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MAD

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NUMBER 518
DECEMBER 2012

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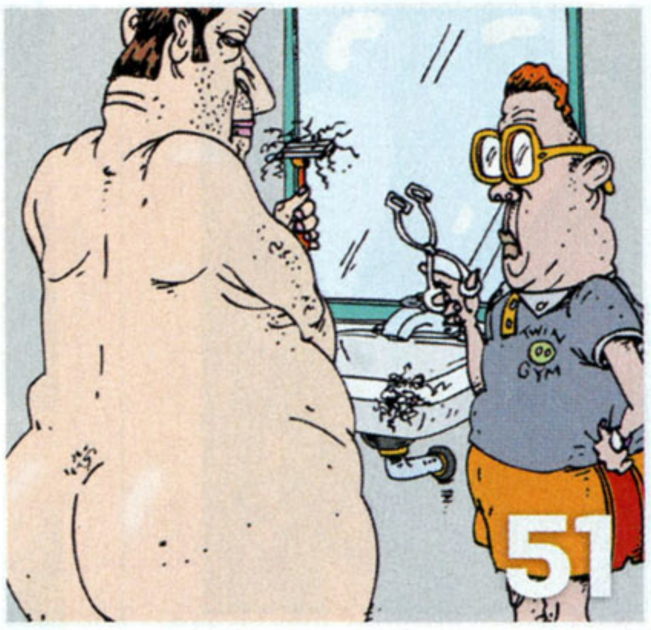
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COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

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Letters and Tomatoes



MAD FAN OF THE MONTH

Hey, I love Spy vs. Spy — it's my #1. Everyone calls me The King of Spies. I decided to show you some things I have. I play the Spy vs. Spy app, watch Spy vs. Spy almost every day on YouTube, draw comics every day and watch MAD. Spy vs. Spy rules! I hope you print my letter. It's my dream.

Peter Clyde Georgatos
Long Island, NY



Easy Clyder — You're The King of Spies?!? But that's impossible! MAD Senior Editor Joe Raiola already considers *himself* the King of Spies! And there can only be one! This can be settled one way and one way only — COMBAT! So grab your oversized white fedora and giant mouse-trap, bring it to our offices, and let the carnage begin! If there's ever a...look out, Peter! He's right behind you! RAIOLA! —Ed.

REUBEN ELBOWS WITH THE GREATS

We've always thought that Tom Richmond was pretty great — so we were pleasantly surprised to learn that other people actually feel the same way! This year at the National Cartoonist Society's 66th Annual Reuben Awards, Tom took home the award for "Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year" — the highest award that can be given to a professional cartoonist. It's a pretty outstanding honor (seriously, it says so right in the award's title)! Congratulations, Tom — we'll fondly remember you, should you decide to stop slumming it with us!



L-R: longtime MAD editor Nick Meglin, previous Reuben winners Al Jaffee, Jack Davis, Sergio Aragonēs, Tom Richmond and MAD Art Director Sam Viviano in a decadent display of conspicuous consumption from the one-percenters!

Photo by David Folkman

DRAWING'S ATTENTION

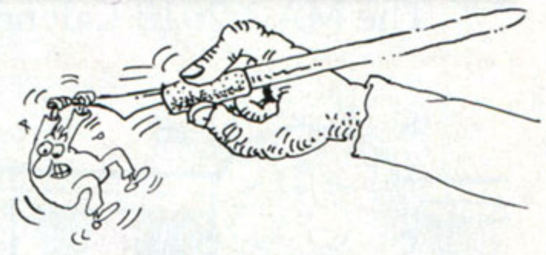
And let me just say that I am a HUGE fan of your magazine and TV show. One reason I wanted to write to you is I thought of a new section you could add: Useless Superpowers. I thought of the idea when I bought rubber swim boots from my neighbor's yard sale. I felt like wearing them, so I wore them to the store. I noticed the floor was cold, so I thought a useless superpower could be being able to tell the temperature of the floor. I also included a comic I thought of because my mom is always saying this.

Henry Childs • Roanoke, VA

Regarding Henry — We can't really help you with your sensitive soles, but we did like your comic! Unfortunately, we didn't like it so much that we wouldn't ruin it by letting one of our cartoonists illustrate it! Take it away, Jacob Lambert! —Ed.



P.S. — Good luck trying to eat that ketchup!



OH DEER!

This is "Sweetie." I know he's not a celebrity in the Hollywood sense, but he sure is a star in my neighborhood. He'll be two years old this fall and already has questionable reading habits. His favorite parts are the "Drawn Out Dramas" and the Fold-In.

David Schroeder • Eau Claire, WI

The Schroed Less Travelled — We're surprised Sweetie doesn't enjoy some of our other features, such as A MAD Look at Salt Licks, the Fawn-Doe-lini Pages and Snappy Antlers to Stupid Questions! Now, if you'll excuse us, we've got to go decontaminate the office — your envelope was teeming with deer ticks! —Ed.



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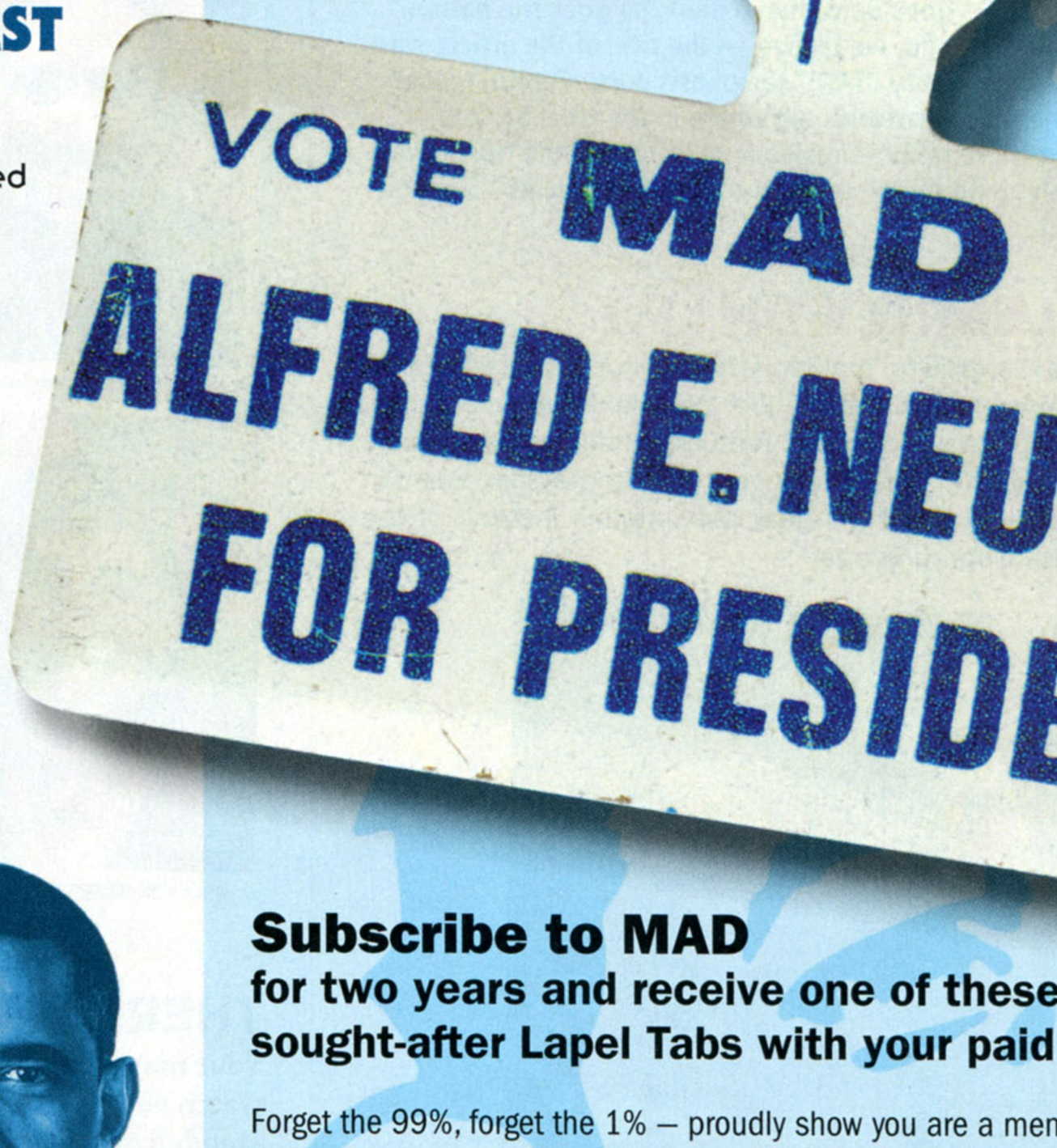
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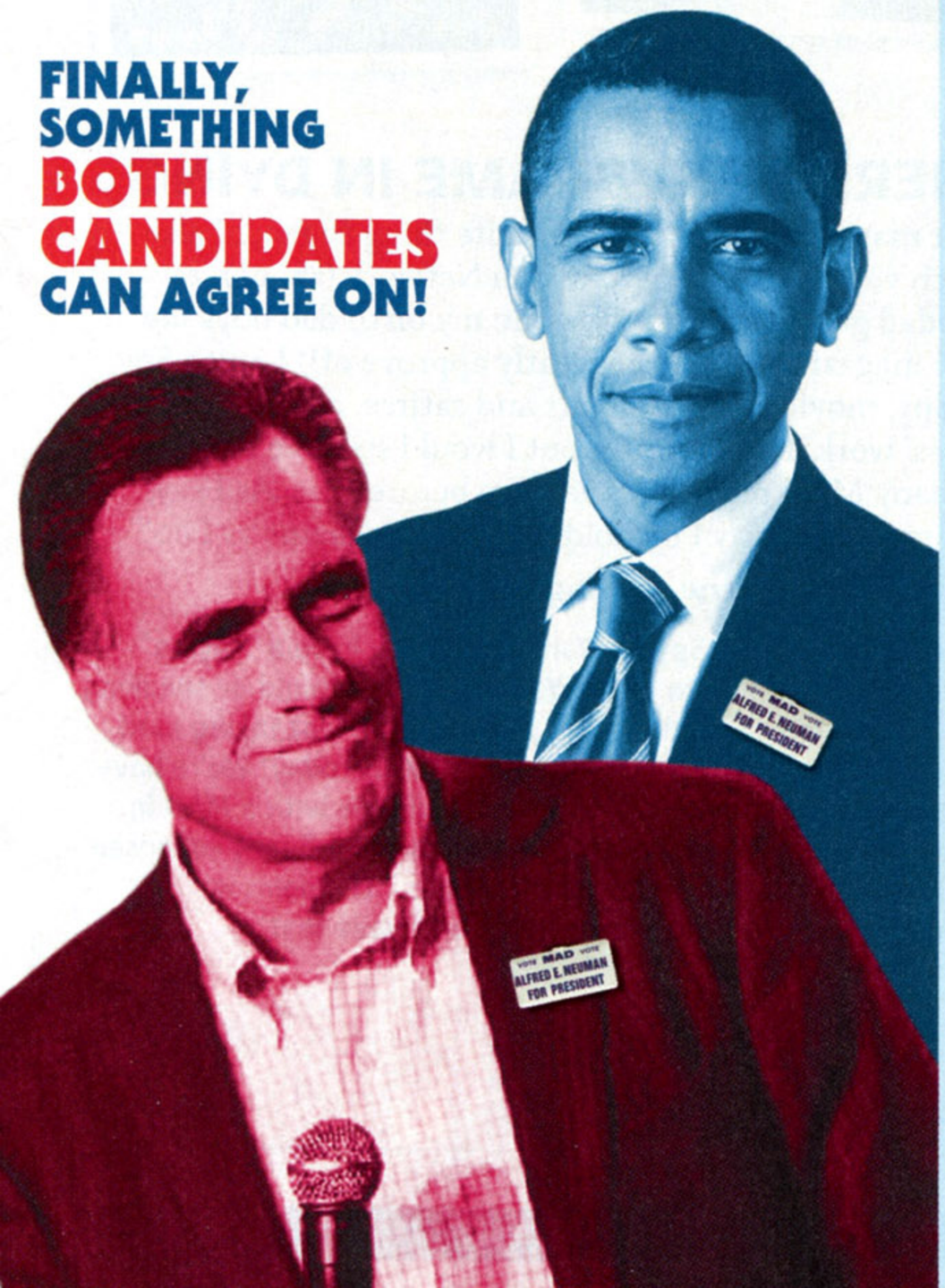
Made in the USA (That ALONE makes it rare!), we are now offering an authentic Lapel Tab from the original 1964-68 batch — these are NOT replicas — with each paid two-year subscription to MAD.

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Not actual size. Duh!

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Letters and Tomatoes



PRIMARY SELECTIONS

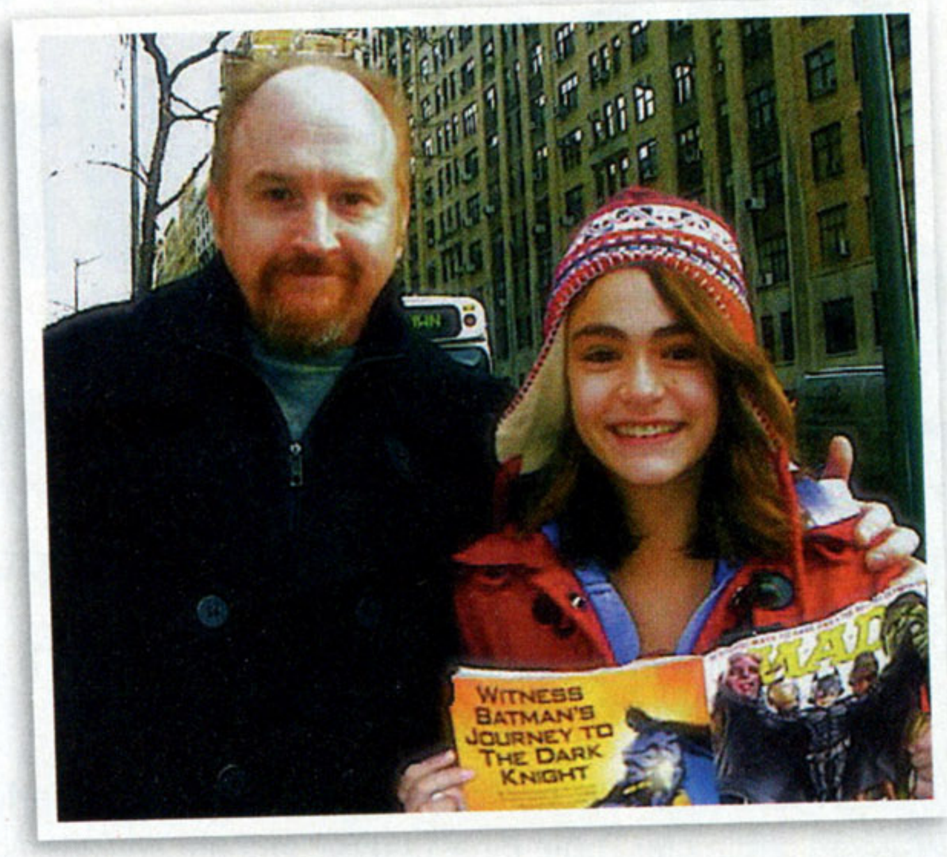
In issue #517, the article on Romney's campaign trail did not include any of the U.S. territories which do participate in the primaries.

J.C. Rivera • Ridgewood, NY

Moon Rivera — As a New York State resident, we can understand how you'd be concerned about us leaving out the territories. Who can ignore such political hotbeds as Guam, The Johnston Atoll and Kingman Reef? After all, you know what they always say: "As goes Bajo Nuevo Bank, so goes the nation." However — and this is a minor point, we realize — the title of the article was: "How Mitt Romney Plans to Win Every STATE" (emphasis ours). Careful readers will note that we don't mention territories anywhere in the title. So, you know, maybe stop writing these rabble-rousing love letters to the Northern Mariana Islands and brush up on the ol' reading comprehension, eh? See you in the voting booth! —Ed.

CELEBRITY SNAPS

A huge thanks to Amelia Margolis for grabbing this shot of superstar stand-up and star of *Louie*, **Louis C.K.**! Awesome job! (But next time, maybe try using your camera's "Red Hair Reduction" feature!) Great news — since Louis C.K. is on our "Nifty Fifty" list, Amelia gets a limited-edition Batman statue by Sergio Aragonēs and a TWO-year subscription instead of the normal one-year sub for Celebrity Snaps!



Let that be a reminder to all of you — if you have a picture of a celebrity with MAD, send it our way and let the prizes and accolades roll in!

MAKE A DUMB WISH FOUNDATION™

My name is Eric, I'm 11, and I love your magazine. I especially like John Caldwell's work. Could you make a John Caldwell collection? That's my dumb wish. Thanks for your consideration.

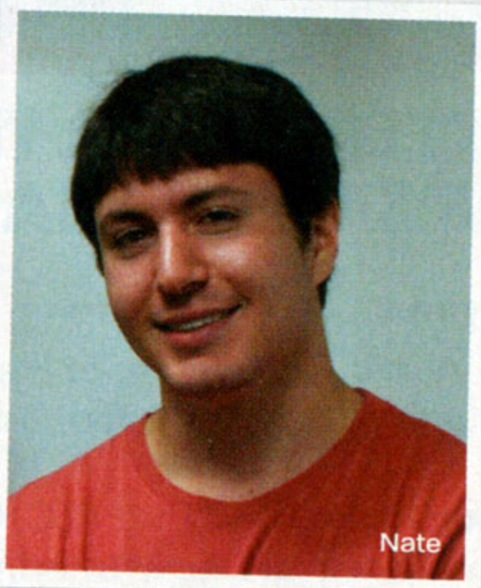
Eric Klein • Amherst, MA

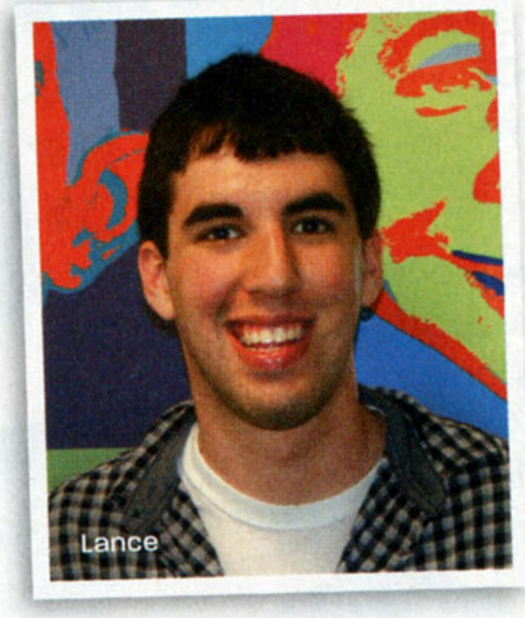
Cruel to be Klein — Here at the Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™, we hear a LOT of dumb wishes (it sort of goes with the territory) — but as dumb wishes go, this one may just take the cake! A book made up *entirely* of John Caldwell pieces? Why would you do that to the world?!? Unfortunately, we just can't bring ourselves to grant your wish. But we're not *totally* heartless! In this very issue, we're including a John Caldwell-themed 2013 calendar! (A Caldwellendar, if you will.) Enjoy! —Ed.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTHS

We'd like to give a huge thanks to the 2012 MAD Summer Interns. You may know them as **Jason Kushner**, **Nate Chastain**, **Lance Wildorf**, and **Kareem Taftaf** — but your guess is as good as ours, since we never bother to learn the names of our interns! Still, thank you, guys! We'll always remember you as being dedicated, hard-working and energetic. Truly, you showed that there is no "I" in "Team." But there are several in "Minimum Wage Internship." And for that, we thank you!


Jason


Nate


Lance

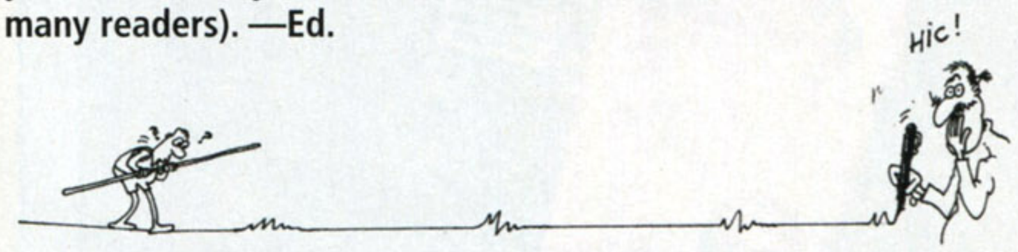

Kareem

THERE'S NO SHAME IN DYING

Your magazine is my most favorite thing to read. I also watch your TV show on Cartoon Network (though my stepdad greatly disapproves). So my birth dad buys me your magazine. (Which I greatly approve of!) I enjoy Spy vs. Spy, movie and TV spoofs and satires, and Sergio Aragonés' work. I am only 11, but I would still like to collect as many MAD magazines as I can before I die. As I say, "If I must die, may I be holding MAD magazine as I do!"

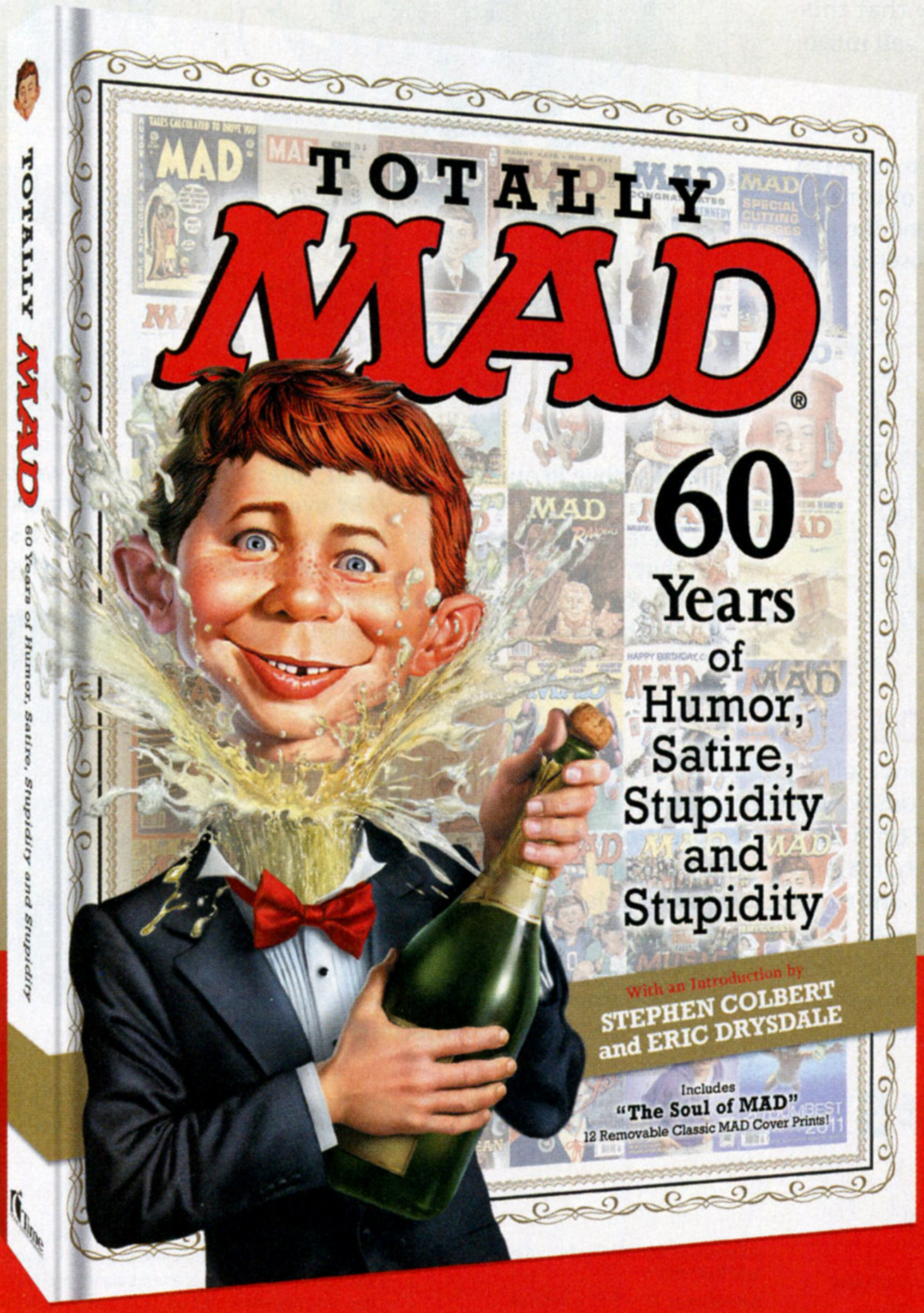
Taelar Van Luchene • Billings, MT

Tinker Taeler Soldier Spy — Wait...what? You have a "saying" about how you'd like to die?!? You're 11! You should be sneaking into R-rated movies and making prank calls — not taking hard stances on the conditions of your death! Kids today! We're having trouble even thinking of how you could die with a MAD in your hands! Unless you were a MAD editor who finally collapsed after reading one too many morbid letters...The point is, you need to stay with us, Taelar (we don't have that many readers). —Ed.



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- Outrageous artwork of Don Martin and Tom Bunk
- Movie and TV satires by Mort Drucker, Jack Davis and Tom Richmond
- The *MAD* Strip Club
- The Fundalini Pages
- And much more

Absolutely everyone should buy this book. No exceptions will be tolerated!



SPECIAL BONUS!

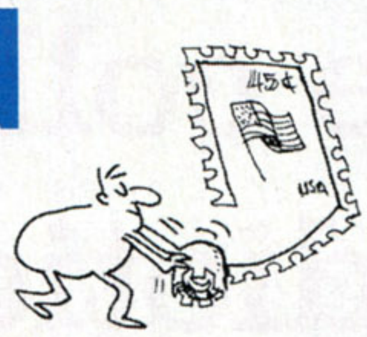
(Yes, in this book, Einstein!) "The Soul of MAD," 12 classic cover prints, ten featuring Alfred E. Neuman, MAD's gap-toothed grinning idiot mascot. These beautiful cheap reproductions are suitable for framing or wrapping fish.

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Letters and Tomatoes



STAFF INFECTION

I am a 13-year-old Boy Scout and I am interested in your magazine length. For a magazine that only has one issue every two months, don't you think that it should be longer? My other favorite magazine, *Game Informer*, can be up to TWICE the size and they have a new issue every month! I love your magazine, and the primary reason that I am writing this is not to give you a hard time, but to improve your magazine. I know how hard your staff must work to produce such excellent material, so I might suggest hiring even more staff. I know that this will cost more, but a magazine that has more material will sell more copies, therefore making you more money.

Nathan Stafford • Sherwood, OR

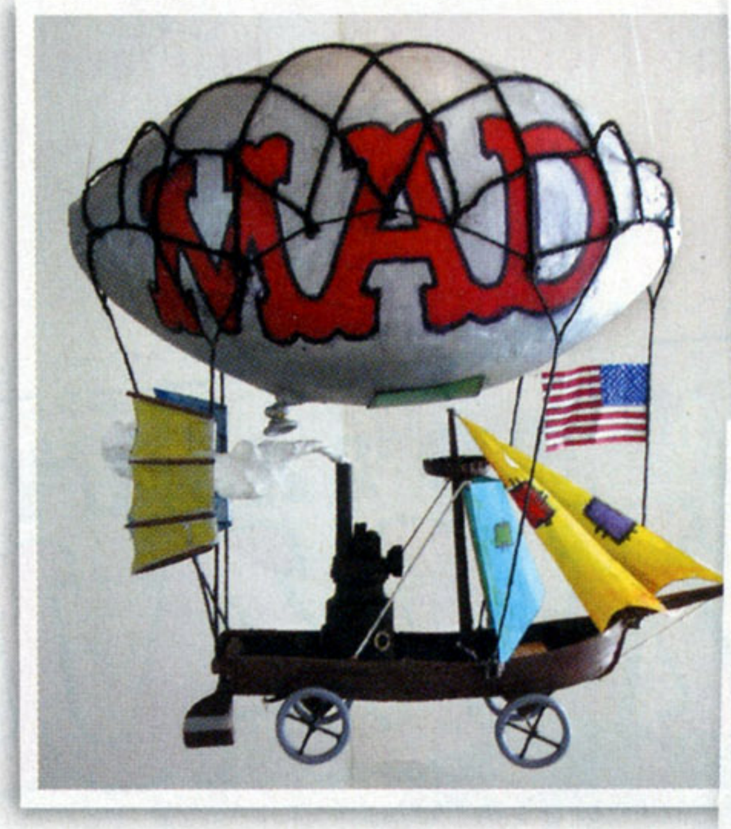
Joint Chiefs of Stafford — We were taken by your proposal, and invigorated by the challenging comparison to *Game Informer* — it's also one of our favorites (after *Dirt Wheels*, of course). However, you lost us around the time you referred to our "hard work" and "excellent material." This observation (along with the rest of your malformed ramblings) clearly proves that you have no idea what you're talking about. Thanks for reading — see ya in 60 days! —Ed.

