YO-YOS • DHARMA & GREG • THE WATERBOY #379 March 1999 Our Price \$2.50 Cheap!

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





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

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

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

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

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NUMBER 379

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FRONT COVER ARTIST: DREW STRUZAN

FRONT COVER WRITER:







TO CHEROLOGICAL







GOING POSTAL

and a letter from my mom - no check!) some stupid person made fun of

I'm writing to tell you about some-

thing very sad. The other day when I was getting my mail (The October issue

Gonzo — We were most disturbed by

in the letter from your mother? What

it with her - you're her own flesh and

blood! The least she could do is send

your letter. What do you mean no check

kind of a tightwad is she? She can't take

you a tenski to hold you over till payday!

We suggest you show her this letter with

our response and if she still doesn't open

up the purse strings, well then maybe it's

time to rip out HER still-beating heart

and burn it in ritual sacrifice. However,

you may want to check with dad on this

me getting MAD! Naturally, I

ripped out her still-beating

heart and burned it in ritu-

· al sacrifice and informed

her that you're never too

old for the amazing

literary stimulation

Lindsay Gonzales

of MAD!

Ithaca, NY

first! -Ed.

MORE TRASH FROM MAD

MAD #380 ON SALE MARCH 23!

I was doing my weekly chores and cleaned out the trash can in the upstairs bathroom and out tumbled MAD #374. I then dumped the trash from the downstairs bathroom and out came MAD #373. This seemed an inglorious end to the magazine that has helped make me what I am today. Any ideas on how to recycle future issues?

My question is this: Is it morally wrong to take advice from Melvin and Jenkins over the advice of say, a voice from the clouds?

Sean Treanor Washington, D.C.

Seanster - Morally wrong? No. Smart?

Don Feeney Louisville, KY

Donny — We have one idea, but please please please make sure you remove the staples before proceeding with the old wiperino! -Ed.

THE ADVICE SQUAD

Probably not. As for stopping voices from the clouds, we suggest carefully lining the inside of your baseball cap with aluminum foil. We understand this worked wonders for longtime suffering MAD writer Desmond Devlin! -Ed.

VIEW TO A SISKEL

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHER

teacher, I hardly ever have the time to write

zine. However, the article "Tipoffs That You

Go to a Really Tough School" (MAD #375)

was so hilarious, I was shaking with laugh-

Ally - We've taken the liberty of grading your

letter: Spelling/punctuation: A; Clarity and

content: A; Neatness: A! But before you get

a little too cocky, young lady, let us remind

you that bringing MAD to class is frowned

upon in your school. We have forwarded a

in detention at 2:30 p.m.! -Ed.

copy of your letter and this response to the

Vice Principal of your school — he'll see you

ter so hard my red pen exploded!

Allison Auld

Philadelphia, PA

a letter to the editor of my favorite maga-

Being an overworked and underpaid



With the glut of bad end-of-the-year movies over, movie critic Gene "I'm the thin one" Siskel found time to drop into New York to have dinner with a few MAD editors. (L-R) Co-editor John Ficarra, Gene, Editor of Licensed Publications Charles Kochman and Co-editor Nick Meglin. Oddly enough, it isn't clear what the group is giving a collective thumbs down to. Is it the book MAD About the Movies (which Gene and his partner Roger "I'm the fat one" Ebert wrote the introduction to - available now at fine bookstores everywhere) or Nick Meglin's stylin' blazer?

A THOUSAND POINTS OF CELLULITE

Why does Monroe's dad always get stuck with such fat, hairy chicks all the time? Give the poor guy a classy broad for once.

Julia Balkin Amherst, MA

Jules - Hey, a man likes what he likes. Monroe's dad happens to like big, hairy chicks. Which is why an upcoming episode will feature our pal Monroe, his dad and one Ms. Linda Tripp! (Warning: this one is not for the squeamish!) -Ed.

ATTENTION SUBSCRIBERS!

For all subscription-related matters (including change of address) in the U.S. and Canada, please call 1 800-4 MAD MAG or write P.O. BOX 52345, Boulder, CO 80322 2345! Please DO NOT phone, write, fax or E-mail our New York office - we're too dumb to help you there!

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MAKE A DUMB WISH FOUNDATION

My wish is that I would like you to do the next issue of MAD in your underwear.

Salem Salazar Dallas, TX

Sally — This is truly a dumb wish. Why in Heaven's name would you want us to do the next issue in our underwear when in fact we're proud to say that we do each and every issue of MAD buck naked (Super Specials too)! We like the uninhibited, je ne sais quoi freedom that only au natural editing can give! Therefore, sorry to leave you hanging, but we must respectfully decline granting your wish. —Ed.

P.S. While we were unable to grant Salem's dumb wish, MAD's Make a Dumb Wish Foundation™ enthusiastically welcomes any and all dumb wishes from our readers, because in the end, granting readers dumb wishes is what MAD is all about.
P.P.S. Note to Senior Editor Joe Raiola: Don't forget it's your turn to bring in the talcum powder this week!

THAT VISION THING

My eyes aren't as good as they used to be. Could you make your "Drawn Out Dramas" bigger, or send a complimentary MAD magnifying glass with my issues?

Joseph Laskarzewski Jacksonville, FL

Joey Joe - NO! -Ed.



HOW TO REACH US

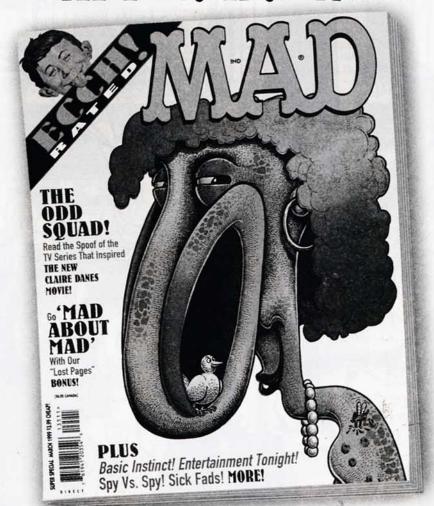
Please Address Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 379, 1700 Broadway, New York, New York 10019. MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope! MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!



MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

It's another body slam for the Letters Pagel Renae Olson-Bjoralt of Brandon, MN was brave enough to step into the squared circle (so to speak) with wrestler-turned-politician and now Governor of Minnesota Jesse "The Body" Ventural It's a three-year subscription for Renae and four years of over-the-top-rope incompetence and bad government for the citizens of Minnesotal Ah Minnesota, formerly the Land of 10,000 Lakes, now known as the Land of 500,000 Nimrod Voters!

SOMEDAY ALL MAGAZINES WILL LOOK LIKE THIS...



...until then, there is only one! Buy it now!

On sale at newsstands, bookstores and a precious few lumber yards!



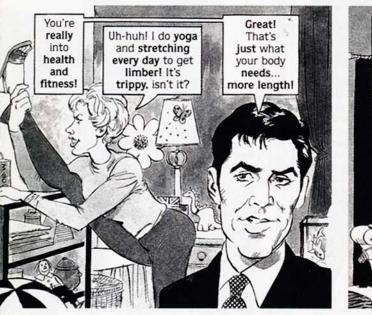
There's this TV show about a marriage of opposites. A man and a woman from two different cultures meet, get married and try to make a life together! She's ditzy, kooky and uninhibited while he's more centered. The show kicks butt. It rocks comedically! It's called I Love Lucy! Now, there's this other TV show with the same premise. Two opposites in a "culture clash" comedy. Their gimmick: They meet and tie the knot after one date. It was love at first sight. But not for us—'cause no matter how many times we look at it, we can't stand...

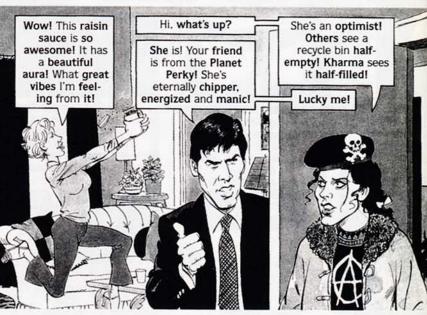


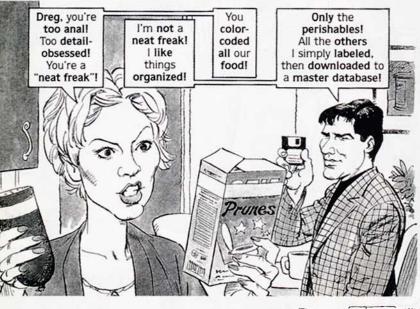










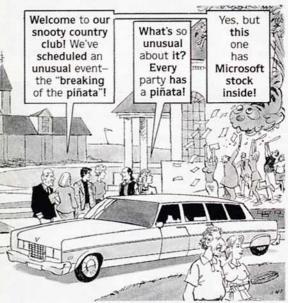


















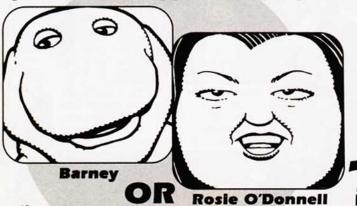


CROSSING THE CHANNEL SURFERS DEPT.

