

BONUS! ALFRED E. NEUMAN FOR PRESIDENT POSTER!



MAD^{IND}®

THE
STRANGE
SIMILARITIES
BETWEEN

George W.
Bush
AND

Dr. Seuss

PLUS: GROWING UP GOTTI

THE BERNIE MAC SHOW

MARTHA STEWART'S SECRET
PRISON ESCAPE PLAN

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UNITED STATES

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MAD

NOVEMBER 2004

NUMBER 447

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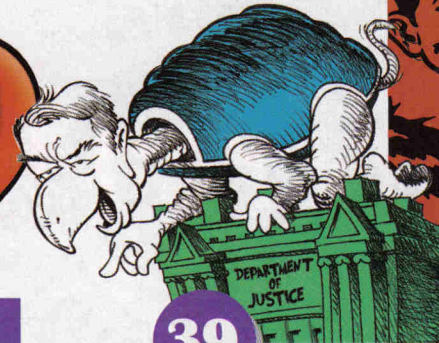
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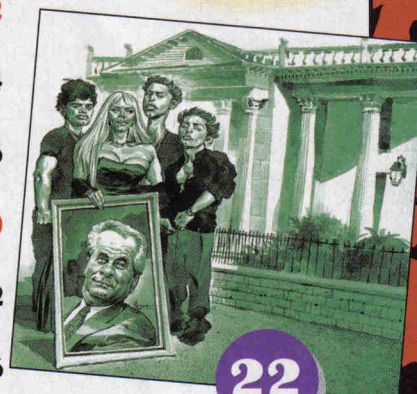


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Quitting smoking
is easy... compared
to listening to a
former smoker talk
about quitting!



ALFRED E. NEUMAN



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ALFRED E. NEUMAN FOR
PRESIDENT POSTER ARTIST:
MARK FREDRICKSON

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SHRINK CRAP

I started reading MAD at the same time I started therapy. Thanks, I learned to laugh.

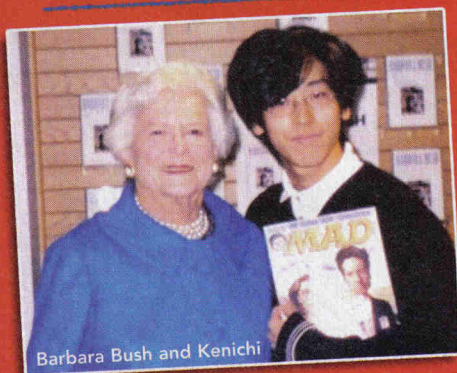
Ruth Unterberg, New York, NY

Raise the Ruth — As long as you keep reading MAD until you are *done* with therapy, we'll have a life-long reader! —Ed.

Perhaps you could take lessons on creative thinking from Congressman Dennis Kucinich, one of the few politicians who thinks and acts outside the box!

Rachel Combelic, Longmont, CO

Comb-Over — When we got your letter, our first reaction was "Dennis who?" Then we saw the picture and we realized you were talking about that creepy little guy who somehow managed to have less personality than John Kerry! While it's too late for him this time around, allow us to be the first to say "Vote Dennis Kitchensink 2008!" —Ed.



Barbara Bush and Kenichi

Here's the photo I took with former First Lady and mother of the current President, Barbara Bush. I worked for many high-ranking Republican officials and Mrs. Bush was kind enough to take the photo with me and my MAD.

Kenichi Ota, Los Angeles, CA

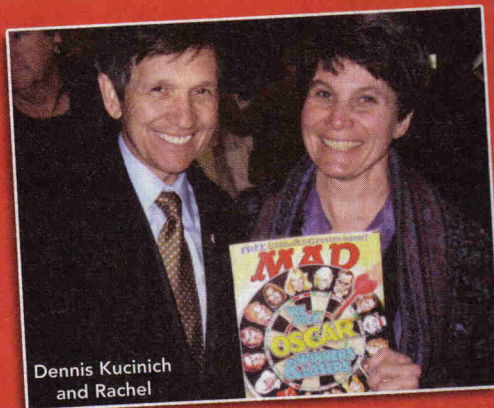
Next of Ken — Hold the phone! We just realized that if you're Kenichi and she's Barbara, that makes the two of you Ken and Barbie! However, we just don't think you two have a Malibu dream house in your future! Congratulations on your one-year MAD subscription and in the immortal words of Styx, domo arigato, Mr. Ken Ota! —Ed.

THE WEAKEST LINKIN

You know what's cool? Monroe likes Linkin Park. Yeah, that's cool — Linkin Park is one of my favorite bands. You know, you should try to mention Linkin Park in MAD more often!

Joshua Swenink, Spring Valley, CA

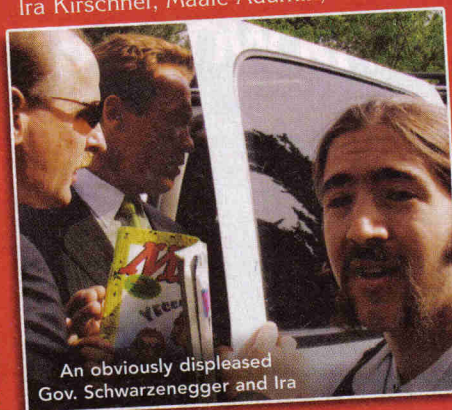
Josh Kidding — Well, it looks like you've done that for us! Now we can take the rest of the day off and go to the water park! We join you in giving a big shout out to Chad Kroeger and the boys! —Ed.



Dennis Kucinich and Rachel

Living in Israel, I don't get many chances to see celebrities, so when I heard that Arnold Schwarzenegger was coming to Israel, I planned to do whatever it took to get a Celebrity Snap with him. I had to fight my way through insane metal detectors, intrusive police dogs sniffing for bombs, macho Israeli soldiers, uptight American bodyguards (to whom I pretended I didn't speak English — it's a game we Israelis play with Americans) and worst of all — politicians! I went through all that, so when the governor saw that I had a MAD magazine that spoofed him in *Batman and Robin* he pushed it away!

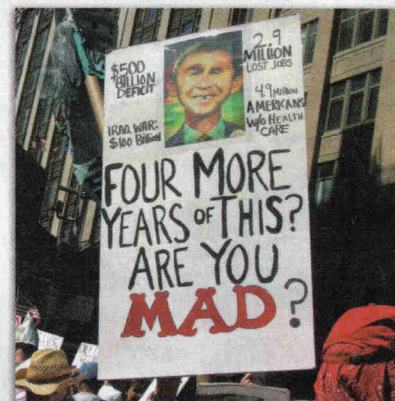
Ira Kirschner, Maale Adumin, Israel



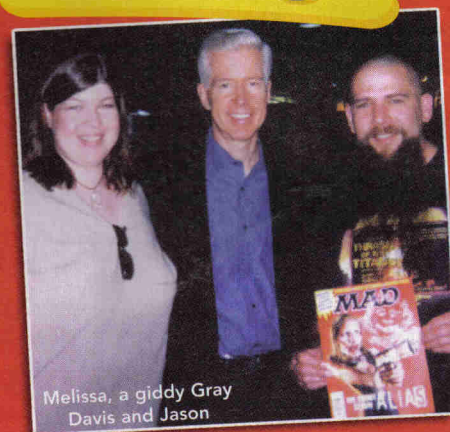
An obviously displeased Gov. Schwarzenegger and Ira

G.O. PEEVED

Torissa Tsai of New York, NY took this picture during a protest at the Republican National Convention in NYC. We protest the unauthorized use of our copyrighted logo!



MAD POLITICAL CELEBRITY SNAPS

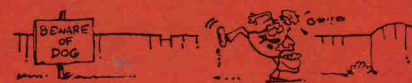


Melissa, a giddy Gray Davis and Jason

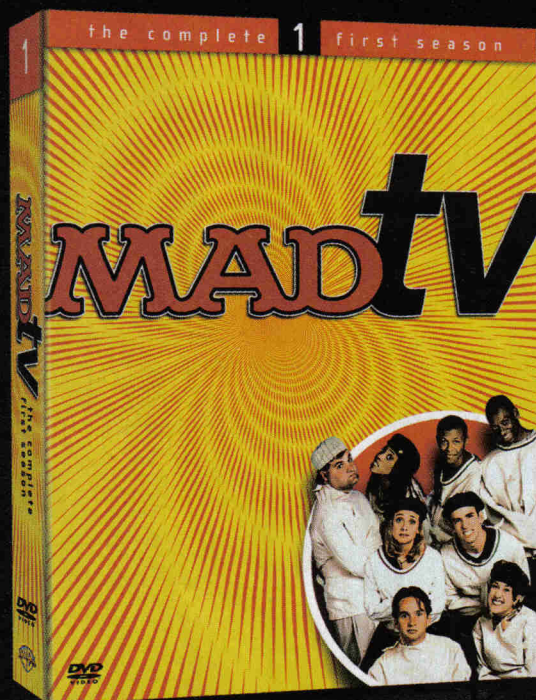
This is me and my girlfriend, Melissa, with Gray Davis at the Oakland airport. We were on our way to Hollywood, so I brought my MAD with me just in case we saw someone famous. We didn't see anyone in Hollywood, but Gray was nice enough to pose with us!

Jason Hajostek, Concord, CA

Dr. J and Captain Kirsch — From the stories you two just related, it seems that deposed California Governor Gray Davis is a friendly, down-to-earth man of the people. Current Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, on the other hand, is apparently a power-crazed, strong — armed thug. We hope you are happy with the choice you made, California! And Jason, we hope that after your skycap, Gray, helped with your luggage, you threw a couple of bucks his way! Congrats on your one-year subscription, Jason — and Ira, better luck next time! —Ed.



THE BIG PUMP OUT



the complete first season with
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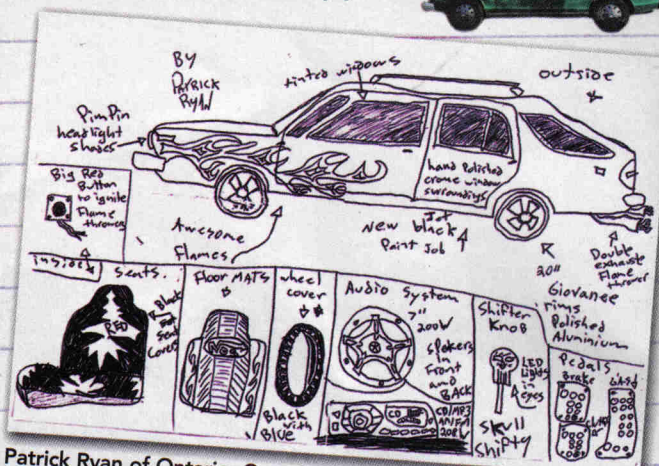
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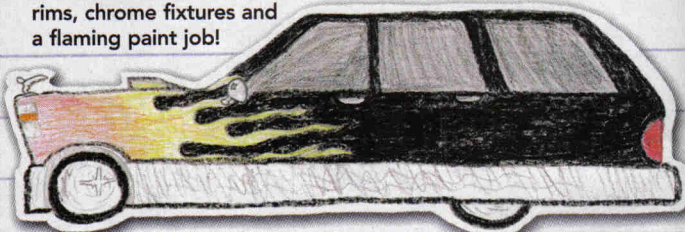


Back in MAD #444, we asked readers to "pimp out" B.J. Kuxhausen's 1976 Datsun 710 wagon — and pimp they did! So now we're forced to hold up our end of the bargain and print some of the "best" designs we received! Enjoy!

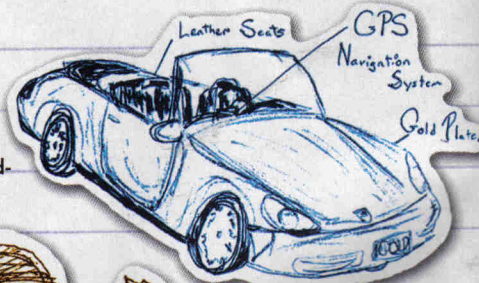


Patrick Ryan of Ontario, Canada — what he did is self-explanatory!

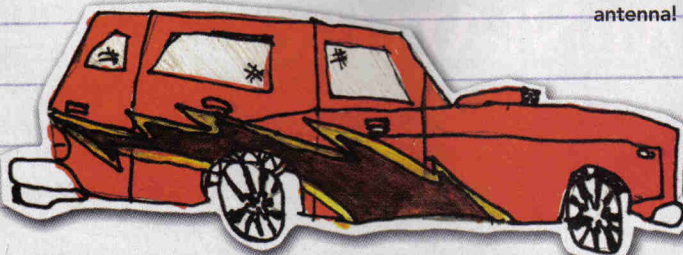
Hank Duden of Annapolis, MD added shiny, spinny rims, chrome fixtures and a flaming paint job!



Charlie Kidd of Lake Oswego, OR put in leather seats, a GPS navigation system and gold-plated rims!



Karen Lilly of Canyon Lake, CA installed a barbeque on top, and put a brand new Jack in the Box antenna on the radio antenna!



Ben Ross of Atlanta, GA gave the car a cool flame decal, Lamborghini doors, 26" Spinnerz rims, red paint, an engine vent, tinted windows and a huge exhaust pipe!



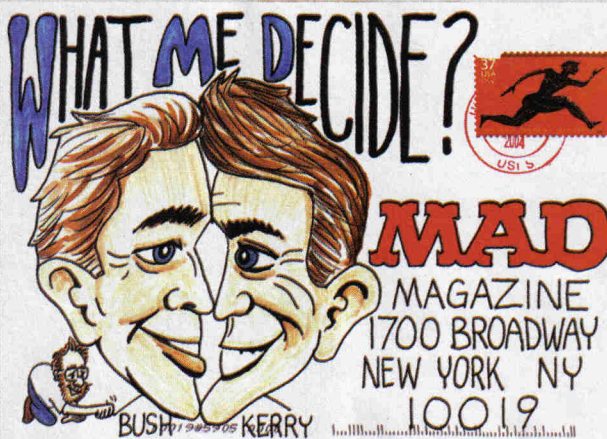


Here's my little buddy holding a piece of scrimshaw done on woolly mammoth ivory! It's about the size of a pencil eraser! Since "Micro-Scrimshaw" is my profession, I couldn't waste time doing this any larger! In fact, since I'm self-employed, I fired myself for doing this on company time!

Bob Hergert, Port Orford, OR

Hergie — Of the countless entries we get in the medium of woolly mammoth ivory, yours is by far the best we received. In fact, it was so good, we considered printing the entire magazine on woolly mammoth ivory. Much to our dismay, it would have cost upwards of \$47,000 to print a single issue (and the fold-in would be remarkably hard to do). You can check out Bob's other work at www.scrimshander.com! —Ed.
P.S. We are always looking for pictures of your MAD creations using any materials from around your house. Send in your work to: Amy "The Big Easel" c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, NY, NY 10019!

The Big Easel



ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

Tom Anderson of Ukiah, CA sends in this politically-charged Envelope of the Month. No matter who wins, we're going to have a creepy looking President! Thanks for writing and don't forget to vote (not applicable if you're under 18)!



DO THE WRITE THING

I've been reading your magazine and books since I was 13 years old and I'm 32 now! I notice that while I write to you quite often, you never send me any mail back! You never write to me or send notes to me in MAD. So I'm writing to ask you if I should give up reading MAD?

Jem Densmore, Plano, TX

Aunt Jemima — To be honest, we don't care if you stop reading MAD, just so long as you don't stop *buying* MAD! —Ed.

**NEXT MONTH IN
MAD #448 ON SALE
NOVEMBER 16!**

**15 MINUTES OF FAME:
MAD'S LATEST BATCH
OF HAS-BEENS!**

MAD MUMBLINGS AT MADMAG.COM

Leprechauns do not like cake, trust me — greaserdude...Do dogs talk to bananas, or is it just me? — superstarlet...three rights make a left, two Wrights make an airplane — MoGeo... I like ninjas, of course, I can't finish a whole one by myself — Merrick Cohen...boycott shampoo...demand the real poo — PickereiPelee...If you stick a crayon up your nose, but no one else knows, do you still have to go to the hospital? — madmag90023... if life is a roller coaster, mine needs desperate repairs — personanonomus.



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**Contributing Artists
And Writers**
the usual gang of idiots

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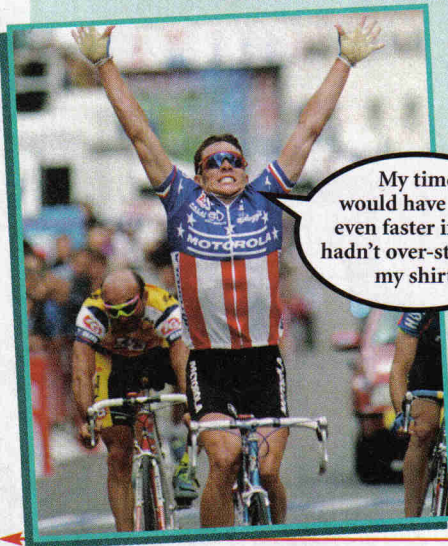
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MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope! MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

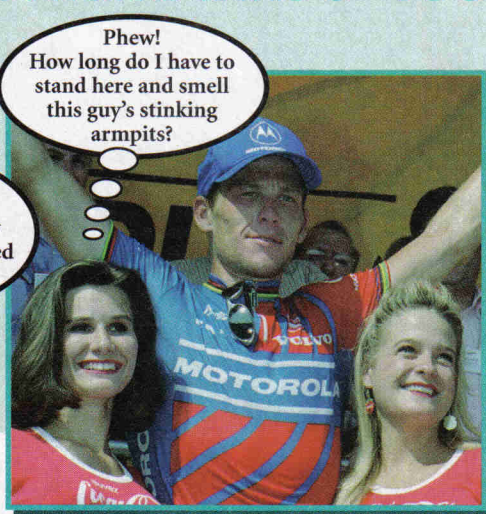
Fax MAD at 212-506-4848!

THE FUNDALINI

FUNDALINI FOTO NEWS: LANCE ARMSTRONG WINS 6TH TOUR DE FRANCE



My time would have been even faster if they hadn't over-starched my shirt!

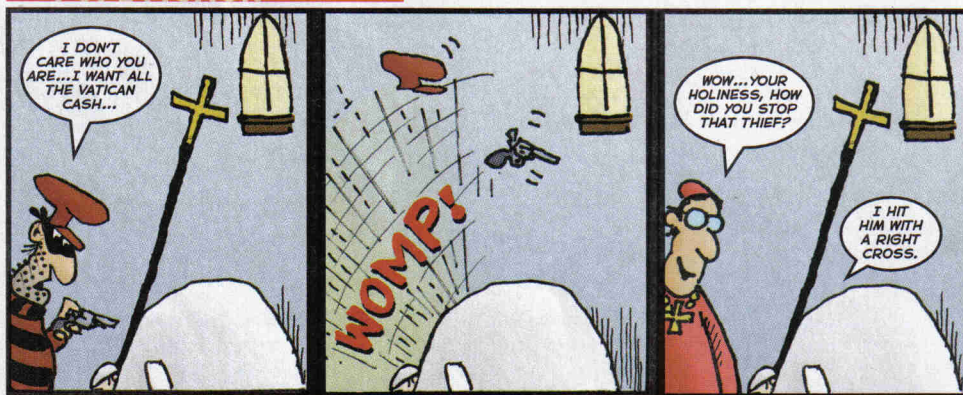


Phew! How long do I have to stand here and smell this guy's stinking armpits?



Hey, Sheryl, how about we go home now and you "Tour de Lance"?

POPE FICTION



CONVENTIONAL WISDOM SAYS... WHEN IN FACT...

Most Americans are either passionately conservative or rabidly liberal.	Most Americans haven't actually bothered to vote since the fifth episode of American Idol.
Most Americans think of Canada as a bland, uninteresting place.	Most Americans have never given Canada so much as a nano-second of thought.
Most Americans don't get enough exercise.	Most Americans will, without hesitation, chase an ice cream truck for six whole blocks for a Choco Taco.
Most Americans can't stand the idea of gay marriage.	Most Americans are equally skittish with the idea of heterosexual marriage.
Most Americans are proud to purchase items "Made in the USA."	Most Americans haven't seen anything like that in years.
Most Americans aren't very well informed because newspapers don't adequately cover world events	Most Americans don't read anything in newspapers except sports, Cathy and the Junior Jumble.

Exclusive Money Saving Offer for Fundalini Readers Only

Save \$50 on a Set of Four BF GOODYEAR Tires!

You read that right! As a reader of the Fundalini Pages, you're entitled to receive a \$50 rebate when you purchase a set of 4 BF Goodyear Auto Tires. Included in this rebate offer are tires for all Ford Pintos, Yugos and Aztec Hatchbacks. (Some less popular car models are excluded. Please see list below.)

HOW TO COLLECT YOUR \$50 REBATE:



Buy a set of four tires at any authorized BF GOODYEAR Tire Dealer. Remember that the four tires must be purchased at the same time and must be the same shape.



Carefully cut the word "BF GOODYEAR" from the outer rim of each new tire and send it along with the original receipt and a photo of you with the grease-monkey who installed your tires to:



Rebates are processed in four to six weeks. Rebate checks may only be used in conjunction with the purchase of four additional new tires not eligible for this rebate offer.