NOT-SO-SUPER MODEL

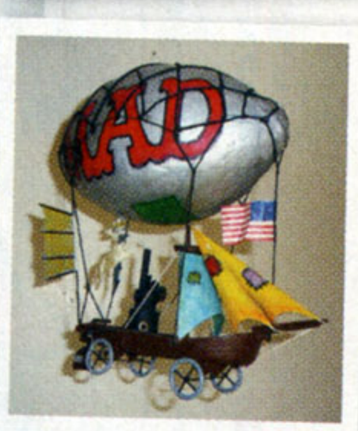
After years of waiting for Revell Models to issue a version of your zeppelin, I decided to kit-bash one for myself. Here are some pictures of the results. I hope you find my dedication and hard work worthy of being published, as I am in desperate need of some recognition in my life.

John Folansbee • Windsor, CA

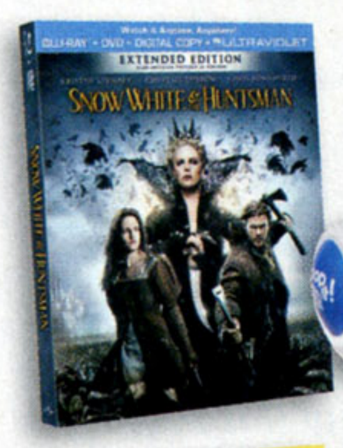
P.S. — It flies, appropriately, over my toilet — which is where I read your magazine!





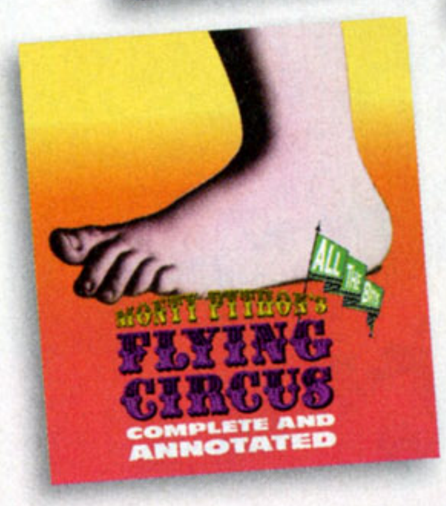


Folansbee in our Bonnet — That's pretty impressive. All we have in the MAD bathroom is a VERY over taxed Air Wick! Seriously, there are days when that thing is under more duress than a space shuttle re-entering Earth's atmosphere! What were we saying? Oh yeah, your awesome Zeppelin! Thanks for sharing — and happy pooping! —Ed.









READER ALERT

If you were lucky enough to have your letter printed in this very issue...oh brother, are you in for some sweet ol' times, just like grandpappy used to tell you about! You'll be getting a **Blu-ray Combo Pack** of both ***E.T.*** AND ***Snow White and the Huntsman: Extended Edition***, courtesy of our chums at Universal Studios Home Entertainment, an **Alfred E. Neuman Undercover T-shirt** from our sneaky pals at the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC. (go to www.spymuseumstore.org for even more MAD products!), ***Monty Python's Flying Circus: Complete and Annotated...All the Bits*** from our amigos at Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers and **Bop It! Smash** from our buds at Hasbro Gaming! What a haul! What are you waiting for? Send in them letters!



MAD #519 is on sale December 18!

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John Ficarra Editor

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Dave Croatto, Jacob Lambert Associate Editors

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Ryan Flanders Assistant Art Director
Doug Thomson Production Artist

Contributing Artists And Writers
The Usual Gang of Idiots

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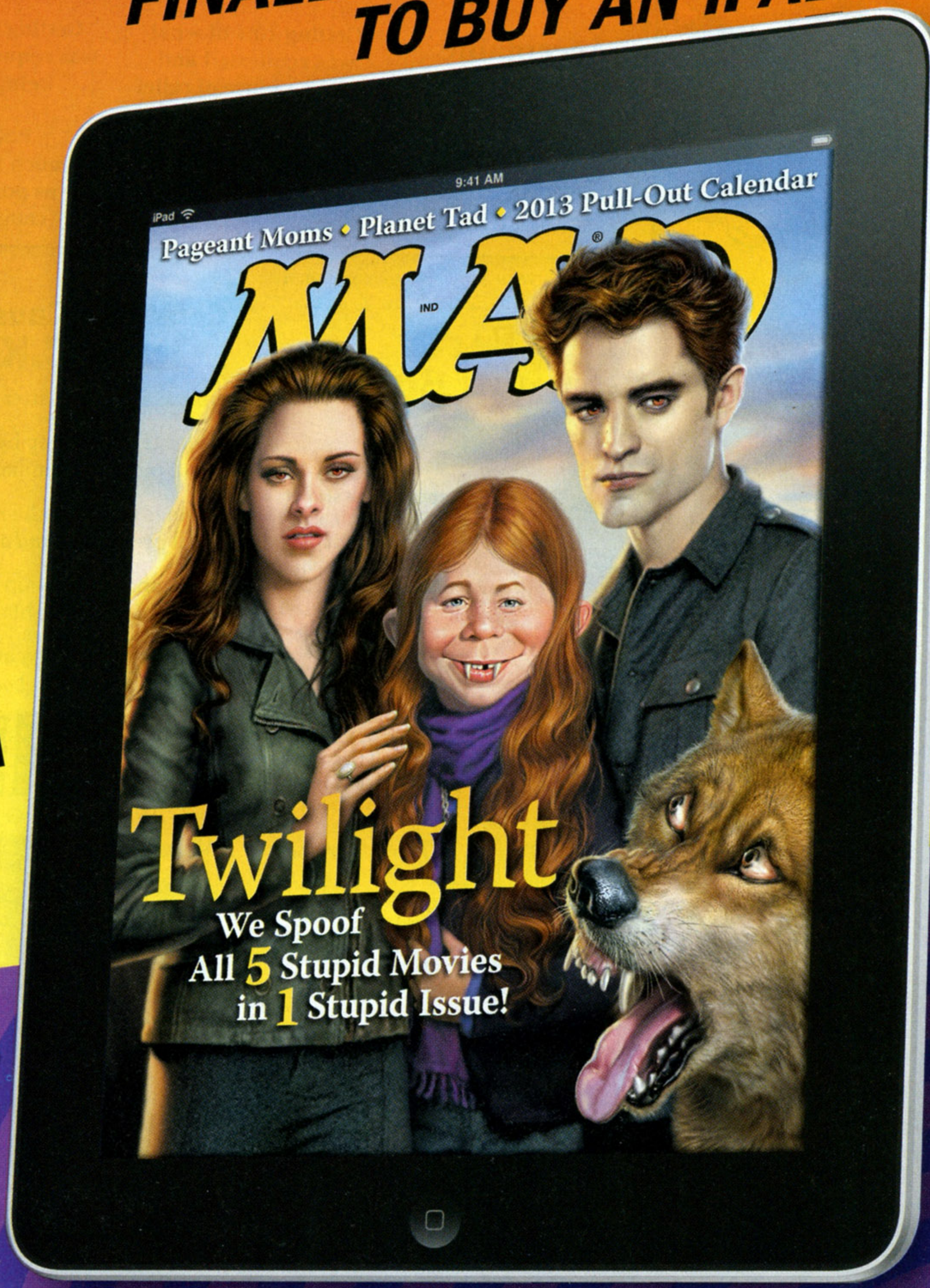
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THE FUNDALINI PAGES

YOUR HANDY ELECTION-YEAR GLOSSARY

TERM	LIBERAL	CONSERVATIVE
Media Monopoly	Most of talk radio and a cable channel no one respects	Most of Hollywood and a cable channel no one watches
Election Fraud	What takes place when hyper-enthusiasm doesn't translate into a win at the polls	What takes place when non-whites vote in higher numbers than usual
Acceptable Compromise	Getting 10% of what was requested and feeling a sense of relief	Getting 90% of what was requested and still being petulant
Winning Hearts and Minds	Telling voters they're idiots if they fall for campaign ads	Pouring as much PAC money as possible into campaign ads



Writer: Jeff Kruse Artist: Ward Sutton

Gimme a Flake

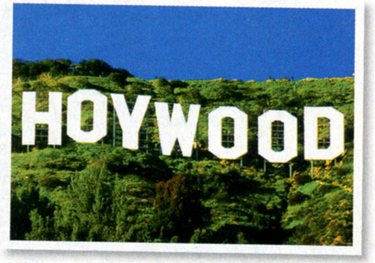


"Look, I know I'm your sponsor, but if you keep calling while the game is on I'm just gonna let you drink."

Writer and Artist: Emily Flake

Fundalini Asks...

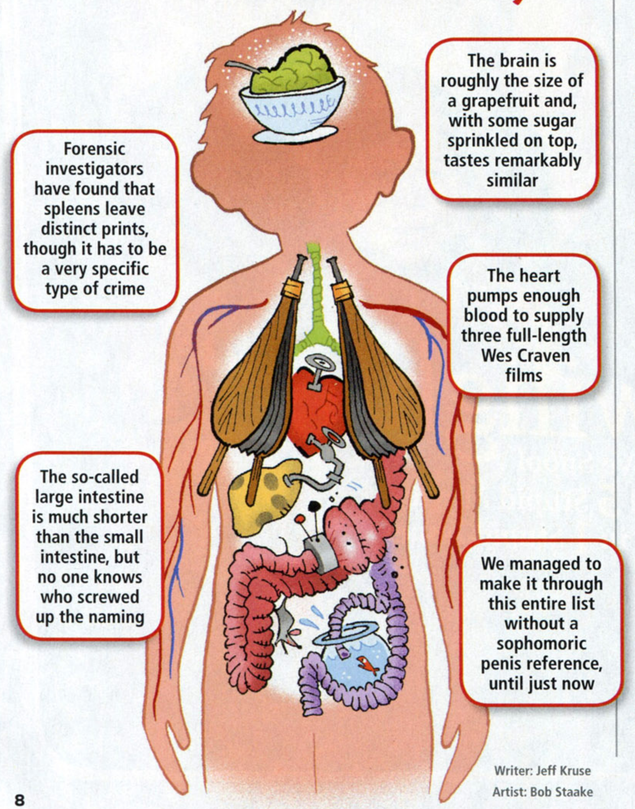
WHAT IF THE LETTER "L" DIDN'T EXIST?



- There would need to be another hand/face gesture to indicate that a person is not a winner
- Indsay Ohan would never get her star on the Hoywood Wak of Fame
- Castaways on desert islands would only have to spell out "HEP" with rocks
- Unaffected, bumper stickers for Obama/Biden and Romney/Ryan would pack the same punch
- The other sponsors would have to pitch in, but *Sesame Street* would manage to survive
- *The New York Times* crossword would have to stop relying on "oleo" in every damned one of its puzzles

Writer: Jeff Kruse

Fascinating Facts About the Human Body

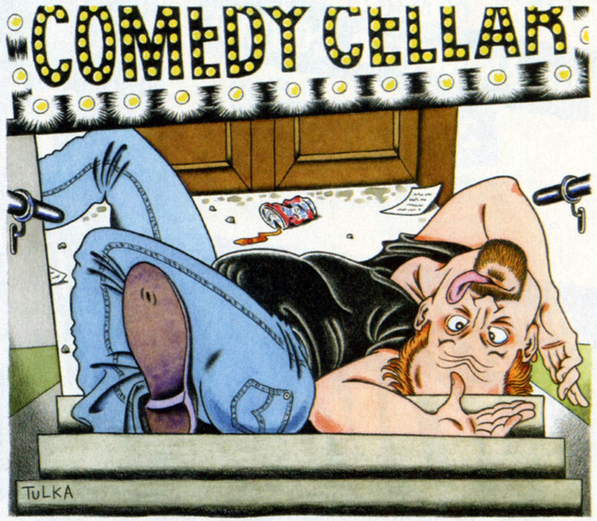


Writer: Jeff Kruse
Artist: Bob Staake

Celebrity Cause-of-Death Betting Odds

LOUIS C.K.

- Breaks his neck after tumbling down the Comedy Cellar steps...3:1
- Murdered in sleep by daughters who were fed up with him publicly humiliating them night after night.....5:1
- Hangs self when he realizes eleven million people still prefer *Two and a Half Men* to *Louie*.....6:1
- Terminal exhaustion when he tries to expand his wardrobe beyond the same black t-shirt and ratty pair of jeans.....10:1
- Stabbed trying to cut out another corporate middle man by selling bootleg *Louie* DVDs in the wrong part of town.....Even



Artist: Rick Tulka

Horrifying Political Clichés



Walking Back a Comment



Committing a Gaffe



Distancing Himself from a Remark

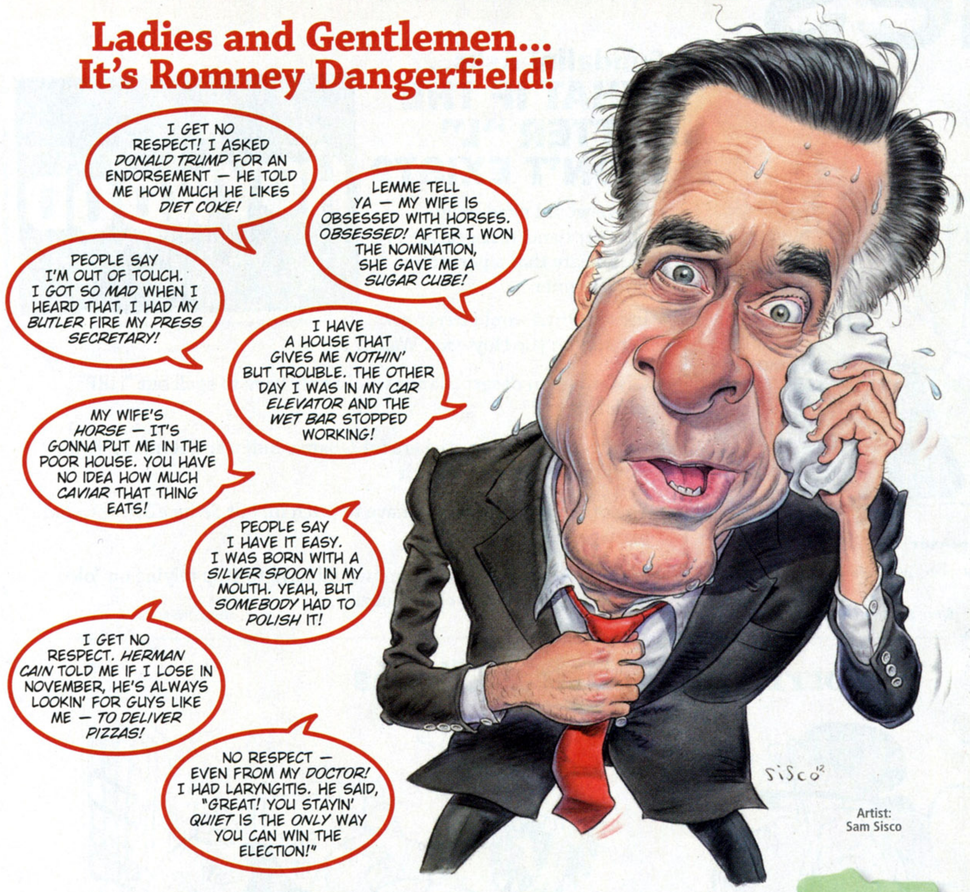


Changing a Narrative

Writer: Nick Meglin
Artist: Paul Coker

THE FUNDALINI PAGES

Ladies and Gentlemen... It's Romney Dangerfield!



Artist: Sam Sisco

Donnie the Douche's Tips for a Great Halloween



- Be environmentally responsible: T.P. houses with *recycled* toilet paper
- Women should not feel pressured to wear skimpy costumes to Halloween parties. Skimpy non-themed clothing is perfectly acceptable
- Since it's been over a year, it's no longer "too soon" to break out the Kadhaffi mask
- When stealing jack-o-lanterns, always remember to douse the flame first
- It doesn't have to be Earth Day for you to care about the planet: "recycle" any candy you still have left over from last Valentine's Day and Easter into trick-or-treat bags
- After you've gotten your candy and the owners are back in the house, be sure to "accidentally" knock over any political lawn signs you don't agree with
- If you're advertising a product or service, be sure to describe it as "spooktacular." That always cracks everyone up
- Spread holiday joy to lonely people who have no one to visit them. Going to an old folks' home dressed as the Grim Reaper is guaranteed to make an impression

Writer: Jeff Kruse Pumpkin Costume: Witty | Dreamstime.com

WHAT ARE THOSE QR CODES *REALLY*?

Blueprints for an ant farm

Space Invader in disguise

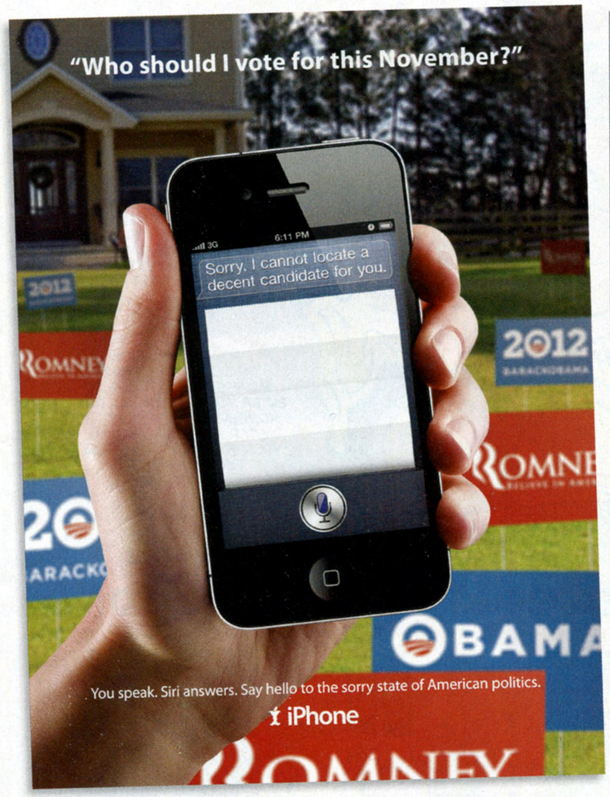
Mensa checkers

Treasure map

Extreme closeup of rumored Sofia Vergara nude pic

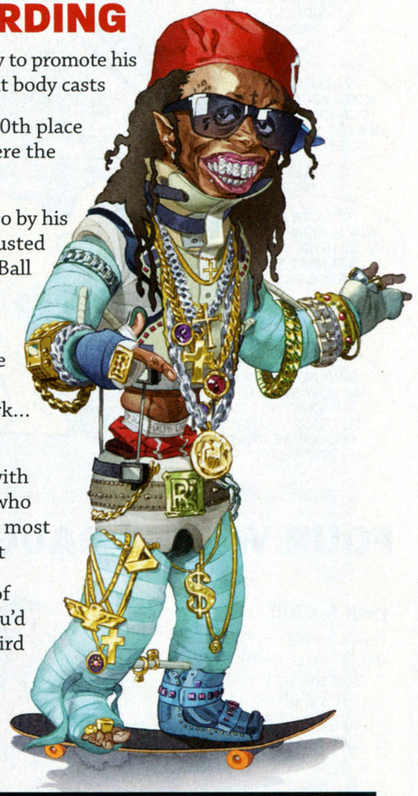
Writer: Jay Rath

An Ad We'd Like to See



THE SILLY SIX

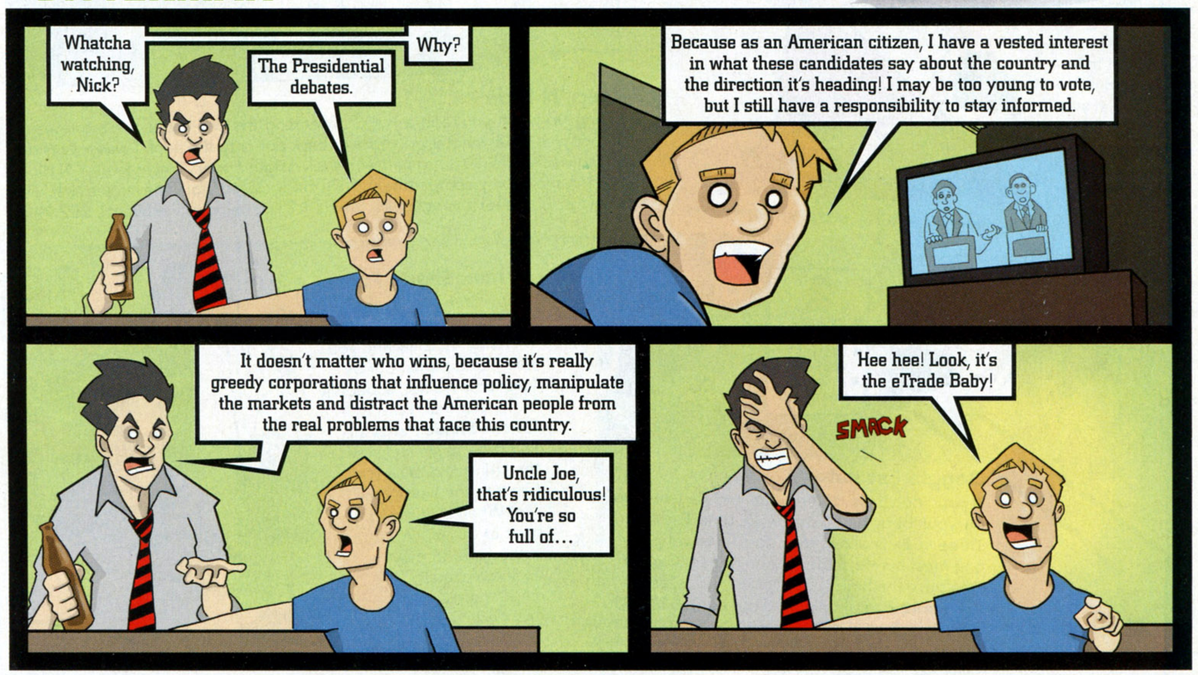
WHY LIL WAYNE REALLY QUIT MUSIC TO FOCUS ON SKATEBOARDING



1. It's all a marketing ploy to promote his new line of blinged-out body casts
2. Because coming in 400th place at the X Games is where the *real* money is at
3. He was advised to do so by his manager and most trusted confidant, a Magic 8-Ball
4. *Tha Carter IV* was illegally downloaded so many times that he had no choice but to find a new line of work... Nice going, jerks.
5. He's got a bet going with James Franco to see who can come up with the most ridiculous side project
6. If you drank a quart of cough syrup a day, you'd make some pretty weird life decisions, too