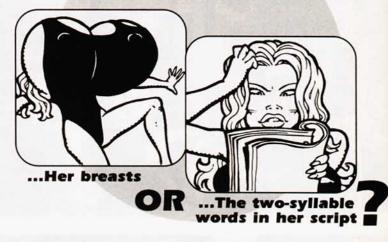
Everyone makes fun of the fact that you watch too much TV. They tease you because your couch has a permanent indentation from your butt! They laugh at you because you once missed a week of work with a "channel-flipping" injury! They mock you because you named your first-born "Dawson Urkel"! Well, now's your chance to show them! Let's see if they can get a perfect score on...

MAD

Very tiny children like to hear this irritating gargantuan with the smiling giant head sing songs. Is it...



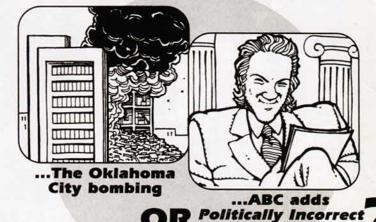
Pamela Anderson quit Baywatch because she didn't want to make these any bigger than they already were. Are they...



It's the popular show that's "all about nothing." Is it...



This tragic news-related event left viewers gaping in a stunned, sorrowful silence. Was it...

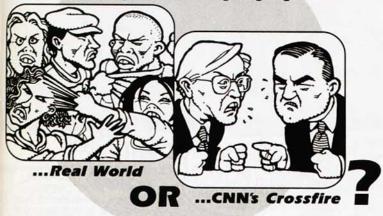


ARTIST: RICK GEARY

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

to its lineup

■ This program's unique gimmick is to cram together a bizarre assortment of strangers together until the endless petty and childish fighting begins. Is it...



8 ■ Where did Tim Allen first experience Tool Time?



In the communa shower room, during his threeyear sentence

This series regularly features the adorable gyrations of a cute, little imp. Is it...



6 ■ This is the animated figure who can be seen working alongside blue dinosaurs. Is it...



When viewers see nine little squares, are they looking at...



... The digital scrambling allegedly blocking out women's private parts on the E! network

RATINGS

0 Correct, 0 Share Zero for 9? Congratulations, you have what it takes to be a morning weatherman!

Nice going, Urkel. If you were on ER, there'd be a long flat digital line going, "Bweeeeeeeee"!

4-6 Correct, 20 Share Only half correct? That means that 50% of your answers were laughable jokes — which is WAY higher than Jay Leno's monologue!

7-9 Correct, 30 Share Ah, well, you're movin' on up, movin' on up, to the East Side...in a deeeee-luxe apartment in the sky!

10-12 Correct, 40 Share Yeah, yeah, we know there are only nine questions in this quiz. Guess what? Nielsen just makes up all its ratings numbers, too!

ANGSTER'S PA

您

MoNPage and...







THEMAIN

We all know what happens when Mom brings home her new "special friend." All we ever think is, "Please, God, let him be cool"!



I GET MY AGG KICKED EVERY
DAY, THE ONLY GIRL WHO WILL EVEN
LOOK AT ME IG BERGATHA AND I'M
SHORT! I DON'T NEED ANOTHER GTRIKE
AGAINGT ME! YOU HAVE A COP OVER
HERE AND EVERYONE'S GOING TO
THINK I'M A COP LOVER, OR
WORGE, A NARC!





FREEZE! JUST MESSING WITH
YOU, MONROE. OFFICER
TAKE YOU DOWN
TOWN! HA! DATE.

GREAT STUFF.
YOU'RE VERY
CLEVER.



DONUTS, MOM! DONUTS!

THAT'S ACTUALLY A MISCONCEPTION, MONROE. AS A POLICE OFFICER I HAVE TO STAY IN SHAPE. AND WHAT A SHAPE!

UH, STEVE, YOU MUST SEE AN

AWFUL LOT OF EXCITING THINGS ON THE

JOB! MAYBE YOU'LL TELL US ABOUT

SOME OF THEM.





OH, HI, "STEVE." HEY, MOM, WHERE'S MY SUGAR LOADS?

STEVE ATE THEM! HE WORKED
UP SOME APPETITE
LAST NIGHT, DIDN'T YOU
SERGEANT?

I FELT LIKE I WAS AT THE ACADEMY AGAIN!