FUNDALINI REBATES
c/o MAD Magazine

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The following cars are excluded from this rebate offer: The Ford Spincter, the Buick Widowmaker, the Lincoln Assassination SUV, the Chevy Lumbago, the Ford Canker, the Lincoln Clowncar, the Volkswagen Führer, the Toyota Escargot, the Chevy Lubricant, the Jeep Abandonero, the Ford Concussion and the Nissan Usama.

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PAGES



TITLES GEORGE LUCAS CONSIDERED FOR THE NEXT STAR WARS MOVIE

- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Yoda Has A Bake Sale*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Dancin' in the Darth*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *I See Dead Prequel*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Sith Happens*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Harold and Jar-Jar Go To White Castle*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Tatooine Idol*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *How Yoda Got His Groove Back*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Crouching Jedi, Hidden Gungan*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Pimp My Millennium Falcon*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Revenge Of The Licensed Merchandise*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Dude, Where's My Death Star?*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *My Big Fat Sith Wedding*



- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *I'm Darth James, Bitch!*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Inherit the Windu*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Windus of War*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Gone With The Windu*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Sith Sense*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Droid Rage*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *I, Droid*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *A Space Odyssey*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Barbie and Kenobi*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Darth Maul of America*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Passion of the Wookiee*

- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Jedis of the Caribbean*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Force for Dummies*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Princess Amidala Diaries*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *In Search of Harrison Ford*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Mission Accomplished!*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Not Another Palpatine Movie*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Sand-People*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Men Are From Coruscant, Women Are From Alderaan*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Phantom Weapons of Mass Destruction*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Return of Mr. Billy Dee Williams*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Perfect Stormtrooper*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *Harry Potter and the Prisoners of Naboo*
- ★ Star Wars: Episode III — *The Scent of a Wookiee*

STAR WARS
EPISODE III
there's something about
JARJAR



BONUS DVD FEATURES WE'D LIKE TO SEE

MICHAEL MOORE
FAHRENHEIT 9/11

- Foreign language subtitles, but only in the languages used by the "coalition of the willing" (Bulgarian, Dutch, Ukrainian, and whatever they speak in Iceland).
- In letterbox format version, every time John Ashcroft appears on screen, he has superimposed devil horns.
- Deleted scenes of Michael Moore eating every item on the McDonald's menu, though not as part of a separate documentary.
- Costume design screen tests — see all 23 baseball caps that Moore considered wearing.
- An eyewitness account of the time Dick Cheney devoured a baby whale.
- Omitted scene of séance attempting to contact Mohammed Atta to confirm that Bush did know about everything in advance.
- A "director's cut" version of Moore's 2003 Oscar acceptance speech with the booing edited out.

R REPULSIVE
Contains Disturbing Scenes Of A Sweaty And Unkempt Michael Moore

CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

This month: **TINA FEY**

OUR TEAM OF CRACK ODDSMAKERS GIVES YOU THE LATEST VEGAS LINE ON HOW ONE OF TODAY'S BIGGEST STARS WILL MEET HER DEMISE!

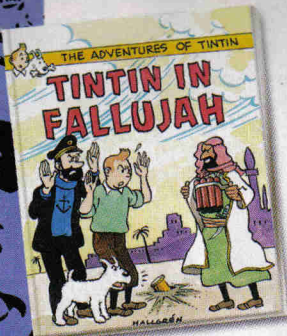
CAUSE OF DEATH

ODDS

- Pummeled by real-life "Mean Girls" angered over her depiction of them in her film2:1
- Crushed when next out-of-control fat guy hired by *Saturday Night Live* falls on her after a drug overdose7:1
- Terminal "mousy-ness"10:1
- Executed in electric chair after murdering umpteenth *SNL* guest host who mistakes her for a secretary13:1
- Coldcocked by own grandmother for swiping her eyeglasses17:1



GRAPHIC NOVEL REVIEW



It all began with a boy and his dog. But implied bestiality is only a small part of the enduring appeal of Tintin. The intrepid reporter, or explorer, or whatever the hell job he's got, has been thrilling fans with his globetrotting adventures for 75 years now. That's 525 in Snowy years...isn't it about time that

dog got put down?

Well, the world has changed. And there's no reason why a personality-free cipher like Tintin shouldn't change with it. In the first new Tintin book since 1976, the gang makes its way to wartorn Iraq, in search of stolen blueprints or some crap. The motivation is a bit hazy, as the book begins in typical Tintin mode, with all the characters falling down staircases in endlessly comic fashion. After 30 pages of this Belgian hilarity, the adventure proper begins.

Arriving at Baghdad Airport, Tintin receives his first setback when his taxi driver turns out to be a suicide bomber. Luckily, the gang escapes with just a few bumps and scrapes, not counting Snowy's massive injuries. The white pup's blindness and internal bleeding are played for big laughs later on.

Of course, it wouldn't be "Tintin" without the zany clash of cultures! When that lovable rogue Captain Haddock gets drunk in violation of Muslim law, the local authorities have no choice but to lop off his drinking hand. You can imagine the colorful language the good Captain would let loose on his punishers...if only they hadn't also seared his tongue with hot coals!

Another crazy mix-up occurs later in the story, when the bumbling Thompson twins are beheaded by their fundamentalist captors. Suffice to say

that reuniting the correct heads with the original bodies is no easy task!

But since this is fiction, the story ends cheerfully, with all the characters leaving Iraq like they said they would.

Adding it up, Tintin in Fallujah is another winner! It wrings more laughs out of the ceaseless blood-saturated nightmare than you'd expect. So even if you worship that other, ridiculous god, you're sure to love it. Let it occupy your bookshelf for the next 30 years!

120 pgs. \$16.98



BITTERMAN

FRIENDS OF FUNDALINI

Matthew A. Cohen

Dick DeBartolo

Desmond Devlin

Duck Edwing

Garth Gerhart

Gary Hallgren

Charlie Kadau

Jeff Kruse

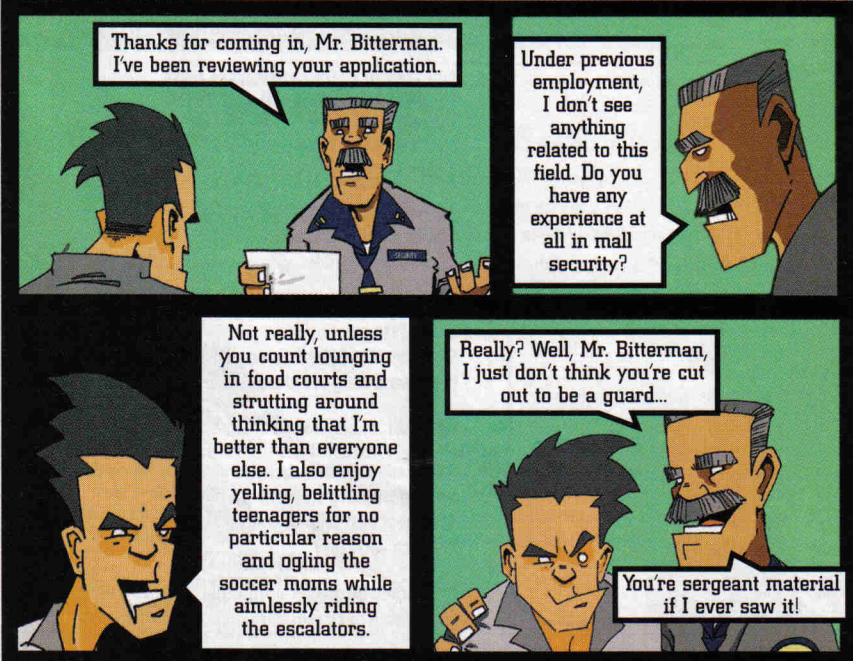
Jacob Lambert

Patrick Merrell

Mike Snider

Jack Syracuse

Dennis Wunderlin



THE PUZZLE NOOK

Which of the 5 choices best completes this phrase?

? RY WILL GET YOU NOWHERE

1. FLATTE
2. JOHN KER
3. BRAGGING YOU SERVED IN SADDAM'S MILITA
4. CRUISING FOR CHICKS IN A TOYOTA CAM
5. TRYING TO MAKE SENSE OF TERRY BRADSHAW'S COMMENTA



IS YOUR STATE'S GOVERNOR GAY?



A Short Scientific Quizlette

Is he actively campaigning to change your official state song to "It's Raining Men"?

? YES NO ?

Does his press conferences last for hours on end, due to his six costume changes and the dance numbers choreographed by Mr. Tommy Tune?

? YES NO ?

Has he stopped signing bills, opting instead to simply "seal them with a kiss"?

? YES NO ?

Does his entire state cabinet now consist of a Cowboy, a Sailor, a Cop, a Construction Worker, an Indian Chief and a Biker?

? YES NO ?

On the campaign trail, has he switched from kissing babies to trying to make out with their father?

? YES NO ?

Does he insist that all state functions be planned around his viewing schedule of *Will & Grace* reruns?

? YES NO ?



SCORING:

If you answered "Yes" to one or more of the above questions, it's a pretty good bet you live in New Jersey.



President George W. Bush once said we'll have to wait for history to judge his presidency.

HOW GEORGE W. BUSH "STACKS UP"

BETTER THAN George Washington



Instead of lame-ass "Father of our country," Bush is "Father of the two hottest, drinkin'-est party-babes ever to live in the White House!"

WORSE THAN Andrew Jackson



Jackson was a champion of the common man; Bush, of the common man in India, Taiwan, Mexico, China and any other country American jobs have been outsourced to!

BETTER THAN Millard Fillmore



Because...well, because even a potted plant would be better than Fillmore, and even Bush's harshest critics will agree he's at least the equivalent of a potted plant!

BETTER THAN Rutherford B. Hayes



If Hayes had had the foresight to get his brother elected Governor of Florida before 1876, he could've stolen the election without having to stuff the ballot boxes in Oregon, South Carolina and Louisiana, too!

WORSE THAN Theodore Roosevelt



During the Spanish-American War, Teddy led his Army troops up San Juan Hill; during Vietnam, Bush led his Alabama National Guard buddies to the nearest bar every night!

WORSE THAN Franklin D. Roosevelt



FDR demonstrated how much the physically handicapped can do; Bush does so for the mentally handicapped!

BETTER THAN Gerald Ford



If only by the sheer volume of laugh-out-loud raw material for their respective bloopers!

WORSE THAN John Adams



Adams was the first President to move into the White House...Bush is the first President to spend so much time on vacation and at fundraisers he's hardly ever in the White House!

BETTER THAN Martin Van Buren



We just never liked that balding douchebag Van Buren!

WORSE THAN Franklin Pierce



Pierce approved the *Gadsden Purchase* from Mexico in 1853; Bush is still looking for the state of *Gadsden* on a U.S. map!

WORSE THAN James Garfield



In order to prevent a repeat of Garfield's assassination by a disappointed office-seeker, Bush went ahead and hired every single unqualified nutcase who wanted to work in his administration!

WORSE THAN William Taft



Even though Taft's massive waistline provided plenty of "fat-joke" fodder, gag-writers and standup comedians of the 1910s would've given their right arm for a "walking punchline" of a President like Bush!

WORSE THAN Harry Truman



Truman had a sign on his desk reading, "The buck stops here." Bush's sign reads, "Ask Rumsfeld or Cheney!"

WORSE THAN Jimmy Carter



Carter had a coarse, dim-witted brother, Billy; compared to Jeb and Neil, George W. is the coarse, dim-witted brother!

BETTER THAN Thomas Jefferson



Unlike Jefferson, Bush was never accused of fathering an illegitimate child by one of his female slaves (at least he wasn't the last time we checked the daily anti-Bush press release from MoveOn.org!)

BETTER THAN William Henry Harrison



Unlike that inconsiderate boob of the 1840s, Bush had the decency to stay alive for more than 30 days into his term!

BETTER THAN James Buchanan



Only because Buchanan shares the same last name as that right wing nutjob Pat Buchanan, and *anybody's* better than him!

WORSE THAN Chester Arthur



Arthur — muttonchops; Bush — muttonhead!

BETTER THAN Woodrow Wilson



In terms of sophomoric, dirty double-entendre-sounding names, "Bush" trumps "Woodrow" every time!

BETTER THAN Dwight Eisenhower



Did you see that amazing tee shot of Bush's in the movie *Fahrenheit 9/11*? And Eisenhower had the nerve to call himself "The Golfing President"!

WORSE THAN Ronald Reagan



Whoever operated Reagan's mouth and strings did a WAY better job than the one working Bush's!

But why wait? *MAD* now proudly presents its totally fair and balanced look at...

AGAINST THE OTHER 42 U.S. PRESIDENTS



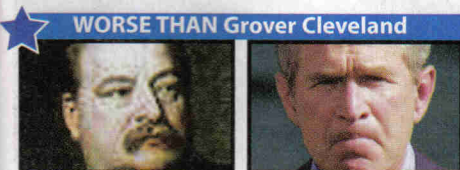
It never even *occurred* to Madison to brag about winning the War of 1812 by putting on an admiral's uniform, sailing to the largest Navy ship and then strut around in front of a huge "Mission Accomplished!" sign!



Tyler fathered 15 children — *none* of whom could hold a candle to Jenna and Barbara Bush when it came to making fake I.D.s!



While Lincoln held together the Union with everything in his power...Bush is dividing it just by being himself!



Cleveland was the only President to serve two non-consecutive terms (#22 and #24); Bush still has to look up "non-consecutive;" then schedule some time to practice pronouncing it!



Harding surrounded himself with crooked lackies who cut deals with shady characters from self-serving business interests; Bush cut out all the duplication and rolled all of those into a single position...the Vice Presidency!



Even with *conclusive* spy-satellite photos showing Soviet nuclear weapons being moved into Cuba, Kennedy was able to resist plunging America into war!



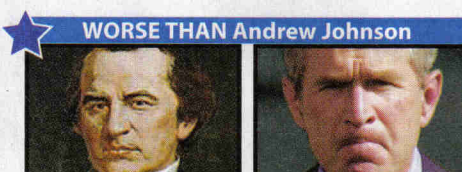
George W. has NEVER vomited on another world leader like his Dad did — in spite of such irresistible "puke inducers" as Tony Blair's bad British teeth and the deadly "jalapeño breath" of Mexican President Vicente Fox!



Monroe ushered in the so-called "Era of Good Feeling" between the opposing political parties. Bush also ushered in an era of good feeling, but only among his millionaire fat-cat buddies with his massive tax cuts for the rich!



At least Bush has the decency to stage *his* unnecessary and unprovoked wars thousands of miles away, instead of right on our own borders with Mexico!



Andrew Johnson may have been impeached and escaped conviction by only one senate vote, but Bush "won" the Presidency by only one Supreme Court vote!



Harrison was the first to spend over \$1 billion on the federal budget; Bush spent that much on just one "no-bid" contract for a company run by his cronies!



Coolidge had to "clean up" the Oval Office after Harding; Bush just had to clean up the Oval Office *carpet* after Clinton!



Unlike LBJ, Bush was never implicated in JFK assassination conspiracy theories — not even by Oliver Stone or Michael Moore!



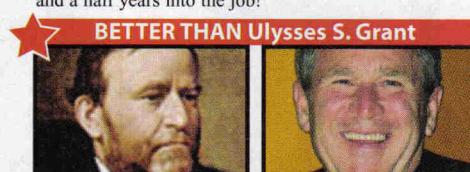
If Bush were as incredibly convincing as Clinton when telling a lie, the U.N. and all our European allies would have invaded Iraq along with us, and it'd be mostly *THEIR* quagmire now!



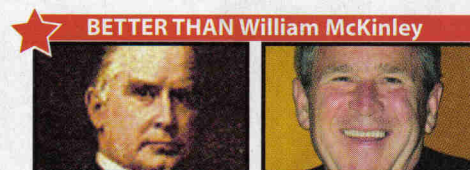
Adams went swimming, naked, in the Potomac River *every day*; Bush hasn't done that once since he quit drinking!



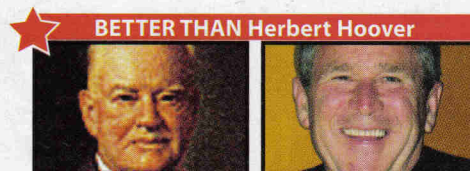
Former military-man Taylor knew virtually nothing about the political process before being elected President, but learned quickly, while Bush is *still* pretty clueless three and a half years into the job!



Grant was crooked, inept and alcoholic; Bush is a *recovering* alcoholic!



McKinley never would've gotten assassinated by that anarchist in 1901 if he had just thrown him and all his ilk into heavily-fenced-in "Free Speech Zones," like Bush!



If Hoover had had Bush's talent for spin-doctoring, he would've called The Great Depression "The Great On-the-Verge-of-an-Improving-Economy"!



Both presided over hugely unpopular wars...both had administrations full of crooks. The tie-breaker? Nixon got his picture taken with ELVIS!!!



Even though Gore won the election, Bush somehow wound up in the Oval Office — and it takes a real genius to do that!



FOR YOUR DISGUISE ONLY DEPT.

Halloween is fast approaching, and you know what that means (Besides carving a pumpkin using the all-new Spy Vs. Spy Jack-O-Lantern stencil FREE in MAD XL #30, on sale NOW!): choosing a costume. Frankenstein and Dracula are old school! Alien? Predator? Fugheddaboutit! And do you really want to go as Skeletor for the *third* year in a row? No, you want to pick one of the fresh, new, candy-collectingest styles from our Fall collection of...

THIS YEAR'S HOTTEST HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

ONE OF BILLY "I'M IN A DRUNKEN STATE OF MIND" JOEL'S MANY CRASHED CARS



A CAN OF MICHAEL JACKSON'S BOY-SEDUCING, WINE-PACKED "JESUS JUICE"



MEATLOAF EATIN', COP-BAITIN' STREET TOUGH MIKE WALLACE



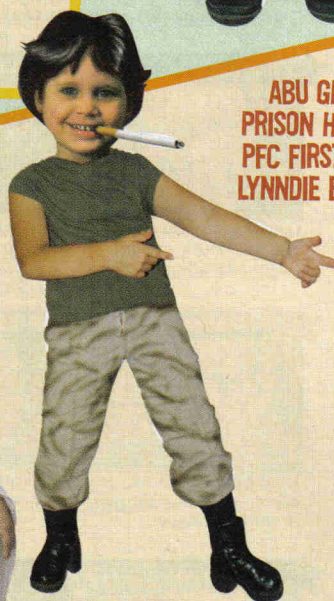
JANET JACKSON'S SUPER-EXPOSED SUPER BOWL SUPER BOOB



ENGORGED OLYMPIC ATHLETE'S STEROID-LADEN URINE SAMPLE



ABU GHRAIB PRISON HOSTESS, PFC FIRST CLASS LYNDIE ENGLAND



THE COCAINE-ADDLED GHOST OF RICK JAMES



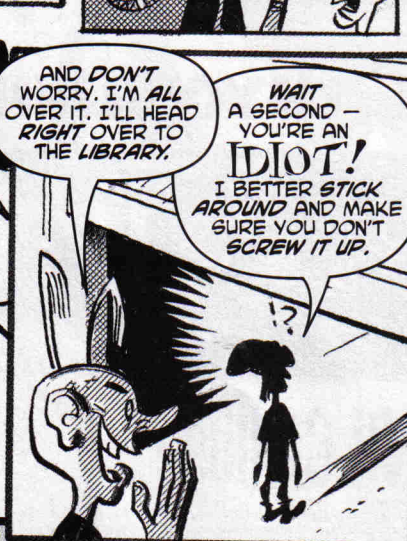
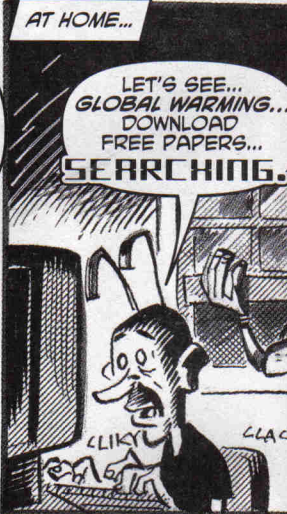
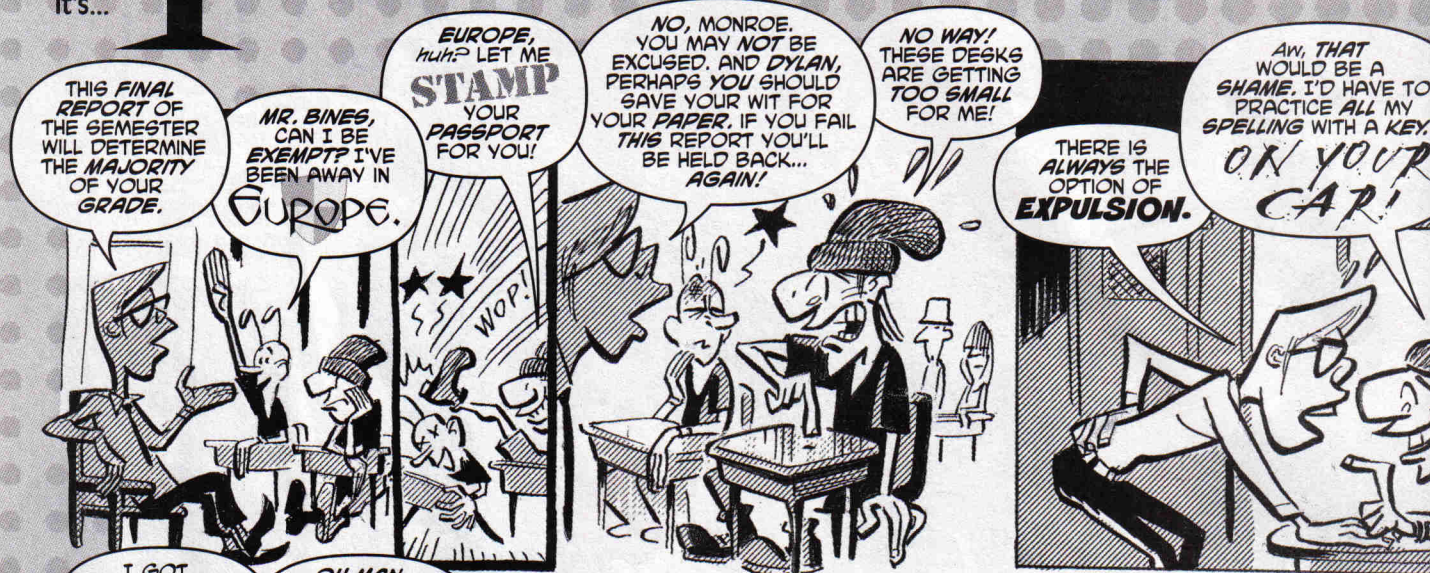
50 POUNDS OF FAT LOST BY TRIMSPA HEIFER ANNA NICOLE SMITH





Out of the frying pan and into the ire, it's...

