



As we sadly reported in issue #420, MAD artist and writer Dave Berg passed away on May 16th. Here is a small sampling of the many kind condolence letters we received.

I don't mind telling you that I'm writing this through teary eyes. I have been planning to write to Dave and thank him for the tremendous joy he gave me for over 35 years of reading his cartoons. This guy deserved the Nobel Prize for Humanity. Iris Lahav, Glen Iris, Australia

It was with deep sadness that I learned of the death of Dave Berg. I never knew of MAD Magazine without his Lighter Side of... feature.

Robert Becker, Northford, CT

Thank you Mr. Berg for the many laughs and smiles. Roger Kaputnik will forever be missed.

Necessary Impurity, Via madmag.com

For as long as I have been alive, Dave Berg's The Lighter Side of... has been the literal heart of MAD Magazine. Mr. Berg's strips were always reflective of the history of the times. He will be greatly missed even by those of us who knew him only through his work.

Harold Jenkins, Olyphant, PA

Another great has passed away. E. Park, Holdenville, OK



It is a sad loss, but we can be thankful that we had the opportunity to laugh along with him.

Tony N., Arleta, CA

For almost 40 years, Dave has been a part of my life through his art. I remember the first time my mother caught me reading MAD in the bathroom, she thought I was nuts!

George Manno, Via E-mail

I have been reading MAD Magazine since 1959. I'll really miss the feature in your rag that was written and drawn by the incomparable Dave Berg. His work is timeless.

Henry Finkelstein, Brooklyn, NY

Thanks for sharing your Berg's-Eye View with us, Dave. You taught me how to appreciate the irony in everyday situations when I was only nine years old. It has served me well ever since. So long, old friend.

MoGeo, Via madmag.com

WASTE OF SPACE

Rarely has the appellation "the Usual Gang of Idiots" been so appropriate. You choose the most closely scrutinized series in the history of broadcast media (Star Trek) and the most argued about and nitpicked extension of the franchise (Enterprise), in MAD #420, for a parody, and you get the rank of one of the bridge crew wrong? Mayweather (Bedwetter) is an ensign, not a lieutenant. Is it humanly possible that there are no Trekkies in a geek-magnet office like your own? Do you have no interns to spare five minutes of Internet research? Or were you deliberately trying to emulate the lack of continuity shown by current producers Rick Bergman and Brannon Braga by handing out random promotions? And if you're going that route, why couldn't you have given Voyager's Harry Kim an extra pip or three? Evay Knecht, Brooklyn, NY

Evay — In the immortal words of Captain Kirk: "Beam me up, Scotty!" —Ed.

NAME THAT TOON

I've been reading MAD for three years and you've never mentioned Monroe's last name! So can you tell me what it is? And by the way, who does Ken McClelland think he is asking you to move Monroe to the back of the magazine? I hope old Kenny catches some of the Ebola Reston strain! And add me to the "Monroe Fan Club" list while you're at it!

Arun Morace, Amherst, NY

Anne Arundel — Hmmm...Monroe's last name? Good question. It's sort of like that bizarre Seinfeld episode where we knew Kramer's last name but not his first. All right, readers, here's your assignment of the issue. What do you think Monroe's last name should be? Send us your thoughts and we'll print the best in an upcoming MAD and forward them all to Monroe writer Anthony Barbieri. Send them to Amy "The Big Barbieri" c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019. Don't forget to include whether you'd like to join the "Monroe Fan Club," where there are no perks, no posters, no autographed pictures or secret decoder rings, but, hey, there are no dues either! —Ed.





One of the great things about working at MAD is that we never know who is going to show up on our doorstep on any given day. For instance, a few weeks ago, up-and-coming star Jonah Meyerson, who played Uzi Tenenbaum in The Royal Tenenbaums, came to look around and tell us that he fears his appearance in MAD may have sunk his career forever. But to be honest, readers, while we may pretend we are this hot and hip magazine with celebrities stopping by all the time, on most days nobody stops by. Hell, we consider it a banner day if longtime co-editor Nick Meglin shows up for a few hours. There you have it, a little MAD peek behind the show biz curtain! Fa Fa!







Naughty little bears

GIVE TREES A CHANCE

Once again I received my MAD Magazine and while reading it, those annoying loose subscription cards are the blame once again for a paper cut. I already subscribe to your magazine, so why on Earth are they in there? Do you think I am that stupid to order another subscription? Besides, how many trees could be saved if you didn't include them in the magazines of your subscribers? Did you ever think of that?

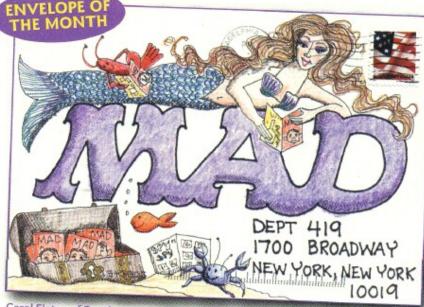
Joseph Bloomberg, Cape Coral, FL

Jo Jo - Buried in your letter is an intriguing question - do we think you're that stupid to order another subscription? We assume you meant it in a rhetorical way - well, dream on. Yeah, we bet that you're that stupid and more! You're so worried about us saving trees by not putting subscription cards in the magazines well, here's a little rhetorical question for you: If one of those trees fell in the forest and landed smack on your head, would it make you even more stupid than you already are? We don't think so! Lastly, as for your paper cut, we don't think you should seek medical treatment, rather, we'd prefer to close this response with the mental image of you just sitting there hemorrhaging and hemorrhaging. Thanks for writing and THANKS FOR SUBSCRIBING! -Ed.

AN INTERN FOR THE WORSE

thanks goes out to MAD summer editorial

interns Jules Lipoff, Kevin Kirby, Paul Kulis and Cameron Williams. Also a big thank you to the MAD summer art interns Joe Quinones and Benjamin Flores. If you are a college student and are interested in a summer internship, send a SASE with a note requesting information about the internships and we will send you all you need to know about how to apply in February, 2003. Send your letters to Amy Vozeolas, Internship Director, MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019!



Carol Flatau of Boothwyn, PA gets the great honor of sending in our Envelope of the Month. As you know, there no prizes, no free subscriptions, no cash rewards and nobody cares! Congrats on your pathetic little life and thanks for writing!

A HORSE IS A HORSE OF COURSE OF COURSE!

I was reading issue #420 and was looking at the picture on the cover and then the other page that tells who everyone is. I looked at the picture of Jar Jar Binks and read the caption. It states that character #6 is Celine Dion. Then #22 shows a picture of Celine Dion with the caption saying it is Jar Jar Binks. I would just like you to be aware of your mistake.

John Walaszek, Noblesville, IN

I noticed a mistake in issue #420. When you showed the outline for who's who on the cover of MAD #420, you said that Jar Jar Binks' outline was Celine Dion and the Celine Dion's outline was Jar Jar Binks.

Benji Gibicsar, Menomonee Falls, WI

In the "Who's Who On Our Ridiculous Cover" in Mad #420, you said that #6 was Celine Dion and #22 was Jar Jar Binks, actually, it's the other way around! Stephen Michael, Cherry Hills Village, CO

Sorry, dear readers, we went back to doublecheck and we stand by our reporting! —Ed.





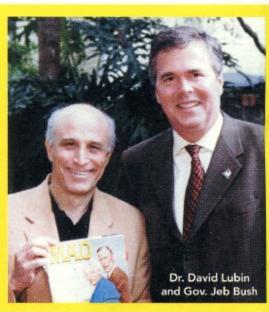
Celine

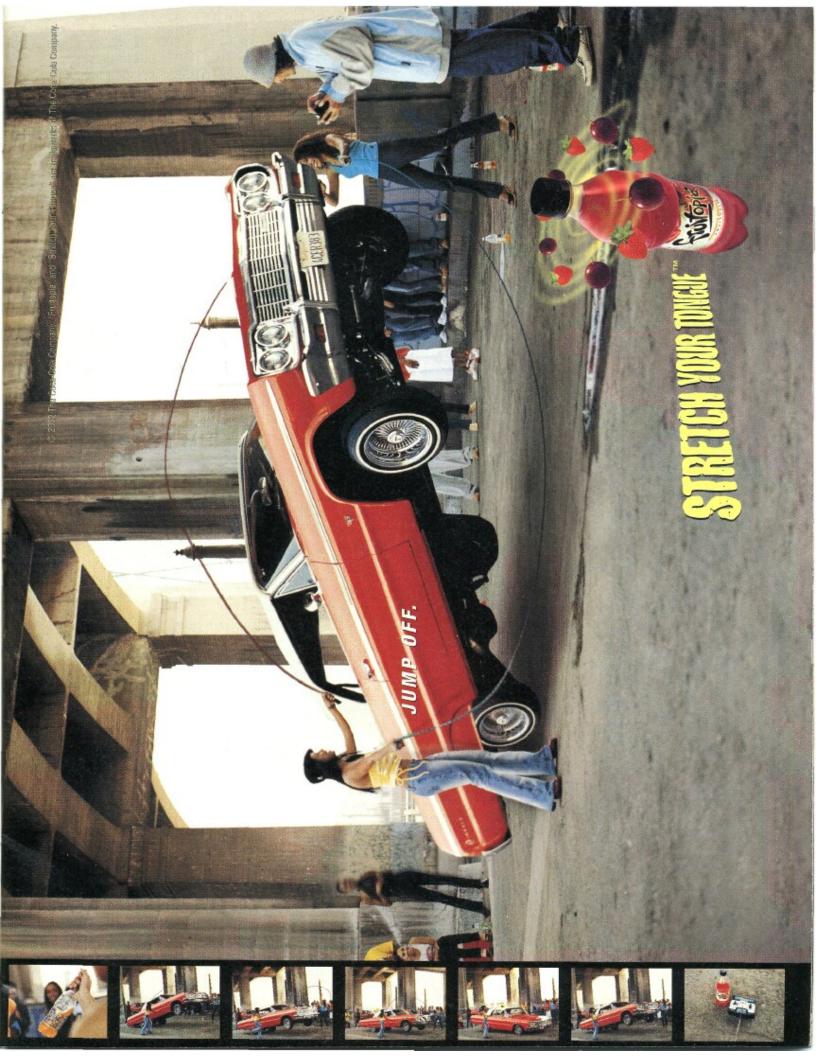
Jar Jai

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

Jess Barrios, Jr. and Richard Petty

This month we have a double header Celebrity Snap! Direct from the fast track, it's racing legend Richard Petty (sent in by Jess Barrios, Jr. of N. Las Vegas, NV) and from a much slower lane, Florida Governor Jeb Bush (caught on camera by longtime MAD fan Dr. David Lubin of Tampa, FL). Just as this issue is going to press, the citizens of Florida will be going to the polls to say whether Jeb Bush should be re-elected. If history is any indication, we're sure the Governor will find "a way" to win! So Jess, look for a three-year subscription in the mail and Dr. Dave, you'll be getting a one-year subscription. Chad - oops, we mean Ciao!