Monrae









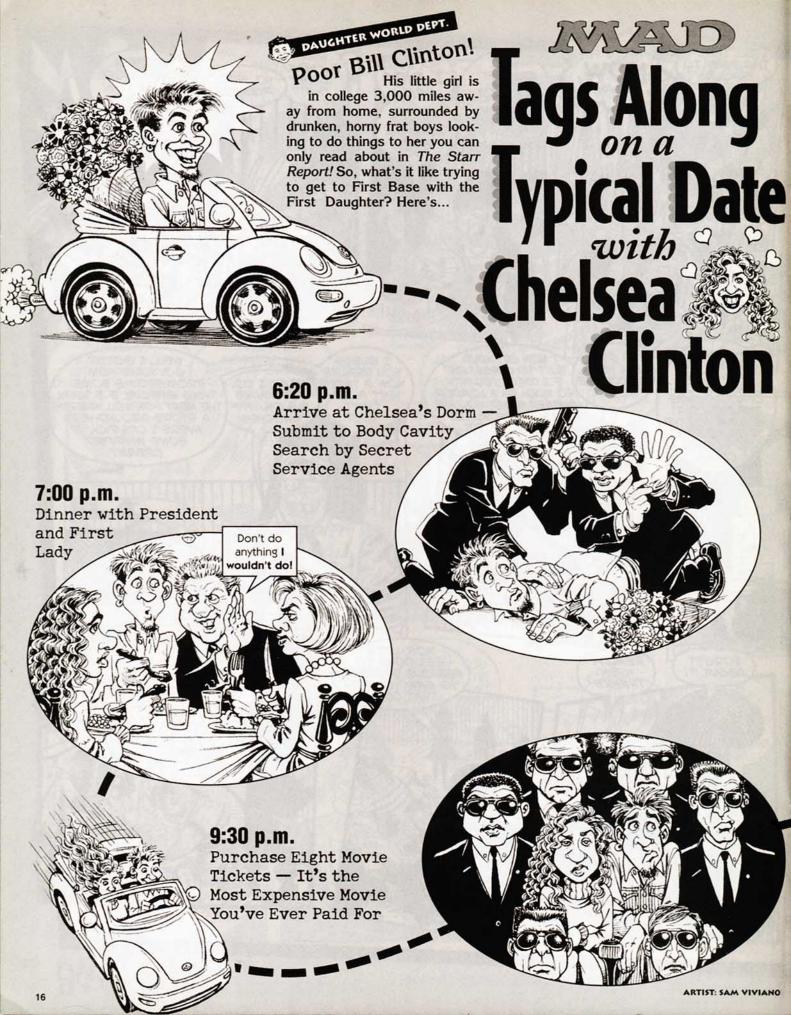


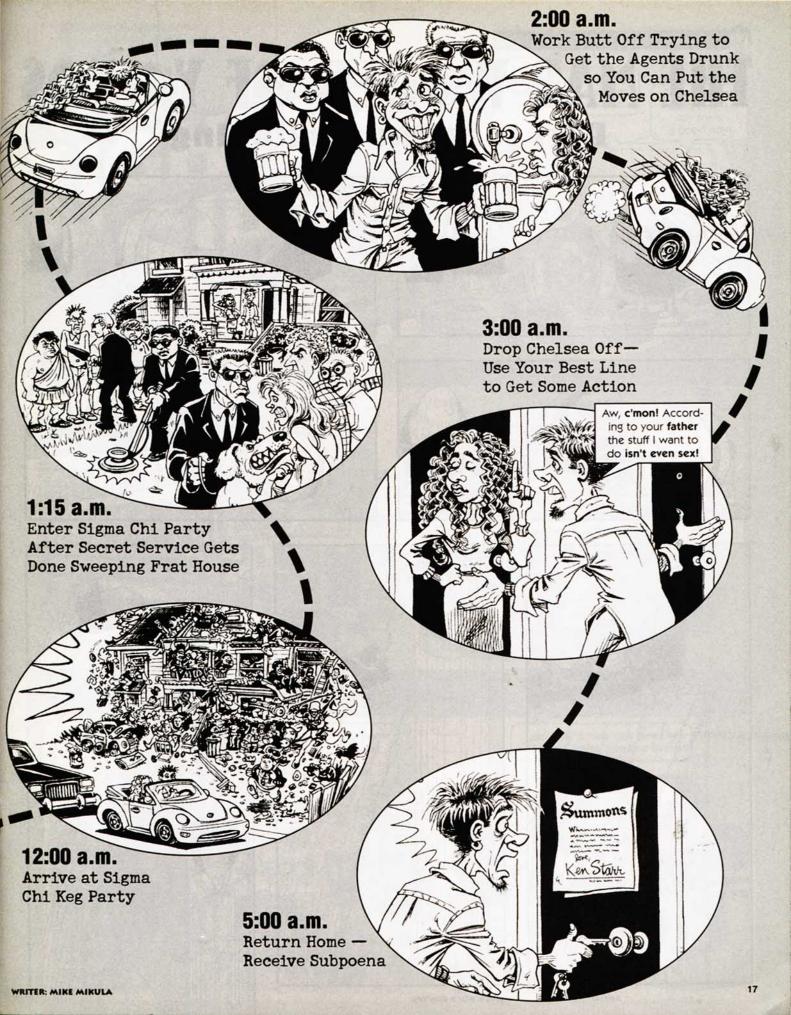


DON'T



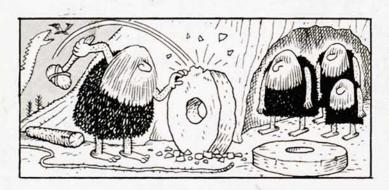


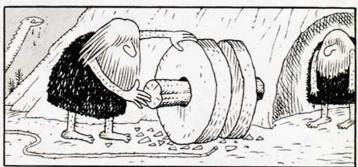


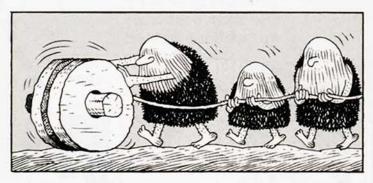


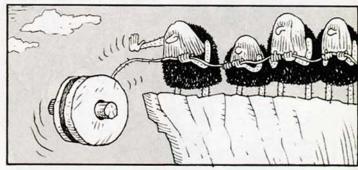
THE MAD WORLD OF YO-YOS

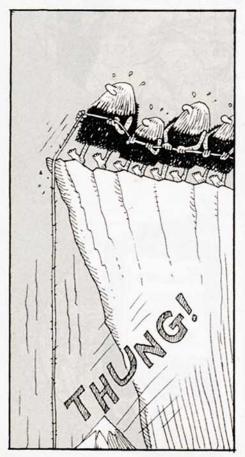
Parí I: In The Beginning



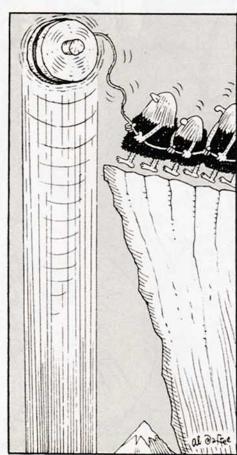




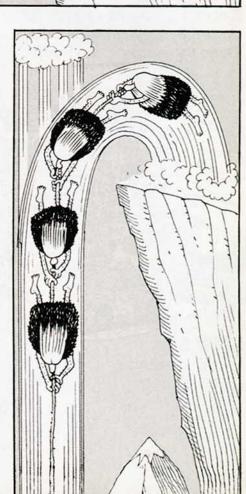




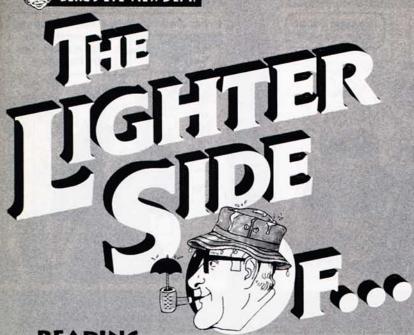




WRITER: DUCK EDWING



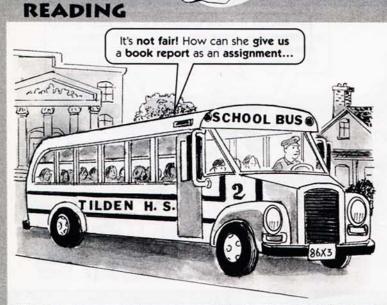




JUSTICE

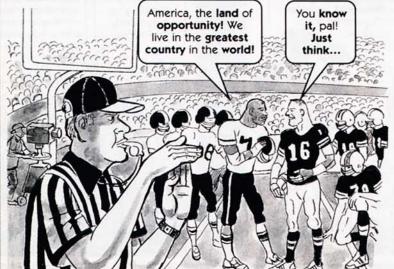


ARTIST AND WRITER: DAVE BERG





PRO SPORTS



...during this time out alone we just made seven hundred bucks!



RELATIONSHIPS





FASHION



BEING HIP



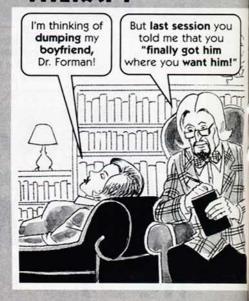
Trouble is, I don't remember where I've been or what I've done!



FOOD



THERAPY





SLEEP



REAL ESTATE

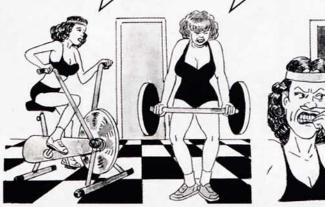


WEIGHT LOSS



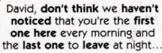
Thank you so much for referring me to that aromatherapist! I've lost 25 pounds!

Isn't he great? What scent is he using to help you? Lavender oil? Lemon extract? No, something better!
His breath is so bad, after
I meet with him I'm too
nauseous to eat!

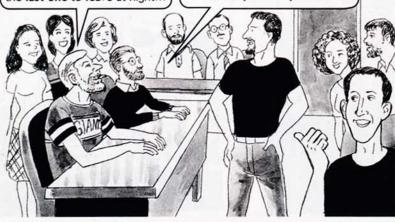


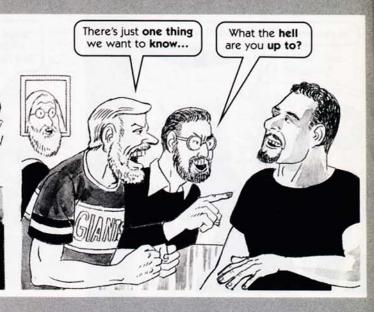


THE OFFICE



...and that every time we pass your office you're either pounding away at the computer or busy on the phone!





BEDTIME STORIES







DOCTORS



THE MAD WORLD OF YO-YOS

Parí II: An Idea Gone Bad



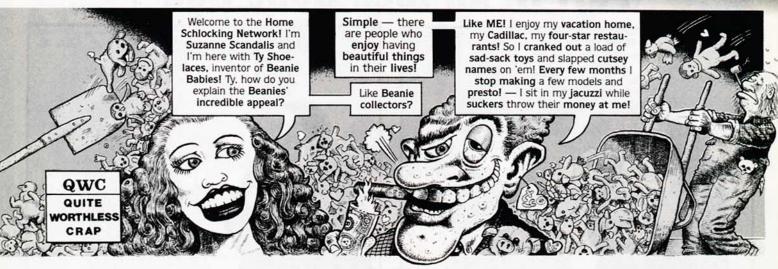




THE MAD REPERTORY PLAYERS

This Issue's

THE HOME SCHI



And that brings us to a wonderful Beanie Baby we're offering semiexclusively tonight!

That's right! It's the Princess Diana Beanie Bear! The real Diana is gone, and you never knew her anyway, but now you can feel close to her in a delusional eddy of celebrity necro-worship!







Absolutely! I believe you just can't find a better investment! Of course, I ALSO believe that most mortgages are paid for with vintage R2-D2 china display plates and Ivana Trump costume jewelry — two equally great investments we'll be selling in the next hour!

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN



Okay, but what do Beanie Babies have to do with Princess Diana?

Think about it: Beanie Babies sit there uselessly and they do absolutely nothing! Yet empty-headed yahoos like you love to watch them do nothing! So linking them up with the jobless Welfare Queen of Hearts was a natural match!



PRESENT MAD-STERPIEGE THEATER K'S "BEANIE BABY HOU But I can walk in-Suzanne, I'd like to remind all You raise Are you sitting down? to any Toys "R" Us our viewers that with Beaniemania an inter-Do you have a paramedic But couldn't and pick one up there are a whole lot of counteresting waiting to treat your the people for six bucks! feit Beanies out there! So requestion. convulsive seizures when who countermember to always look for the In fact. you hear the price?! You feit the tag! That's how we know our a little can get a Princess Di toys also Yes, but Beanies are the originals! Each TOO inter-Beanie of your very counterfeit THIS Beanie one comes with that telltale tag! esting... own for only \$74.95! was on TV! the tags? Um, the super-I'm pulling Okay. I just received your rare PVC kind! out the Have you got a sharp knife? Okay. Ty, Mother Teresa That's okay! stitching. Moose Beanie, but So, are the now I hear there but the rip open your Yep, what you have think beans the whole head are TWO versions! Beanie's guts and is definitely we common PE just How can I tell pull out a fistful the valuable verhave kind or the came off! another if I have the of the beans! sion! Or it used super-rare caller! valuable one? How's that coming? to be, anyway! PVC kind?