MONROE and.



GLOBAL WARMING

DYLAN,
PLEASE, YOU THINK
THAT INTIMIDATES ME?
I'M A **TEACHER**.
I DRIVE A
1979 pacer.

DAMN!

BUT SINCE
I DON'T WANT
YOU AROUND ANY
MORE THAN YOU WANT
TO BE HERE, HOW ABOUT
I TEAM YOU UP WITH
MONROE OUTSIDE
OF CLASS?

SWEET.

WAKE UP,
MONROE.
PLEASE,
GOD, LET ME
WAKE UP
NOW.

ALL RIGHT.
THE THEME OF
YOUR ASSIGNMENT IS
"**PROBLEMS WITH
THE WORLD.**"

I CAN
WRITE **THIS**
ONE IN MY
SLEEP.

EVERYONE
REACH INTO THIS
BAG AND PULL
OUT YOUR
SUBJECT.

DYLAN!
OMIGOD!
WHY ARE
YOU
HERE?

I'M HERE
FOR OUR
STUDY
SESSION!

LOOK AT
THIS PLACE. WHO
DECORATED?
BED, BATH AND
**BEYOND
QUEER?**

YEAH, *uh*,
GOOD ONE!
HA HA! HERE,
TAKE A LOOK, I'M
DOWNLOADING
OUR PAPER. **SEEP**
ALL DONE.

FORGET THAT!
BINES FINDS OUT
WE STOLE IT OFF THE
INTERNET AND THAT
TOOL
WILL FAIL ME.

WOW, THAT'S
PRETTY COOL
I GUESS, DYLAN.
YOU'RE TAKING
RESPONSIBILITY
AND ALL.

RIGHT.
THAT'S WHY
YOU'RE GONNA
WRITE IT AND **I'LL**
BE RESPONSIBLE
FOR PUTTING MY
NAME ON IT.
LATER.

OH...
OKAY. **EVEN
BETTER.** NO
PROBLEM!
SEE YA!

HAHA
HAHAHA.
AGAIN.

DEWEY
DECIMAL
SYSTEM.

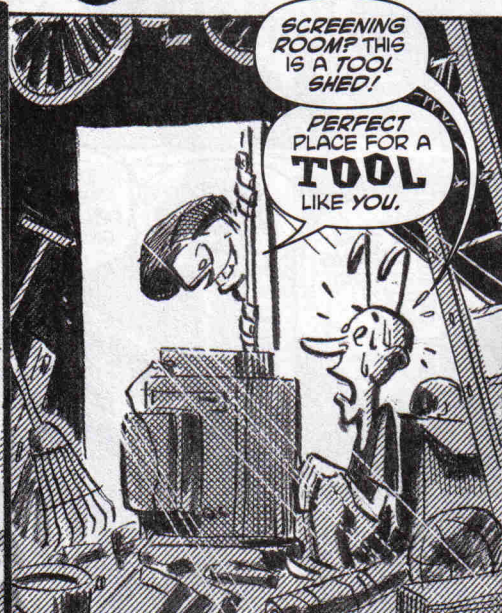
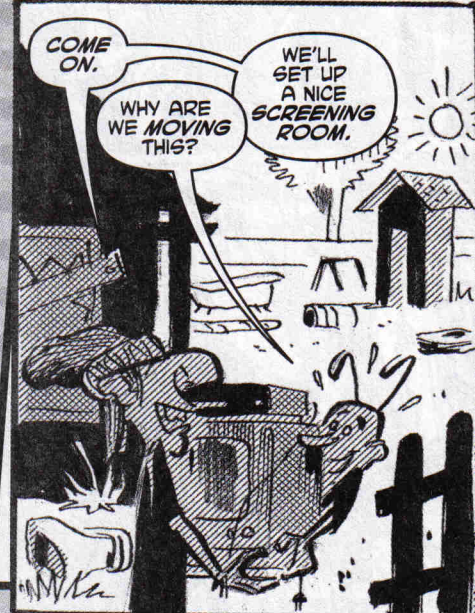
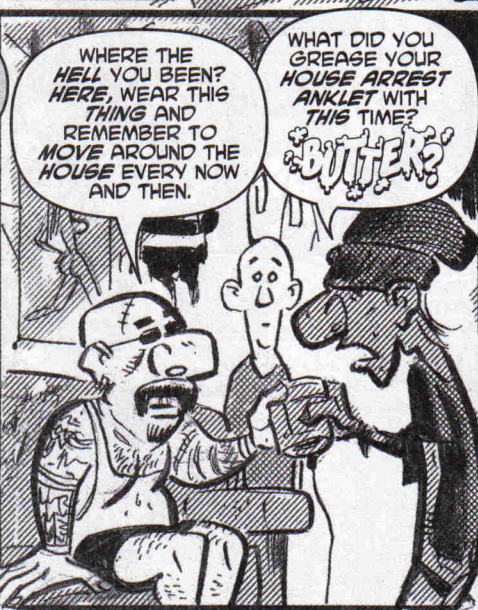
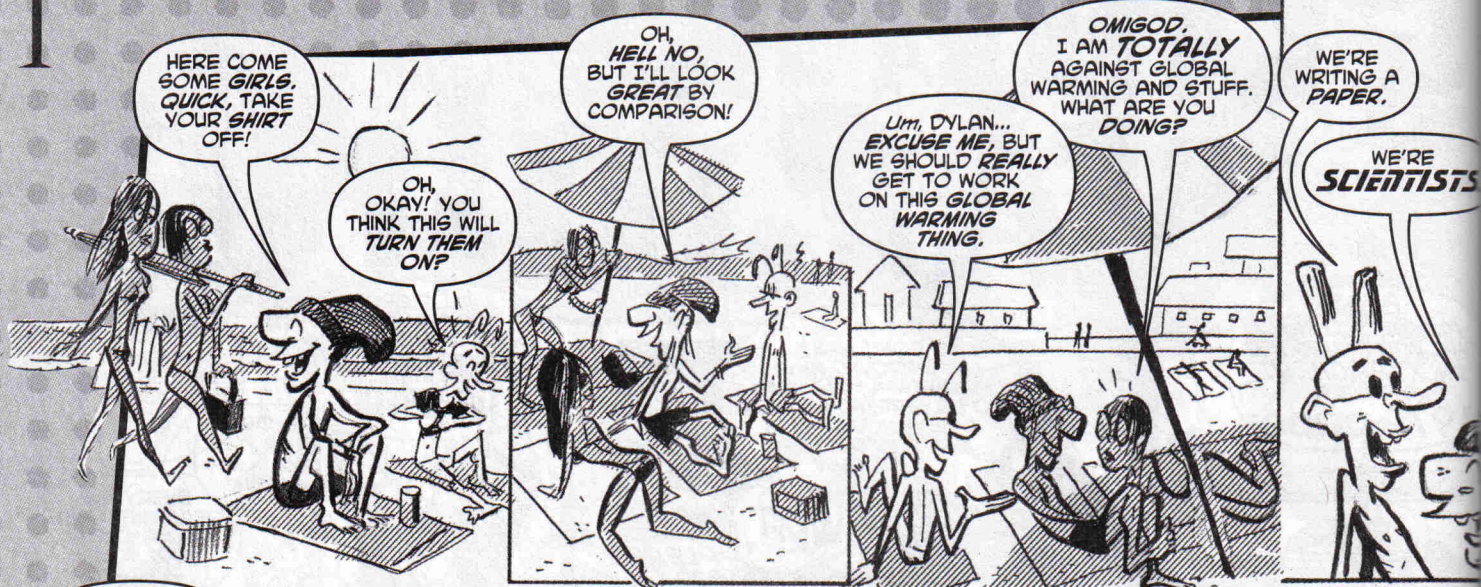
DOOO-Y!
I LOVE IT!
AGAIN.

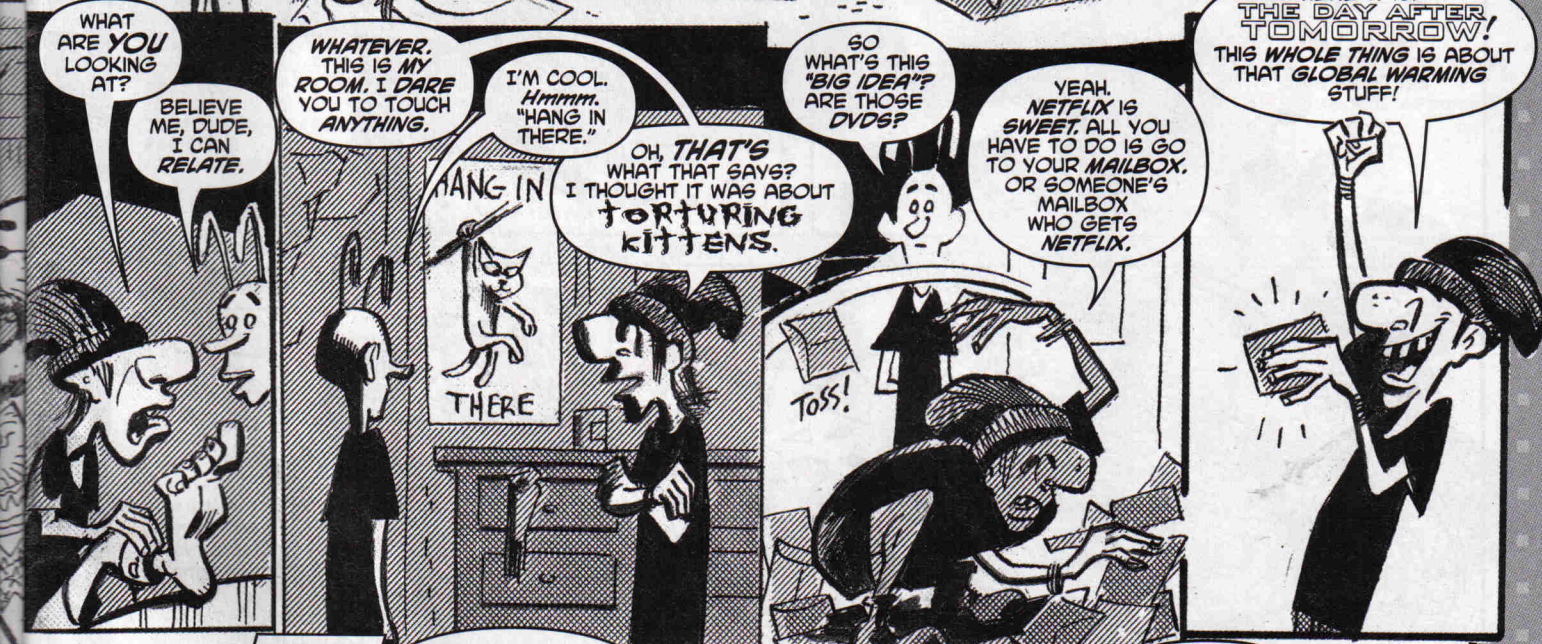
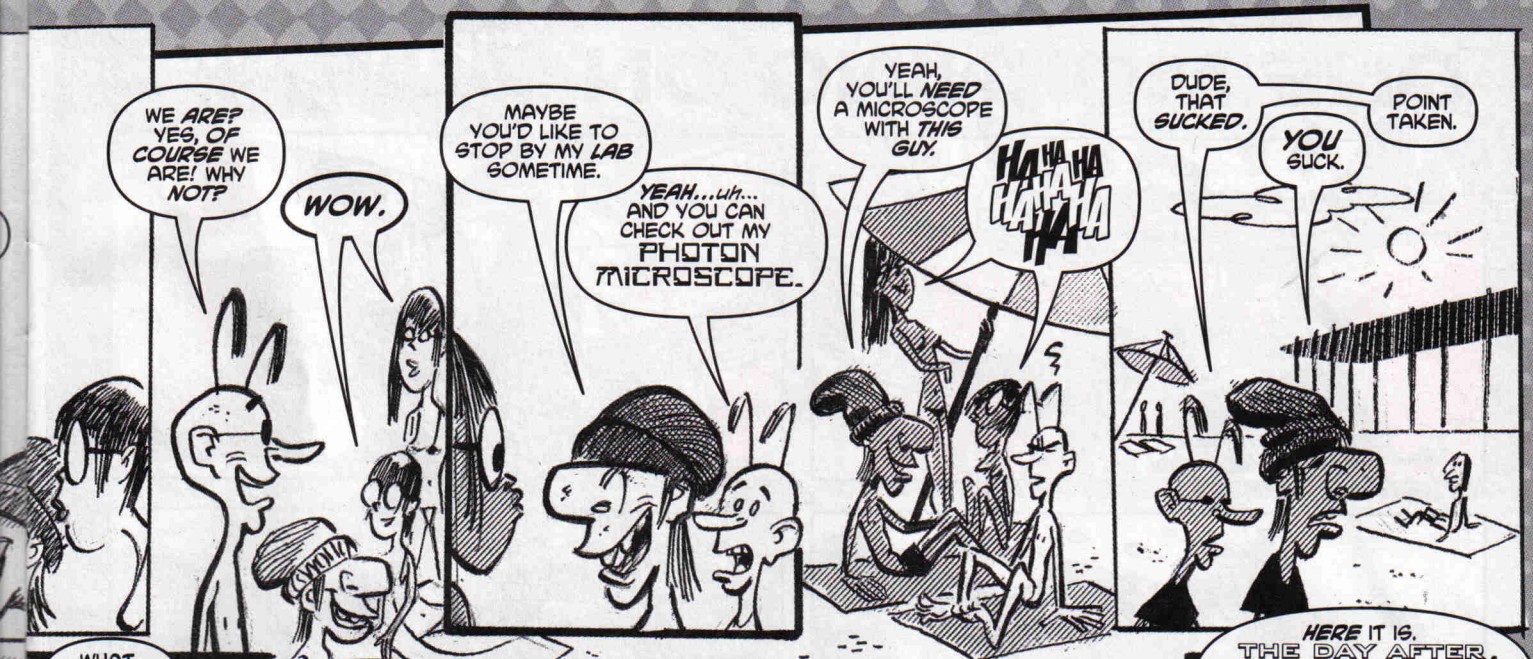
DYLAN,
I DON'T THINK
THIS IS HELPING
US GET OUR
REPORT
DONE.

YOU'RE
RIGHT. LET'S
BLOW THIS
PLACE.

BUT WE NEED
TO LOOK AT THESE
BOOKS! THEY TALK
ABOUT **MELTING ICE CAPS**
AND THE OCEAN GETTING
WARMER.

THE OCEAN?
**BEACH...
CHICKS...
AWESOME
IDEA!!**

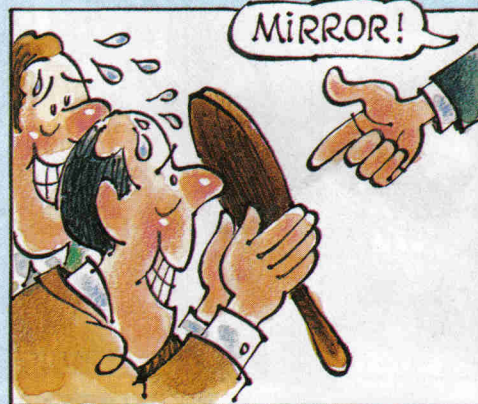
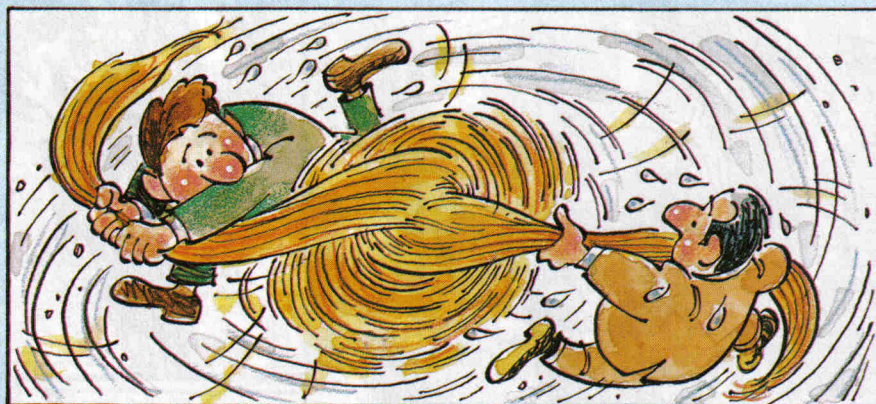






ONE MORNING ON

FIFTH AVENUE





UNSAFE AT ANY SPEED!

SPY vs. SPY™



TROY COUGHLIN
JEG'S/SPY VS. SPY
2004 CHEVROLET CAVALIER
PRO STOCK

1:24-Scale. Pro Stock. 816 produced.



JEG COUGHLIN JR.
JEG'S/SPY VS. SPY
2004 CHEVROLET CAVALIER
PRO STOCK

1:24-Scale. Pro Stock. 888 produced.



DANNY LASOSKI
J.D. BYRIDER/MAD RACING
2004 SPRINT CAR
1:24-scale. HOTO. 1,908 produced.

THE RACING WORLD IS GOING MAD!

This October during the NHRA race weekend at The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Jeg and Troy Coughlin are adding a little sibling rivalry to the drag strip when they present dueling Spy vs. Spy Chevrolet pro stock drag cars courtesy of MAD Racing.

With two NHRA pro stock championships in 2000 and 2002, Jeg has a slight edge on his older brother Troy. However, with a little help from Spy vs. Spy, the Coughlin brothers are looking to smoke the field in Las Vegas.

The Jeg's Mail Order/Spy vs. Spy Chevrolet Cavalier pro stock cars are part of the MAD Racing program that extends to the NHRA, NASCAR® and World of Outlaws circuits.

MAD Racing also will share top billing with four of NASCAR's best-known drivers: Michael Waltrip, Kenny Wallace, Jeremy Mayfield and rookie sensation

Kasey Kahne. This October during the NASCAR race weekend at Atlanta Motor Speedway, Waltrip and Wallace will handle driving duties behind the wheel of the No. 99 and No. 00 Aaron's Dream Machines, respectively. Both Aaron's cars will showcase MAD icon Alfred E. Neuman.

Meanwhile, Mayfield and Kahne will field dueling Spy vs. Spy Dodge machines at Atlanta during the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup race on Oct. 31, 2004.

All NASCAR and NHRA race cars also will share a specially designed MAD Racing "Unsafe at Any Speed!" logo featuring the two "Spy" characters from Spy vs. Spy and designed by Action Performance.

For more information about the complete lineup of MAD Racing drivers and die-cast collectible availability, contact your Action Racing Collectables distributor.

KASEY KAHNE™
DODGE DEALERS/UAW-
MAD RACING
2004 DODGE

1:24-scale. HOTO. 8,664 produced.
1:24-scale. Bank. 516 produced.

JEREMY MAYFIELD™
DODGE DEALERS/UAW-
MAD RACING
2004 DODGE

1:24-scale. HOTO. 1,836 produced.

KENNY WALLACE
AARON'S DREAM MACHINE/
MAD RACING
2004 CHEVROLET
MONTE CARLO

1:24-scale. HOTO. 1,860 produced.
1:24-scale. Bank. 216 produced.

MICHAEL WALTRIP
AARON'S DREAM MACHINE/
MAD RACING
2004 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO

1:24-scale. HOTO. 2,364 produced.
1:24-scale. Bank. 240 produced.



