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On October 14 at Lowe's® Motor Speedway, Kasey Kahne and the No. 38 Great Clips Dodge team rolled out all of the "covert" tracks tactics as they shared the NASCAR Busch Series race day spotlight with *Spy vs. Spy Jr.* from *MAD Kids* magazine.

Starting in November, *Spy vs. Spy Jr.* will leap forth from the pages of *MAD Kids* in a continuing story of pint-sized enemies who fight their never-ending battle with cream pies, slingshots and water balloons. *MAD* Magazine featured the No. 38 Great Clips/*Spy vs. Spy Jr.* Dodge Charger as part of the launch for the new *MAD Kids*, which is designed to appeal to children ages 6 to 11.

The No. 38 Great Clips/*Spy vs. Spy Jr.* Dodge Charger marked the second time Kahne teamed with *MAD* Magazine for a paint scheme special. Last season, the original *Spy vs. Spy* made an appearance aboard the No. 9 Dodge at the NASCAR Cup Series race in Atlanta.

For information about *Spy vs. Spy Jr.*/*MAD Kids* race program collectibles or other Kasey Kahne racing-inspired merchandise, call or visit your preferred Action brand products dealer.



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MAD

DECEMBER 2005

NUMBER 460

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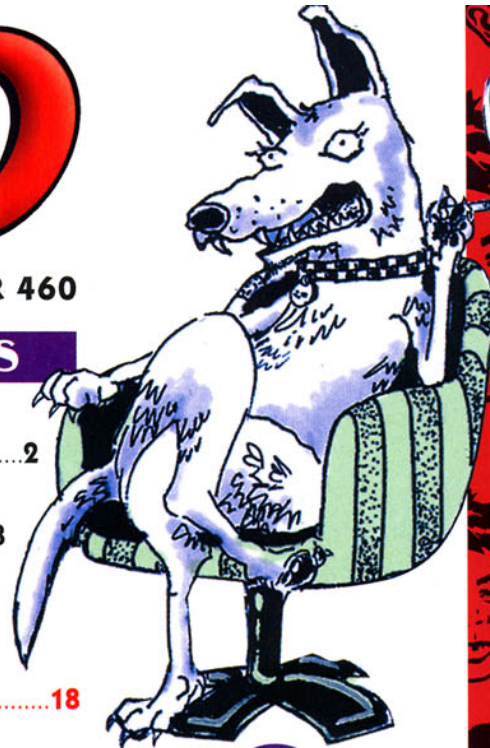
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38



Talk is cheap —
but say the wrong
thing to your
parents and it'll
cost you!



50



28



8

"The Ashton Kutcher/Demi Moore wedding is such a debacle, I hear the rabbi is insisting on being credited as 'Alan Smithee'!"

FRONT COVER ARTIST:
MARK FREDRICKSON



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A SPANISH INQUISITION

This summer vacation I went to visit my family in Mexico. One day I went to a magazine store in Mexico and I saw MAD in Spanish. Since I didn't have any money to buy one when I was there I want to ask you something. Are the Spanish MADs just translated versions of the English ones, or do different artists and writers make them?

Gerardo Perez, Oakland, CA

Perez Dispenser — Good question — or should we say "bueno pregunta"? No, we were right the first time! In truth, the Mexican version has both translated stuff from American MAD, as well as new material created by the Mexican staff. Fortunately, Mexican MAD has a crack team of artists and writers including — Juan Caldewello, Ricardo Tulkado, Desmond Devlino, Jacobito Lamberto and, of course, Arie Kaplan (that kid will do anything for a peso!) Gracias for writing! —Ed.



WHAT'S THE MATADOR?

I resent and I extremely disapprove that you listed in the Fundalini Pages (MAD #457) in the "Updated Library of Extremely Thin Books" the book titled "Notable Jewish Bullfighters." Have you ever heard of the world famous Jewish bullfighter Sidney (Frumpink) Franklin? Born in Brooklyn, he went on to be a renowned bullfighter in Mexico and Spain. Ernest Hemingway wrote of Franklin that he was "one of the most skillful, graceful and slow manipulators of the cape in his day." So yes, there was a "great and notable Jewish bullfighter" — I want an acknowledgement of Sidney Franklin.

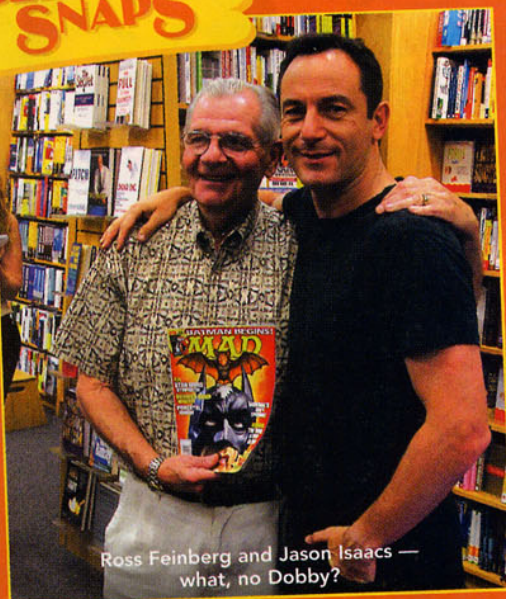
Dr. Norman Goodman, Langhorne, PA

Stormin' Norman — Good lord, you're right! Sidney (Frumpink) Franklin! How could we forget "The Frump"?!! He was a famous Jewish bullfighter! Boy, that brings the tally to...one! So you can see why it would be a *thin* book, Doctor. We didn't call the piece "The Updated Library of Non-Existent Books," did we? Here's another slender tome you can add to your library:

JOKES THAT DR. NORMAN (FRUMPKIN) GOODMAN GETS!

Happy reading and feel free to write in again if you need this joke explained to you as well! —Ed.

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS



Ross Feinberg and Jason Isaacs — what, no Dobby?

Here I am with Jason Isaacs who plays the villainous Mr. Malfoy in the *Harry Potter* movies. Jason is in Rhode Island filming the *Brotherhood* series for Showtime. I met him through my son Steven, who is Director of Film and TV for the state of Rhode Island. I've been an EC fan since the '40s and was an avid reader of MAD, Panic, The Haunt of Fear comics and am now a subscriber to MAD Magazine.

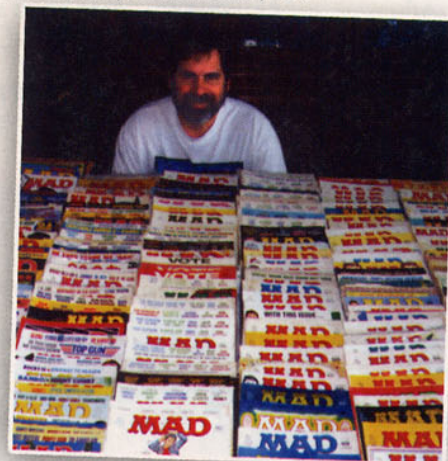
Ross Feinberg, Los Angeles, CA

Fein and Dandy — Your Celebrity Snap comes just in time for the release of a little sleeper film called *Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire*. We're hoping this little plug will raise awareness of the project and help it make a bit of money! Congrats on your free MAD subscription! —Ed.

MAD FAN OF THE MONTH

I have been a reader and subscriber of the insights from the Usual Gang of Idiots for the past 40 years. I was one of those kids who took their MADs with them to college because I was afraid my mom would toss them out. My collection has moved with me so many times I've lost count. Your magazine has always had the most honest commentary on our society and culture, our entertainment, our government and our lifestyles. It has shaped me into who I am today. Some days I'm not too sure what shape that exactly is, but I have a great sense of humor and positive outlook on life thanks to your magazine coming to my house each month and making me laugh. Enclosed is a photo of me with my MADs...all 276 and counting. I think this qualifies me for top honors as MAD Fan of the Month.

Ron Cohn, Santa Rosa, CA



Wrath of Cohn — You've managed to pull off the rare double whammy of MAD Letters Page contests! Not only are you the MAD Fan of the Month, but you're also the winner of our newest feature, "The Captured Saddam Hussein Look-A-Like of the Month" contest! These are two titles that are sure to impress the ladies. Thanks for writing and good luck with your trial at The Hague! —Ed.

SOUND BITES

I thought you guys might be interested to know I was listening to "The Osgood File" on the radio the other day and Charles Osgood wrapped up his commentary on some sort of financial responsibility diatribe by saying: "Just as the philosopher Alfred E. Neuman once said, 'What, me worry?'" Gee, after 40 years of reading your magazine, I never once thought of ol' Alfred as being a philosopher. This certainly sheds new light on how I will receive your magazine from now on. It's not only a load of crap...but it's an intelligent load of crap!

Jeff Osterhage, Burbank, CA

Oster La Vista — We wish we could say the same thing about your letter! —Ed.

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Make a Dumb Wish Foundation™

I have been wanting to make a dumb wish for a while now, and I finally thought of something for your great magazine. I have some great parents, but they aren't exactly technologically inclined. I don't have a TV in my room, our computer is slower than a slug's digestive tract and our family room TV is about 26 inches. But, worst of all, we don't even have cable! I get 8 channels (one of which is Spanish) and it takes a lot of work to tune them in sometimes. I have pleaded with them, but gotten no results. So my dumb wish is for you guys at the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* to write a lengthy letter to my parents (Chris and Christine) explaining why they should pay for cable. Or, you could skip all that ugliness and buy us a big screen TV.

Nick Kuell, Danbury, CT

Nickelback — We here at the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* are having a hard time figuring out what's dumb about your wish. I mean, c'mon, who *wouldn't* want free cable? We went ahead anyway, though, and ordered you the special "MAD Entertainment Package." Soon your 26-inch TV will be bursting with shows on these awesome stations: B.A.T. (Ben Affleck Television), The Ukranian Cartoon Network, The Scrabble Channel, ABC's Dysfunctional Family, The Expired Food Network and of course, the Oxygen Network (or "The Oh!" to those in the know!) We know you will have many hours of entertainment with your new cable system. Thanks for writing to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*! —Ed.

THE WORKING MAD

Recently we got an e-mail from a worker at Weiden+Kennedy, the ad agency behind campaigns for Nike and ESPN, calling our attention to this Alfred E. Neuman Post-it mosaic. He credited the "artwork" — which is on display in the atrium of the agency's headquarters — to the students of Weiden+Kennedy's advertising school. Hey guys, wasting time and office supplies — well done!



DOWN IN THE DUMPS

I'm writing to inform you that your magazine is too short! I like to read it while sitting on the toilet and I can blast through the entire issue in one sitting. I like to get several sittings or movements out of my reading material. So, how about extending your toilet rag for maximum enjoyment.

C.W. Marshall, Sewell, NJ

Marshmallow — Geez, you didn't go directly from reading the magazine to writing this letter, did you? Ewww, gross! On further consideration, we decided that you're right — we need a longer version of MAD made especially to read while in the bathroom. We could even call it *The MAD Bathroom Companion*. Hey, wait a minute, we've already put out FOUR of them, you moron! Why don't you go out and buy them now...if you're able to tear yourself away from your beloved toilet long enough! —Ed.

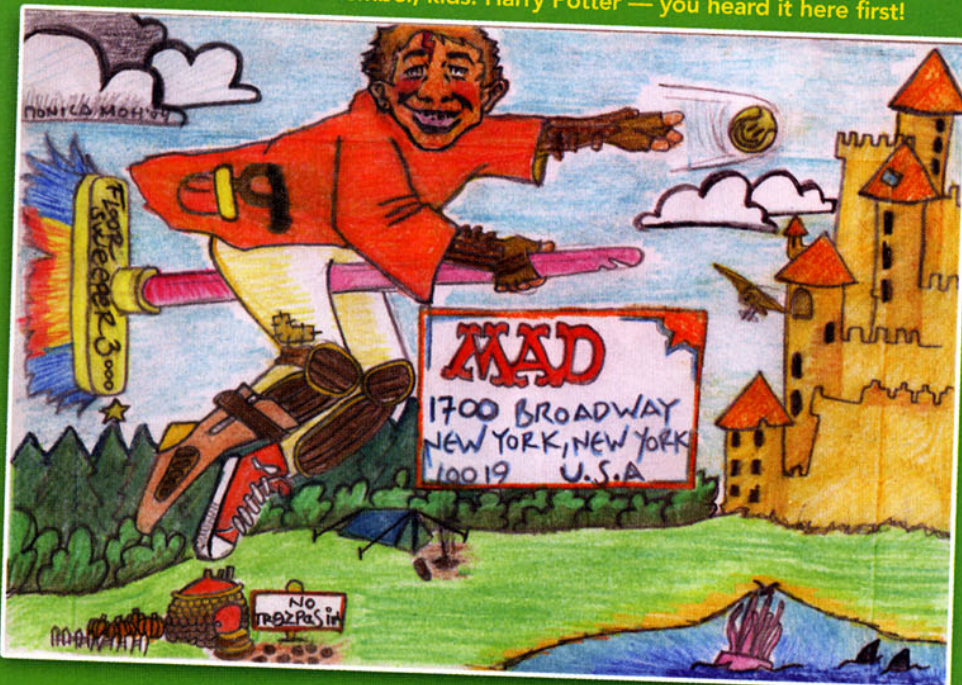
THE BIG QUESTION

Back in MAD #456 we brought back a treasured feature we called "MAD's Big Question." In the newest installment we asked readers to tell us "What celebrity would you like to see eating a Mad Cow-tainted cheesesteak on *Fear Factor*?" And the celebrity that got the most votes is...that couch-jumping wackadoo, Mr. Tom Cruise! (In a close second was super-useless professional bimbo Paris Hilton, and in a surprising tie for third — professional himbo Brad Pitt and right-wing bimbo Ann Coulter!) We'd like to take this opportunity to wish Tom all the luck in his upcoming marriage...before the inevitable divorce occurs. Thanks to all who voted and be sure to write in with your votes for this issue's Big Question!



ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

In our continuing quest to get the word out on *Harry Potter*, we present this *Harry Potter*-inspired Envelope of the Month, sent in by Monica Morales O'Hagan of the Canary Islands, Spain. Thanks, Monica and remember, kids: *Harry Potter* — you heard it here first!



MAD'S BIG QUESTION OF THE ISSUE

Which celebrity's iPod would you like to see cranked up to a dangerously high volume?

Send in your pick to Amy "The Big Question" Vozeolas, c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.

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BECK ISSUES

I watch music videos all the time and when I was watching new videos on TV, I saw Beck's video for "Girl." I notice how things fold-in like the MAD Fold-in. I also think I saw Al Jaffee's name on one of the television sets in the video. There was also Alfred's lips with the missing tooth at the end of it. Please tell me, did Beck ask you for help?

John Higginson, Philadelphia, PA

Port-A-John — As we first reported way back in MAD #456, Beck's "Girl" video is filled with Fold-ins come to life! To answer your question, Beck did get Al Jaffee's blessing before making the video. To see the video's Fold-ins in detail, check out our special feature in MAD Classics # 4 on sale December 20th! —Ed.



READER ALERT

Everyone that got their missive published in this month's Letters Page will receive a free copy of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* for PlayStation 2 courtesy of EA Games! (Boy, this movie might just make some cash after all!) For those who didn't get their letters printed, don't worry — the game is on sale now! Go to www.masterthemagic.com to check it out yourself!



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**Contributing Artists
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the usual gang of idiots

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MAD'S TWO-QUESTION INTERVIEW!

We were lucky enough to corner *American Idol* champ, Carrie Underwood, who took time out of her schedule to endure the most intense grilling since her days in front of Simon!



QUESTION ONE: How would you feel about this being a three-question interview?

CARRIE: Sounds great! No problem.

QUESTION TWO: Ooooh...well, we only prepared for a two-question interview. Is it okay if we just stick with the original plan?

CARRIE: Sure.

Thank you for taking part in
MAD's 2-Question Interview!

To read more from Carrie, be sure to check out her full interview in MAD Kids #2 — and buy her new album *Some Hearts* on sale now!
Guarantee: MAD's Two-Question Interviews are genuine and presented verbatim!

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Paul Levitz, President and Publisher, September 28, 2005

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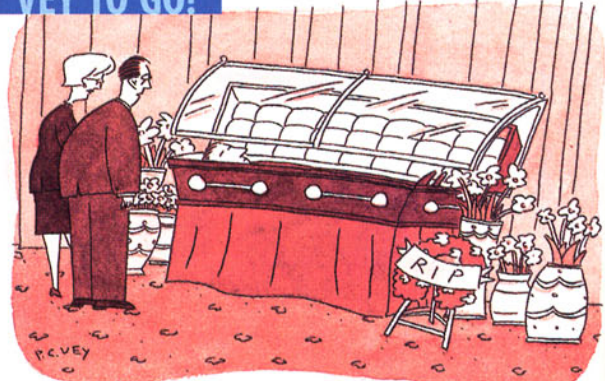


ALIVE!

THE ALLIGATOR-SKINNED CROCODILE

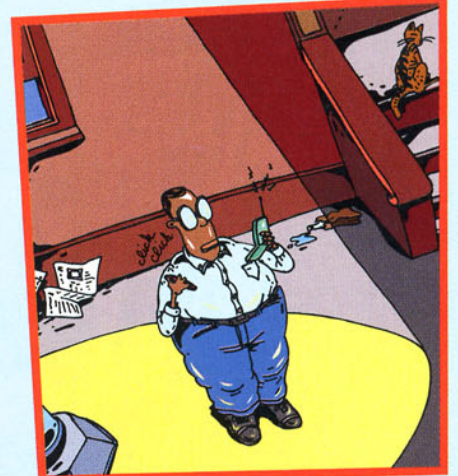


VEY TO GO!



"IT'S GOOD TO SEE HE FINALLY GOT SOME USE OUT OF THAT SNEEZE GUARD"

MELVIN & JENKINS' GUIDE TO CELL PHONES



Jenkins catalogs and remembers which areas of town are the "dead zones" that can disconnect an important call.



Melvin discovers the clearest reception for his anonymous obscene calls happens to be from the uppermost branch of the tree outside his subject's bedroom window.

PAGES

GEORGE LUCAS

director of *Star Wars*

Massa Potter, meesa make sure you reeeal comfy'able!

Shuffle shuffle shuffle

The digitally-created character Dobby the House Elf is made much harder to understand and much more ethnically offensive.

MATT STONE & TREY PARKER

directors of *South Park* and *Team America*



Finally, the moment you've all been waiting for: Moaning Myrtle meets Mr. Hanky!

IF THE NEXT HARRY POTTER MOVIE WAS DIRECTED BY:

WOODY ALLEN

director of *Annie Hall* and *Manhattan*



Dumbledore pursues a romantic relationship with Hermione.

Oh, Hermione, as Freud would say, you cast a spell on my magic wand!

MEL GIBSON

director of *The Passion of the Christ*



The entire film shows Hogwarts students giving up potions and spells in order to study Aramaic, intercut with graphic scenes depicting the slow and painful death of Harry's parents.

THE FAST 5

5 THINGS OVERHEARD AT THE WEDDING OF DEMI MOORE & ASHTON KUTCHER

- 1 I didn't even know Von Dutch made yarmulkes!
- 2 Demi's former Brat Pack pal, Judd Nelson, is here — and the roast beef he's serving is delicious!
- 3 I'm confused. Do Demi's boobs count as something old or something new?
- 4 Uh oh, trouble! Ashton's ex, Doris Roberts, just walked in!
- 5 This is the most boring four hours I've spent since...well...the last two Ashton Kutcher movies!

THE HARDCORE GAMER'S PSALM

*The Game is my passion; I shall not lose.
It maketh me frag n00bs in dark alleys:
To gib suxxors beside still waters.
It restoreth my health:
It leadeth me in the paths of MMOGs for my ego's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of griefers,
I will fear no d00d: For my boomstick art with me;
My sword and my BFG, they comfort me.
Thou preparest an ambush before me and offer me llamas;
Thou annointest my head with skillz;
My ammo runneth over.*

*Surely fear and dread shall follow me all the days of my Half-Life,
And I will respawn in the bowels of the Game forever.*



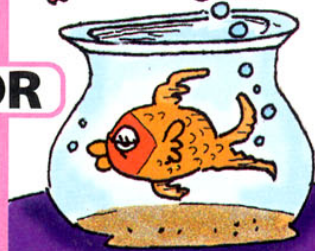
STUPID IKEA PRODUCT NAME OR CARTOON SOUND EFFECT?

BLOOPKA



OR

BLOOPKA



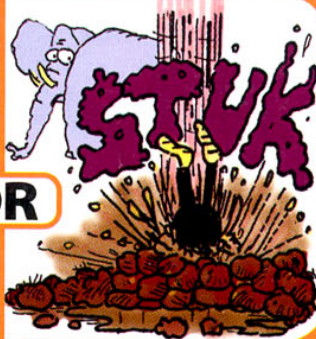
IKEA children's chair?

A goldfish breaking wind?

STUK



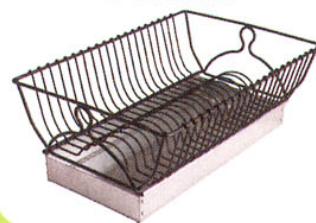
OR



IKEA handle?

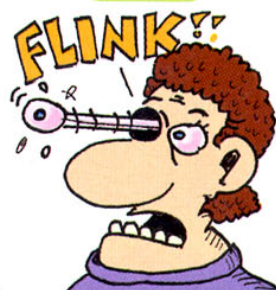
A head-first dive into a mound of elephant manure?

FLINK



IKEA dish drainer?

OR

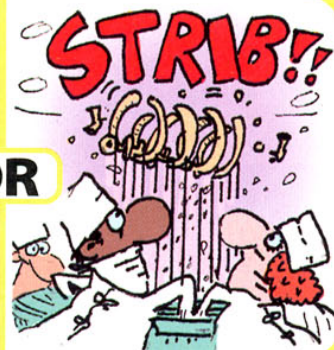


A glass eye popping out?

STRIB



OR



IKEA hand-tufted rug?

A rib cage eruption?

PISHULT



OR



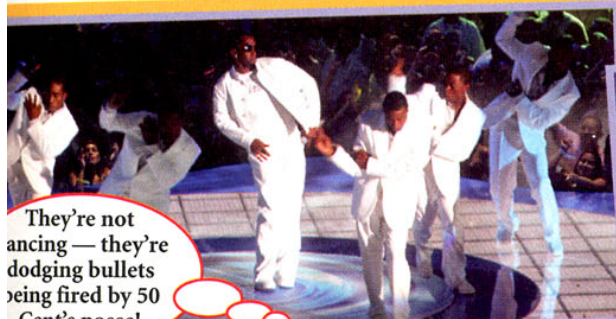
IKEA 5-drawer chest?

A toilet bowl geyser?

Answer: Strib and Stuk are actual names of IKEA products!



FUNDALINI FOTO NEWS: GOES SOUTH FOR THE VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS



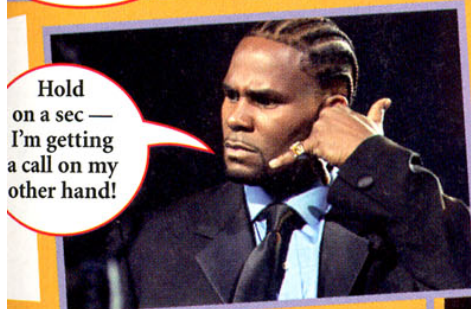
They're not dancing — they're dodging bullets being fired by 50 Cent's posse!



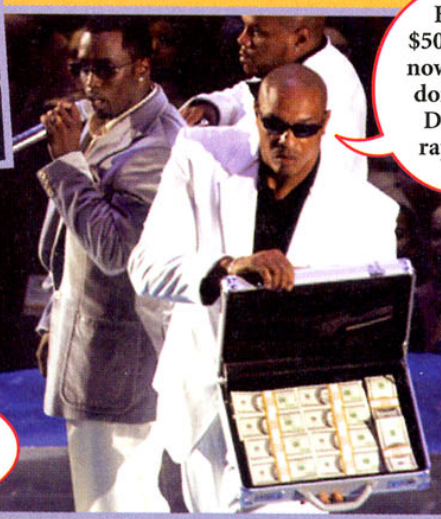
Wild geese that fly with the moon on their wings...these are a few of my favorite things!



Since I became borderline anorexic, it takes three fewer leopards to make my dress!



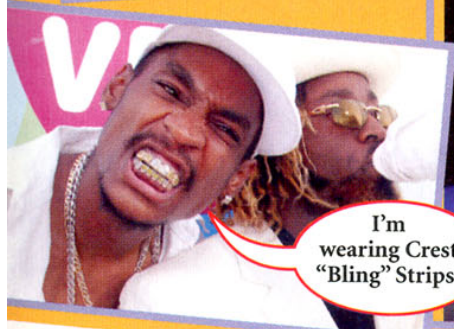
Hold on a sec — I'm getting a call on my other hand!



Here's \$50,000 — now please don't boo Diddy's rapping!



I've been had — this envelope isn't in 3-D after all!