Writer: Kenny Keil
Artist: Hermann Mejia

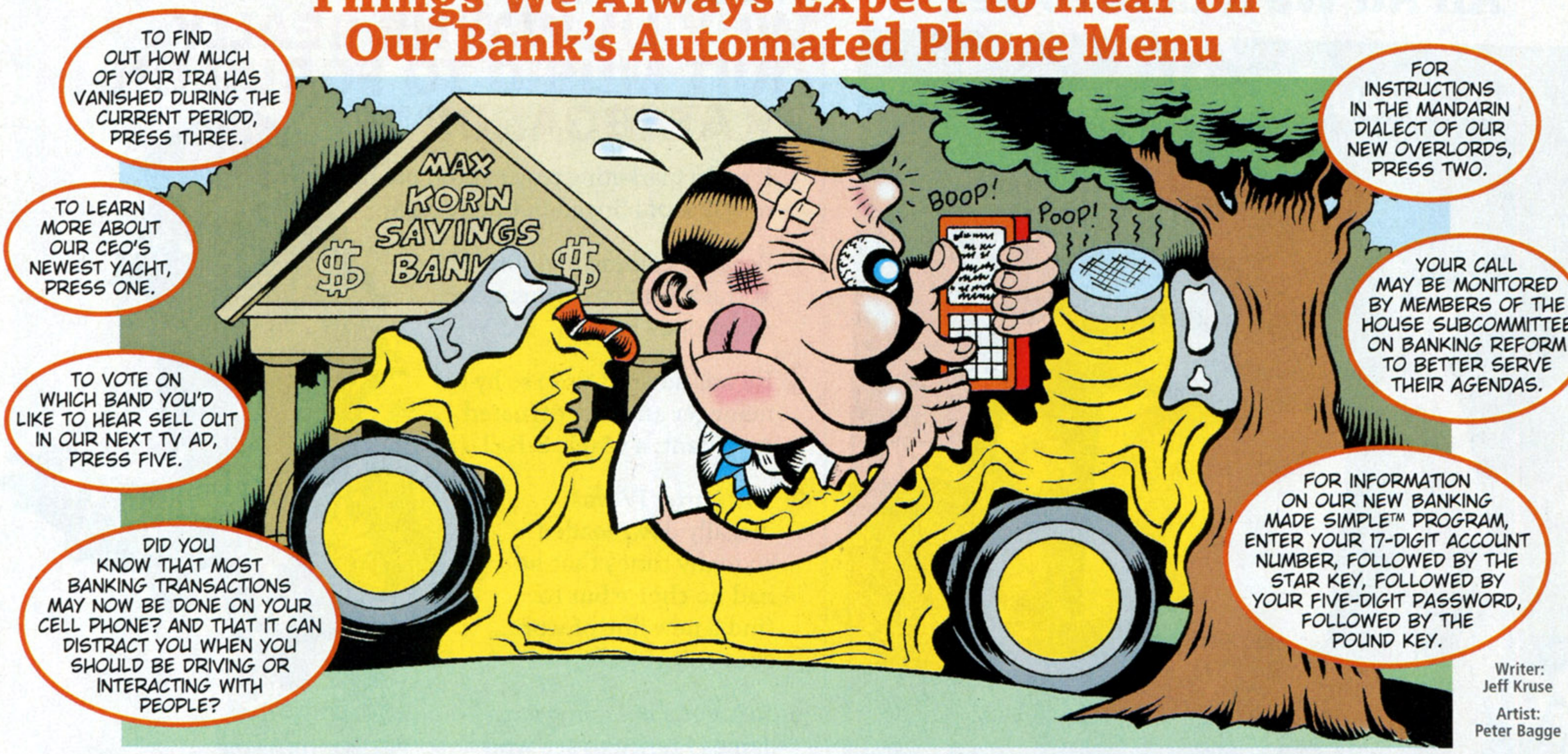
BITTERMAN



Writer and Artist: Garth Gerhart

THE FUNDALINI PAGES

Things We Always Expect to Hear on Our Bank's Automated Phone Menu



Writer: Jeff Kruse

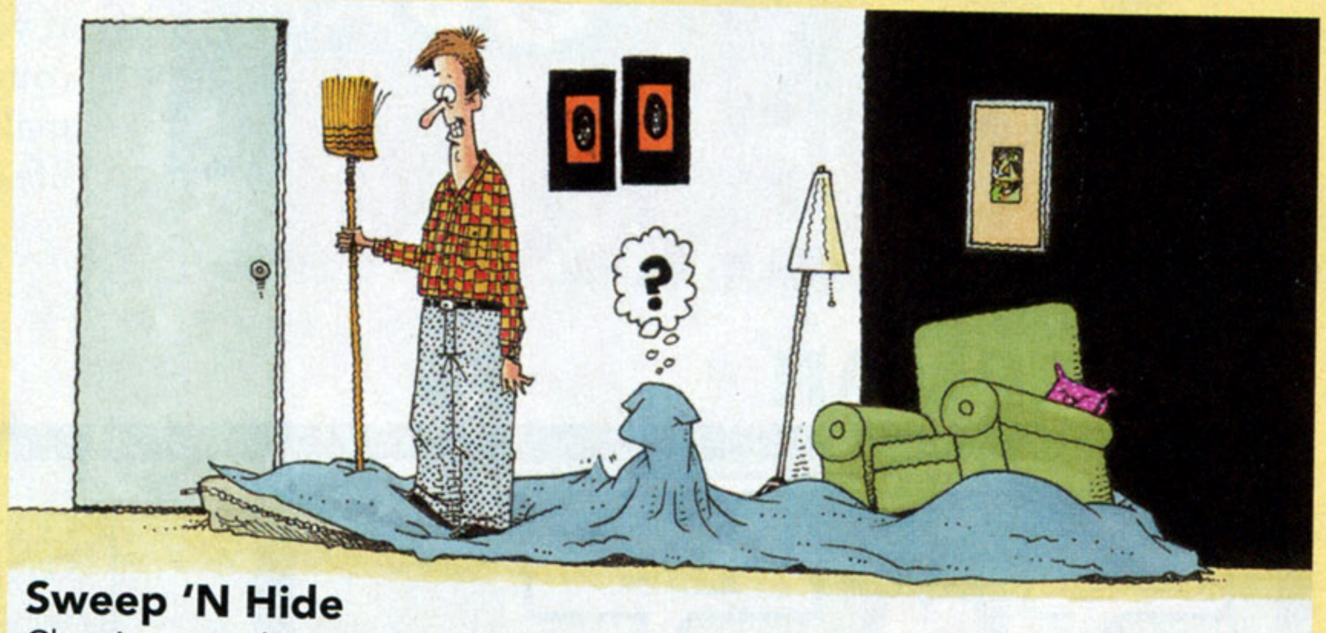
Artist: Peter Bagge

FOUR WORST GADGETS OF THE YEAR FROM BROOKSTONE

Drill & Chill

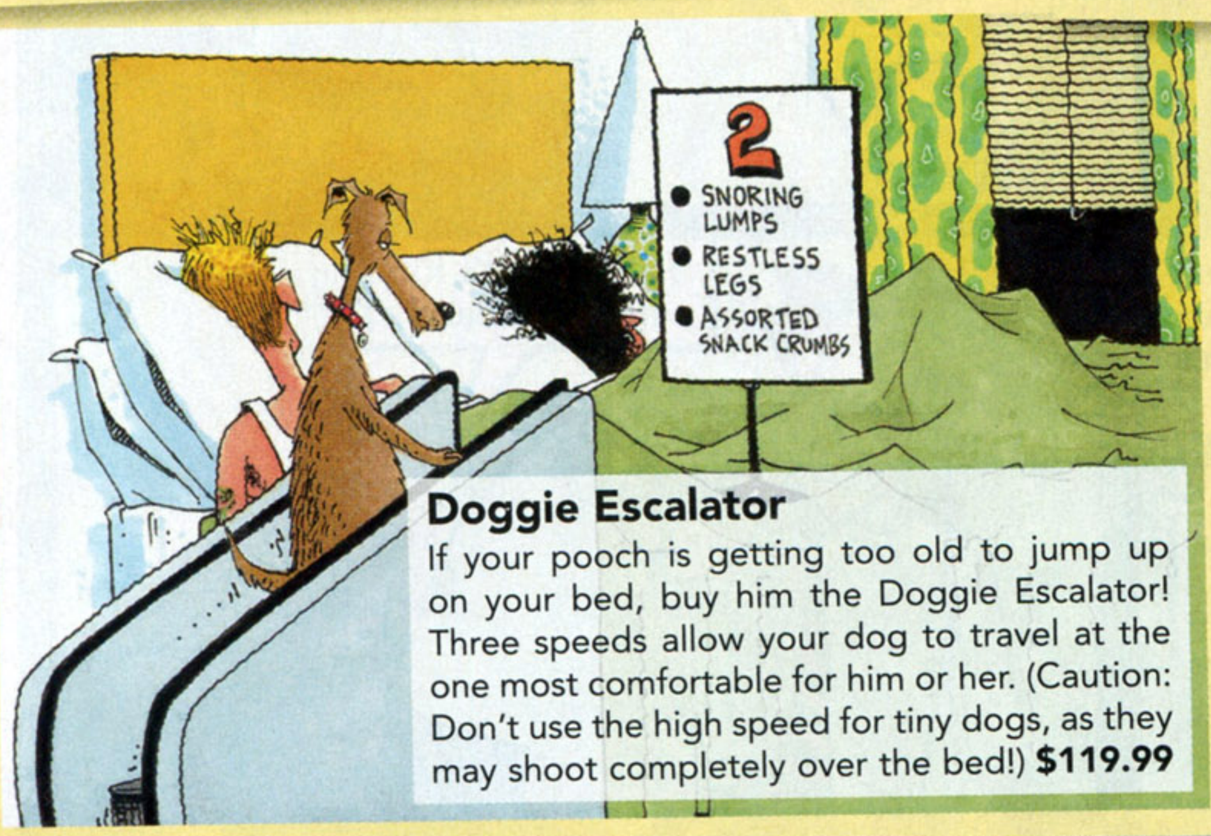
How often do you use your electric drill? Once a month or less? 98% of the time your drill sits on a shelf doing nothing. **Drill & Chill** includes an 8" fan blade, so when you're not drilling, you're chilling! What's more convenient than holding a drill in your lap aimed at your face? You can even try putting the drill in reverse for heat! **$39.99**





Sweep 'N Hide

Cleaning up when you're in a hurry? Sweeping the dirt under the rug doesn't work because it will quickly work its way back out onto the floor. **Sweep 'N Hide** solves that problem. It's a rug pad with a full-length zipper. Simply Sweep 'N Hide the dirt in the roomy compartment, then zip it closed. You'll never see that dirt again. (You'll just feel it as you walk over it. It's like being at the beach!) **$59.99**



Doggie Escalator

If your pooch is getting too old to jump up on your bed, buy him the Doggie Escalator! Three speeds allow your dog to travel at the one most comfortable for him or her. (Caution: Don't use the high speed for tiny dogs, as they may shoot completely over the bed!) **$119.99**

Roman Shade Pants

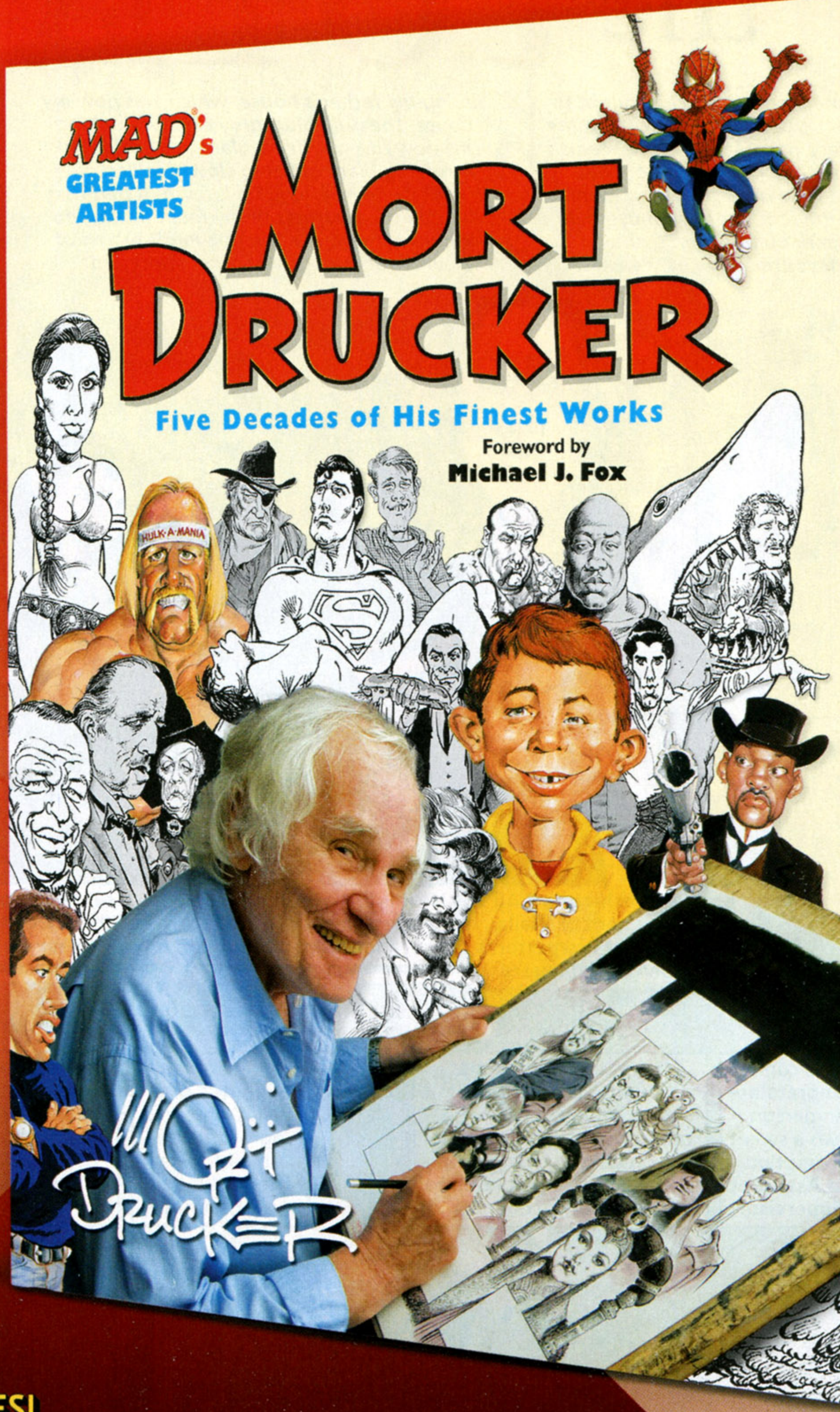
Men, when you leave the house for work in the morning it's chilly and you need long pants. But by lunchtime it's hot, especially in the summer. With **Roman Shade Pants** all you have to do is pull the string and raise your pants to the height you like! When it's time to go back to the office, let the string go, and they're back to normal-length pants. **$64.99**



Writer: Dick DeBartolo Artist: John Caldwell

MAD ABOUT MORT!





FEATURING MANY OF MORT'S GREATEST MOVIE AND TV SATIRES!

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY MICHAEL J. FOX!

FEATURING ESSAYS BY J.J. ABRAMS, FRANK DARABONT, GEORGE LUCAS AND STEVEN SPIELBERG!

PLUS A VINTAGE PULL-OUT WALL POSTER!

ON SALE NOW!

THERE'S A BLOODSUCKER BORN EVERY MINUTE DEPT.

It's the drab, dingy, dreary movie series that even Ingmar Bergman's grief counselor would have called "a little morose." But if you're a member of Team Good Taste, you've missed what the fuss is about! Don't expect to find out as you read about a girl who's so stiff, porcelain white and full of pizzazz that her — for lack of a better term, let's call it a "story" — deserves to be known as...

the toilet saga

*I'd never given much **thought** to how I would **die**. But dying in the place of **someone I love** seems like a good way to go. Then again, so does **strapping myself** to the fender of an **amusement park bumper car**. Or being **devoured alive** by **weasels**.*

*Seeing my **father's house**, which was now **my** house, the **dull, blue-gray sky** overlooking my **new life** was like a **blanket**. A **cold, unforgiving blanket** being **slowly pulled** over the **bed** of everything I'd known. A **bed** that flipped the **mattress** of my **feelings**, but no longer offered the **Tempur-Pedic pillow** of **understanding**. Metaphors are **hard**.*

*Not speaking in a **monotone** is harder. The night before I left **Phoenix**, I had a **dream**. I couldn't bring it with me, though. My **suitcase** was exactly **50 pounds**, and the **airline** would have charged me **extra**.*

*About **three things** I was **absolutely positive**. But I didn't know what they were.*

Sporks, Washington! All the excitement of **Walla Walla**, without **Bremerton's** edgy sense of **danger!**

How is it that you just came from sunny **Arizona** to the **grayest, most overcast corner** of the **lower 48 states**, and you're **already** the town's **palest person?**

Tell me about it! I was once kicked out of a **Toby Keith concert** for being **too white!**

POLICE

WOLF 1

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN **ARTIST: ANTON EMDIN**

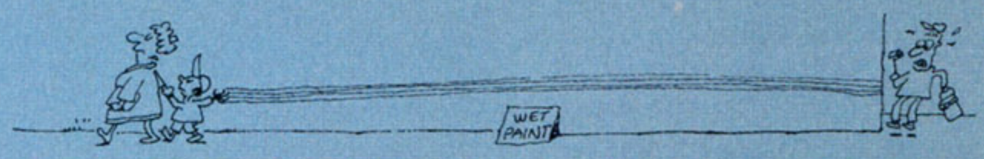
I had to come and **congratulate** you in person. That was a sweet **job promotion**, to **First Assistant Shift Supervisor!**

Sure was! It took me **twenty years**, slowly **working my way** up the **ranks**, but I finally **made it**. The only thing that gets me is, this town has a **one-man police department!**

I'm an **alienated outcast**. Don't you **agree**, entire table of **insta-friends** I made in my **first hour?**

Here's the scoop on **living** here. The town's **population** is **3,100, 90%** of whom are apparently between the ages of **17** and **23**. Our **principal industries** are **texting, lip gloss** and **sulking!**

The ***Vanity Fair* fashion shoot** at the far table is the **Sullen family**. Captain Eyebrows over there is **Deadwood Sullen**. He doesn't **date** anyone, but he's **unblinkingly staring** at **you**. Maybe he wants your **apple**.



Hey, I just **met** you. And this is **crazy**. But here's my **number**. Call me, **maybe?**

My mindreading power has never been **blocked** before. It's as if you contain **no thoughts**... or **emotions**... or **rudimentary acting skills!**

So much **wondering**. So much **mystery**. Starting with this: if the **school semester** started **half a year ago**, how is it you didn't **already** have a **lab partner?**

AB+

That **car** almost **hit** me! I almost **died!**

Yeah, get **used** to things that **almost** happen, but **don't**. It's what **these movies** are all about!

Hundreds of years ago, the **Sullens** made a **sacred treaty** with our **tribe**. For some reason, it's the only **Indian treaty** in **U.S. history** that was actually **honored!** As long as **they** stay on **their** land and **we** stay on **ours**, no one gets **hurt**. If only **Alec Baldwin** and the **paparazzi** had a **treaty** like this!

What's their **secret?** My next stop is the **bookstore**, for a little **research**. They might have the **answer** in one of their **37 aisles** of **vampire books!**

Oooh! Your **skin** is covered with **sparkles!** Is that a **vampire thing?**

No, I make a lot of trips to the **gentleman's club** in town. Ever hear of **stripper glitter?** Nothing **personal**, but it's going to take me **three and a half movies** just to get under your **bra!** Let's just say my **freezing cold hands** aren't my only two **body parts** that are **turning blue!**

HOMPS

Miss Rubella Wan! So lovely to **eat** you...**oops**, I mean, so nice to **MEET** you. That was certainly a **Freudian slip!** And **I** should know. I drank **two quarts** from **Sigmund Freud** 75 years ago!

I...I've never seen such a **solemn, blank expression** on anyone's face. And I work with **coma patients!**

I can certainly see why **Deadwood** sneaks into your **bedroom** every night and **stands** there **watching** you in the **dark!**

Hey, it's more **entertaining** than watching **Leno!**

We're the **top baseball team** in **Washington**. And now that **you three** have shown up, we're **outdrawing** the **Seattle Mariners!**

Forget the **peanuts** and **Cracker Jack**... that **young chick** will make the **perfect snack!**

PTOOIE

You were very fortunate to **survive** his **vampire attack**, Rubella. You've got **one bite** on your **wrist**, and **75,000 bites** on your **lip**.

No, **those** lip bites are **mine**. It's something I do in lieu of **personality**. **Oops** — make it **75,001!**

I have a feeling we'll be seeing a **lot more** of not just that **vacant facial expression**, but your other, **open-mouthed** one, as we trudge on into...

the toilet saga
new gloom

I love you **too much** to turn you into a **vampire!**

If you **loved** me, you **would** turn me into a **vampire!**

You're not **ready** to become a **vampire**.

Yes, I'm **ready** to become a **vampire!**

It would be **forever and ever!** Do you realize what **forever** would be?

Like one of these **conversations**. Except **shorter!**

You can't spend the **rest** of your **life** in your room, **moping!** That's why I brought you **outside** to mope!

Oooh! My skin is **tingling!** It's the first thing I've **felt** in so long.

Those are **bugs** hitting you in the **face** at **75 mph**. I **TOLD** you to wear a **helmet!**

WOLF XING

So far, all the **girls** in the audience have been **identifying** with me. Now their **boyfriends** that got trapped into seeing this **slo-mo chick flick** have something **THEY** can identify with — my **suicide scene**. They've been thinking about **killing themselves** ever since this movie **started!**

9.5

8.7

4

Where...**where am I?**

For the past **30 minutes**, I've been giving you intense **mouth-to-mouth resuscitation**, and a robust **heart massage**, after getting you out of those **dripping wet clothes**. You started breathing normally **29 minutes ago**, true. But it never hurts to be **thorough!**

We are...the **Zamboni**. The **supreme high council** has lived long and seen much. Of the **old, judgmental dudes** wearing **robes** here in Italy, **we're** the ones who only **BITE** children! Please, allow me to me **read** your **thoughts**, my dear appetizer...I mean, **lady!**

Fascinating! Your **mind** is **absolutely blank** to me. This has only occurred **once** before, with **Miley Cyrus!** If I have seemed **vexed**, do **forgive** me. My **prostate's** been acting up since **1743!** Please, **remain** with us as our **guests** for **dinner**. As you would expect, we have **excellent Italian food**. Try the **gondolier!**

I'll **never** let you go, even though I just did! After I decided to **never see you again**, I couldn't bear **not seeing you again!** Since you've met my **family**, you've been in **constant danger**. So, will you **marry me?**

Before I answer your **question**, answer **mine**. If the **Zamboni** are so concerned with hiding their existence, why do they **slaughter** entire tour groups? When you thought I was **dead**, why didn't you use your **mind-reading** ability to check the **details?** Or make a **phone call?** And why travel all the way to **Rome** to **kill yourself** instead of just, you know, **killing yourself?**

Love conquers all, including **logic!** And it won't get any **better!** Needless **contradictions**, ponderously **slow pacing** and flat, **one-note characters** will continue to define...

TEETH EXTRACTION FOR VAMPIRES

the toilet saga

weakscripts

Once I have created a fresh **vampire army**, then we will hunt and **destroy** Deadwood Sullen! But keep an eye out for **witnesses**. The **police** have noticed that people have been **disappearing**.

Quick **strategy question**: instead of doing this in the same **small area** where the **Sullen family** lives, and where **everybody** sees **everything**, maybe we should be creating **vampires** in a **large city**, and **then** bring the army **here?**

Shut up and **bite!**

You cannot marry him! Half of all **vampire marriages** end in **divorce**. And another **10%** end in **werewolf maulings!**

You don't know **Deadwood** like I do. He **stalks** me, he **spies** on me, he makes me **obey orders**, he **vandalizes** my things, he holds me **prisoner**, he **withholds** his **feelings**, he **deceives** me, he makes me **suicidal**, he comes between me and my **father**, he **dominates** every aspect of my **life**. What's not to **love?**

I admit he's a **catch**. But what **hurts most** is knowing there's something **I** can **never** have. That can **never** be a **part** of **me!**

Yeah...a **shirt!**

Jackwad, don't! **Control** yourself!

I **AM** controlling myself! I'm **half wolf**. Normally, I'd be **sniffing** your **butt** by now!

WAP WAP

Errr, ahem...well. You're over **18 years old** now. It's time you need to **learn** that there's something called "**sex**." And it can be **dangerous**. With the **wrong boy**, you could pick up a **disease**.

Don't worry, **Daddy**. The **vet** says that **Jackwad** is **completely free** of **mange**, **heartworm** and **ear mites!** Besides, my **heart** truly belongs to **Deadwood**. You'll be glad to know we haven't gotten **physically intimate**. Mostly because his **body temperature** is **ice cold**. If I put my **mouth** on him, my **tongue** might **freeze** like a **flagpole** on a **winter's day!**

COOKIES

CRACKERS

SILVER BULLETS

As a matter of fact, **yes** I do.

You think you have an **advantage** over me, just because you can **read minds?**

I can tell **Deadwood** is consumed with **worry** and **jealousy**. So much so that he's **forgotten** he has **super vampire speed**, and could be back here with **blankets** and a **space heater** in **15 seconds!**

MOM

Bite my **kibbles** if you must, but don't touch my **bits!**

A **backflip**, a **spin**, a **tuck and roll**, a **shoulder block**, another **spin**, a running **clothesline**, a **hip throw** and a **judo chop!** Because, you know...**vampires**.

We spent **months** getting this **fighting army** ready, yet we've been **wiped out** in **three minutes**, and without inflicting a single **casualty! Vive la France!**

FWOOK

Drat! Vindictiva and **Whiny tracked us down!** Maybe we should have picked a **hideout** more than **four minutes** away from the **battle site!**

It's okay. I spent the **whole movie** amassing a **vampire army** just to **kill** you, then I **forgot** to bring my **vampire army!** Sometimes I think I'd forget my own **head** if it weren't **attached!**

Problem **solved!**

POP

We were **lucky** to get this **quiet spot**. Normally, it's used to shoot **Tampax commercials**. We need to **talk** about what's **happened**.

Happened? **HAPPENED?** We still need to get **married**, Jackwad still wants to **stop** us, we still haven't gone past **first base**, I still need to change into a **vampire** and the **Zamboni** are still keeping an **eye** on us! Absolutely **NOTHING** has **changed**. The whole movie has been a **2-hour-long trailer** for...

WOLF CREEK

the toilet saga
sulking yawn
part 1

Joined together, **Deadwood** and **Rubella** shall be **one life, one heart, one soul**. And maybe **five-ninths** of a **personality**, on a good day. You may now **gnaw** the **bride!**

I always **cry** at **weddings!** Or rather, I would, if **vampires** had **bodily fluids!** That **low, hissing sound** is **air**, being blown out of my **tear ducts!**

Who could **help** crying and sniffling, sitting here in this rain forest of **plants** and **flowers?** The **pollen count** has to be through the roof! Speaking of which, is that **shredded asbestos** hanging from the ceiling?

Here. These **drops** should help. I use them **myself**. **Every day**.

Brrrr! It's the spooky **TV doctor** who never **blinks**, from the **Restasis ads!** I may be an **undead man-demon** who feasts on **human blood**...but **THAT lady** gives me the **creeps!**

At last, we **finally** know who her **choice** is, and it's a **good lesson** for the **women** out there. When you're **torn** between **two equally hot guys**, always **pick** the one who **doesn't** drink out of the **toilet!**

Since you came to **Sporks**, you've been **hospitalized, clinically depressed, broken** your **leg** and **hand, gashed** your **arm**, and survived **hypothermia**, a treacherous **fall**, and half a dozen **murder attempts**. Seems like I did a **better** job protecting you during the **17 years** when you were living **1,500 miles away!** And now you're going to live in the **woods?** Does this **sparkly bum** even have a **job?**

Oh, **Daddy**. There's no time for **sensible concerns**. I'm **married** and we're off to **Sex Island!**

HONK! HONNK!

My **vampire sex technique** is creating a small **earthquake!** Except **most** earthquakes last **more** than **45 seconds!**

This would all be more **impressive** if you hadn't bought the bed at **Ikea!** But our much-anticipated **lovemaking** was so **perfect**, and so **worth** the wait. Almost as much as the wait for Oprah's **O Network!**

Pregnant? Are you **sure?**

Just **look** at the test stick's little **plus sign!** Until now, from the **sky** to the **woods** to my **home**, it was one of the **only** things that wasn't already a dreary, ashen **blue!** I had a **feeling** I was **pregnant**, though. I've been having severe **mood swings**. I'm careening from **ennui** to **listlessness** to a **dull funk!**

Hold on. This **pregnancy** is **impossible**. According to **Stephenie Meyer**, vampires have no **blood, sweat, tears,** or **internal fluids**. But somehow, we **DO** have **sperm?** How can an **undead vampire** even get an **erection** without any **blood?**

Rigor mortis! It's the reason I never get on **crowded elevators!**

This **discussion** is getting too **graphic** and **technical**. Can't we go back to **love, passion** and **romance?**

If **Rubella** dies having your **baby**, I'll **murder it** and **you!**

That's more like it!

I have an **idea**. Let's **hide** inside a **giant glass house!**

I can top that. **Bella's** on the verge of giving **birth**, and we're running **low** on our **blood** supply. So why don't we send our **only doctor** out to **retrieve** some?

Rubella's dying! Her **bones** are **snapping!** Chew her **stomach** open! **Stab** her with vampire-creating **venom!**

Damned Obamacare!

Who wants the **bloody placenta?**

I do!

I do!

I do! I do!

D.O.A.

Zap! I'm **imprinting!** I'm making an instantaneous emotional **wolf-to-baby bond** with a **10-minute-old**. Which is **good**, because the **psychology** of this story wasn't quite **sick** and **demented enough!**

If a **werewolf's** choice of **mate** is entirely determined by **imprinting**, and you **didn't** imprint on **Rubella**, then what the hell was all of the previous **"love triangle" drama** about?

That's just **one** of the many exciting **plot holes** that will **never** be **answered** in...

the toilet saga

bleak and dumb

part 2

Oh, good! We're **starting** at exactly the point where the previous movie **ended!** Except that my **broken, emaciated, scarred** and **ravaged body** was inexplicably **fixed**, even though **vampires** are supposed to be **forever frozen** at the **moment** they **transform!**

As said throughout this **saga**, we **vampires** are at our most **wild** and **dangerous** right after we've **transformed!** It takes a **new vampire** at least a **year** to learn to **subdue** its intense **strength** and **hunger** cravings. So, until then, **Rubella's** natural, uncontrollable **frenzy** will make her **kill** and **kill** and **kill** with no...

Wow, want to see something **weird?** My **self-control** is inexplicably **fine**. Just **because!**

The only **two things** more **powerful** than a **new vampire**: **narrative convenience**, and **crappy continuity!**

I am the **Count**, and I **LOVE** to **count!** **One! One** book! **Two!** **TWO** books! **Three** books! **FOUR books**, ah ha ha! **Four books**... yet, somehow, **FIVE movies!**

So where'd the extra **movie** come from? Easy as **1-2-3!** From the same **scam** they used for the most recent ***Harry Potter*** and ***Pirates of the Caribbean*** movies, and that they'll use for ***The Hobbit*** and ***The Hunger Games: Mockingjay***. Split the **last film** into **two parts**, and make your suckerbait fans pay **twice!** And they call **US bloodsuckers!**

I can't believe my keen new **vampire super-senses**. Suddenly, my **whole world** smells like **hair gel** and **wet dog!**

Don't you think **Repressme** is **too young** to go on a **bloodhunt**, to watch us **slaughter** a **living creature** for **food?**

But it's **Take Your Daughter to Work Day!**

EXIT STAGE RIGHT

Here she is. We're just coming back from a **romantic playdate** for two at Gymboree!

Kids! They **grow up** so fast. So **freakishly fast.**

I can **sense** that the **Zamboni** have become aware of Repressme's **human/vampire status**. In my **mind's eye,** I see a **hazy vision** of them **approaching** us. Also, they've all changed their **Facebook status** to "Off to behead **Rubella's** hybrid daughter"! I probably shouldn't have clicked "**Like**"!

MAD

Half the **vampires** here have **secret superpowers!** It's like the **Justice League of Transylvania!**

How come we were able to reach you in **two days** when we traveled to **Italy**, but it took you **three months** to reach **us?**

Oy! TSA **body search** delays, those a-holes at **Priceline**... don't ask! Plus, I had to make a stop at the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame** in **Cleveland** to borrow **Michael Jackson's** clothes!

RENT-A VAMP

Luckily, I built up my **abs** from lugging around these **eye-brows!**

Why must we **snarl, lunge,** and try to **kill** each other? What does this violence **accomplish?**

Did you **READ** the totally inert **ending** of ***Breaking Dawn*?** They build up to the **ultimate show-down**, then everyone just **stands around** for a while, **talking**, and then they **go home?** How many **IMAX tickets** will **THAT** sell?

It's **all over!** A tranquil **home life,** at last! I'm so happy you **changed** me, and now you can change our **85-pound baby.** Hey! Where are you **going?**

I'm **sorry,** Rubella, but our entire **relationship** was based on **frustration, mind games** and **abuse!** This "**happily ever after**" thing will **never work!** So I'm **leaving** you for someone who will treat me the way I **need** to be treated. **Poorly!**

Close your pointy mouth, **Blood Boy,** and get ready to give me a **tick bath!**

GOOD BITE MOON

Are you an Activist or a Slacktivist?

Are you the type of person who's committed to making a difference? Do you generously give to social causes? Do you gladly take part in walk-a-thons and other fundraising events? If so, you are a proud activist! Or is the closest you come to expressing your deeply-held beliefs skipping a *Top Chef* rerun on your DVR in order to skim over the day's Occupy footage to see if anyone got pepper-sprayed, and then reviewing your collection of "I'd rather go naked than wear fur" PETA ads? You, then, are a bona fide apathetic slacktivist! If you still don't understand, the following examples will help you answer the question...