MAD CEMETERY SNAPS

My long search is finally over. After seeing your free subscription offer with the picture of MAD near a dead celebrity, I was really stumped on which celebrity I would have to kill in order to get my free subscription. How foolish did I feel when I realized that all I had to do was to take a picture near a tombstone! Enclosed please find my picture with MAD next to the tombstone of the biggest celebrity of them all the Bambino, the Sultan of Swat, the Home Run King, the Whopper - otherwise known as George Herman Ruth — the Babe! With all the money I am going to save with a free subscription, I can finally move out of my parents' house! Kevin Gorrasi, Bronxville, NY.



All right Kev, you get the one-year free subscription, but if we were you we wouldn't be too hasty moving out of the house that Mom and Dad built! Based on this one picture of you, we feel confident in our belief that you're not the type of guy to make it on your own. Love to the folks! —Ed.

THE MOB SQUAD EVEL-LO IN THE INC. BEOUT THE

We're making you an offer you should refuse...but please don't! On sale now is MAD About The Mob — with 96 pages of gun-toting goombahs, hard-boiled bad guys and over two tons of combined Marlon Brando and Tony Soprano girth!



HOW TO REACH US

Please Address Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 422, 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!

WE HAVEN'T THE VEGA-EST IDEA

Back in MAD #418 we asked readers to give their interpretation of the mysterious lyrics by Suzanne Vega: "I'm amusing. I'm a puppet for your play. Am I your MAD Magazine?" from her song "Machine Ballerina." Hundreds, nay thousands...oh who the hell are we kidding, a handful of you wasted the time and postage to write in what you thought this intriguing sentence meant. Unfortunately, since Suzanne wasn't one of them, we still don't know exactly what it means, but

"Am I Your MAD Magazine?" means...

here's a sampling of what some of you sent in.

...do I make you laugh so hard that milk squirts out of your nose, like MAD Magazine! — Ariel Lesnick, Yonkers, NY

...She's no good between the covers anymore! — Bruce Launer, Chadron, NE

...She's really confessing that her work is garbage! — Conrad Ely, Spokane, WA

...She has no lighter side, she's not worth \$3.50 and what, me worry? She should, just look at her record sales! — Joe Ciarelli, North Haven, CT

...You're an annoying pest — useless, pathetic, worthless parasite. But you make me laugh and since you won't leave, amuse me!

Laura Pearlstein, Stoughton, MA

...It's because when you fold her up, you can see a completely different picture!

— Dylan Flynn, Le Barroux, France

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Contributing Artists And Writers

the usual gang of idiots

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BATMAN'S LITTLE GIRL
IS ALL GROWN UP.

The WB Presents OF DEL

WEDNESDAYS REMIERS

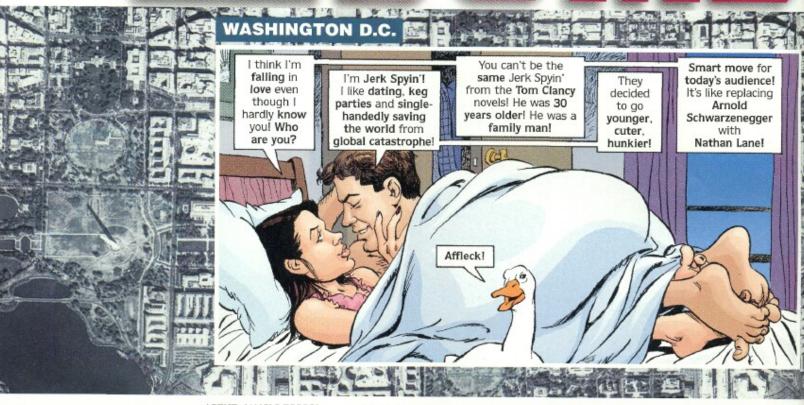
TheWB.com AOL Keyword: TheWB BATMAN and BIRDS OF PREY TM & DC Comics, All rights reserved.





In the aftermath of September 11th, Hollywood was heavily criticized for its long legacy of bloody, sadistic action blockbusters. So the movie studios decided to tone things down for a while by releasing such "nonviolent" films as *Training Day* (about a vicious cop brutalizing neighborhood citizens), *The Lord of the Rings* (about an evil force bent on destruction) and *Ali* (about

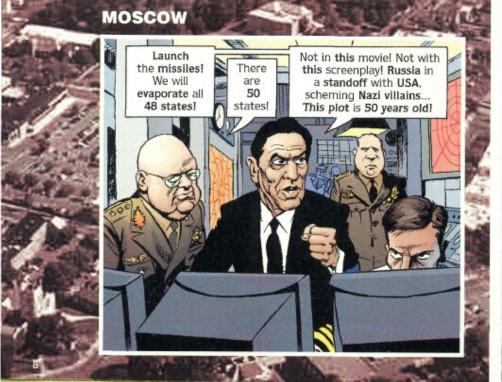
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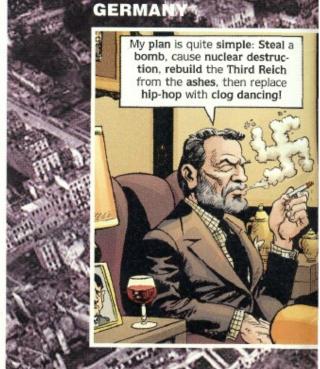




WRITER: ARNIE KOGEN

COLORIST: DIGITAL CHAMELEON









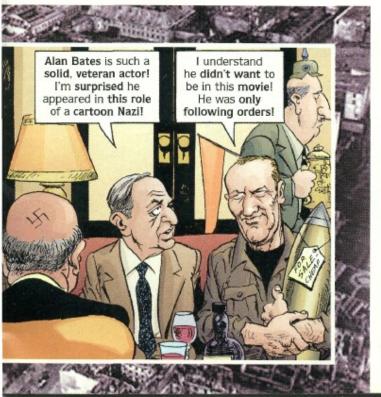


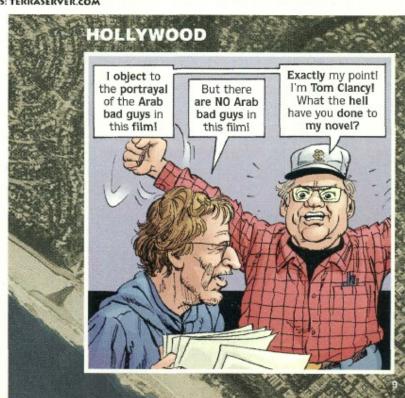


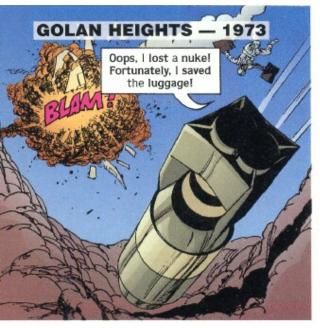
a boxer pounding his opponents into submission). To make matters worse, just as U.S. citizens were finally starting to calm down from the constant threats of terrorism, along came a new Tom Clancy movie about crazed foreign villains detonating a nuclear weapon in our nation's capital! Yup, seems like things will never change in the entertainment industry, as evidenced by this...



AERIAL PHOTOS: TERRASERVER.COM



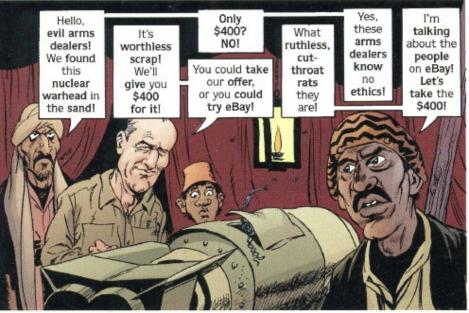




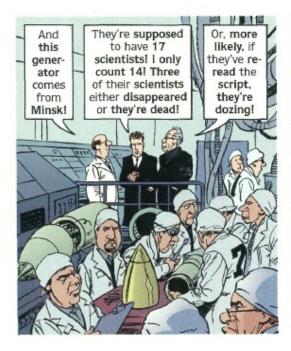












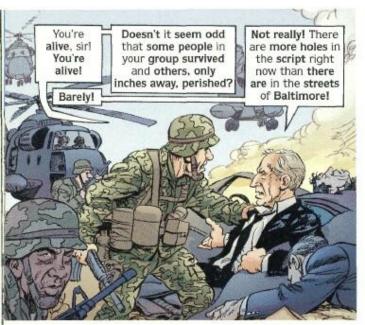


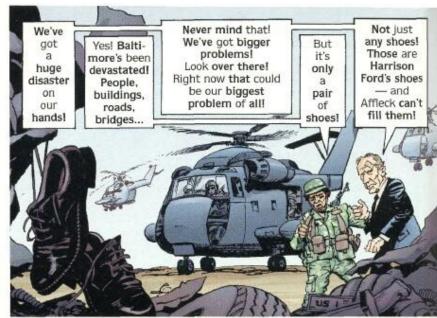


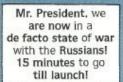












I give the order to launch! But not missiles! First...a deadly exchange of e-mails!



MESSAGE FROM RUSSIA

President Faller:

"We are aware of the nuclear explosion. Please accept our deepest sympathy. How is such an accident possible?"



RESPONSE FROM AMERICA

President Boomeroaf:

"This was not an accident. We were deliberately attacked! We are not accusing you but if it wasn't you, who? ...The French?"