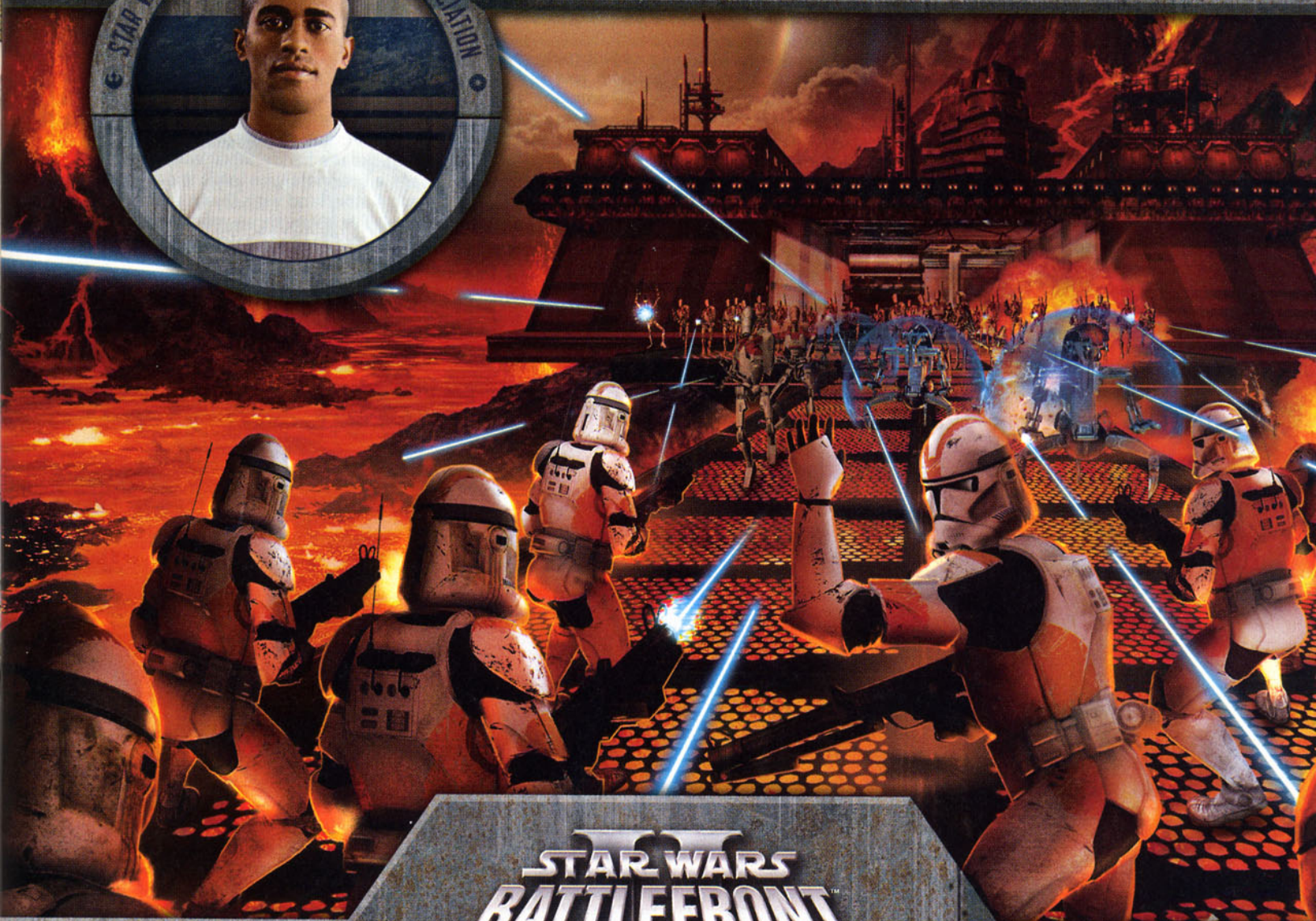
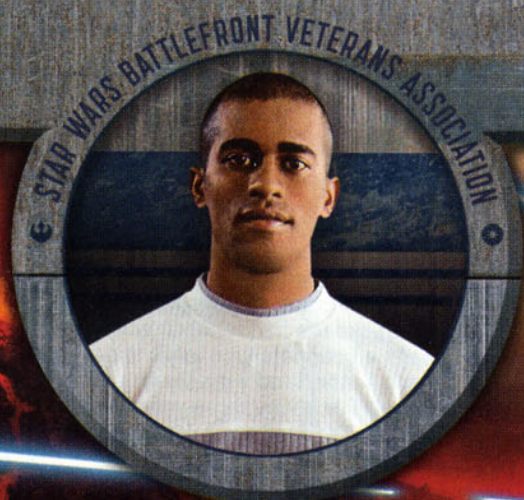


I'm wearing Crest "Bling" Strips!

FRIENDS OF FUNDALINI

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Ray Alma | Desmond Devlin | Rich Powell |
| Grey Blackwell | Duck Edwing | Leonardo Rodriguez |
| Mark Cantrell | Huw Evans | Timothy Shamey |
| Tom Nick Cocotos | Ross Garmil | P.C. Vey |
| Matthew A. Cohen | Kevin Pope | |

I'M GOING BACK TO MUSTAFAR TO OPEN A
MOLTEN-HOT CAN OF WHOOP ASS.



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THEY'RE OFF TO BE THE WIZARDS DEPT.

Harry

In the past three years, that breakable dweeb Harry Plodder has been attacked and almost killed by (among others) a giant spider, a giant three-headed dog, a giant tunnel snake, a psychotic tree and an army of ice-cold dementors, not to mention the minor details of a never-ending death plot involving various strangers, classmates, parents, professors, and the most evil wizard who ever lived. And the story's not even half over for the poor schmuck! There's no doubt about it...

Oh, joy! Another year older, and another semester at Halfwits! Suspicious classmates hate me, some of the professors torment me for fun, and I've almost been murdered a half-dozen times! No wonder I call this place "home"!

Just as I suspected, Harry! Most of your lightning bolt scar tissue must be on the inside of your forehead! Anyhow, it's not like you're the only one who's got problems. Now that I've blossomed into a chatroom pervert's wettest screen dream, sex has entered the picture. I have to stave off the raging hormones of just about every male character except your owl! It started with my so-called friend, Runt! That's right, don't think I haven't seen you trying to slip roofies into my potions!

Don't blame me, blame puberty! My voice has magically changed, and I'm feeling a strange "Engorgio" charm in my slacks! I just can't believe you'd prefer the suave machismo of an elite Russian athlete when you have a specimen like me handy. What woman wouldn't want a beanpole who looks like a young Donald Sutherland with Down's syndrome? Please? I've spent three years petting my rat, and I'm ready to take the next step!

I'm Drano Malformed. I know that Druckermort has a plan to return. And when he does, he'll create a nightmare world of capricious death and torture, in which me and my family will get to be his slaves for eternity. Ha ha! Who's gonna have the last laugh THEN, Plodder?

I'm New Prop Character #1, Eccentric Buggery! This year Harry Plodder isn't going to be the only star of this school. I've read ahead in the script, and I get to be an unforgettable hero who receives special honors. Now I just have to check what "posthumous" means!

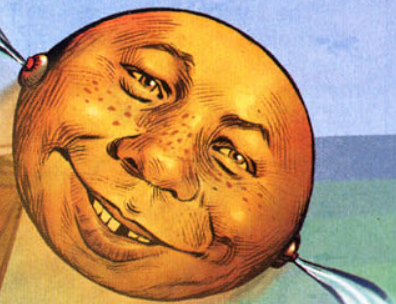
And I'm New Prop Character #2, Harry's exotic Asian classmate Cha Ching! In British terms, I give Harry a "sticky wicket"! Maybe we can enjoy bangers and fish fingers sometime! I know he'd like to visit the other side of the pond! Okay, is that enough slang to make you American yahoos happy? Regardless, Harry would make the perfect boyfriend for a healthy 15-year-old girl. Long before I get bored of being with him, he'll probably already be dead!

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

Plodder

HAS GOTTA RETIRE



Harry Plodder! Herwhiny Grungy! Runt Queasy! I can still remember you the way you children first arrived here, three DVDs ago! What a pleasure it's been to watch you grow into a fine young man in Harry's case, or a splendid young woman in Miss Grungy's. As for Runt Queasy, it could still go either way!

As Headmistress, I am very, very unhappy with all the romance going on, in and around my Griddlecake House! Mostly because I haven't gotten any since the Dark Age! Ah, what a wonderful time the Dark Age was. Alas, once the lights came back on, I was out of luck!

I'm jus' so pleased to be a perfessor here at Halfwits! I couldn't love my students more if they were undulating gaseous gully frogs! I don't know why I identifies so strongly wit' abnormal animals. I wonder about it every times I combs my giant frizzled beard or eat a gnu raw! I needs t' watch my diet, though. I'm th' reason these movies are filmed in widescreen! Right now I'm 1,608 pounds, and that's after six weeks on the South Witch Diet!

For years now, I've had to sit back jealously and watch other, less qualified wizards run the show! I've had to put up with abuse from a sneaky, wet-nosed little punk who never seems to lose! Yes, I'm a Democrat. Why do you ask?



Yeah, yeah, I know, I could use an extreme makeover. It took a lot of hard battles and a slight constipation problem to turn me into "Bad Eye Moonpie"! Hey, at least my right eyeball is normal, which puts me one up on Ashley Olsen! I was glad to take the vacant Defense Against Dork Arts teaching position, not so much for the salary as for the health benefits. I go through about three gallons of Visine a day!

Harry Plodder, you've beaten me time and again. But I wouldn't be Lord Druckermort if I didn't have a good backup backup backup backup plan! Right now, though, I need to lie down and rest for a year or so. My body is in ruins and I need to have my arm replaced. On the plus side, I've been offered a slot in the New York Yankees' starting rotation!

Master, it is an honor to serve you! I am happy to grovel in your magnificent shadow, shamelessly overeager to fulfill your smallest command. I'm even thinking of changing my name to "Condoleezza"! The ultimate reward for my loyalty will be when you rise again and make me your right hand man. Er, make that left hand!

On second thought, I'm thinking of transferring to a home-schooling system at the Neverland Ranch! It's a much safer environment for confused young boys!



The Squamish Cup championship is a million times faster and more violent than the games you're used to at Halfwits. But it's getting way too overcommercialized...

Pow! Young superstar Virile Skum has just dislocated Adam Cooke's elbow. Cooke is in agony...and fans, if you've been dislocated, why not rent a U-Haul? Play continues, and here comes Ireland's trio of chasers. Like a heaping bowl of frosted Lucky Charms, these Irish speedsters are magically delicious. Oh, no! There's been some kind of enchanted explosion. The players are horribly burned! The flesh is melting off their limbs and faces!

Yes, but I have some good news. I just saved a bunch of money on my broom insurance!



Welcome to another thrill-packed semester here at Halfwits! Together, we shall accomplish the impossible! Namely, take a 734-page book and somehow cram it into a 130-minute movie! So if you're into those annoying chapters with the "civil rights movement for elves," take your geeky nerd diatribes to the internet! That subplot is OUT of here!

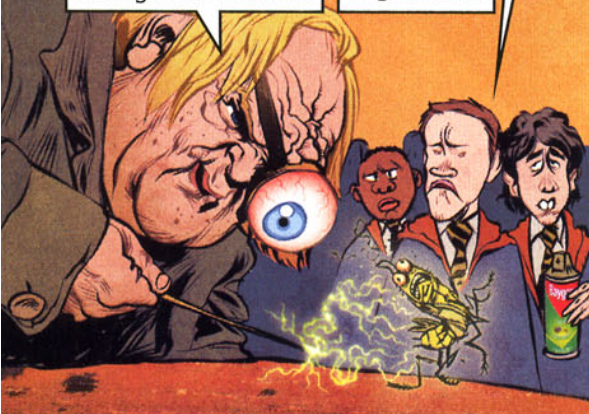
As headmaster here at Halfwits, I am entrusted with protecting the safety of every student. On the other hand, what the heck! Thus I happily announce the resumption of the deadly, once-banned Toowitless Tournament! Three schools shall compete! Any Halfwits student over the age of 17 may enter their name for the enviable privilege of being incinerated, drowned or squished! It's no wonder our school's passing rate is 95%, but its survival rate is 82%!



The "oompahpah" spell makes these spiders twitch! The "ralphmacchio" spell makes 'em bleed! And the illegal "gabbagabbahey" spell sucks the life right out of them!

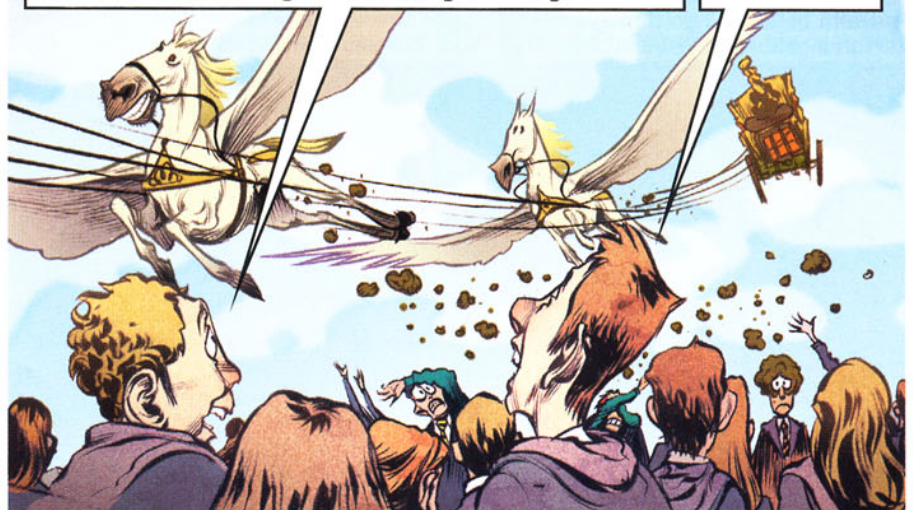
Can we use these spells against Lord Druckerwort?