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN
ARTIST: PAUL COKER

An activist...



protests consumerist over-consumption by taking part in Buy Nothing Day.

A slacktivist...



protests consumerist over-consumption by taking part in Buy Nothing Day, but not before going on a major shopping spree the day before.

An activist...



collects $100 donations.

A slacktivist...



writes a 100-word blog entry wondering why people aren't donating enough money.

An activist...



takes action against the coordinated right-wing campaigns that are scrubbing voter registration rolls, pushing one-sided I.D. restrictions and otherwise threatening free democracy.

A slacktivist...



is also outraged by these tactics because, who knows, someday they might feel like voting themselves.

An activist...



will join the fight against leukemia by wearing an eye-catching green rubber bracelet, or protest human rights abuses with an orange bracelet or promote HIV/AIDS research with a red bracelet.

A slacktivist...



chooses whichever bracelet goes best with her shoes.

An activist...



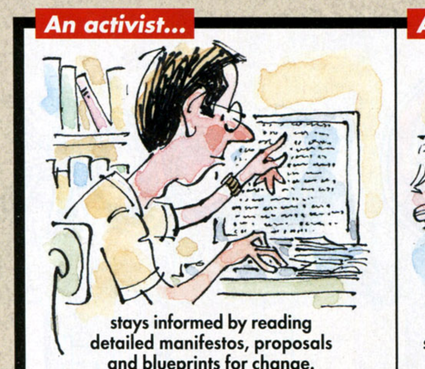
believes that we are all, each of us, a small part of the interconnected living organism called Earth, and must sacrifice accordingly.

A slacktivist...



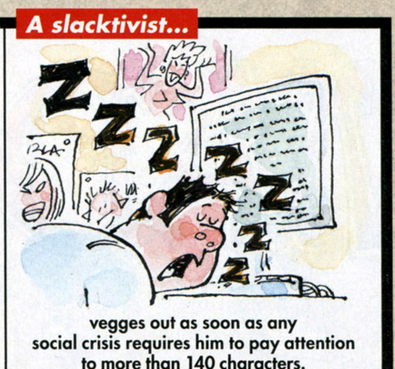
selflessly vows never to eat endangered owl, manatee or coral.

An activist...



stays informed by reading detailed manifestos, proposals and blueprints for change.

A slacktivist...



vegges out as soon as any social crisis requires him to pay attention to more than 140 characters.

An activist...



pounds the pavement and engages the public, trying to create new converts and change old minds.

A slacktivist...

sends out *Colbert Report* video links every morning to all her friends, most of whom already watch the show.

An activist...



realizes that there's always more than one issue that requires immediate attention, and tries to devote a portion of her energy to each.

A slacktivist...



combines four or five deeply-felt causes at once, to save time.

An activist...



understands that when it comes to saving the environment, numbers generate power.

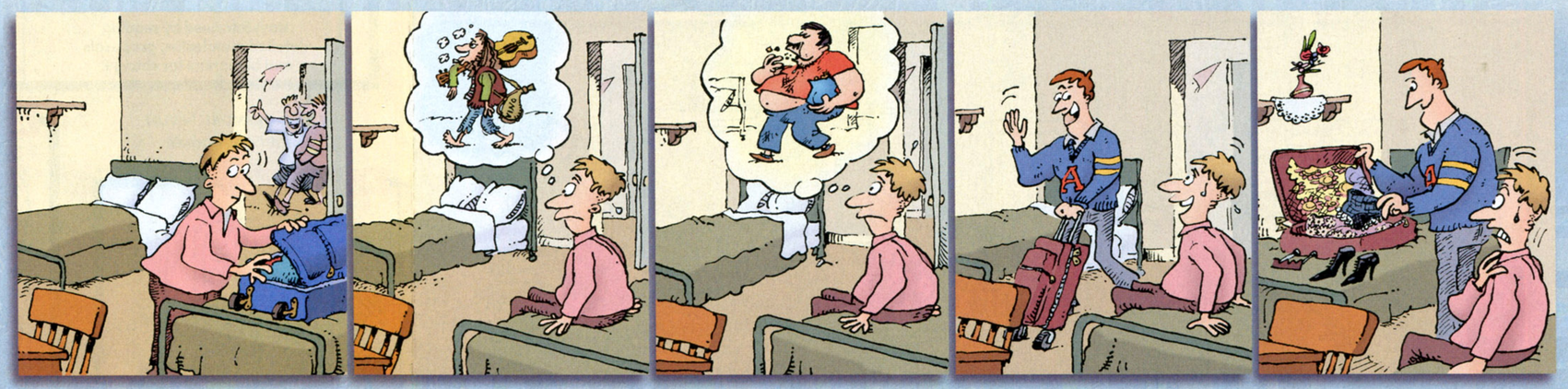
A slacktivist...



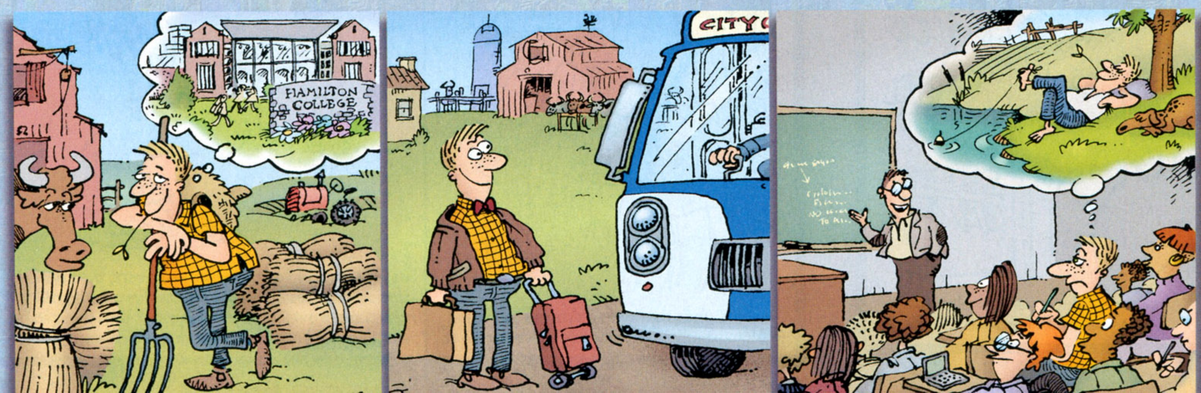
likes the idea of saving the environment, but emailing businesses uses up electricity...and protest signs kill trees...and traveling to Washington burns fuel...so he pretty much just stays home and plays hacky-sack.

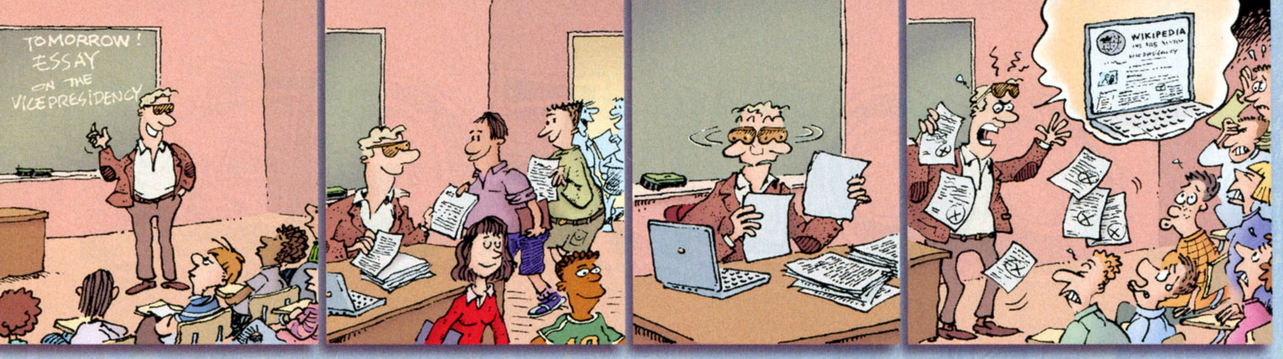
Sergio Aragonés Presents a MAD LOOK at COLLEGE

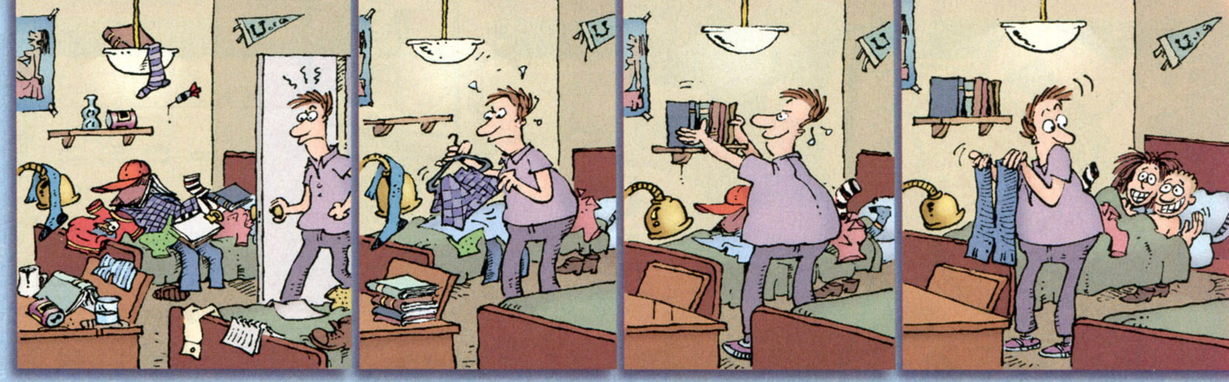


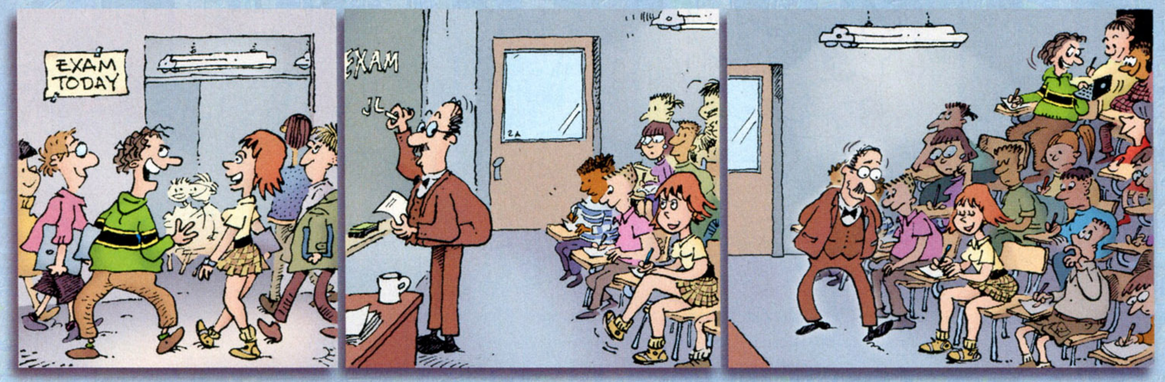


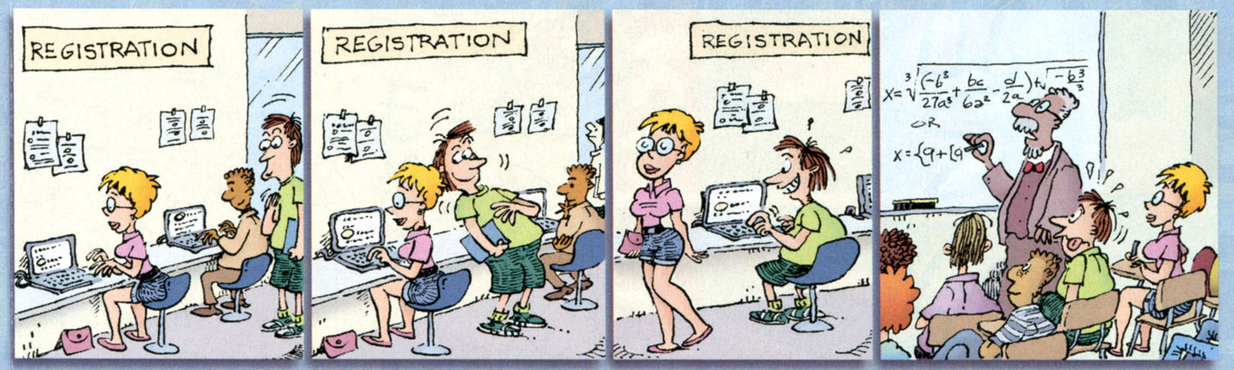
WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONÉS COLORIST: TOM LUTH



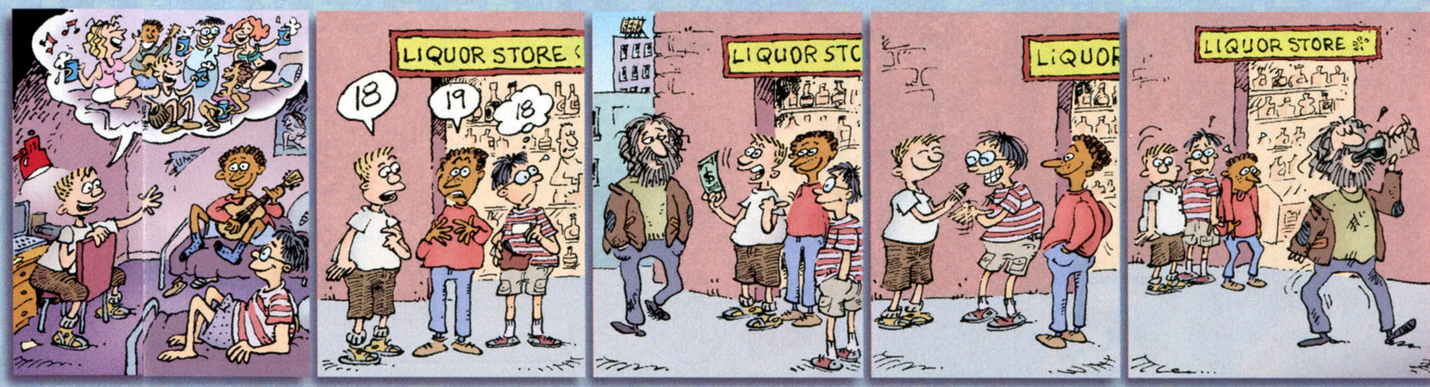

TOMORROW!
ESSAY
ON THE
VICE PRESIDENCY
WIKIPEDIA

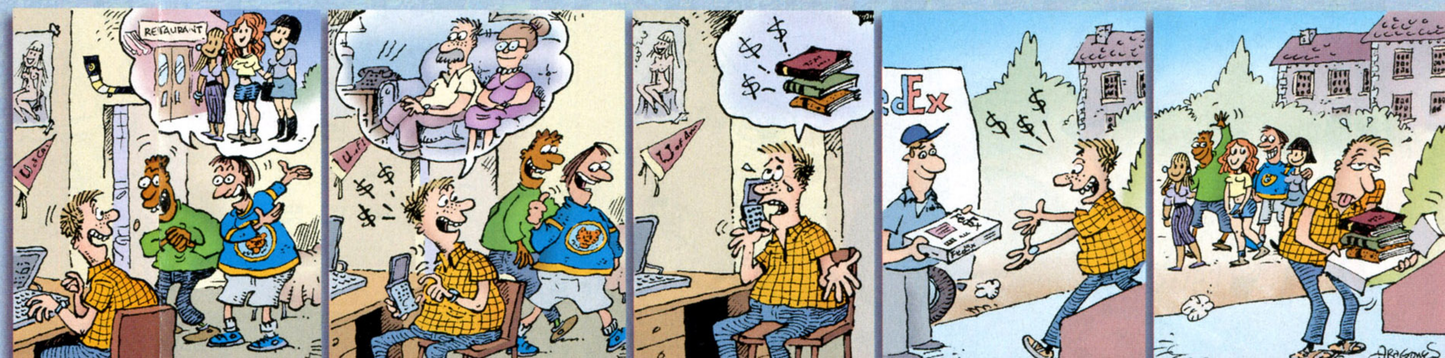



EXAM TODAY
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REGISTRATION
REGISTRATION




LIQUOR STORE
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RETAURANT

2013 CALENDAR

JOHN CALDWELL

THE YEAR OF THE HAMMERHEAD



ALIEN NOTION DEPT.

For the past three and a half years, Barack Obama's authenticity as an American citizen has been called into question. Theories about Obama being a Kenyan citizen who's controlled by socialism-spreading terrorists continue to be espoused by Donald Trump and others. Rather than dismiss these people as paranoid, right-wing whack jobs, we decided to gather all the evidence available and present it to you so you can make an informed decision...before blowing off voting this election day.

IS BARACK OBAMA A REAL AMERICAN?

THE CASE FOR AND AGAINST



Worked his way up from nothing, without complaining that he was owed something by society. **NOT A REAL AMERICAN.**

Fudged his experience on his old job to get his current job. **A REAL AMERICAN.**

Speaks in clear, understandable, polished English. **NOT A REAL AMERICAN.**

Managed to spend years sitting in his own church without once paying attention to the sermons. **A REAL AMERICAN.**

During deep freezes and blizzards, never scoffs, "Hey, where's that 'global warming' now?" **NOT A REAL AMERICAN.**

Took forever to find his birth certificate. **A REAL AMERICAN.**

Didn't plaster the presidential limo with bumper stickers about how his kids are honor students. **NOT A REAL AMERICAN.**

Talks endlessly about how to fix the economy, without having any clue about the subject. **A REAL AMERICAN.**

Stays fit with regular exercise and vegetables from the garden in his yard. **NOT A REAL AMERICAN.**

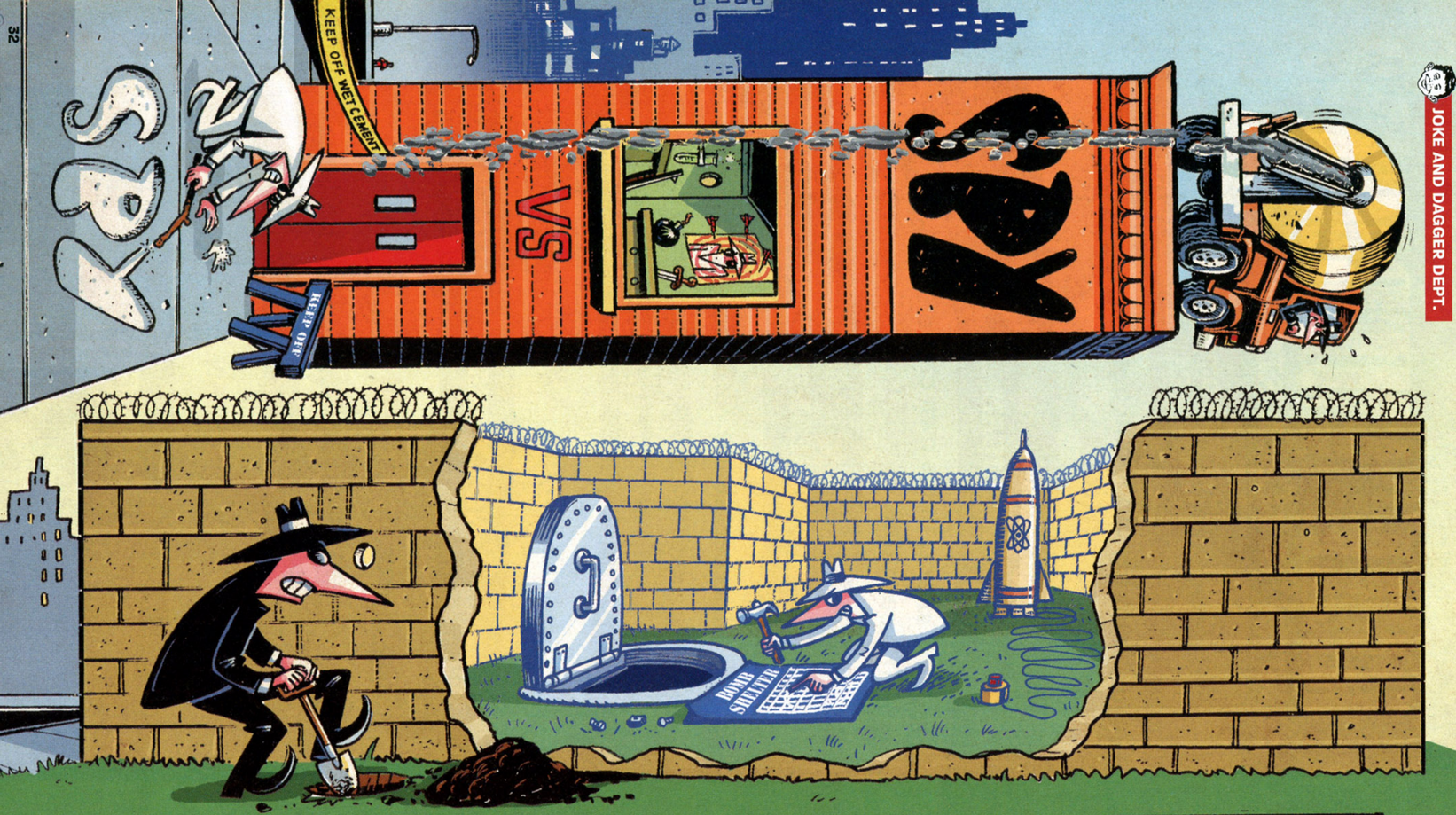
Lives in a house that he could never afford without government assistance. **A REAL AMERICAN.**

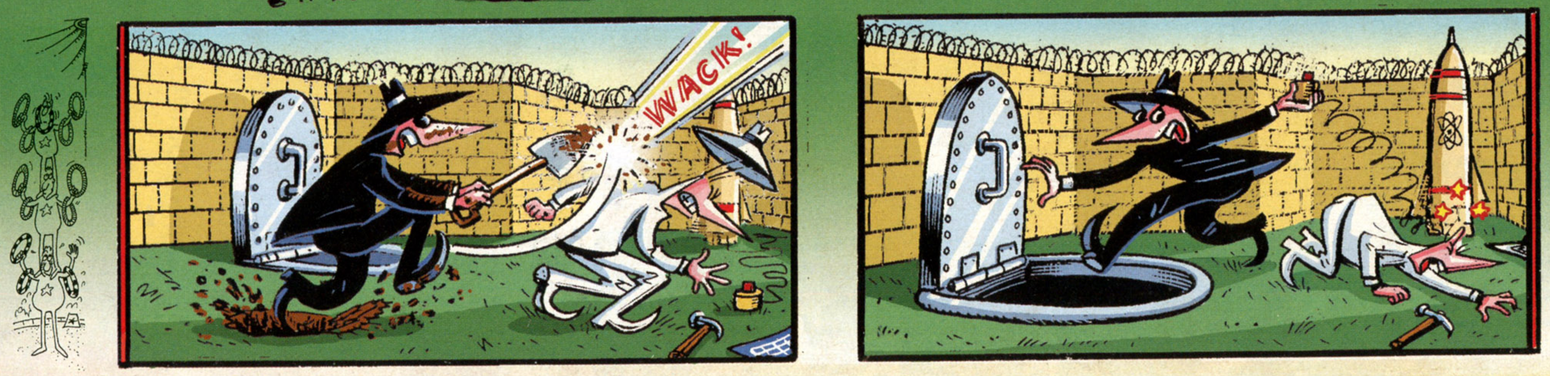
As far as we know, never used his position as President to get babes. **NOT A REAL AMERICAN.**

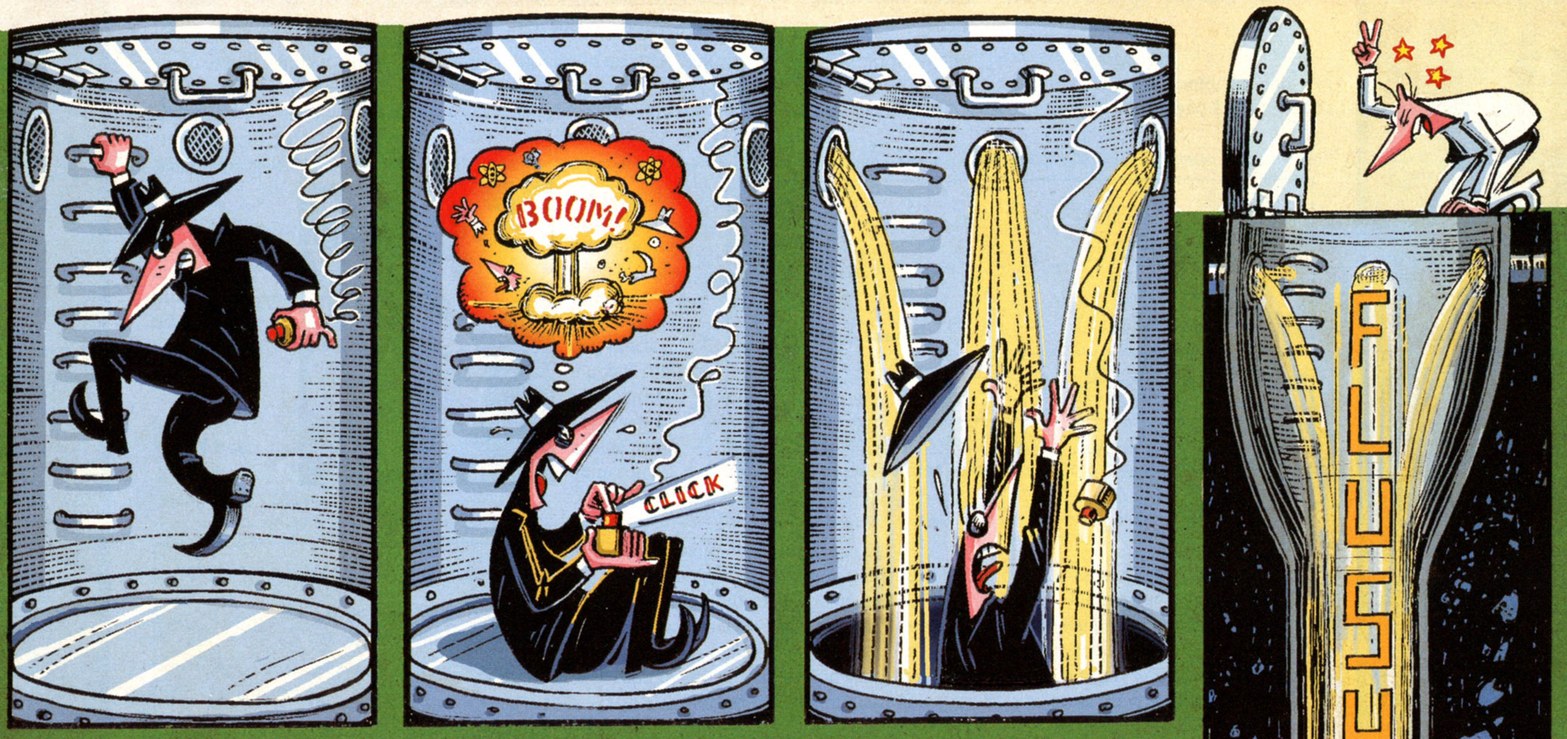
Conducts himself with class while visiting other countries. **NOT A REAL AMERICAN.**

Can't pay the bills without endless credit. **DEFINITELY A REAL AMERICAN.**

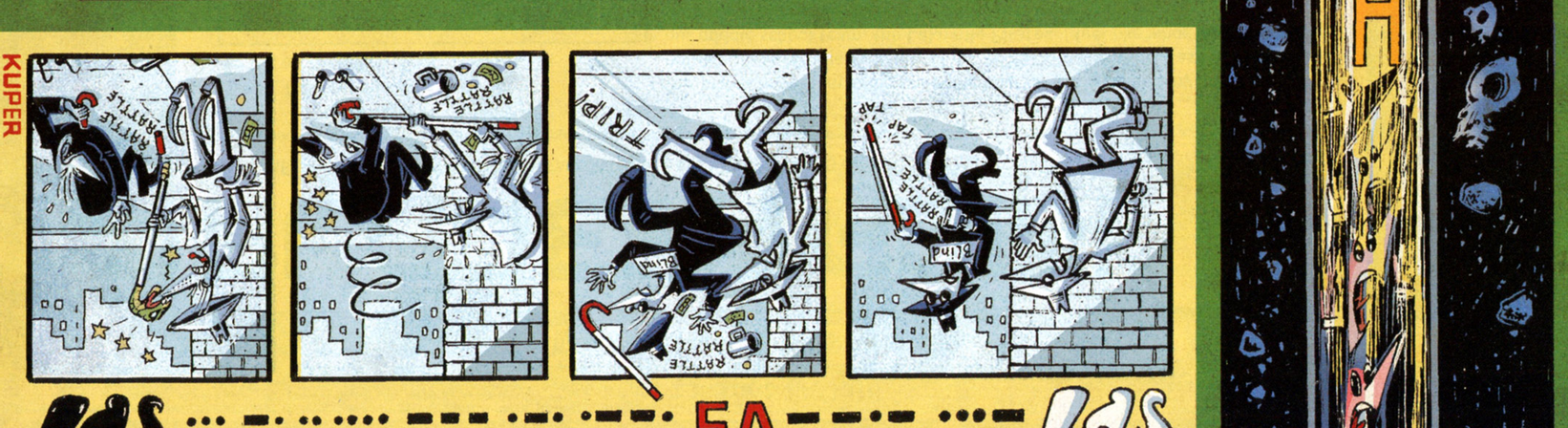
WRITER: BARRY LIEBMANN ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND







WRITER AND ARTIST: PETER KUPER

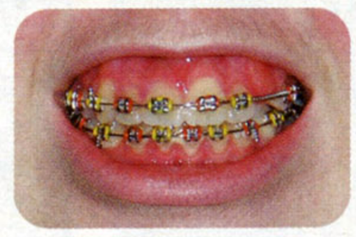


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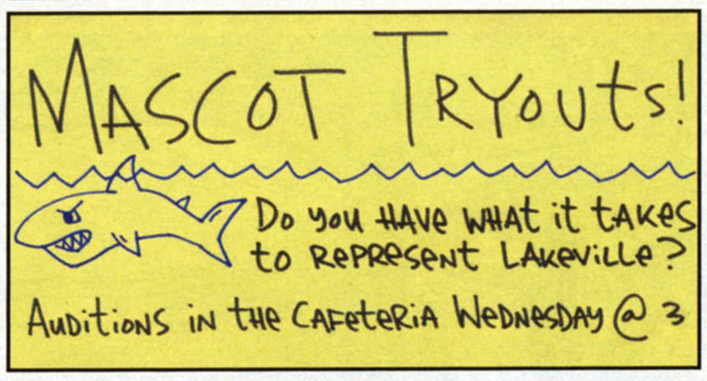
PLANET TAD!!!!!