Tipper Gore has been warning America for years against exposing young people to examples of gratuitous violence, sexual depravity, bad language and complete amoral decay. And it's really true! Nobody in America has monitored more bad music than Tipper — and look what its influence has done to the White House! (Note to Tipper: Eazy-E only SUNG about slammin' and ditchin' his bitches!) But unlike the Goremeister, we at MAD aren't afraid to ADMIT that we're dumb, hypocritical loads...and thus, we're happy to offer...

EVEN YET STILL MORE BADLY NEEDED

FOR

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

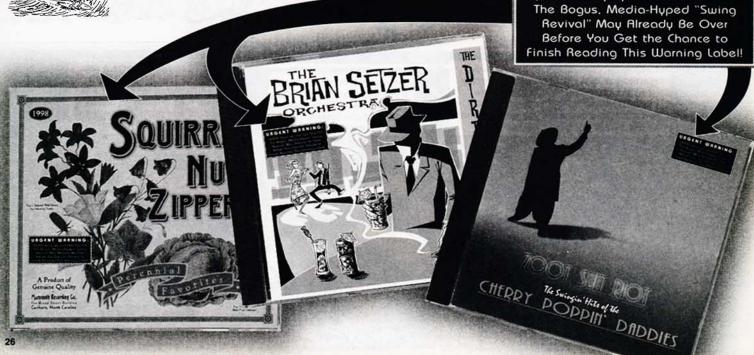
CONSUMER SUGGESTION:

If You Enjoy The Experience of a **Humongous Chunk Crashing to** Earth with an Incredible Thud, Be Sure to Also Try Oasis's Last Album



URGENT WARNING:

QUICK! Hurry Up and Get This CDI The Bogus, Media-Huped "Swing Revival" May Already Be Over Before You Get the Chance to



VINCENTAL TO THE

ATTENTION:

Before Buying This Album, Make Sure to Check Out Our Handy LEAD SINGER GUIDE

Track One: Gary Cherone Track Three: Sammy Hagar Track Five: Don Ho Track Seven: Adam Sandler Track Nine: The Guy Who

Played Schneider on One Day at a Time

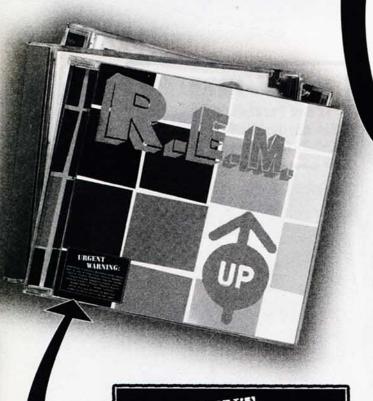
HOTICE:

SHERYL CROV

Track Two: David Lee Roth Track Four: William Shatner Track Six: "Weird" Al Yankovic Track Eight: Regis Philbin Track Ten: To Be Honest, Someone Lost the Signup Sheet and We're Not Even Sure

John Mellencamp

If You're Holding This Album and Reading This Label, It's a Safe Bet You Ain't Shopping at a Music-Censoring Wal-Mart Store



URGENT WARNING:

Nightingale Cranberry, Bubbling Under Santa's Skin. A Judo A Chop Chop. Scissors Mistaken, Chuck E. Cheese Chandelier Chia Pet. Gentle Tongue-Tongue Snapping Organs, Dead Postman Come to Phlegm Thermos Brunch. Argyle Zamboni.....Argyle Zamboni. (NOTE: This special warning label was written by R.E.M. lyricist Michael Stipe)

3 TALES OF CADMERCUS CANORITING INSIDE THE SPOCKSHOW BITEHRATIK/IA

ALERT:

The Record Company Helpfully Subtitled Each of These as "The Album," Just in Case You're So Dumb, You Might Confuse It With The Movie





W-W-W-WARNING:

If You Purchase This Album, You May End Up Saying "What a T-T-T-Talentless L-L-Leech."



WARNING LABEL:

Listen. Listen. There are people in this world who need to put labels on things. "This is a good record, this is a bad record." I'm here to tell you that labels are crap. Okay? They're, they're just another mask that people need to wear because they're afraid they're not cool. Maybe I'm the freak because I want to show my own face, I don't want to stick labels on my soul. Because it's hard to peel a label off your soul, y'know? But these warning labels, "Beware, look out for this or that, blah blah blah, whatever," you still need to interpret them your own way. That's all I'm saying. I'm saying you don't need to fall for it. It's like a crazy game or something, except the dice are missing and you can't move forward. Listen. You don't have to play the game. You don't have to be the thimble, hopping around, Ventnor Avenue, Reading Railroad, take a walk on the Boardwalk, paying rent to somebody else. Music should not be about passing "Go." So look at this warning label with your heart and your eyes and your being. But when you look, you have to truly see. Because in the end you have to warn yourself. People think they know me, Fiona. But all it [continued on back]



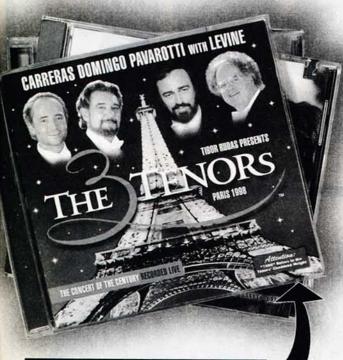
THINGS OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

CD TITLE NOTATION:

Keep in Mind That, In Order to REALLY Have
The ULTIMATE Country Party Experience, You'll
Also Need a Pickup Truck, a Shotgun, a Jug of
Grain Alcohol and a First Cousin Who Thinks
You Can't Get Pregnant Twice in One Year

CONSUMER CLARIFICATION:

These are the foul-mouthed, sexist, homophobic, talentless, 2-dimensional cartoons who AREN'T signed to Ruthless, Tommy Boy or Death Row Records.



Attention:

"1998" Refers to the Tenors' Combined Weight

BEWARE:

Only in the Music Biz Could There Be a SEQUEL to a Ship That Sailed ONCE!

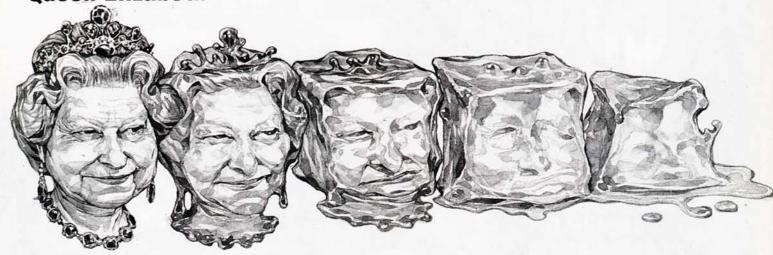




In MAD #375, we introduced you to "digital anthropomorphizing transmogrification," a term which describes a not-yet-existent technology that will one day allow us to expose a celebrity's true nature! Well, we here at MAD never pass up a chance to use a 50-cent phrase like "digital anthropomorphizing transmogrification" in an intro, so, as an excuse to once again print the words "digital anthropomorphizing transmogrification," here's...

MORE

Queen Elizabeth

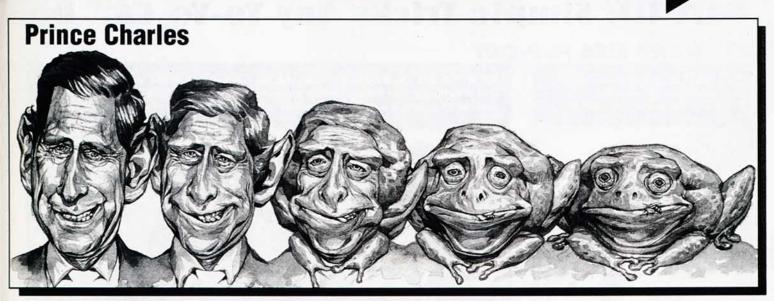


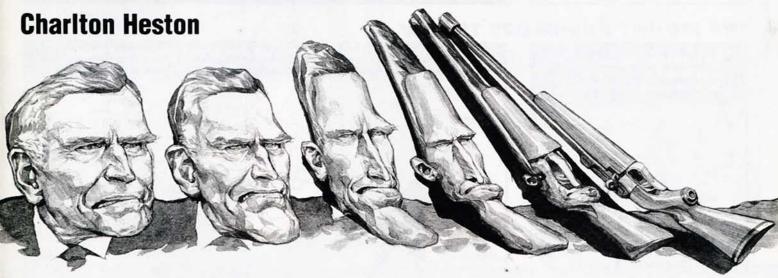


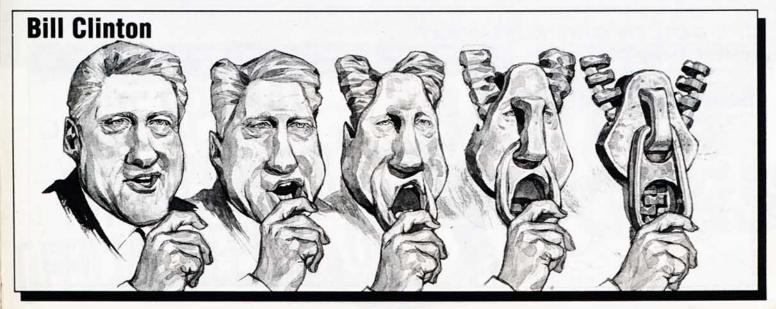
Linda Tripp



MAD MORPIS







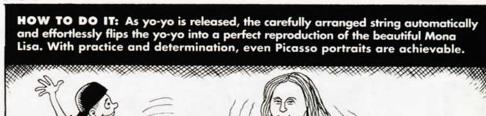
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THE MAD WORLD OF YO-YOS