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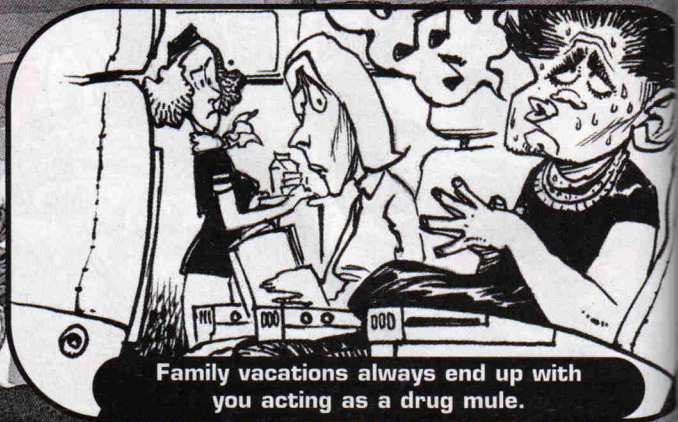
No matter who you are, growing up isn't easy — but when your grandfather is the late John Gotti, there's a bunch of other problems (many of them bordering on the illegal) that make life even more difficult. And while that *should* make for interesting television, the family's new show makes it seem like their biggest problems are over hair gel. So, in a brave attempt to reveal the truth, MAD dug deeper to expose...

JOHN, FRAN
AND CARMINE

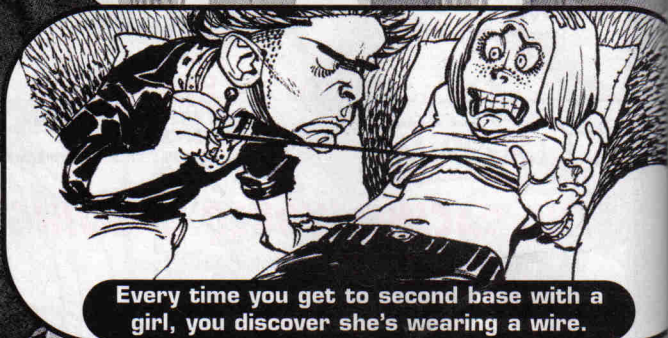
BIGGEST COMPLAINTS



ARTIST:
HERMANN MEJIA



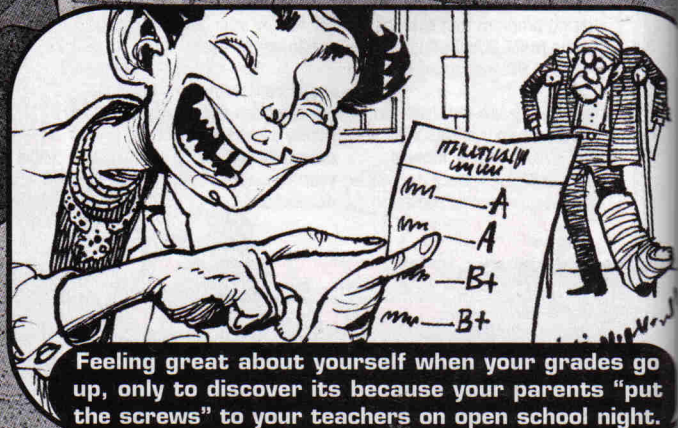
Family vacations always end up with you acting as a drug mule.



Every time you get to second base with a girl, you discover she's wearing a wire.

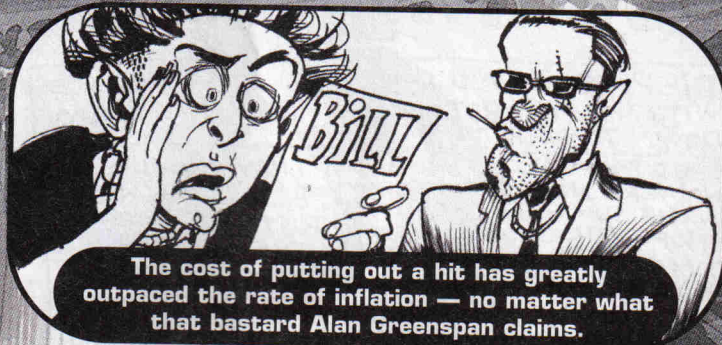


It never fails — you just got your new car detailed and BAM! it gets blown up.



Feeling great about yourself when your grades go up, only to discover its because your parents "put the screws" to your teachers on open school night.

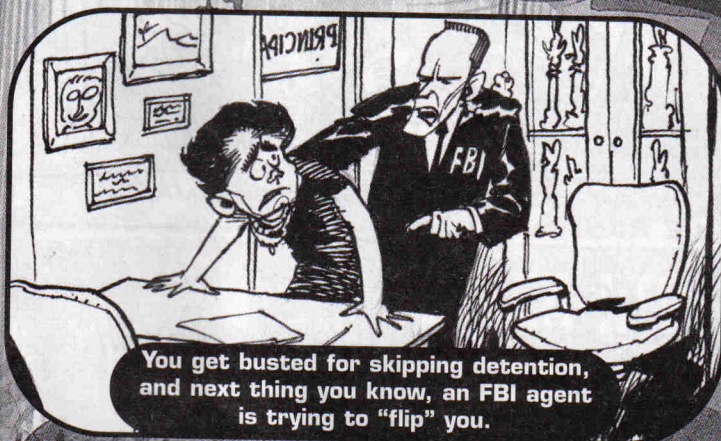
ABOUT GROWING UP GOTTI



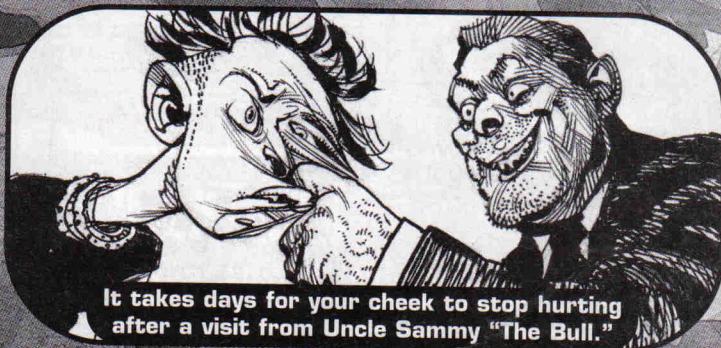
The cost of putting out a hit has greatly outpaced the rate of inflation — no matter what that bastard Alan Greenspan claims.



It's tough to have phone sex with your girlfriend when the Feds are always listening in.



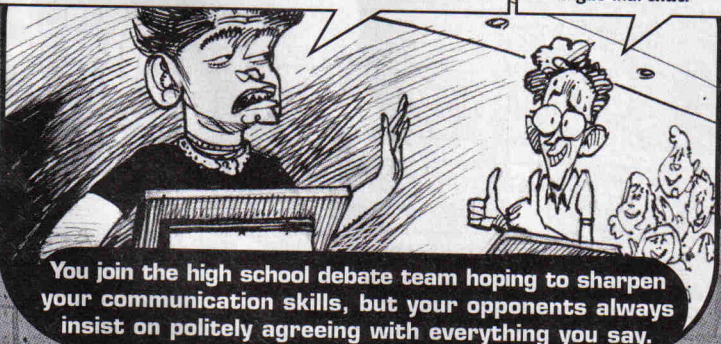
You get busted for skipping detention, and next thing you know, an FBI agent is trying to "flip" you.



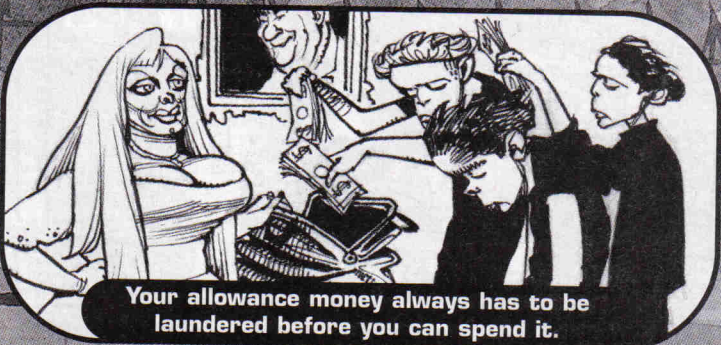
It takes days for your cheek to stop hurting after a visit from Uncle Sammy "The Bull."

Whassamattawitchu? Don't you realize if this country eliminates the death penalty, you're gonna have stool pigeons rattin' out capos without the fear of gettin' whacked for it?

You're absolutely right. There's no way I can argue with that!



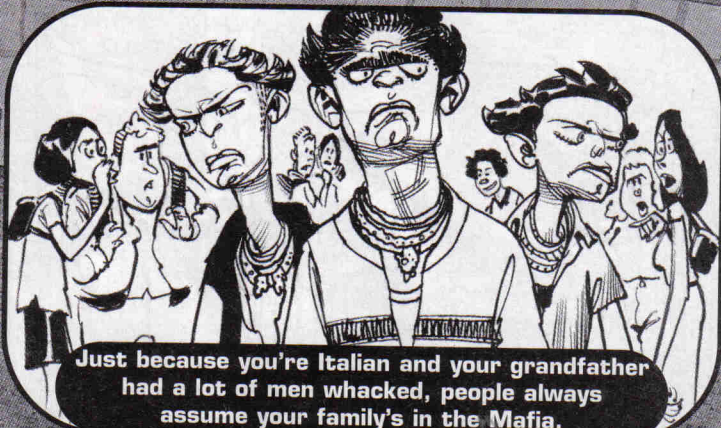
You join the high school debate team hoping to sharpen your communication skills, but your opponents always insist on politely agreeing with everything you say.



Your allowance money always has to be laundered before you can spend it.



Wearing ten pounds of gold chains sometimes gives you a stupid-looking tan line around your neck.



Just because you're Italian and your grandfather had a lot of men whacked, people always assume your family's in the Mafia.



Duke Bissett's TALES OF UNDISPUTED INTEREST

ONE DAY I NOTICED THAT MY TROPICAL FISH WEREN'T LOOKING TOO WELL.

HELLO, PET PSYCHIC HOT LINE,...?



THE PSYCHIC SAID SHE COULD COMMUNICATE WITH THE FISH, BUT ONLY IF I BROUGHT THEM DOWN TO HER OFFICE.

I PUT THEM IN THIS BAG AND INADVERTENTLY LEFT THEM IN THE SUN FOR A WEEK. I HOPE THAT'S OK.

THEY SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT, JUST DON'T LET THEM NEAR BREADING AND SEAFOOD SEASONING.



ON THE WAY HOME I HAPPENED TO PASS A PET STORE THAT WAS OFFERING FREE VETERINARIAN CONSULTATIONS THAT DAY.

PET STORE

THE DOC IS IN
DON'T BE DUPED BY THOSE PET PSYCHICS

I WONDER IF THAT PSYCHIC WILL KNOW IF I GET A SECOND OPINION?



BUT WHEN I GOT INSIDE, THE LINE WAS A MILE LONG.

HOW LONG IS THE WAIT?

DON'T GET TOO CLOSE TO ME. MY DOG HAS AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT.

MY CAT'S A HYPO-CHONDRIAC.

TELL ME ABOUT IT. MY BIRD THINKS HE'S DEAD!



BY THE TIME IT WAS MY TURN TO SEE THE VETERINARIAN, THE STORE HAD CLOSED FOR THE DAY. SORRY YOU HAD TO WAIT SO LONG FOR NOTHING. MAYBE NEXT TIME YOU'LL JUST STAY HOME.

HEY FRANK, WHAT DO I DO WITH ALL THESE DEAD ANIMALS?

MAYBE I SHOULD TRY A FISH CHIROPRACTOR.



AS IT TURNED OUT, THE PSYCHIC WAS RIGHT AND THE FISH MADE A FULL RECOVERY.

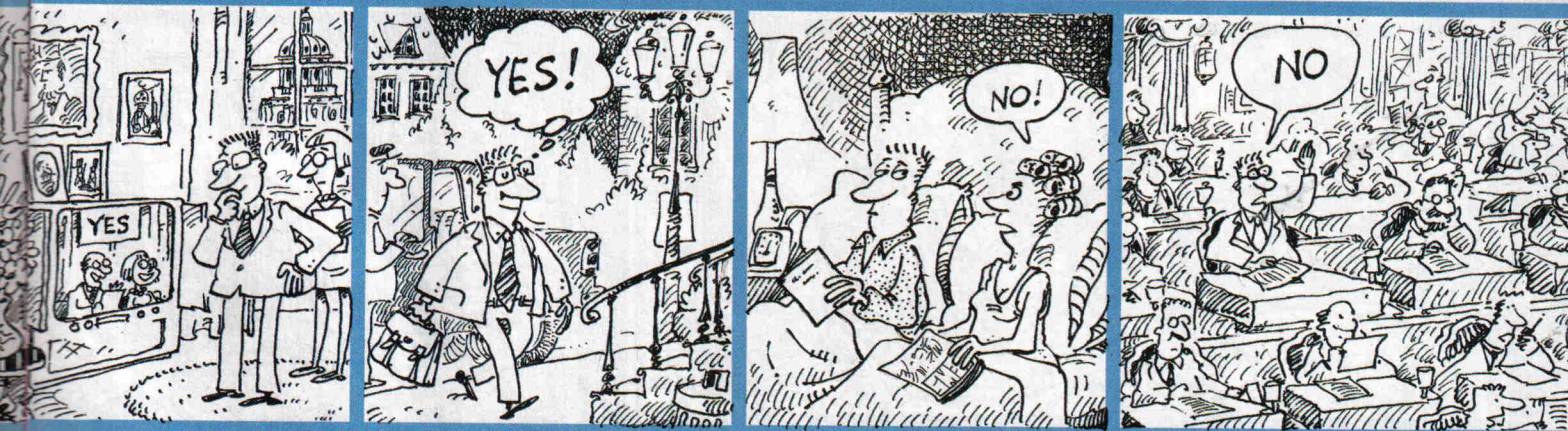
THEY LOOK HAPPIER THAN EVER. I SHOULD PUT THEM IN A BAG AND INADVERTENTLY HANG THEM IN THE SUN FOR A WEEK MORE OFTEN.

SO NOW WE KNOW IF WE EVER WANT TO GO ON VACATION WE JUST TRICK HIM INTO BELIEVING WE'RE DEAD.

I DON'T FEEL TOO GOOD.

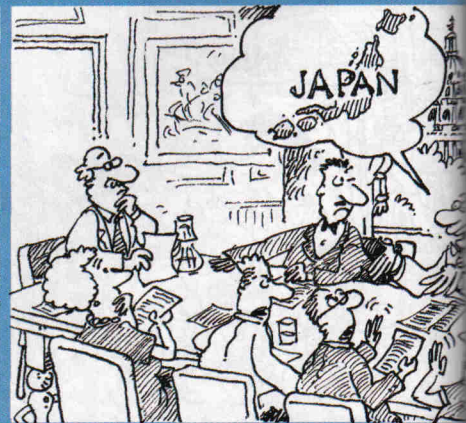
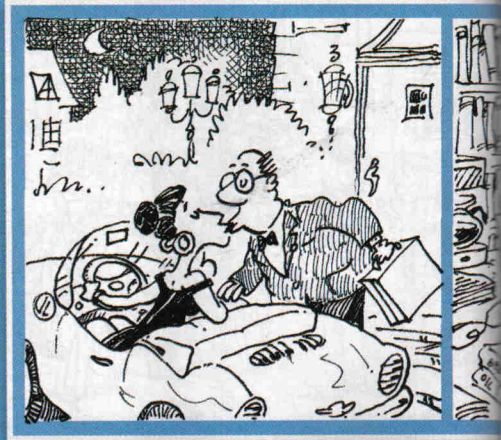
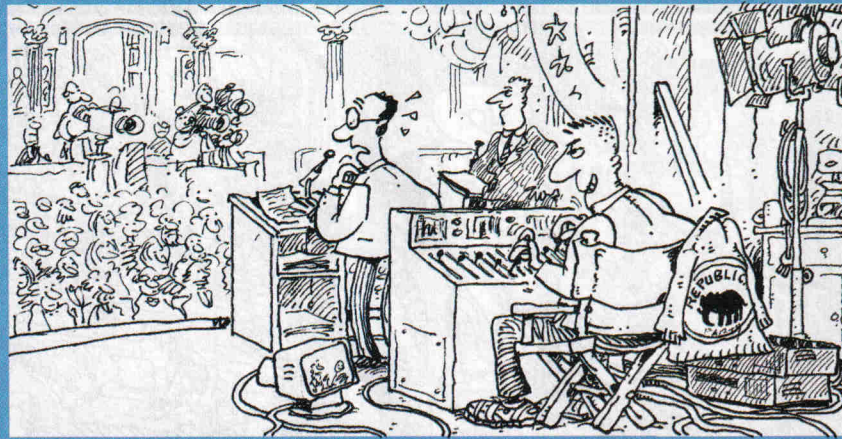
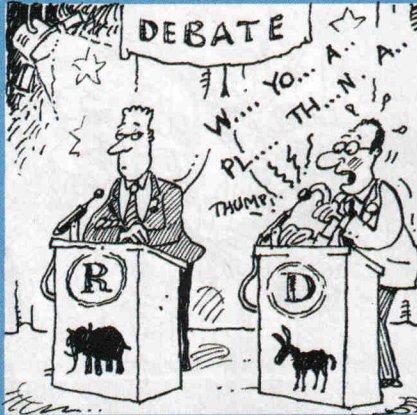
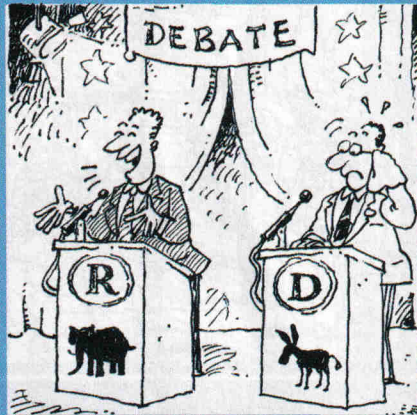
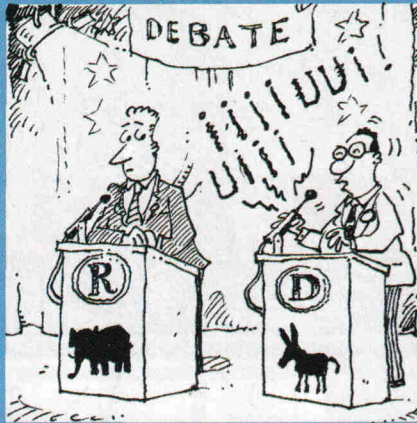


