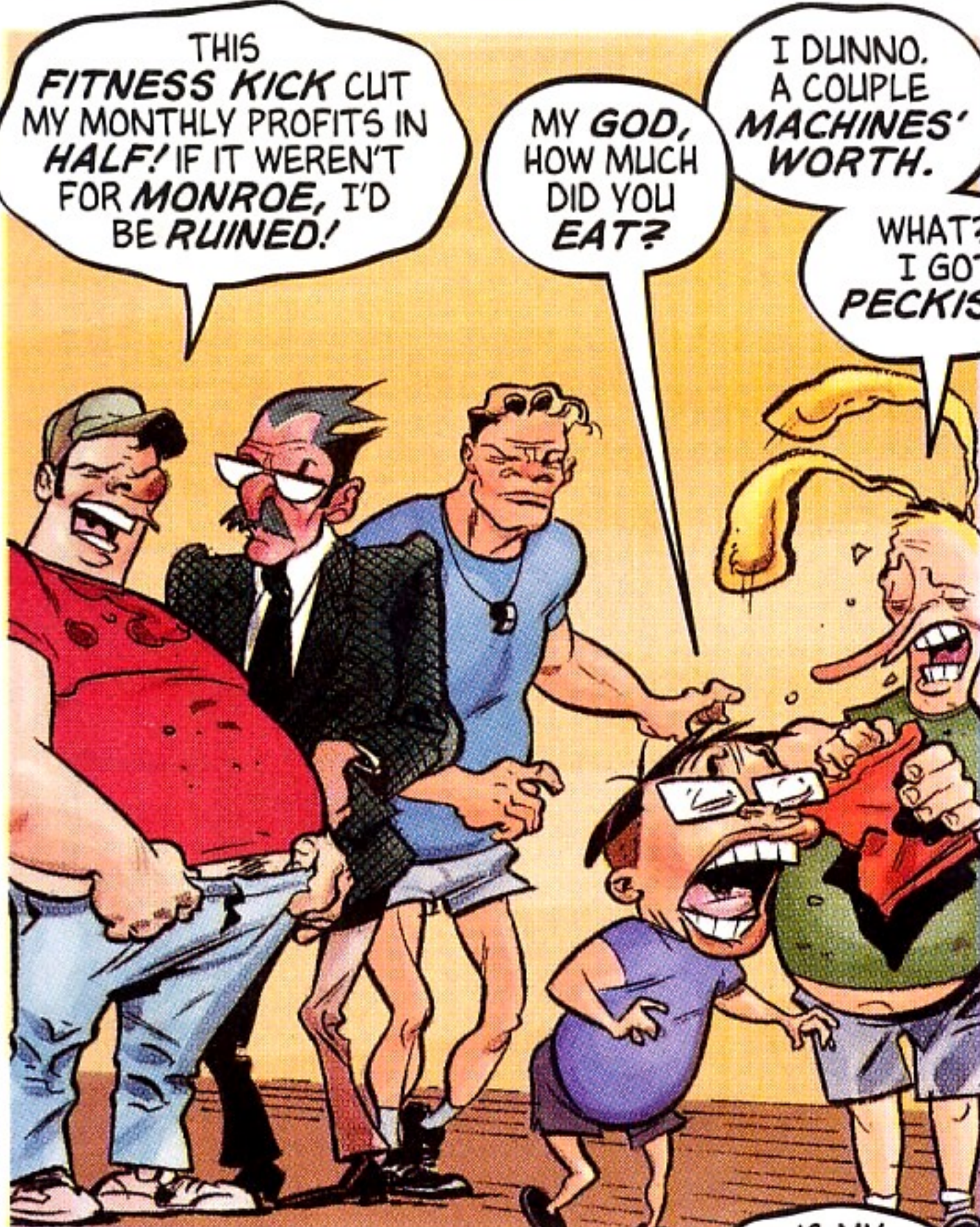


IT'S CALLED THE SNACK MAN'S MUSK. BUT YOU WANTED TO RUIN THAT, DIDN'T YOU?

CALM DOWN, KARL, WATCH YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE.

AND YOUR HYPERTENSION.

AND YOUR DIABETES.



THIS FITNESS KICK CUT MY MONTHLY PROFITS IN HALF! IF IT WEREN'T FOR MONROE, I'D BE RUINED!

MY GOD, HOW MUCH DID YOU EAT?

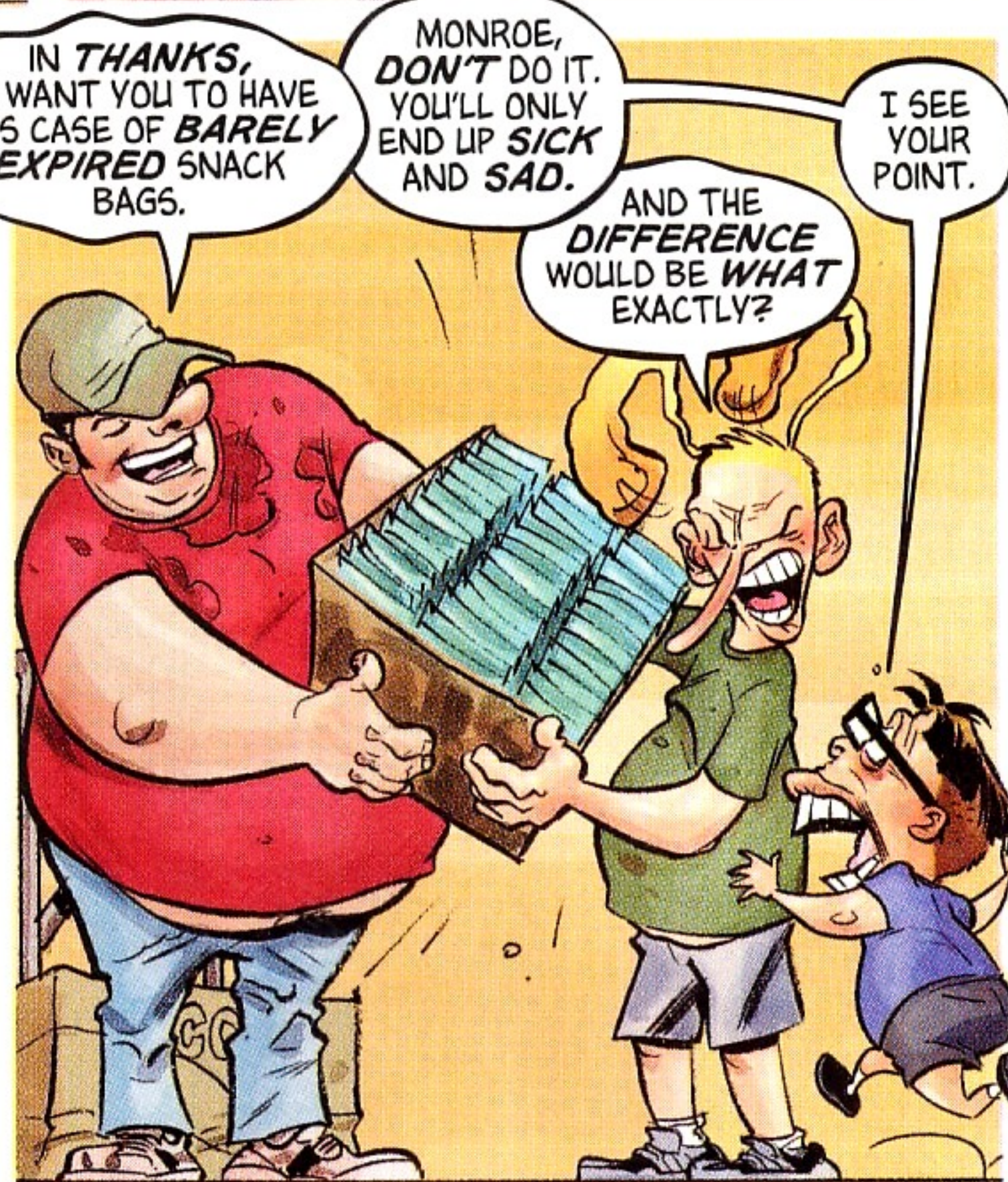
I DUNNO. A COUPLE MACHINES' WORTH.

WHAT? I GOT PECKISH.



DO YOU HEAR THAT? A COUPLE OF MACHINES! IT'S DEDICATION LIKE THAT THAT BOUGHT MY DAUGHTER MILO CYRESS TICKETS! THANK YOU, MONROE!

Uh, NO PROBLEM.



IN THANKS, I WANT YOU TO HAVE THIS CASE OF BARELY EXPIRED SNACK BAGS.

MONROE, DON'T DO IT. YOU'LL ONLY END UP SICK AND SAD.

AND THE DIFFERENCE WOULD BE WHAT EXACTLY?

I SEE YOUR POINT.



THANKS FOR BELIEVING IN ME, KARL. BETWEEN US, CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?

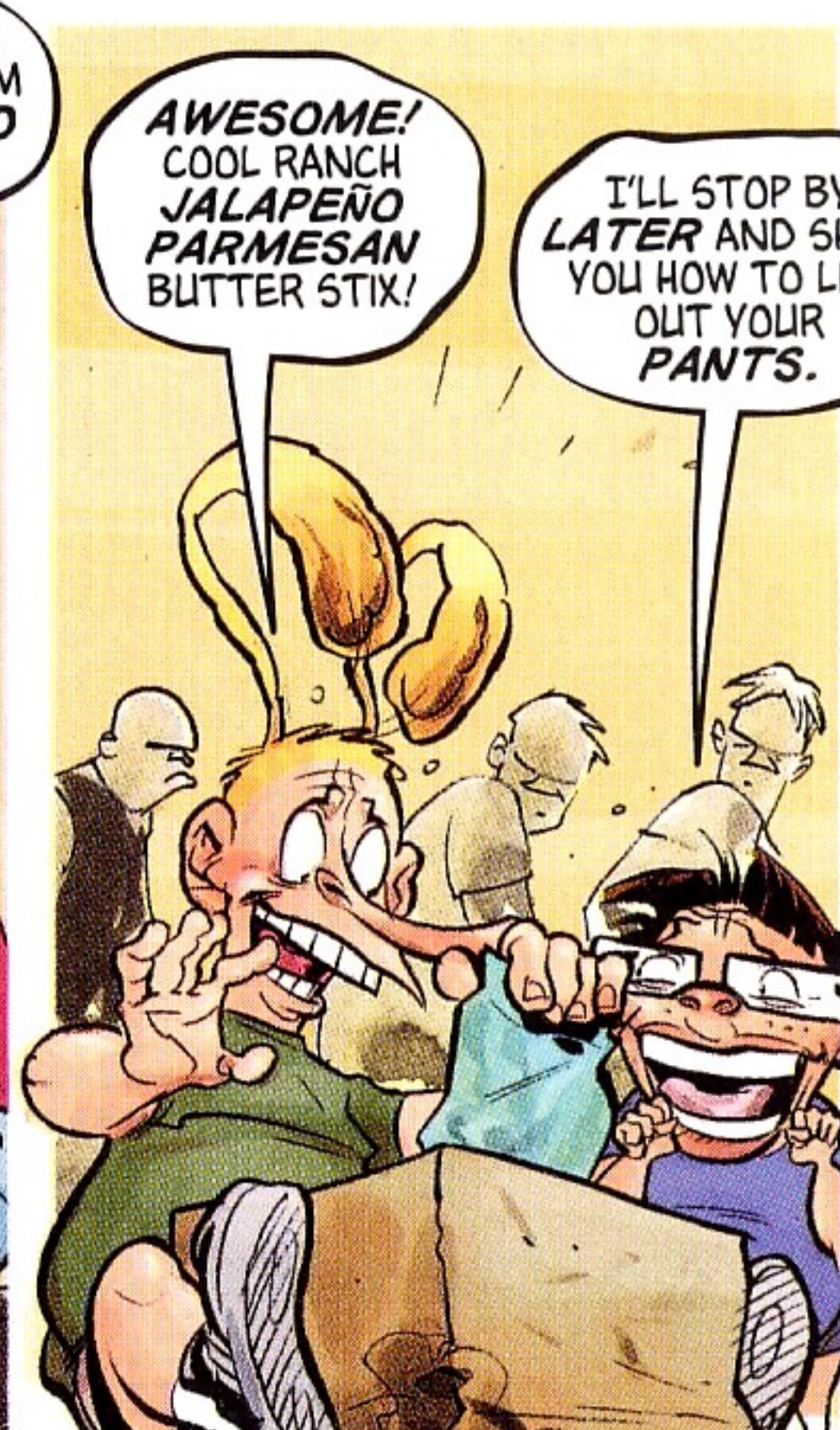
SHOOT.



IS MY HEART SUPPOSED TO HURT THIS MUCH?

YOU'LL GET USED TO IT, KID.

THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF--



AWESOME! COOL RANCH JALAPEÑO PARMESAN BUTTER STIX!