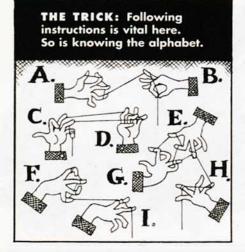
Parí III: Simple Tricks Any Yo-Yo Can Do

THE MONA LISA FLIP-OUT

THE TRICK: Correct string manipulation is critical. Carefully follow instructions.

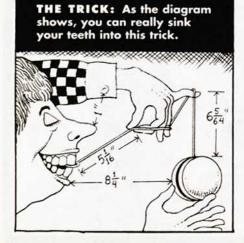


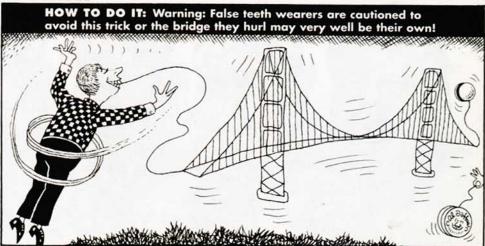
THE MOUNT RUSHMORE THROW-UP





THE GOLDEN GATE HURL-AWAY







First, megalomaniac Ken Starr hounded the President, his staff, his friends, his former intern and just about everyone else in the Clinton White House, except Socks and Buddy! With that investigation in shambles, the overzealous
prosecutor has turned his attention to others who, in his eyes, "threaten" the very foundation of our society!
Here's a sneak peek of a confidential report sure to be illegally leaked by Starr and his thugs any day now...

THE SPECIAL MISTER PROSECUTOR'S ROGERS OFFICIAL REPORT ON ARTIST. DEEM FILEDMAN WITTER. DESMOND DEVIN 22

INTRODUCTION:

THERE IS TROUBLE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

As required by United States Code Section PBS-13, Title 28, and brought to you by the letters "E" and "P," the Office of the Special Prosecutor hereby submits substantial and credible information that Fred "Mister Rogers" Rogers committed acts that may constitute grounds for immediate cancellation.

This investigation into Mister Rogers began in 1994, during the Special Prosecutor's look into President William J. Clinton and the Whitewater scandal. While no wrongdoing was discovered in Whitewater, facts from that case led to a study of the White House travel office and fundraising irregularities. Those inquiries were later closed

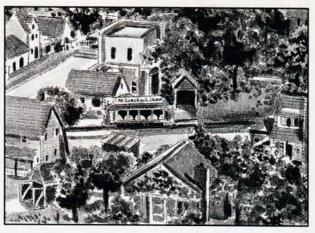
without result, but not

before this office expanded its mission to include the Paula Jones lawsuit and the Lewinsky matter (AKA "Forni-Gate").

A remark by Lewinsky's dry cleaner indicated that President Clinton had watched part of the Ken Burns documentary on the Civil War before getting bored and switching over to the USA Network's Silk Stalkings. A \$6 million dollar investiga-

tion into TV Guide subsequently revealed that the Civil War documentary had been shown on PBS television. This naturally led to a full inquiry into the entire PBS schedule. It was during this phase that the wrongdoing of Mister

Rogers became virtually apparent.



This complex investigation into Mister Rogers' misdeeds cost \$46 million dollars to complete, not counting free giveaway tote bags. This cost, naturally, must be paid by PBS. It is suggested that PBS make up the money by expanding their on-air pledge drive from 335 days per year to 363 days per year.



INDIVIDUAL GROUNDS AND CHARGES

There is substantial and credible information that Mister Rogers committed acts that may constitute grounds for cancellation, depending on polls and how the FCC

appointments turn out.

The information obtained reveals that Mister Rogers:

- Lied when he claimed that all his viewers were "special." The evidence will show that even while repeating these statements, Mister Rogers knew perfectly well that human life is cheap and that most of his viewers were in fact worthless lumps;
- Misused his position to teach 30 years' worth of children that it's okay to watch a grown man take off his clothes;
- Conspired to deprive jazz composers of their rightful royalties by having the invisible piano play random notes that only occasionally go near a melody;
- Violated Article 1, Section 9 of the U.S. Constitution by recognizing the royal sovereignty of King Friday XIII within United States borders;
- Failed to pay taxes on the teeny-tiny imaginary fares collected by the Magic Trolley;
- Has **never specifically disproved** his possible role in the mysterious death of *The Joy of Painting* host Bob Ross;
- Inserted his fist into numerous puppets.



SECTION TWO: THE CONTENTS OF THE REFERRAL

Regrettably, this report contains some sexually explicit material, but usually not more than once or twice per paragraph. Sex, however, is only a small part of this investigation. This case is not about cheap, embarrassing quickies, but rather a systemic betrayal of public trust. Therefore, most sexual details, real or pretend, will be confined to a tiny, separate appendix. Following page 4 of this report, the sex appendix may be found on pages 5 through 3,528.

SECTION THREE: THE NARRATIVE: JULY 22, 1998



Mister Rogers entered his home at 10:30 a.m. (9:30 Central). He greeted his companion warmly. The companion, however, was not captured by the surveillance camera. After remarking how good it was to be alone again with the unnamed, unseen companion, Mister Rogers began to partially disrobe. Before he could undress fully, Mister Rogers' illicit encounter was interrupted by a knock on the door.

Mister Rogers feigned surprise, asking aloud, "My! Who can that be?" We characterize his reaction as false because there is a body of evidence showing that the last several hundred times there was a knock on the door, it was Mr. McFeely, and indeed it was once again Mr. McFeely. Mister Rogers' attitude of surprise was, in this office's opinion, a clear attempt to mislead the public.

It must not be forgotten that Mr. McFeely is a postman, the man who delivers the mail to the Neighborhood. These are the very same U.S. mails that have been used to convey child pornog-

raphy, narcotics and the very bombs that the Unabomber used to maim and murder innocent victims. While Mr. McFeely may not have committed these acts himself, he failed to prevent others from committing them. As a uniformed postal worker, McFeely's inaction is, in our estimation, a far greater crime.

The following excerpts from the "Puppet-Gate" question-and-answer sessions indicates the level of silent denial:

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR: Queen Sarah, could you give more details about the shady land deal that allowed your family to take over The Land of Make-Believe?

QUEEN SARAH: (no response)

66 I'm, only going to say this once. I... did... not... have sexual relations with that woman, Lady Elaine Fairchilde. "

A DANGEROUS GAME

Mr. McFeely was led inside the residence. McFeely had with him a package, perhaps brought in an attempt to buy influence. Mister Rogers smiled and said, "My, what a big, thick package you have there!" With two men alone in a house at the end of a dead-end street, this statement can be interpreted many ways. We pick the bad way.

The package contained an assortment of colorful building blocks. Mister Rogers and Mr. McFeely spent approximately two minutes stacking the blocks as high as they could until eventually the stack collapsed. No overt sexual incidents occurred during the block-stacking. Nonetheless, this incident raises troubling questions. "Raises troubling questions" is a phrase this office will use again and again in this investigation. In fact, it took this office four years to raise troubling questions; no way are we going to spend more time bothering to locate troubling answers.

SECTION FOUR: MISTER ROGERS' ACCOMPLICES

Mister Rogers has surrounded himself with individuals who witness his illicit activities. This office succeeded in interviewing the fish, the trolley and the puppets out of Mister Rogers' presence, when Mister Rogers was not able to manipulate them and put words in their mouths. However, under repeated interrogations, these witnesses maintained their silence, refusing to provide any information at all. Clearly, they had been intimidated by Mister Rogers.

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR: Dr. Bill Platypus, isn't it true that according to your narrow definition, oral sex is not considered "sexual contact" among platypuses, because your comically flat bills are so long?

DR. BILL PLATYPUS: (no response)

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR: Trolley, weren't you in fact used to deliver unlawful communiqués and "talking points" to and from The Land of Make-Believe?

TROLLEY: Ding! Ding!

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR: X the Owl, isn't your name a transparent attempt by Mister Rogers to unethically curry favor among African-American viewers?