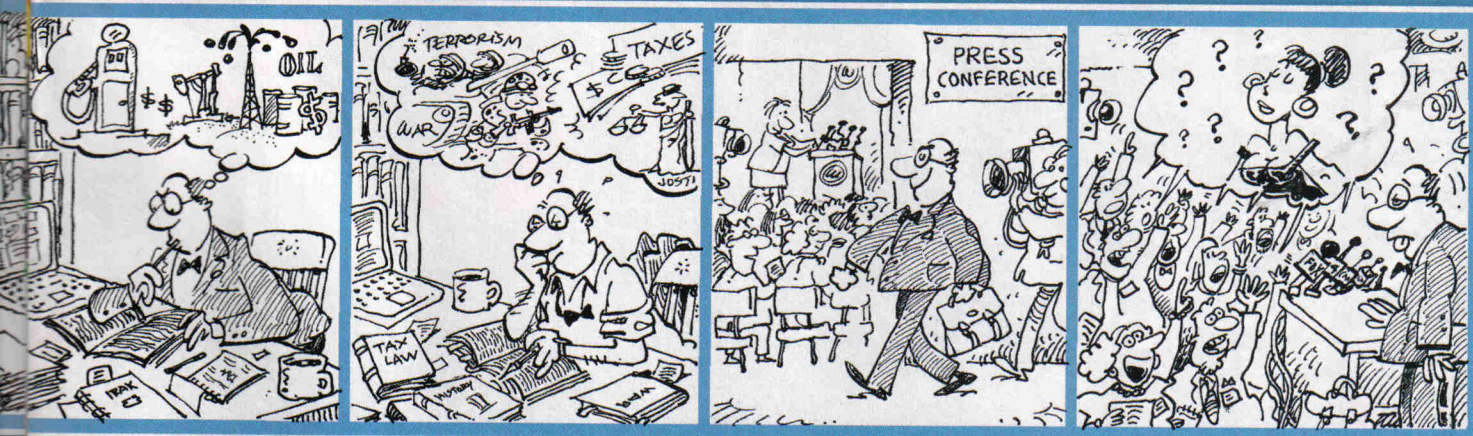
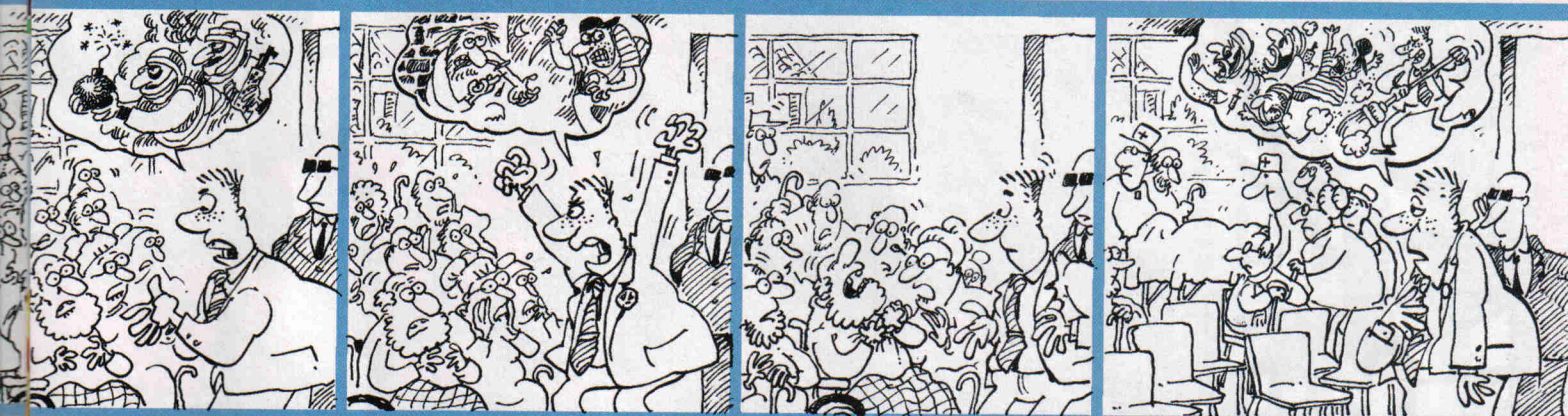
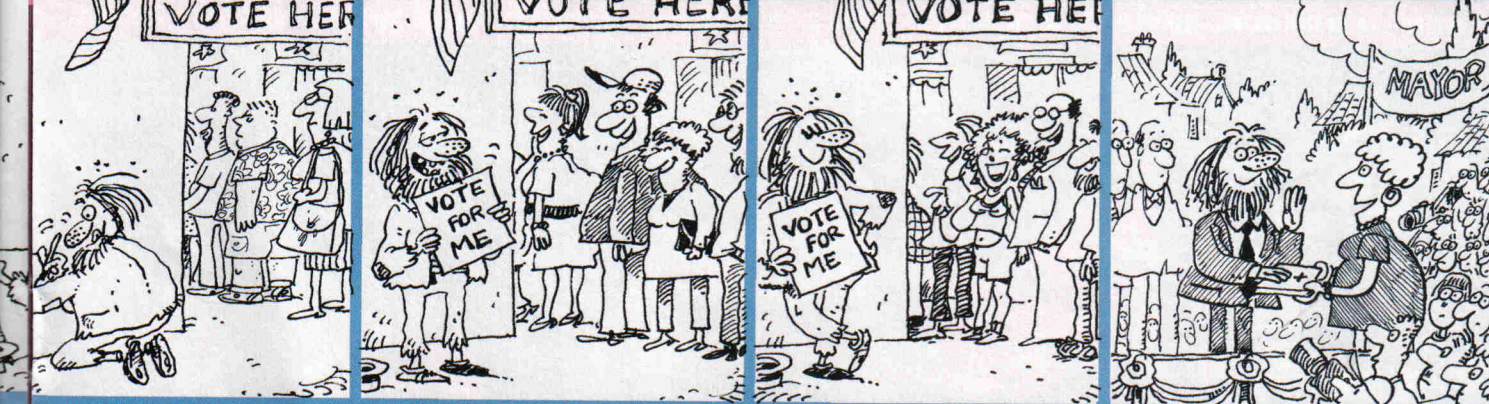
POLITICIANS



ARTIST AND WRITER: SERGIO ARAGONES









Are you smarter now than you were 4 years ago? If not, vote Alfred E. Neuman!... Vote Alfred E. Neuman — *someone* has to!... Vote Alfred E. Neuman — if you don't, who will?...

because he promises nothing! Alfred E. Neuman for President!... America is on the brink of ruin! Let him finish the job! Alfred E. Neuman for President!...

PUT A NEW IDIOT IN THE WHITE HOUSE!



Alfred E. Neuman — a candidate you can trust...to screw things up!... Vote Alfred E. Neuman — a moron for All the people!... Vote Alfred E. Neuman

E. Neuman for President!... Sure he's dumb! But name something smart that the others have done! Alfred E. Neuman for President!... He'll keep all his prom



★★★ ALFRED E. NEUMAN ★★★ FOR PRESIDENT

A MAD
POSTER

...he'll make the next guy look great by comparison!... Vote Alfred E. Neuman - at least he's honest about his idiocy!... Vote Alfred E. Neuman - dumb



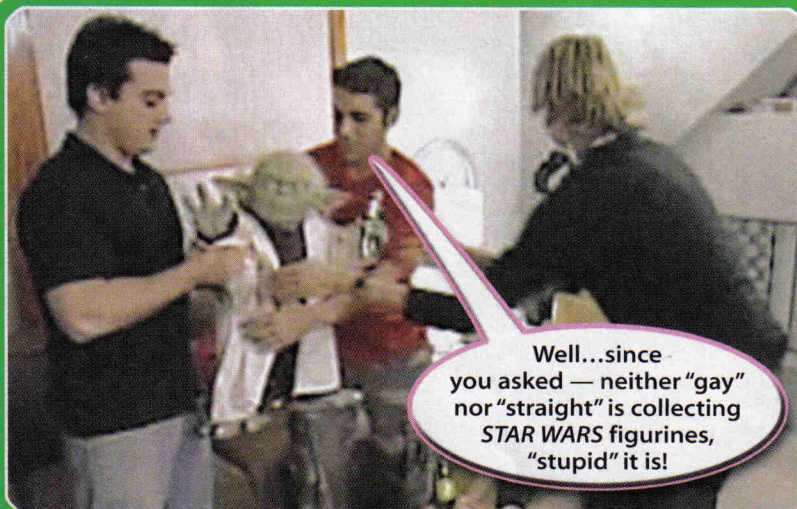
A MAD queer

FOR THE STRAIGHT



Here's this week's handy tip: if you get an idea for a really lame reality TV show...write it down! Then sell it for an obscene amount of money to some second-tier cable network like Bravo!

Okay, we bought you all this new furniture, now we just need to find a couple of butch lesbians to assemble it!



Well...since you asked — neither "gay" nor "straight" is collecting STAR WARS figurines, "stupid" it is!

Come on, put it on! If there's one thing we're against, it's "unprotected redecorating"!



Hey, honey — come here and look at this great new thing they taught me called "changing sheets"!

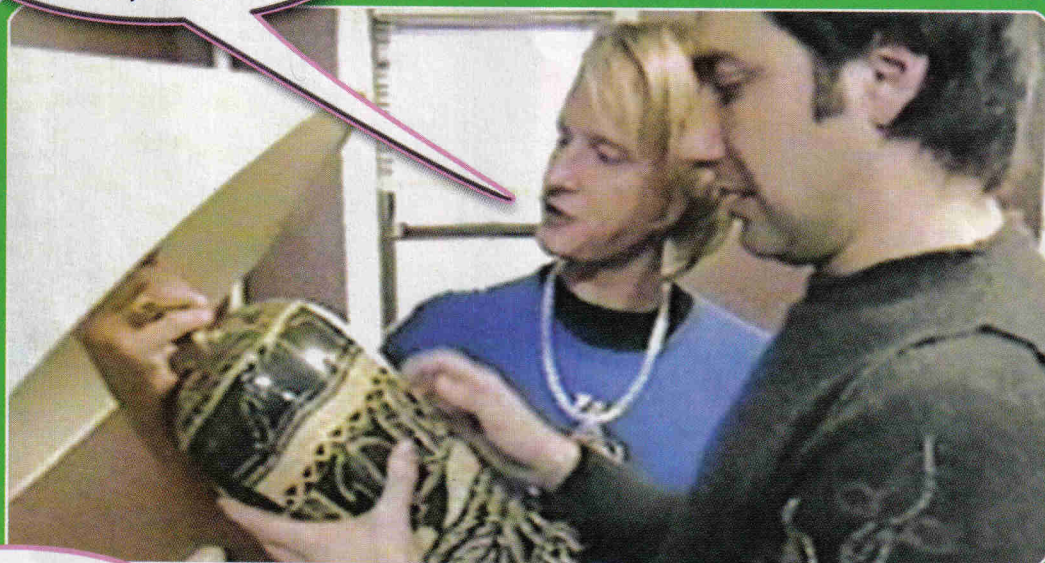


POKE IN THE eye GUY

This is the BEST part of the whole show: the "Shower Cam" we secretly install in these guys' apartments! OOH-LA-LA!



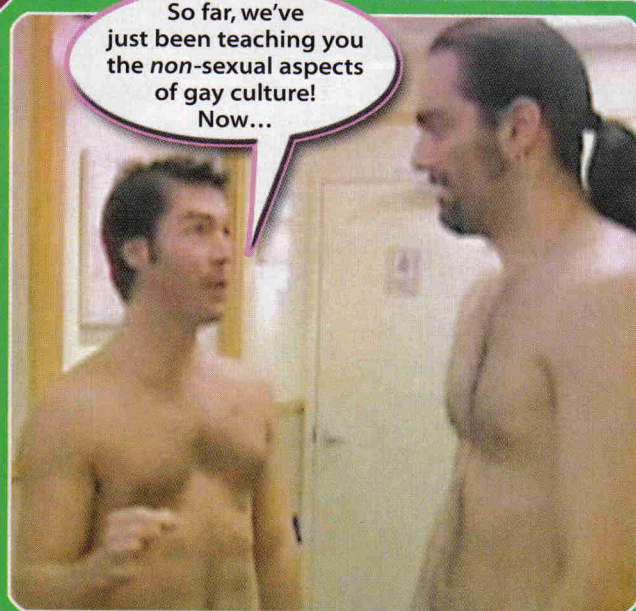
You like this lamp? Then just do what I do: tell the guy it's CRAP, pretend to throw it away, and keep it for yourself!



It's just a standard release form you have to sign saying that after the show is taped, you won't sue us if your boyfriend starts wearing leather and hanging out in the Village!



So far, we've just been teaching you the *non-sexual* aspects of gay culture! Now...





Heyyyy, wait a minute! If you two are gay...then who just pinched my ass?!?



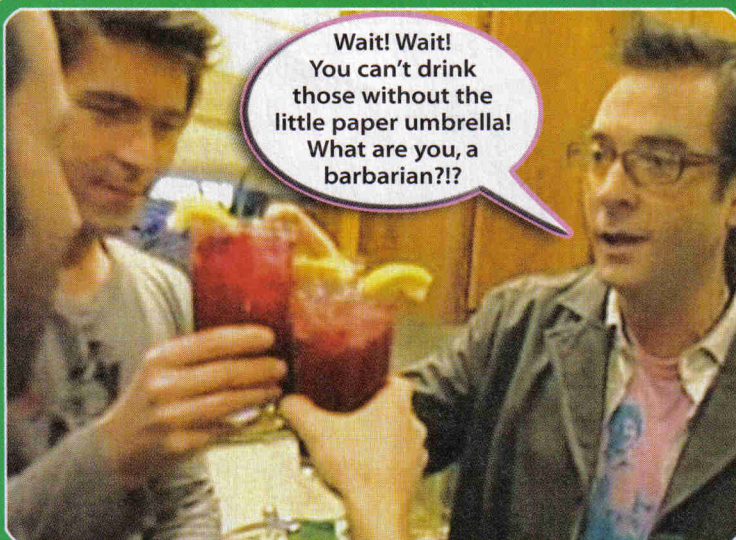
This won't hurt a bit. We're just going to cryogenically freeze you until a time when hairstyling and grooming science CAN help a loser like you!



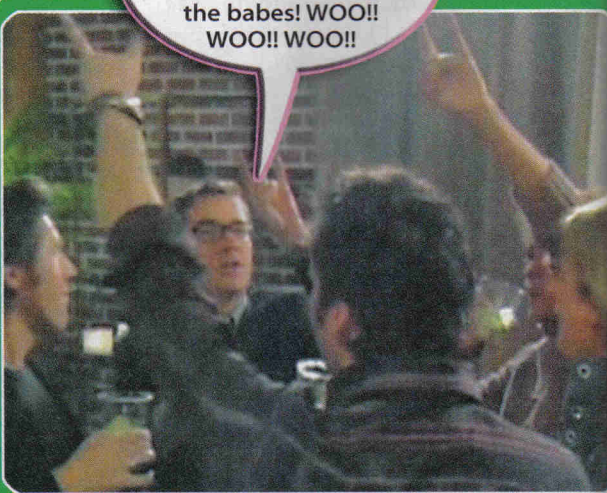
And, to top off the daily grooming ritual...now, follow after me..."I feel pret-ty...oh so pret-tyyyyy..."



It's a brand new desktop PC! AND we've already bookmarked all the gay porn websites for you!



Wait! Wait! You can't drink those without the little paper umbrella! What are you, a barbarian?!?



All right, men! The TV cameras are gone! Turn on the Knicks game, call up Domino's, and bring on the babes! WOO!! WOO!! WOO!!

Martha Stewart made millions by teaching people how to improve their lives — and although prison has made that more difficult, it doesn't mean she can't still put her talents to use. In fact, improving an inmate's life is the easiest thing in the world! They don't give a hot buttered scone about decorative wreaths or hand-made napkin rings — all they want is to get out! Which is why we're sure she'll make millions with...

MARTHA STEWART'S ESCAPE PLAN

To hide all of the dirt you'll be unearthing, make a set of decorative planters for your cell. You can construct the planters out of toilet-paper maché. Plant fresh basil or other herbs that grow well in low-light conditions. As an added bonus, you can ground up the leaves and use them to spice up even the blandest prison grub.



To dig a tunnel you can be proud of when the guards find it after you've escaped, don't use a common spoon. Flatware is for eating, not for digging. Instead, use a melon-baller, which can be stolen from any well-stocked prison kitchen. When you're not tunneling, store the illicit utensil in a hollowed-out copy of *Martha Stewart Entertaining*, available wherever fine books are sold.



Since you'll be working exclusively under the cover of night, you'll need proper illumination or your tunnel walls will turn out rough and irregular. Why not light up your escape route with festive Japanese lanterns? To make them, first take some letters from home and, via origami, fold the pages into traditional Asian lantern shapes. Next, stand a cigarette upright in the bag. This will be your wick. Finally, fill the bag about one third of the way with kitchen lard, which will, unfortunately, have to be used instead of fresh beeswax.



While you're digging to the prison yard, be sure to poke small holes about the width of a drinking straw into the tunnel ceiling at regular intervals. This will not only provide necessary ventilation, but will aerate the soil above, ensuring that the grass in your prison exercise yard will be the envy of inmates at other federal penitentiaries.



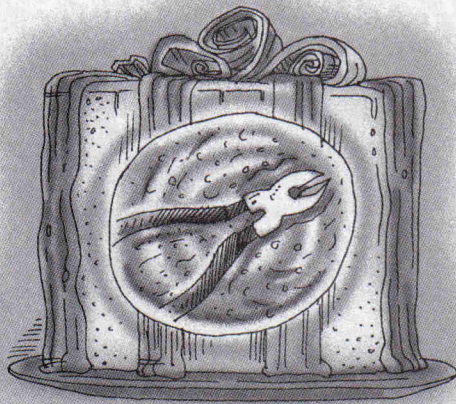
When you exit your tunnel, you'll be in the prison yard. To scale the perimeter wall, your best bet is to climb one of the guard towers. You can easily incapacitate a guard by sneaking up behind him and covering his mouth in a rag you've stored in a leftover turkey carcass. The tryptophane from the turkey will cause the guard to pass out faster than my Uncle Walter after a traditional Thanksgiving feast of roast turkey with pomegranate-cranberry glaze, braised fennel with chestnuts and shallots, autumn vegetable succotash and ginger pumpkin pudding cakes.



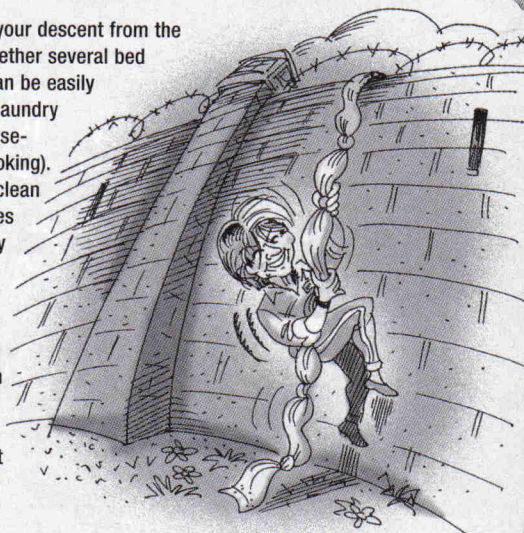
ARTIST: CHARLES AKINS

WRITERS: MATTHEW A. COHEN AND JASON SCHNEIDER

The easiest way to procure a pair of the wire cutters mentioned earlier is to have your mother bake you a carrot ginger layer cake with orange cream cheese frosting, but instead of the 1 teaspoon of ground cinnamon called for in the recipe, substitute 1 pair of wire cutters.



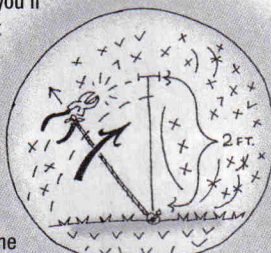
To facilitate your descent from the wall, tie together several bed sheets (which can be easily stolen from the laundry room while "house-keeping" isn't looking). Be sure to take clean ones (no one likes escaping on dirty linens) and if possible, make sure that they are made from decadently plush Egyptian cotton with at least a 350 thread count to avoid chafing. It's a good thing!



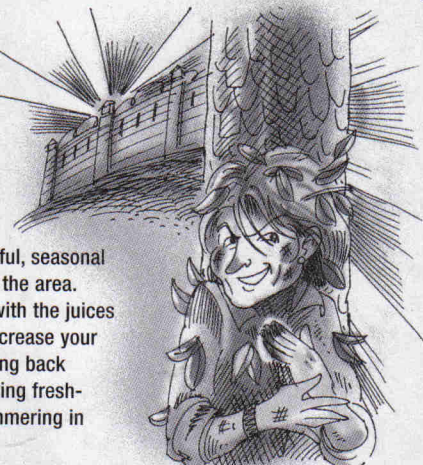
VISITING AREA

7

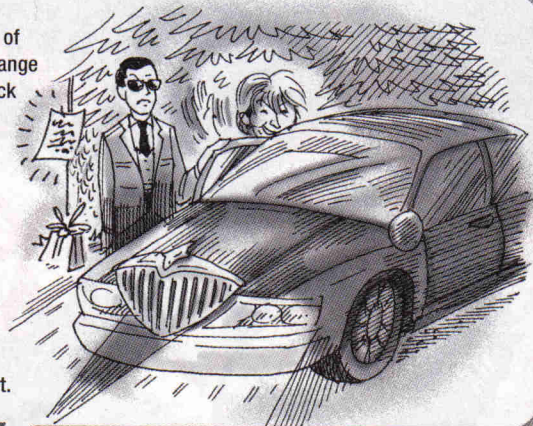
At the top of the wall, you'll still need to make it past the barbed wire fence. Tie your wire cutters to a piece of sisal twine that's exactly two feet long. Tie the other end of the twine to the base of the fence. By keeping the twine taut as you cut through the wire, you'll cut a hole that's a perfect half circle. Save the cut section of barbed wire you removed to use later. For example, you can use it to string up plants in a way that clearly tells any passing rabbits to stay away from your California and summer squash patch.



You may be into the woods, but you're not "out of the woods" yet! To make sure you don't get caught in the spotlight, adorn your jumpsuit with a cornucopia of colorful, seasonal foliage indigenous to the area. Smearing your face with the juices of wild berries will increase your indetectability and bring back fond memories of eating fresh-baked pies while summering in Nantucket. Hmm!



Once you've made it out of the woods, you can change your identity and blend back into society, or travel to a foreign land that does not extradite felons to the United States. But do neither before you take time to write the warden a thank you note for his hospitality and send a small potpourri sachet or other token of gratitude currently available at Kmart.



6

10

TOWER

ROAD



OH, THE UNDISCLOSED LOCATIONS YOU'LL GO! DEPT.

As you listen to President George W. Bush and his administration, you may notice a sort of bizarre logic emerge, a magical, childlike reality in which the only rules are the ones they make up themselves. If this fanciful way of looking at the world seems familiar, it should! Theodore Geisel (aka Dr. Seuss) perfected it decades ago. The big difference, of course, is that Geisel did it for fun in a delightful series of children's books. Dubya and his cronies do it to settle old debts, gain access to oil and curry favor with their ultra-right wing base. Anyway, sit back and enjoy...

THE STRANGE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE Bush Administration AND THE World of Dr. Seuss

"You are giving our senior citizens prescription drug coverage under Medicare... You have doubled the child tax credit from \$500 to \$1,000, reduced the marriage penalty, begun to phase out the death tax, reduced taxes on capital gains and stock dividends, cut taxes on small businesses, and you have lowered taxes for every American who pays income taxes... Younger workers should have the opportunity to build a nest egg by saving part of their Social Security taxes in a personal retirement account... I will send you a budget that funds the war, protects the homeland, and meets important domestic needs, while limiting the growth in discretionary spending to less than 4 percent. By doing so, we can cut the deficit in half over the next five years."

*President George W. Bush,
State of the Union, January 20, 2004*

"Look at me! Look at me! Look at me NOW!

It is fun to have fun but you have to know how.

I can hold up the cup and the milk and the cake!