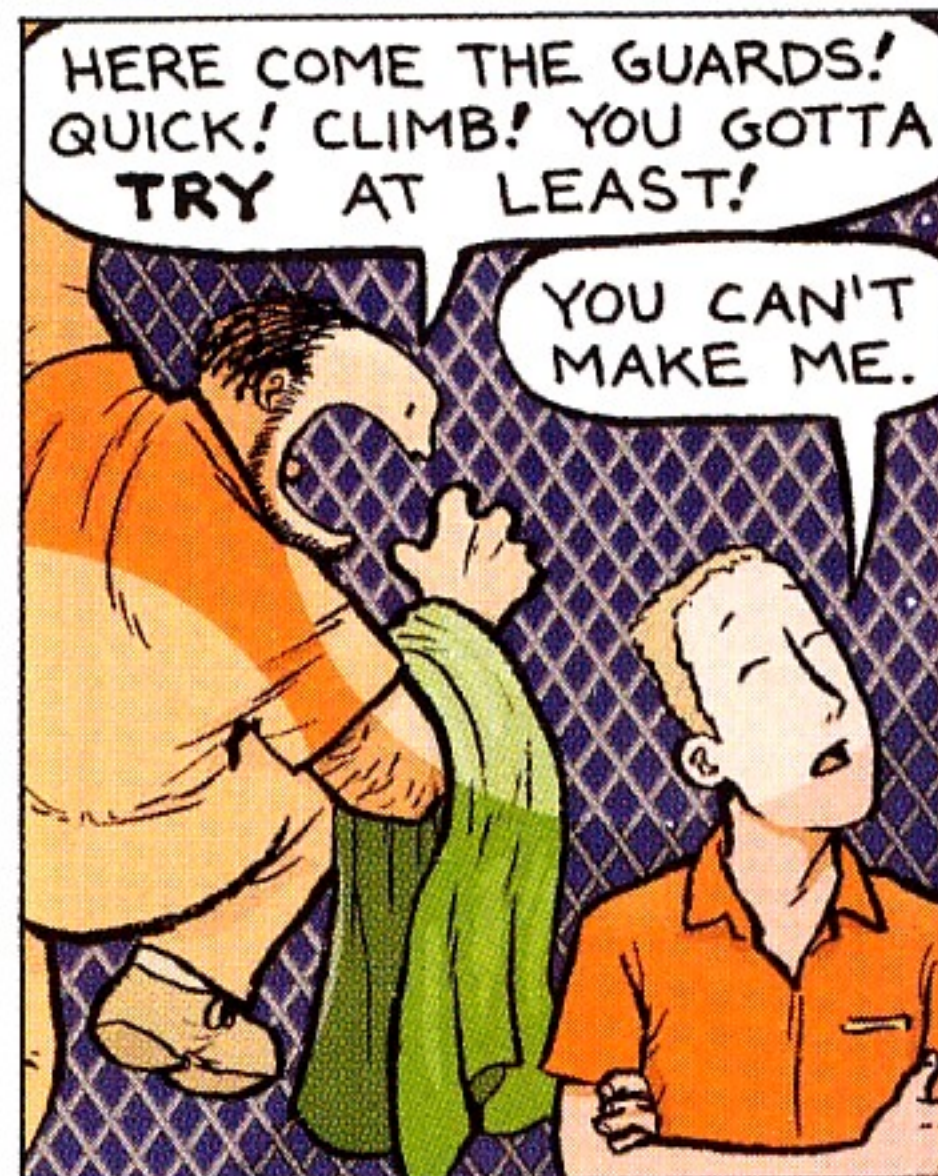
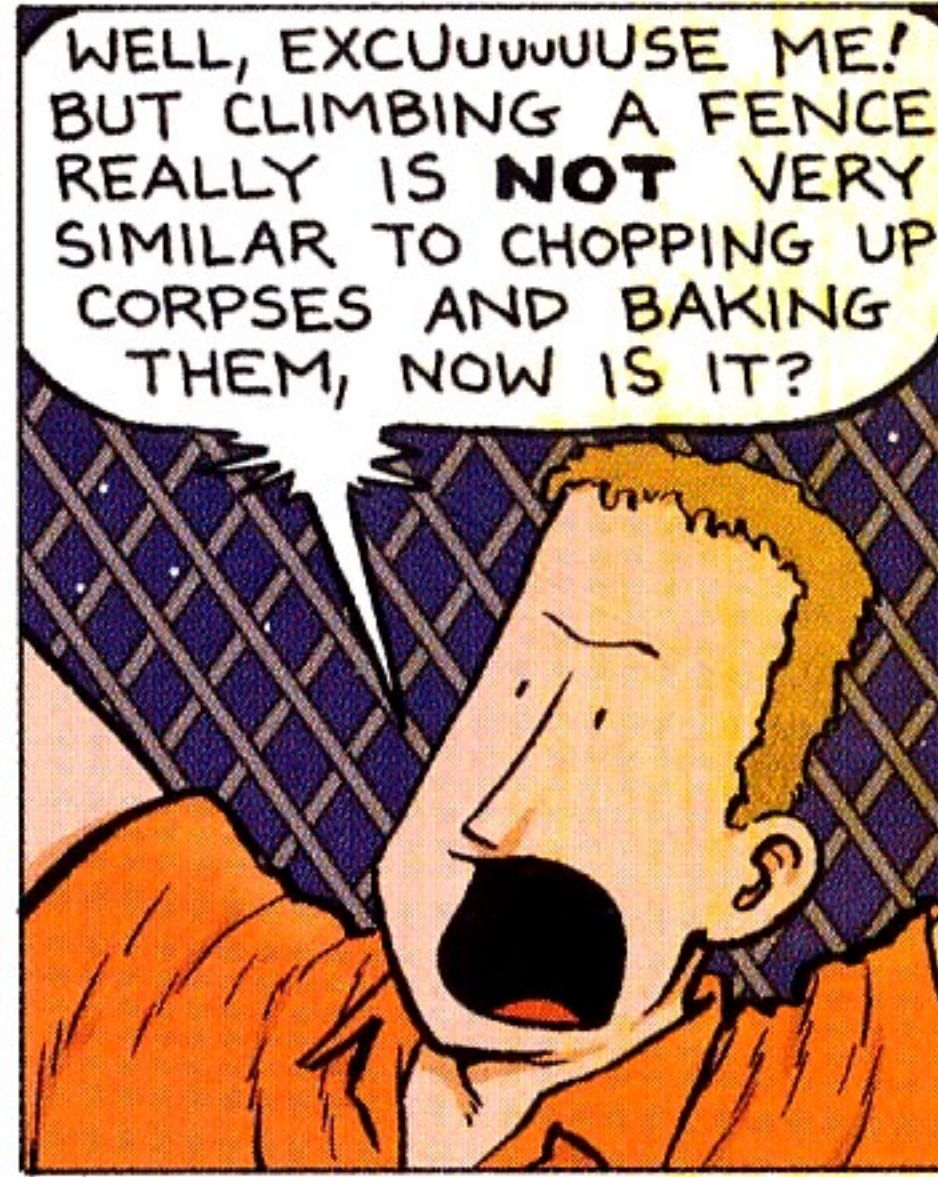
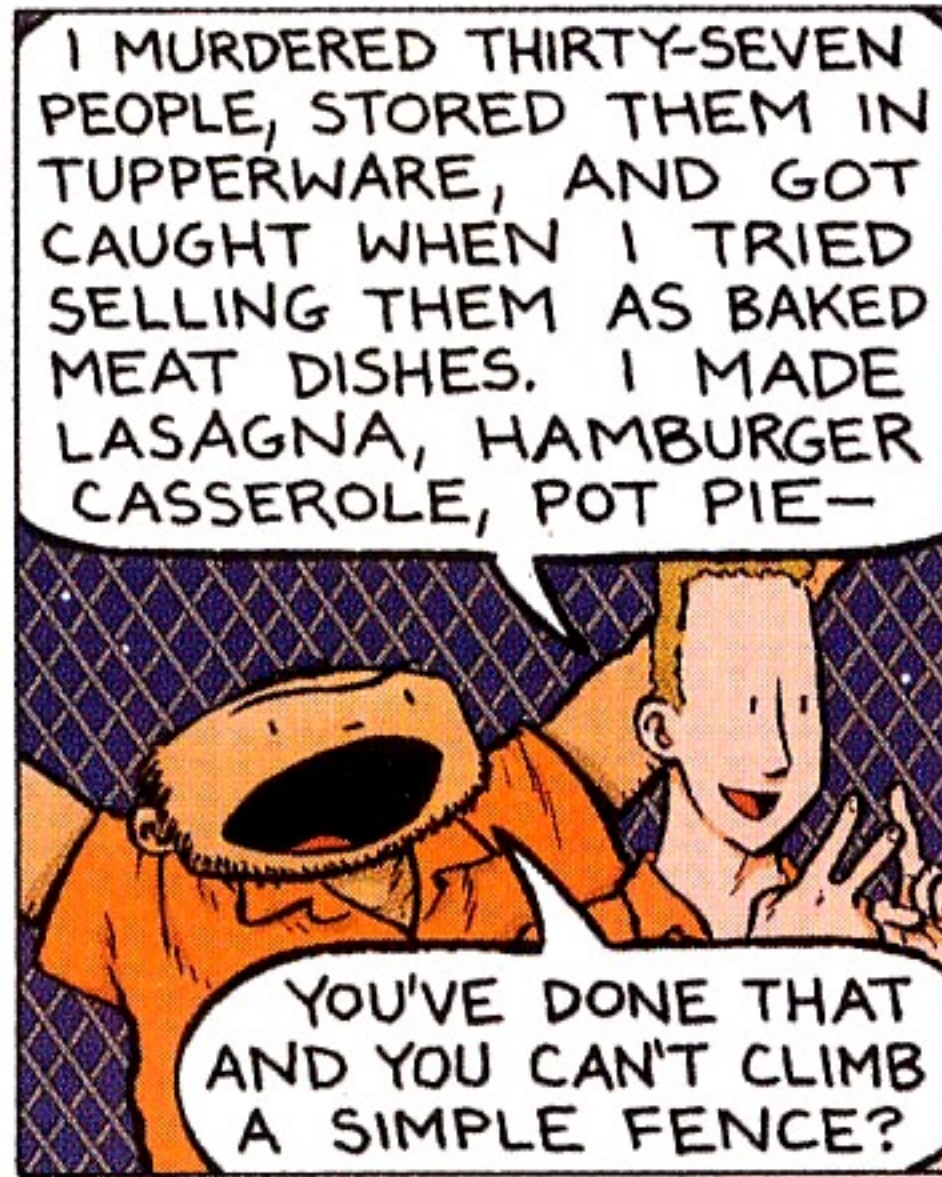
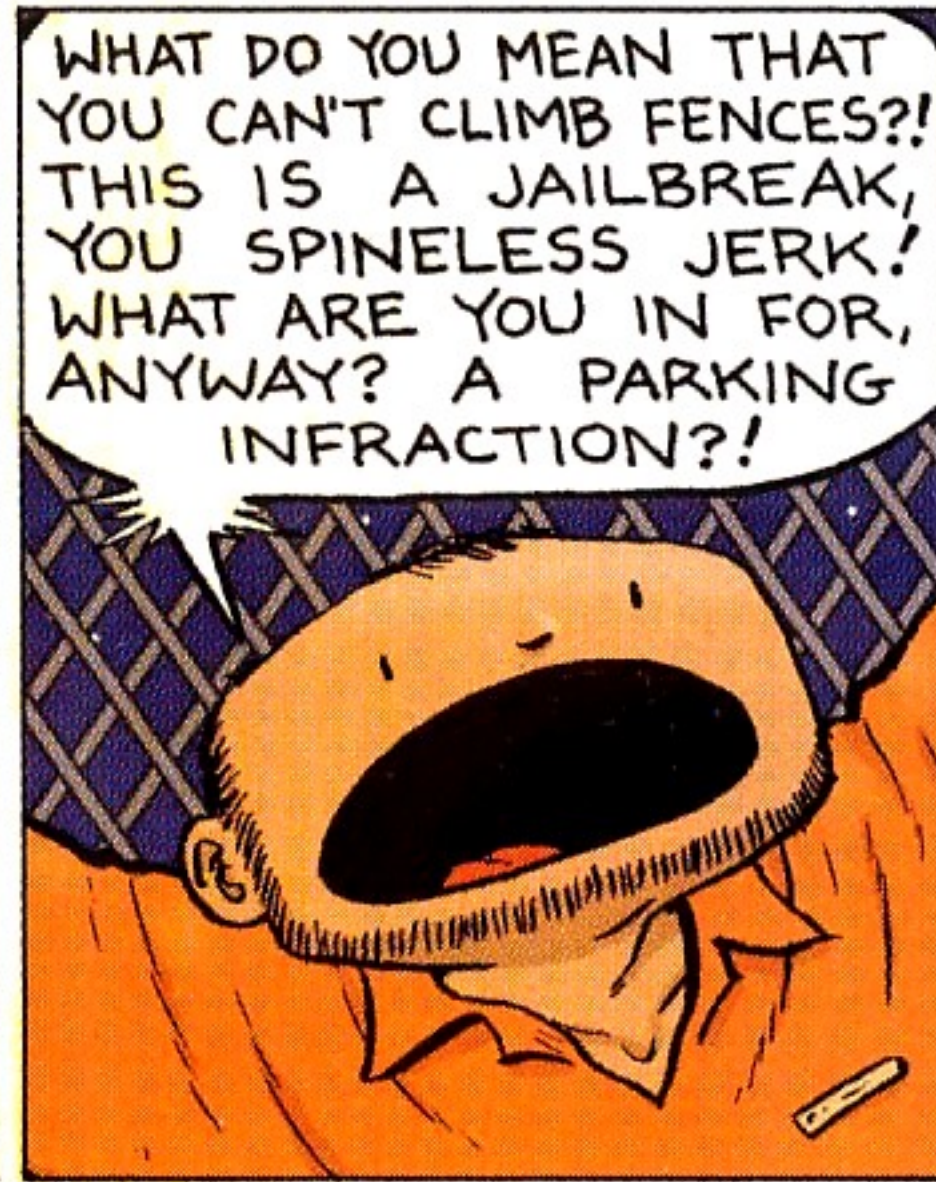
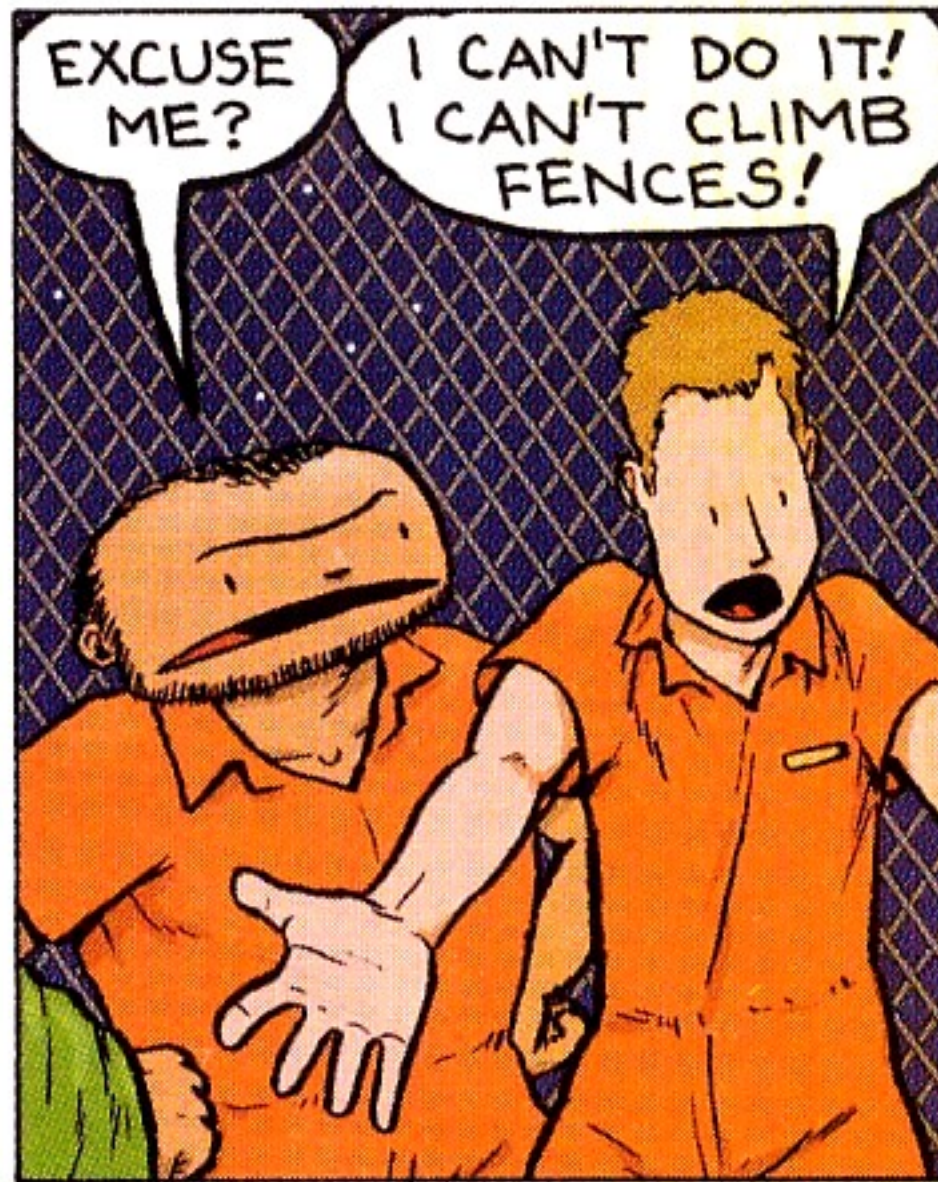
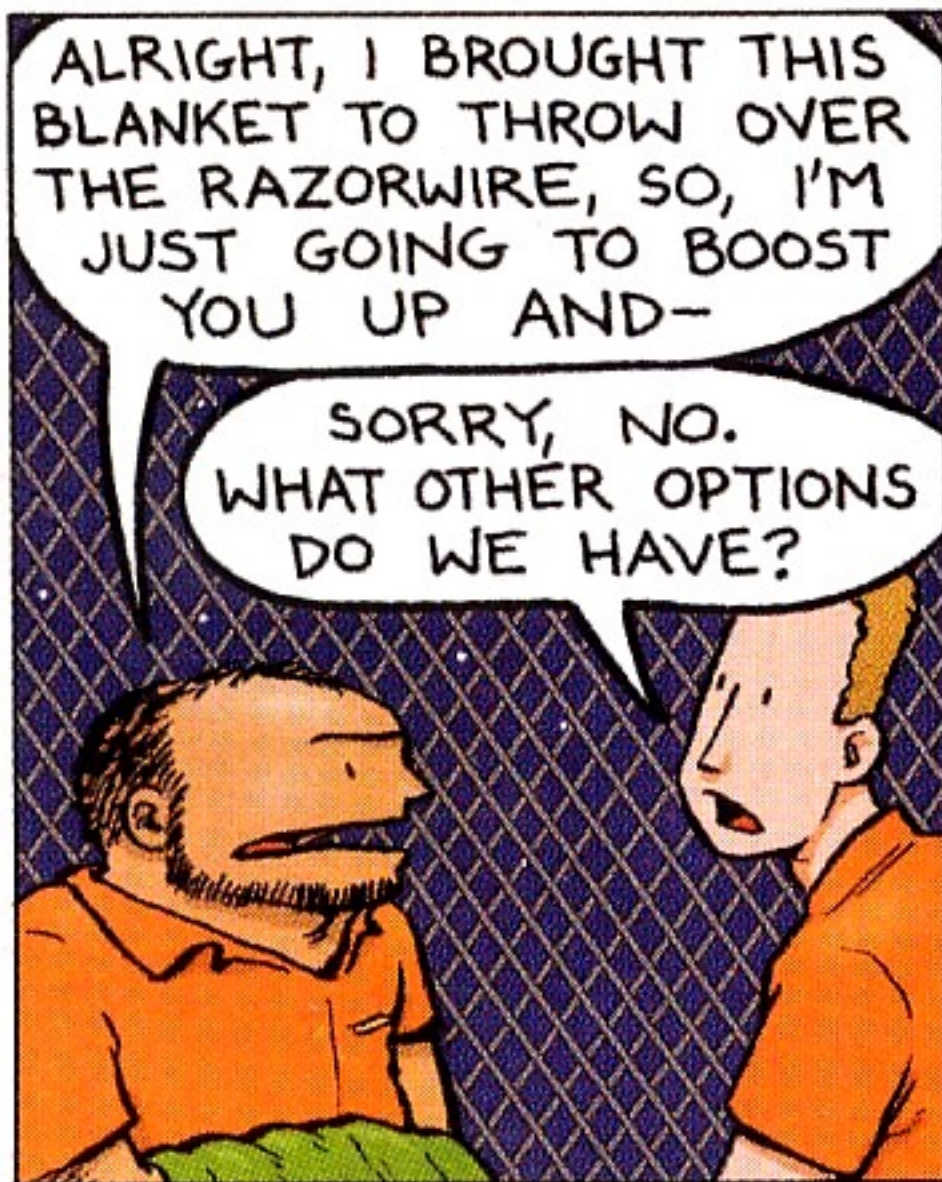
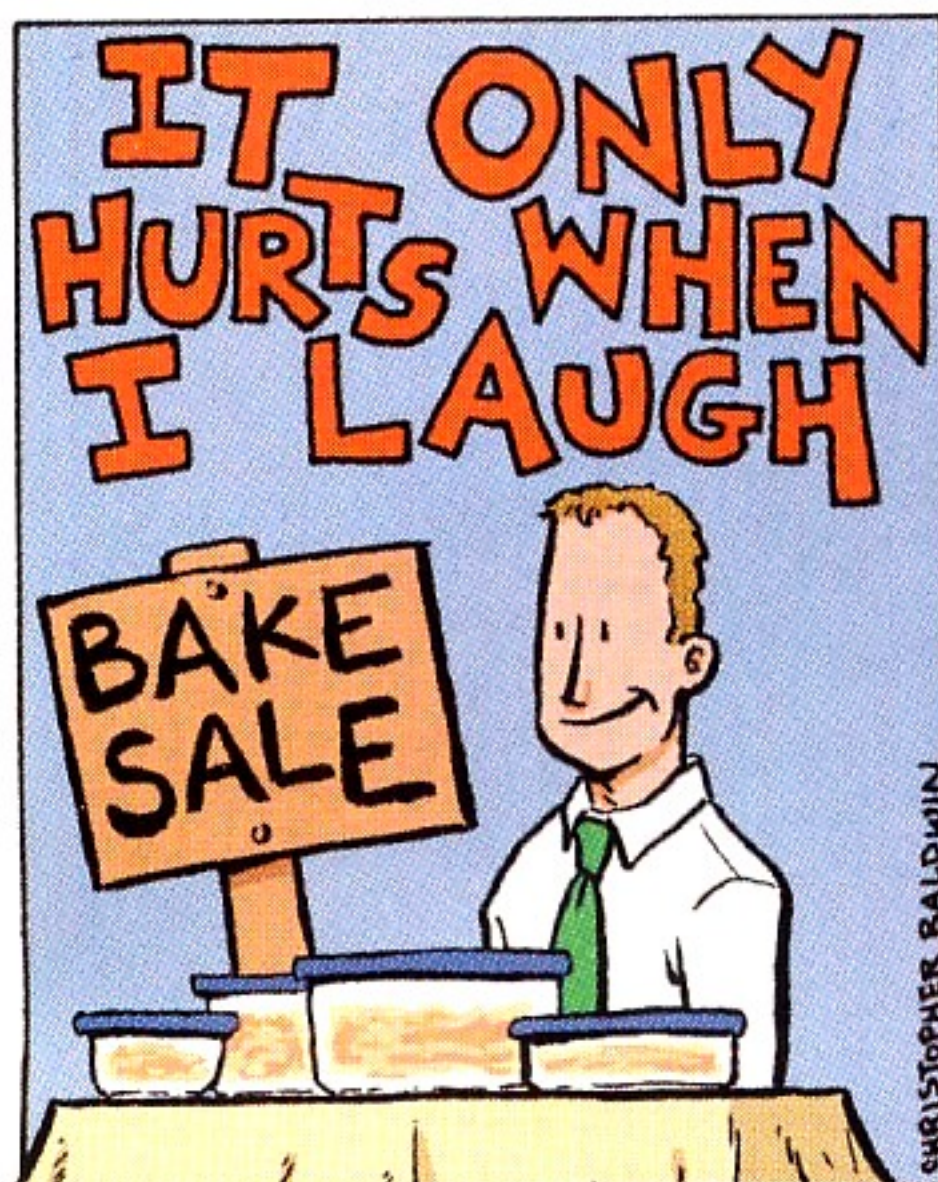
I'LL STOP BY LATER AND SHOW YOU HOW TO LET OUT YOUR PANTS.

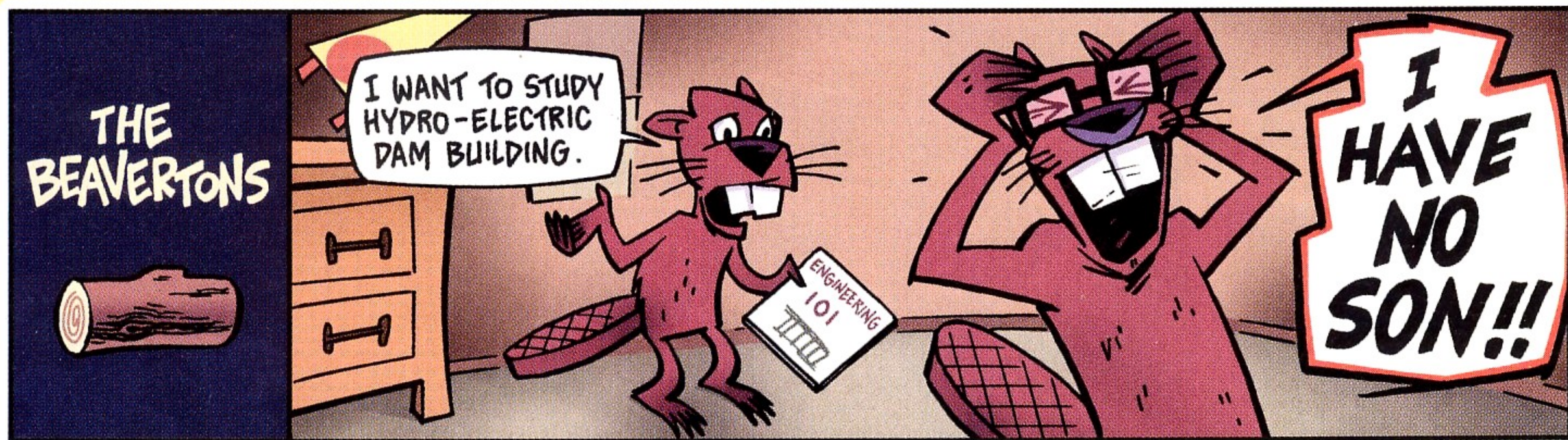


AMAZING, EVEN THAT DIDN'T KILL MY APPETITE.