This does not look good!

> For world peace?

For action-adventure fans! This movie suddenly has gone from The Sum Of All Fears to You've Got Mail!



President Faller:

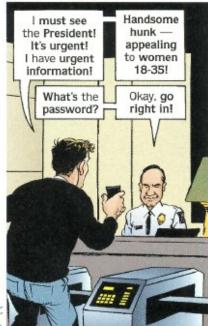
"How dare you!
America has
exported horror for
decades! You people
bombed Hiroshima
and Nagasaki
and you opened
McDonald's chains
worldwide!"











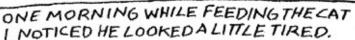
We know the Okay, Jerk! You've bomb was not convinced me! I'll Russian! A neoback down! We'll pull fascist named back our strategic Drizzler bought launchers and stop a bomb! It was our warheads! By the him! We ask you way, I loved you in to back down! Chasing Amy!

This is unbelievable!
Who's gonna believe that
a junior CIA agent can
break into the command
center, hook into the
hotline and singlehandedly convince the
Russians to back off?

The same people who believe he can traipse through post-nuclear Baltimore and not be affected by fallout!









SO I IMMEDIATELY GOT ON THE HORN TO THE VET.

GIVE HIM 2
ASPIRIN? BUT
YOU KNOW
WHAT ASPIRIN
DID TO THE
LAST 17 CATS
1 HAD!



AS THE DAYS PASSED HE DIDN'T LOOK LIKE HE WAS COMING OUT OF IT SO I THOUGHT I'D TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT.



BY THE END OF THE WEEK I WAS AT MY WITS' END.



FINALLY I GAVE UP AND RESIGNED MYSELF TO THE HORRIBLE REALITY OF THE SITUATION



AS ITTURNED OUT, IT WAS JUST A FALSE ALARM AND HE ACTUALLY LOOKS HEALTHIER NOW THAN HE DID BEFORE





A PLANET WITH FEAR NEEDS A HERO WITH NONE.











General Scales has torn apart Dinosaur Planet, and now it faces total annihilation. It's Fox McCloud to the rescue.



Join him as he exits his Arwing and enters as hero to save the dinosaurs in his biggest adventure ever. Only for Nintendo GameCube."



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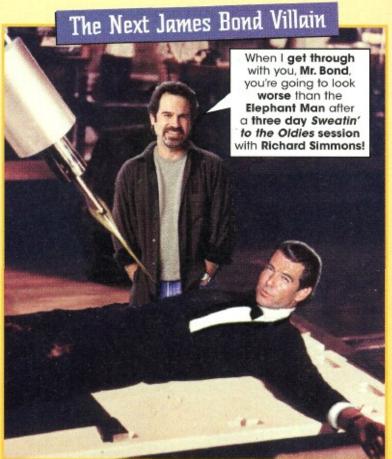


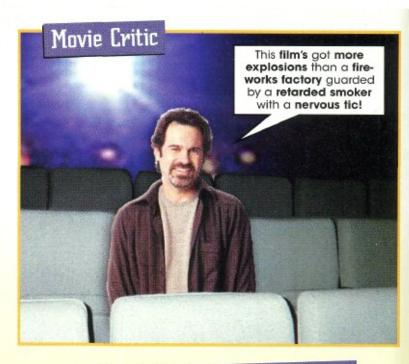
GETTING CAUGHT WITH HIS RANTS DOWN DEPT.

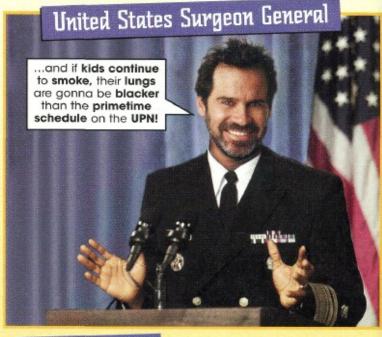
So, Dennis Miller's tenure as an analyst on *Monday Night Football* was about as successful as Napoleon's crossing of the Berezina. And his talk show is as dead as Strom Thurmond's grandpappy. But there are plenty of other opportunities out there for a man so adept at being simultaneously obnoxious and esoteric, like these...

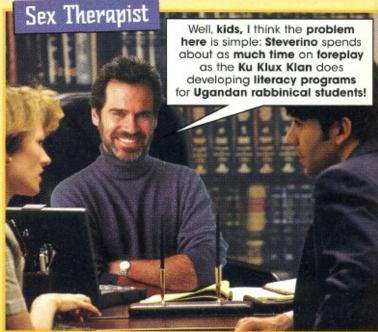
New Career Options For Options For Options For Options For Options

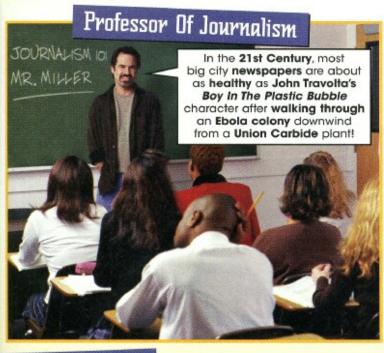
WRITER: MIKE MIKULA

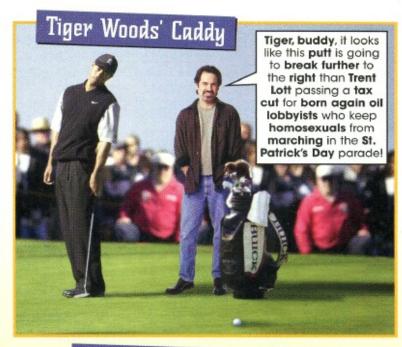




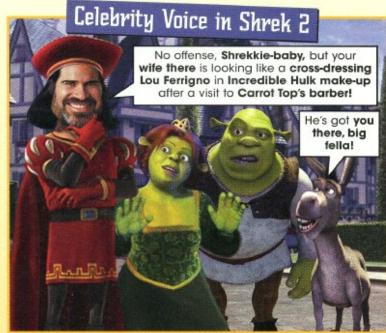


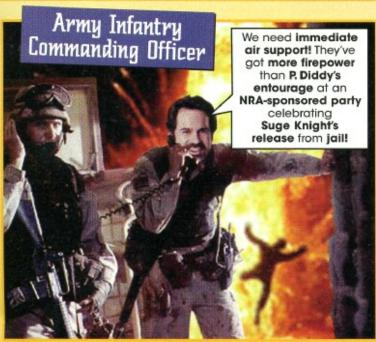


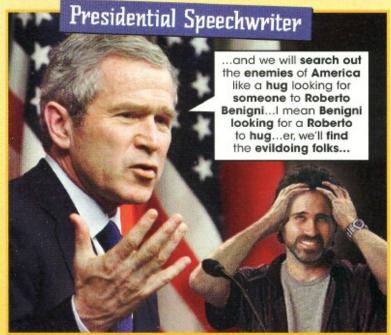














What is the sound of one hand clapping? If a tree falls in the forest and no one hears it, does it make a sound? If there's a just and powerful God, how can there be a Crocodile Hunter movie? These haunting questions may keep you awake at night—but, truth be told, they're just small potatoes! There's a far more baffling and mind-numbing mystery out there—and it's right under our noses! Rest assured, though, you'll sleep like a baby after MAD answers the world's most perplexing question:

WHY IS GEORGE W. BUSH'S COLLIGITATIONS SO FIGURE

ARTIST: RICK TULKA



Most negative poll results were placed behind Jeb Bush's couch along with the "Gore" Florida ballots.



The poll tallies were tabulated by Enron accountants Arthur Andersen.

WRITER: BARRY LIEBMANN



Most people are afraid to say what they really think because under Bush's "Patriot Act," any negative criticism, no matter how slight, is considered an act of treason.



Nowadays, most people are willing to give high marks to any President who keeps his pants on in the Oval Office.



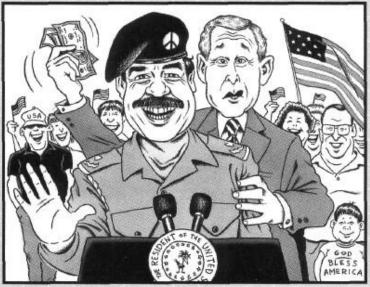
Many respondents thought the pollsters were asking about Anheuser-Busch.



A majority of people really do identify with him, especially since they too don't have a clue about how to run the country.



Bush's "little boy" look is endearing to parents, grandparents and little old ladies, not to mention the growing number of known pedophile priests.



For a shot at another \$300 tax rebate, most Americans would approve of Saddam Hussein.



The questionnaires were printed on the backs of fat, federal farm subsidy checks.



The hole in the ozone layer that Bush doesn't believe in has fried everybody's brain.



GEORGE W. BUSH'S APPROVAL RATING SO HIGH?



Traditionally anti-Bush environmentalists refused to be polled because the questionnaires were not printed on recycled paper, thereby skewing the results.



The statistical pool? Made up of lobbyists, defense contractors and comedy writers with a trunk full of moron jokes.



A goofy, inarticulate dad with a substanceabusing past trying to control his rebellious, nutso kids: Many Americans think he's the West Wing version of Ozzy Osbourne.



The numbers were inflated by crafty Democrats to give Bush the same false sense of security his father had before getting trounced by Clinton in '92.



Soft-hearted Americans don't want to do anything to make him nervous and choke on another pretzel.