I can hold up these books! And the fish on a rake!

I can hold the toy ship and a little toy man!

And look! With my tail, I can hold a red fan!

I can fan with the fan as I hop on the ball!

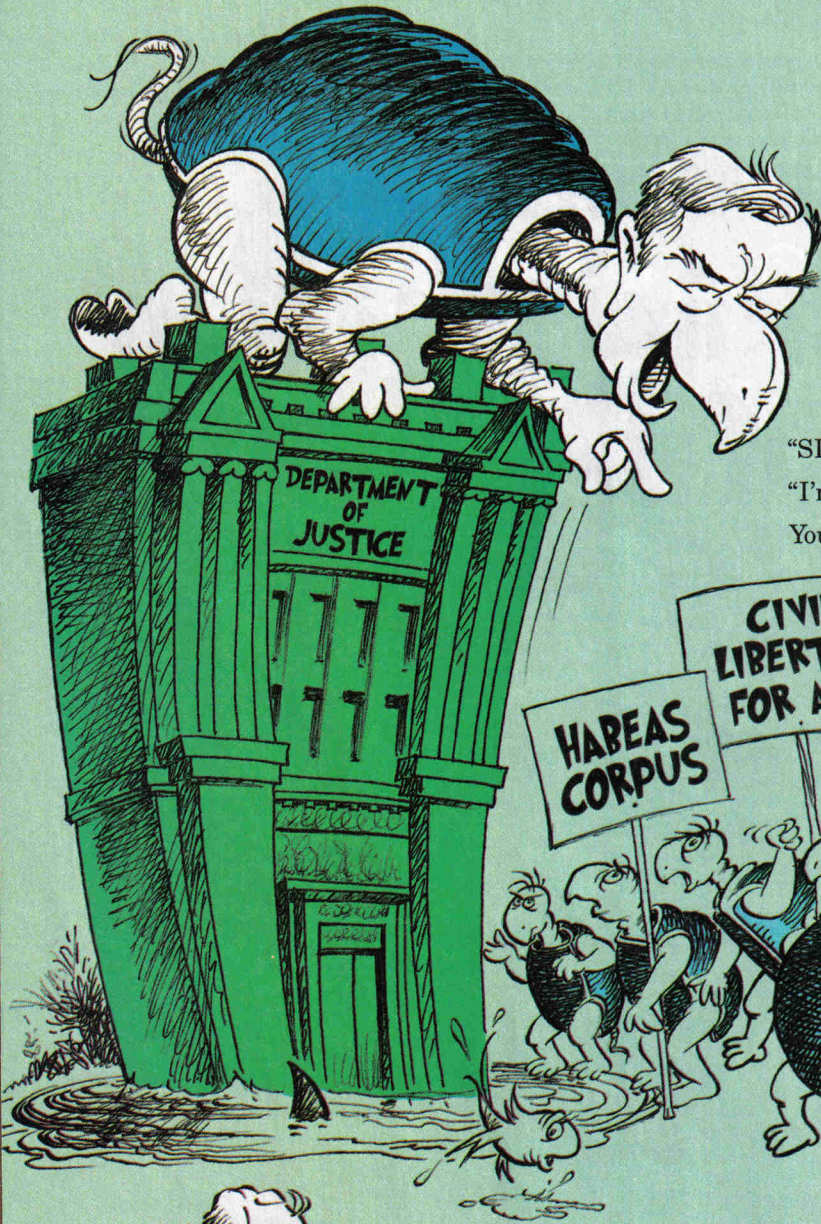
But that is not all. Oh, no. That is not all..."

THE CAT IN THE HAT



WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

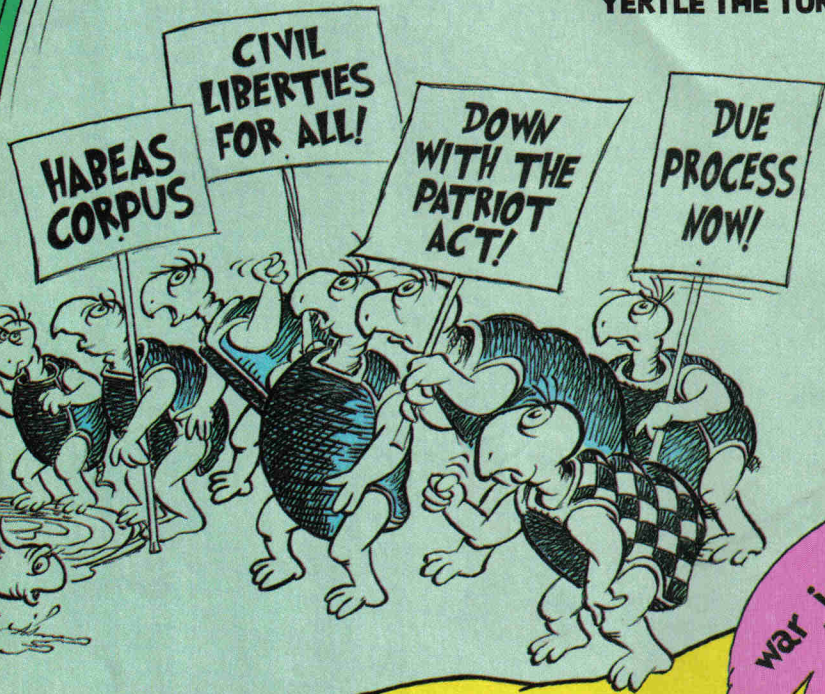


"Your tactics only aid terrorists, for they erode our national unity and diminish our resolve. They give ammunition to America's enemies, and pause to America's friends."

*Attorney General John Ashcroft,
December 6, 2001*

"SILENCE!" The King of the Turtles barked back.
"I'm king, and you're only a turtle named Mack.
You stay in your place while I sit here and rule."

YERTLE THE TURTLE



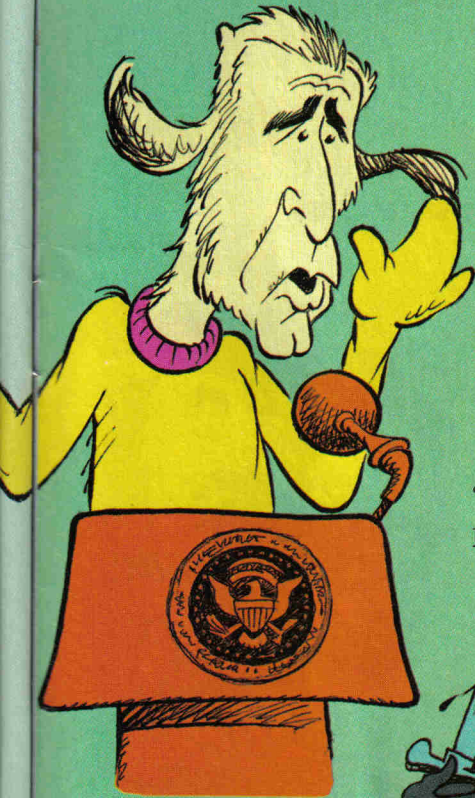
"I'm not going to change, see? I'm not trying to accommodate. I won't change my philosophy or my point of view."

President George W. Bush, February 7, 2004

"Never budge! That's my rule. Never budge in the least!
Not an inch to the west! Not an inch to the east!
I'll stay here, not budging! I can and I will
If it makes you and me and the whole world stand still!"

THE ZAX



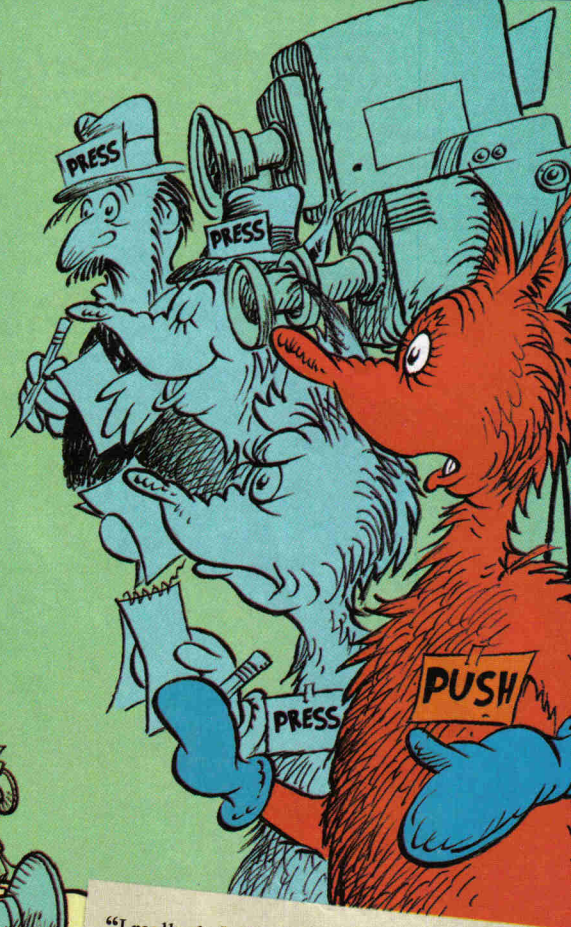


"I'm sure **something** will **pop** into my **head** here in the midst of this press conference, with all the **pressure** of trying to come up with answer, **but it hadn't** yet...I don't want to sound like I have **made no mistakes**. I'm confident I have. I just haven't — you just **put me under the spot** here, and maybe I'm not as **quick on my feet** as I should be in coming up with one."

*President George W. Bush,
April 14, 2004*

"Please, sir. I don't like this trick, sir.
My tongue isn't quick or slick, sir."

FOX IN SOCKS



"I really do **believe** that we will be **greeted as liberators**. I've talked with a lot of Iraqis in the last several months myself, had them to the White House...The **read we get** on the **people of Iraq** is there is **no question** but what they want to get **rid of Saddam Hussein**, and they will **welcome as liberators** the United States when we come to do that."

Vice President Dick Cheney, March 16, 2003

"There is **no question** but that they would be **welcomed**. Go back to Afghanistan, the people were in the streets **playing music, cheering, flying kites**, and doing all the things that the Taliban and the al-Qaeda **would not let them do**."

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, February 20, 2003

"Most Iraqis **welcomed** us as **liberators**, and we **glowed with pleasure** at that welcome...the **trend is in our favor**."

*U.S. Administrator in Baghdad L. Paul Bremer,
September 24, 2003*

"At sunrise, we'll drive into Solla Sollew
And you'll have no more troubles. I promise. I do.
But, when dawn finally came and the darkness got light,
That wonderful city was nowhere in sight.
Instead of the city, we ran into trouble.
Our camel was sick and he started to bubble."

I HAD TROUBLE IN GETTING TO SOLLA SOLLEW



"You can't distinguish between al-Qaeda and Saddam when you talk about the war on terror. And so it's a comparison that is — I can't make because I can't distinguish between the two, because they're both equally as bad."

President George W. Bush, September 25, 2002

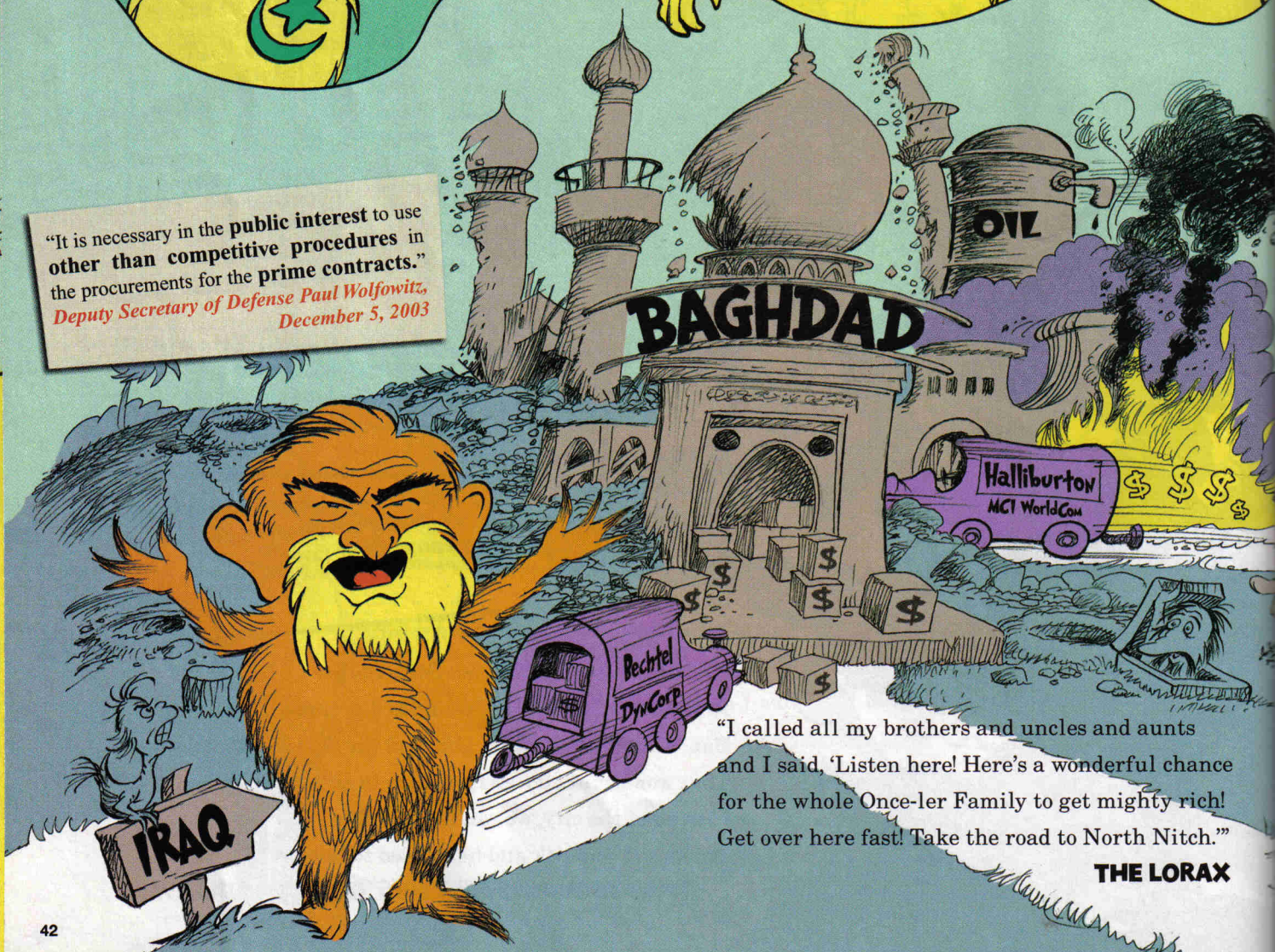
"Whether this one was that one...or that one was this one
Or which one was what one...or what one was who."

THE SNEETCHES



"It is necessary in the public interest to use other than competitive procedures in the procurements for the prime contracts."

Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, December 5, 2003



"I called all my brothers and uncles and aunts and I said, 'Listen here! Here's a wonderful chance for the whole Once-ler Family to get mighty rich! Get over here fast! Take the road to North Nitch.'"

THE LORAX

"People in Iraq must understand that I view those **practices** as **abhorrent**... they also must understand that what took place in that prison **does not** represent the **America** that I know."

*President George W. Bush,
May 18, 2004*

"It was **inconsistent** with the values of our **nation**. It was **inconsistent** with the **teachings** of the **military**...And it was certainly **fundamentally un-American**."

*Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld,
May 7, 2004*

"Any implication that this behavior was **driven by direction in the chain of command** or by any **pressure** to get **interrogation results** from Washington, D.C., is absolutely **just not right**. I mean, that is **not how it works** at all... This is a **failure of individuals**...I frankly think that **we'll work our way through** this just fine."

*Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman
Gen. Richard Myers, May 7, 2004*



"But neither Bartholomew Cubbins, nor King Derwin himself, nor anyone else in the Kingdom of Didd could ever explain how the strange thing happened. They only could say it just 'happened to happen,' and was not very likely to happen again."

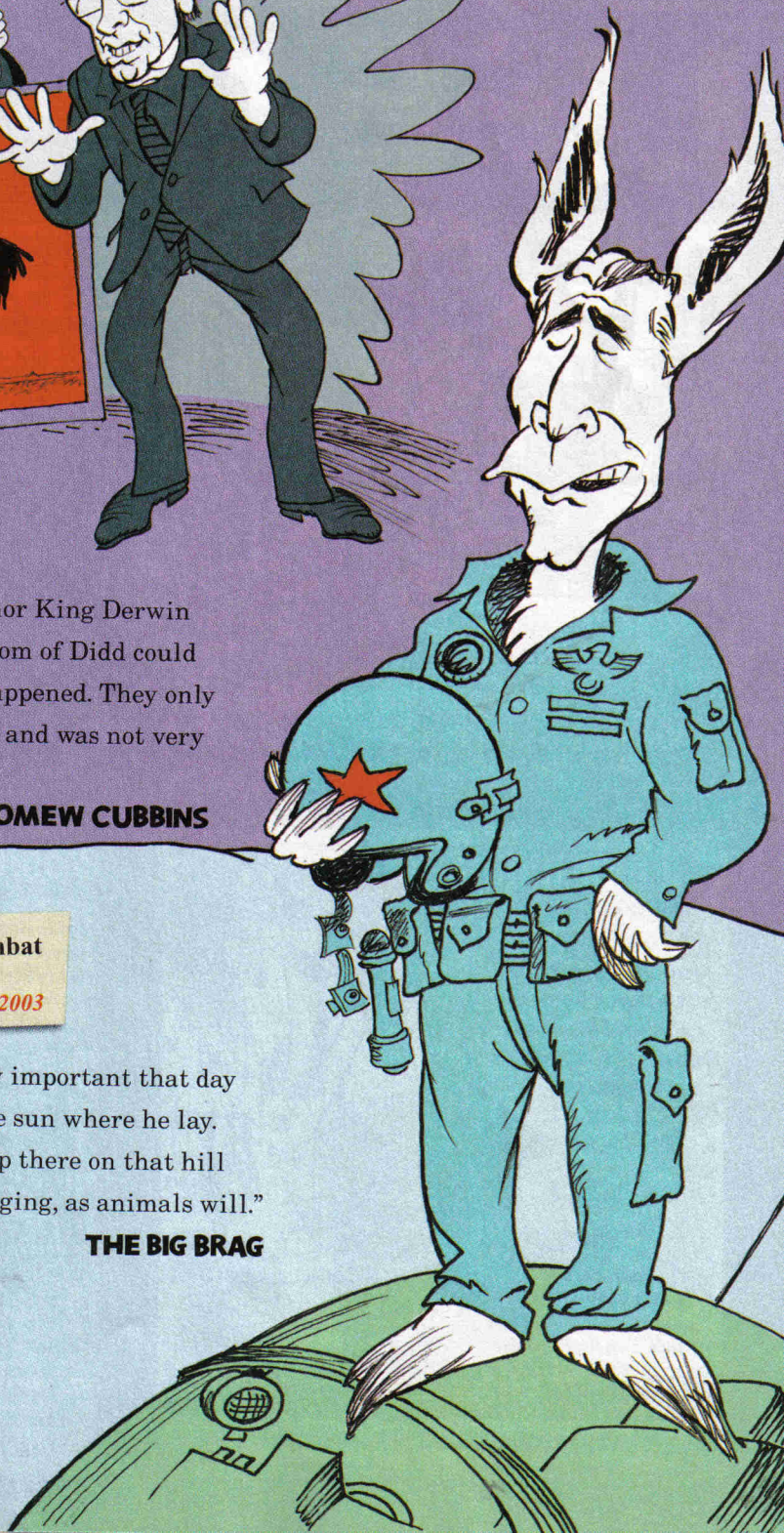
THE 500 HATS OF BARTHOLOMEW CUBBINS

"My fellow Americans: **Major combat operations in Iraq have ended.**"

President George W. Bush, May 1, 2003

"The rabbit felt mighty important that day
On top of the hill in the sun where he lay.
He felt SO important up there on that hill
That he started in bragging, as animals will."

THE BIG BRAG





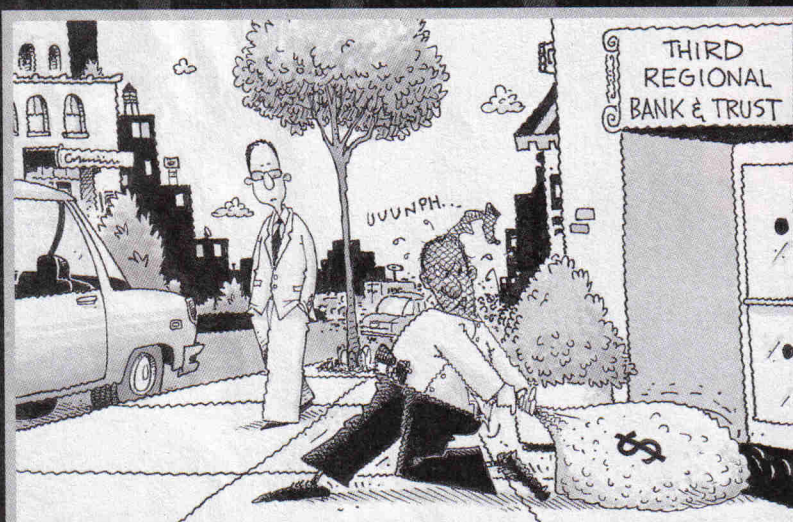
With successful shows like *The Sopranos* replacing our ideas about typical American family values, it should come as no surprise when your Uncle Bob decides to become a loan shark or Cousin Tyler starts smuggling cigarettes across state lines. Crime is hot – hot, hot, hot! But, before you start auditioning getaway drivers or studying police tactics on *COPS*, make sure you've got the smarts to follow this career path. How? By simply examining...