X THE OWL: (no response)



SPECIAL PROSECUTOR: Fish, from your vantage point in the kitchen, you are in close proximity to Mister Rogers' phone. Did you ever see him accept oral sex while making an important call?

THE FISH: Glurp blub glork.

SECTION FIVE: THE NARRATIVE: JULY 25, 1998

No surveillance of Mister Rogers could be done, because it was Saturday and they were showing a rerun of *This Old House* instead.

SECTION SIX: EVIDENCE ESTABLISHING THE NATURE OF THE COVER-UP

DESTROYED PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

This office attempted to subpoena all images and visual content produced by Picture-Picture between the years of 1968 and 1997. Mister Rogers illegally rejected the subpoena, saying that Picture-Picture was magic, and that all of his pictures had long since vanished. "But memory is a kind of magic," added



Mister Rogers. "You can get those pictures back any time you like, just by thinking about them." As the Mister Rogers inquiry has shown, however, the memory is a slippery thing indeed.

CODED MESSAGES

Several times, the Mister Rogers' Neighborhood program secretly sent hidden signals to the home viewers. When Mister Rogers was informed that extensive evidence of signal-sending was in the possession of this office, he

66 Mr Rogers, you were quoted as saying, 'It's such a good feeling to know you're alive.' But that isn't the only good feeling, now is it?"

stated, "That's just an old traffic signal on my wall. Signaling is what it does best. I wonder what you like to do best." Unfortunately for Mister Rogers, this office is not the one under investigation. And you will be crushed by me! You're going DOWN, you skinny little BASTARD! Oh, wait, did I include that or did I just think it?

SECTION SEVEN: THE NARRATIVE: JULY 29, 1998

At approximately 10:38 a.m., Mister Rogers left his home to visit Chef Brockett. Mister Rogers' stated purpose was "to see how a birthday cake gets made." This office believes that Mister Rogers was actually

preparing to conduct an illegal fundraising visit. Mister Rogers denies this, saying, "I don't talk about fundraising on my show. I try to talk about things that

the children will be interested in. You know, I take showers and go to the bathroom, too, but you don't see that on my show either." (FBI surveillance photos captured Mister Rogers performing these acts.)

When Mister Rogers left his home, the camera suddenly showed aerial footage of cardboard streets and houses to indicate his journey to Chef Brockett's. It is uncertain how much unseen illegal activity took place during this 8-second interval.

SOMETHING'S COOKING

Mister Rogers arrived at Chef Brockett's kitchen at 10:39 a.m. Chef Brockett quickly showed Mister Rogers a large quantity of white powder. This office has not tested the powder, because just saying "large quantity of white powder" sounds worse. Chef Brockett and Mister Rogers broke four eggs and mixed them into the powder. "It's very messy, but I'll bet the cake will taste mighty good," remarked Mister Rogers. By suggesting that Chef Brockett would think the cake tasted good, Mister Rogers was boldly trying to illegally influence and rehearse possible testimony.

After the cake was finished, Mister Rogers asked Chef Brockett for the recipe. Chef Brockett replied, "It's all



up here," indicating his big floppy chef's hat. In other words, Chef Brockett kept his cooking knowledge in his brain with no notes. Mister Rogers had obviously urged his coconspirators to "never put anything down on paper." Chef Brockett was called in to this office to answer questions but unfortunately, after several hours in custody, he called a lawyer, so this office couldn't do whatever it wanted to him.

For You may be the Special Prosecutor. But I happen to think any prosecutor is special.

SECTION EIGHT: STATEMENTS UNDER OATH

On August 12, 1998, Mister Rogers agreed to answer questions put to him before a Grand Jury. The following is part of his testimony:

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR: Do you like cigars, Mister Rogers?

MISTER ROGERS:

Heavens, no. They're awfully smelly, aren't they?

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR:

So you're testifying that you never smoke cigars?

MISTER ROGERS:

That's right, I never have. No, I think tobacco plants should be allowed to grow and make beautiful gardens.

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR:

Then what do you do with cigars, Mister Rogers?

MISTER ROGERS:

Why, nothing at all.

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR:

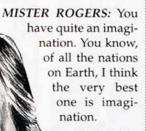
We'll let the American people judge your definition of "nothing at all." Isn't it true that if you don't smoke cigars, you obviously must use them for another purpose?

MISTER ROGERS:

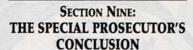
I'm sorry, but I don't have any cigars at all. I have some graham crackers if you'd like.

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR:

No cigars left? Isn't it true that the reason you're "fresh out" of cigars is because you've used the entire box for your own perverse sexual gratification? Isn't it?



SPECIAL PROSECUTOR: Are you suggesting I use my imagination? That's disgusting, sir!



This office has become convinced of Mister Rogers' wrongdoing in some matter. Admittedly, little evidence exists to support this conclusion. However, that is ample proof of the massive cover-up that has taken place. If Mister Rogers were completely innocent, there would be more evidence against him, because he wouldn't have destroyed it all.

Mister Rogers holds a high position as a role model in society. To allow him to escape punishment in this "Nothing-Gate" matter

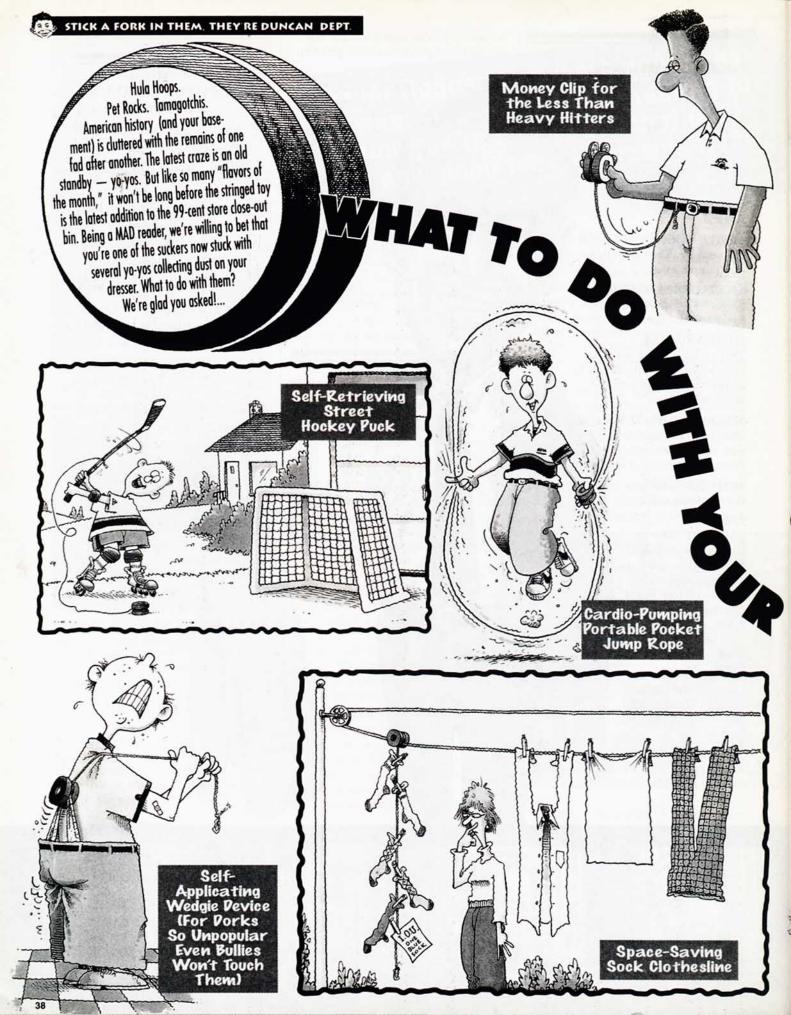
> would surely encourage other softspoken Pittsburghbased television hosts to do the same. This country cannot afford such a crime wave. Can you say "Screw due process"? I knew you could.