Spells punishing: 26,875

Tournaments underway: 882

Game replayer 7,51911

Creatures attacking: 49,438

Carries being played incorrectly O

Prizes on the line: 5,000

Ratter tractes: 99,999

Conline charge 19 77cm

Deadly strategies: Unlimited

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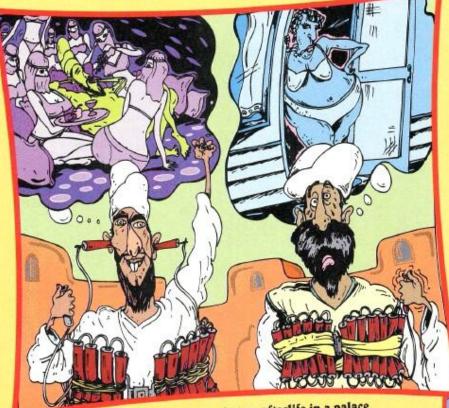
Get the game free: mtgonline.com

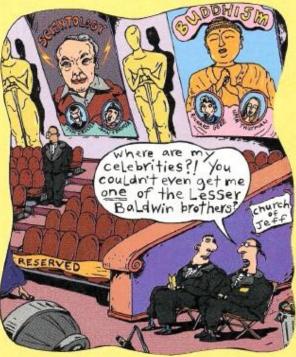




What makes a religion a good religion? For some people, it's the promise of a next life that won't suck like this one. For others, it's an official license to feel superior to your heathen neighbors. For still others, it's the possibility (however slight) of getting to rub elbows with Tom Cruise or John Travolta at your church. What makes a religion a bad religion? In the past, you often didn't know until you wound up dead in a mass suicide-by-poisoned Kool Aid, when it was too late! Which is why we at MAD have compiled a comprehensive list of...

EARLY SIGHS YOU MAY HAVE PICKED A BAID RELIGION





They can't con a single gullible Hollywood celebrity into joining and helping them "spread the word"!

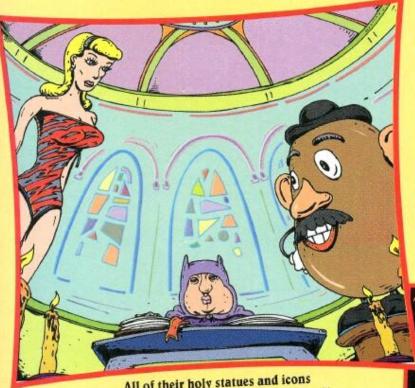
Instead of guaranteeing an afterlife in a palace filled with 72 virgins in exchange for going on a suicide mission... they promise you one retired Rockette in a double-wide trailer!



Their coming-of-age ritual involves a bottle of Jack Daniels, a '68 El Camino and a railroad crossing!

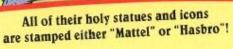


Their religious dietary laws mention Cheez Whiz 847 times!



The entire liturgy is in limerick form!

1-900-BAD BOYS



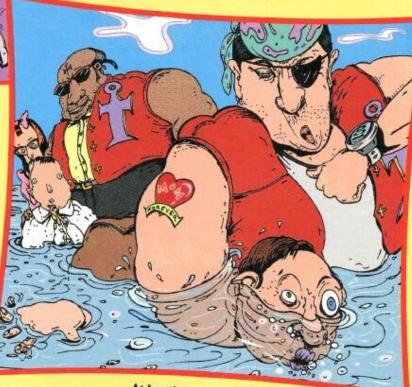


Their confessions are through a 1-900 number, at a charge of \$1.99 per minute!

Their idea of a miracle (that proves the existence of God): how bowling pins magically reappear after you knock them down!



Their two Communion sacraments: anchovies and Fresca!



At baptism, you get held underwater for 12 minutes!

After a long, hot trip South, our hero is back home and ready to relax. What better way than sitting in front of a pulsing TV screen for hours on end? It's...

WHOA! YOU GOT PLAYSTATION 2?



YOU GAIN WEIGHT OR SOMETHING, WALTER?

A LITTLE. THE DOCTOR SAYS IT'S FROM BEING INACTIVE, I'M PLAYING TOO MUCH

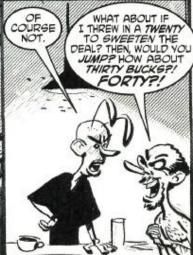
Playstation 2!















YOU BET IT WAS! WE'D TIE UP SOME PANHANDLING DRIFTER WITH THE ROPE AND BEAT HIM WITH THE











PLAYSTATION 2



Montage



















NO CATCH AT ALL! WHEN YOUR FATHER HEARD THESE THINGS CAUSE M.S.D.S HE WENT RIGHT OUT AND GOT YOU ONE! WAIT. WHAT'S THE CATCH?

























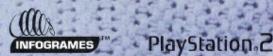


WARNING: WHEN THE GAME TURNS OFF, SO DO YOUR POWERS.

You cannot fly. You are not stronger than a locomotive or faster than a speeding bullet. You have no business attempting to use superpowers outside the realm of Superman: Shadow of Apokolips. Any attempt to do so will undoubtedly result in broken legs, arms, fingers and toes, sprained ankles, bruised ribs and egos, loss of limbs, pride, and ultimately-life. Just remember sport, when the game turns off, so do your powers.