JOHN CALDWELL'S

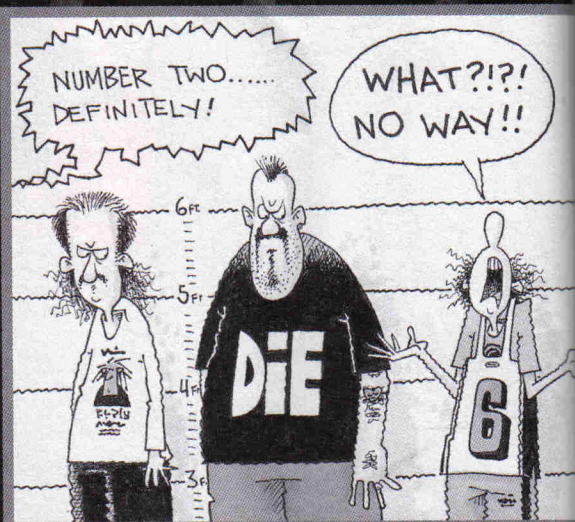
INDISPUTABLE TIP-OFFS

YOU WEREN'T CUT OUT FOR A

LIFE OF CRIME



Your bank heist is always the same: \$5,000 in small coins.



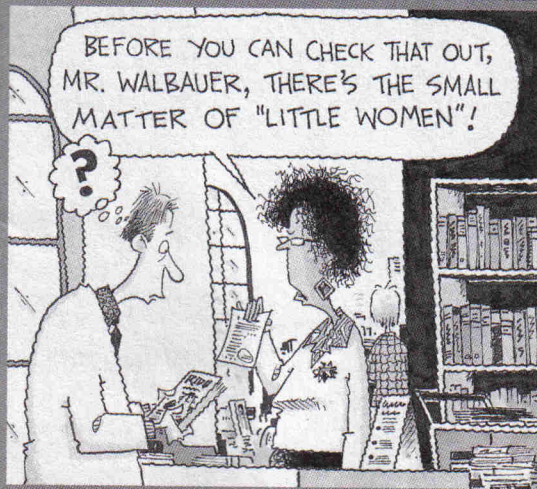
You get bummed when you don't get picked in lineups.



Because of your aversion to handguns, the only people you ever mug are street mimes.



You spend your days tying up high-end digital imaging equipment to counterfeit proofs-of-purchase for breakfast cereal prizes.



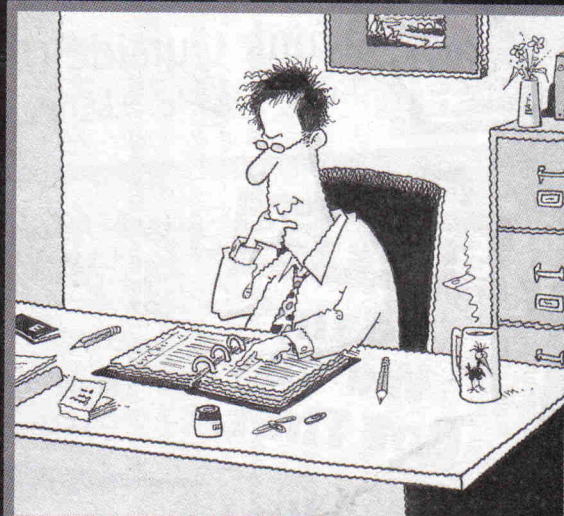
After three years of identity theft, you've cost your victims the sum total of \$39.78 in library fines.



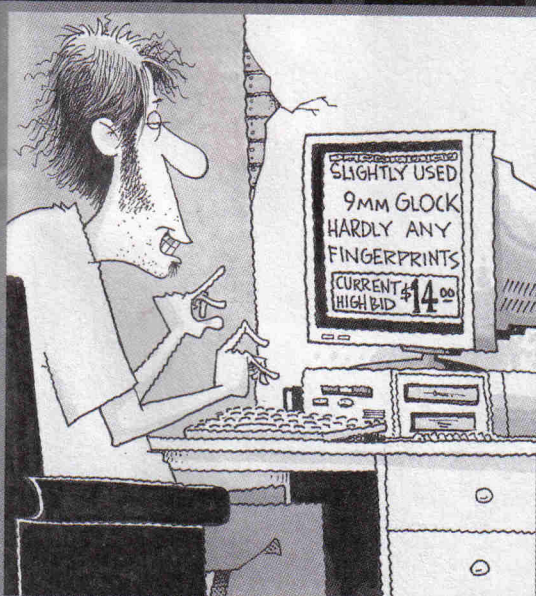
Locking your keys in the getaway car is becoming a fairly common occurrence.



You accept ransom payments in the form of deposit cans and bottles.



The key to your embezzlement system is keeping two sets of pencils.



Your chosen method of disposing of evidence involves posting it on eBay.

A Choice Selection of Really Stupid Alibis

"Yeah, it looks like I pulled a gun from my pants, but I can prove those weren't really my pants."

"Stick-up note, withdrawal slip... same difference."

"Sure, the guy on the surveillance tape kind of looks like me, but he's a black and white guy, whereas I'm flesh-colored."

"Are you kidding? The guy you're looking for is clean shaven, not with a two-day growth of stubble!"

"Being that English is not his first language, you can see how the clerk got 'Empty the freakin' register or I'll blow a hole in your damn turban!' out of 'A pack of Altoids and a can of Sprite, sir.'"



Truth in advertising is about as easy to find these days as clear skin at a Slipknot show! Still, much has changed since the days of physician-endorsed cigarettes, not the least of which is the length and potency of companies' slogans. With a nation of consumers with the collective attention span of a hyperactive gnat, slogans must be constantly pared down to near nothing by the poor saps who write them. It's no wonder we never get to see their original, more truthful...

UNABRIDGED CORPORATE SLOGANS



**When You're Here,
You're Family!**

—but when you leave,
you're just another queasy schmuck
with heartburn and garlic breath!



Army Reserve

It's Not Your Everyday Job.

—unless militant Iraqi
insurgents keep trying to
kill you back at the office!



Think Outside the Bun!

Puke inside the restroom!

STAPLES

**Yeah,
We've
Got That.**

—but good luck
getting any
of our sullen
teenage staff
to help you
find it!



**We'll Leave the
Light on for You!**

—but there's not
a whole lot we can
do about the smell!



**We Never Stop
Working for You**

—but that doesn't
mean we actually
know what we're doing!



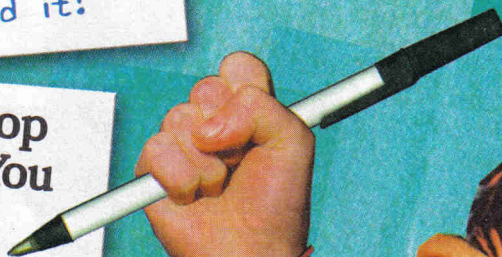
The Fire's Ready

—but we'll just leave
your soggy Whopper
under these fluorescent
heat lamps, okay?



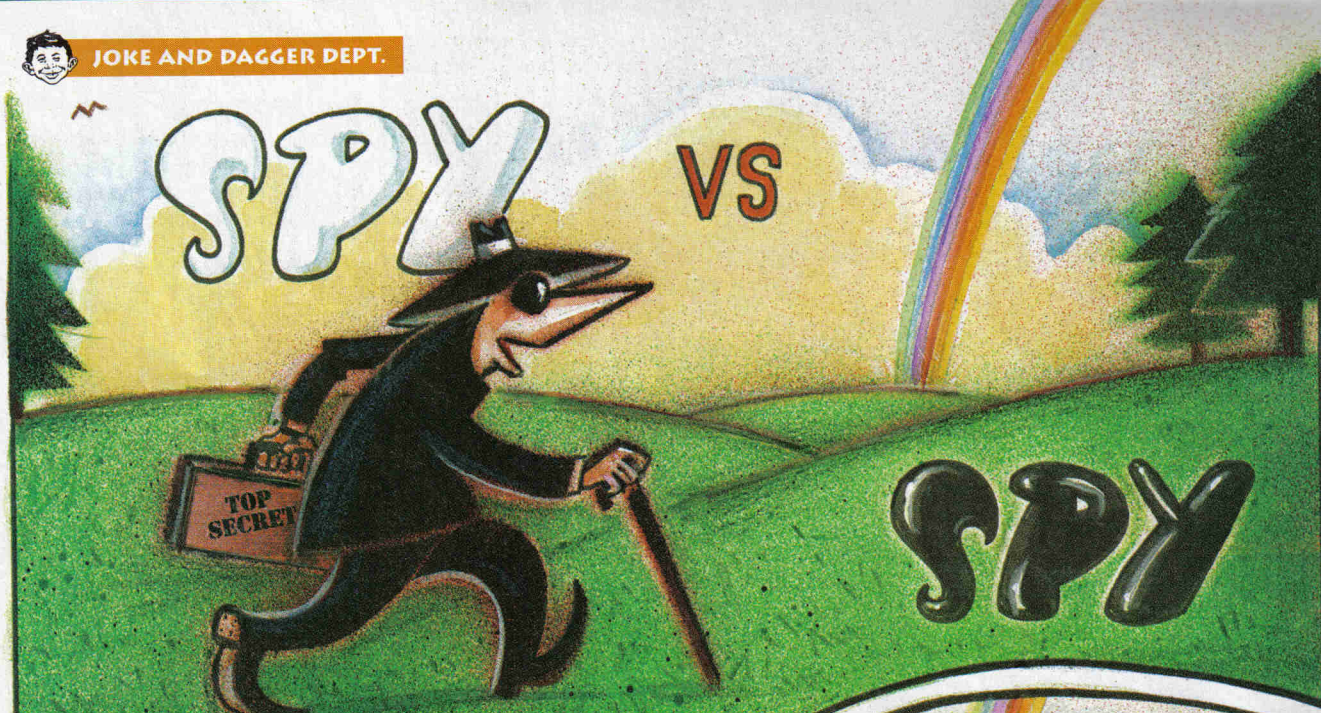
**Where History
Comes Alive**

—and you go to sleep!

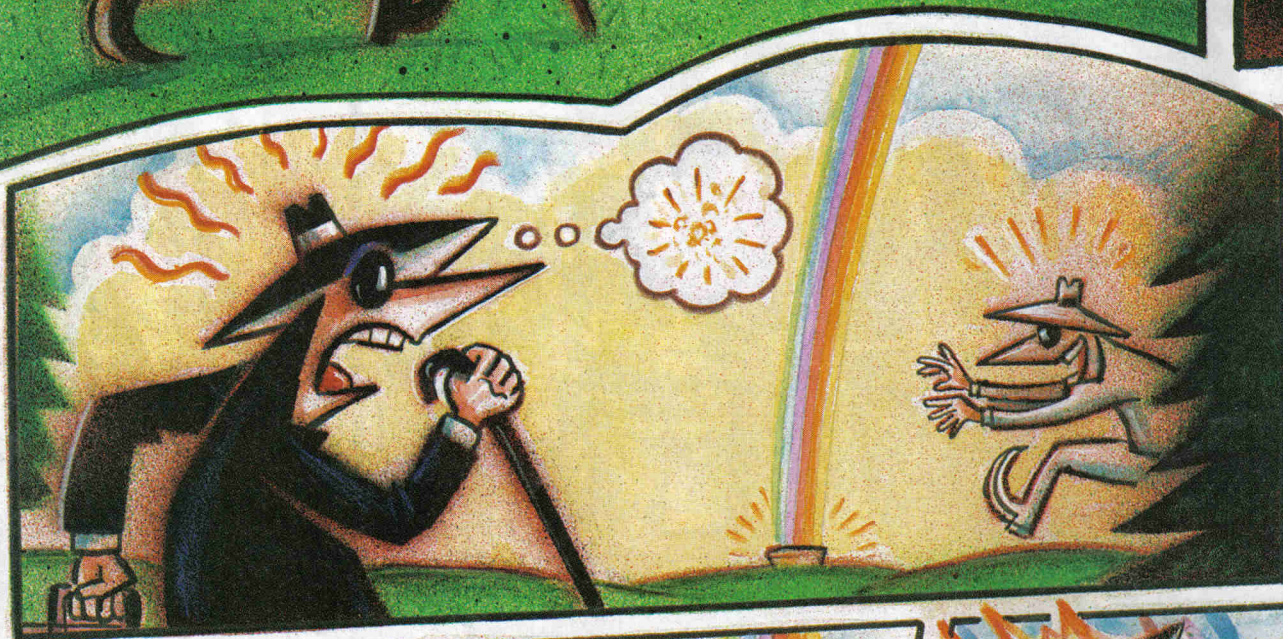


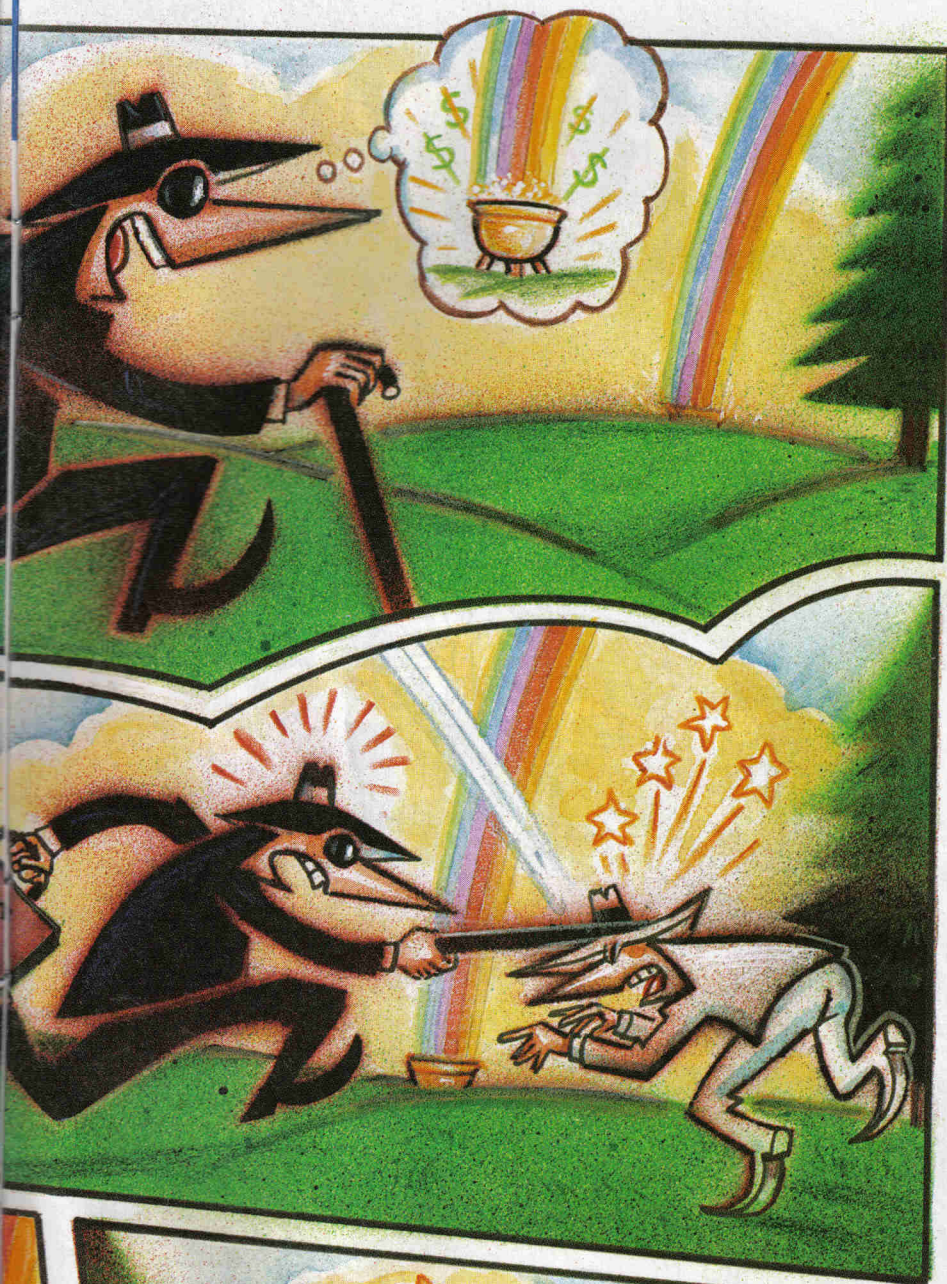
ARTIST: TOM NICK COCOTOS

WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT



By
Rings
Rings
Rings

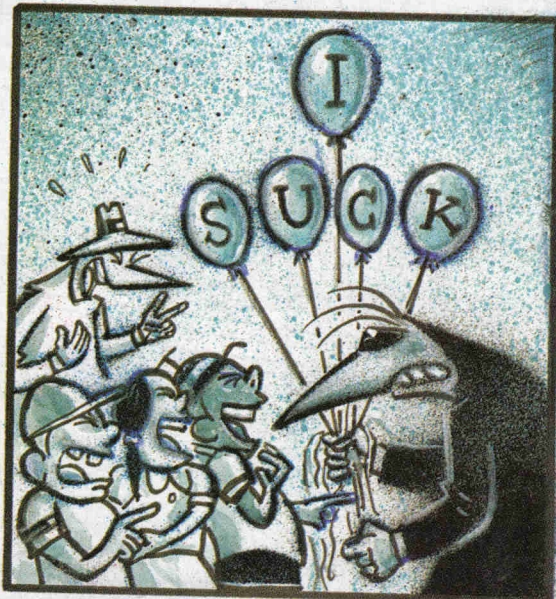
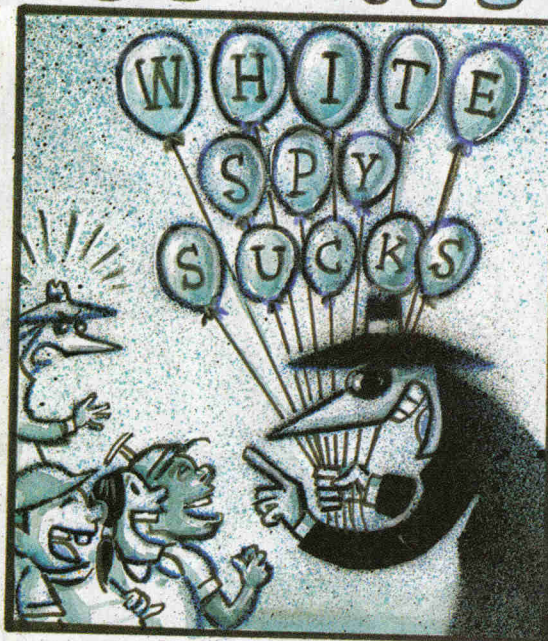




ARTIST AND WRITER: PETER KUPER

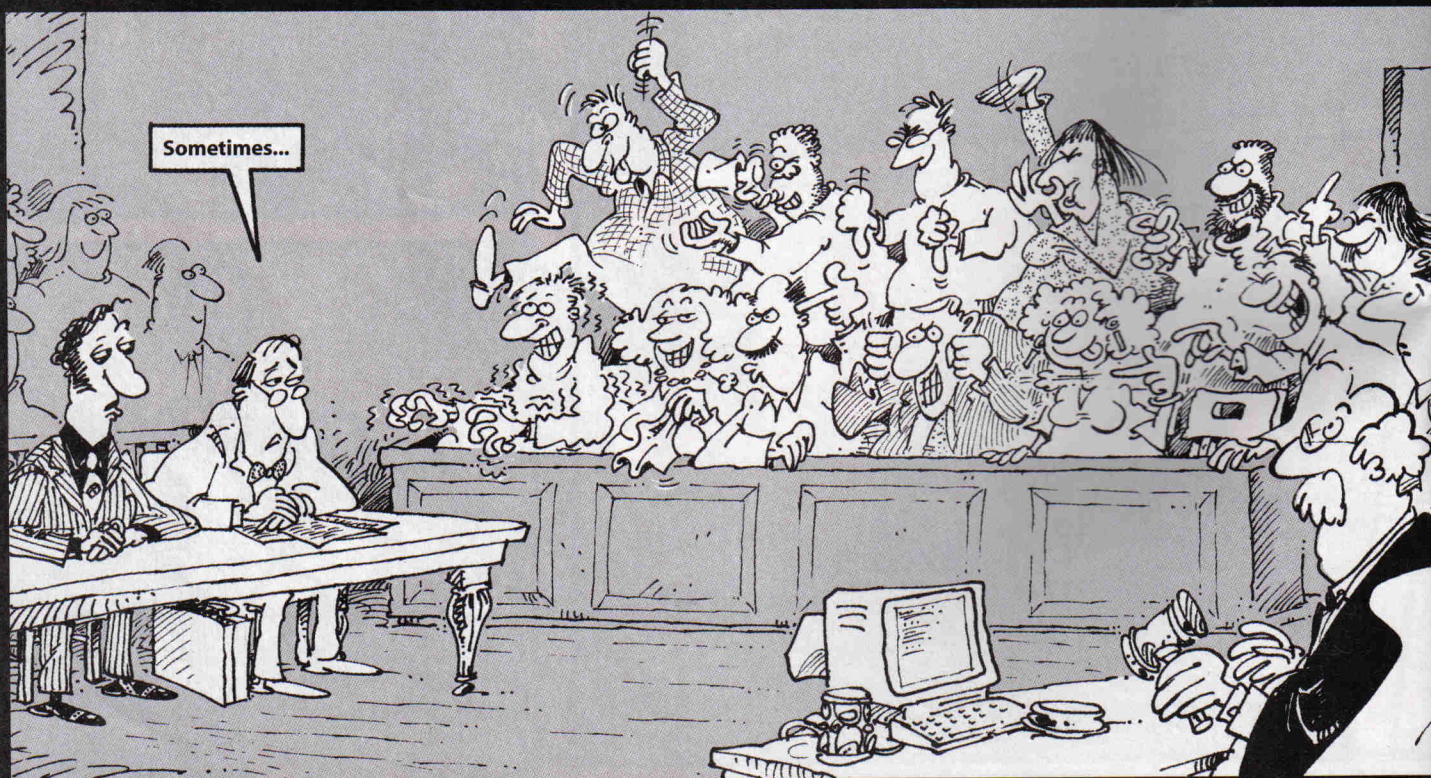
KUPER

SPY VS SPY





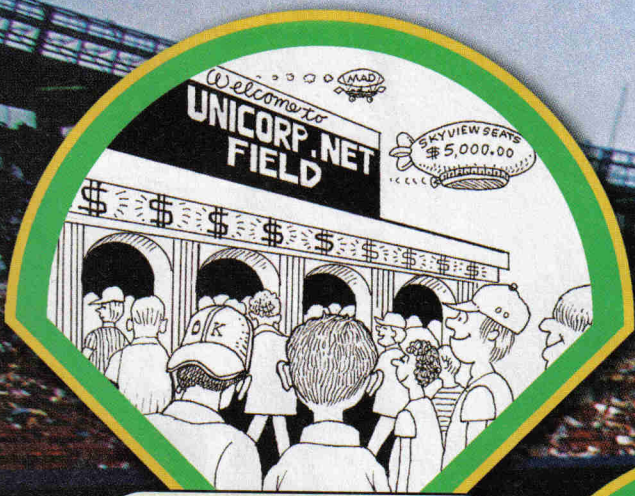
THE VERDICT





When the Baltimore Orioles unveiled Camden Yards in 1992, the stadium received the kind of nauseatingly over-the-top praise usually reserved for Cal Ripken, Jr. Camden was hailed as a one-of-a-kind marvel and quickly inspired even more obscenely expensive imitations. Now it seems a gimmick-laden new park opens every year, featuring such monstrosities as swimming pools, rock-climbing walls and, in the case of the Padres' Petco Park, David Wells! Here's...