Who cares? I just think torturing bugs is FUN!



It's the two schools that put the "rival" in "arrival"! The all-boys school Spermgang has already marched in. And now, say hello to the all-girls school, Babeathon! Everyone's so thrilled to see their magnificent carriages soaring overhead!

Except the unlucky ones... right under the horses!





And the three contestants will be... from Spermgang, Virile Skum! From Babeathon, Fleur Dexatrim! And from Halfwits, Eccentric Buggery! Wait! There's a fourth — Harry Plodder! Shocking! Who could have imagined this, except anyone who saw the small clue hidden in the movie's title?

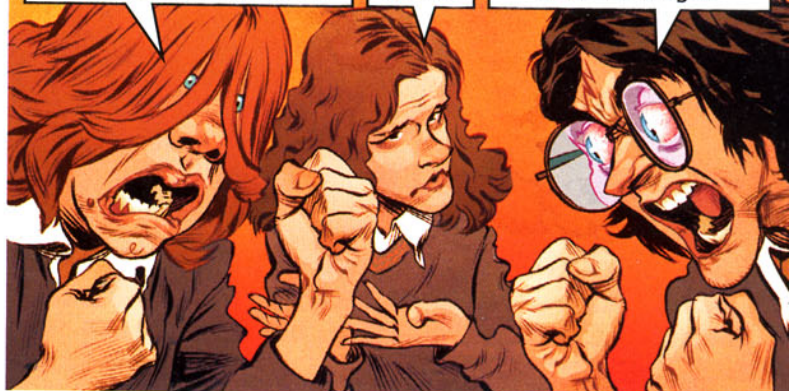
Sorry, Harry. It's against the rules and incredibly dangerous. Yes, and Druckermort is trying to kill you. But there's no way out. The metal cup says you have to play!



Harry Plodder! Harry Plodder! Banana Fana Fo Fodder! Just because you're pure and brave and good and loyal, you think you're so great! Well, I'm sick of living in your shadow! Admittedly, shadows are good for my pasty British skin...

Let him vent. It's hard for Runt to be your personal Nicole Richie!

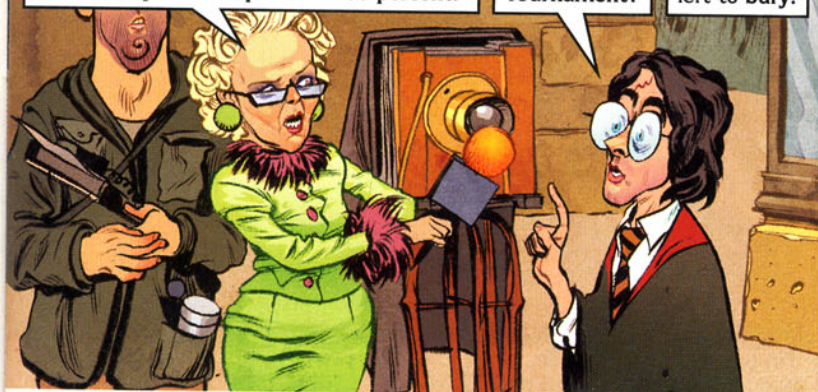
That's okay. In every movie, this is where the whole school turns against me for no reason. It's so predictable, they list my annual ostracization in the Halfwits course catalogue!



Rita Skeever here for Faux News. Harry Plodder, why are you soft on terrorism? Do you repudiate the blame game? Will you be helping a heartbroken Jennifer Aniston to pick up the pieces? I'll give you the last word. But before I do, you might like to know that the response to our unscientific online Harry Plodder poll was "33 percent."

You mean they think I have a 1-in-3 chance of winning the Toowitless Tournament?

Not quite. After you get roasted alive, there'll only be about a third of you left to bury!



I have a big problem. I used my invisibility cloak to follow Haggard and Madame Maximum into the woods and saw the first Toowitless challenge. A dragon!

I'd say your biggest problem is that you're using that cloak to watch Haggard instead of spying on girls! Whoops, gotta go! I'm on Sprint, and their roaming charges on person-to-fireplace calls are through the roof!



Behold! Only one shall go down in history! Only one wins eternal glory in a legendary tournament no one ever heard of until a few weeks ago! Is anybody buying this? Anyone? Is this mic on? Testing, testing!

Harry Plodder is one of the 400 bravest people I've ever known!

400? Who are the other 399?

All of us here in the stadium! If that dragon decides to turn his head and cough, we're toast! Literally!

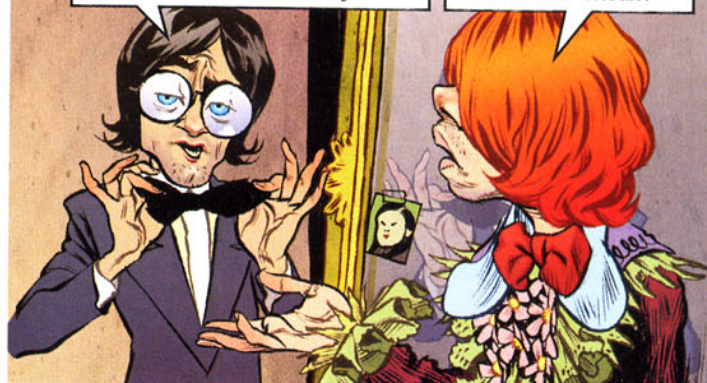
ERADICATE & SCORCH POTTER'S NADS!

HAT WOULD DUMBLEDORE DO?



We need a couple of dates for the Christmas dance. Fortunately, I have a plan. I'm going to keep stalking Cha Ching around the hallway corridors, giving her steamy blank looks. From what I know about girls, they just LOVE that! How about you?

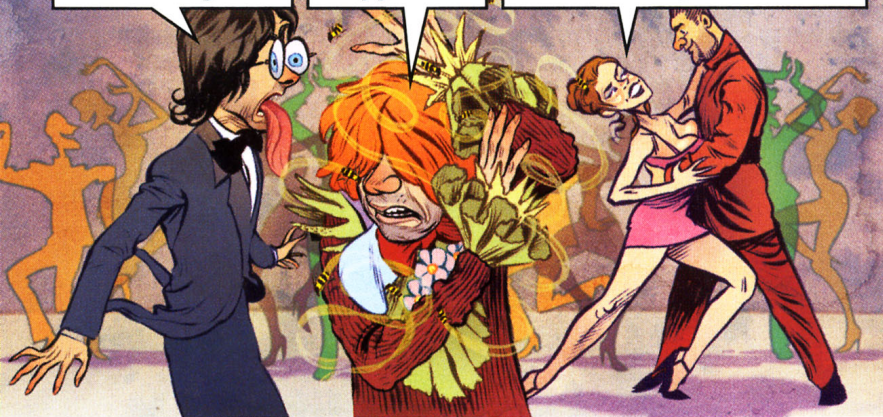
I finally worked up the courage to speak with Fleur Dexatrim. Of course, she's French, so we didn't quite communicate. What does "stuffez-vous, le dorke" mean?



What's that clicking noise? It sounds like 500,000 pause buttons being hit on DVDs in basement apartments all around the globe!

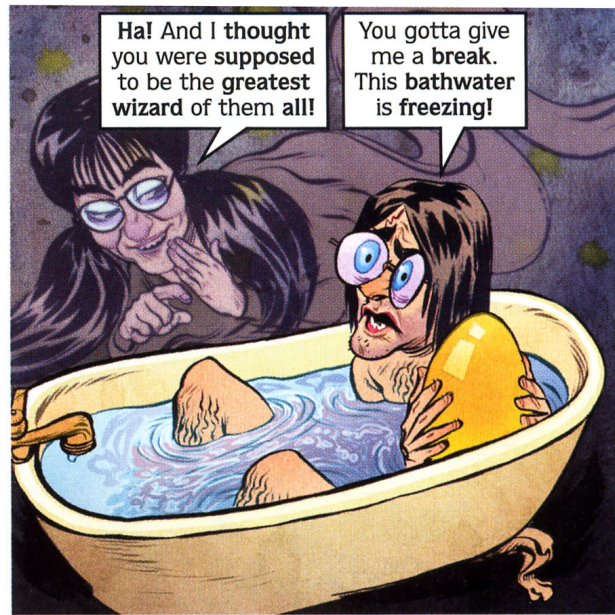
I'd leer, except I'm distracted. These stupid bees keep trying to pollinate my jacket!

What a lucky girl I am. I have my pick between a monosyllabic Russian musclehead and a slack-lipped, red-headed dweeb! No wonder Halfwits comes in dead last in the ranking of "Best Party Schools"!



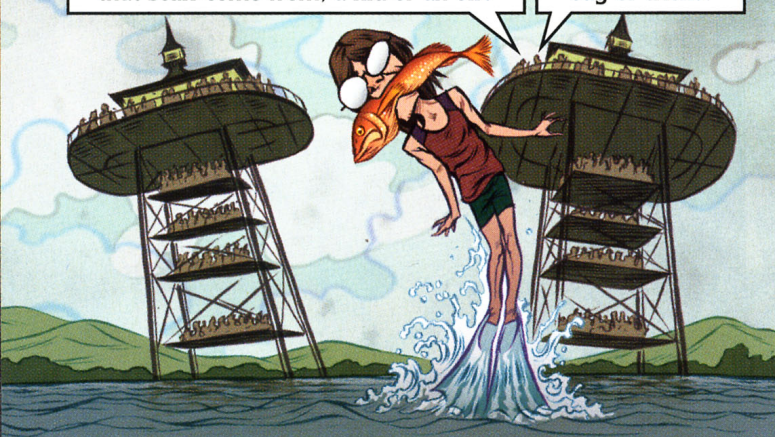
Ha! And I thought you were supposed to be the greatest wizard of them all!

You gotta give me a break. This bathwater is freezing!



In the original book, Harry got the magically convenient underwater breathing weed from Slobby the Elf! But here, he gets the magically convenient underwater breathing weed from a helpful classmate. So where DOES that stuff come from, a kid or an elf?

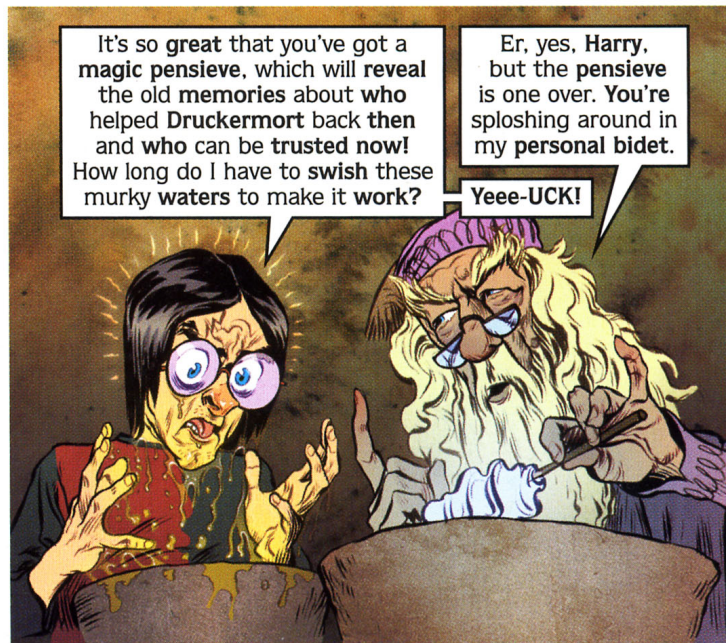
Neither! It comes from J.K. Rowling's "whatever it takes to keep the story moving" bag of tricks!



It's so great that you've got a magic pensieve, which will reveal the old memories about who helped Druckermort back then and who can be trusted now! How long do I have to swish these murky waters to make it work?

Er, yes, Harry, but the pensieve is one over. You're splashing around in my personal bidet.

Yeee-UCK!



We'll get out of this final challenge together. Left! Left! Right! Right! Up!

What kind of directions are those? It's the PlayStation cheat code for this stupid scene. Think about it. We had to go through a maze, fighting creatures, until we located the secret object that warped us to another room. It's exactly like a videogame!

With one difference! In your case, you only get one life!