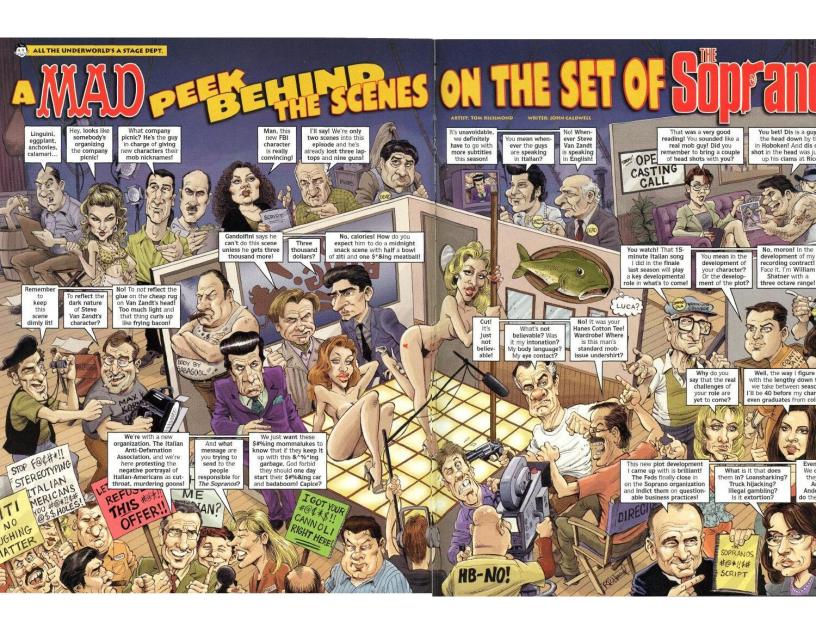


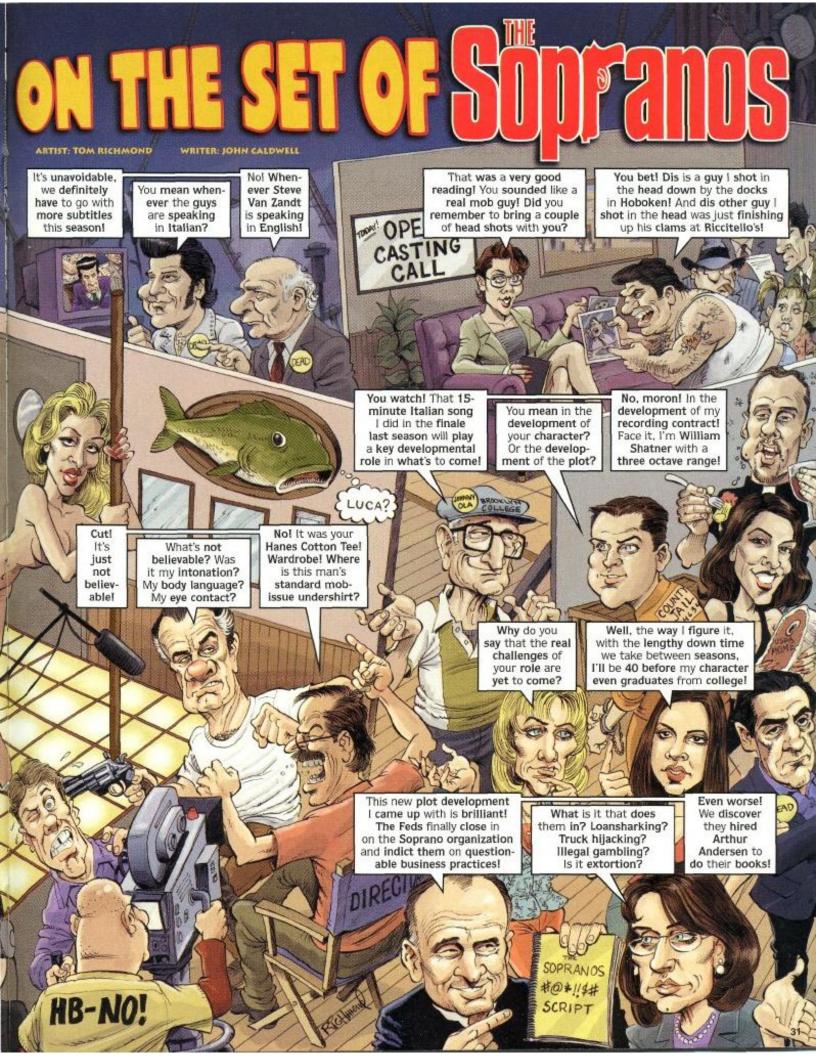














AMMAID LOOK





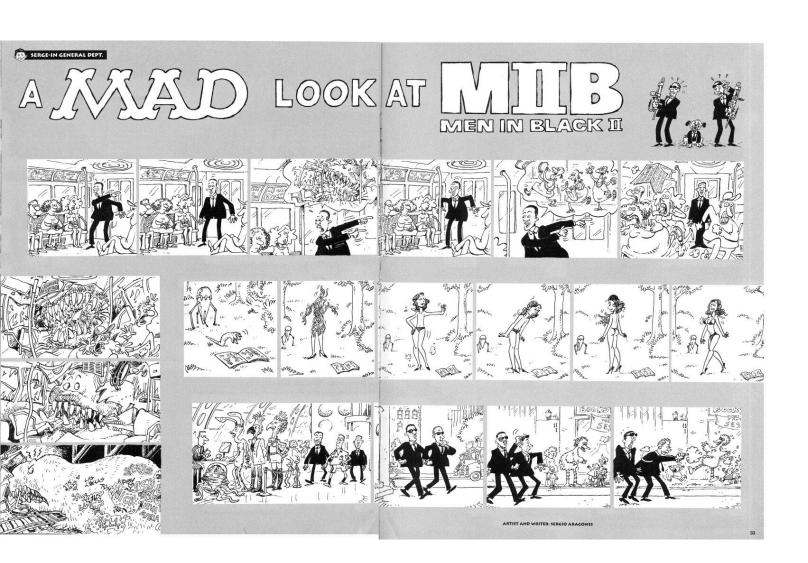












AT [V] [S] MEN IN BLACK II





































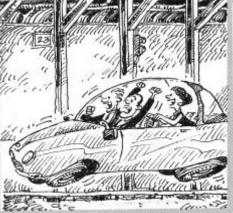


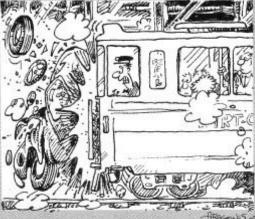
















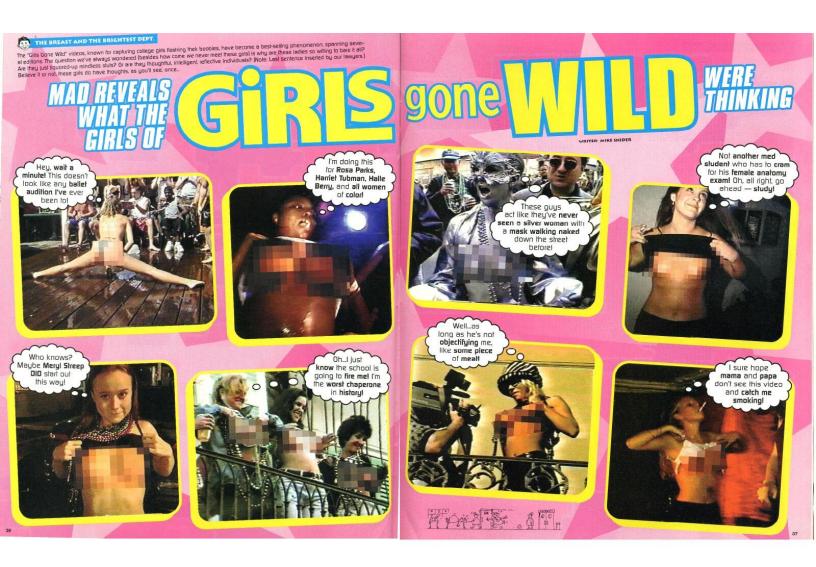
The "Girls Gane Wild" videos, known for capturing college girls flashing their boobles, have become a best-selling phenomenon, spanning several editions. The question we've always wondered (besides how come we never meet these girls) is why are these ladies so willing to bare it ali? Are they just liquored-up mindless sluts? Or are they thoughtful, intelligent, reflective individuals? (Note: Last sentence inserted by our lawyers.) Believe It or not, these girls do have thoughts, as you'll see, once...

Hey, wait a minute! This doesn't look like any ballet audition I've ever been to!

I'm doing this for Rosa Parks, Harriel Tubman, Halle Berry, and all women of color!





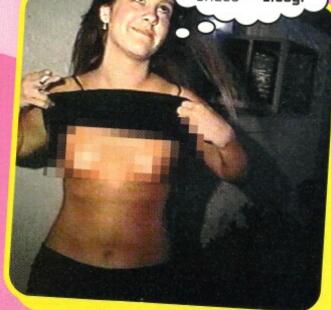


gone L'HINKING

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

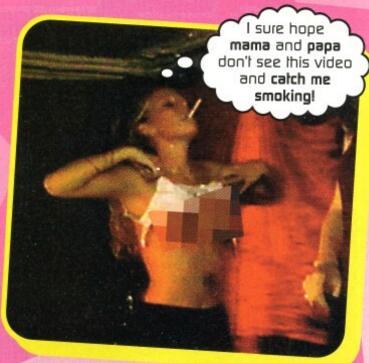


Not another med student who has to cram for his female anatomy exam! Oh, all right, go ahead — study!



Well...as
long as he's not
objectifying me,
like some piece
of meat!





٠

GATE D

It may be true that we've squandered countless opportunities for a lasting humor legacy, but perhaps it's not too late. By using important sounding sentences like the last, in conjunction with big words like "ephemeral" and "perquisite" (that don't look like they're spelled correctly, but when you check them it turns out they are), we may find ourselves on the road to the first Pulitzer Prize for lame MAD article introductions. Intrinsic (good word, right?) to this is the underlying quest for comic poignancy (oh, yeah!) and overall satirical relevance. Raillery, another word found in the thesaurus under "humor," also seems to fit well in this paragraph. And, yes, it is spelled correctly. We move on now to the ensuing (sweeeet!) reason for all this: a dumb premise we slapped together with the title...

THESE ARE GOOD SEATS, MY FRIEND! RIGHT ALONG THE FIFTH BASE LINE... YOU WILL CATCH MANY PUNTS!!! MAD'S COMPREHENSIVE

10-STEP

GUIDE TO

SUCCESS

IN THE

HIGHLY CHARGED WORLD

ILLEGAL TICKET SCALPING

ARTIST AND WRITER:

Always Know your product.



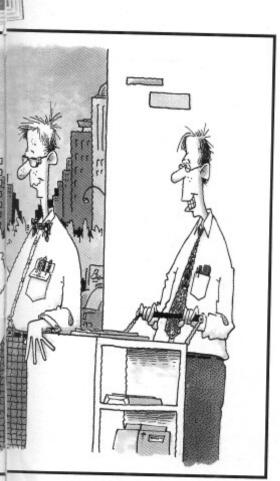


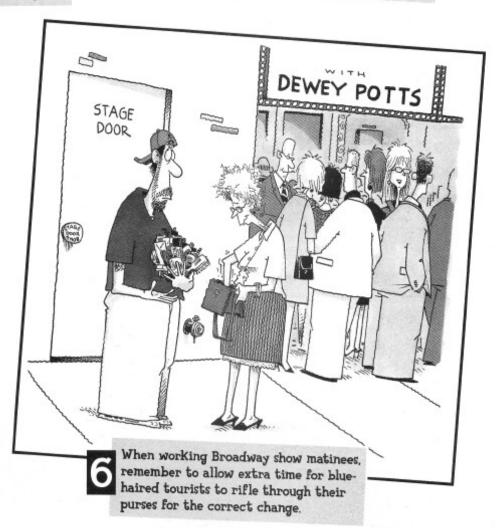
Avoid unnecessary employee expenditures. Ask yourself, "Do I really need mailroom guys?"





not a road to success.







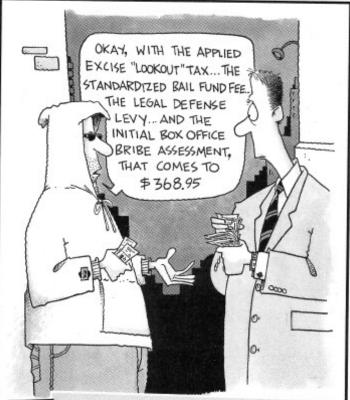


to load up on prime handicap access sections.

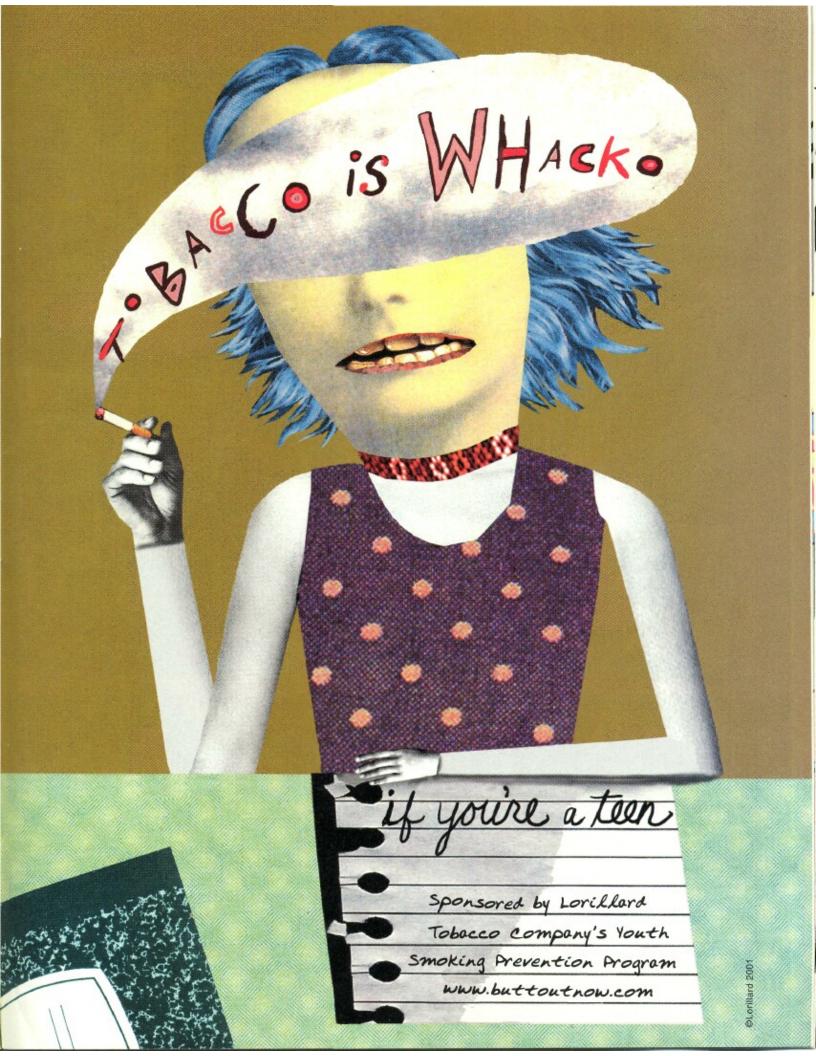
When hiring someone to wait in line to buy your tickets, it's wise to pay a little more to get someone who's competent.



Always remember that you are an illegal ticket scalper and are under no obligation to ask the OSHA-mandated "Are you prone to nosebleeds?" question.