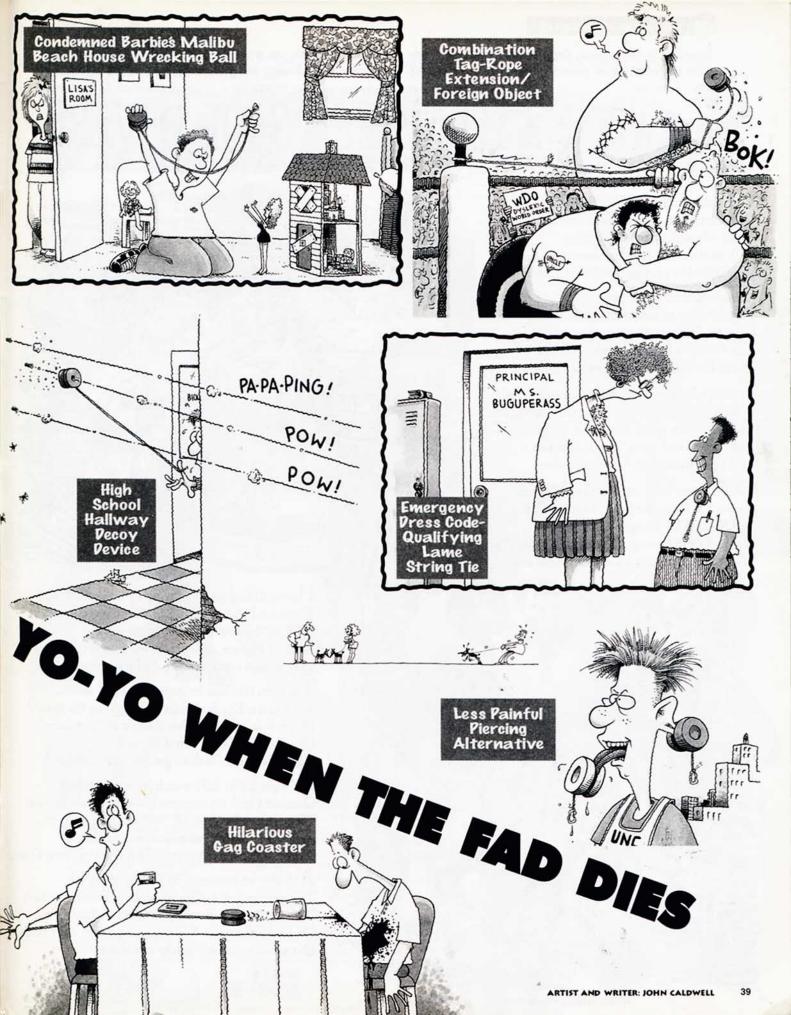














Relentlessly they appear, those infomercials that invade our TV screens. How can we account for their incredible success? After all, what sort of person would make use of them? Well, maybe the following will give you an idea, as we present...

THE LATE NIGHT!

Listen, dear readers, and you shall hear Of the late night spree of Saul Devere; Grand infomercials lit up his screen With products like none he'd ever seen, Embellished by pitchmen with words sincere.

Iwas 10:45 when he happened upon That destroyer of mildew and dirt - Instagone; Cried he, "Tis a product I surely must try!" And thereupon ordered a twelve-year supply Out of fear that the offer might soon be withdrawn.

A Brown & Serve ad proved an instant success; It could speed up one's microwave cooking, no less; 🖈 "I want one!" he yelled, very quick to react, And placed a rush order, ignoring the fact That a microwave oven he did not possess.

Chuck Norris came on and delivered a spiel For his Total Gym package - a fabulous deal; Said Saul, "What a bargain for 800 bucks! In a week I will have a physique just like Chuck's, With magnificent muscles and abs hard as steel!



Wondrous Ronco contraptions and cleaners galore, A PVA Mop that soaked up any mess, Loads of Flobees, although he was forced to confess That he wasn't quite sure what a Flobee was for.

The Pasta Machine he snapped up like a shot: The Electric Egg Scrambler he bought on the spot; He knew in just weeks they'd arrive without fail -One if by FedEx and two if by mail -And he hollered, "Is this a great country or what?!"

All night did he fall for each pitchman's refrain, Overjoyed with the treasures his home would contain; "There's space for them all," to himself he declared, As he sat in the one-room apartment he shared With eight gerbils, five cats and a full-grown Great Dane.

And now we have come to the end of our tale -This most splendid of sprees which so proudly we hail: Without all the hucksters who endlessly feed On poor suckers like Saul buying junk they don't need, Our nation's economy surely would fail.



Recently there was a movie that was good value for the money, because even though it was only 90 minutes long, it felt like you spent the entire day in the theater! It was politically incorrect in every way, a perfect role model for the dorks of tomorrow! We're talking about...

WHATTABORE

I'm Mama Butcher! People say I'm a severely neurotic, over-protective mother who smothers her son — but that's ridiculous! My boy can do anything he wants, as long as he doesn't talk to anyone, make friends, laugh, smile or have fun! I know one day he'll grow up and leave home, but it's silly to start worrying about that now! I mean, he's only a child of 31!

I'm Sobby Butcher! You coooooould saaaay I'm a maamaaa's boyy! I wiiiiish I ccooooould sayyyy "I'm a maaaamaaa's boyy," but it'sssss harrrrd with thiiiiis speeeeechhhh impedimmment! Sssince you hadddd to heeeearr itt innnn mmyyyy moooovie, I'illil haaaaave merrrrrcy onnnn youuuuu anddddd droooopppp ittttt fffffor thee resssst offfff thiiiiiis moooooronic spooooooof! Right now my self-esteem is at an all-time low! I just got fired as Waterboy for the University of Louisiana Rednecks! You're probably wondering how a stuttering, backwoods imbecile like me ever became a waterboy! In Louisiana, those traits qualify me to be governor!



I'm Coach PeeU and I'm tired of people saying football players are just big and stupid! My team has other admirable qualities — they're insensitive, violent drunks, too! I deeply regret firing that waterboy! Hell, now my players have nothing to wash their steroids down with!

I'm Coach Clod! I scour the nation's top schools to find the best football players — then I make sure none of them ever get on or near my team, the Scum Dogs! Having the worst players in the world helps cover up the fact that I'm the world's most inept coach! Which is the perfect part for one of the world's most inept actors — me! My last big film was Scream! In that movie I was lucky — I got hacked to a bloody pulp in the first half hour! Unfortunately, in this

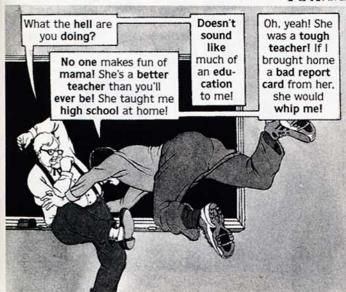
turkey I have to stick around to the end!

[* Actually, I can speak perfectly clearly, but I'm too embarrassed to use the dialogue that was written for me, so I just mumble!] I'm Sticky Virtue-Lost, a tough motorcycle broad who's attracted to Sobby! I'm so tough, I have a prison record! I shot my agent for getting me a role in this movie! But after seeing this film, the governor pardoned me! He said it was

justifiable homicide!