WHAT TO SPANKING



The inevitable corporate title — because nothing says "old-fashioned baseball fun" like "Unicorp.net Field."



A wide array of restaurants, shops and activities — anything to help you forget that you're wasting an evening watching the lowly Rockies play the pathetic Expos.



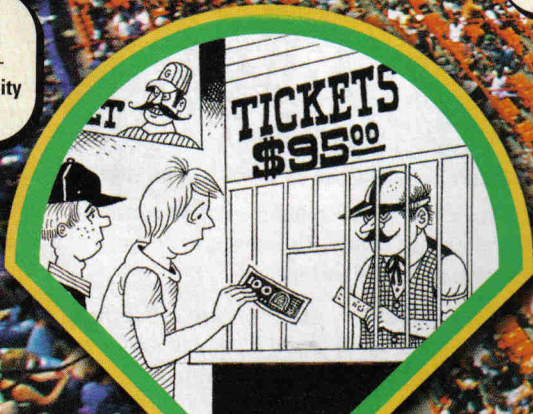
Natural grass fields — because artificial turf has no place in a game filled with doped-up sluggers crushing juiced balls over shortened fences.



Unique features, like a neon liberty bell or racing sausages, that emphasize a team's special relationship with its city — even though the club would've bolted said city in a second if they didn't get a new park.



Dozens of luxury boxes that serve all the American ballpark classics: Beaujolais, escargot and sashimi.

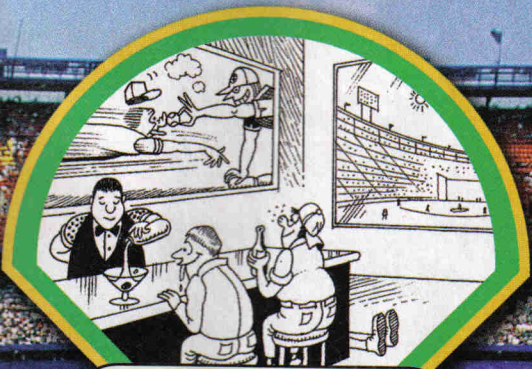


A quaint ballpark atmosphere that transports you back to the 1930s, and ticket prices that rocket you into the 2030s.

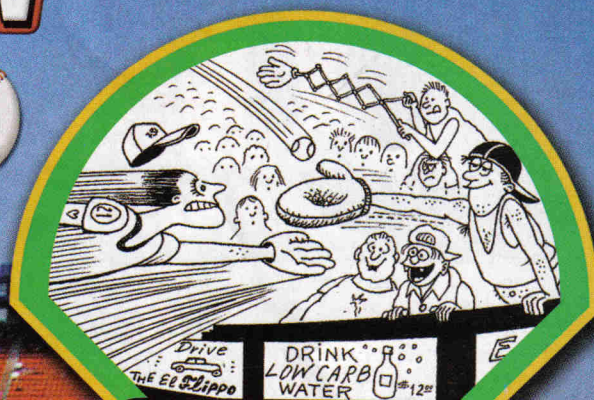


A retractable roof which everyone prays won't malfunction again during the 4th of July fireworks display.

EXPECT AT YOUR TEAM'S NEW \$450 MILLION BALLPARK



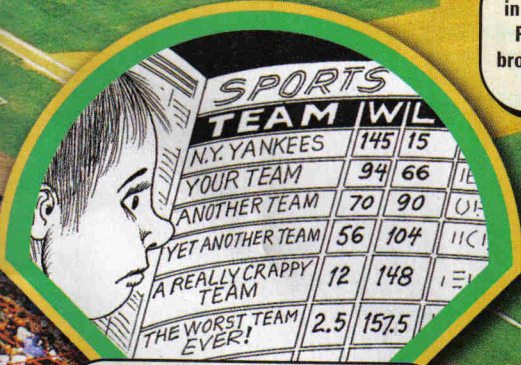
A state-of-the-art sports bar with a giant, wide-screen TV, so you can relax and follow all of the action as if you weren't even at the stadium.



Seats that are closer to the field than ever before, significantly increasing the odds that some misguided pinhead will ruin your team's pennant chances by interfering with a play in a crucial late-season game.



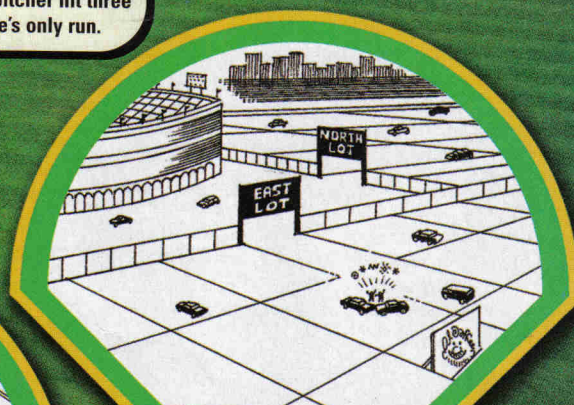
Informative exhibits that highlight the proudest moments in the home team's history, like the Indians' 1954 pennant run, the Pirates' World Series win in 1960, and that time the Devil Rays broke a 14-game losing streak when the opposing pitcher hit three consecutive batters and then balked in the game's only run.



A solid home team that, thanks to the new ballpark revenue, can finally be competitive enough to take one out of every seven from the Yankees.



For the team's blue-collar fan base, upper-deck "cheap seats" that are more expensive than those in the old park's behind-the-plate VIP section.



Ample parking to handle crowds of 40,000 or, more accurately, the 14,000 who will actually show up once the stadium's novelty inevitably wears off.

ARTIST: AL JAFFEE
WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT
PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES



He's loud, he's ornery and he's got anger management issues that make Mike Tyson look like a social worker! Just the guy you want looking after your kids, right? And certainly the guy you want to watch during family hour! Yeesh! Leave it to the idiots at FOX (the same idiots who bring you *MADtv*) to come up with...

The Burning Mad Show

What's up, America! Let me tell you my story — I live with a smokin' hot woman, I have piles of money and I own all the gadgets and toys a brother could possibly want! I'm living every man's dream...at least, I WAS, until my sister got sent to rehab and stuck me with raising her three bratty kids! Feel sorry for her? No, feel sorry for ME! I'd give every dime I made from *Charlie's Angels 2* to be locked up with a bunch of strung-out crackheads instead of listening to my 15-year-old niece whine about her training bra!

Those kids drive me crazy, so I hide out in here for peace and quiet! I suppose most men my age escape their families by heading to the bathroom, but this is a family show! You wanna see a fella with his drawers around his ankles, you're gonna have to flip on over to *Queer as Folk*!

Anyway, from time to time, we might take a little break in the action so I can address you directly, America! Sure, having me improvise jokes may be a cheap gimmick the writers use to keep from having to come up with good stories, but trust me, after five minutes of our paper-thin plots, you'll be BEGGING for another one of these bits!



"from all-time classic, *The Cosby Show*"

"from TV Land staple, *Sanford and Son*"

"from that crappy ABC show, *My Wife's Kids* or *My Kids and Wife* or whatever it's called!"

C'mon, I'll introduce you to the family! But first, a little something we stole from *Frasier* — the Bad Pun Title Card!

Is this one of those sit-coms that isn't taped before a live audience?

But I don't hear anyone laughing!

No, there's a live audience!

And they're attentive, too!

This show reaches across all demographic groups!

Yeah, it appeals to both blacks and whites who find *According to Jim* overly complex!

Burning is in the tradition of African-American TV dads like Fred Sanford, Cliff Huxtable and Mike Ryan!

Actually, the way he treats his kids, he's more in the tradition of Archie Bunker, Al Bundy and Tony Soprano!

"Family Few"

No, that didn't make any sense, but these are harder to come up with than you think...

This is Wandabra! She's a sexy, smart, upwardly mobile executive! You gotta wonder why someone as great as her would stay with a loser like me, especially after those kids showed up!

That's easy!! Between your laziness, and their lying and backstabbing, I'm getting the perfect training for surviving the corporate world!

This is Jawin! This kid's like a cross between Steve Urkel and Bart Simpson — part nerd, part scheming troublemaker!

Like my latest plan! I'm re-wiring the toaster so the toast comes out cold! No more hot toast for me or anyone else! Heh, heh, heh...

Correction. This kid's like a cross between Paris Hilton and Jessica Simpson — part idiot, part BIGGER idiot!



How we doing today, Vamessa?

Terrible! I'm having typical teen girl problems!

Maybe I can help — tell your Uncle Burning!

My boyfriend broke up with me, I'm flunking pre-calc and I can't find a sweater to go with these pants!

So you ain't pregnant, you ain't on drugs and you don't have an eating disorder! Call me when you've got something TYPICAL!

BLING BLING



This is Breeyawna, the Baby Girl! She's my favorite 'cause she never gives me no trouble!

I just threw up on my bed!

Wandabra, Breeyawna needs you!



Uncle Burning! Uncle Burning! My ant farm got loose in your shoes!

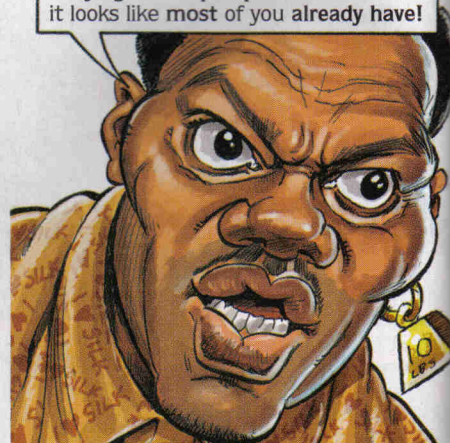
Uncle Burning! Uncle Burning! The big dance is coming up, and I need a new dress!

Uncle Burning! Uncle Burning! I just threw up all over the floor!

Listen to all that complaining about a bunch of nothing!

I've got news for you — around here "a bunch of nothing" is another way of saying "tonight's storylines"!

Aw hell! If that's all we got, you folks might as well switch over to *Wife Swap* right now! In fact, seeing how FOX moves our time slot every week trying to scrape up some viewers, it looks like most of you already have!





Okay, Vamessa, I'll drop you off at the mall to get a dress! But whatever you do, you're not allowed to buy a new sweater! You hear me? No new sweater! Do not purchase a sweater!

Why do you keep repeating yourself? I'm not stupid!

No, but our audience is! That's how we get away with re-hashing these plots from *Full House* every week! Girl, you wanna lay odds they **STILL** haven't figured out you're gonna disobey me?

NEED BEER

Aw, what the hell!!? Jawin's ants are in my shoes!

"Jawin's ants — as if Burning didn't just say that"

How did your ants get in my shoes?

Aunt Wandabra's in your shoes?

Not "aunts"! **ANTS!** Little bugs!

Aunt Wandabra's a bug?

Well, at least I have proof now!

That my sister was hitting the pipe when she was pregnant with you!

Proof of what?

MY HERO

"the shoes with the ants — in case you missed it"

"aren't these arrows helpful?"

You know what your problem is? You don't listen to me!

Huh? What'd you say?

That's an old joke, Jawin!

No, seriously, I couldn't hear you! You've smacked me upside the head so often, I have permanent inner ear damage!



You see what I have to deal with day after day, America? The boy is an idiot! He's so dumb, he thinks reality shows are real. Bush is smart and *MADtv* is funny! Then again, **YOU** think this little "talking to the camera" bit we ripped off from Ferris Bueller is clever and original!

Jawin! You were mouthing off in class again! Come up here so I can hit you in the mouth with this ruler!

Okay!

Now why are you smiling?

Compared to home, Catholic school is like a day at Chuck E. Cheese's!

Your Uncle Burning is that bad?

He got turned down as a guard at Abu Ghraib — apparently he showed less compassion than the guards already there!

GOD IS WATCHING

"Sweater
You
Than Me"

"Mall's
Well That
Ends
Well"?

Sorry, that
was bad...
how about
"For
Sweater
or
Worse"?

"Red
Sweater
Day"?

You know
what?
I QUIT!

Uncle
Burning,
do
you
ever
regret
taking
us on?

No,
actually,
I'm glad
to have
you
around!

Really?

I'm banking on
you wild-ass
kids keeping me
so busy I won't
have time to
sign on for more
garbage like
Head of State!

How
come
you drive
such a
humogous,
gas-
guzzling
SUV?

I grew up in the projects, so
my Escalade is a sign that
I've risen up. That I've over-
come hardships and made
it! Besides, it's the only thing
on the road with enough
headroom to accommodate
my Epcot Center-sized 'fro!



Hmmm...I don't know why,
but I'm always the kid who
has to go through a moral
dilemma! Like this sweater —
on the one hand, Uncle
Burning said don't buy one!
On the other hand, it's soooo
cute! So I'm faced with a
major conflict: pink or blue?

Vanessa! What'd I say about
buying a new sweater!?

Don't you know that
stealing is wrong!?

And you know
what's worse
than stealing?

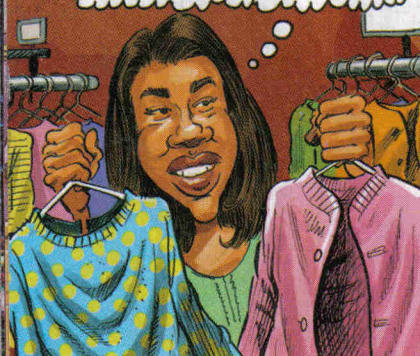
Technically, I didn't
buy it! You didn't
say anything about
shoplifting
a new sweater!

Even if *you're*
stealing Bill Cosby's
"Put-Upon Black
Father Figure"
schtick?

What?

Mouthing off
to your elders!

America, I have
problems! I've got a
niece who steals, there's
ants running through
my house, Jawin keeps
getting in trouble at
school and Wandabra's
so mad at me she
won't give me no lovin'!
Does it get any worse?



Uncle
Burning,
I just
threw
up in
your
sock
drawer!

That's it!
I gotta do
what
I always
do when
I get
into
trouble...

...celebrity
cameos! Like you,
Ray Romano —
how do you keep
the *Everybody
Loves Raymond*
kids from driving
you nuts?

Simple. They only appear
twice a season! Otherwise,
they're up in their rooms
or at school, or stuck
in a well — anywhere
but on-camera! We're a
"family" show that's about
anything *but* family!

Bill
Cosby!
The
legend!
Any
thoughts
you'd like
to share?

Today's
black
comedians
don't
speak
English
well!

This from the guy
who invented
Mushmouth and
ends every scene
by going,
"Woobit, wabbit
with the bzzrp
and the zerbeti!"

Some-
times
I purse
my
lips
and go
"Whoo
Jack!"



Uncle Burning, I'm sorry I stole! I took the sweater back!

And I'm sorry about spilling all those ants! I cleaned them up!

And I'm sorry about throwing up all over the house! I'll stop eating seven McGriddles for breakfast!



Can you believe it, America? Those kids listened to me! They finally listened to me! Can you believe it...?



...of course you can! Because this happens exactly 27 minutes into every episode! They don't listen, I complain they don't listen, then they listen, then I come back here and say, "They listened!" This show is so by-the-numbers predictable, the Naval Observatory sets the atomic clock to it!



BURNING MAD PLOT TIMELINE

00:06 - EPISODE THEME ESTABLISHED
01:18 - JAWIN DOES SOMETHING RUDE AND OBNOXIOUS
02:45 - WANDA PERA SIGHTING 15 SEC. OF DIALOGUE
04:15 - VAMESSA MENTION HOW MUCH SHE HATES LIVING HERE
05:30 - BABY GIRL DOES SOMETHING CUTE
06:20 - BURNING AND ONE OR MORE KIDS GET INTO A BATTLE OF WILLIS

Well, we've wrapped up another episode! I'll just get the door and —

Hello, my brother!

I don't believe it! Kids, come quickly! Your mother's out of rehab! Again!

Hi, Mama!

Thank heavens you're here, Mama! Uncle Burning treats us so badly!

We can't wait to come home and live with you, Mama!



First, you do not address me as "Mama"! You address me as "Miss Whitney Houston"! Secondly, I am here to take you home with me. Oh, the fun we'll have when I sing you my "Aiiiiiieeeeeeeee-lllllllllll, will always looooooove yooooooooou!" song as a lullaby every...single...night!

Uh-oh...

Hoo-boy...



"Houston, we have a (drug) problem!"

Um, Uncle Burning? I think now's a good time to tell you how handsome and great you are!

Aw, you kids are just saying that so you won't have to go with her!

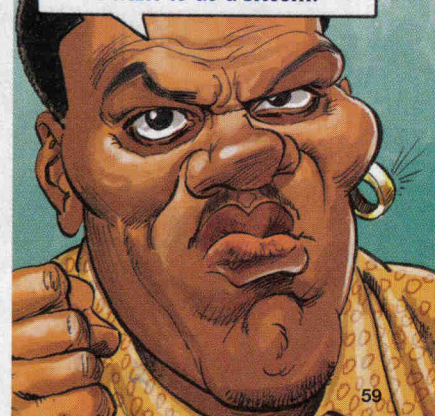
No we aren't! And by the way, we LOVED you in *Bad Santa*!

And no more Uncle Burning! Say hello to your Uncle Bobby Brown! Now one of you be a doll and call me a cab — Miss Whitney Houston crashed our car into the kitchen!

Yeesh! Talk about out of the frying pan and into the fire! Or in this case, out of the frying pan and into the white-hot flames of a thousand suns!



Well, I think these kids have learned an important lesson: be careful what you wish for, 'cause your sorry ass just might get it! And I've learned the same thing! This is the last time I EVER tell my agent I want to do a sitcom!



WHAT OBNOXIOUS
BORE IS NOTORIOUS
FOR ASKING
QUESTIONS NO
ONE ELSE DOES?

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

Seems like everywhere we look, some self-important know-it-all is boring us to tears with an endless stream of pointless inquiries. To find out who the worst offender is, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



JERKS ABOUND IN SHOWBIZ. BUT ONE WHO OP-
ERATES TODAY IS TRULY AWFUL. FOOLHARDY
GUESTS APPEARING ALONGSIDE HIM MUST SEEK
HELP FOR FRAZZLED NERVES AS HE
KEEPS HAMMERING AWAY AT THEM. HE CAN
DESTROY REPUTATIONS AND MAKE
JELLY OUT OF PEOPLE'S MENTAL UNDERPINNINGS

A

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

B