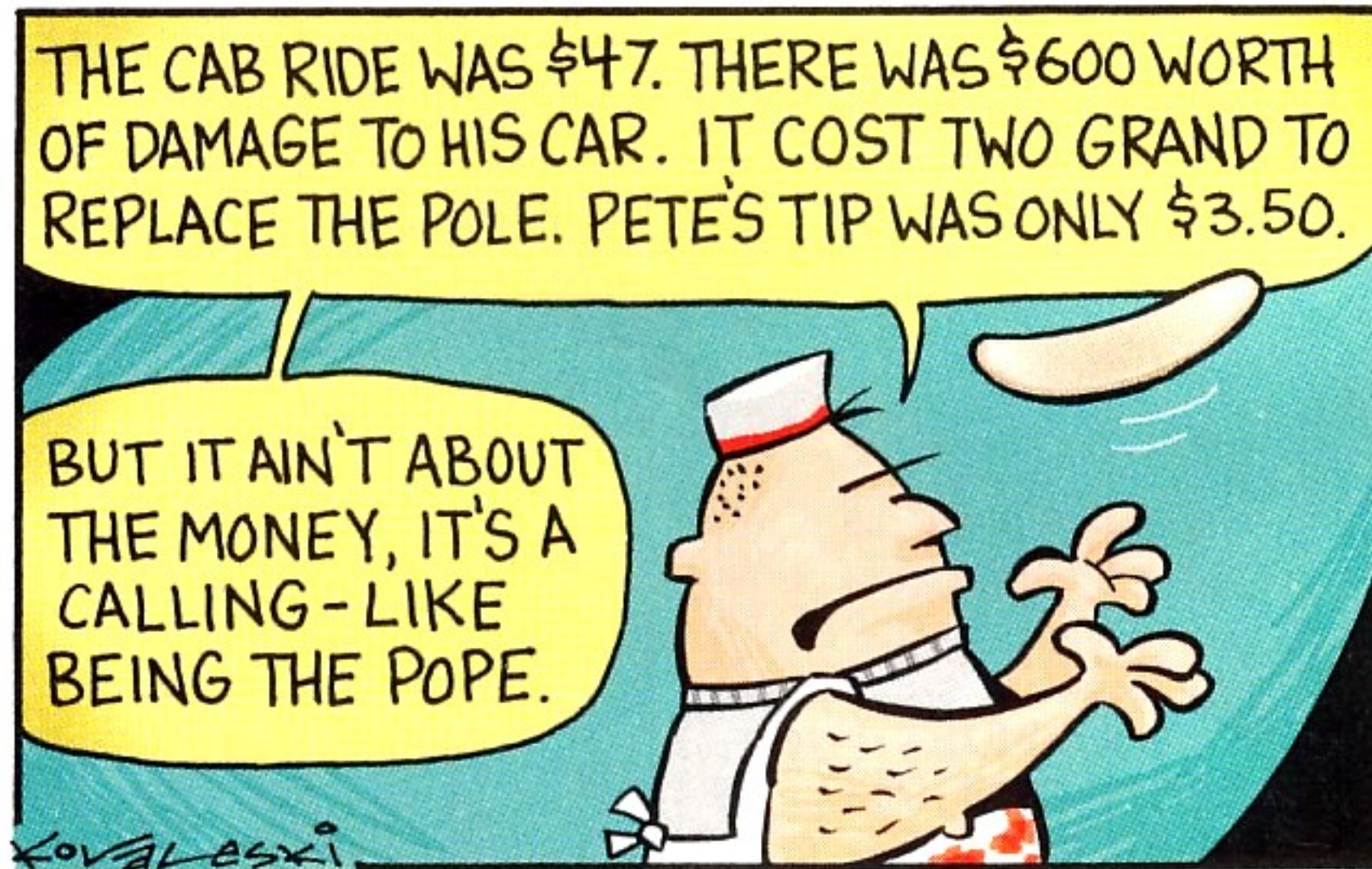
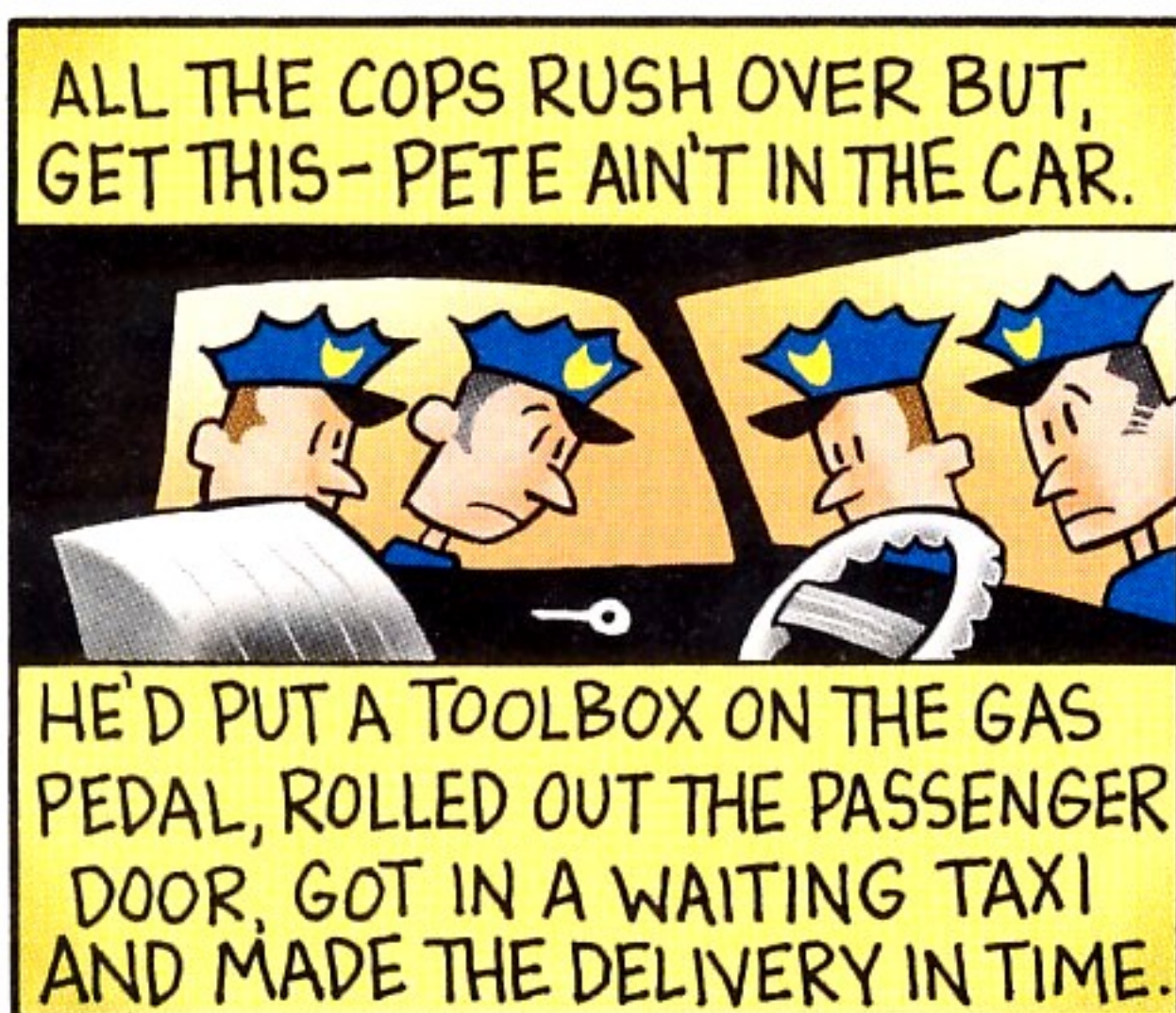
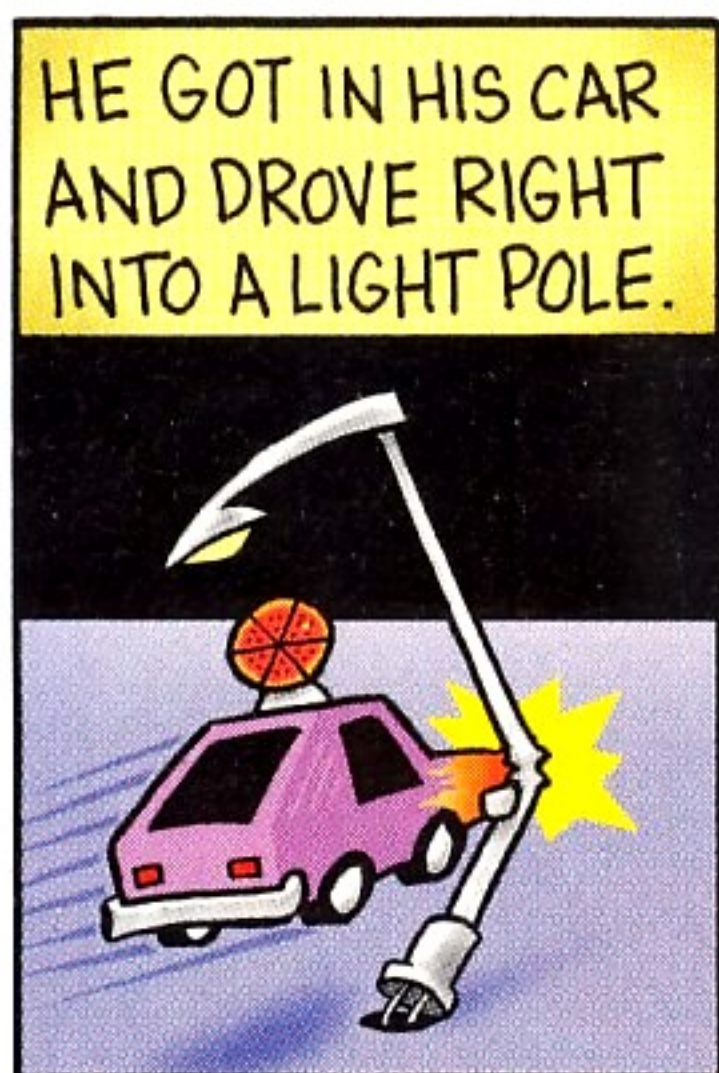
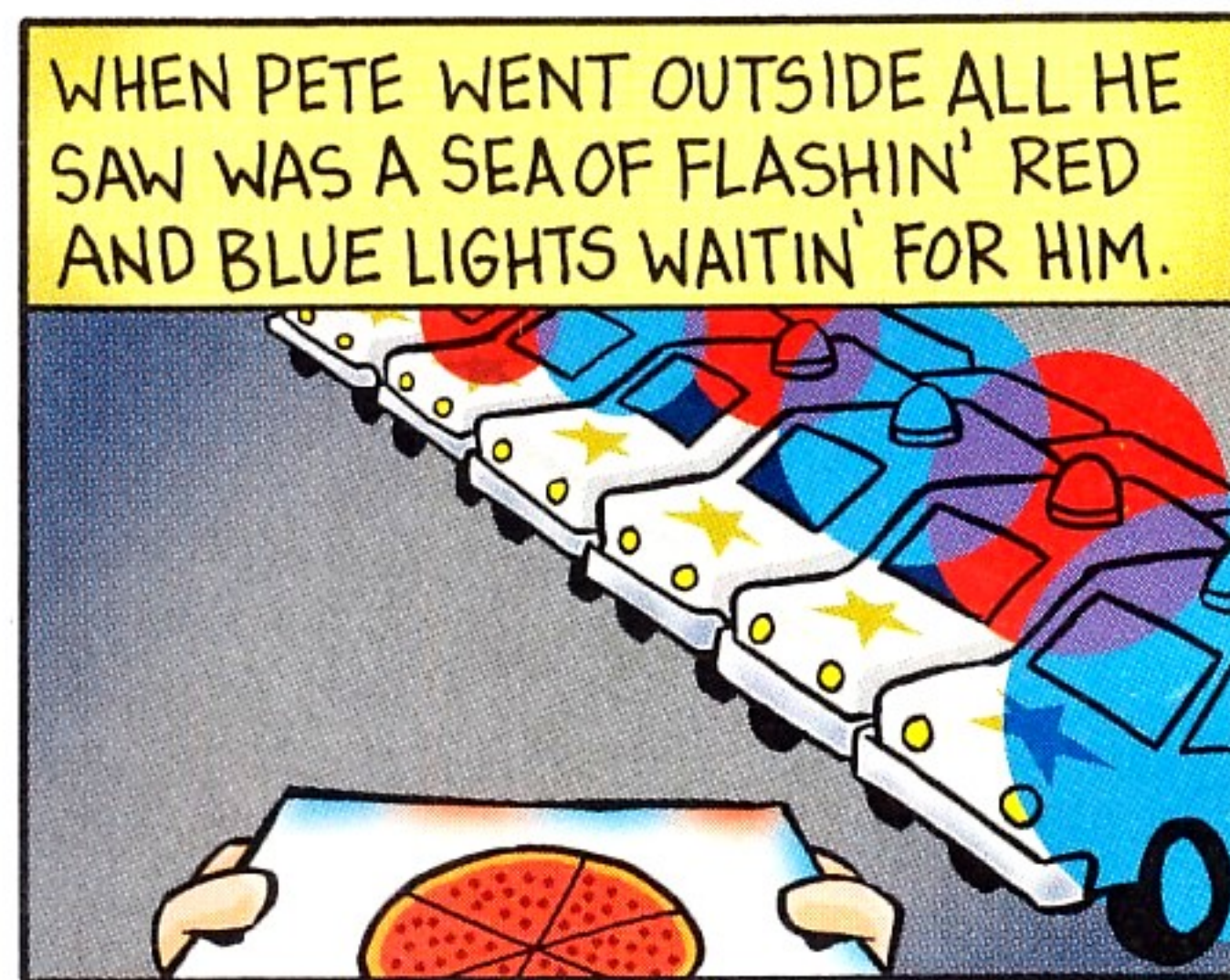
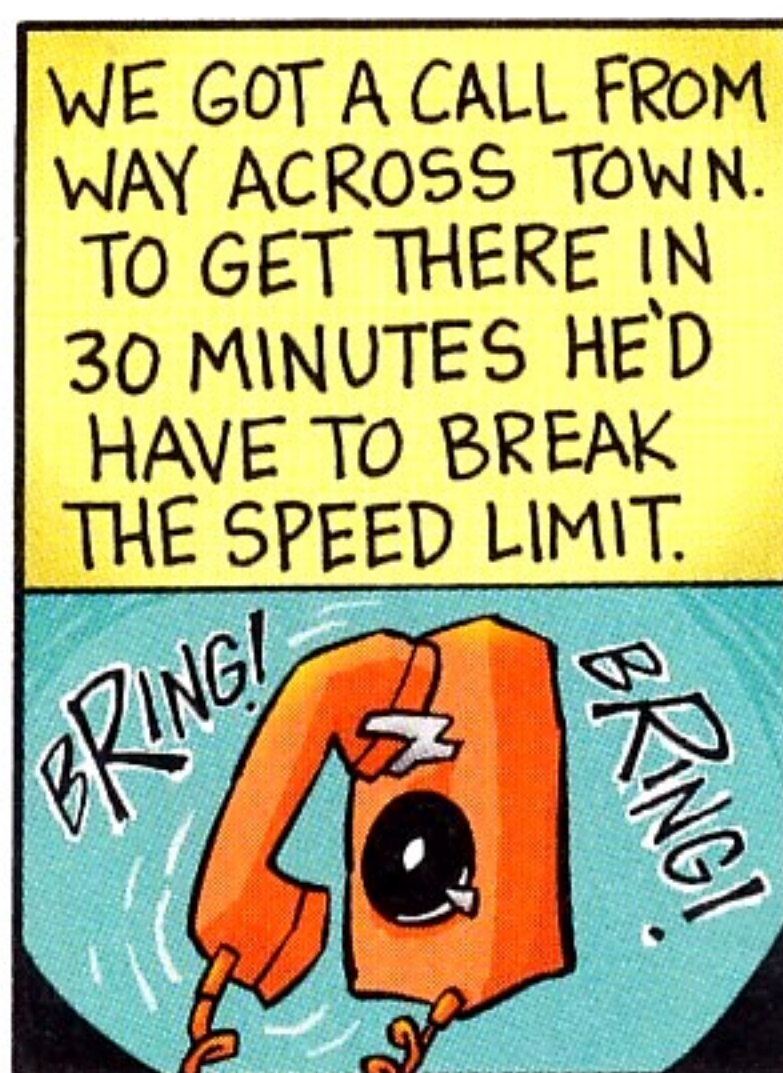
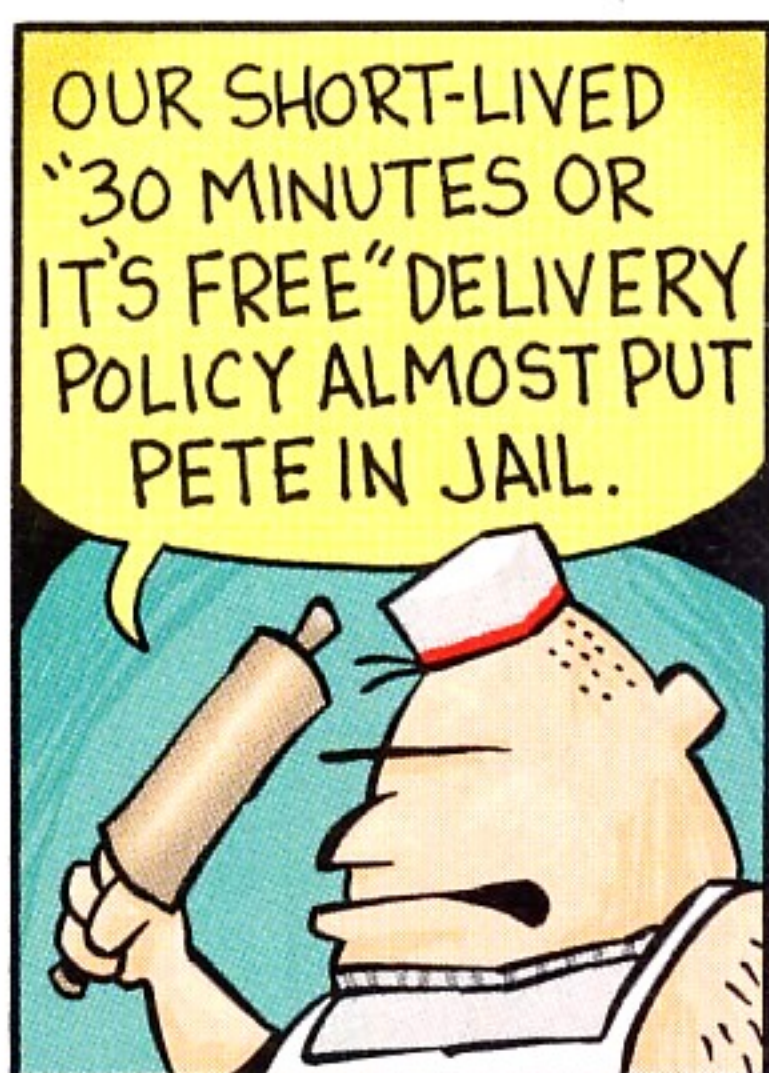
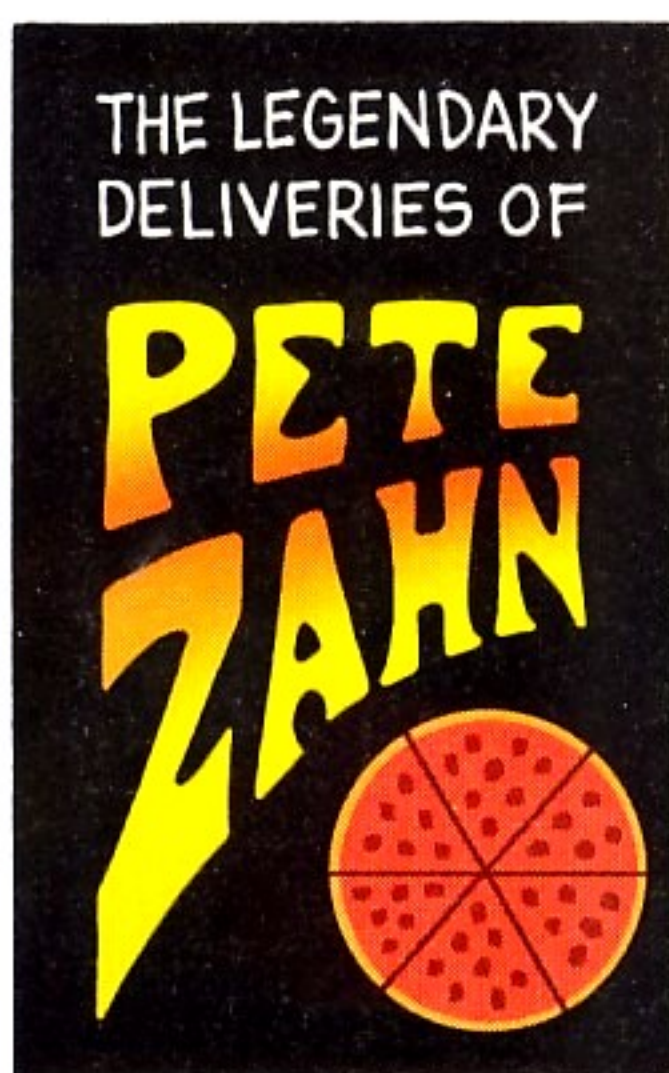


THE STRIP CLUB



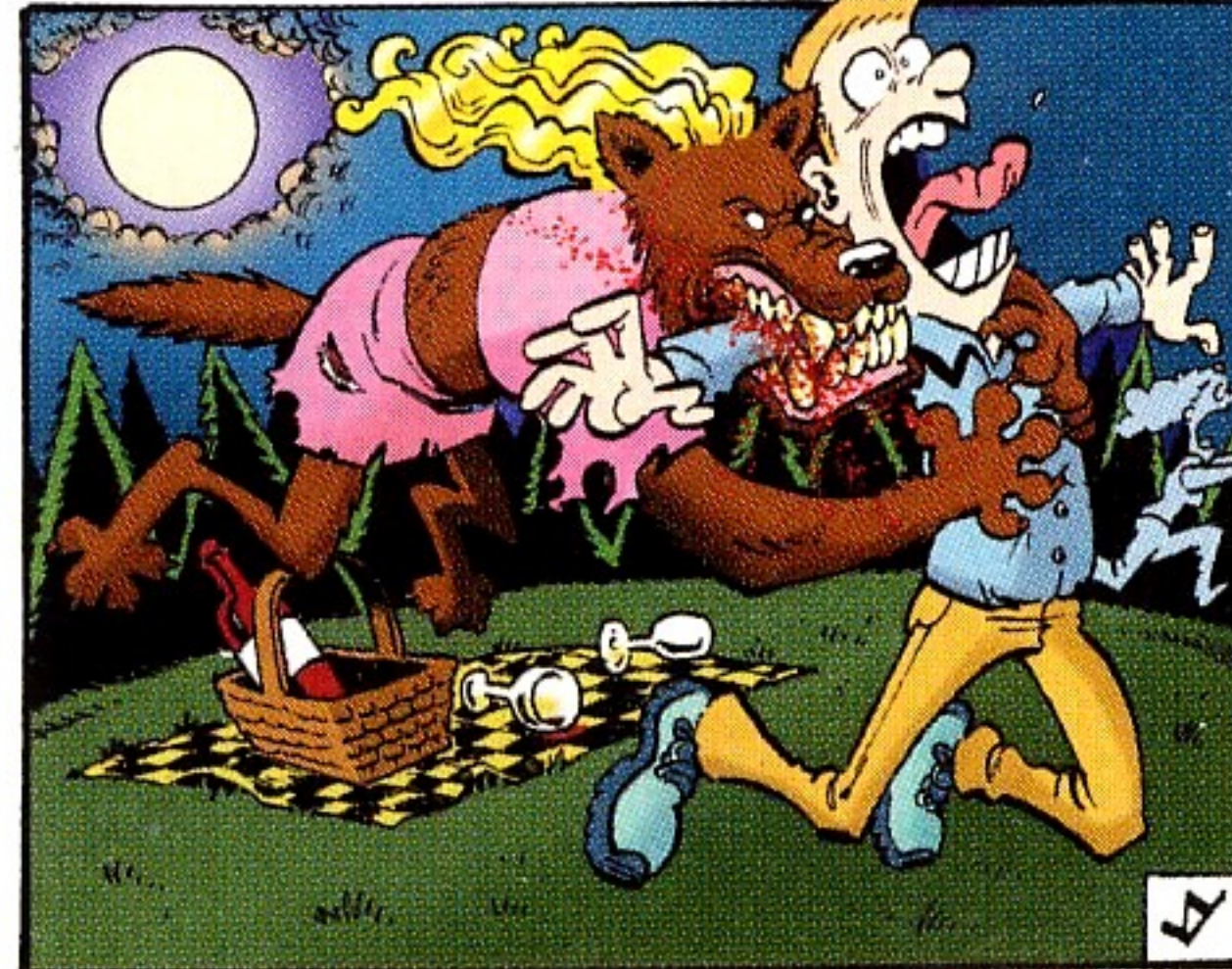
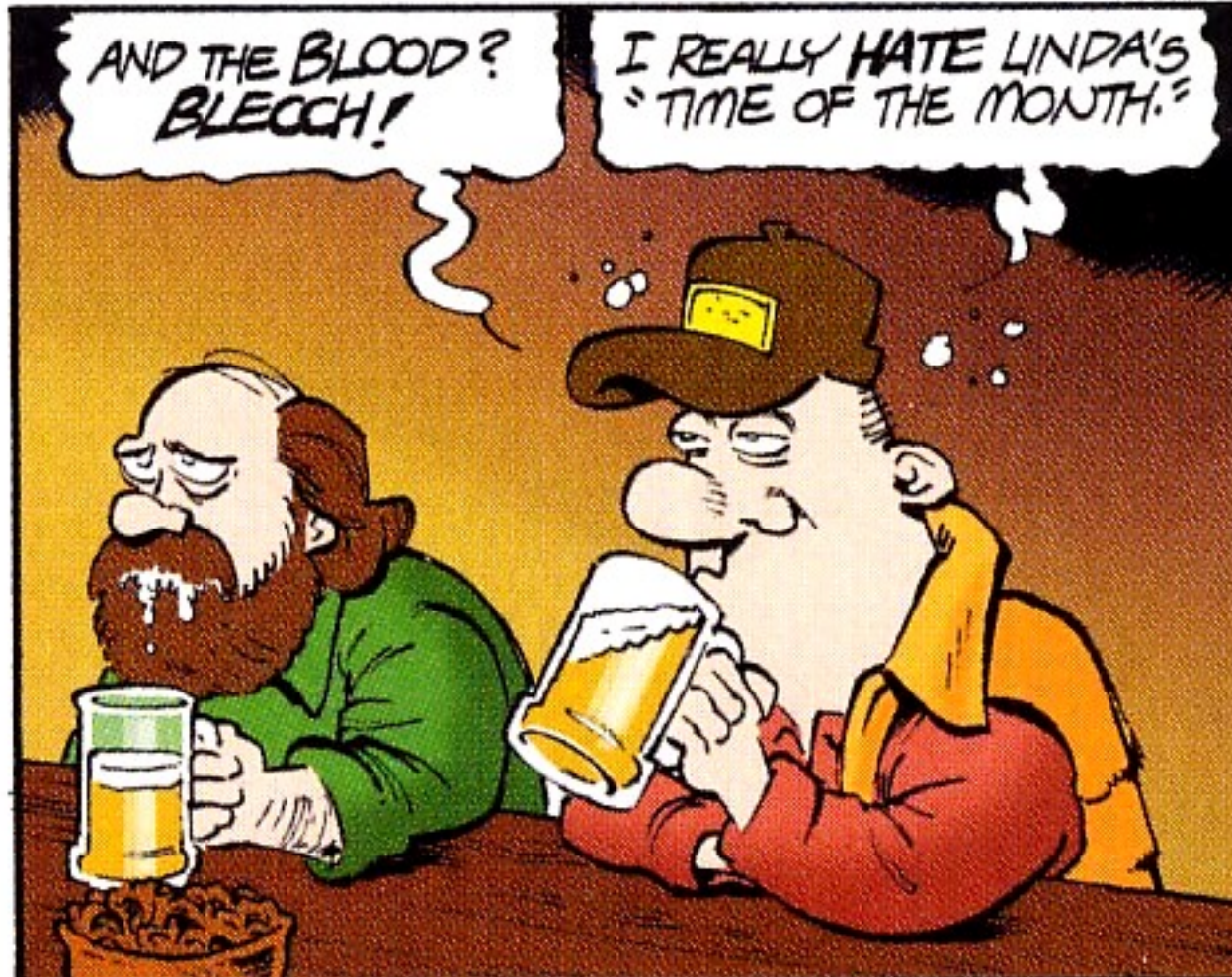