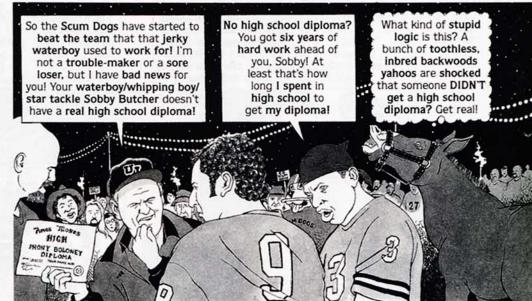


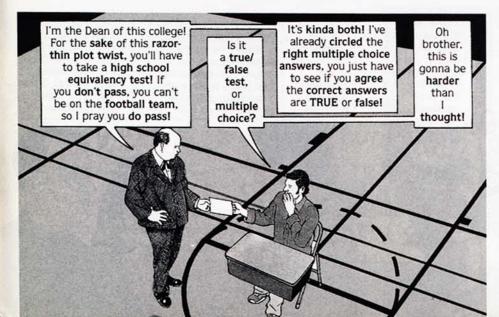








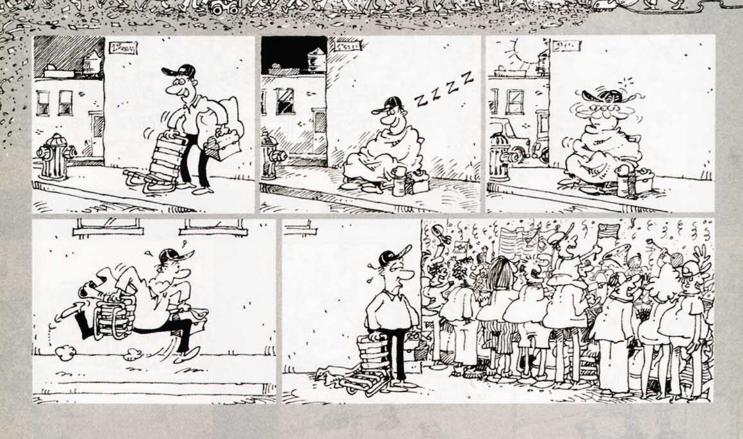


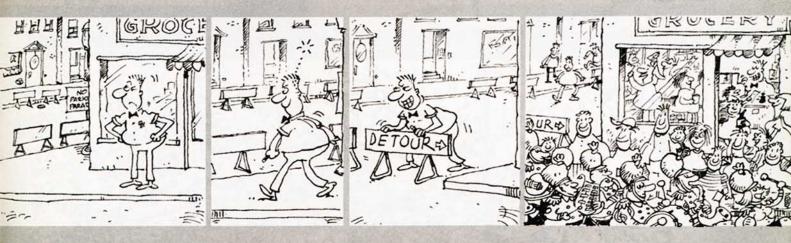


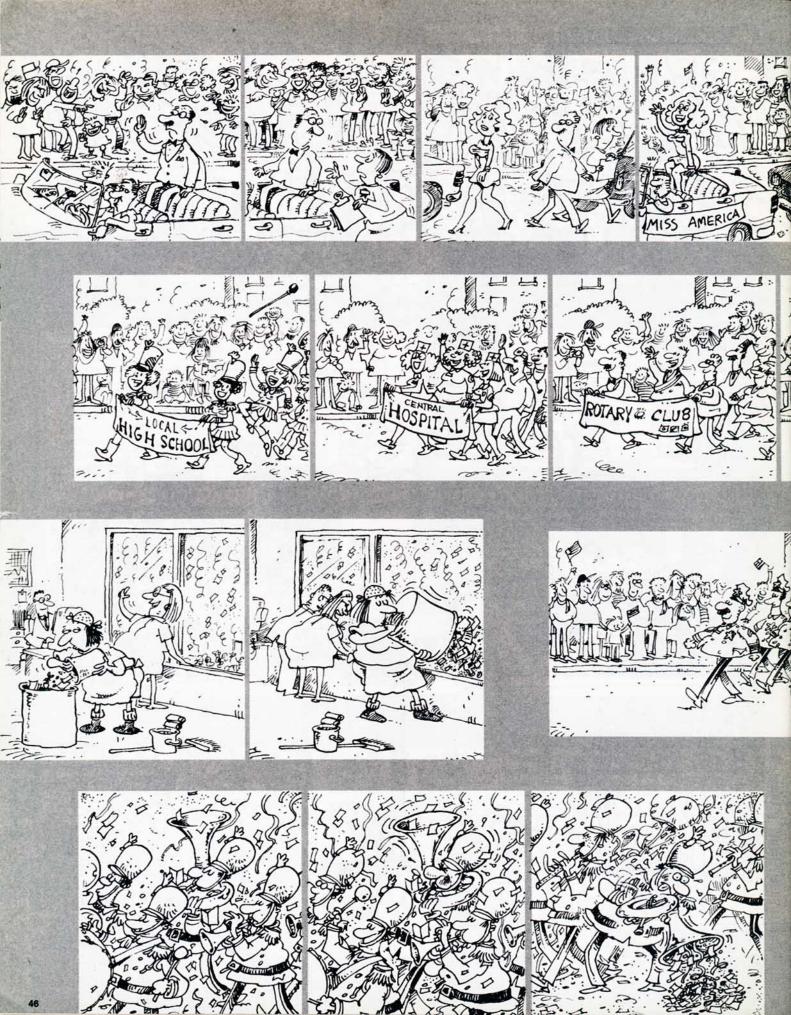


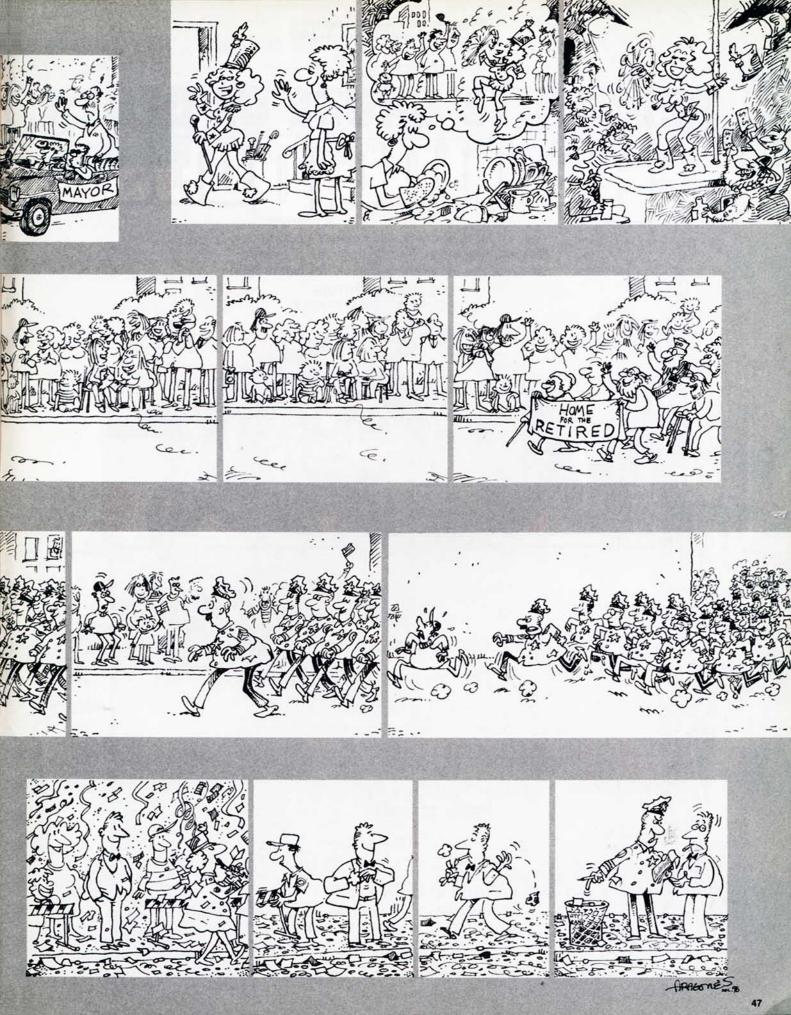














MAD's CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH

Our team of crack oddsmakers gives you the latest Vegas line on how one of today's biggest newsmakers will suck her last breath! THIS MONTH'S FUTURE INTERN TO THE GRIM REAPER:



MONICA LEWINS

CAUSE OF DEATH ODDS 1:1 Chokes on something Falls off upper left box while 8:1 questing on Hollywood Squares 25:1 Terminal thong inflammation Blood circulation cut off by 37:1 last resort super girdle Caught in a buffet stampede at 42:1 plus-size models audition

Bad clams at "bygones-be-bygones" dinner with Linda Tripp

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

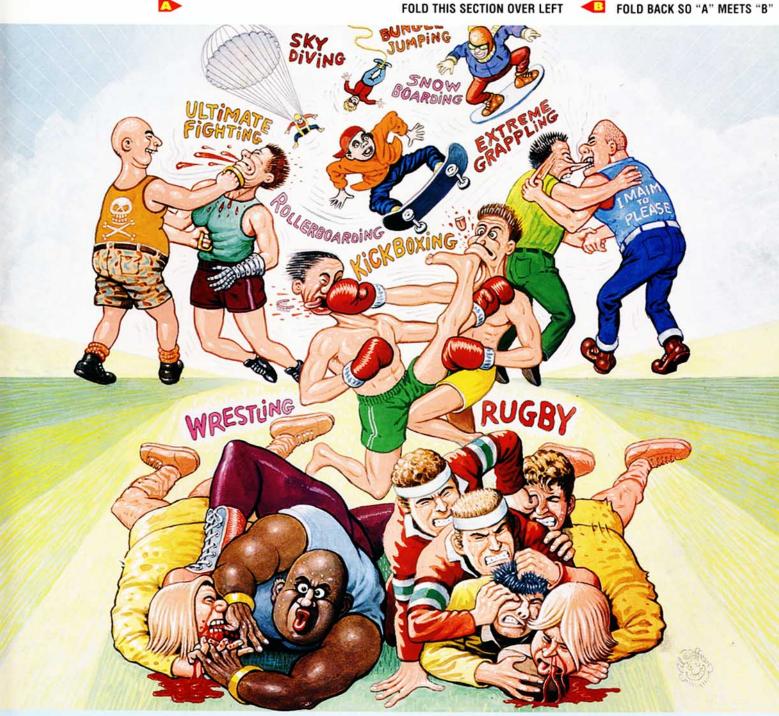
5,409,309:1

WHAT EXTREME "SPORT" HAS UNFORTUNATELY **BEEN GROWING IN POPULARITY DESPITE ITS VIOLENCE?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

Traditional sports have taken a back seat to the new daredevil activities known as extreme sports. Whether it's performing death-defying skateboard tricks or participating in ultimate fighting matches, people are finding new ways to push themselves and laugh in the face of death. There is one new sport that has unfortunately caught on in record numbers. To find out what this lousy "sport" is, fold page in as shown.





GRUESOME FORMS OF EXTREME "SPORT" USUALLY PAY PROMOTERS HANDSOMELY BECAUSE IT BRINGS OUT BASIC BLOODLUST IN THE FANS. WHAT WE CAN'T FATH-OM IS WHY SOCIETY PERMITS SUCH A HARMFUL THING



WHAT EXTREME "SPORT" HAS UNFORTUNATELY **BEEN GROWING IN POPULARITY DESPITE** ITS VIOLENCE?



FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



BASH-ING



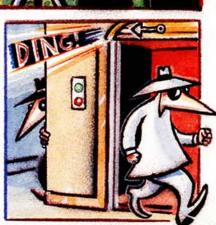
















ARTIST: PETER KUPER WRITER: DUCK EDWING