ABOUT ME »NAME: TAD »AGE: <91 »FAVORITE SALADS, IN DESCENDING ORDER: FRUIT, TACO, TUNA, EGG

October 12, 2012

Today, these signs went up all over the school:



Our high school team is the **Lakeville Sharks**. I'm not sure why, because it's not like there are sharks in any of our lakes. It makes almost as little sense as our middle school team, the **Lakeville Pirates**. I feel like whoever came up with our team names doesn't get how lakes work.

Anyway, at our football games, someone gets to dress up in a shark costume and dance around on the sidelines; the guy who did it last year graduated, so the job is open. I've decided to try out, because it seems like a great way to impress people. For one thing, everyone pretty much has to cheer for you, so that'll automatically make them like you more. And for another, you get to spend the whole game hanging out with the cheerleaders on the sidelines. What could be wrong with that?

October 13, 2012

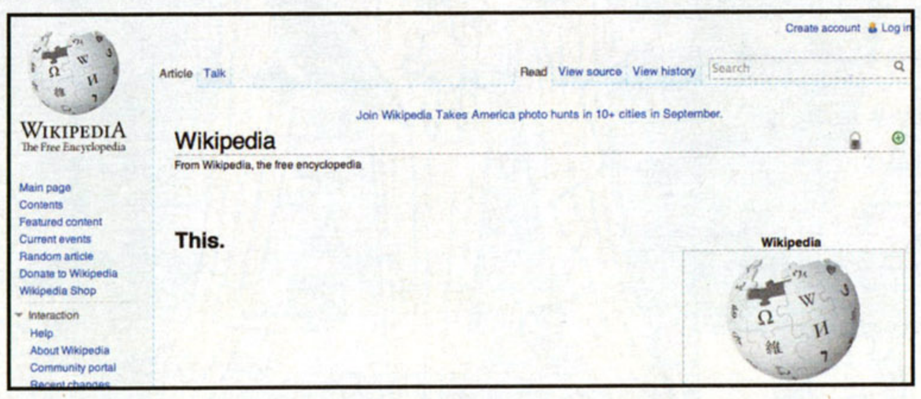
I've been doing research into mascots to get ready for my audition. I think the mascot that weirds me out the most is **Mr. Met**.



To me, it seems like if you have a baseball for a head, the last place you're going to want to hang out is a ballpark full of men holding bats.

October 14, 2012

I'm surprised that when you go to the **Wikipedia page** for "Wikipedia", it doesn't just say, "This."



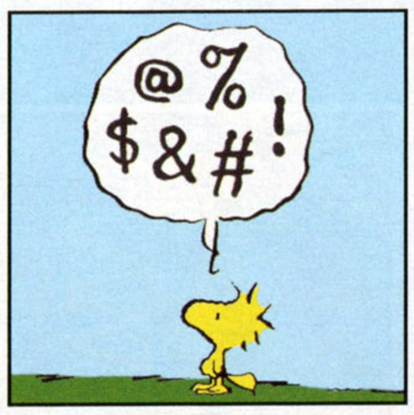
October 15, 2012

I spent a lot of time in my room this afternoon getting ready for Wednesday's audition. I was jumping around and growling, and my little sister Sophie asked what I was doing, and I told her, "I'm getting ready to try out to be a shark." And she said, "Sharks don't growl." And I said, "Well, what noise do they make?" And she said, "They don't. They live underwater."

I hate when Sophie is right about stuff. But I'm gonna growl anyway.

October 16, 2012

When I was a kid, I thought the reason you couldn't understand what **Woodstock** was saying in the **"Peanuts"** cartoons was that he was just swearing constantly. Which actually made the comic a lot more interesting.



October 17, 2012

Well, I went in for the mascot audition today, and it turns out, the competition wasn't that stiff. Only five guys showed up, and two of them were too tall for the costume, one of them was too short for it, and one of them couldn't do any games that fell on Saturdays because he has violin lessons then. And so they just gave me the job. I said, "Don't you want to see my shark moves?" And the head cheerleader, Alexandra McNeill, said, "Oh, we'll teach you all the routines you need to know."

Routines?

October 18, 2012

Ugggggggggh. I just spent three hours after school with Alexandra and her cheerleading co-captains as they tried to teach me all the steps for the shark dance routines. I don't know how I never noticed this, but the shark doesn't just get to jump around and wave — there are, like, really elaborate dance moves involved in being the mascot. And while you'd think it'd be kind of fun to hang out with three cheerleaders, it's not actually that enjoyable when all they're doing is shouting at you because you aren't dancing right. I think they think I'm stupid. At one point, I heard Alexandra whisper to the others, "I can't believe he's this A-W-F-U-L." And I said, "I can understand when you spell words out."



October 19, 2012

So, today was the big football game, and I realized pretty quickly that the shark costume has four big downsides:

1. It's heavy and hard to see out of, which made it hard to do the dance moves. The cheerleaders kept getting angry with me for being "two steps behind", even though I pointed out that maybe the problem was that they were two steps ahead.

2. The costume gets super-hot on the inside, which makes you sweat a lot, which wouldn't be so bad, except that...

3. ...the costume isn't washed all that often, so it smells like other people's sweat. It was like spending a day inside a giant gym sock. I heard one person say after I walked past, "An actual **dead shark** would smell better."

4. It's a shark costume, so little kids are terrified of it. They kept bursting into tears when I came near, and even when I tried to open the jaws so they could see that I was a person inside the suit, that just made them cry more. I think they may've thought that I was someone the shark had eaten who was stuck in his throat.

By the end of the game, I was pretty miserable. But then, as we went into the locker room, I ran into the **East Lakeville Dolphin**. (Like I said, they really don't understand how lakes work in my town.) And a girl's voice from inside it said, "Hi! I hope those cheerleaders weren't too mean to you." And we talked for a little bit, and she seemed really nice, and she offered to meet up and give me some mascot pointers. So I'm going on a date with the East Lakeville Dolphin tomorrow! We're meeting up at the mall food court at 2!

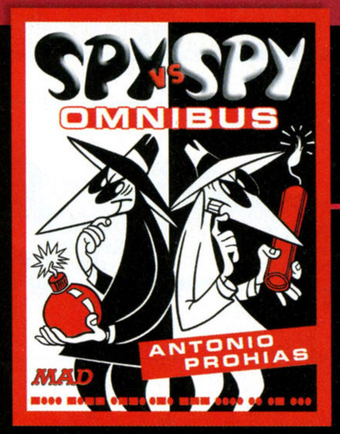
Oh, crap. I just realized, I have no idea what she looks like. Unless she shows up dressed like this:



WRITER: TIM CARVELL

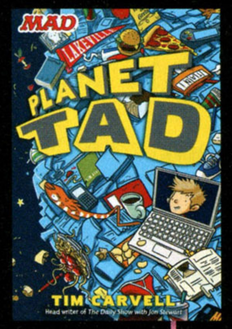
MR. MET: JERRY COLI | DREAMSTIME.COM

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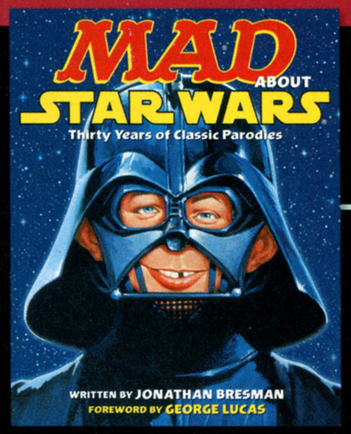


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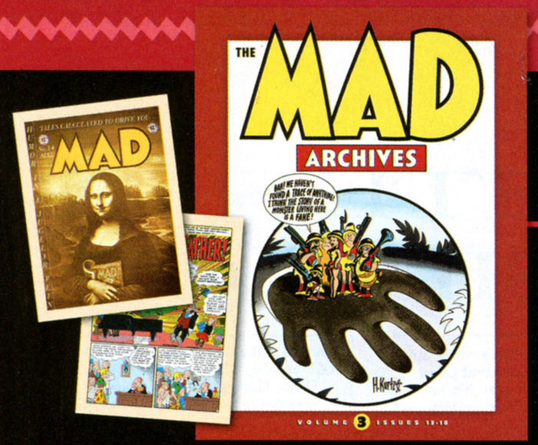


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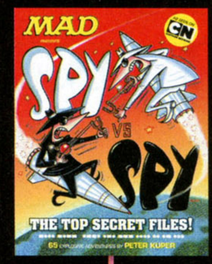
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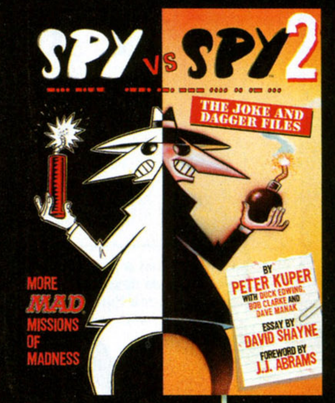
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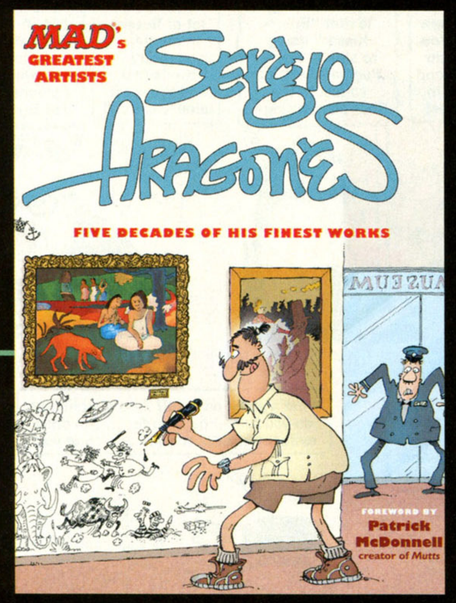
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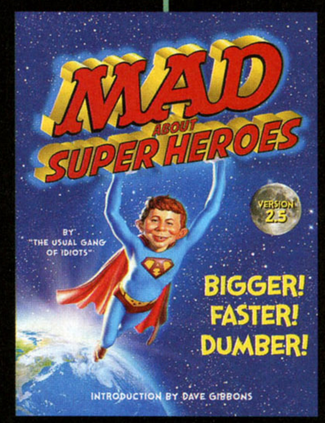
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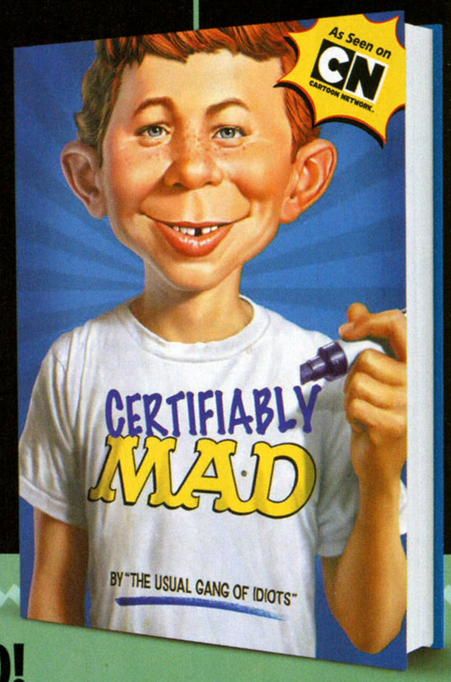
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MEMO TO:
The Editor--
Just saw this article.
Fire Dave Berg!
Bill Gaines

I may be just a **Stock Room Boy** now—but one of these days, I'm gonna work my way up and grab that **Shipping Clerk's** job!

I may be just a **Shipping Clerk** now—but one of these days I'll make that **Chief Clerk** move over and I'll grab **his** job!

I may be just a **Chief Clerk** now—but one of these days I'm gonna **show up** that **Office Manager** and grab **his** job!

I may be just an **Office Manager** now—but one of these days I'm gonna convince them I **deserve** the **Vice President's** job!

I may be just the **Vice President** now—but one of these days, he'll make a **mistake,** and **I'll** be **President** of this firm!

All this **responsibility** and **aggravation** and **headaches** and **heartaches!** Who **needs** it! I wish I were a **Stock Room Boy** again!

Gee, Boss, you look **better** than **ever** since you went on that diet!

Will you **listen** to that? Did you ever hear anything more **disgusting!?** What an **apple polisher!**

My kid was saying just last night, "Gee, Uncle Boss is **nice!** When I see him again, I'm gonna give him a **big kiss!"**

I swear! Any second, I think I'll **throw up!**

I **love** your **new suit!** You sure do have good taste in **clothes!**

How much longer is that "Brass-Kisser" going to stay in there? **I've** been waiting to talk to the Boss **all morning—**

I've had a lot of **Bosses** in my time, but you're the **fairest** and the most **understanding!**

—and that dirty fink has **said** practically everything **I** planned to say!

What a **day** I had at the office—buying, selling, maneuvering, wheeling and dealing! Boy, my **nerves** are all tied up in **knots!**

I've got to **unwind!** I need a **change of pace!** Tonight, let's have an evening of **fun** and **games** so I can get my mind **off** business **completely!**

Is everything set up?

Yes, dear!

Good bye, Dear!

Don't kiss me! I've got a **terrible cold!** You don't want your **whole office** to catch it, **do** you?

Hmmph! **I** didn't notice she had a cold! Who's she **kidding?** She just didn't **want** to kiss me, **that's** all! She **rejected** me, **that's** what she did! And I'm **hurt!** And when I get **hurt,** I get **mad! Real mad!!**

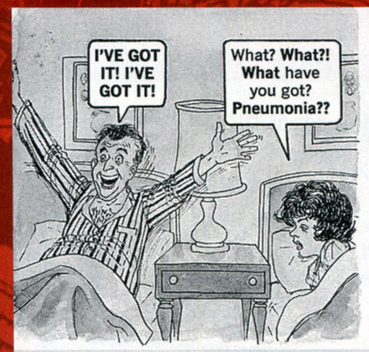
What's going on here!? Just what in heck do you think I **pay** you for . . . to **drink coffee?** Get back to **work** . . . **all** of you!

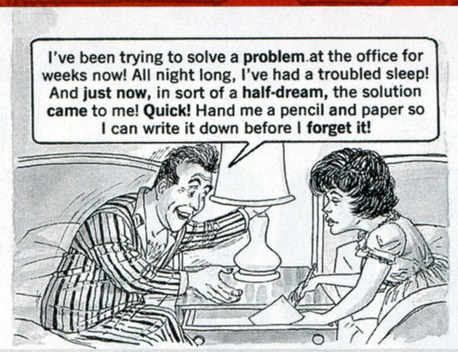
You call this a **letter?** With **two erasures?** Why don't you learn to **type?** That's not **typing** you're doing, that's **hunt-and-pecking!**

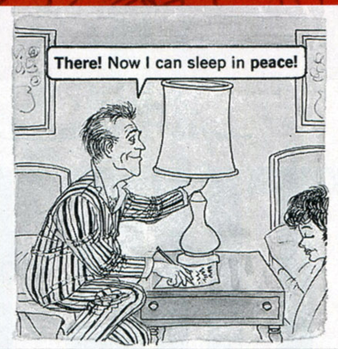
Listen, Sturdley, I'll have **no more** of your stupid mistakes! Remember, **you** can be **replaced easily**—by an **I.B.M. machine!**

Hello, dear! I've been thinking! Wasn't that **considerate** of me not to **kiss** you this morning so your office wouldn't **catch?**

They **caught it anyhow!**

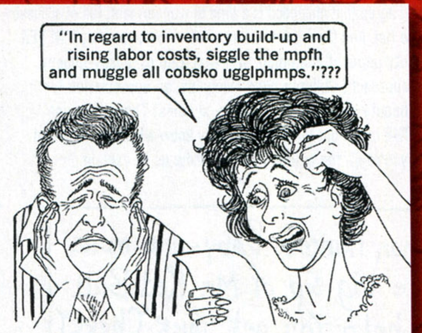

I'VE GOT IT! I'VE GOT IT!
What? What?! What have you got? Pneumonia??

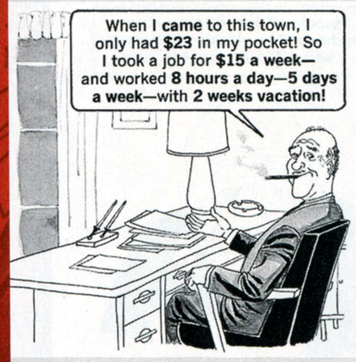

I've been trying to solve a problem at the office for weeks now! All night long, I've had a troubled sleep! And just now, in sort of a half-dream, the solution came to me! Quick! Hand me a pencil and paper so I can write it down before I forget it!

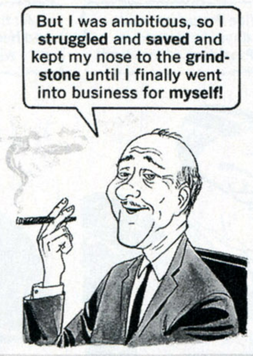

There! Now I can sleep in peace!


Ahhhh! The sun's in its heaven, my problem is solved, and all's right with the world! Where's that idea I wrote down?
Right where you left it!

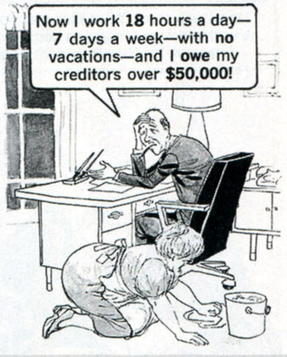

YAAAAHHHH!
Now what's wrong!?


"In regard to inventory build-up and rising labor costs, siggle the mpfh and muggle all cobsko ugglphmps."???

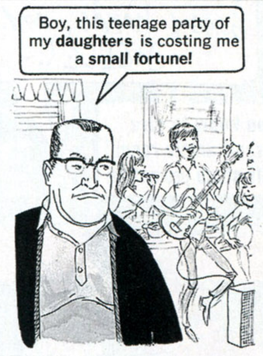

When I came to this town, I only had $23 in my pocket! So I took a job for $15 a week—and worked 8 hours a day—5 days a week—with 2 weeks vacation!


But I was ambitious, so I struggled and saved and kept my nose to the grindstone until I finally went into business for myself!


Today, I'm the Boss! I'm a big success!

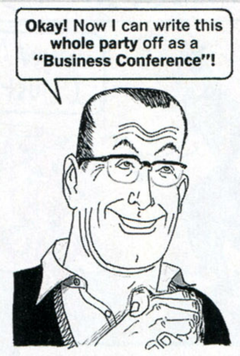

Now I work 18 hours a day—7 days a week—with no vacations—and I owe my creditors over $50,000!

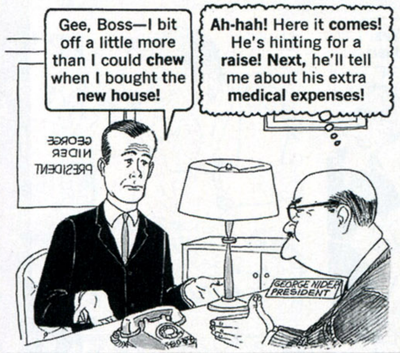


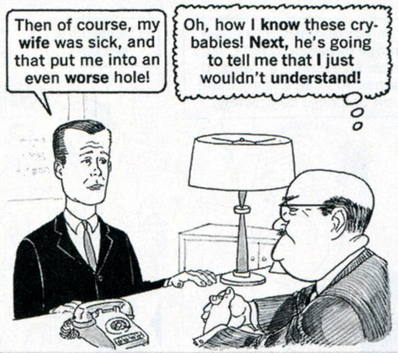

Boy, this teenage party of my daughters is costing me a small fortune!

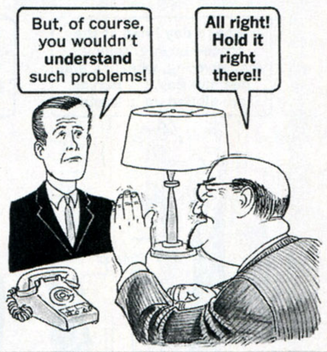

Hey, kid! Ask me how business is!
Sure . . .

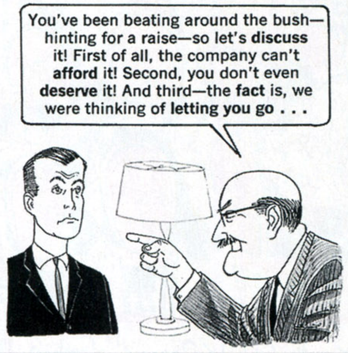

How's business?
Eccchhh!


Okay! Now I can write this whole party off as a "Business Conference"!

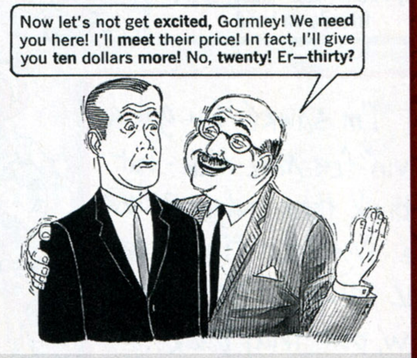

Gee, Boss—I bit off a little more than I could chew when I bought the new house!
Ah-hah! Here it comes! He's hinting for a raise! Next, he'll tell me about his extra medical expenses!
GEORGE NIDER PRESIDENT
GEORGE NIDER PRESIDENT

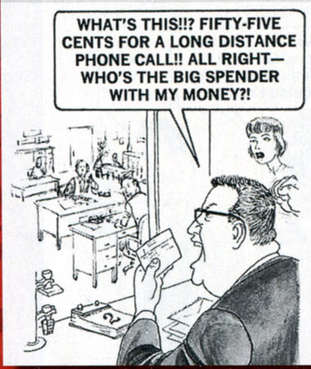

Then of course, my wife was sick, and that put me into an even worse hole!
Oh, how I know these cry-babies! Next, he's going to tell me that I just wouldn't understand!

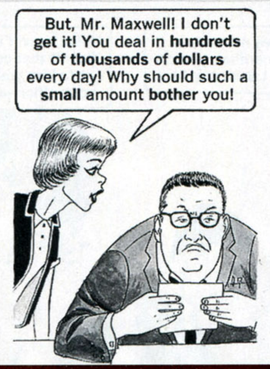

But, of course, you wouldn't understand such problems!
All right! Hold it right there!!


You've been beating around the bush—hinting for a raise—so let's discuss it! First of all, the company can't afford it! Second, you don't even deserve it! And third—the fact is, we were thinking of letting you go . . .


No, Boss! You've got me all wrong! I'm not hinting for a raise! I'm just trying to explain to you why I'll be leaving in two weeks! I've taken a new job that pays me much more!
You—you what!?

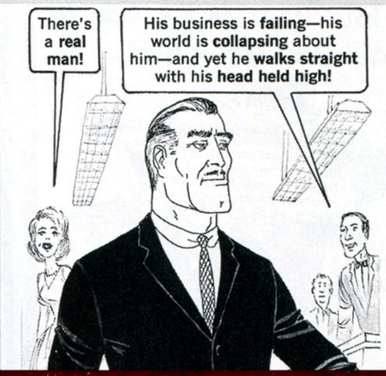

Now let's not get excited, Gormley! We need you here! I'll meet their price! In fact, I'll give you ten dollars more! No, twenty! Er—thirty?

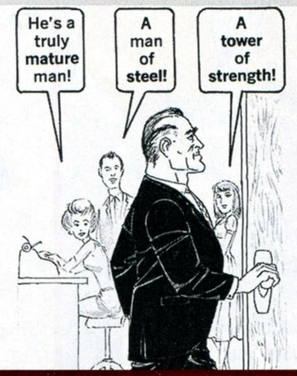

WHAT'S THIS!!? FIFTY-FIVE CENTS FOR A LONG DISTANCE PHONE CALL!! ALL RIGHT—WHO'S THE BIG SPENDER WITH MY MONEY?!


But, Mr. Maxwell! I don't get it! You deal in hundreds of thousands of dollars every day! Why should such a small amount bother you!


To tell the truth, numbers baffle me! A hundred thousand dollars is beyond my comprehension . . .


BUT FIFTY-FIVE CENTS . . . THAT I UNDERSTAND!!


There's a real man!
His business is failing—his world is collapsing about him—and yet he walks straight with his head held high!


He's a truly mature man!
A man of steel!
A tower of strength!


SLAM

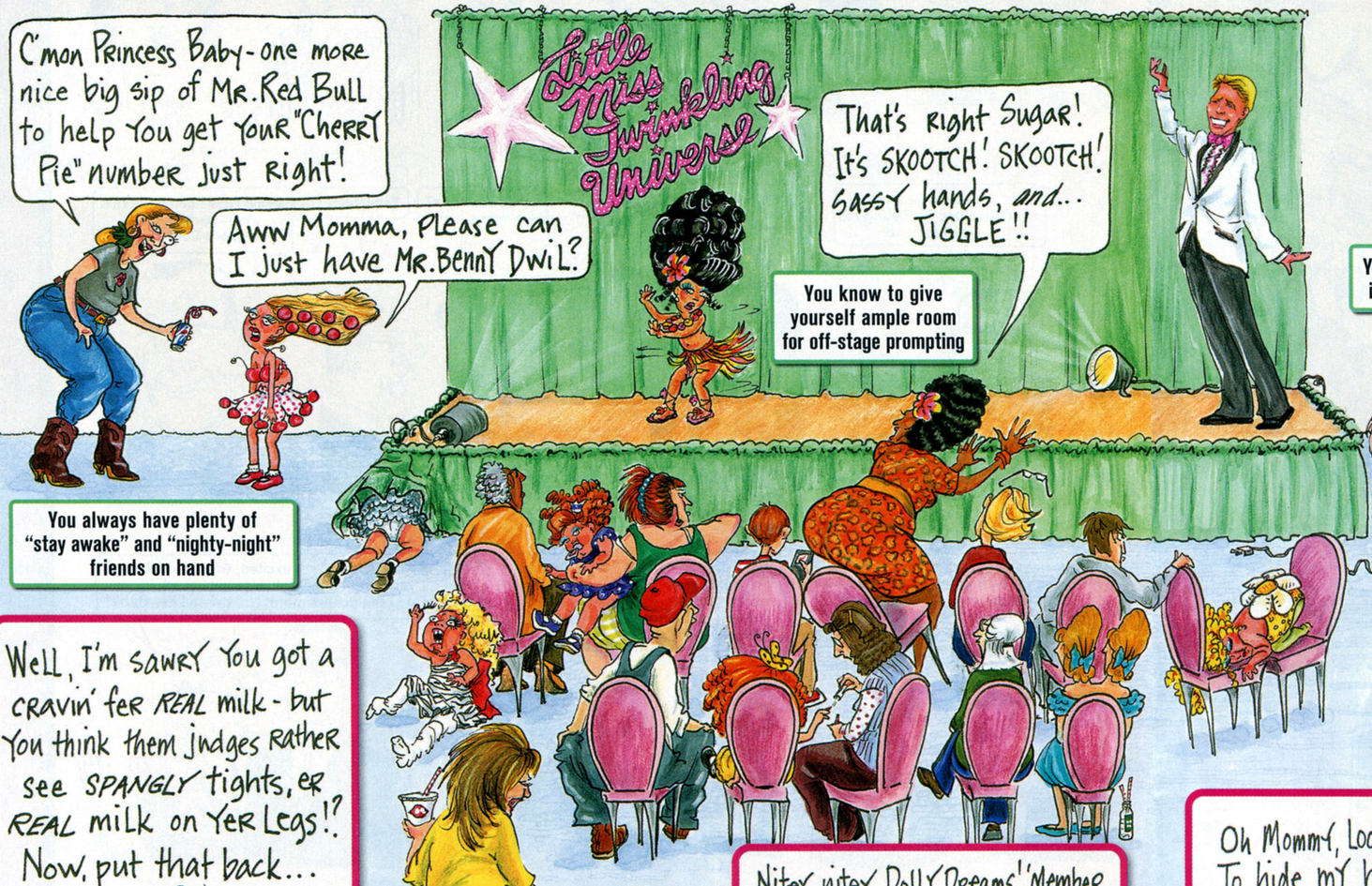

Mommy!