PAUL GILLIGAN

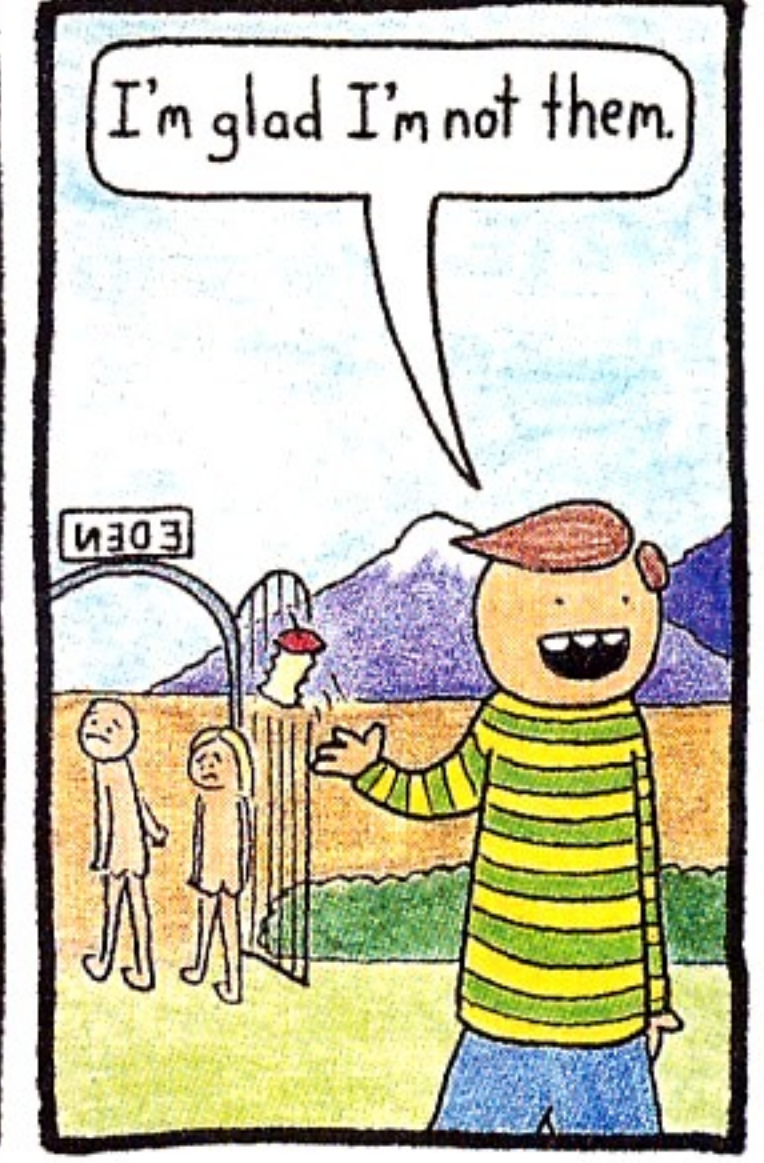
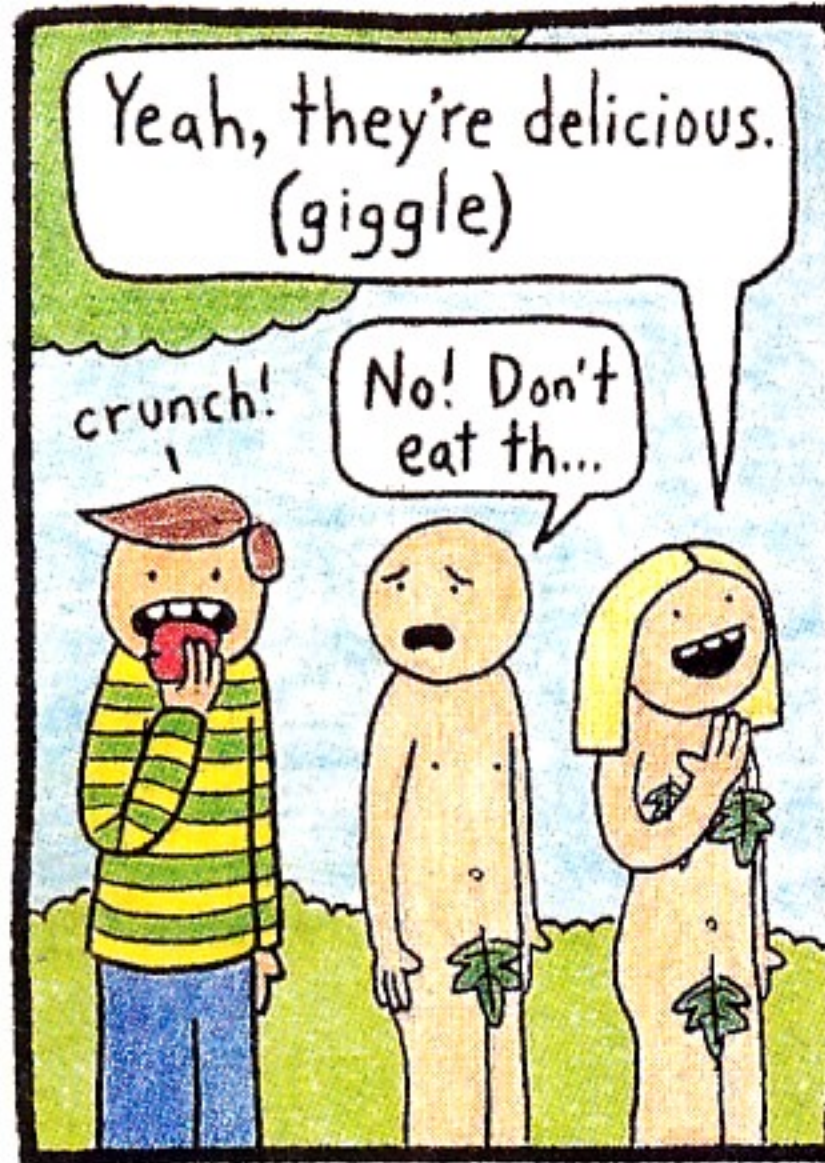
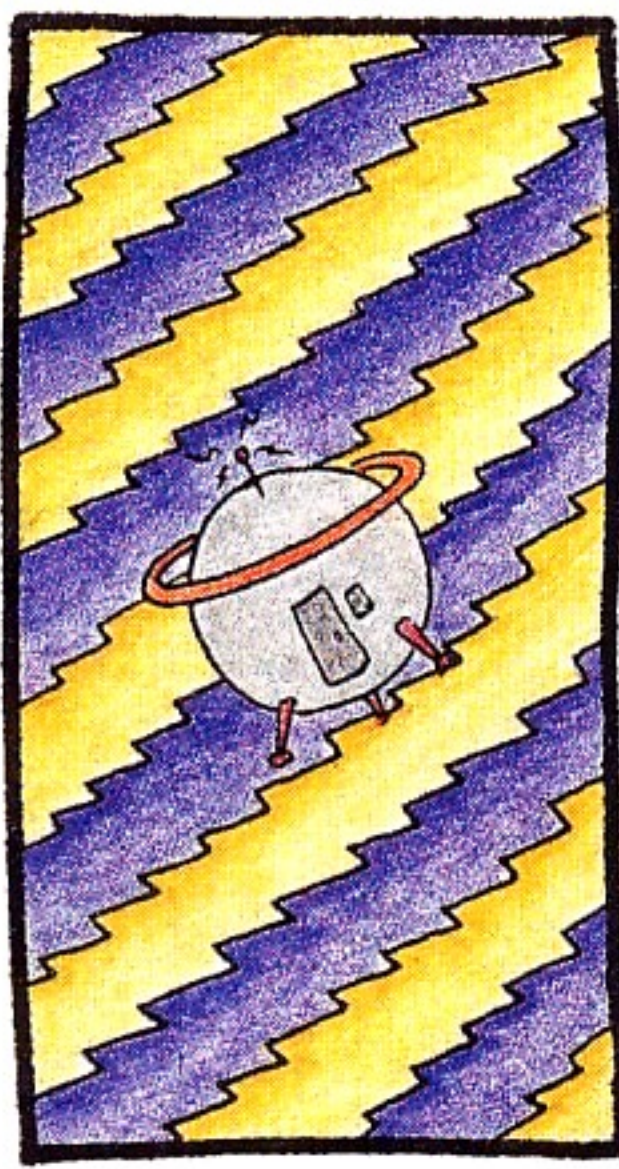
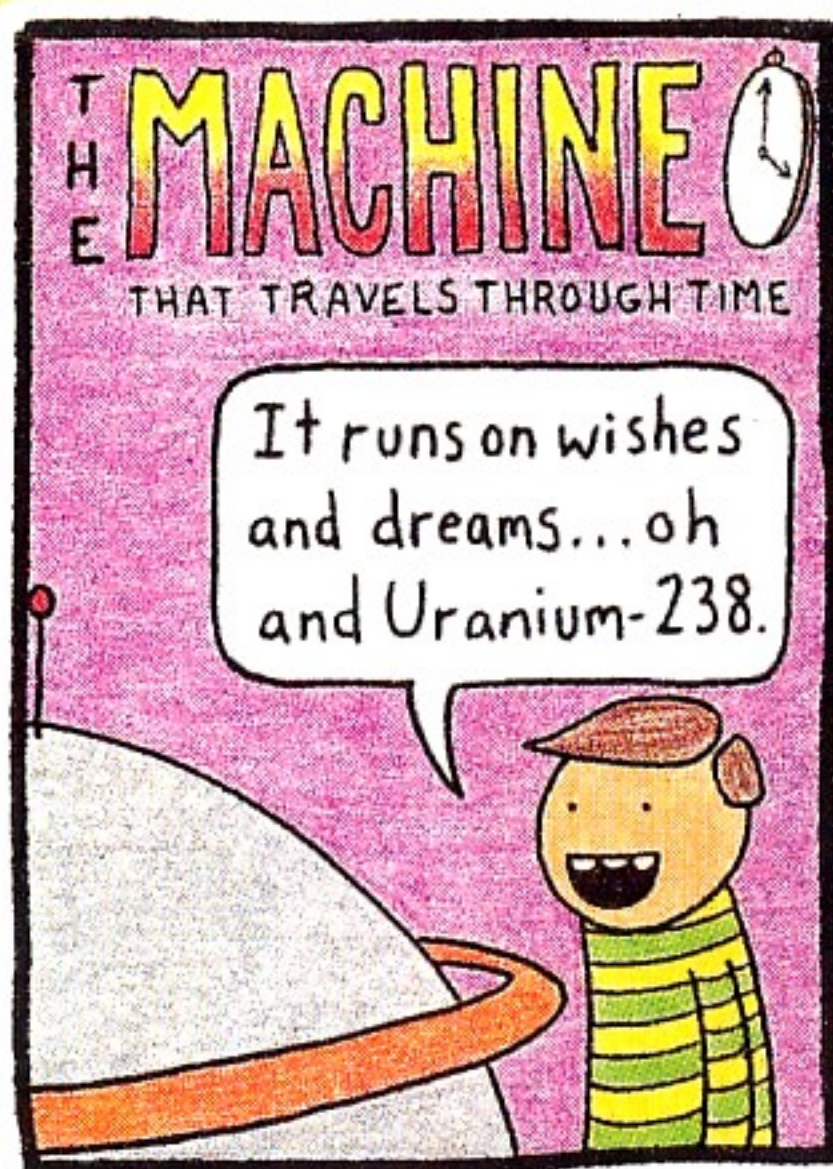


JOHN KOVALESKI

CALENDAR GIRL!

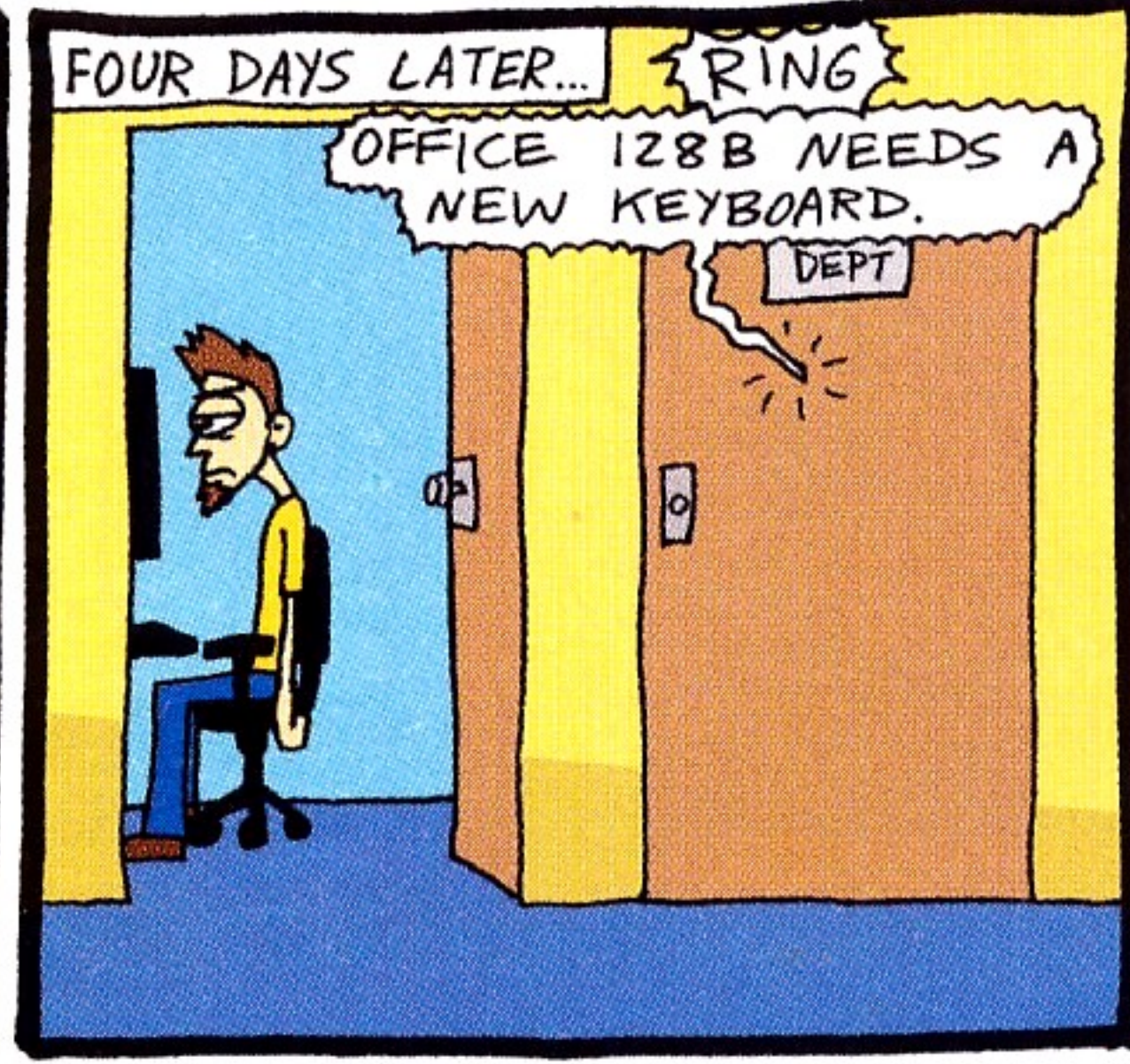
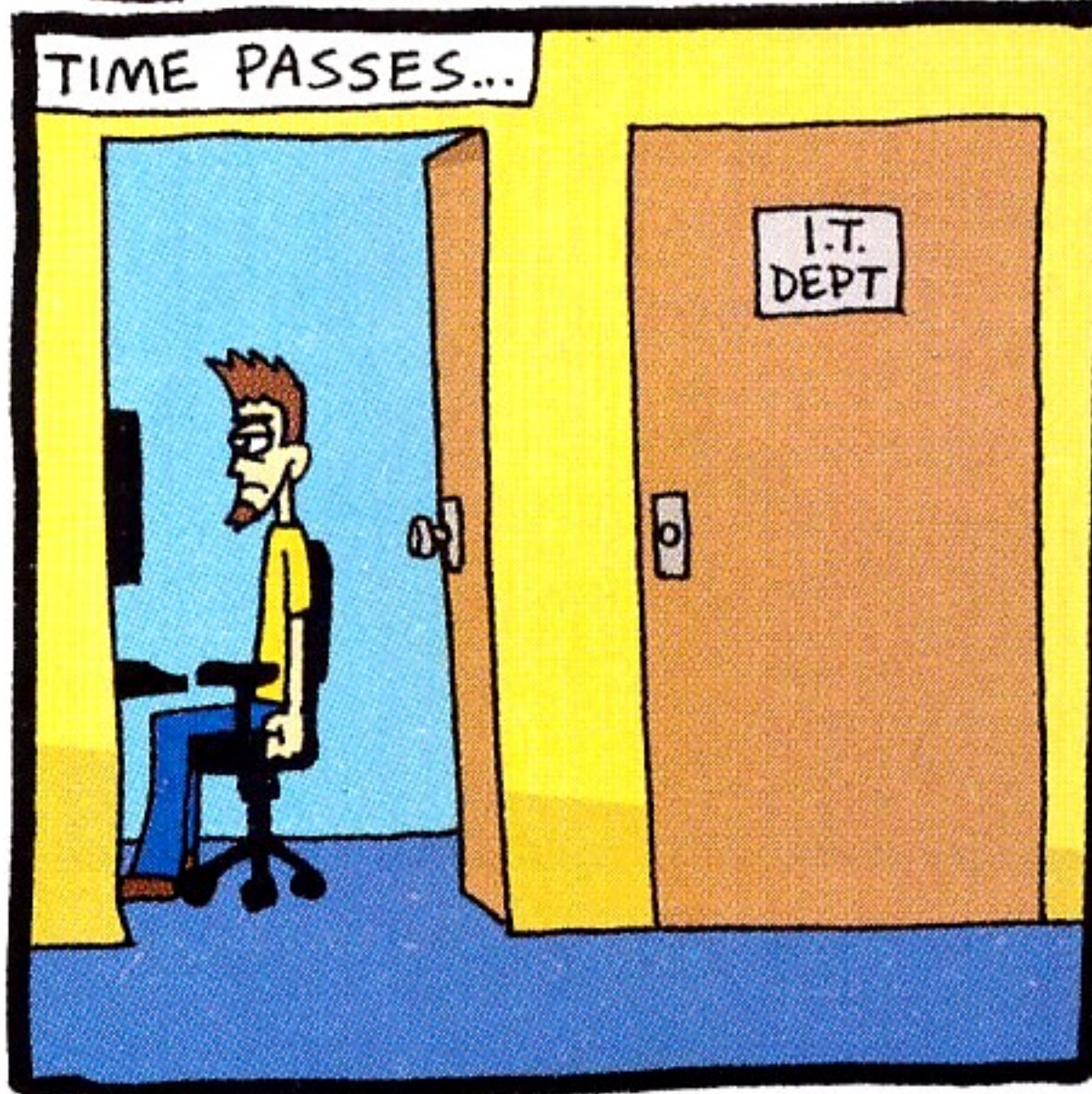
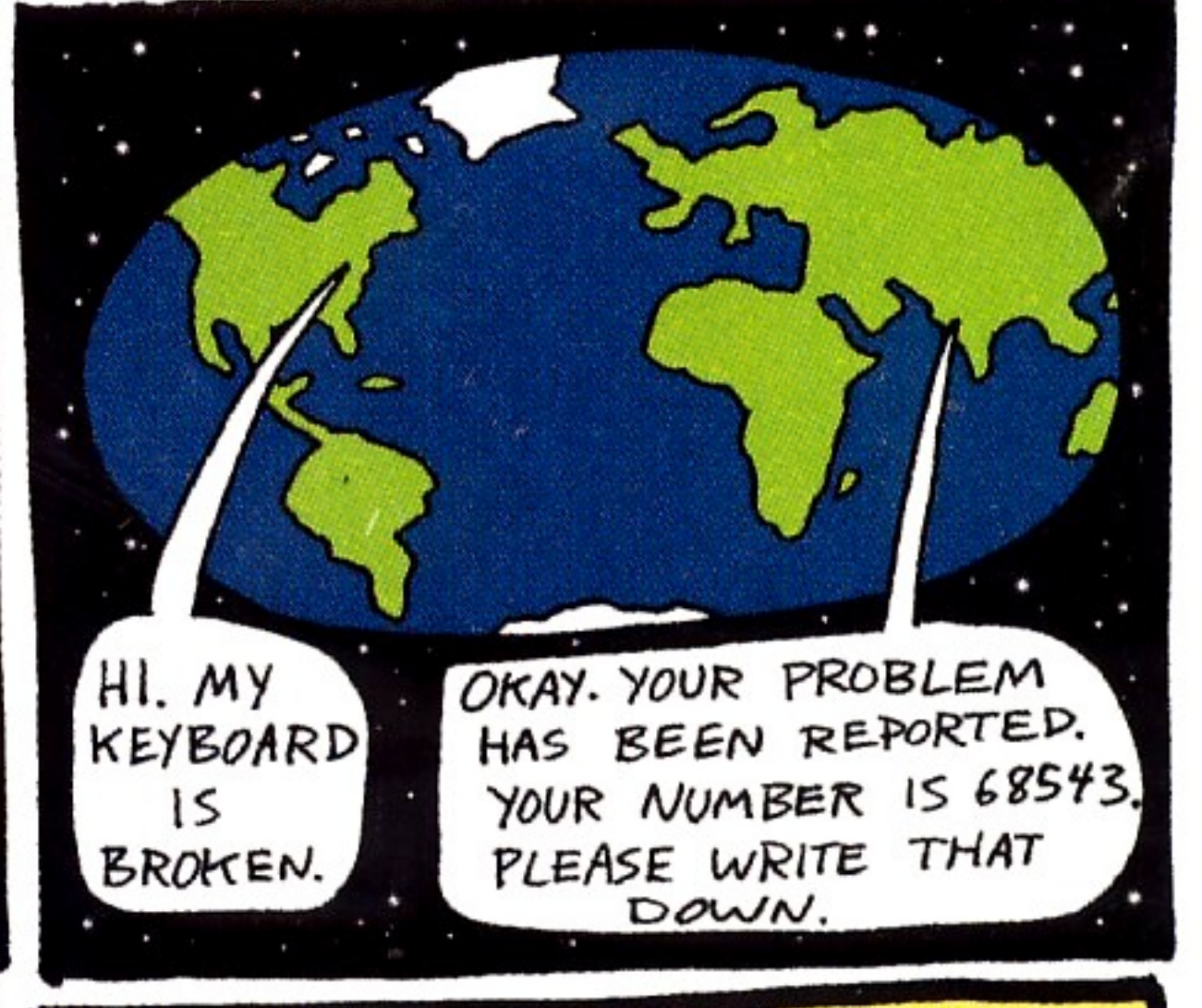
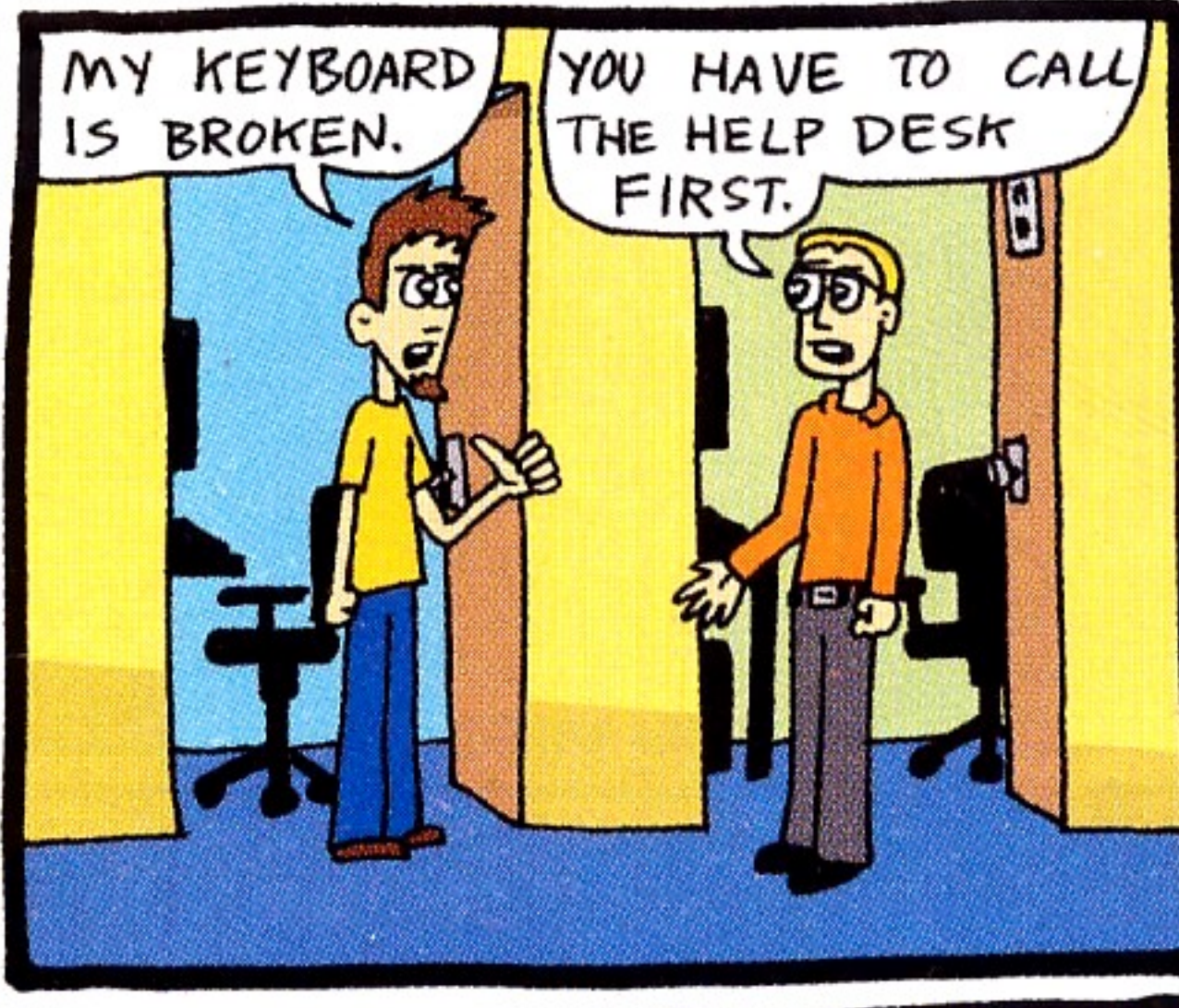