I'm back! I killed Plodder's parents. I killed my own father. My second reign of terror begins now! And I send costly text messages to all my friends! I'm evil!

So... will you show me respect, Plodder?

I can't!

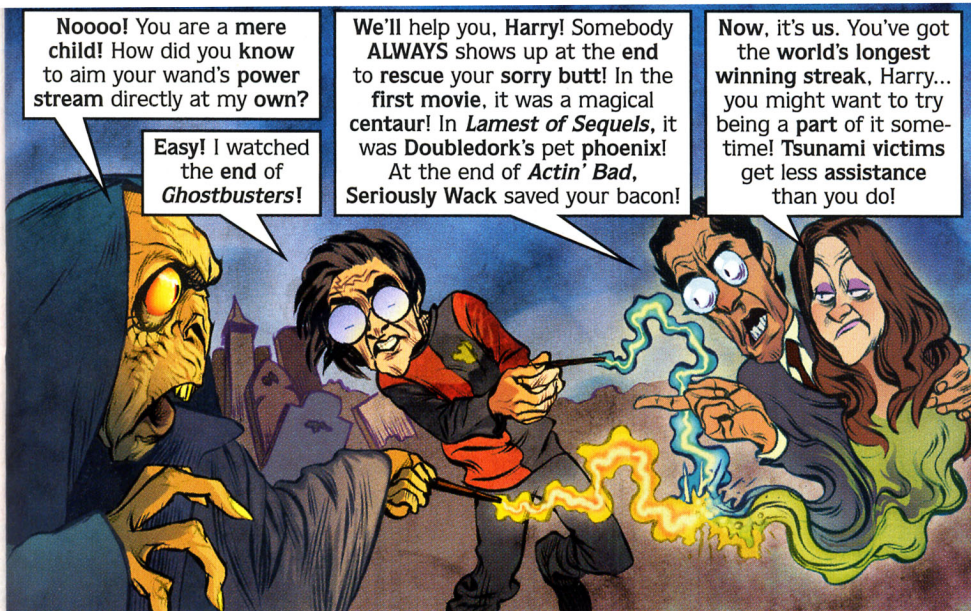
Then will you show me fear?

I can't!

Even at the moment of your death, you have nothing to show me?

I told you, I can't! I'm an incredibly stiff and limited actor!





Noooo! You are a mere child! How did you know to aim your wand's power stream directly at my own?

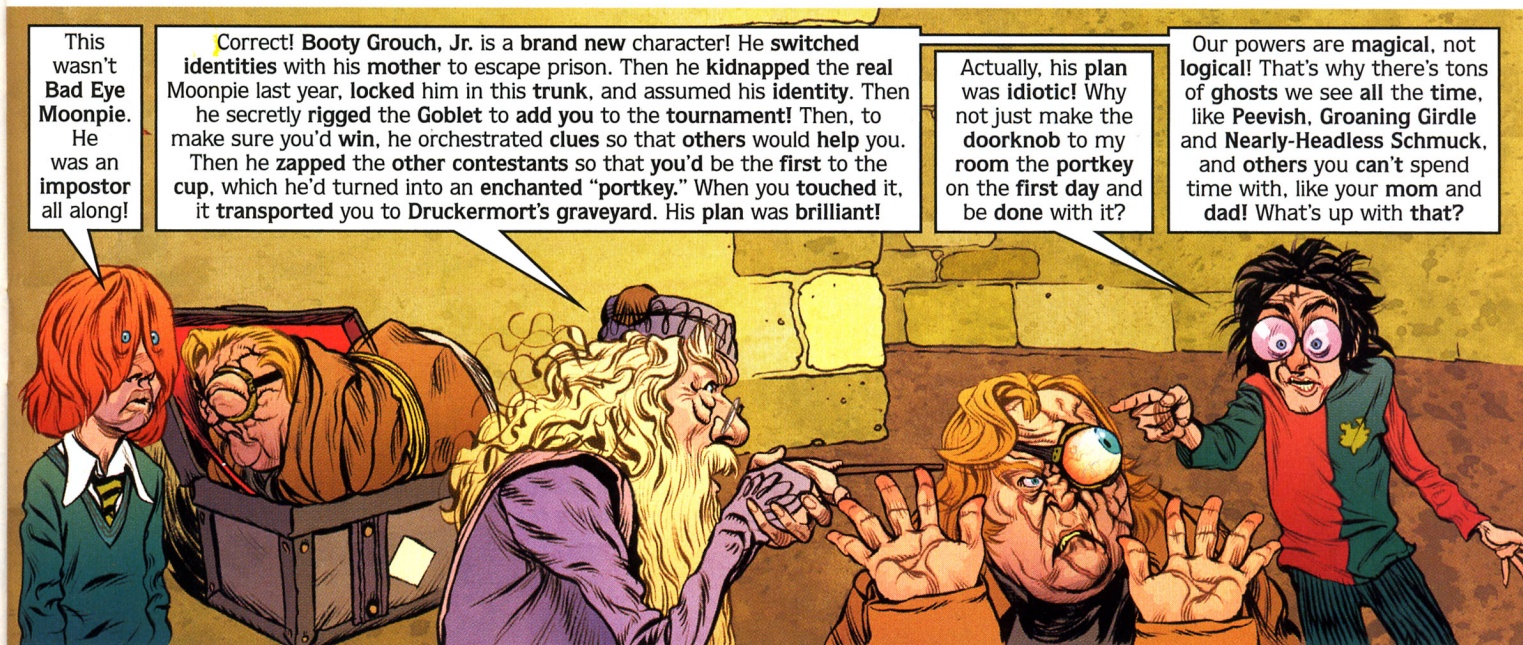
Easy! I watched the end of *Ghostbusters*!

We'll help you, Harry! Somebody **ALWAYS** shows up at the end to rescue your sorry butt! In the first movie, it was a magical centaur! In *Lamest of Sequels*, it was Doubledork's pet phoenix! At the end of *Actin' Bad*, Seriously Wack saved your bacon!

Now, it's us. You've got the world's longest winning streak, Harry... you might want to try being a part of it sometime! Tsunami victims get less assistance than you do!



Hi ho, everyone! There's good news and bad news regarding the tournament results. The good news is that Eccentric Buggery tied for first place! The bad news is that it's the end of the movie, which means it's just about time for the usual boring, wordy and incredibly convoluted explanation of what happened. Oh, and also, Eccentric snuffed it!

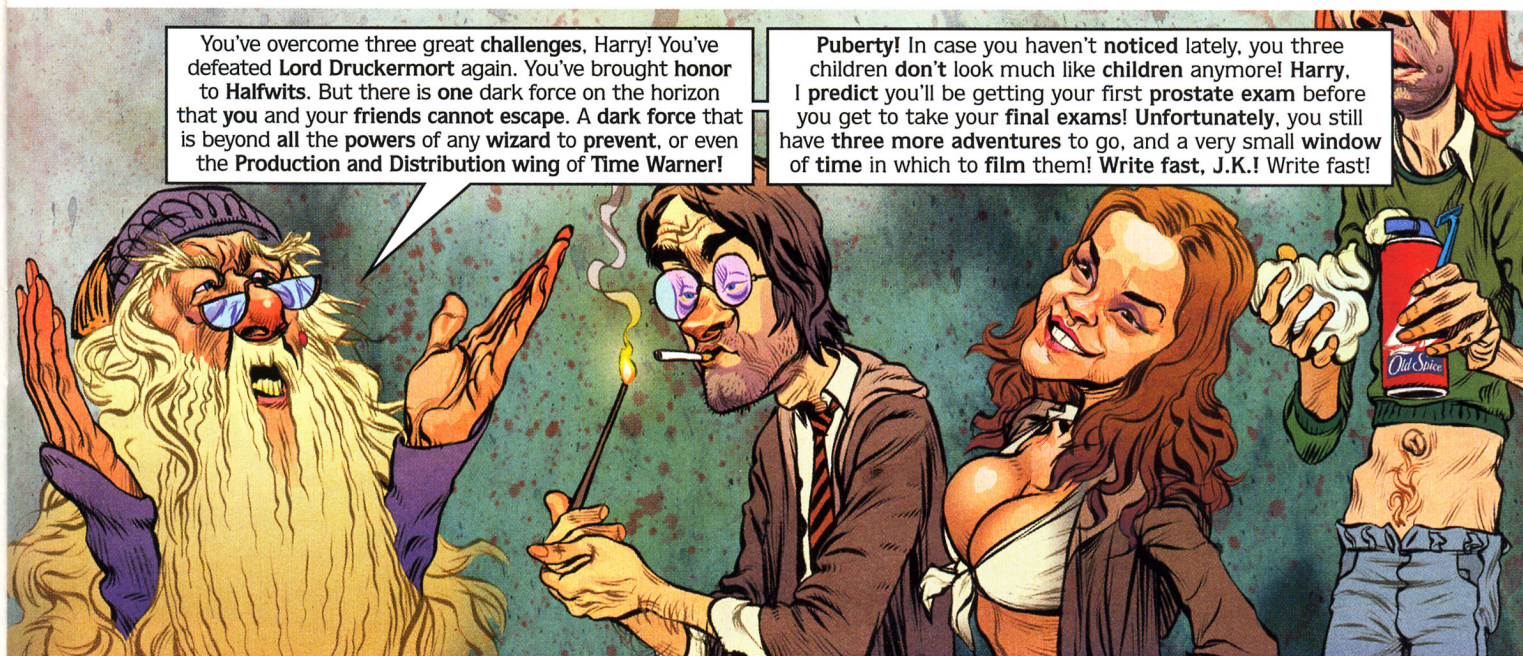


This wasn't Bad Eye Moonpie. He was an impostor all along!

Correct! Booty Grouch, Jr. is a brand new character! He switched identities with his mother to escape prison. Then he kidnapped the real Moonpie last year, locked him in this trunk, and assumed his identity. Then he secretly rigged the Goblet to add you to the tournament! Then, to make sure you'd win, he orchestrated clues so that others would help you. Then he zapped the other contestants so that you'd be the first to the cup, which he'd turned into an enchanted "portkey." When you touched it, it transported you to Druckermort's graveyard. His plan was brilliant!

Actually, his plan was idiotic! Why not just make the doorknob to my room the portkey on the first day and be done with it?

Our powers are magical, not logical! That's why there's tons of ghosts we see all the time, like Peevish, Groaning Girdle and Nearly-Headless Schmuck, and others you can't spend time with, like your mom and dad! What's up with that?

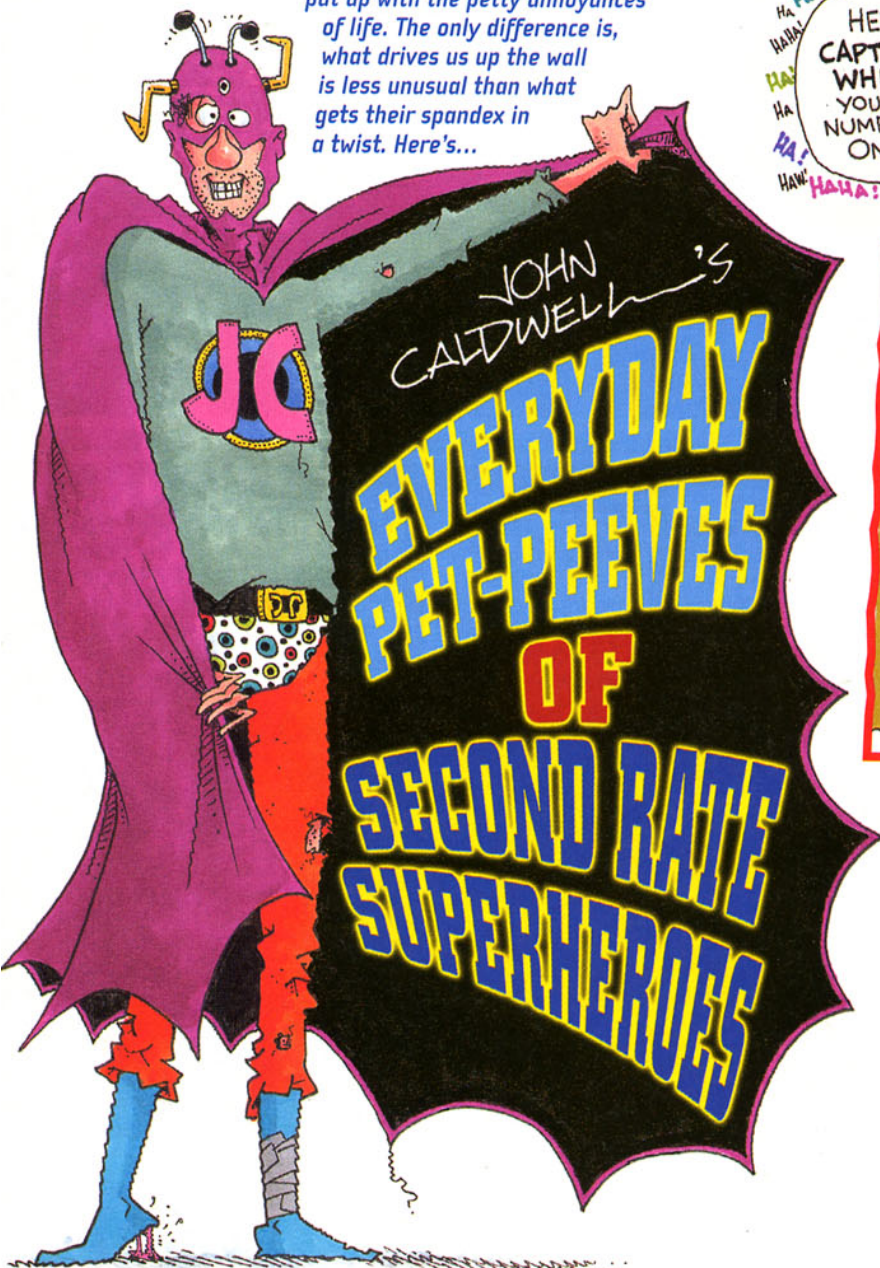


You've overcome three great challenges, Harry! You've defeated Lord Druckermort again. You've brought honor to Halfwits. But there is one dark force on the horizon that you and your friends cannot escape. A dark force that is beyond all the powers of any wizard to prevent, or even the Production and Distribution wing of Time Warner!