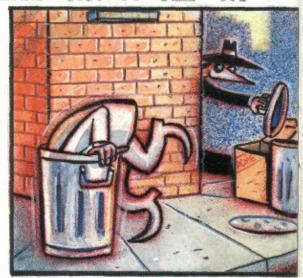


Don't hesitate to pile on vague fees and tax charges — just like Ticketmaster and other so-called legitimate ticket sellers do.











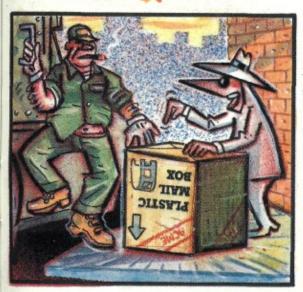








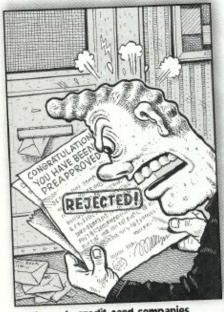






ARTIST AND WRITER: PETER KUPER

Where do internet companies get off bragging about a sign-up bonus of "1,000 free hours" to use in 45 days, when 45 days only contain 1,080 hours total?



Where do credit card companies get off rejecting you for their lousy card when the only reason you applied for the damn thing in the first place was because they said you were "pre-approved"?



Where do waiters get off asking, "Do you want change?" when you hand them a \$20 bill to pay for a measly 58 tab?



Hardly a day goes by that someone doesn't insult us. The affronts come from all sides - a greedy company, a two-faced politician or somewhere else (like a moronic magazine)! Make no mistake about it, the insults just keep on coming. Day after day, these insufferable bastards are methodically chipping away at our society with their despicable practices, repugnant behavior and sheer chutzpah! And what's worse, they just expect us to sit back and take it! Well, no more! We here at MAD have had enough! And today we begin the long, hard fight to win back our sanity by standing up and in a clear, loud voice boldly asking...

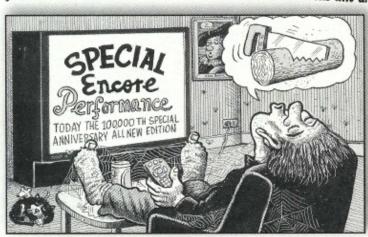
NHEKE 10 THEY



Where do politicians who drank and used drugs when they were teens get off pushing for harsh and unfair prison terms for teens who drink and use drugs now?







Where do TV networks get off labeling their lousy repeats as "encore performances" when nobody — but nobody — asked to see them again?



Where do cell phone companies get off tacking on exorbitant "roaming charges" just because you happen to use your phone in an area where they haven't bothered to build up their pitiful network?



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SPECIAL

Encore erformance



Where do waiters get off asking, "Do you want change?" when you hand them a \$20 bill to pay for a measly \$8 tab?

GALLBEARERS DEPT.

Hardly a day goes by that someone doesn't insuit us. The affronts come from all sides — a greedy company, a two-faced politician or somewhere else (like a moronic magazine)! Make no mistake about it, the insuits just keep no coming. Day after day, these insufferable bastards are methodically chipping away at our society with their despirable practices, repugant behavior and sheer chutzpail. And what's worse, they just expect us to sit back and take it well, no more! We here at MAD have had enough! And it well, no more! We here at MAD have had enough! And today we begin the long, hard fight to win back our sanity by standing up and in a clear, loud voice boldly asking...

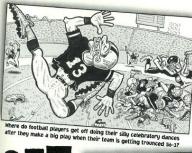


Where do politicians who drank and used drugs when they were teens get off pushing for harsh and unfair prison terms for teens who drink and use drugs now?

DRUG-FREE AMERICA!



where do cell phone companies get of tacking on exorbitant "roaming charges" just because you happen to use your phone area where they haven't bothered to build up their pitiful networks.





Where do pretentious coffee houses get off forcing us to ask for a "tail," "grande" or "venti" when all we want is a "small," "medium" or "targe"?



ARTIST: TOM BUNK WRITER: STAN SINBERG



Where do so-called financial "experts" get off coming on TV to explain why the stock market crashed — when, if they were any good, they would have told us before it happened?



Where do software companies get off charging us for "upgrades" whe the *only* reason we need the "upgrade" is to fix the problems of the earlier version of their crummy product they suckered us into buying?

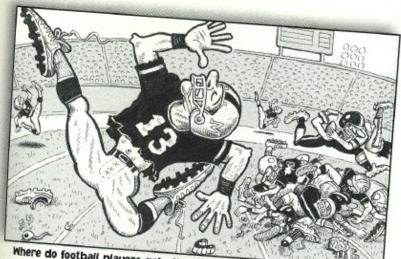


Where do store clerks get off making you wait while they take a phone order, even though you were the one who took the time to come down to the store in person?



Where do magazines get off sending us "Renew your subscription now!" notices before the first friggin' issue even arrives?

Where do TV networks get off labeling their lousy repeats as "encore performances" when nobody — but nobody — asked to see them again?



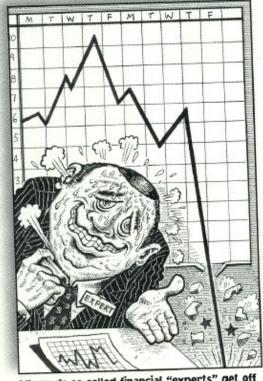
Where do football players get off doing their silly celebratory dances after they make a big play when their team is getting trounced 56-3?



Where do pretentious coffee houses get off forcing us to ask for a "tall," "grande" or "venti" when all we want is a "small," "medium" or "large"?



ARTIST: TOM BUNK
WRITER: STAN SINBERG



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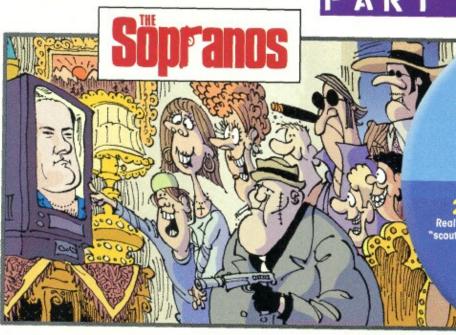
Where do magazines get off sending us "Renew your subscription now!" notices before the first friggin' issue even arrives?



STAT'S ENTERTAINMENT! DEPT.

Well, here goes a third intro for an article that we've done twice before (see issues #284 and #301) but that we liked so much we had to do it again! By now you know what demographics are, so we're going to skip the witty repartee (can't you tell?) and go right into...

The REAL Demographics of Various



Everybody in New lersey, waiting to say "Hey! Dat dere's my neighbo-hood!"

Teenage boys watching with the sound off, just waiting for the topless scenes at the Bada Bing

20%

Real mob hitmen "scouting locations"

Cast members of the three Godfathers, Goodfellas, Scarface, Casino and Analyze This — all trying to spot which "bits" of theirs are being swiped

13% Other "Joisey tough guys" with nicknames

that make "Pussy" sound dignified

People sick of the 2000 election fiasco who'd gladly take a President Bartlet over the two real morons

The real Bush White House staff trying to find out just what the heck they should be doing and to whom

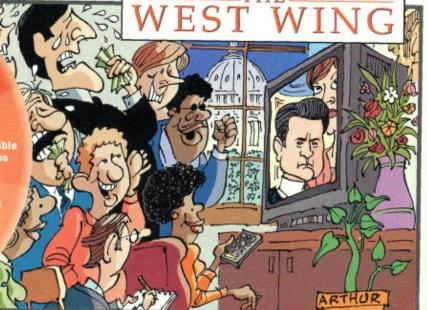
10°

Viewers who like a little Liberal claptrap propaganda along with their TV drama

Snappy, unintelligible patter aficionados

Martin Sheen's actor-sons

Hillary Clinton's interior decorators, refreshing their memory about what they'll have to re-do when she moves back in after the 2004 election



Putrid amateur actors under the mistaken impression that an hour's worth of "tips" from Jeff Goldblum will turn them into Laurence Olivier

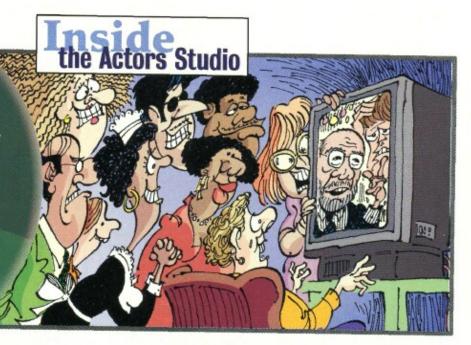
12%
Film-goers who want to know exactly what Jim Carrey's "motivation" is when he "ass-talks"

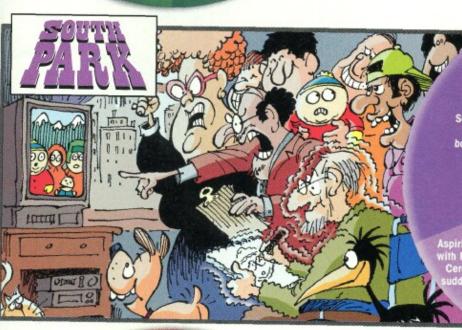
12%
Very odd & lonely
guys just tuning in to
see Meg Ryan say
the F-word on TV

15% Parents of students at the Actors Studio, appalled at what a waste of their tuition money this B.S. is

30% Folks who can't get enough celebrity ass-kissing

20%
Former students at the Actors Studio, now waiters & waitresses, but still deluded wannabes





Social critics trying to pinpoint the exact bottoming-out-point of American Culture

Folks who found Beavis and Butt-head too smart and sophisticated

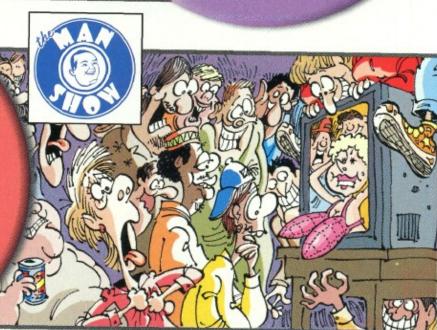
Aspiring animators with Parkinson's or Cerebral Palsy, suddenly hopeful again