THE MEASURES OF TIARA MADRES DEPT.

Most parents agree that childhood is a time of wonderment, full of silliness and carefree fun. And those parents are idiots – because they'll NEVER raise a beauty pageant champion with that kind of loosey-goosey, half-assed approach! Children need discipline, an appreciation for superficial beauty and sequins, sequins, sequins! Thank heavens there are SOME moms out there who actually know what they're doing! Not sure if you're on the winning team? Allow us to explain...

You're a Great Pageant Mom if...

WRITER AND ARTIST: TERESA BURNS PARKHURST



You always have plenty of "stay awake" and "nighty-night" friends on hand

You know to give yourself ample room for off-stage prompting

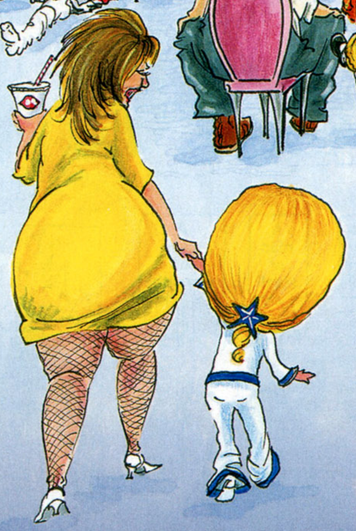


You carry hairspray in your diaper bag

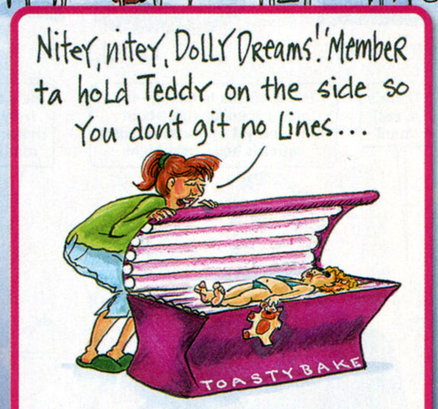
You respect your child enough to always give her choices



Your monthly pageant spending exceeds your monthly grocery bill



You love when your kid's hair makes your ass look smaller



You've trained your toddler to take naps in a tanning bed



In YOUR house, the Tooth Fairy brings "Flippers," not cash



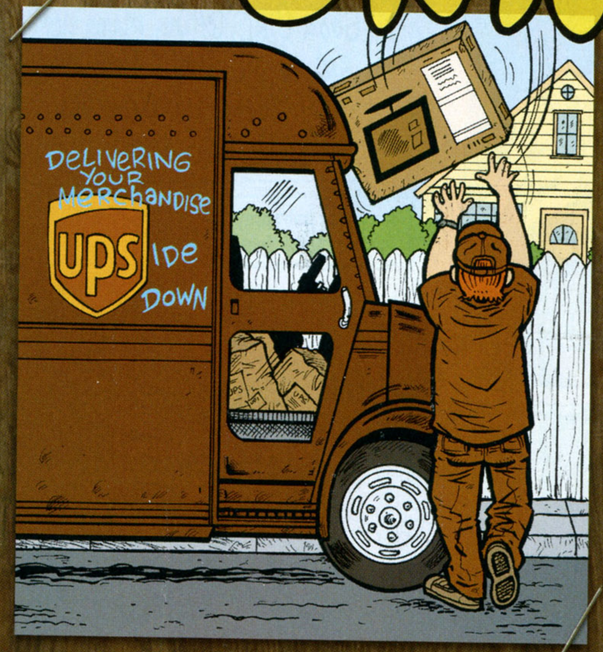
Your baby girl's budding psychological disorders are all shrugged off

THE BRANDWRITING IS ON THE WALL DEPT.

The overwhelming urge to deface signs, display ads, posters and corporate logos has a long and storied tradition as old as America itself. But why merely tag these things with profanity, the names of schools, gang symbols or crudely-drawn naughty bits? It's much more subversive (and fun!) to make the company's name part of your rage against them! Need some inspiration? Here's our latest take on...

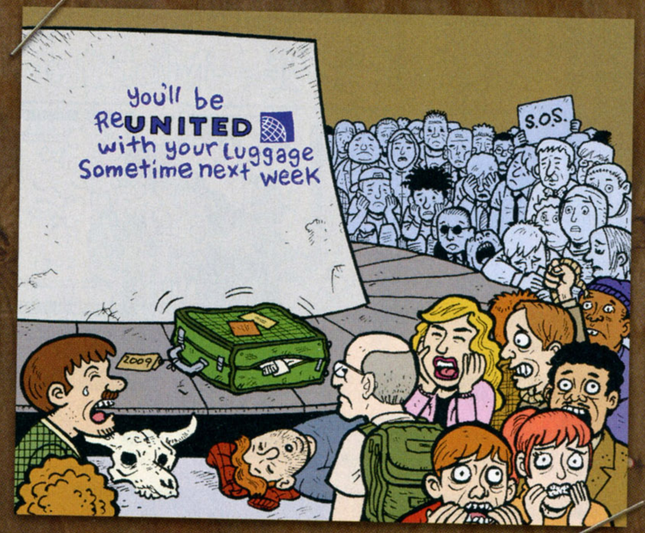
TRADEMARK GRAFFITI





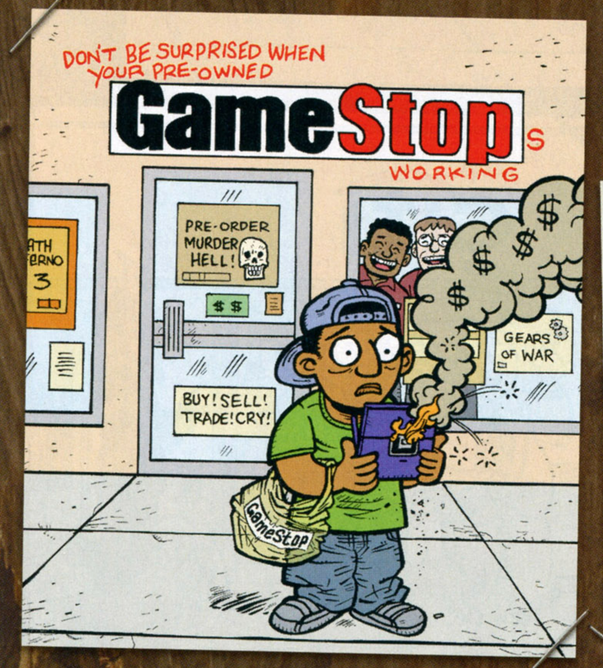










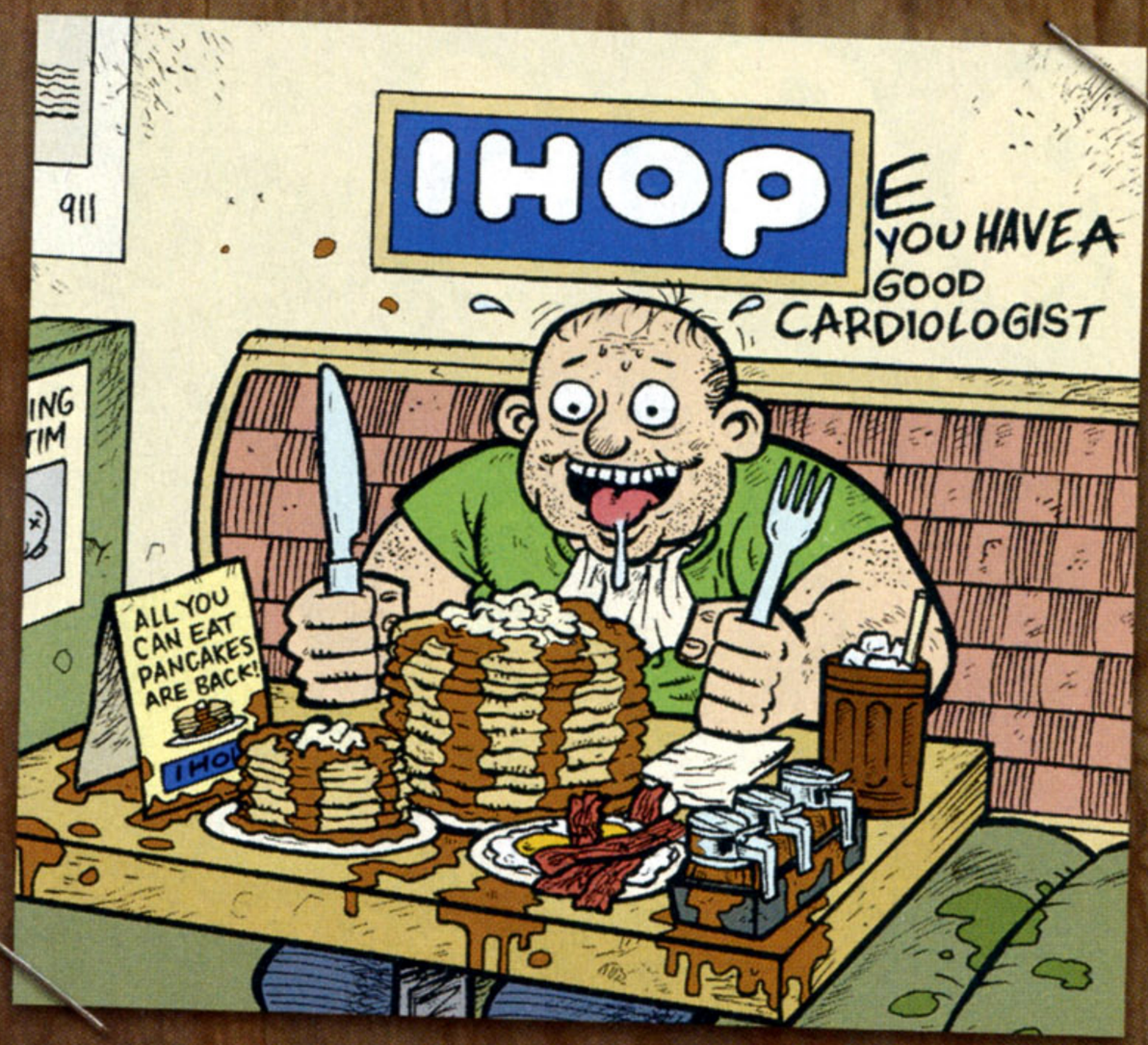


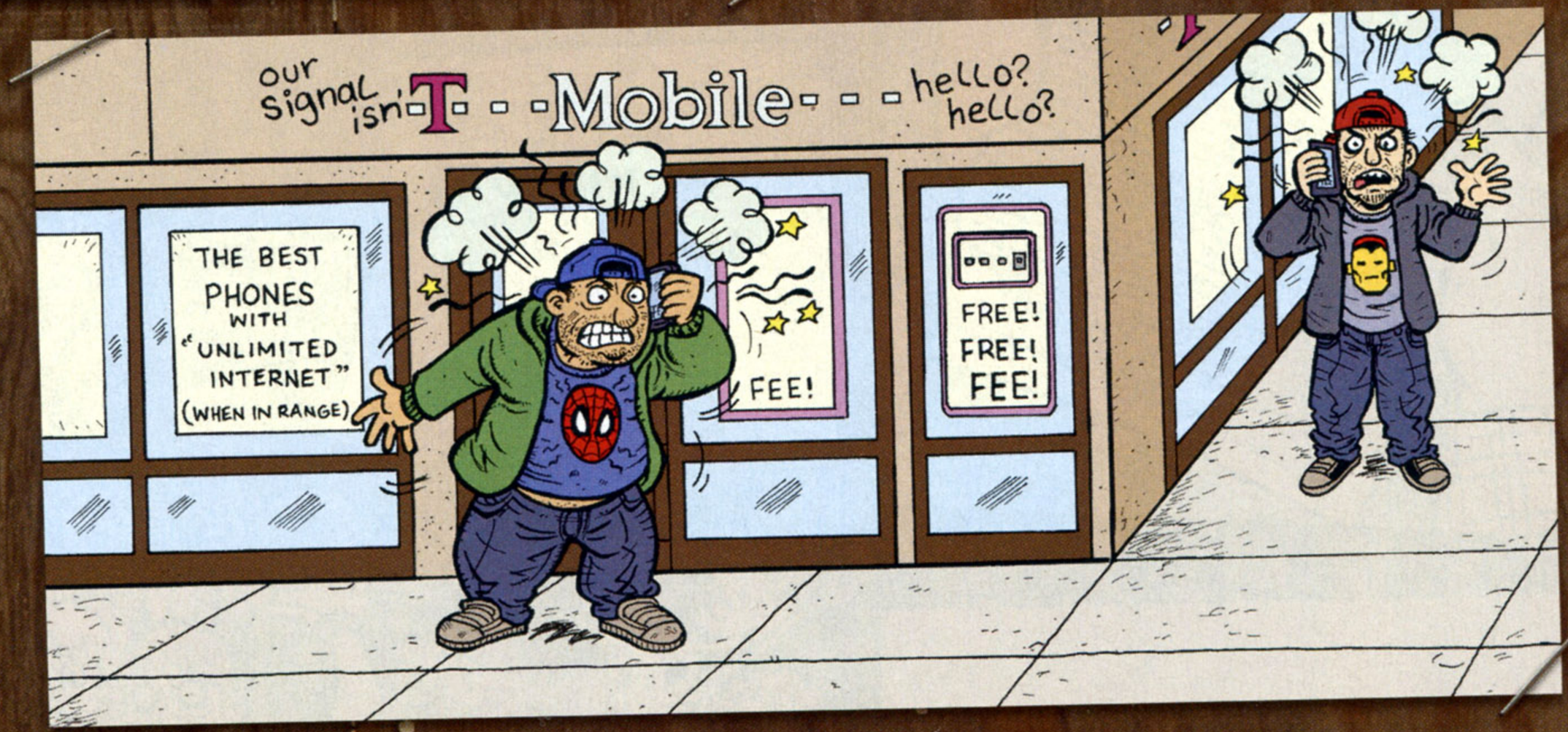


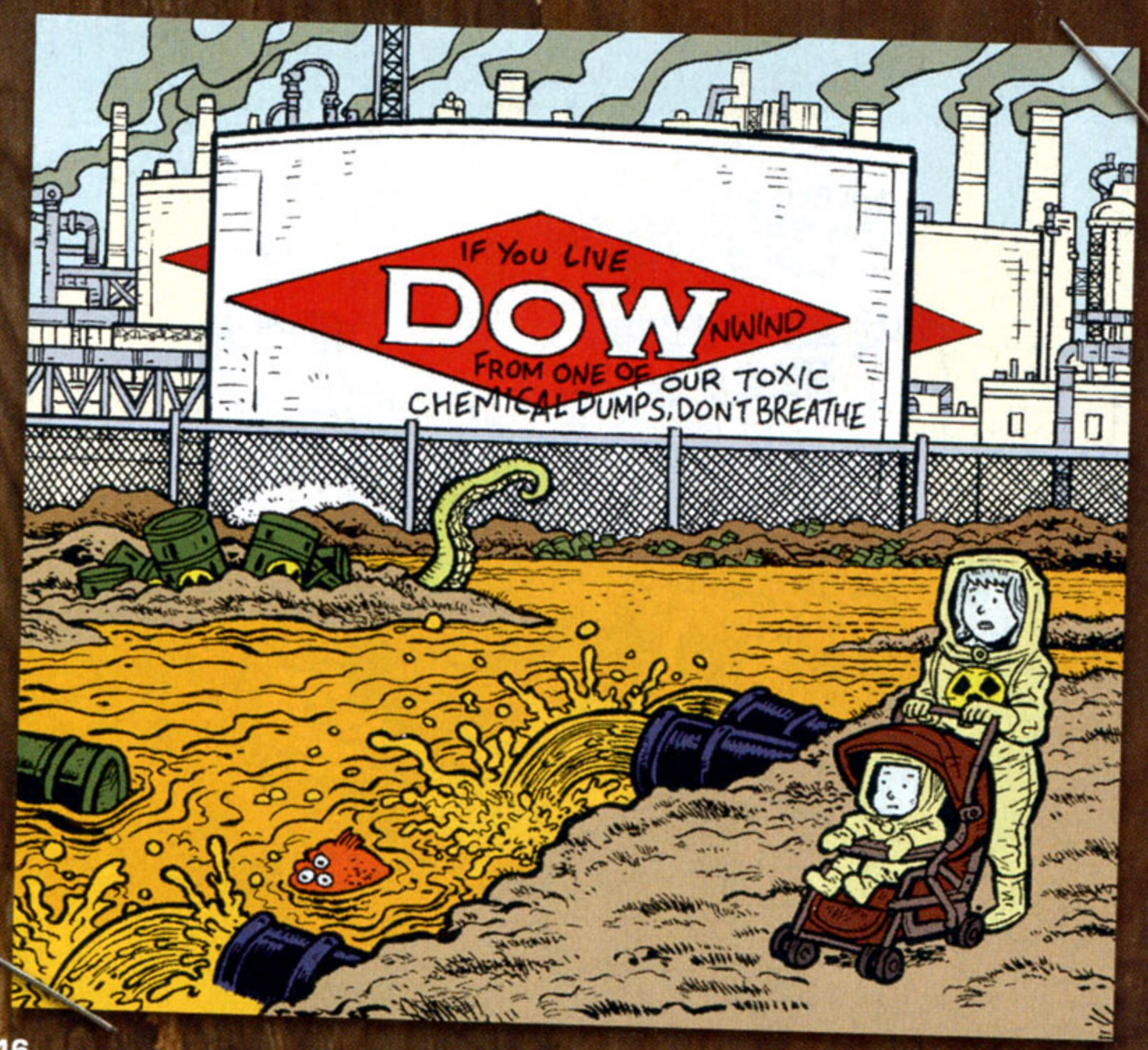
WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN ARTISTS: EVAN DORKIN & SARAH DYER

PLYWOOD PHOTO: IGOR ARONOV | DREAMSTIME.COM


who cares about dumbppelicans?


911
IHOP
E YOU HAVE A GOOD CARDIOLOGIST
ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES ARE BACK!
IHOP


our signal isn't T- - -Mobile- - - hello? hello?
THE BEST PHONES WITH "UNLIMITED INTERNET" (WHEN IN RANGE)
FEE!
FREE! FREE! FEE!


IF YOU LIVE DOWNWIND FROM ONE OF OUR TOXIC CHEMICAL DUMPS, DON'T BREATHE


SOMEONE SHOULD MAKE A CITIZEN'S ARREST OF THESE THIEVING SCOUNDRELS!
T.B.

THE STRIP CLUB



WTF, JEFF?