Puberty! In case you haven't noticed lately, you three children don't look much like children anymore! Harry, I predict you'll be getting your first prostate exam before you get to take your final exams! Unfortunately, you still have three more adventures to go, and a very small window of time in which to film them! Write fast, J.K.! Write fast!

Let's face it, for every one Batman, there are fifteen other less notable muscle-heads in gaudy outfits out there fighting evil. And while these crime-fighters may enjoy certain super-hero powers, at the end of the day they're really just like the rest of us in having to

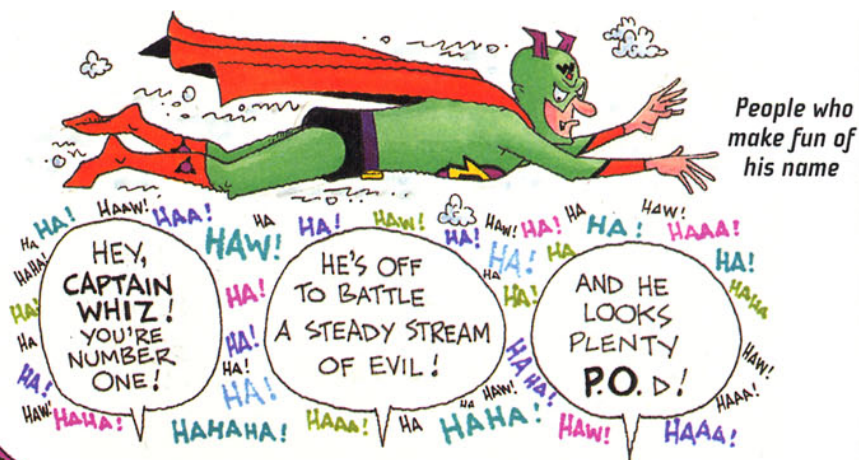
put up with the petty annoyances of life. The only difference is, what drives us up the wall is less unusual than what gets their spandex in a twist. Here's...



ARTIST AND WRITER: JOHN CALDWELL



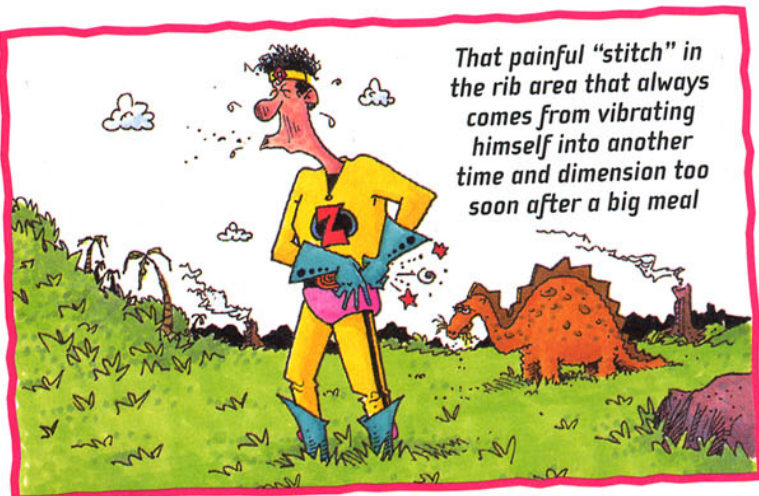
Trying to find a place to put that 747 he just prevented from hurtling to Earth and exploding on impact

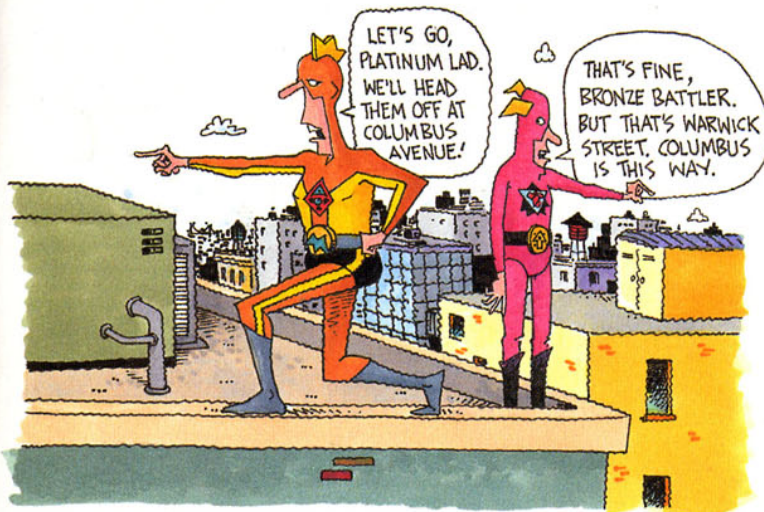
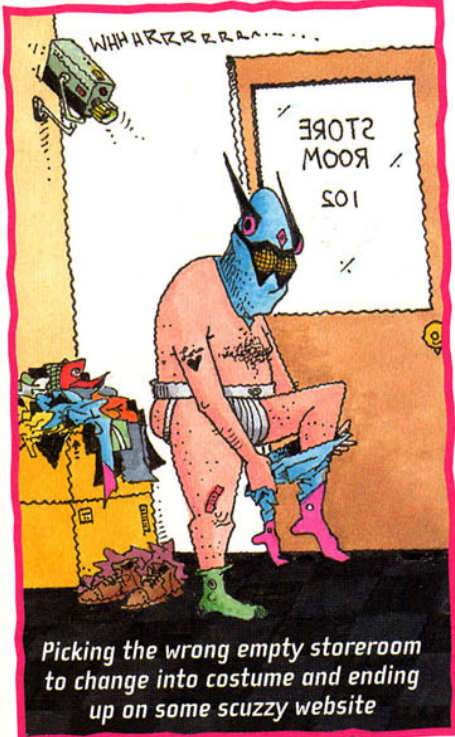


People who make fun of his name

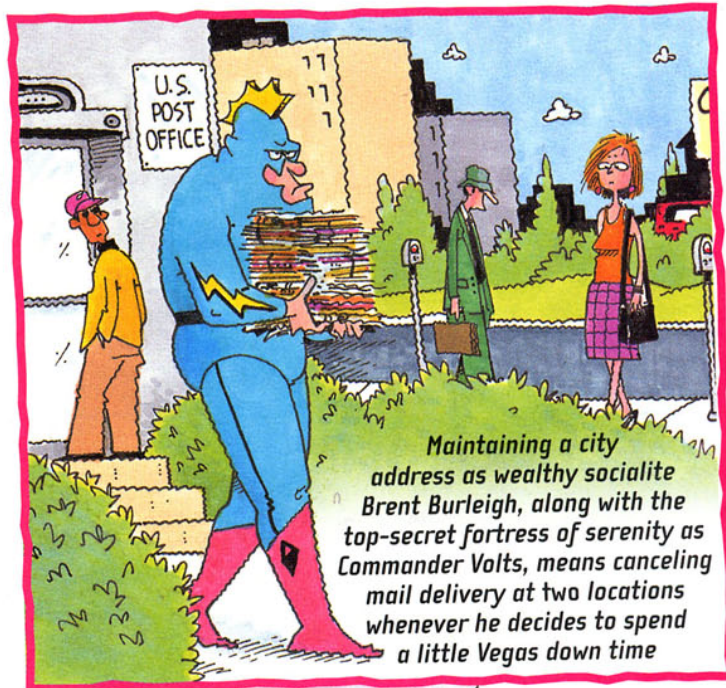


When the low budget film of his daring exploits goes straight to video because they cast Jon Lovitz in the feature role

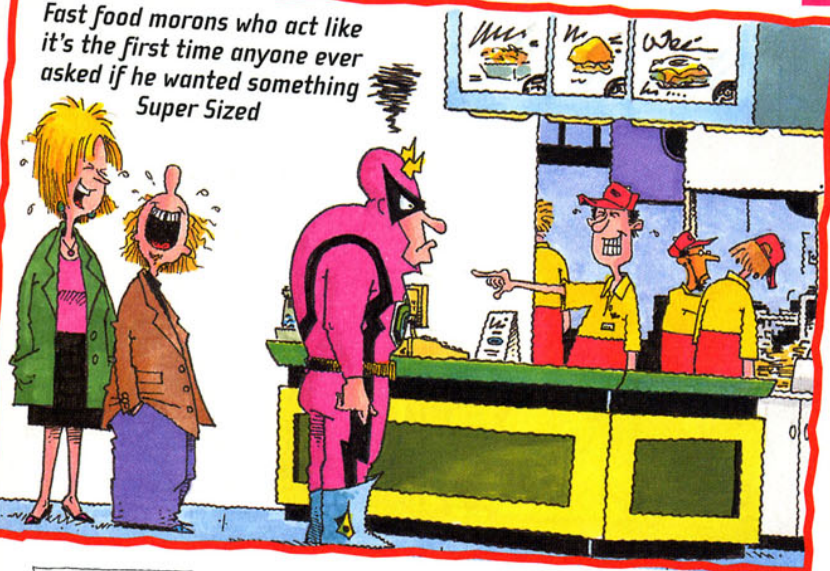




The fact that the city refuses to do squat with regard to his petition to put street signs on rooftops