18% Anal probe enthusiasts

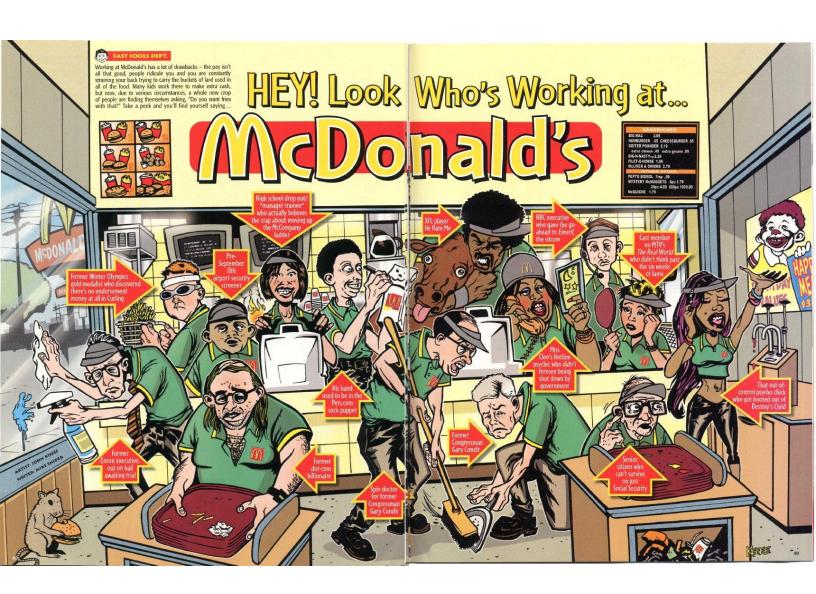
14% Barbra Streisand haters

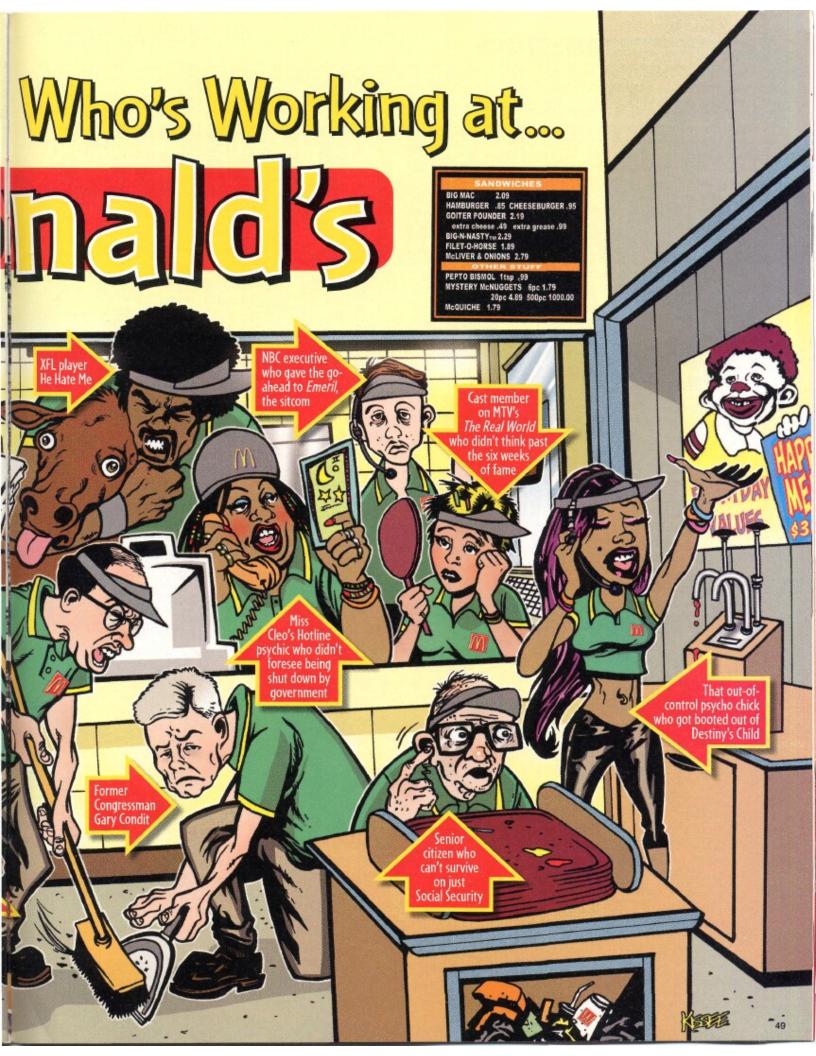
Women who accidentally turned it on and were so disgusted by what they saw that they had a massive heart attack and are now too weak and debilitated to get up and change the channel

Men









Now that the Microsoft Operating System runs virtually every computer, Microsoft is turning its attention to other marketing venues. They're pushing their Pocket PC, their Xbox and their new ".NET" software. But soon we fear that the ever greedy and aggressive Microsoft will use their "expertise" to market everything, even low-tech gadgets. Then, no matter what you buy, they'll claim you can feel "the power of Microsoft" behind you. Yes, that's what that pain in your ass will be, Microsoft behind you! For instance, here's what would happen....

IF Microsoft MADE EGG TIMERS

Thank you for purchasing the Microsoft Egg Timing System.

You now have the power of Microsoft in your kitchen to handle one of the most demanding cooking tasks: making a soft-boiled egg!

Thanks to Microsoft, the hassles of old-fashioned egg timers are a thing of the past. No more will you have to go through the inconvenient and unpleasant ordeal of turning the egg timer over to start the sand falling. Now, the freedom, convenience and precision of microchip-egg timing technology is in *your* hands! Once you've properly configured your system, you can enjoy a perfectly-timed egg every time, regardless of the time of day, even if it's daylight savings time or standard time! With the Microsoft Egg Timing System, it's simpler than ever!

By completing this registration process, Microsoft will be able to contact you with news and information about Egg Timer upgrades and virus warnings. You'll also receive exciting mail, email and telephone solicitations from our strategic corporate partners offering you products and services relating to your Egg Timing System, or not relating to your Egg Timing System. It's up to them.

THE EGG WIZARD

When you first use your Microsoft Egg Timing System, you will be greeted by the Egg Wizard, Eggy. Eggy will ask you a series of questions in order to find out what food you want to prepare. Since the Microsoft Egg Timing System can only be used to time eggs, Eggy will need to ask you a mere 25 questions before it confirms that you want to soft-boil an egg.

PASSWORD PROTECTION

If you don't want other people in your household to know how much time is spent cooking your three-minute egg, you may want to password-protect your "Personal Cooking Profile." Eggy the Egg Wizard will help you pick a hard-to-guess password by suggesting 50,000 nonwords consisting of random strings of letters, numbers and Cyrillic characters to replace the easy-to-remember default password you used during the registration process. Choose one, but for security reasons we strongly recommend that you NOT write it down! We also strongly recommend you NOT forget it, because without the password your Microsoft Egg Timing System will freeze up and never work again. In the event this happens, contact Microsoft, and we will assist you in purchasing another Egg Timing System.

GETTING STARTED

After you set the date, time, year, country code, language and pick a theme for your kitchen "countertop," you'll be on your way to an egg timer that can automatically and precisely count down from three minutes to zero seconds. And it's able to do that in just about three minutes.*

To activate your Egg Timer you must first fill out the online registration form at mymicrosofteggtimer.com. Please have the following information handy as you will need it to complete the simple four-hour registration process:

- · your name · address · social security number
- · date of birth · retailer ID number
- · your default password: scramble
- product serial number, which can be easily found by carefully removing the casing of the Microsoft Egg Timing System motherboard
- . type of pot in which you intend to boil your egg
- * An \$85 upgrade that will enable you to personally customize your Microsoft Egg Timing System for 15 seconds more or 15 seconds less will be available in the second quarter of 2003.

SAVING YOUR EGG COOKING PROFILE

The default setting for cooking your softboiled egg is three minutes. Even so, after cooking your first soft-boiled egg, you must save this time measurement in your personal cooking profile by giving it a file name with the extension ".egg." (Failure to do so will cause your Microsoft Egg Timing System to freeze up and never work again.) It's that easy!

COMPATIBILITY

Please note: Not every egg is the same. Therefore, we recommend you exclusively use Microsoft Brand eggs produced by Gates Farms, where the chickens are specially raised to be compatible with your Egg Timer's operating system. If your eggs are undercooked or overdone and NOT from Gates Farms, the problem isn't with our Egg Timer. Please contact your poultry producer or conduct a professional analysis of your local water supply (which could affect boiling properties).

TECH SUPPORT

Technical support for your Microsoft Egg Timing System is available 24 hours a day at \$1.99 per minute (\$2.99 for poached egg support).

Licensing Agreement

The Microsoft Egg Timing System may only be used to time eggs by the person to whom it is registered. Unauthorized use by other members of the family or visiting guests may result in fines, jail terms and seizure of uncooked dairy products. Please read and familiarize yourself with the entire 274-page Microsoft licensing agreement packed with this product. NOTE: Using your Microsoft Egg Timing System for any other reason, such as to time moves during Scrabble games, voids all warranties, express and implied, for this product.

Microsoft



These days it's common wisdom that all politicians are crooks. But there are big differences! And if you don't believe us, just take a look as we compare the most powerful man on television, Tony Soprano, to the second most powerful man in the White House (next to Dick Cheney), George W. Bush! As we see them, here are...

THE SUBTLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TONY SOPPANO & GEORGE W. BUSH

ARTIST: SAM SISCO



Tony Soprano relies on his family to stay in power.



George W. Bush relied on his

family to GET in power.

WRITER: STAN SINBERG



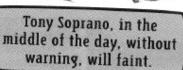


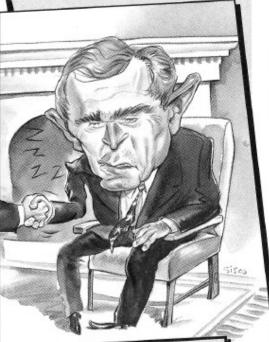












George W. Bush, in the middle of the day, without warning, will nap.

THE SUBTLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN



Tony Soprano won't tell his psychiatrist much about his sordid criminal past.