JASON YUNGBLUTH



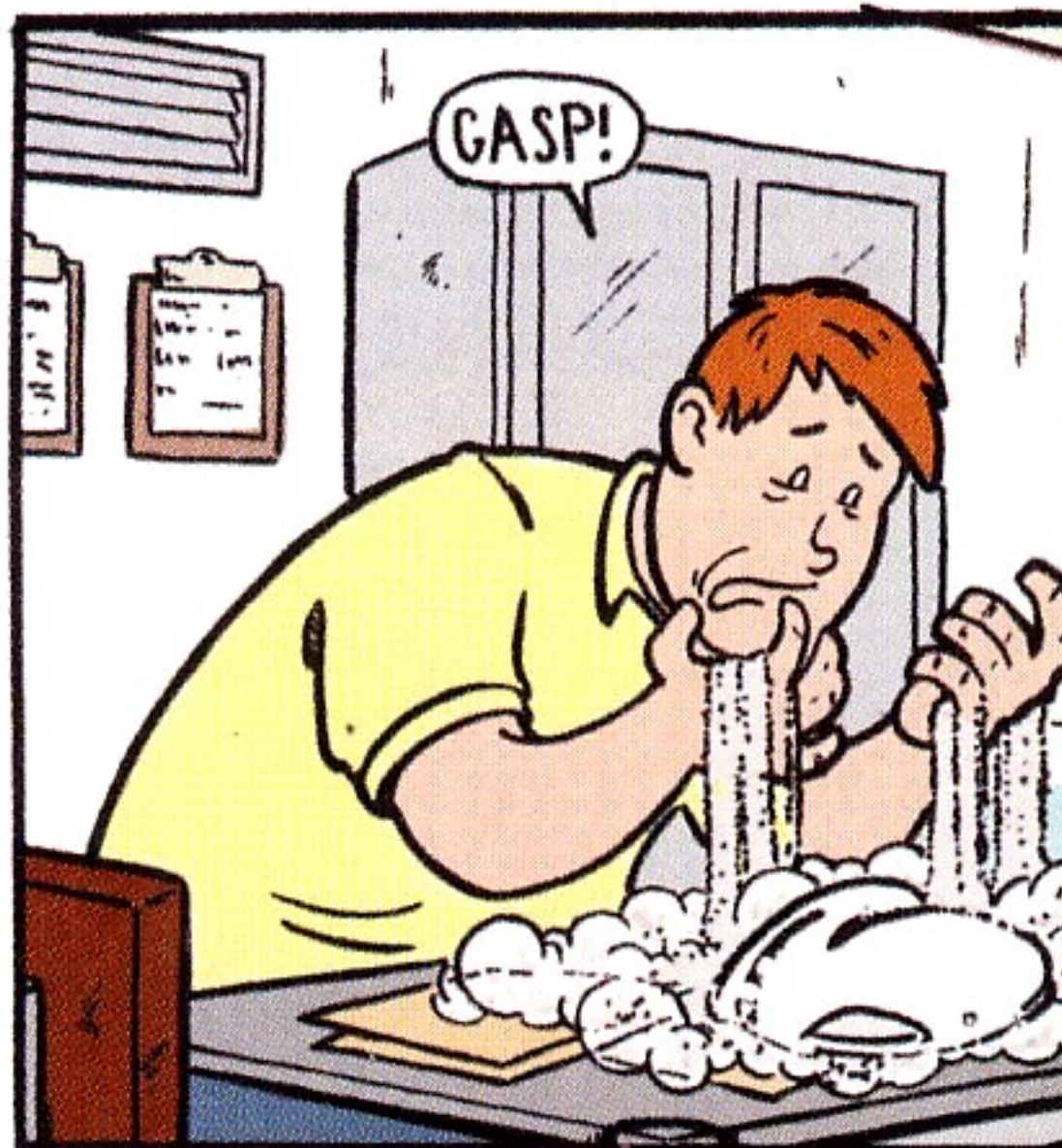
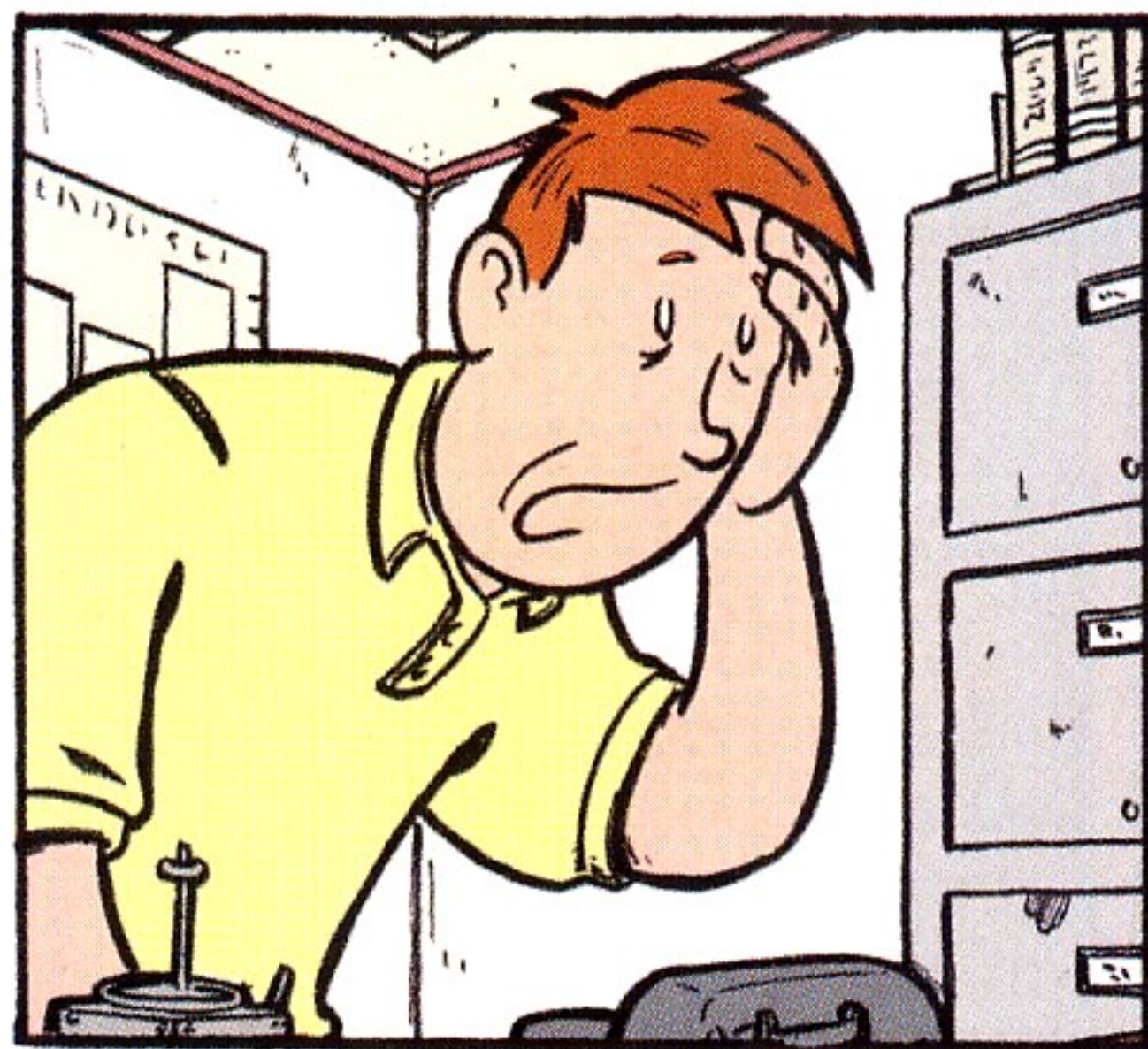
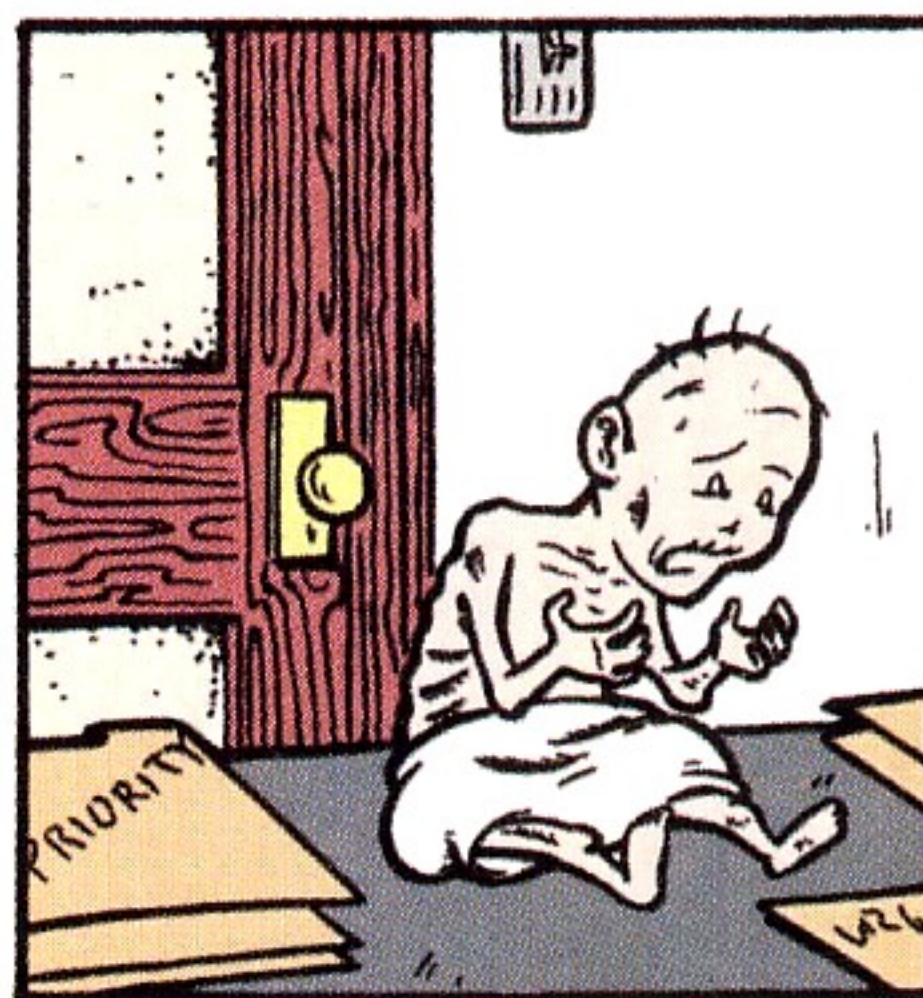
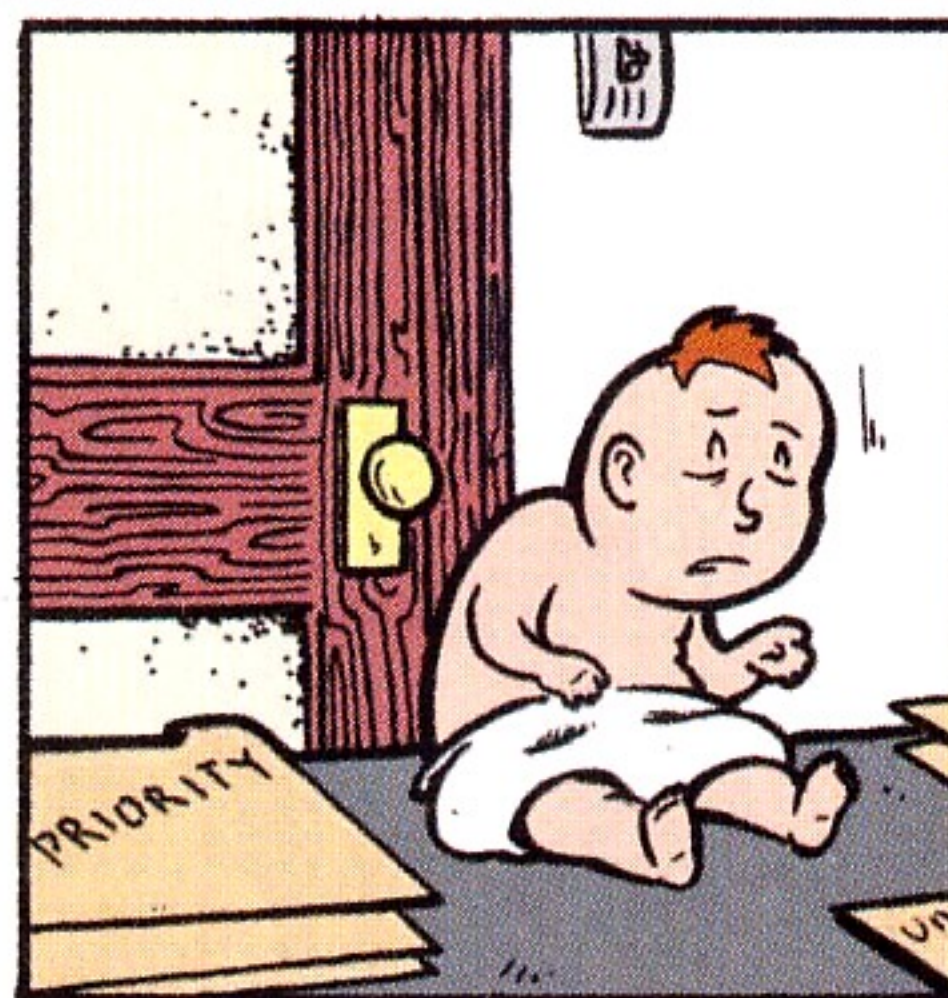
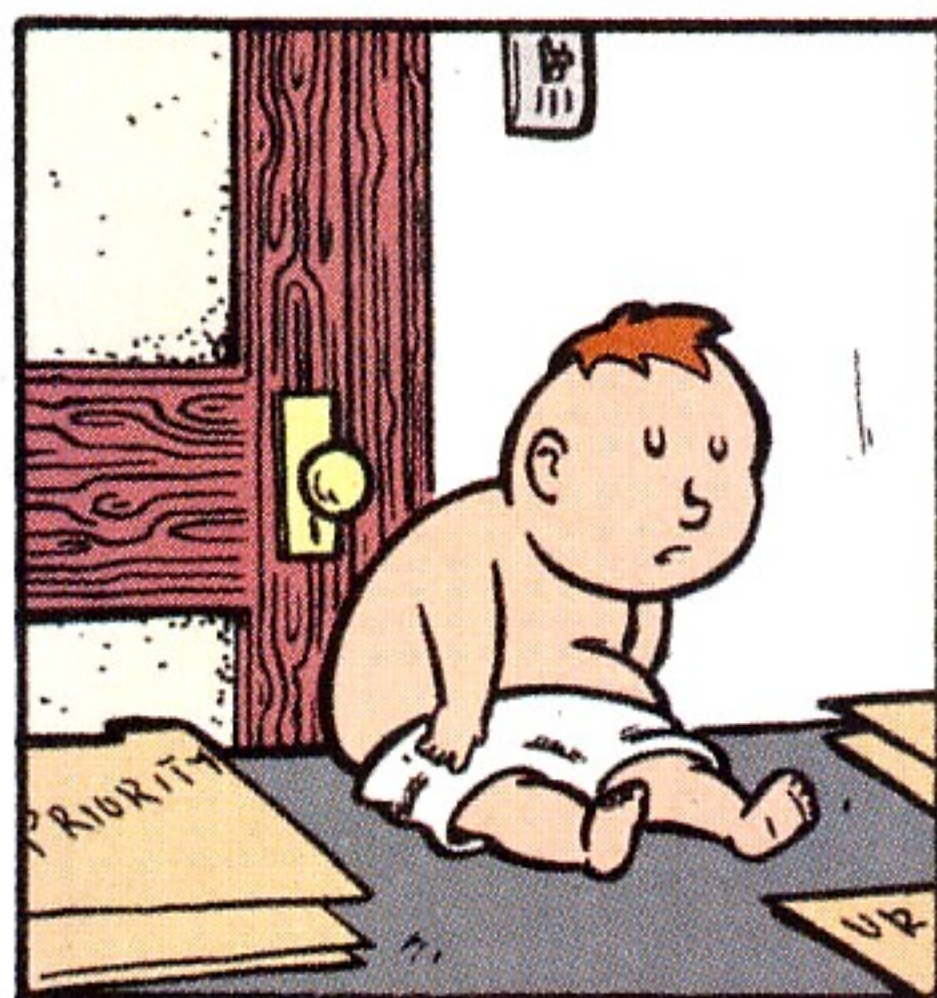
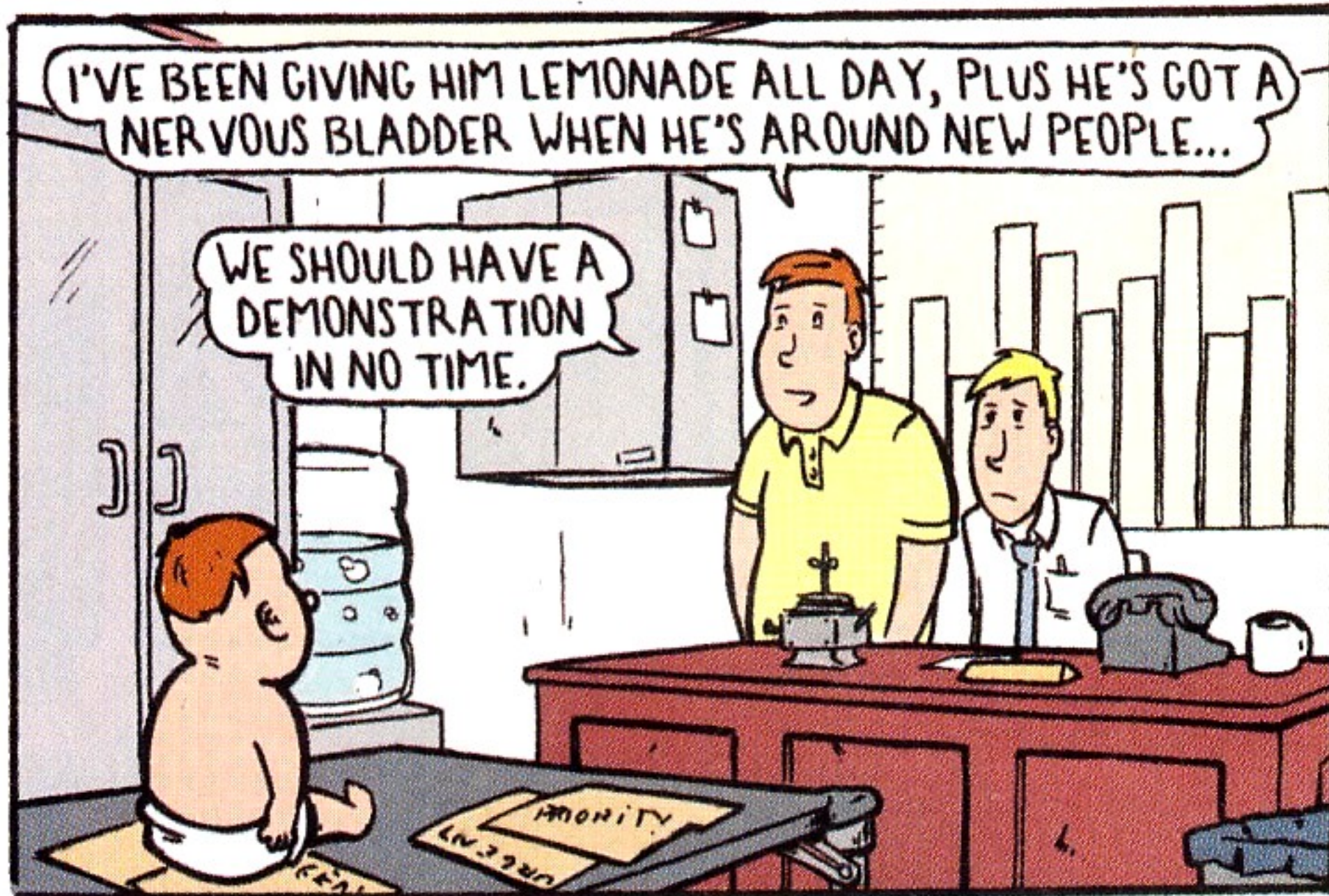
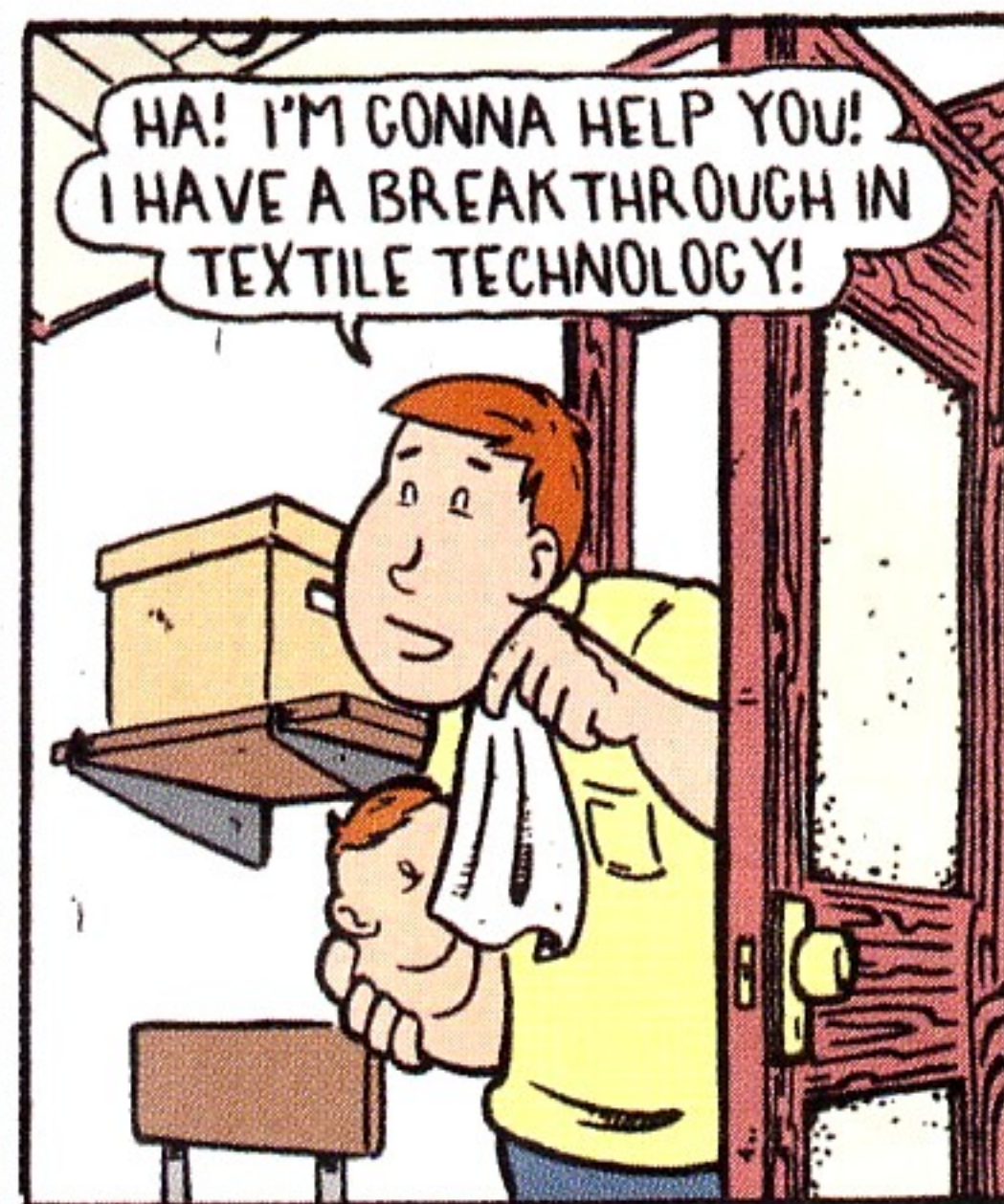
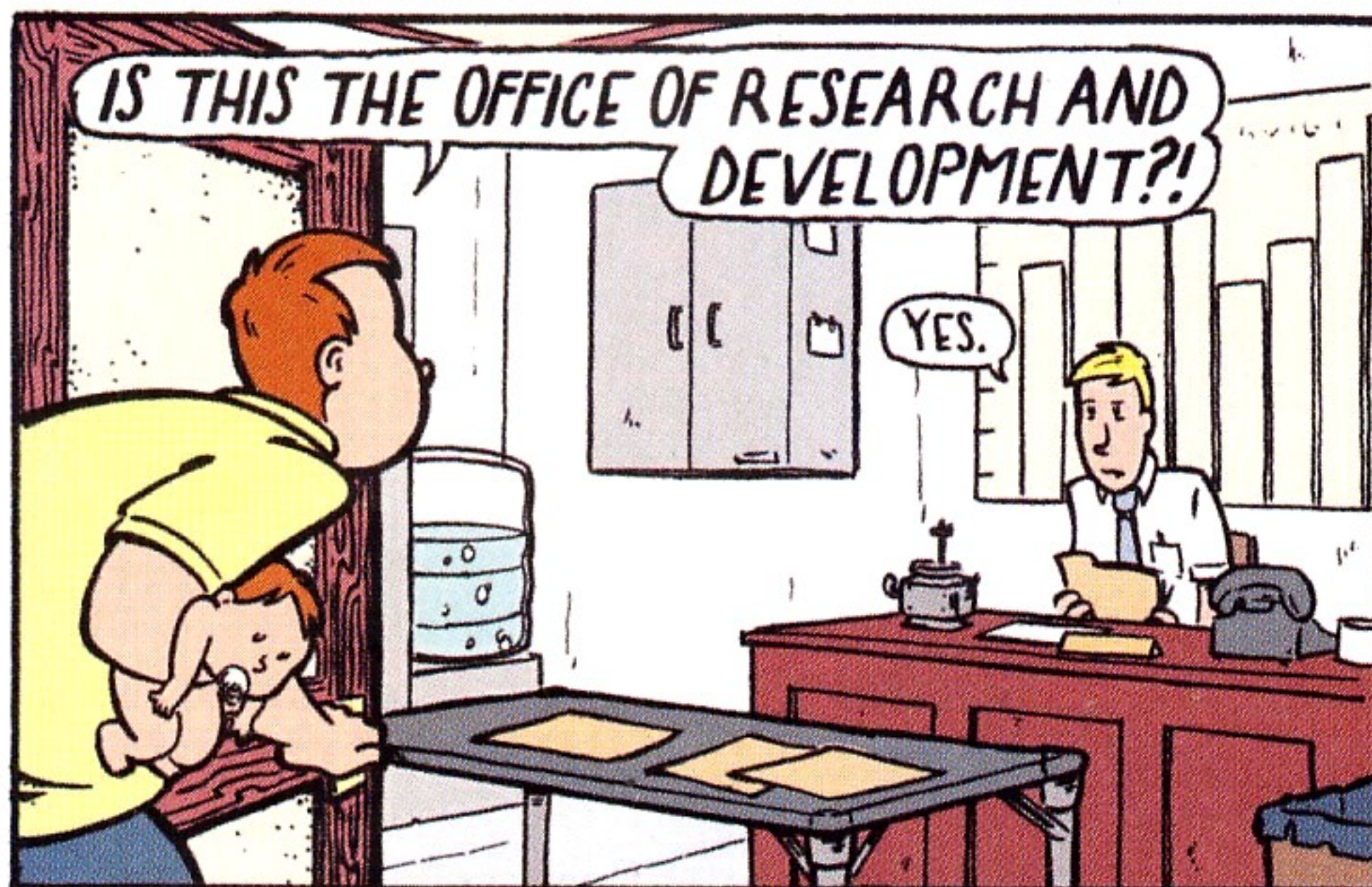
JOEY SAYERS

REX IN THE CITY



DUSTIN GLICK

JUST BELOW THE SURFACE



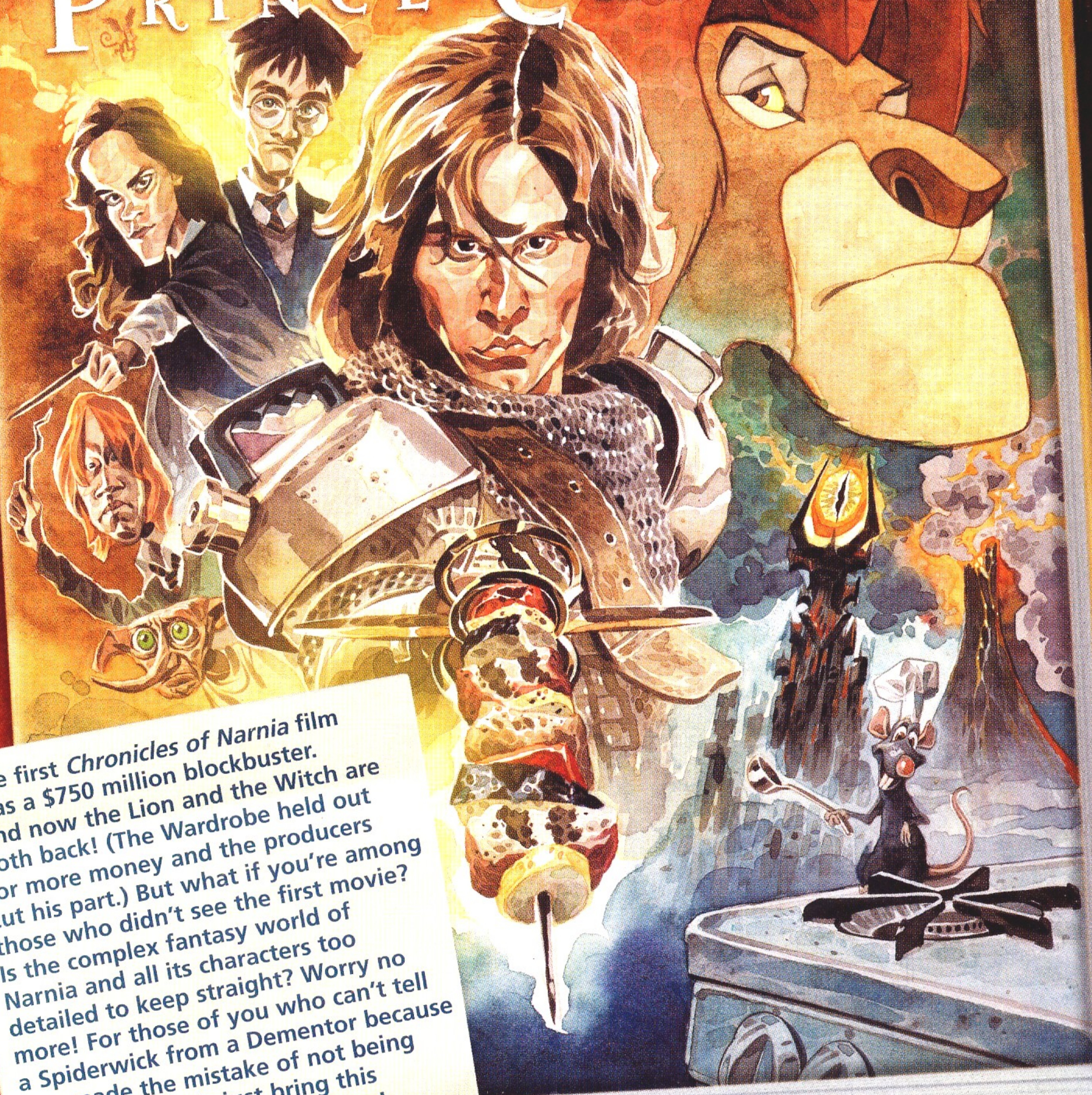


MAD'S HELPFUL GUIDE TO

-THE CHRONICLES OF-

NARNIA

PRINCE CASPIAN



The first *Chronicles of Narnia* film was a \$750 million blockbuster. And now the Lion and the Witch are both back! (The Wardrobe held out for more money and the producers cut his part.) But what if you're among those who didn't see the first movie? Is the complex fantasy world of Narnia and all its characters too detailed to keep straight? Worry no more! For those of you who can't tell a Spiderwick from a Dementor because you made the mistake of not being an escapist geek, just bring this article with you to the cineplex!

The *Chronicles Of Narnia: Prince Caspian* is the sequel to 2005's *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, the saga which has been called "a timeless classic" by hundreds of people who work in the acquisitions and promotions departments at Walt Disney Pictures. It is based on the much-loved books by C.S. Lewis which, thanks to the existence of these movies, need never be read again.

Prince Caspian is the second big-screen chapter in what is projected to be a seven-movie series. *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* will be next. Some possible titles for future installments include:

- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: Special Victims Unit*
- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Zesty Guardians of Stoobletown*
- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*
- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: Back in the Habit*
- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: Enter the Man-Pumpkin*
- ♣ *Tyler Perry's The Chronicles of Narnia*
- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Glue Gun of Vengeance*
- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Search for Spock*
- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: Christmas with the Kranks*
- ♣ *The Chronicles of Narnia: Narnier Than Ever!*

NARNIA (pronounced MID*dil Erth) is a magical realm of mythical creatures who live in natural harmony amid the gently rolling hills that encircle the divine river, and who, once in a while, will shoot you in the face with arrows. It's also an inconvenient commute. Narnia can only be reached by passing through magical portals. Fortunately enough, magical portals just so happen to follow the Pevensie kids everywhere they go, like mall security.



MAP WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT



Aslan the talking lion is a lion who talks. He possesses the ultimate power to change anything. This is incredibly handy every fifteen or twenty minutes, whenever the story crashes into a dead end. Aslan has complete knowledge of deep magic, deeper magic, and magic so deeply deep you'd need a shovel to dig it up. As a lion who can do his own tricks, he's like a one-stop Siegfried and Roy show, without the two creepy Germans.

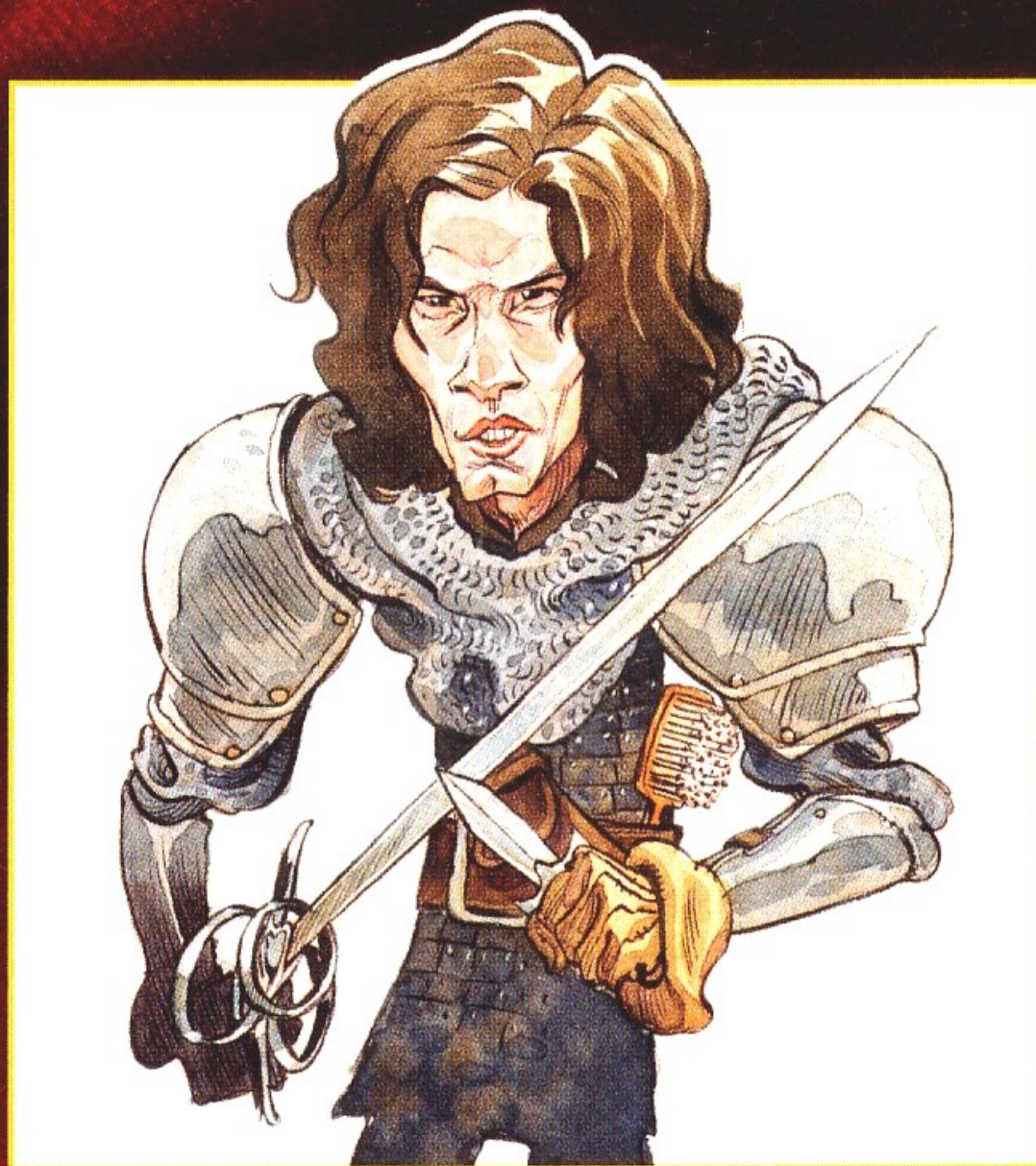
Many readers see Aslan as a substitute Christ figure, since he dies for the sins of others and is later resurrected. There is also a current eBay auction for a waffle with Aslan's face on it. If true, the *Narnia* films are just the latest Hollywood hits to feature hidden, subliminal references to Christianity, following such movies as *E.T.* and *The Passion of the Christ*.

Aslan is always wise, compassionate and beloved, not counting the part in the first film when he ripped the White Witch's intestines out with his claws and teeth. The role of Aslan originally belonged to Jack Black, but he was replaced by a CGI character when the moviemakers decided Black was too hairy to believably play a lion.

Prince Caspian is the rightful heir to the kingdom, but he has to flee Narnia for his life. In exile, he rallies his supporters and prepares to defeat King Miraz in war, with the help of interdimensional allies, last-second divine intervention and a talking badger. It's pretty much the same victory plan that Bush has for Iraq.

At the end of the story, he's crowned Caspian X. (Spoiler Alert: he's not a Black Muslim.) King Caspian is not sure that he's worthy of the throne. Supposedly his own opinion of himself is because he's so modest and humble. But let's look at Caspian's glorious résumé. He runs away in the night like a yellow dog, he doesn't look where he's going and gets whonked in the head by a tree, he has his unconscious butt saved by two dwarfs, and then he summons some little kids to fight his battle for him.

"Possibly not worthy"? "Modest and humble"? Yeah, right. "Knows full well he sucks harder than a Eureka Upright Vacuum Cleaner" is more like it.



King Miraz may as well be wearing a baseball cap with the words "BAD GUY" on the front. Miraz became king by killing his brother and usurping his throne, then plotting to remove his Danish nephew, Hamlet... er, we mean, Prince Caspian. Apparently in Narnia the plagiarism laws are loosely enforced.

Miraz attempts to wipe out all existing traces of Old Narnia's history, but his Wikipedia-style edit war is unsuccessful. So he leads his army halfway across Narnia before inexplicably agreeing to fight a one-on-one, winner-takes-all duel. For a kingdom he already rules. Slick move. Miraz may have been wearing his gold crown two sizes too tight.



The Pevensie Children— Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy

are the main heroes of the saga. All four Pevensies have strong wills, good hearts and totally great hair.

Peter Pevensie, the oldest, has the pleasantly blank good looks of a *Sims* avatar, but not the acting range.

Susan proves her mettle by tirelessly lugging her lips across the unforgiving Narnia terrain.

The stumblebum Edmund almost died in the first movie, twice. But he manages to win his greatest triumph to date in *Prince Caspian*, when he just barely out-wrestles a dwarf. Give the guy another four or five movies and eventually, Edmund may work his way up to being able to dribble a basketball one-handed.

Lucy carries a "healing cordial," and just one drop of it can bring someone back from death's door. It is Lucy's unwavering belief that guides the children through perilous territory, though it's a lot easier to be brave when you're the lucky one carrying a jug of magically convenient get-well juice.

At the end of the story, Aslan tells Peter and Susan, who are 14 and 13 years old respectively, that they will never be allowed back to Narnia again because they're now too old. That's Hollywood for you!

Reepicheep is that rarest of Disney-related characters: a mouse who actually does something. He valiantly leads a squadron of 12 warrior mice against the enemy, where they run around and stab the soldiers' feet. After Reepicheep's tail is cut off in the fight, Aslan the lion uses his omnipotent energy to restore it. For an all-powerful godhead, Aslan is a bit of a micromanager.



Dwarfs are native to Narnia, and come in two varieties: loyal and kind Red Dwarfs, and the more malevolent Black Dwarfs. They are distinguished by the color of their hair, though to be 100% certain, it's always a good idea to check that the carpet matches the drapes. Other mystical inhabitants of Narnia include Gnomes, Ogres, Mermen, Centaurs, Dragons, Sea Serpents, Unicorns and Presbyterians.

Trumpkin the Dwarf is captured by Miraz's soldiers, who transport him all the way to the Great River to be murdered. Because it's not as if they could just stay home and drown a dwarf in the sink. After Trumpkin is rescued by the Pevensies, he tells them about the good old days in Narnia. It's the most touching movie scene featuring a nostalgic dwarf since Billy Crystal reminisced about Yankee Stadium in *City Slickers*. The Pevensie children grow to love Trumpkin, and give him the nickname "D.L.F.," which is short for "Dear Little Friend." This acronym is not to be confused with "D.I.L.F.," which stands for something else entirely.



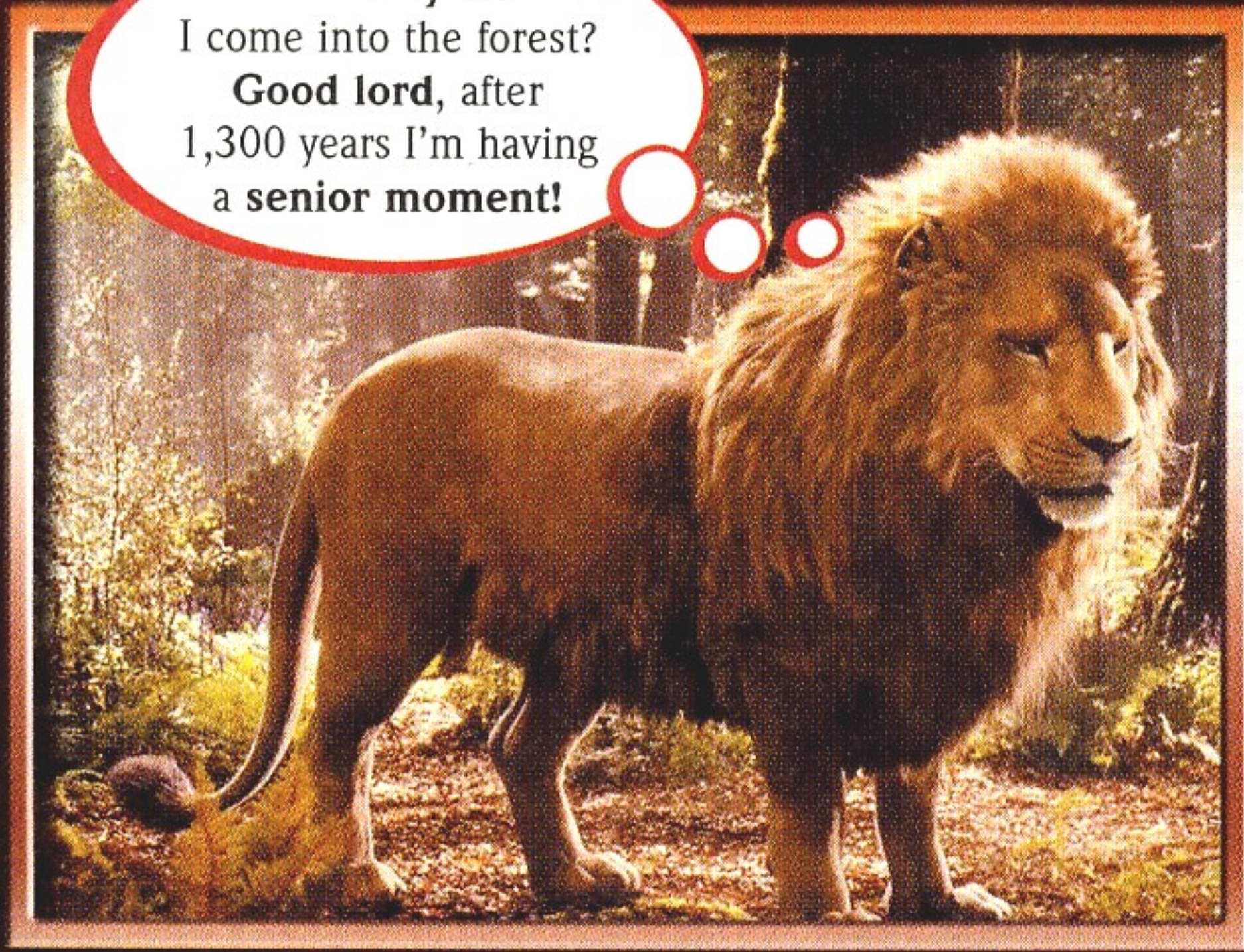
A KICK IN THE ASLAN DEPT.

MAD's Bewitching PRINCE CASPIAN Outtakes

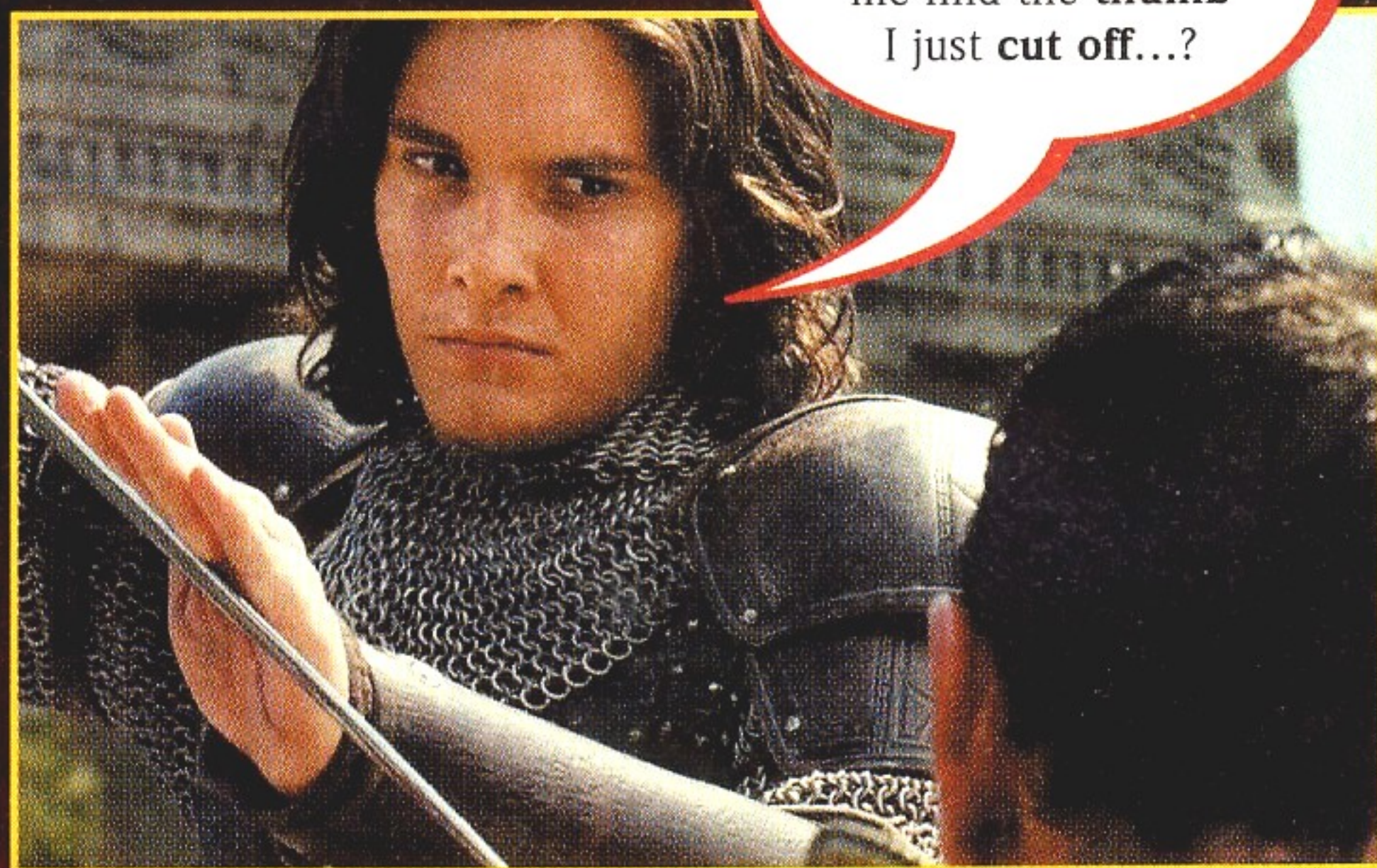
Do I hear the song
"It's a Small World
After All"? Wow, those Disney
self-promotion hacks
think of everything!



Now **why** did
I come into the forest?
Good lord, after
1,300 years I'm having
a **senior moment**!



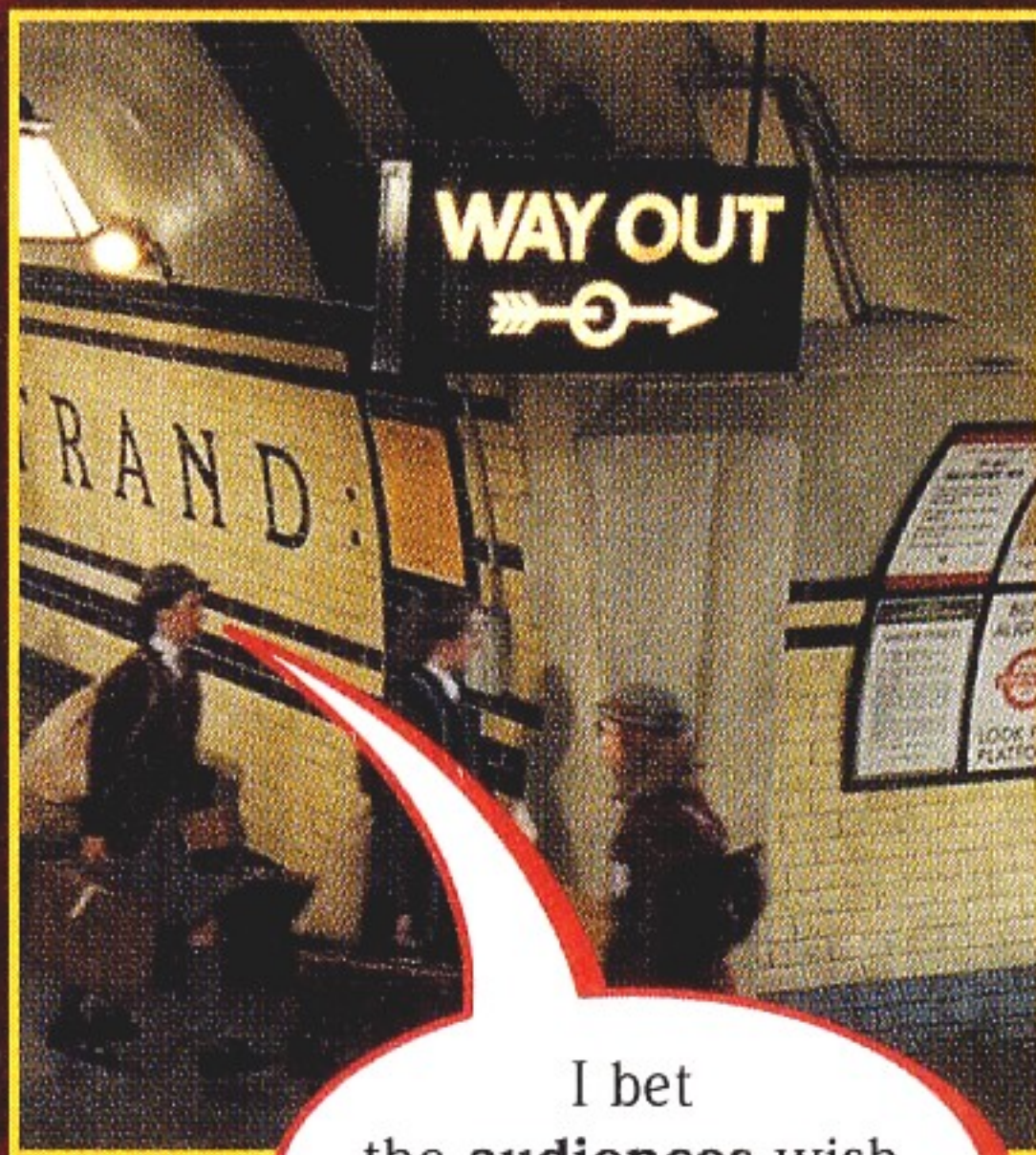
Before I **kill you**,
would you mind helping
me find the **thumb**
I just **cut off**...?



Is that a
Lacoste logo?

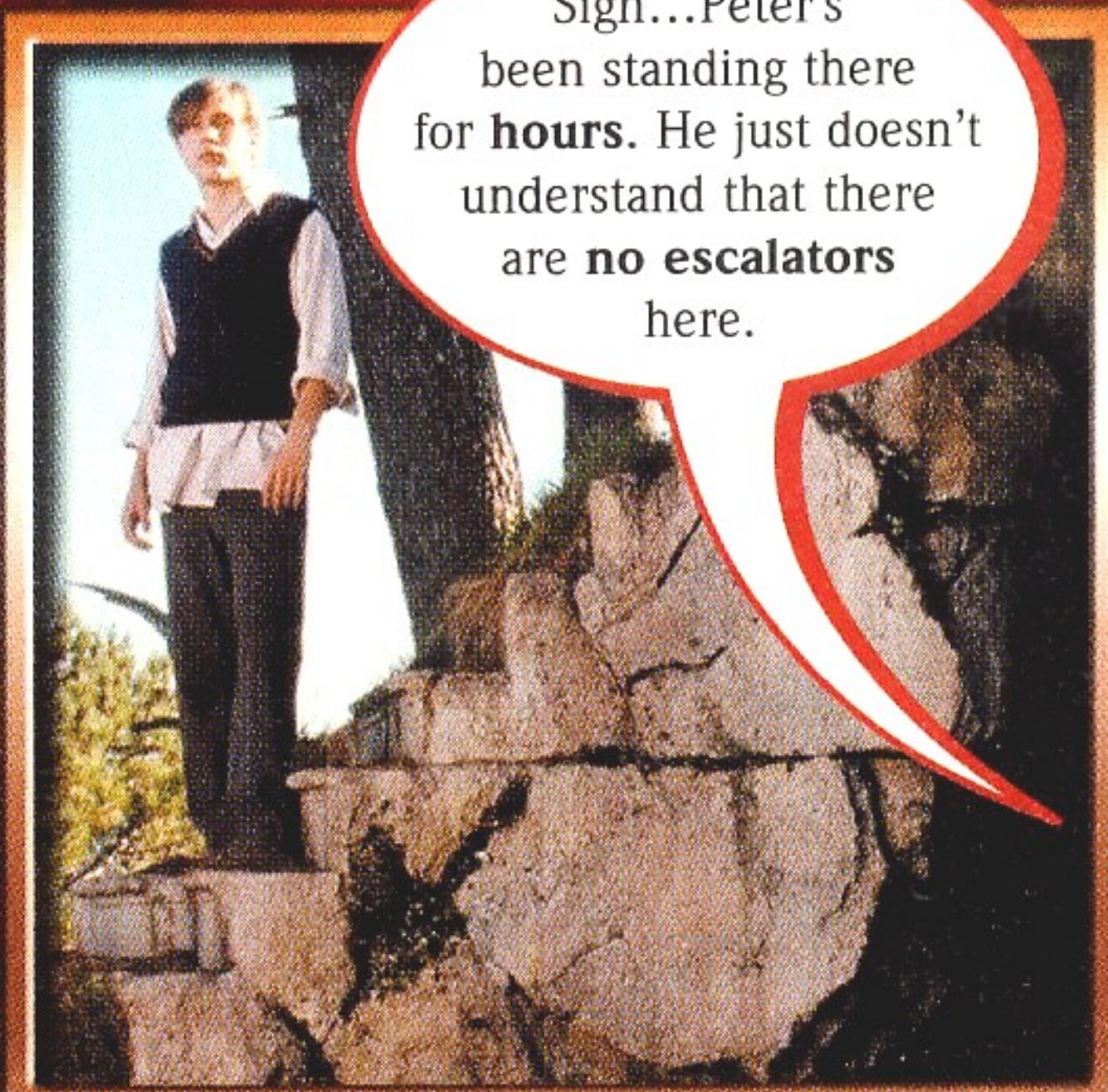


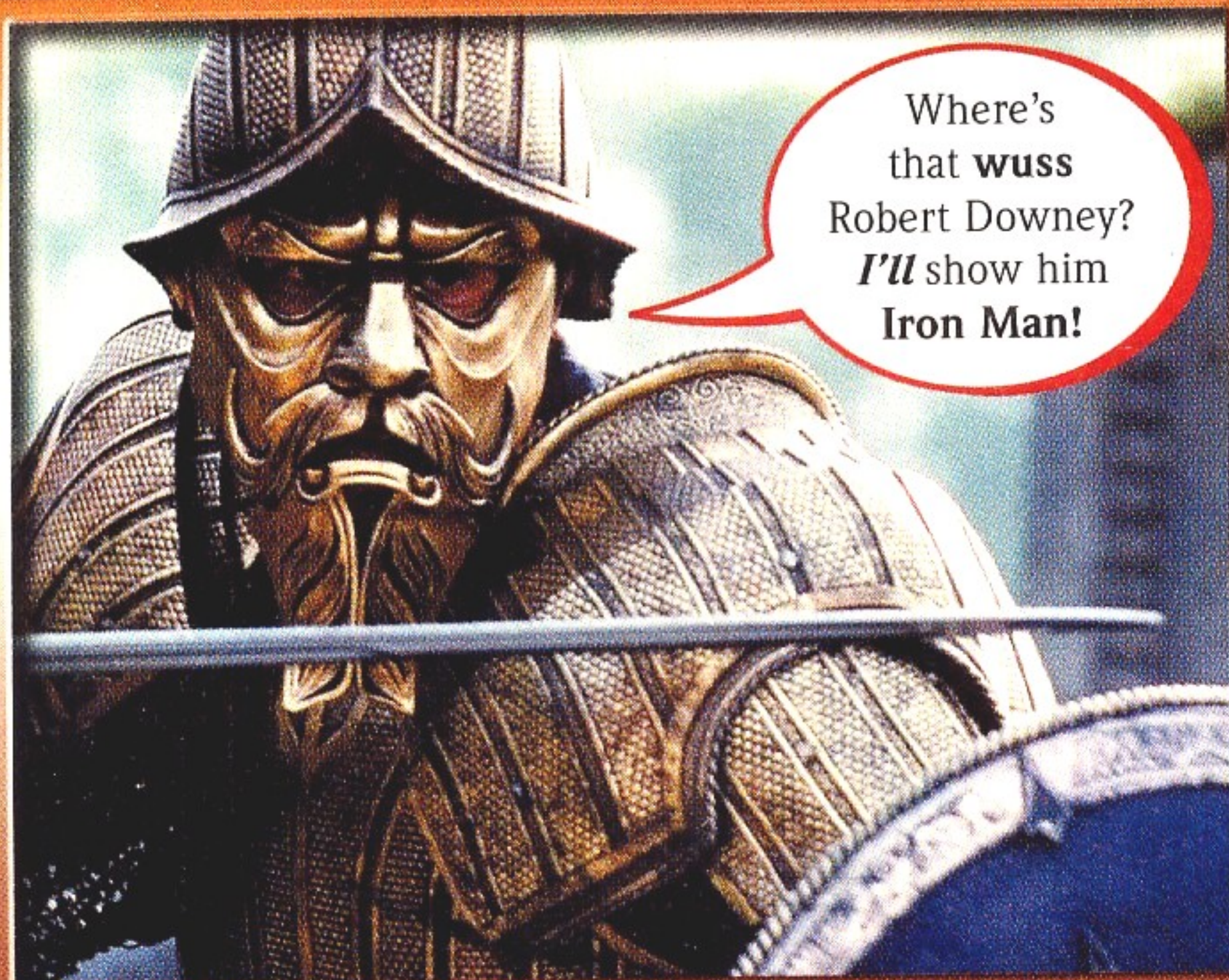
WAY OUT
→



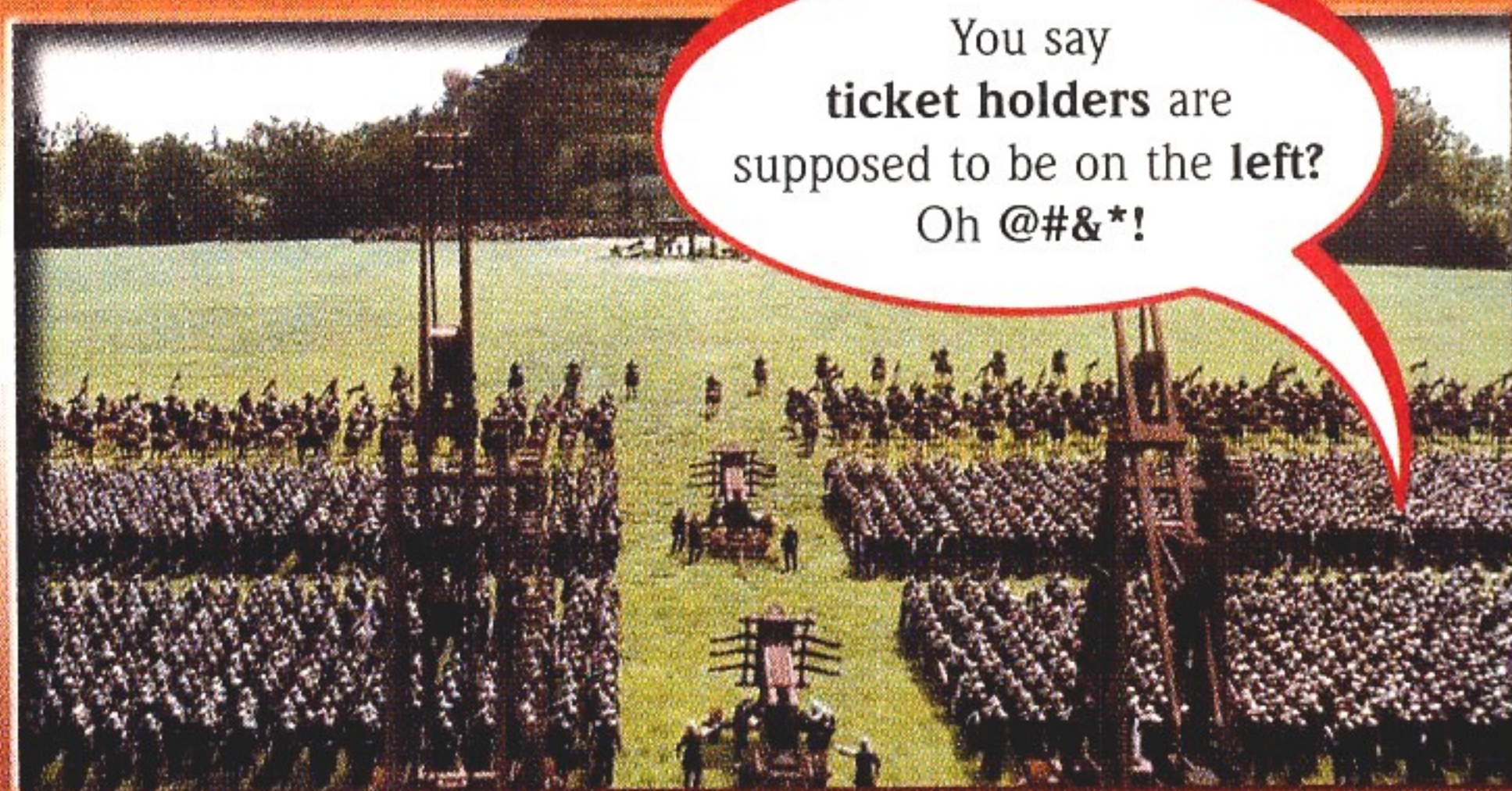
I bet
the **audiences** wish
they had a sign
like **that**...

Sigh...Peter's
been standing there
for **hours**. He just doesn't
understand that there
are **no escalators**
here.





Where's
that **wuss**
Robert Downey?
I'll show him
Iron Man!

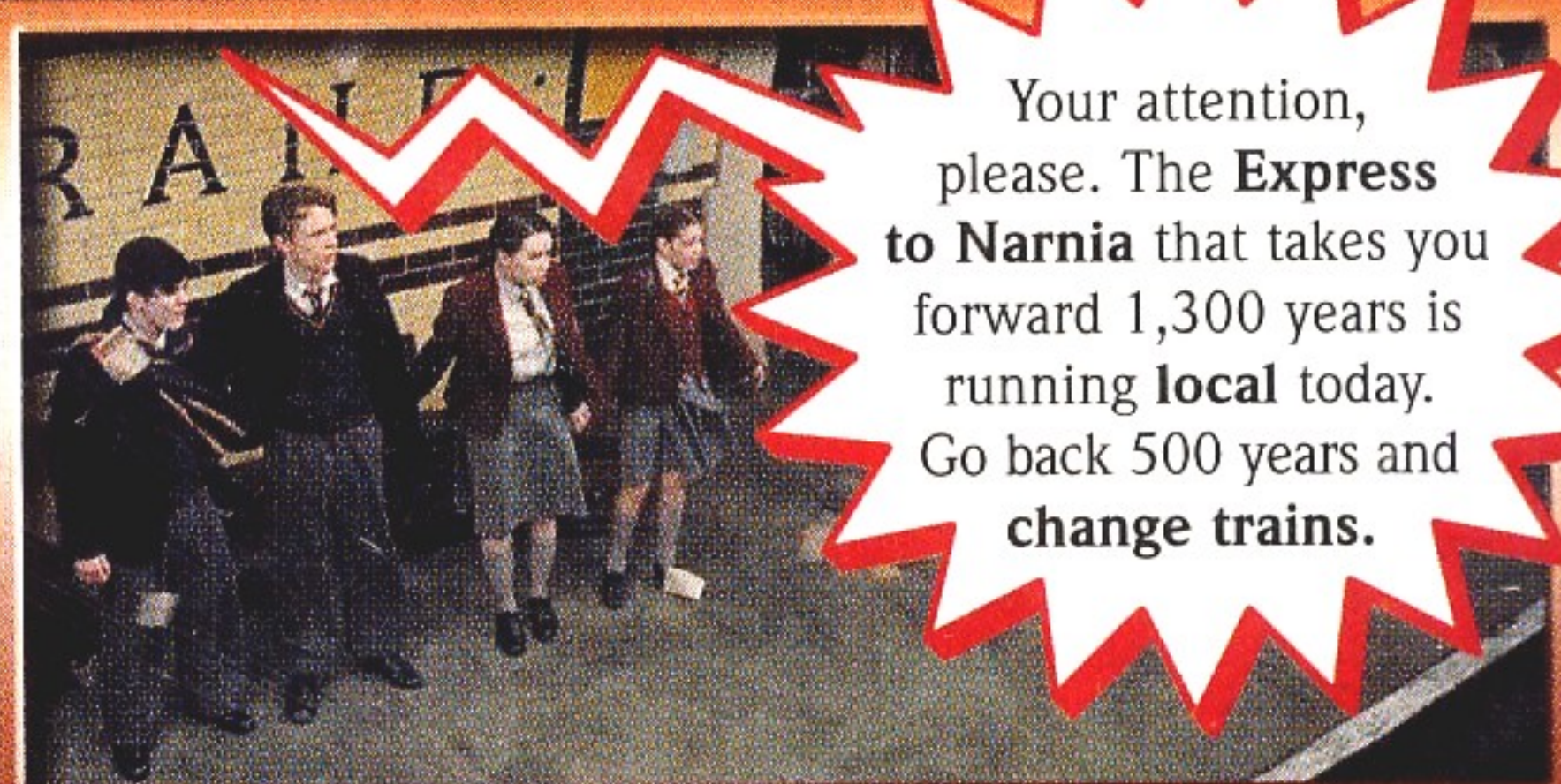


You say
ticket holders are
supposed to be on the **left**?
Oh @#&*!

Oh God!
My
enchanted forest
allergies are
going **nuts**!

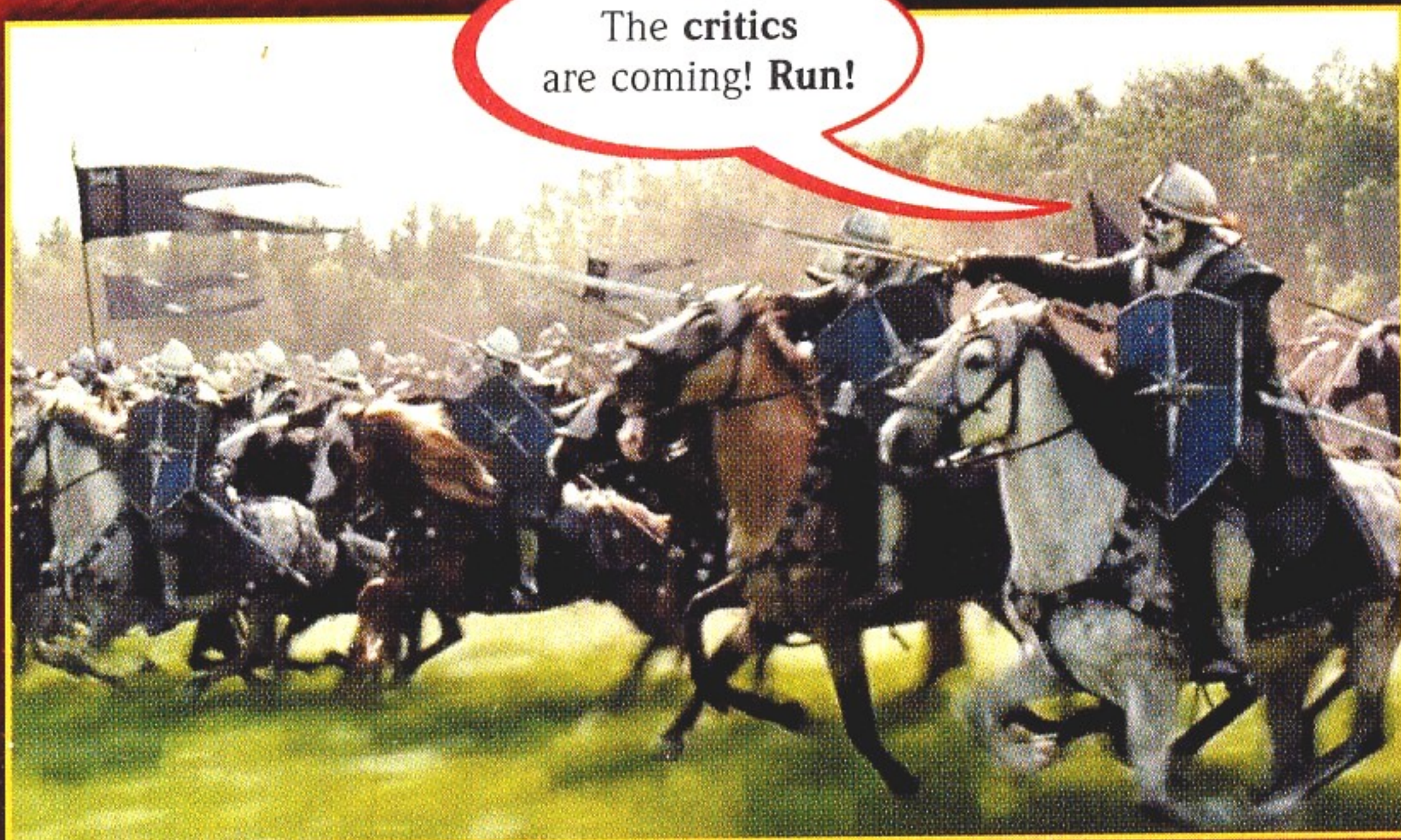


Now, exactly
at **what point** does
Harrison Ford
show up?