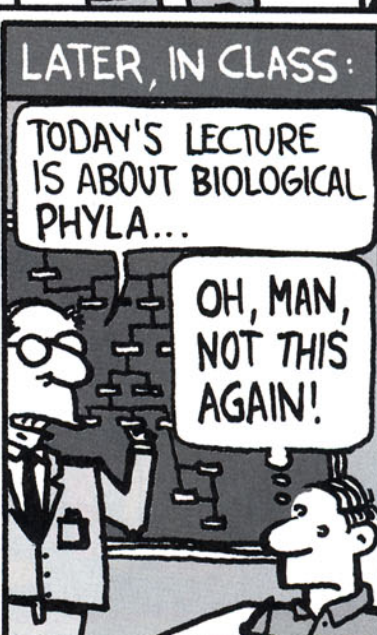
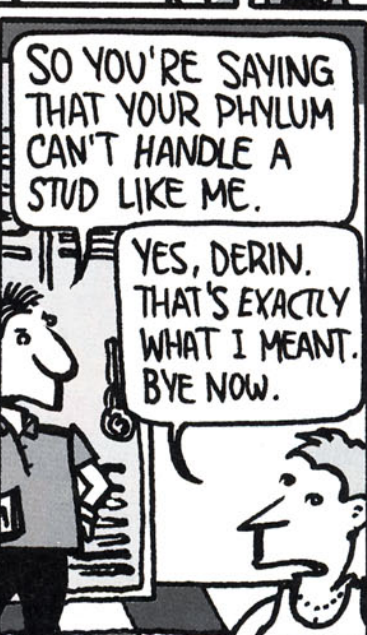
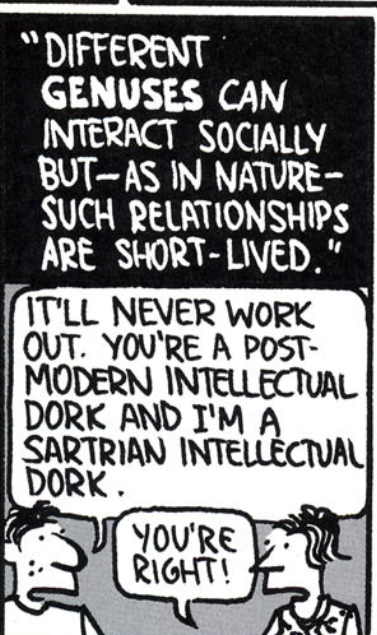
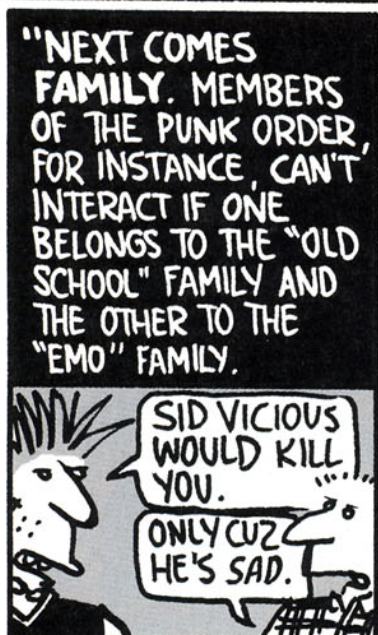
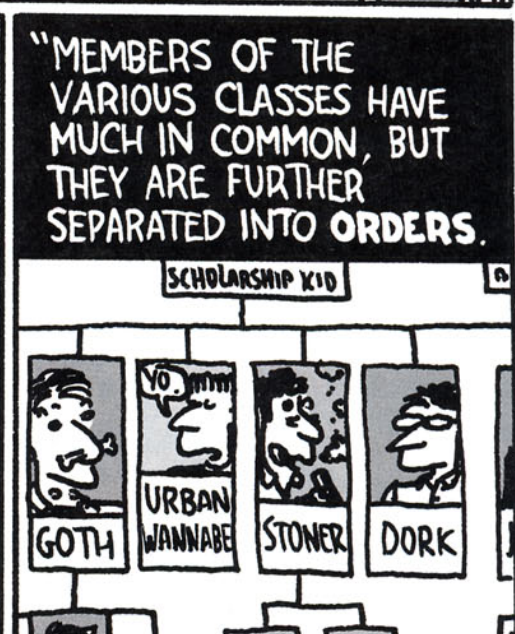
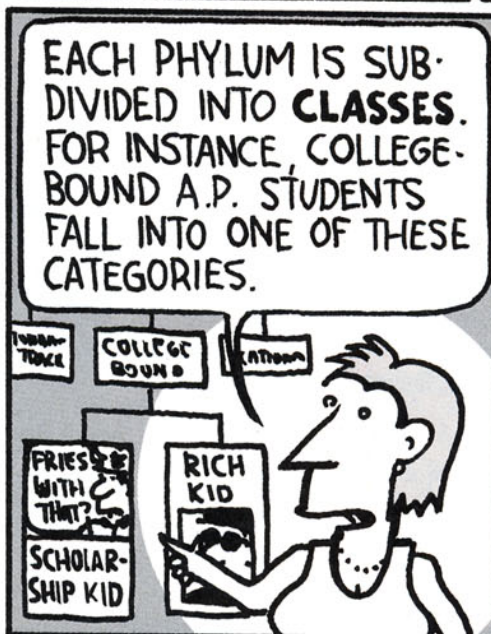
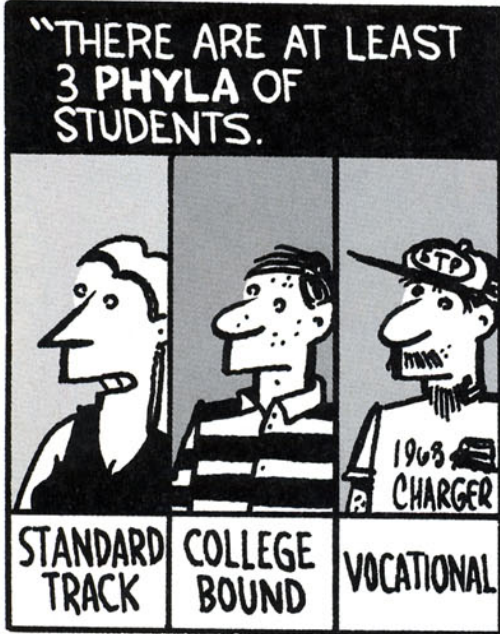
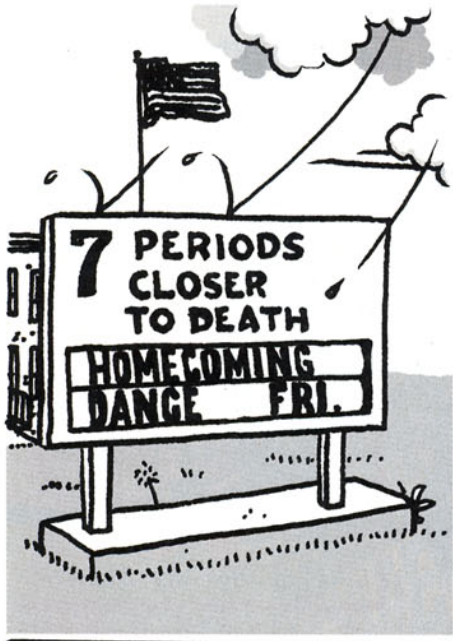


Fast food morons who act like it's the first time anyone ever asked if he wanted something Super Sized



Poorly designed costumes







BATMAN

THE PLAYERS ARRIVE.

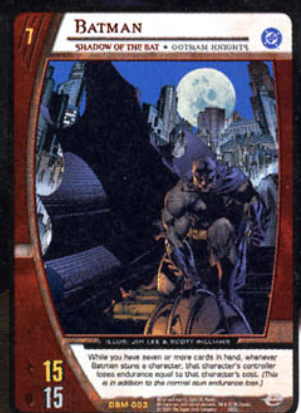
BATMAN,
THE DARK KNIGHT...

**IN DEAD MAN'S
HAND!**

UBU,
AS DEADLY AS
HE IS LOYAL...

RA'S AL GHUL,
THE ETERNAL
ENEMY...

THE BATTLEFIELD
IS UBU'S ENCAMPMENT.



THE LOCATION IS SET AND THE CHARACTERS ARE READY FOR BATTLE!
WITH THE VS. SYSTEM TRADING CARD GAME, YOU DETERMINE THE OUTCOME ...

CHOK

USE A
SWING
LINE
CARD!



UBU MOUNTS A SERIOUS
DEFENSE, TO NO AVAIL.



KRAK

FEND
OFF A
TRIAL
BY
SWORD
COUNTER
ATTACK!

RA'S AL GHUL STANDS IN THE SHADOW OF THE BAT...BUT WILL IT BE ENOUGH?



YOU DECIDE WHO WINS WITH THE VS. SYSTEM TRADING CARD GAME ...

Learn to play the Vs. System Trading Card Game with the Batman Starter Deck, and then create more adventures with your favorite DC Comics characters – including *Superman*, *Wonder Woman*, and *Green Lantern* – with the new JLA Vs System Booster Set. Visit www.ude.com/vs for more details and to find out where to buy the Vs. System TCG.

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Don't Miss Your Chance!

One grand prize winner will receive:

- A slipcase edition *Absolute Batman: Hush* signed by artist Jim Lee!
- A signature-series, exclusive edition *Batman: Hush* action figure!
- A commemorative *Batman* #608 poster signed by artist Jim Lee!
- A two-player *Batman Vs. System* Trading Card Game starter set by Upper Deck Entertainment!
- A one-year subscription to *Batman*!
- A complete set of *Batman: Hush* series one action figures!

Plus ten first prize winners and twenty second prize winners!

For official rules and a chance to win, go to...

www.WinBatman.com

BATMAN

SWEEPSTAKES



CHRONICLE BOOKS
SAN FRANCISCO

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NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN THIS SWEEPSTAKES. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. Entrant need not be present to win. Sponsor: DC Comics, 1700 Broadway, NY, NY 10019. Total Approximate Retail Value of all prizes: \$1,307.97. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. The Sweepstakes is open to legal permanent residents within the 48 contiguous United States and the District of Columbia who are 13 years of age or older. Employees of DC Comics, The Upper Deck Company, The Upper Deck Company, LLC, Time Warner, Inc., Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., and each of their respective parent companies, affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, and advertising and promotional agencies and their respective officers, directors and agents and the immediate family members and persons living in the same household of each are not eligible. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Winner is responsible for all federal, state, local and other taxes. For the complete Official Sweepstakes Rules and for information on how to enter go to www.winbatman.com. Sweepstakes begins November 2, 2005. All entries must be received by December 31, 2005.



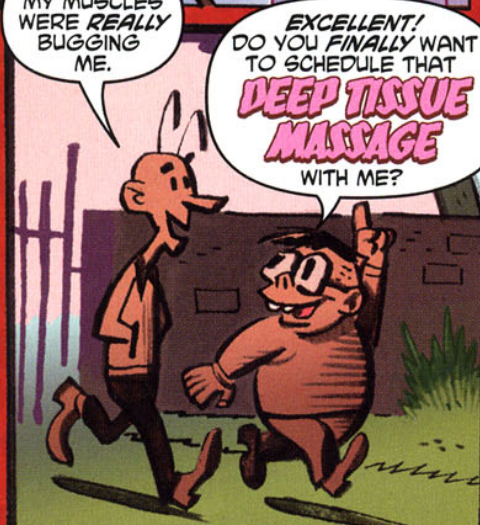
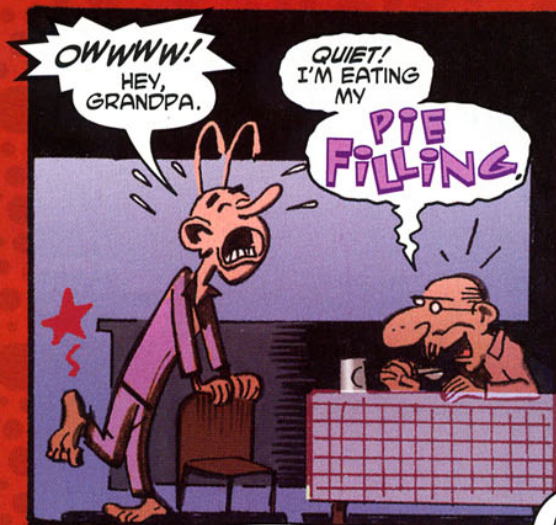
The thrill of victory begins with the agony of the feet. It's...

MONROE

and...

The MYSTERY CREAM

PART ONE





ARE YOU OKAY, WALTER?

OH, I'M FINE — BUT, MONROE, THAT WAS **AMAZING!** YOU **JUMPED** RIGHT OUT OF THE WAY!



YEAH, I'VE HAD YEARS OF PRACTICE DODGING DYLAN.

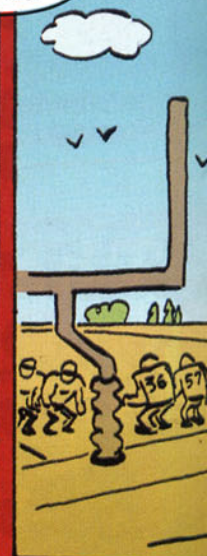
NO, IT WAS **MORE** THAN THAT! MAYBE THAT **CREAM** MADE YOUR FEET **STRONGER**.



YEAH, RIGHT.

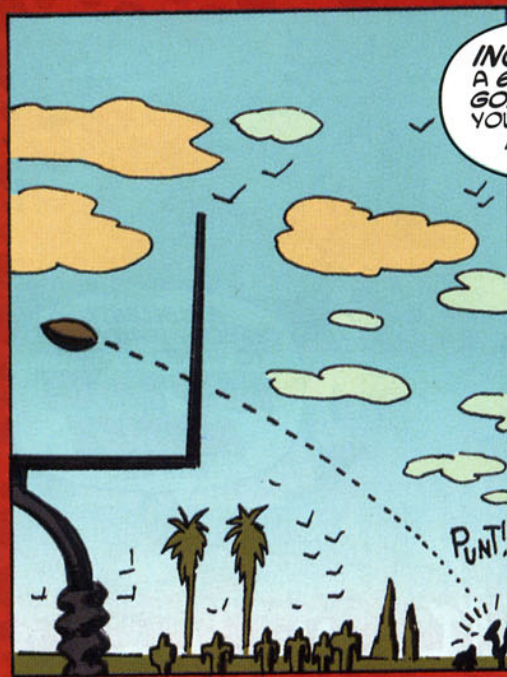
NO **REALLY**, MAYBE THAT **CREAM** HAS GIVEN YOU **SUPERHERO** FEET JUST LIKE THE **FLASH!**

OKAY, WALTER, AGAIN, LET'S TAKE IT **DOWN** A NOTCH.



YEAH, KICK IT! KICK IT!

ALL RIGHT, BUT **DON'T** PULL A **LUCY** ON ME.



INCREDIBLE! A 60-YARD FIELD GOAL! SON, HAVE YOU **EVER** PLAYED FOOTBALL BEFORE?