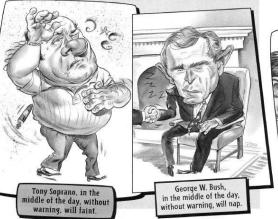






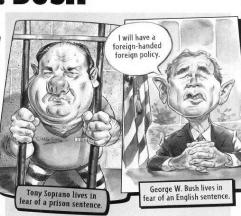












SAM!







regularly carries out gangland-style executions

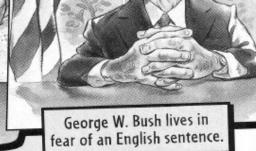
George W. Bush, in Texas, regularly carried out government-style executions.

TONY SOPPANO & GEORGE W. BUSH

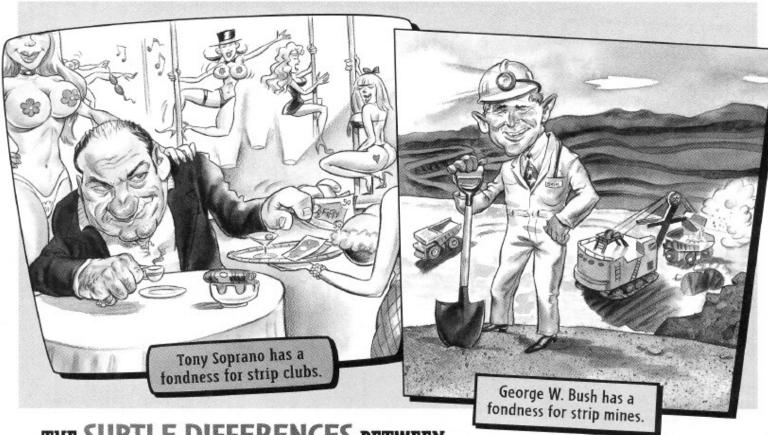






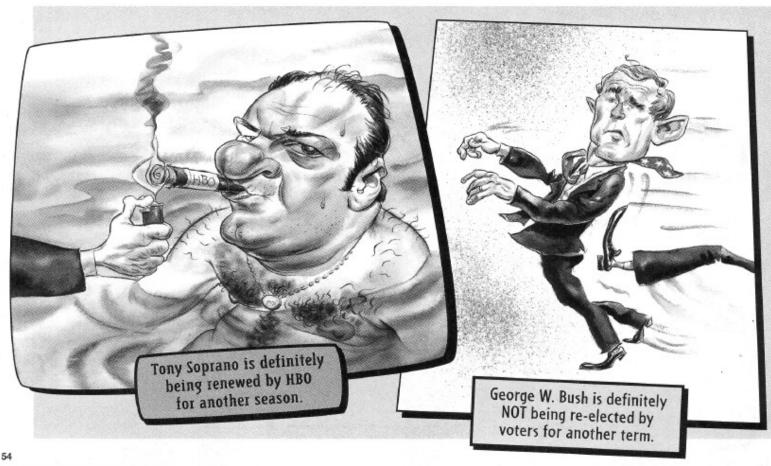


fear of a prison sentence.



THE SUBTLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TONY SOPPANO & GEORGE W. BUSH







Duke TALES OF

AS I HAD A DAY OFF I DECIDED TO GET SOME REST AND GO ON VACATION.



BUTTHE TRAVEL AGENT REALLY WASN'T MUCH HELP. I CAN SEND YOU ANYWHERE YOU WANT TO GO BUT I CAN'T GUARANTEE YOU THIS IS AWFULLY WON'T END UP DEAD,



SO I DECIDED TO DO A LITTLE INVESTIGATING OF MY OWN.



SOON I WAS ON MY WAY.



AS IT TURNED OUT, THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE WASN'T WHAT I EXPECTED.

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING . I'M GOING TO TURN THIS THING AROUND AND GO BACK BECAUSE I CAN DO ANYTHING I DAMN WELL



FRANKLY, IN THE END I WAS GLAD WHEN IT WAS OVER AND I WAS ABLE TO GET SOME REAL REST.

... INVESTIGATORS SAY THE CAUSE OF THE CRASH WAS PILOT ERROR BUT MOST OF THE SURVIVORS SAYHE DIP IT ON PURPOSE.

GEEZ, I FORGUT TO RETURN THE HEADPHONES. WONDER IF THEY'LL CHARGE





and enter for a chance to win a MAD Magazine 50th Anniversary prize pack!

*Ho Winamps were harmed in the obtaining of Winamp skins!



WINAMP 3 - with Enhanced Llama-Whipping Functionality:

· Freeform skins! (No more need for silly rectangular windows!)

 Uber-powerful media libraru! (Lets you sort and search all of your music easily!)

· Video support! (Now you can throw all of those "nature" videos you downloaded directly into your playlist!)

· Built-in crossfader option! (Allows you to meld your tracks together into a seamless mix!)

...and so much more you will just have to see to believe!



MAD Winamp 3 player ready for action!



Be the first on your block to have the greatest media player to come along since...ummmm...Winamp 2!



- · Official MAD Toilet Paper
 - An Autographed Copy of "MAD's 50 Worst Things About Music"
 - A MAD T-Shirt by Thunder Creek
 - The MAD Neumanisms Ultimate Collector's Package
 - · A music CD provided by AOL Music

50 MAD Prize Packs to be awarded!



which must be complete in order for your entry to be eligible. Sweepstakes begins at 12.01 i.m. (EST) on June 25, 2002 and ends at 11.59 p.m. (EST) on September 30, 2002, and all entries must be received by 11.59 p.m. (EST) September 30, 2002. E.C. Publications, Inc. ("Sporsor") and Pritte roviders ("Prize Providers") are not responsible for late, lest, stoke, clamaced, carbied, incomplete risaddresaut, postage due, or misdirected entries or mail, for errors, omissions, interruptions, dete-ons, defects, or delays in operations or transmission of information, in each case whether arising y way of technical or other failures or meltunctions of computer herdware, software, communica-on devices, or transmission lines or data compation, that, destruction, unauthorized access to or and devices, or transmission times or data corrugation, their, destruction, unsurfacional assess to or illustration of entry materials, loss or otherwise. Spensor and Pittle Providers disclaint any liability or derinage to any computer system resulting from participation in, or adolescing or deventualing information in connection with, this Sweepstakes, and Spouspart and Pittle Providers reserve the right, of their solve discretion, to modify, clancel, ferminate or suspend this Sweepstakes and conduct the training with all eligible entires reasonable up to that point should any visus, bug, unauthorized human-information or other causes beyond Sponsor's content among the affect the extinicitization security, amines or proper conduct of the Sweepstakes. Each on ville only with the desired or have been submitted by the record holder of the e-mail account from which the entry originated. Unit one entry we present, household or email attriess. Others are matible entires, Spotsor will only accept the force one matible and the second right was provided in the extinuity of the entry or the providers of the entry or other entry or the entry or other entry. and received. All entries become the exclusive property of the Sponsor and will not be returned

SELECTION OF WINNESS. Winness will be determined an or about October 14, 2002 from arrong all eligible entries received. Drawing will be conducted by Planner Boss. Online whose

NO FURCHASE OR ONLINE RECOSTRATION NECESSARY A PURCHASE DOES NOT IMPROVE decisions are final. Clids of winning depend upon the number of eligible entries received. Winners respective parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, judges, agents and advertising, production approach of parent or logal grander. If any price obtication letter or any price is returned as under-fivenable or carried be avended to the selected winner for any reason, the price will be avanded to an alternate vericer in a cardiom drawing. Sporous reserves the right to modify notification procedures

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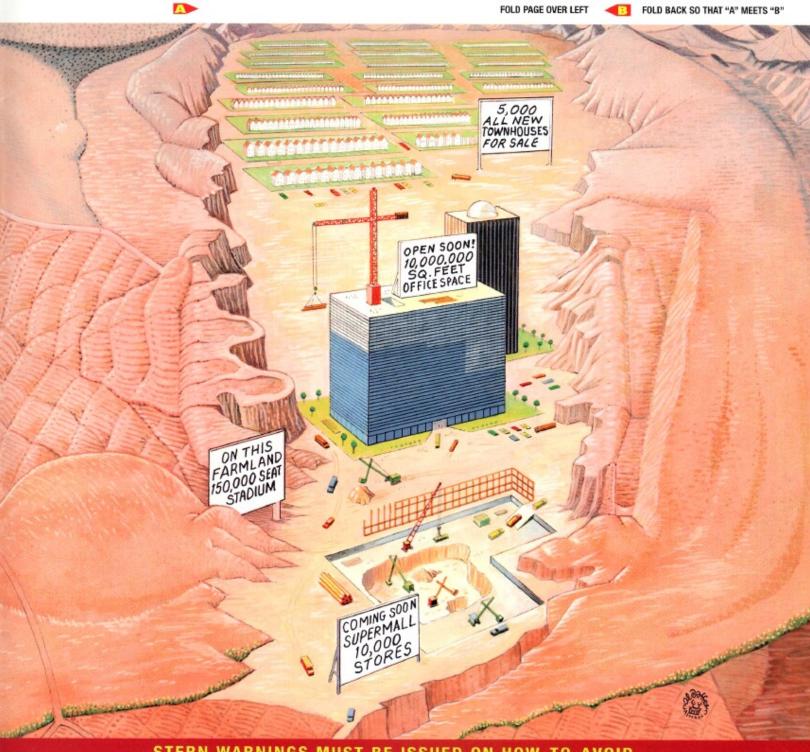


WHAT KIND OF UNCHECKED DEVELOPMENT HAS BECOME A MAJOR PROBLEM?

MAD FOLD-IN

Urban sprawl is a hot topic of debate these days. Critics say we are destroying the wilderness, while proponents say the land is there for man to use. There is one form of unchecked development, however, where all sides agree there is a crisis looming. To find out what this startling growth is, fold page in as shown.





STERN WARNINGS MUST BE ISSUED ON HOW TO AVOID ENDANGERING OUR WAY OF LIFE. SOME UNDER-HANDED PEOPLE DO THINGS THAT WE ARE CONVINCED MUST STOP. THIS AWFUL SITUATION CREATES CYCLES IN BASICALLY DESTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES AND ANY DEBATE SHOULD FOCUS ON PROTECTIONS FOR US ALL



ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE