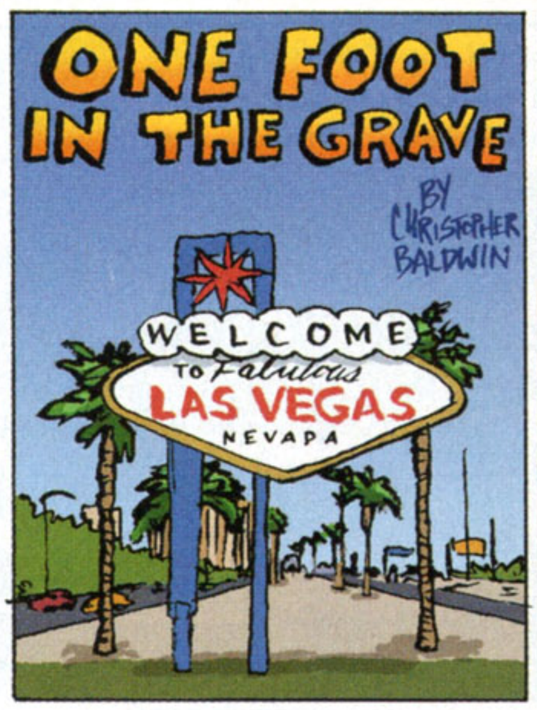




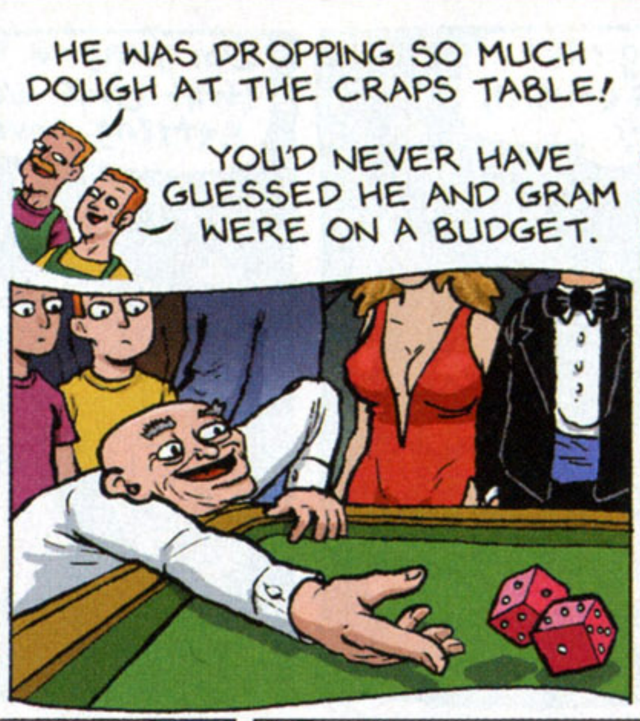
KIT LIVELY & SCOTT NICKEL

ONE FOOT IN THE GRAVE

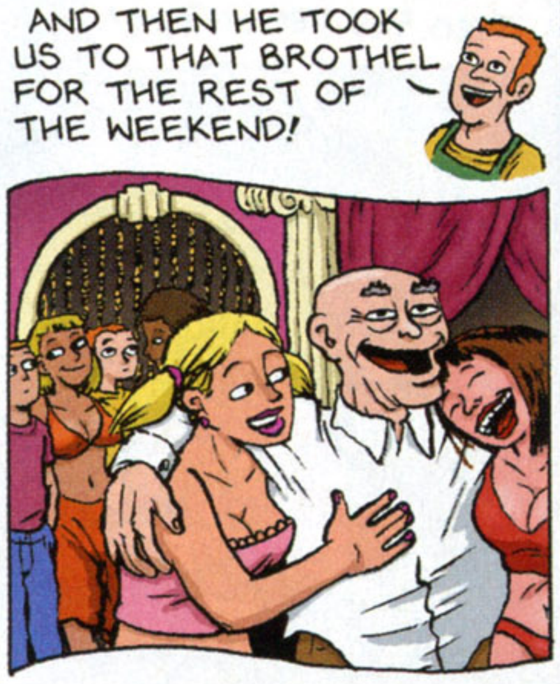
BY CHRISTOPHER BALDWIN









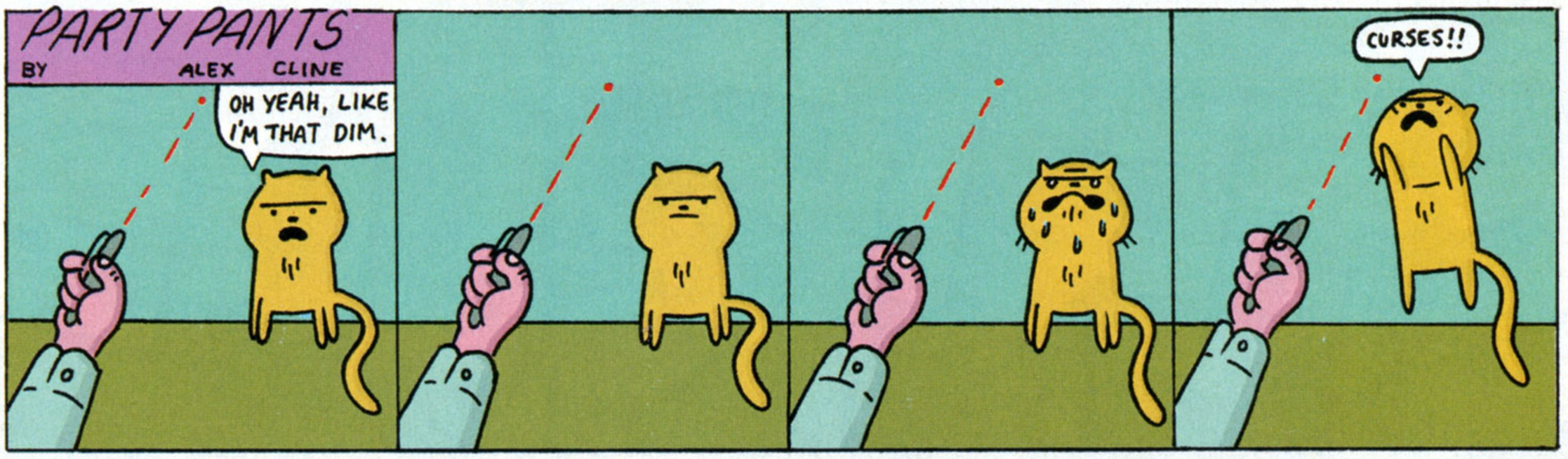








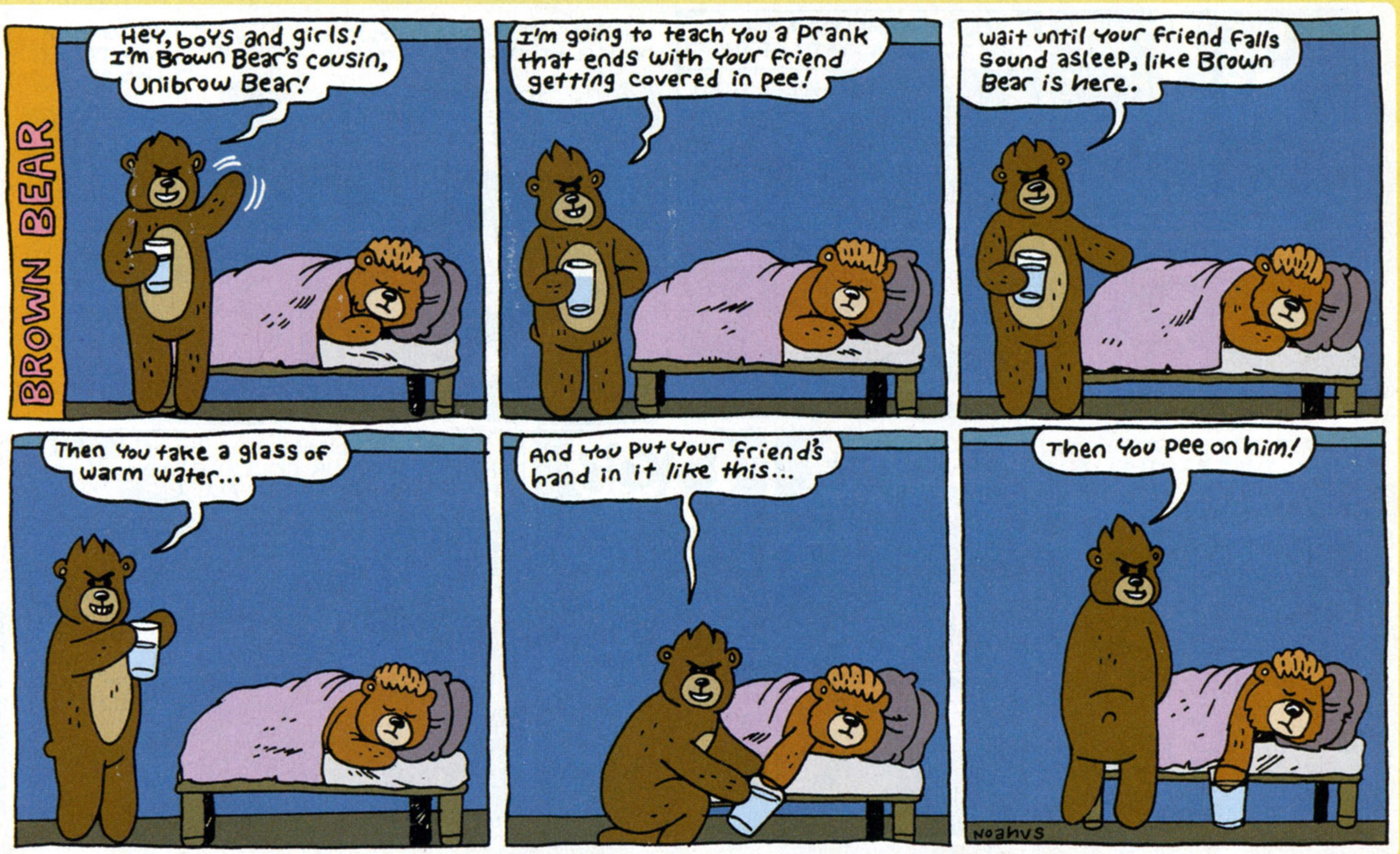
CHRISTOPHER BALDWIN



ALEX CLINE

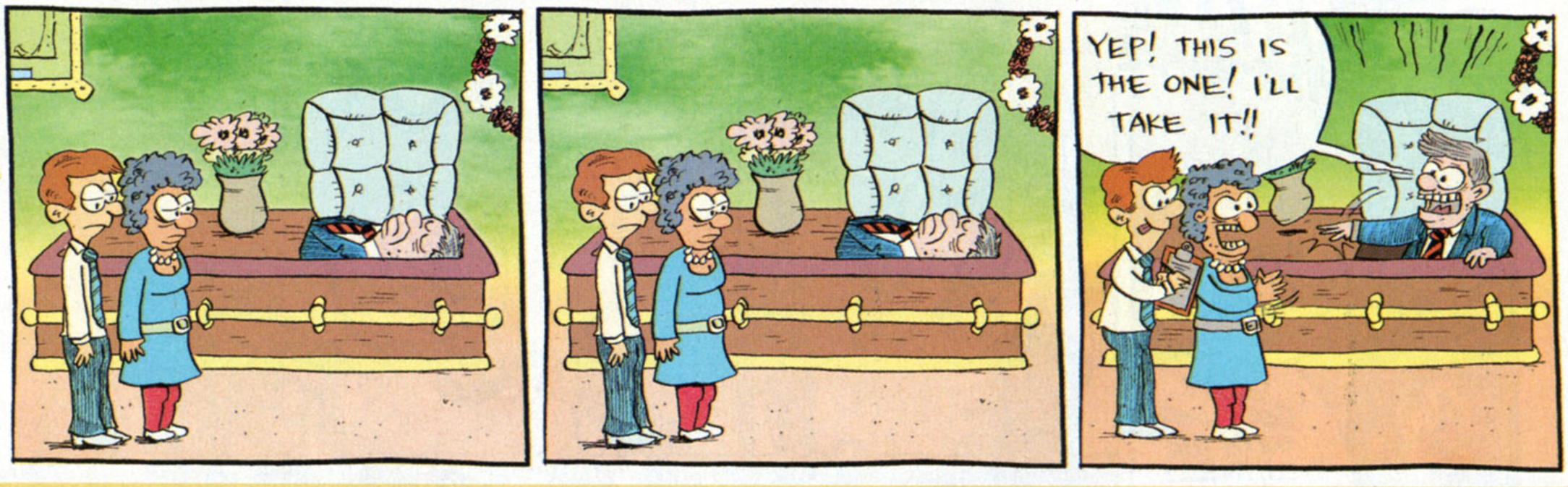


PEET TAMBURINO



NOAH VAN SCIVER

ANYWHERE BUT THE FACE



MATT LASSEN & TOM HART

OOZE

LIFE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FOOD CHAIN

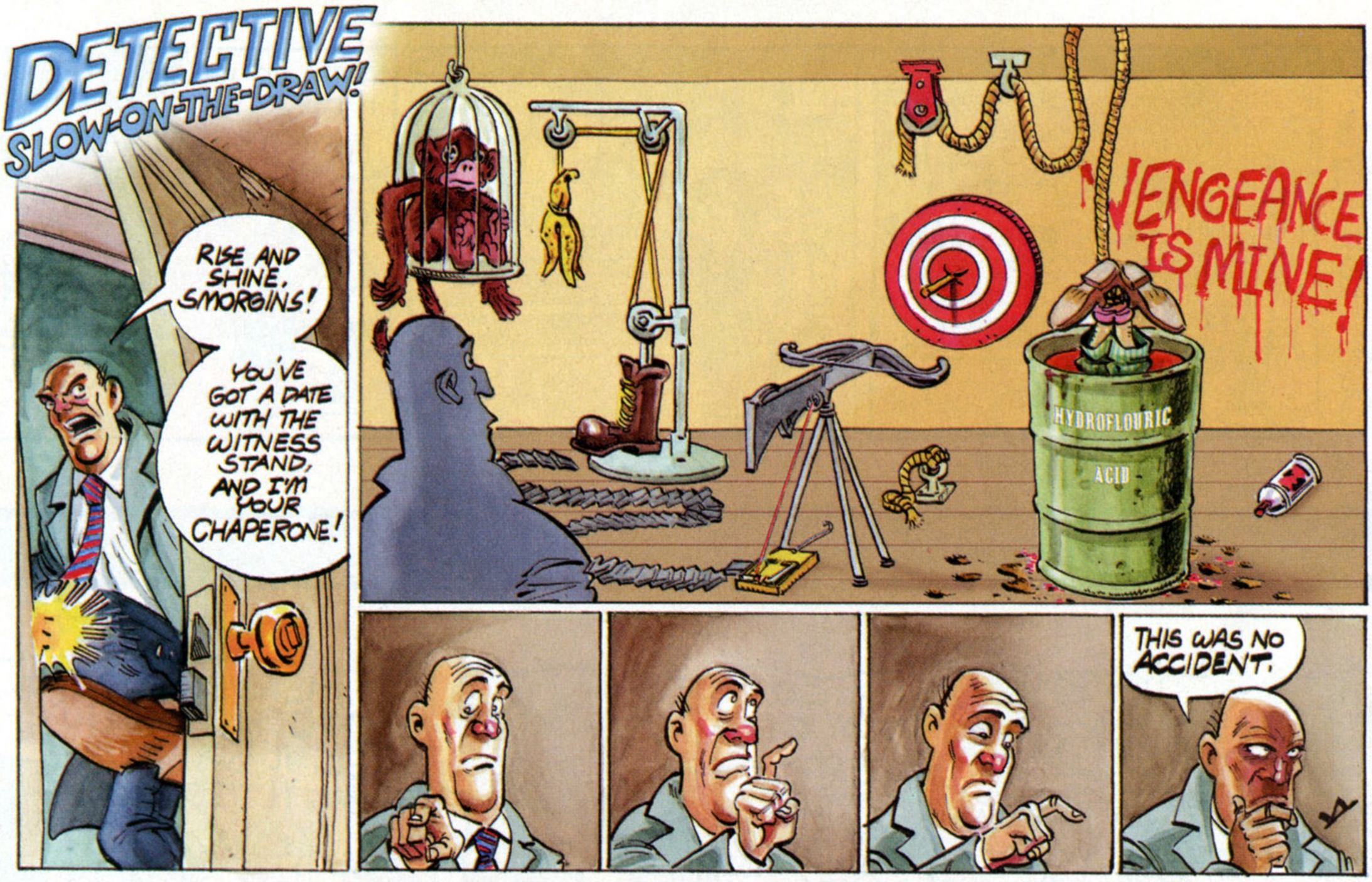




DAN SHEFELMAN

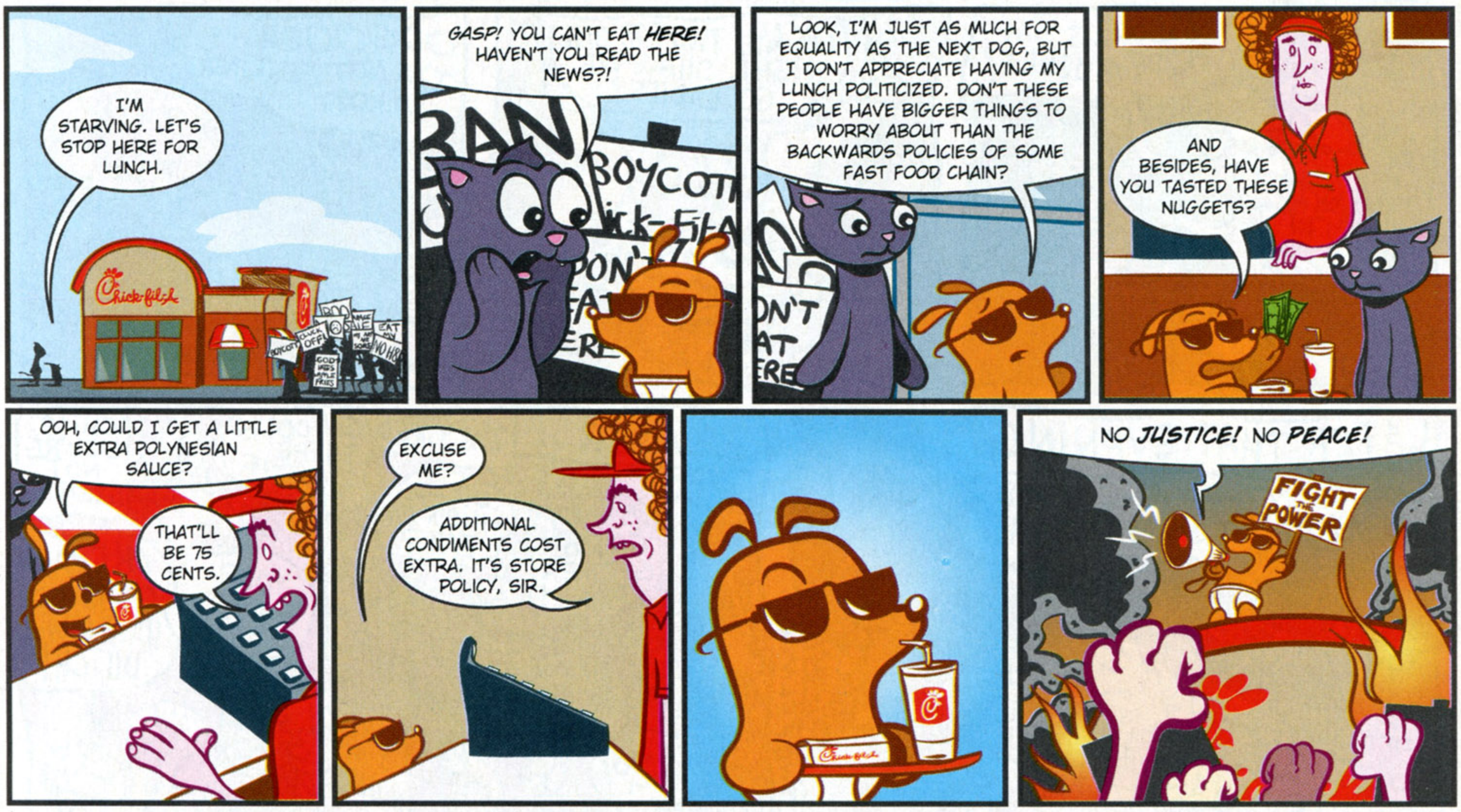
DAN SHEFELMAN

DETECTIVE SLOW-ON-THE-DRAW!



JASON YUNGBLUTH

WHAT IF DOG WAS ONE OF US?



KENNY KEIL

Every election season, in cities and towns across our great nation, voters are asked to vote "yay" or "nay" on some idiotic social referendum. This is truly democracy in action, as the side which spends the most money on television commercials wins. But sides aside, as a public service we've compiled the most well-reasoned positions from editorial writers across the country. As always, we are proud to play our part in our not-quite-democratic process.

Newspapers Weigh In On This Year's Least Important Ballot Propositions

The Birmingham Extremist

Proposition 68 – YES
Overturns a ban on child-officiated backyard marriages between pets, including most interspecies unions. Exclusions will still include mammal/reptile and mammal/amphibian marriages but at least it's a start! Let's let Fluffy and Bandit love who our kids would like to think they love! Say I Do to Prop. 68!



The Staten Island Seldom-Read Register

Proposition 82 – YES
Ensures consistency among restaurants serving Mexican omelets; confusion over inclusion/omission of avocado, chorizo, jalapeños ELIMINATED. Savings estimated to be in the THOUSANDS in the first year alone. *¡Si en Prop. Ochenta y Dos!*

The Intercourse Observer

Proposition 55 – NO
Too many flaws! Shortening calendar year to 338 days looks good on paper but ultimately does nothing to fix town budget problems! Independent studies suggest it might put us chronologically out of step with the rest of the world. No on 55!

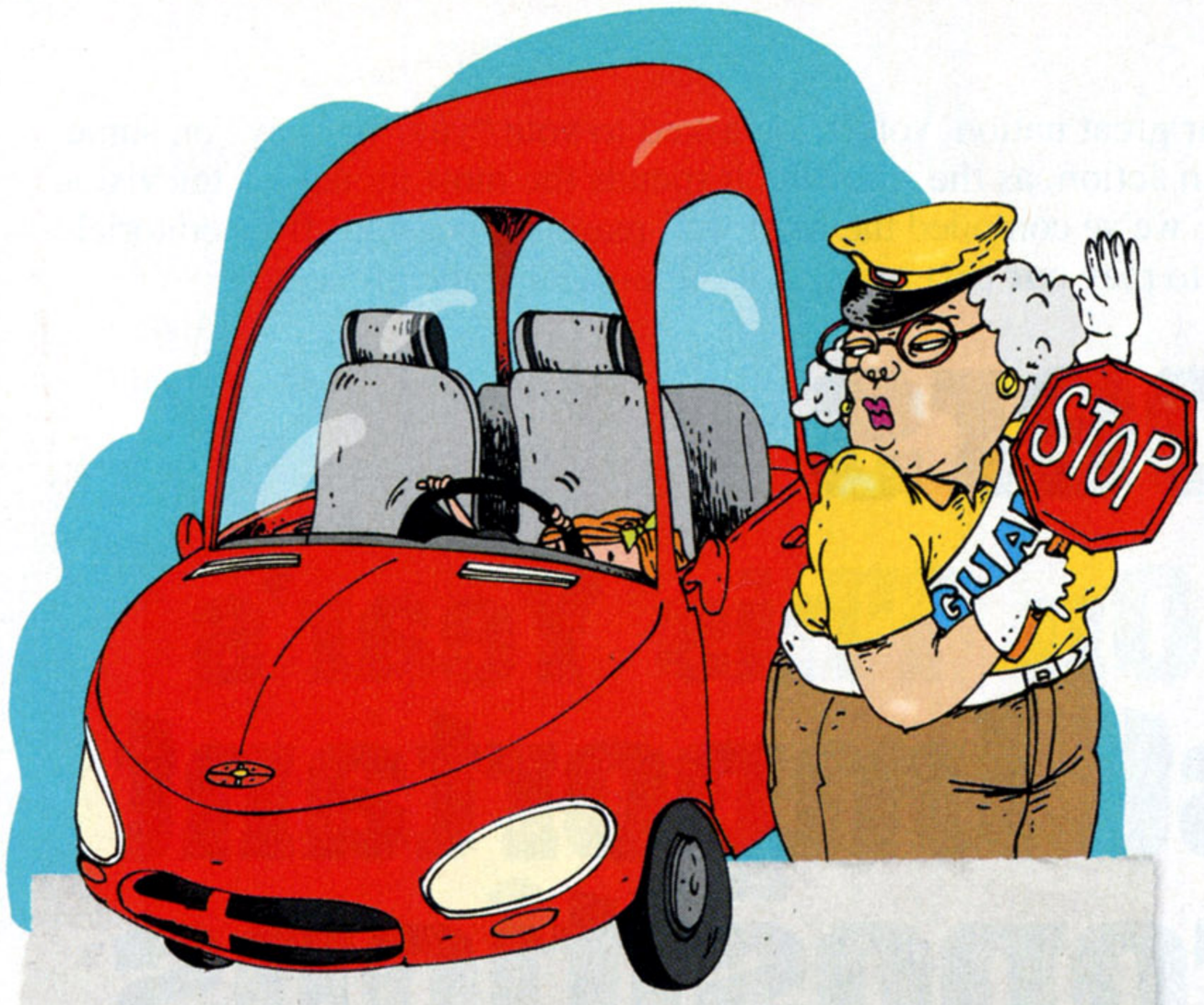


USA YESTERDAY

Measure J – NO
Unnecessarily and potentially illegal Measure J sets number of bumper stickers to maximum of ten per vehicle. Completely discriminates against hippies and lesbians. A lawsuit waiting to happen that we simply cannot afford!
No on Measure J!

WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO ARTIST: KEVIN POPE

NEWSPAPER: PICSFIVE/DREAMSTIME.COM



The Criertown Towne Crier

Measure C — YES
Creates a panel of no less than eight watchdog groups each comprised of 12 to 14 independent consultants to oversee municipal government Committees on Overspending, Committees for Smaller Local Government, Subcommittees For Even Smaller Local Government and Committee Against Political Cronyism & Nepotism. Fiscal impact: Aaaah, it's probably negligible. Join Steve Wilson, Robert Wilson, Elaine Wilson-Bixley and Jim Bixley of Wilson & Bixley Consultants in voting YES on Measure C!

The Phoenix Mudflapper

Proposition 72 — YES
Vote Yes on Prop. 72. Allows six-year-olds to drive themselves to school; independent research PROVES immediate reduction in overcrowded buses. It's about time! **Yes on 72!**

The Austin Daily Manifesto

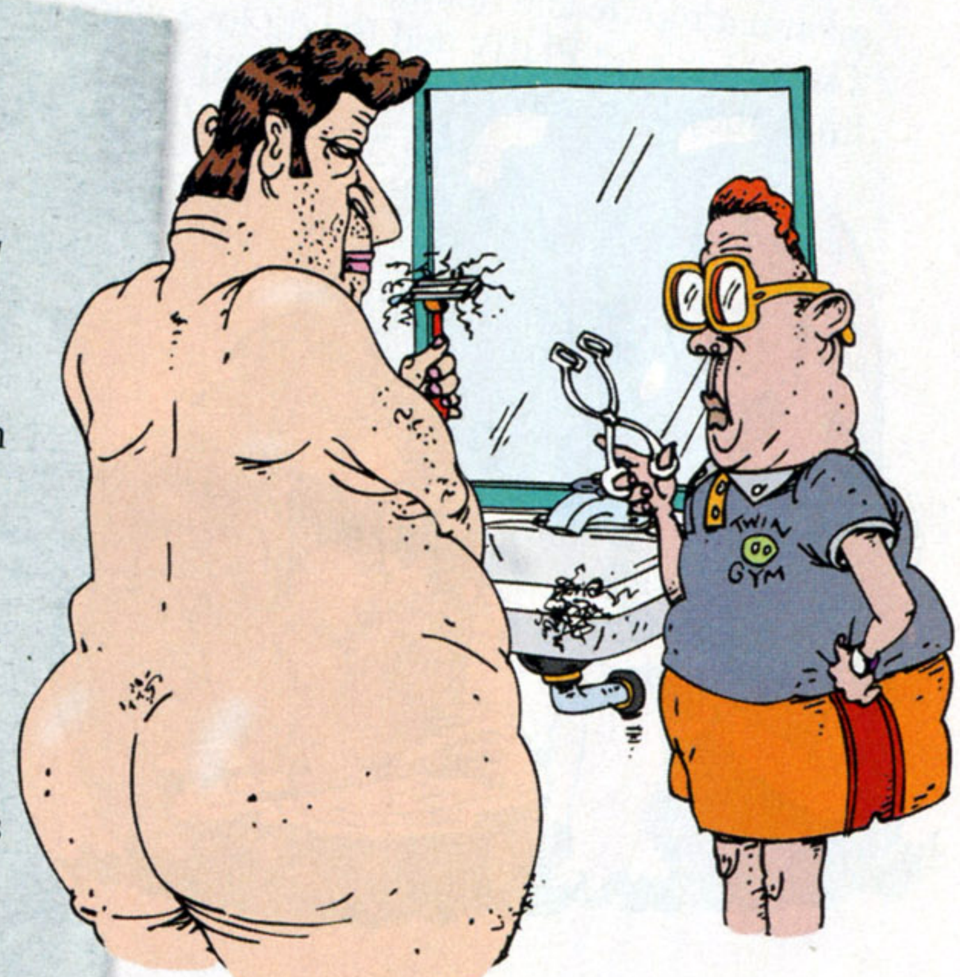
Proposition 38 — NO
Vote NO on Prop. 38! Hastily and irresponsibly establishes drab, uninteresting Höchenschwand, Germany as official "sister city" when we still haven't heard back from Neuchâtel, Switzerland or Japan's Tokushima Prefecture. This November, let's show the world we can do better than Höchenschwand — Vote Nein on 38!

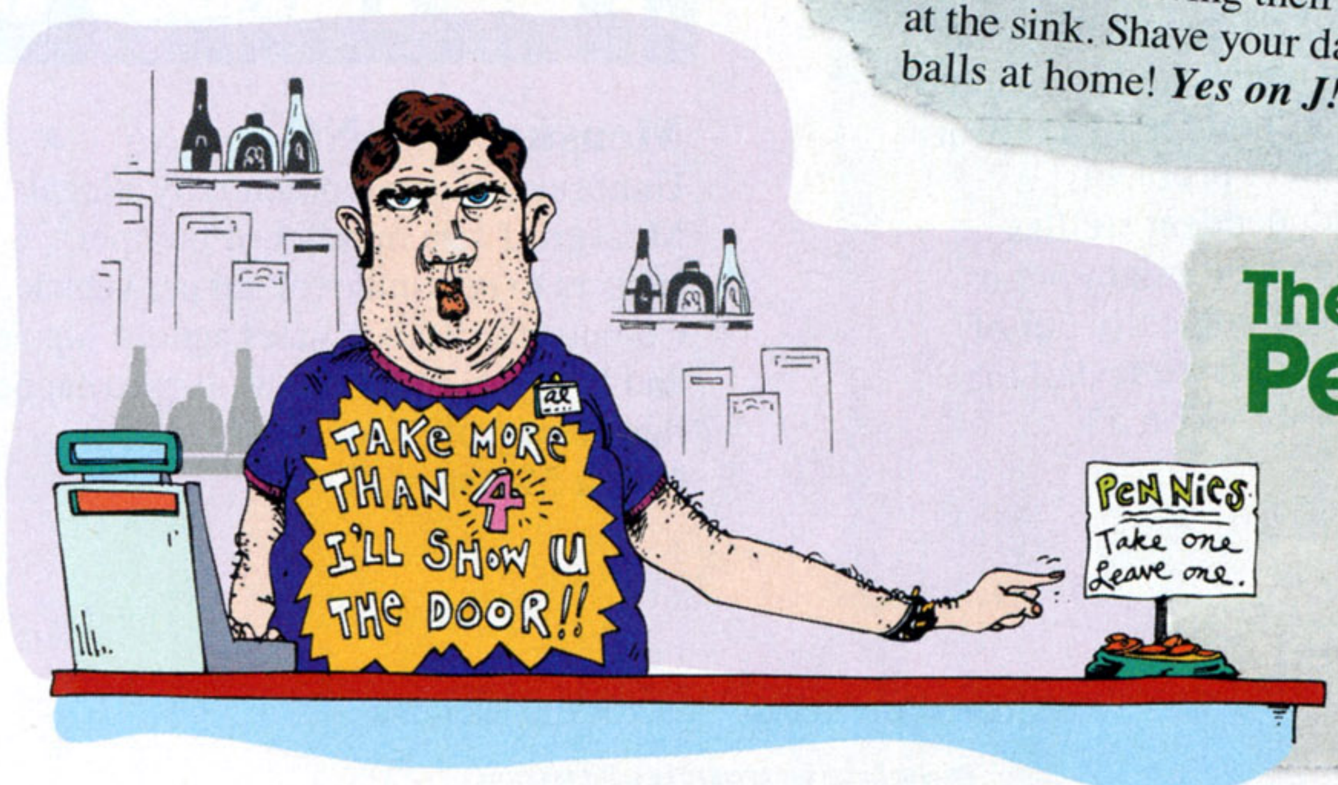
THE DETROIT VERY PICAYUNE NEWS

Proposition 94 — NO
Moves weekly meeting of City Council from Room 17-B, Town Hall to Lane 12, Midway Bowling Alley. Send Bob Forschburg a message and remind him that he knew when League Night was when he ran for councilman last year: Vote NO on Prop. 94!

The Grand Rapids Conservative Screed

Measure J — YES
Makes it mandatory for gym employee, once notified, to approach man at sink in men's locker room and tell him to stop shaving his balls. Immediate benefits include more sinks available for others, fewer clogged drains, and no one shaving their balls at the sink. Shave your damn balls at home! ***Yes on J!***



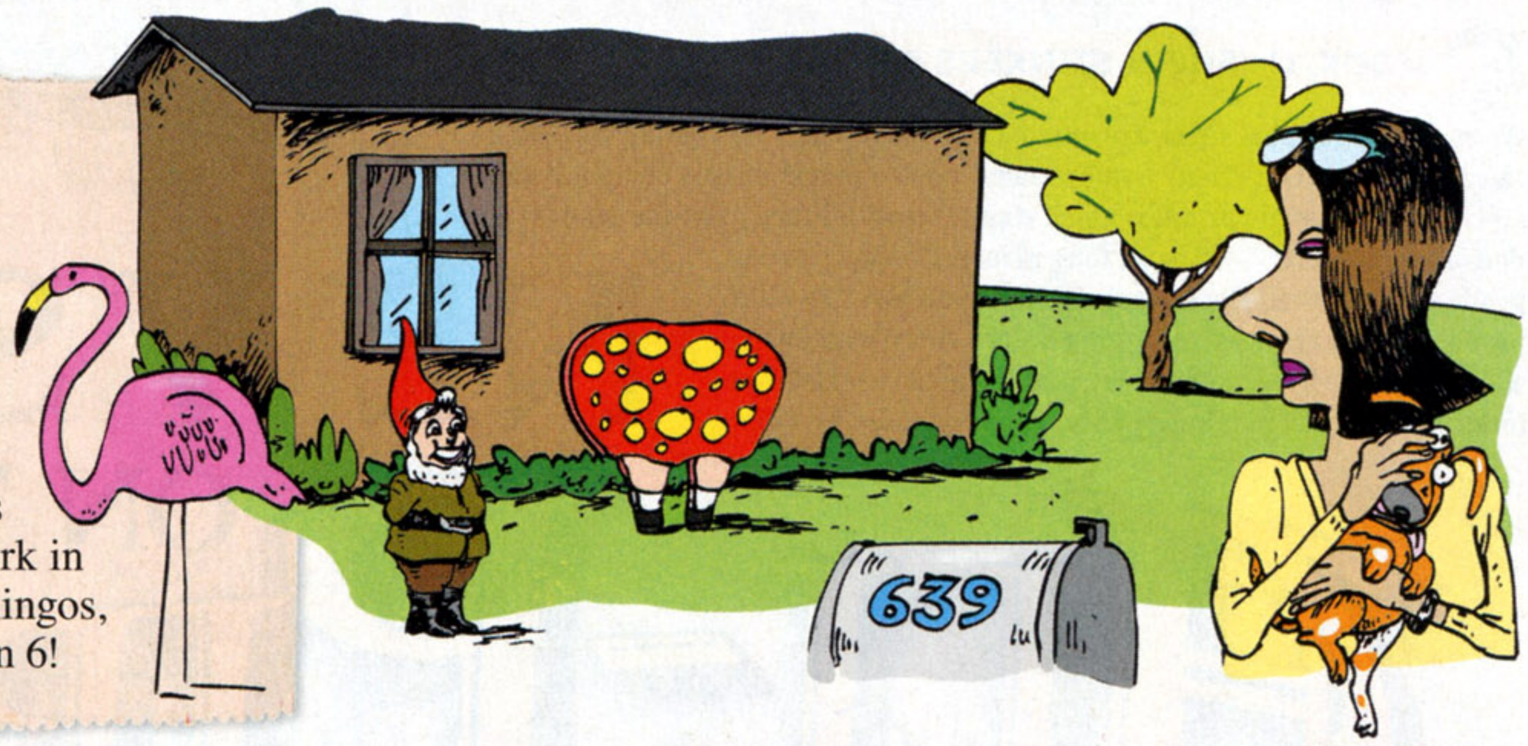


The Wamelsdorf-Cupenluck Penny Saver

Proposition 23 — YES
Places strict four-penny limit on penny dish grabs, preventing greedy shoppers from using the public sector to subsidize more than 4% of purchase per $1 spent. Our pennies are for everyone!
Yes on 23!

THE ST. PETERSBURG HAPPENSTANCE WEEKLY

Proposition 6 — NO
Rescinds section 122.68b of residential code and allows for crudely-painted plywood cutouts of fat woman bending over doing gardening work in front yards, visible from street. Gnomes and flamingos, yes! Plywood fat-asses no! Vote No on Proposition 6!



The Herald Journal Post Times Tribune

Proposition 70 — NO
Unfairly discourages ignorant citizens from signing petitions outside medical marijuana dispensaries, Tea Party rallies, food co-ops, Ted Nugent concerts, Trader Joe's locations, open-carry events, Venice Beach, California and Phoenix, Arizona by demanding petition-gatherers accurately describe purpose of petition without using charged talking points or exaggerated scare tactics and making sure potential signer fully comprehends issue at hand. Completely unnecessary, impossible to implement and guaranteed to negatively impact petition-gatherer industry while unfairly targeting enormous blocs of uninformed, stupid voters. **No No No on Proposition 70!**

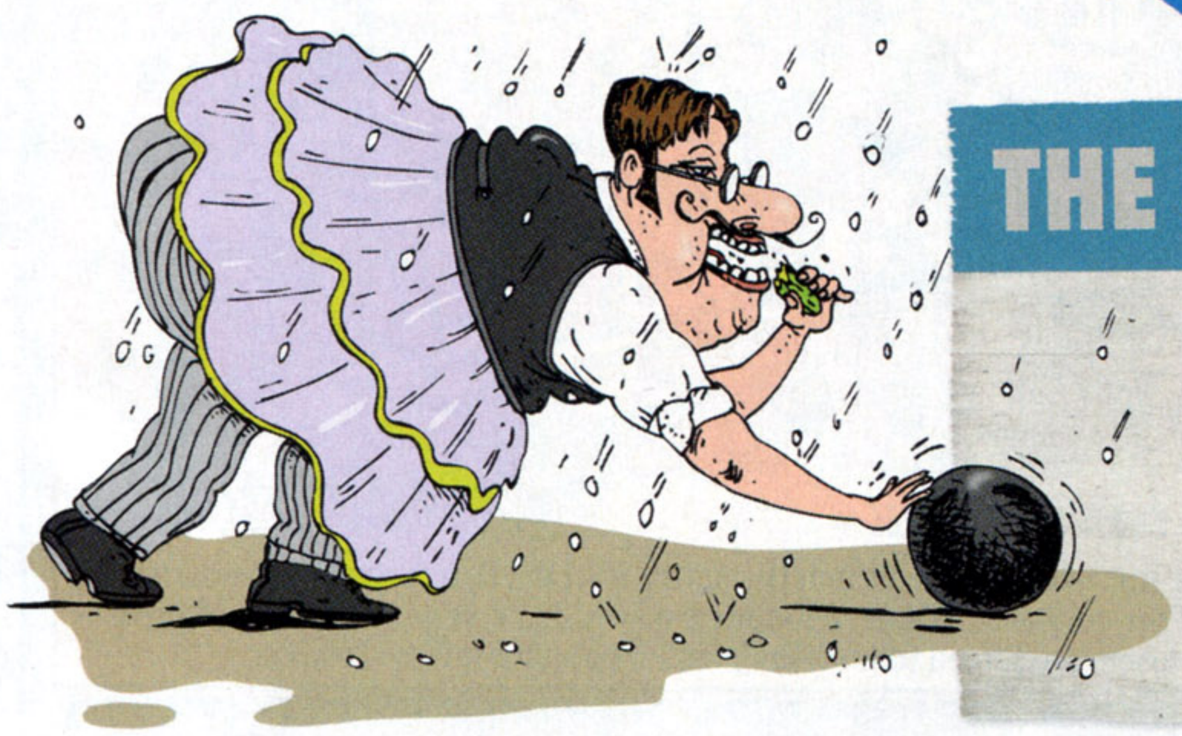
The Journal Herald Tribune Post Journal

Measure D — YES
Tourism-boosting Measure D earmarks approximately $1,600 to hire a professional photographer to take a series of photos to be used on local postcards, updating or replacing current available cards depicting "Busy Woolworth's Lunch Counter," "Enjoying the Steam Room at Men's Turkish Bath House on Mason Street," and "Swarthy Slovak Peddler and His Pretty Child Bride in East Side's Little Prague." **Yes on D — It's About Time!**

The Tribune Post Times Herald Journal

Proposition 79 — YES
Allows police to legally detain and arrest anyone who they have a reasonable suspicion of being a member of Improv Everywhere. Limits bad improvisational "comedy" to continuing education workshops and lame parties thrown by annoying, struggling actors. Anti-flashmob initiative of 2007 did not go far enough! Let's get a handle on this now before it gets out of hand.
Vote Yes on Prop. 79!





THE SEATTLE *NO-ONE-READS-DAILY*

Proposition 18 — NO
Invalidates 1867 law against rolling a cannon ball down the middle of Main Street during a hailstorm on a Tuesday in May while eating a pickle and wearing a hoop skirt. Wacky Laws on "Kidz Section" of city website will have to be updated at enormous taxpayer cost — while "Annual Events" area of site is still saddled with embarrassing "Gerainum Festival" typo.
No on Proposition 18!

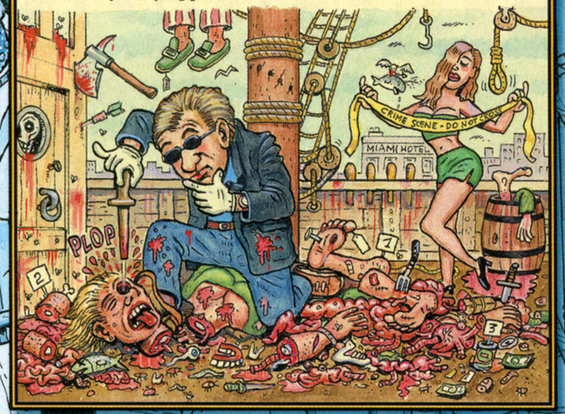
HOOK, LINEUP & STINKERS DEPT.

We recently read that there are about 12 new pirate movies coming our way in the next two years. (Funny how the same movie executives who complain about movie piracy have no problem glorifying pirates in films!) But the plundering doesn't stop there — at least four pirate TV shows are in production as well. It's enough to make you want to wear patches on BOTH eyes! How long before there's an entire channel devoted to the thieving, hook-handed rascals? Not long, John Silver, judging by this treasure chest we call...

NEW SHOWS ON THE ALL-PIRATE NETWORK

CSI-PATCH

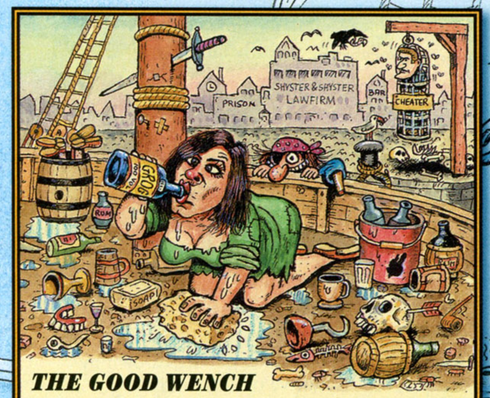
No crime scene is too complex — or too gruesome — for this elite band of pirate forensic investigators. In the series opener, the team is called in to solve the murder of Catherine the Cutthroat, who appears to have been killed with an ancient 17th century belaying pin.





EVERYBODY LOVES BLACKBEARD

Bloodthirsty pirate Edward Teach has a stressful job: looting, torturing and murdering. But when he's home, the REAL craziness begins! With 14 frustrated wives, overbearing parents and a jealous brother, what's a Scourge of the Seven Seas to do?



THE GOOD WENCH

In this gripping episodic drama, the loyal, but toothless, mistress of a publicly disgraced pirate must find work as a lowly charwoman to provide for her two illegitimate children — all while battling a crippling grog addiction.

THE PARROT WHISPERER

Man's best friend may be a dog, but what's a pirate without a loyal parrot companion on his shoulder? The renowned parrot behavior specialist's skills are put to the test each week as pirates from all over the globe bring in their problem parrots for help. In this season's premiere episode, the Parrot Whisperer must try and cure a potty-mouthed bird with Tourette Syndrome.



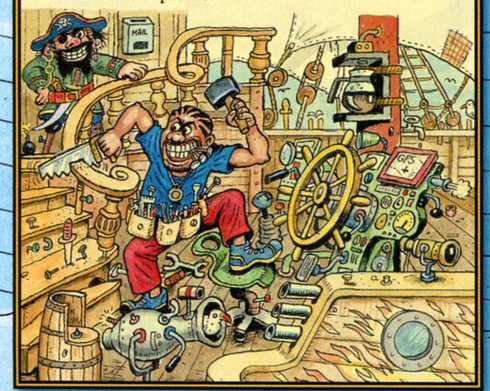


THE BIGGEST LOOTER

Pirate booty call! Amateur bucs compete for big bucks in this exciting new series, as contestants arm themselves to the teeth and ransack local towns, all vying for the grand prize treasure of $250,000 in Spanish doubloons and the coveted title of The Biggest Looter!

PIMP MY CLIPPER

Swab that deck and hoist the mainsail! Pirate expert Salty Sal and antique boat restoration specialist The Mad Marauder train their sights on some of the sorriest wrecks on the high seas. These guys take pirate ship customization to an all-new level, creating pimped-out maritime masterpieces!





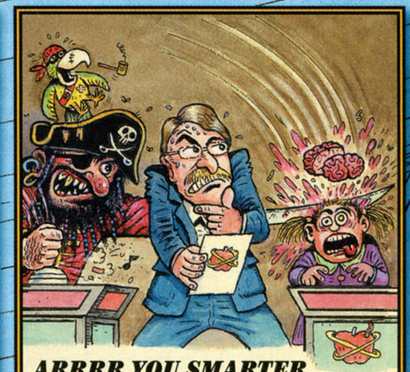
PROJECT GANGPLANK

Be a pirate — or just look like one! Watch the parrot feathers fly as wannabe marauders strut their stuff for celebrity judges. Winners are awarded a vessel and crew of their very own, while losers are forced to walk the plank over shark-infested waters.

MORGAN IN THE MIDDLE

Captain Henry Morgan was one of the most savage and ruthless privateers of the Spanish Main. But before that, he was just another precocious 12-year-old, dealing with the rigors of adolescence and an eccentric, dysfunctional family. In the pilot episode, comedy ensues when Henry kidnaps his 3rd-grade teacher at bayonet-point.





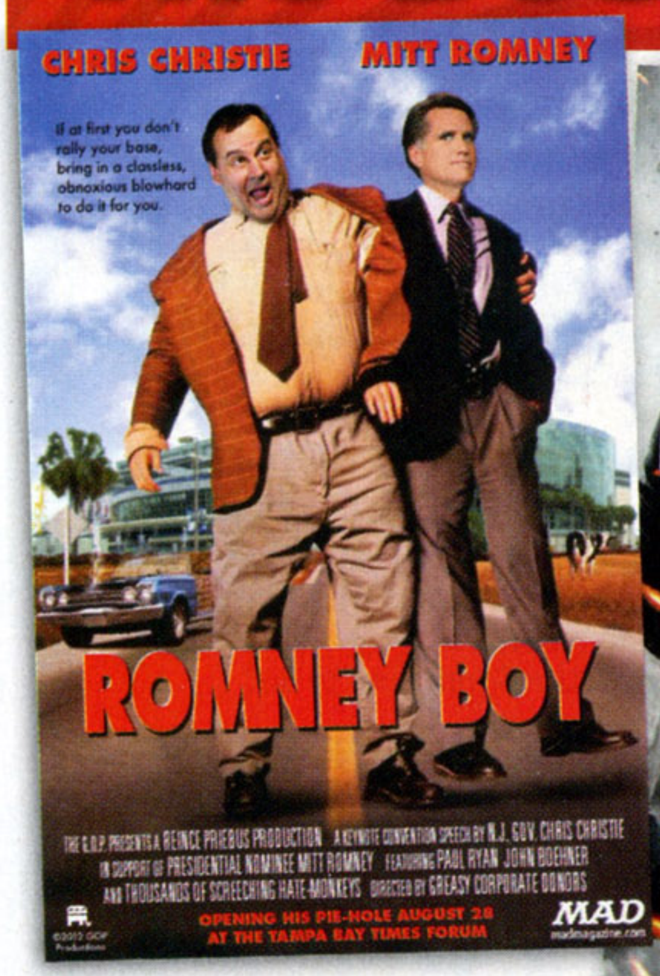
ARRRR YOU SMARTER THAN A 5th GRADER?

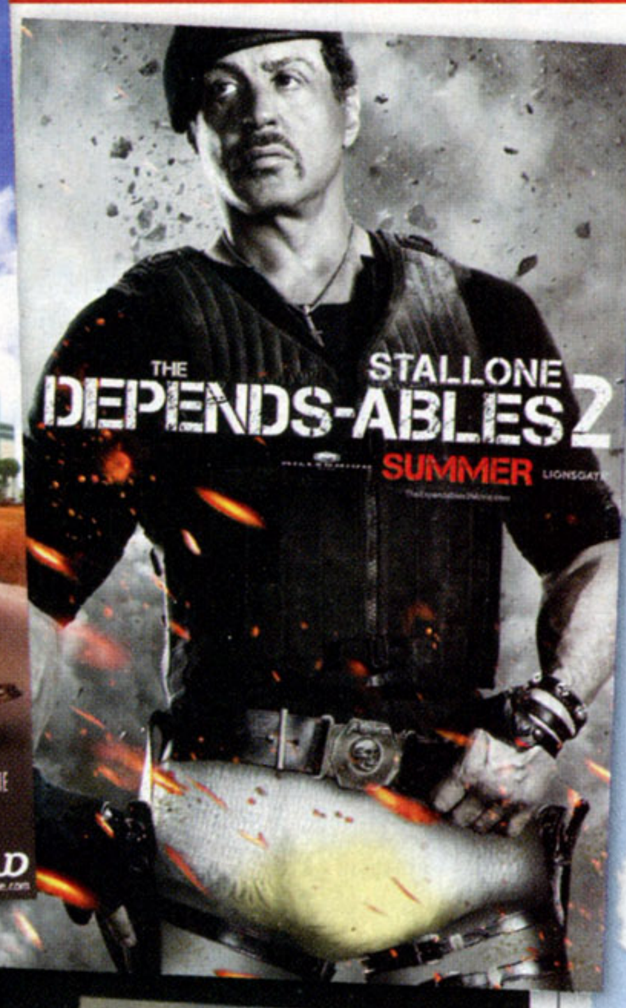
What's a Yellow Jack? Who was the real Black Bart? How much is a King's Shilling? This quiz-fest pits grown-up swashbucklers against American grade-school students to find out who knows more about pirates and pirate lore! But beware, young challengers — some of these knaves can be sore losers and too much gloating could cost you a limb!

WRITER: FRANK SANTOPADRE
ARTIST: TOM BUNK

Is your computer running frustratingly slow? Maybe it's the fact that you're too cheap to spring for anything but dial-up service. Or maybe the problem is viruses and cookies from all the sick sites you visit. (Yes we mean you, Caldwell! We beg you to get the treatment you so obviously need!) Either way, if you haven't visited the MAD blog recently, we're here to help. Here's...

The Best of The Idiotical





REAL REASONS WHY MTV CANCELLED JERSEY SHORE



- Bowing to pressure, the EPA designated JWoww as a federal Superfund Site
- Gonorrhea — everybody has gonorrhea (the cast, the crew, the guy who stocks the craft table, the key grip...*everybody*.)
- MTV had to make way for their new reality show celebrating pre-teen meth addicts who've murdered their parents
- The Situation needed time to work on his Raymond Carver-esque collection of short stories, *Tales from My Ball-sack*
- The show finally conceded defeat to Gov. Chris Christie in the battle over who's the bigger embarrassment to New Jersey
- America just couldn't keep up with Ronnie and Sami's urbane, Tracy/Hepburn-like banter
- Snooki's baby exceeded the cast's quota for barfing, monosyllabic, urine-stained guidos
- The public started to tire of watching a bunch of mouth-breathing beach-apes punch or hump anything they came into contact with

OTHER SURPRISES ABOUT THE BIN LADEN RAID REVEALED IN THE BOOK "NO EASY DAY"

Bin Laden's fridge? *Covered* in "Marmaduke" cartoons.

The whole place was booby-trapped with swinging paint cans and Micro Machines like in *Home Alone*.

Bin Laden's last words were: "Would you... mind dropping...my Netflix...in the mailbox?"

Turns out Bin Laden had a tramp stramp of a dolphin jumping over a rainbow.

Osama's ultimate downfall was in trying to outmaneuver the SEALs while still in his Snuggie.

For the world's most notorious terrorist, the guy had a damn impressive collection of garden gnomes.

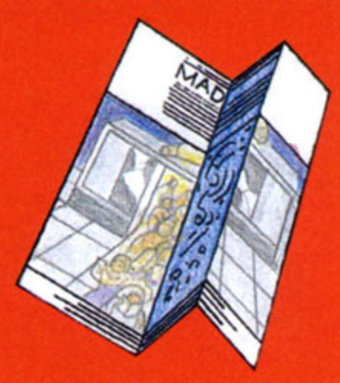


WHAT FORBIDDEN READING MATERIAL IS STIRRING PASSIONS ACROSS THE NATION?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

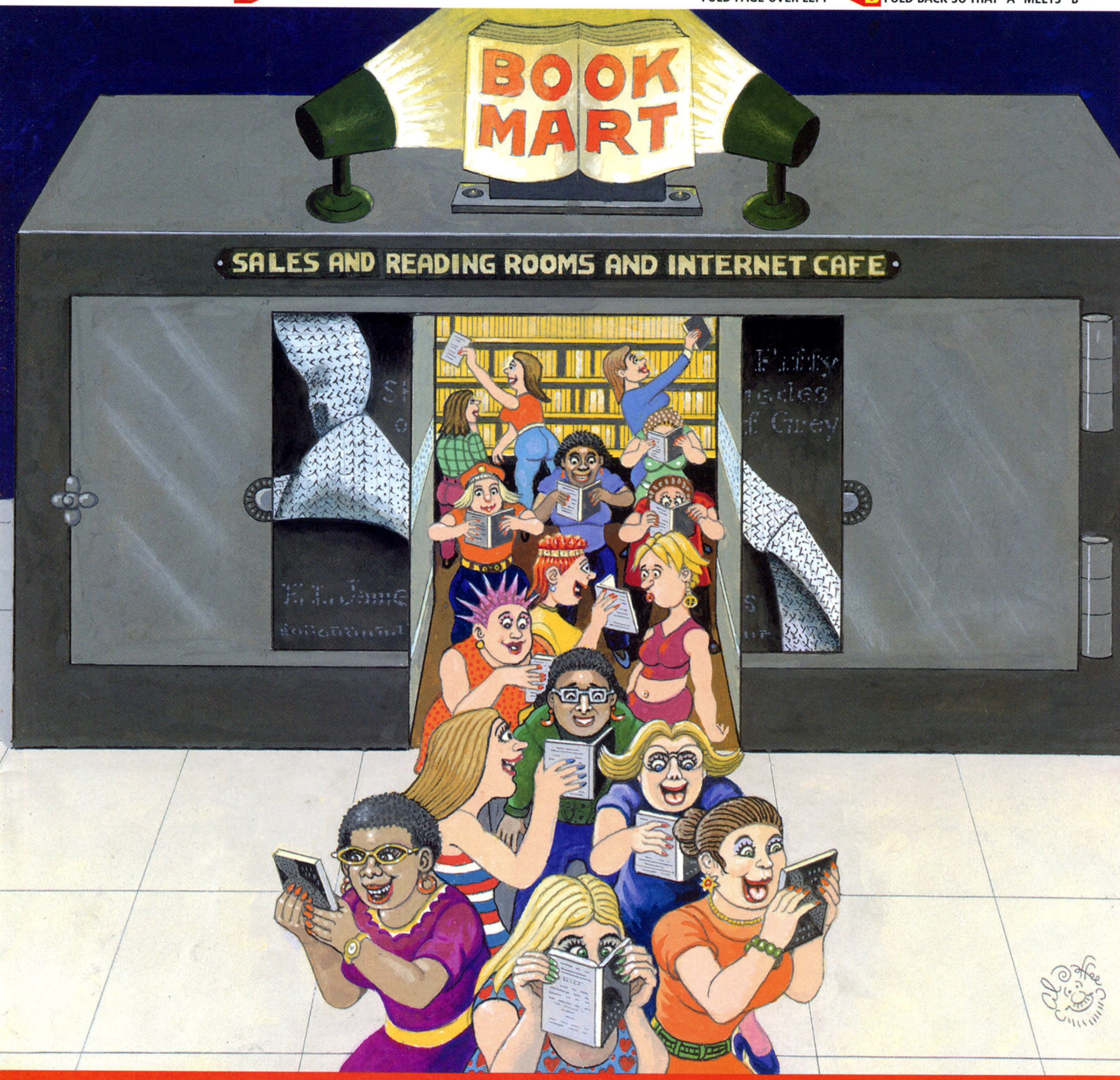
MAD FOLD-IN

There's something in print that many people just can't wait to get their hands on. For whatever reason, it's got the public worked up and feeling things they've never felt before. Whatever you may think about it, it's a real phenomenon and not something you can just write off. To find out what controversial piece is taxing the self-control of the entire country, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

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



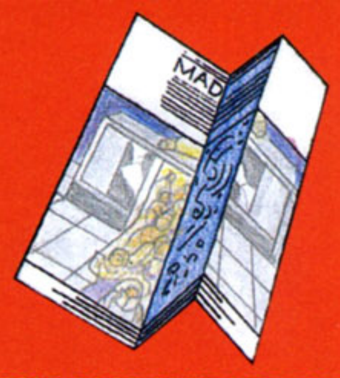
ROMANCE BOOKS MUST GIVE READERS THEIR MONEY'S WORTH OF BREATHTAKING PASSION AND TORRID CLINCHES. LEAD CHARACTERS CAN RELAX ONLY LONG ENOUGH TO DISROBE AND RETIRE TO BED WHERE THEIR LIBIDO REALLY CHURNS

A

WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

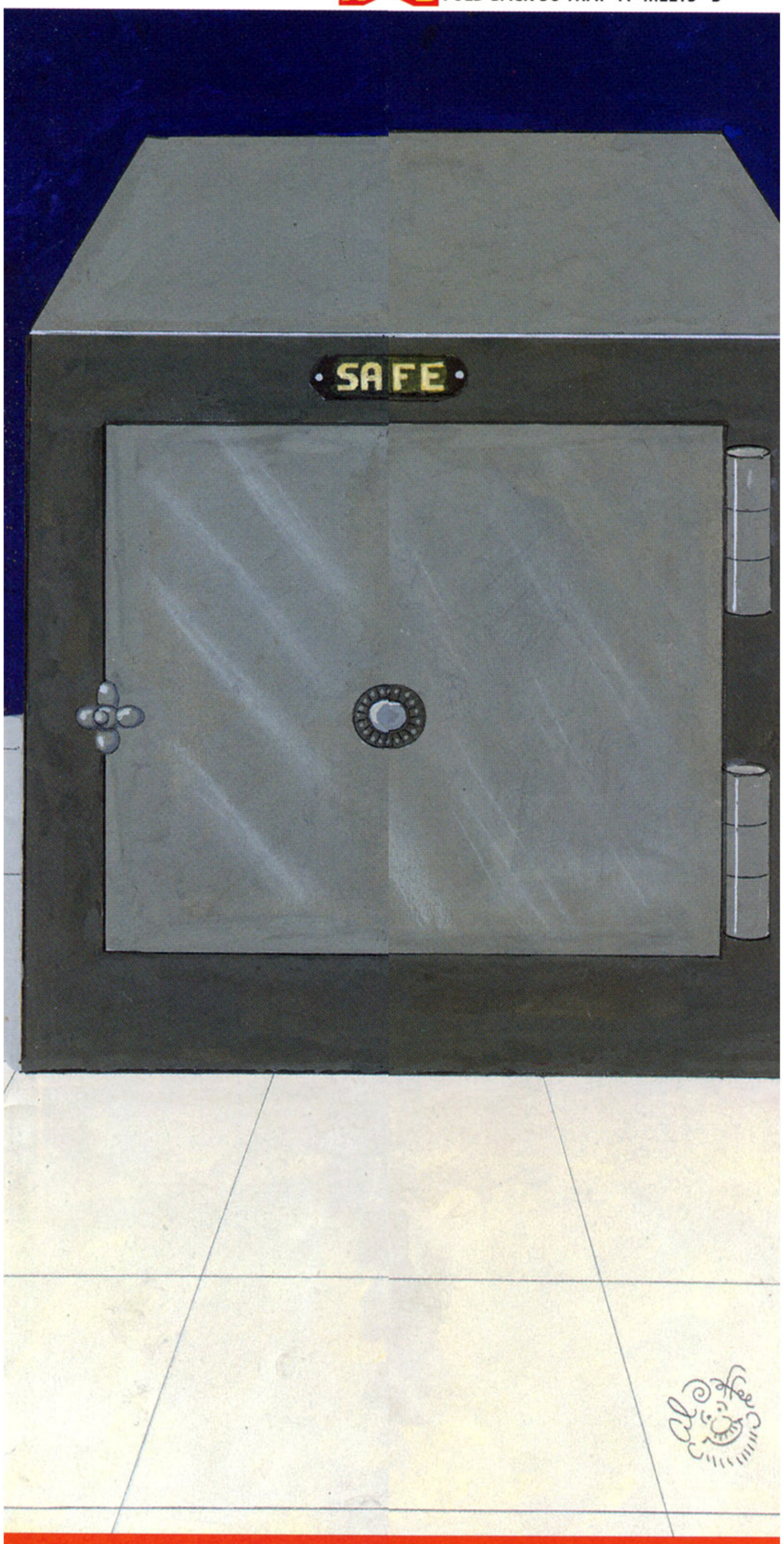
B

WHAT FORBIDDEN READING MATERIAL IS STIRRING PASSIONS ACROSS THE NATION?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

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



ROMNEY'S TAX RETURNS

A B

A NEFARIOUS PACT BETWEEN BIG TOBACCO AND ICONIC SYMBOLISM

We use **tobacco** grown in **nature's ground** to make **our cigarettes**, and a **logo** featuring an **American Indian** to create a brand that's **all** about perceived notions of **proud full-bodied** wisdom and a **legacy** of spiritual **menthol** dignity or **something.**



EXPECTORATE NATIVE AMERICAN SPUTUM

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PROMO CODE 09998

Use those nicotine-stained fingers of yours to type BuyAmericanSputum.com on your yellowed keyboard with the ashes between the keys and check out our website through the blue haze hanging in the air in front of your monitor – pretend you're looking out through the morning fog across a field of fragrant tobacco. Take a smoke break while the site loads. And be sure to have a pack nearby while you fill out our endless but easily-thwarted age verification form. Or call 1-800-555-5515. Operators are standing by patiently as you work through that spontaneous coughing fit that begins as soon as you start speaking. And ladies, forgive our representatives if they call you "sir" – sometimes it's hard to tell.

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking While Pregnant May Result in Dirty Looks and Snide Comments by All Around You, and Potential Worldwide Humiliation When Someone Surreptitiously Snaps Your Photo with a Smartphone and it Ends Up on the Internet. Also, It's Not Good for the Baby.

CIGARETTES

Our cigarettes are no safer to smoke than any other brand, but somehow the whole Native American motif helps to discount that fact in your mind, doesn't it?

A MAD AD PARODY

Scalliwags