Your attention,
please. The **Express**
to **Narnia** that takes you
forward 1,300 years is
running **local** today.
Go back 500 years and
change trains.

The **critics**
are coming! **Run!**

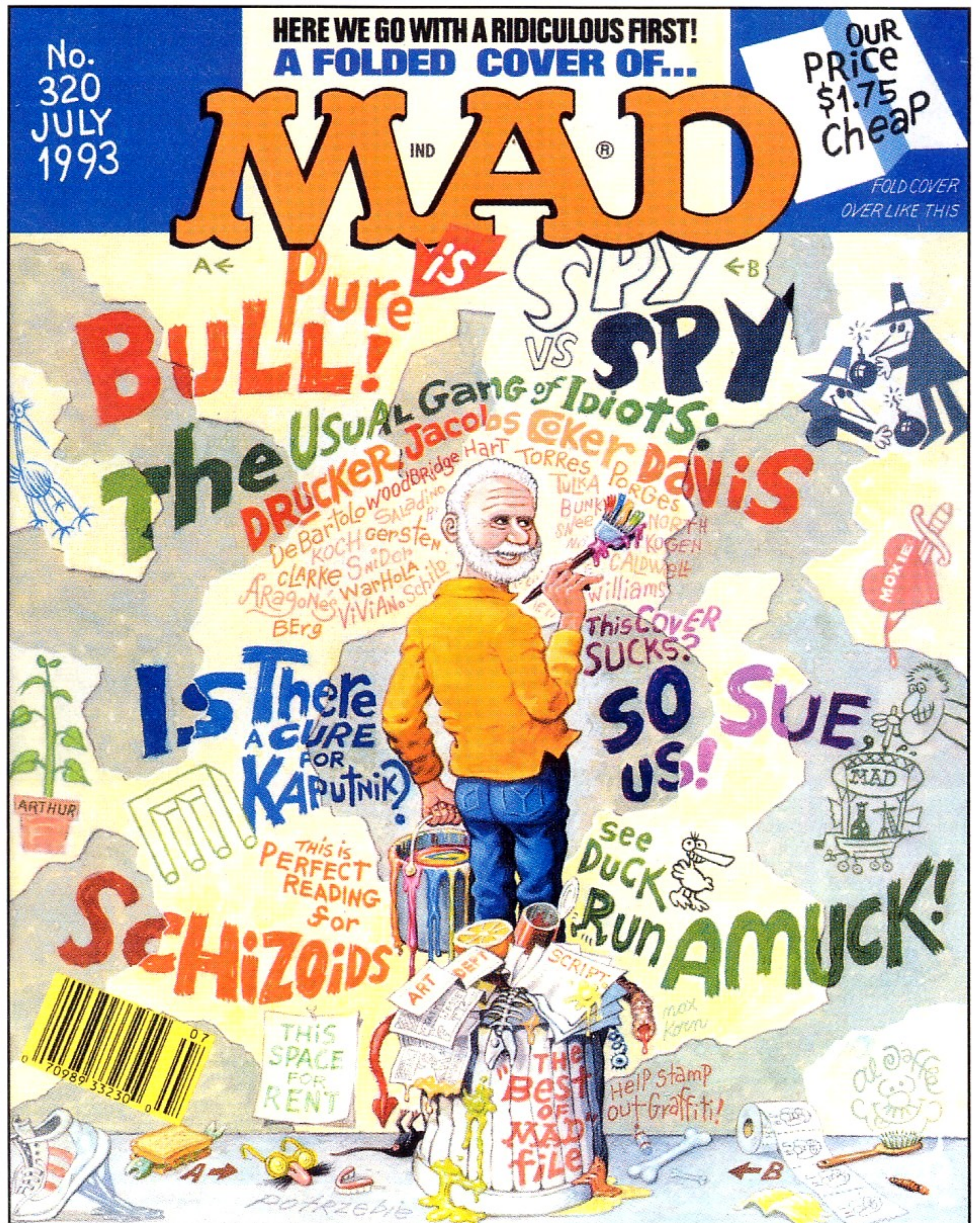
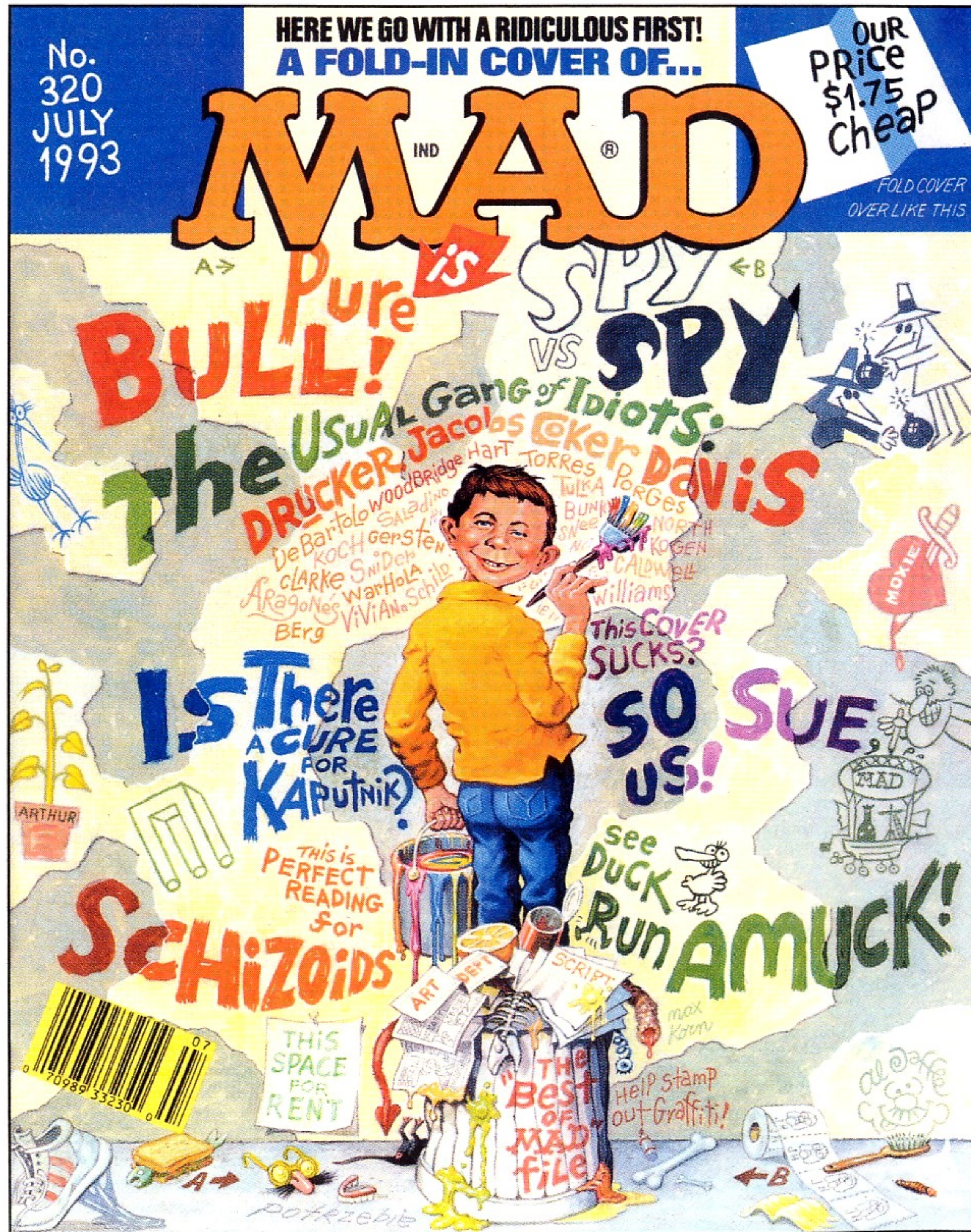


I **can**
be a cereal
pitchman!
Just listen:
They're
Grrrr-eat!



WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Can you find the 9 idiotic changes we've made to this magazine cover?



ANSWERS: 1) The word "FOLD-ING" has been replaced with "FOLDED." 2) The arrow next to the "A" is reversed. 3) The White Spy is now black. 4) Flip the Bird has four legs. 5) Alfred's face has been replaced with Al Jaffee's. 6) Arthur the Plant is now green. 7) The "POIUYT" has an extra spindle. 8) Duck is facing the opposite direction. 9) Sergio's mustache is gone.



WHERE WILL THE WORLD
TURN A BLIND EYE TO
TORTURE AND HUMAN
RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
IN THE MONTHS AHEAD?

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

Individuals are mistreated all around the world. Worse still, this injustice is ignored by most of society. However, there's one place in particular where poor, unfortunate souls are held captive and forced to learn their lesson. To find out where such a dreadful place exists, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



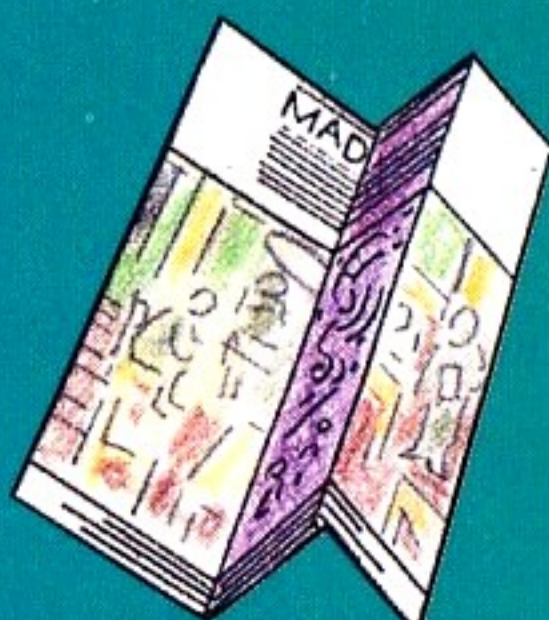
WHILE MANY SUFFER, OTHERS ENJOY
SUMPTUOUS LIVES. WHILE LIFE GROWS GRIMMER
FOR THE SUFFERERS, THE LUCKY ONES
SCHEDULE FUN AND GAMES TO MAKE 'EM DROOL
WITH EXCITEMENT AND PLEASURE.

A

WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

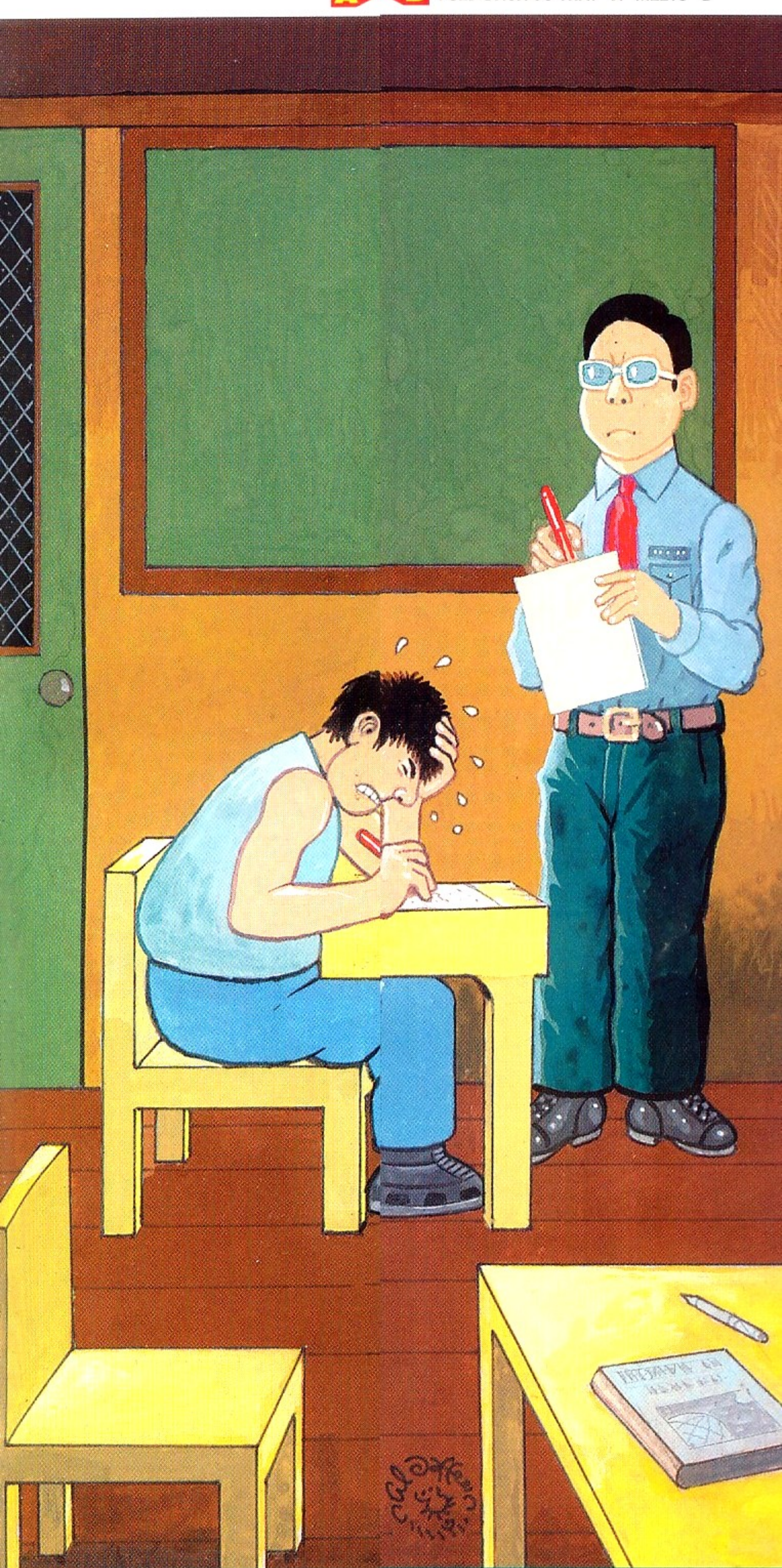
B

WHERE WILL THE WORLD
TURN A BLIND EYE TO
TORTURE AND HUMAN
RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
IN THE MONTHS AHEAD?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A **B** FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



SUMMER
SCHOOL

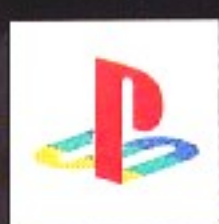
A **B**

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...HIS ARE JUST
A BIT MORE OBVIOUS

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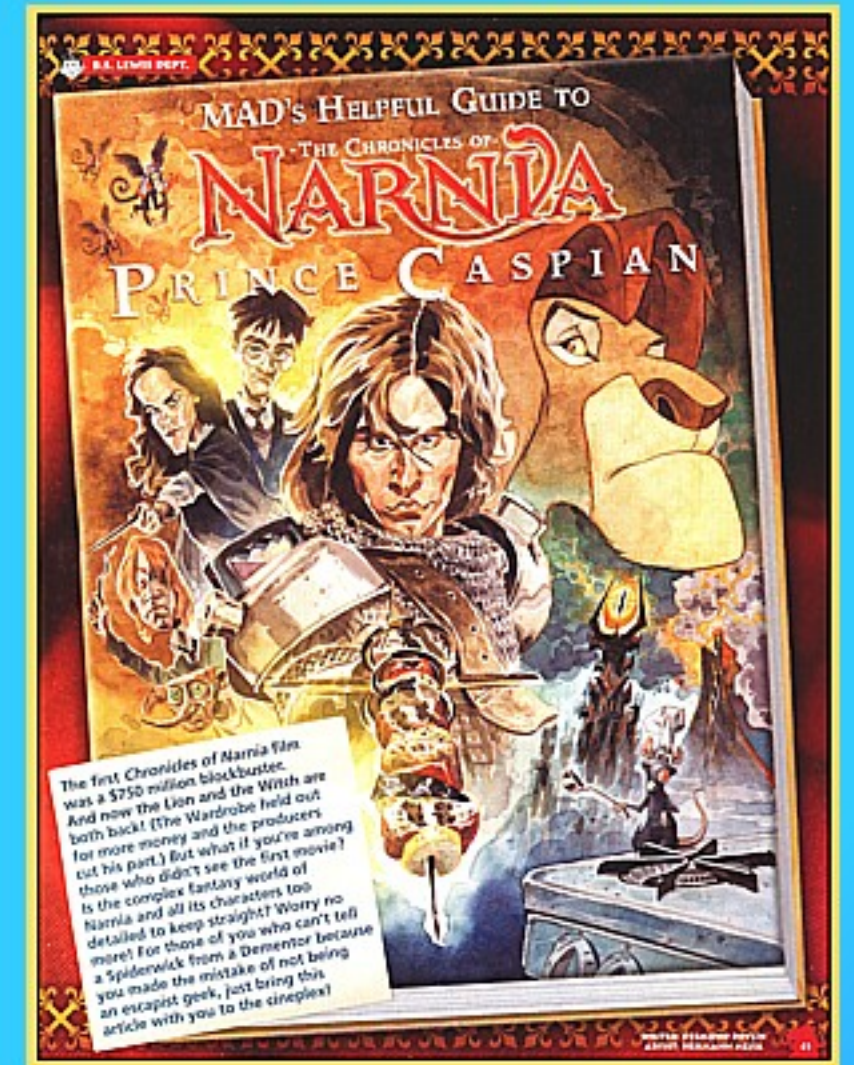
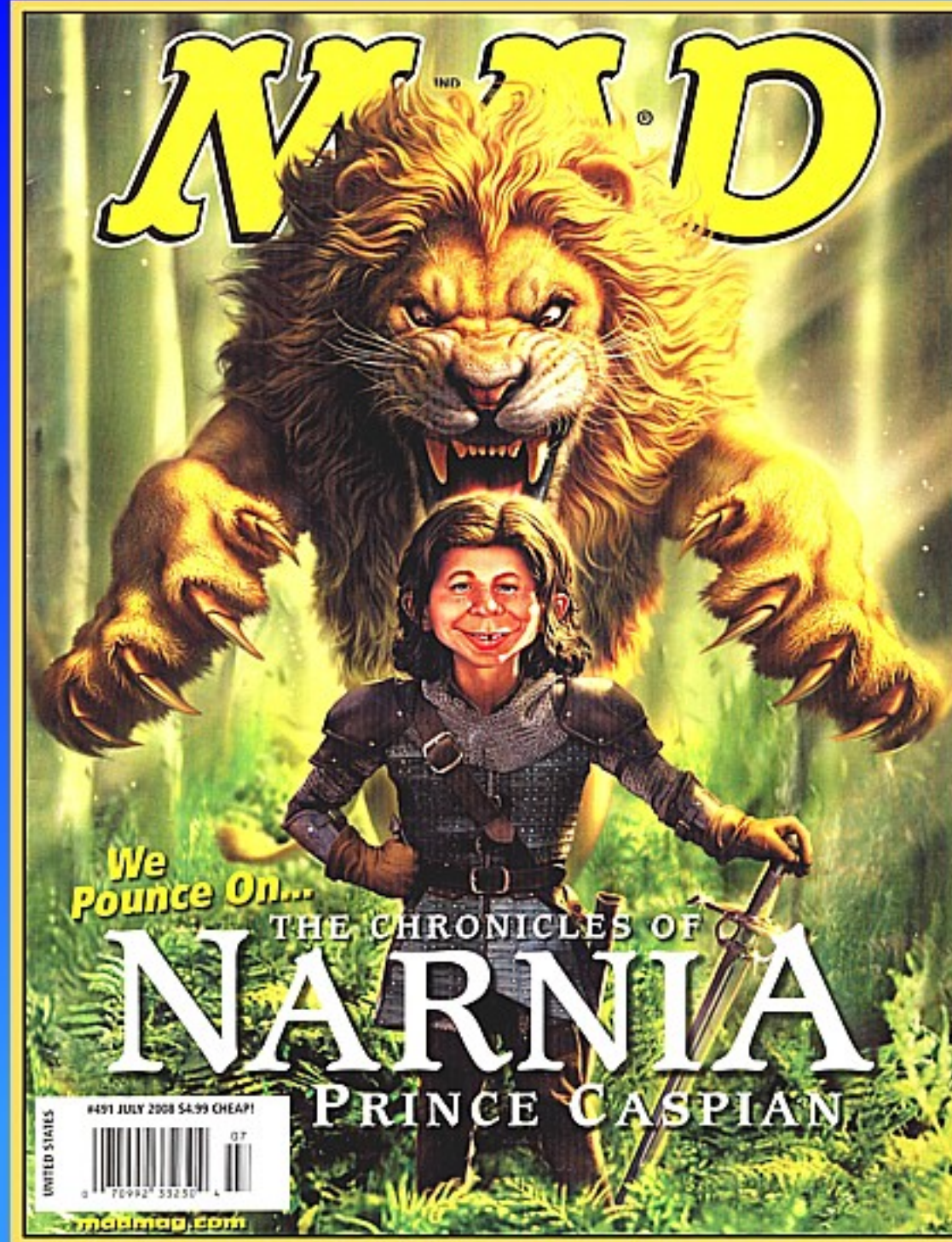
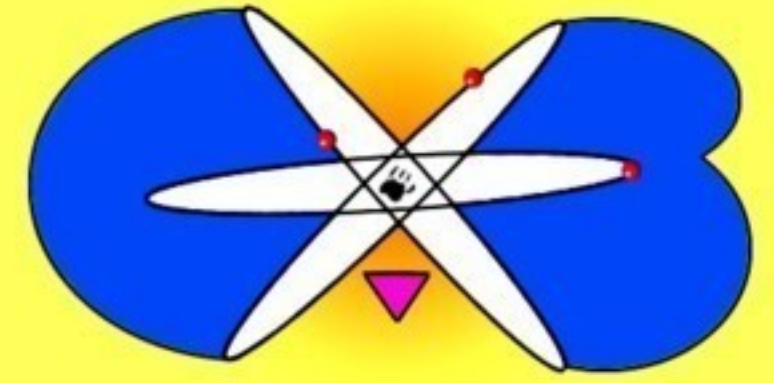
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Mad Magazine #491

Mad Magazine



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