I'M **PRETTY** GOOD AT **MADDEN 2003**.

GOOD ENOUGH! FIND YOURSELF A **CUP**.



WELL, **QUIT** RELAXING. YOU'RE **IN!** WE NEED A **FIELD** GOAL TO WIN!

GULP.

DON'T BE **NERVOUS**, MONROE. I'LL BE TAKING THE **SNAP** FOR YOU.



HOW'D YOU **WORK** THAT OUT?

I TOLD THE COACH YOU'D BE MORE **RELAXED** IF I HANDLED YOUR **BALL**.



YOU **ACTUALLY** SAID **THOSE** WORDS?

YEAH, IT **DOES**.

YEAH, WHEN I HEAR IT **OUT** LOUD IT **DOES** SOUND KINDA...

QUIT THE **JAWING** AND START **KICKING!**

WHO KNOWS, MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, WALTER. MAYBE IN SOME WEIRD WAY THE CREAM IS TURNING IT ALL AROUND FOR...

...ME.

WAP!

HEY, THROW IT BACK, JACKHOLES.

Psst. KICK IT WITH YOUR NEW SUPERFOOT!

YEAH?

I HEARD IT, BUT I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.

YEAH. I'M ON THE TEAM.

WELL, I'M REALLY GLAD.

REALLY?

YEAH. I'M GLAD I BROUGHT EXTRA BATTERIES TO FLING. SEE YOU OUT THERE.

YOU KNOW, THIS IS PRETTY EASY. I HAVEN'T HAD TO DO ANYTHING ALL GAME.

AND ALL THE FREE Gatorade YOU CAN DRINK!

I LIKE IT. IT'S VERY RELAXING.

THE KICK IS UP! IT'S GOOD! HOLY CRAP, THE LITTLE TWIT KICKED IT CLEAR OUT OF THE STADIUM!

PUNT!!

WE'RE GOING TO THE PLAYOFFS!!!

IT'S GOOD!

WAK!

TO BE CONTINUED...

TONY & BILL



XBOX 360™

ONLY ON
XBOX 360

XBOX
LIVE

NTSC



RARE

Microsoft
game studios

Kameo

Elements of Power™



Michael
Share
Mike
Garcia



UNLEASH THE POWERS WITHIN YOU.

As Kameo, morph into an astounding array of creatures as you travel through a world of action-packed adventure. Harness the power of your inner Warriors on a quest to rescue Elemental Ancestors and destroy the Dark Troll King, Thorn!



*Draw on the power of
10 Elemental Warriors.*



*Take on fierce foes in
fast-paced combat.*



*Explore the epic,
enchanting world of Kameo™.*



Supports Family Settings



Microsoft

For use only with Xbox 360™ entertainment systems with "NTSC" designation. Unauthorized copying, reverse engineering, transmission, public performance, rental, pay for play, or circumvention of copy protection is strictly prohibited.

Xbox Live® System Requirements with Xbox 360 system & games: Paid subscription required for online multiplayer, co-op and some downloads. Some Xbox Live services require additional hardware (e.g. headset and camera) and fees. Features may change without notice. Subject to Terms of Use (at www.xbox.com/live/termsanduse/). Broadband Internet service (sold separately), Passport account, and hard drive of memory unit required. Some broadband services may not work with Xbox Live and performance may vary. Available in the 50 U.S., D.C., Canada, Puerto Rico, & Mexico. Under 13 requires parental consent.

Microsoft Corporation, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052-6399, USA.

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TEEN



Animated Blood
Violence

ESRB CONTENT RATING www.esrb.org

SMTWTFSS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

SMTWTFSS

1	2	3	4	5
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SMTWTFSS

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SM T W T F S

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S M T W T F S

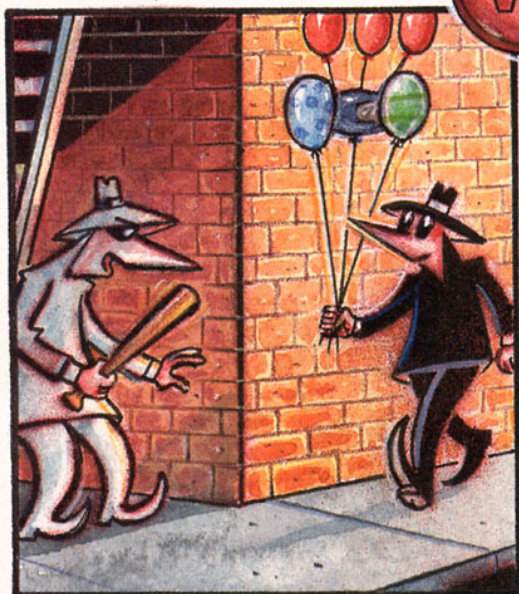
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**= ANOTHER
DISGUSTING ISSUE
OF *MAD* ON SALE!**





S
P
Y



S
P
Y



ARTIST AND WRITER:
PETER KUPER

K
U
P
E
R

When in the Course of Yes, of course I can fly! These wings are not for looks you know! The can accordingly Hammer and distant from the depository of their Public Laguz among Hammerne of the earth, the separate sole into compliance station to Crimea Laws of Nature them, Daein respect here we of on the should declare the these truths to be they are on

FIRE EMBLEM

PATH OF RADIANCE

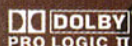
IN A LAND OF MAN AND BEAST, YOUR SMALL BAND OF MERCENARIES MUST NOW SAVE THE WORLD FROM A REAWAKENING EVIL FORCE. YOU'LL MAKE YOUR FIGHT ON THE 3D BATTLEFIELDS OF TELLIVIS, WHERE STRATEGY IS ESSENTIAL AND DEATH IS FINAL. SO SHARPEN YOUR AXE. DRAW YOUR SWORD. IT'S TIME TO IGNITE THE FLAMES OF WAR.



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Fantasy Violence



NINTENDO
GAMECUBE™



Planet TAD!!!!

<http://www.galaxyoblogs.com/planetttad>

Search

PlanetTAD!!!!



[About Me]

[Name|Tad]

[Age|14]

[Middle name|

None of your business]

[31 October|08:41pm]



[mood| full of tiny Snickers bars]

Tonight was **Halloween**, and my little sister Sophie decided to go as an angel. When I saw her downstairs in the hallway, I pointed out that "angel" is one possible name for her costume. Another is "dead kid." And then Sophie started crying and went to her room and wouldn't come out, and Mom and Dad made me go to my room.



[2 November|07:34pm]

I just finished the sixth **Harry Potter** book, and here's what I don't understand about **Hogwarts**: Okay, so, the school has a sorting hat that can figure out each student's true nature, and assign him to the appropriate house, right? But there are four houses. Three of them — **Gryffindor**, **Hufflepuff**, and **Ravenclaw** — are full of normal people. And then there's **Slytherin**, which is NOTHING BUT EVIL PEOPLE. If I ran Hogwarts, when the sorting hat assigned a student to Slytherin, I'd send him home, or maybe to, like, wizard reform school. I mean, duh.

[4 November|04:15pm]

At school today, the signs went up for the fall dance, **Pilgrimfest '05**. (It's called Pilgrimfest because it happens around **Thanksgiving**. They decorate the gym with leaves and cutouts of turkeys.) I've decided to ask Katie Zembla from my geometry class. She seems really friendly and pretty, and she's always really nice to me after I let her copy my homework.

[7 November|03:37pm]



[mood| feeling dorky]

I tried asking Katie to the dance today, but I got all nervous and wound up asking to borrow her eraser instead. And then I had to erase some stuff so it wouldn't look weird, so I wound up erasing a couple of answers on my homework right before I had to hand it in.



GOT A MONKEY ON YOUR BACK?

CAN'T COME OUT OF YOUR SHELL?

THERE'S SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP...

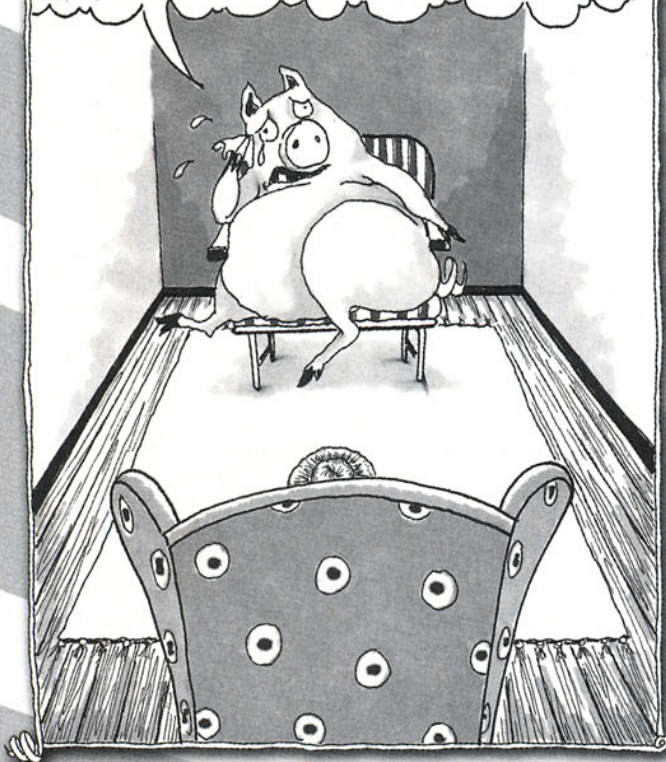
From
the
Case
Files of

Wanda Goldstein Flenkman:

ARTIST AND WRITER:
TERESA BURNS PARKHURST

Animal Psychologist

Ya gotta help me, Doc, I, I, I LOVE bacon !!



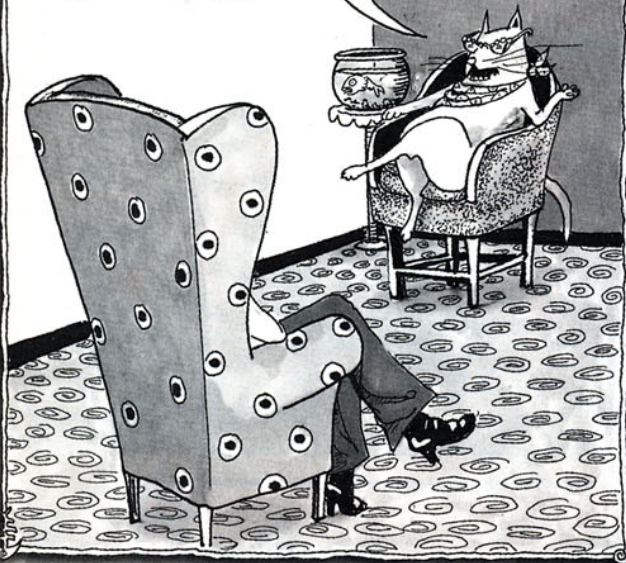
Hmm... do I feel a sense of empowerment when I shake the squirrels so savagely? I guess if that means kinda dizzy, then Yeah.



Let's see Dr. Finklefart Goldblob tippy-toe through a box of CRAPBALLS everytime SHE has to have a B.M., and we'll see who's a RAGE-A-Molic!!!



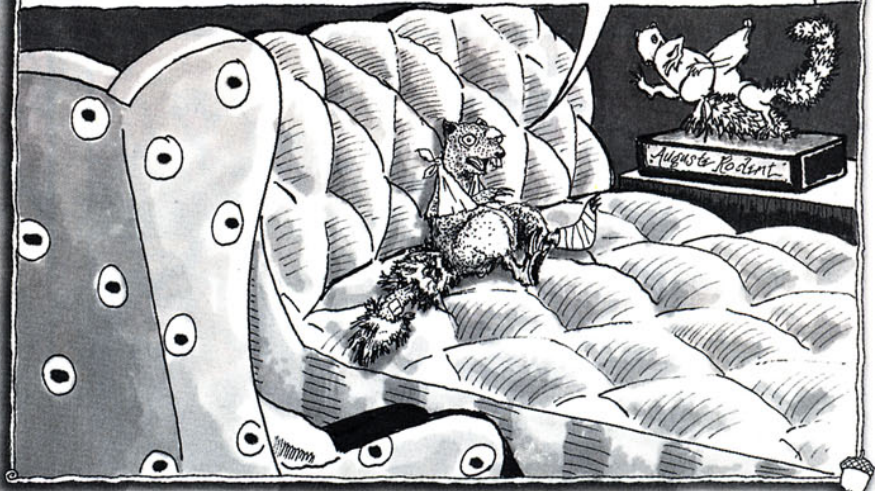
A BALL OF YARN... it was an insult to my intelligence. Therefore, I proceeded to urinate on every inch of carpet IN THE WHOLE DAMN HOUSE.



Every night it's the same dream, I'm sweaty, dizzy, trying like hell to cross the road, and just when I'm about to get hit, suddenly I'm a Vegas showgirl with a club foot. What the FREAK is that about, Doc?



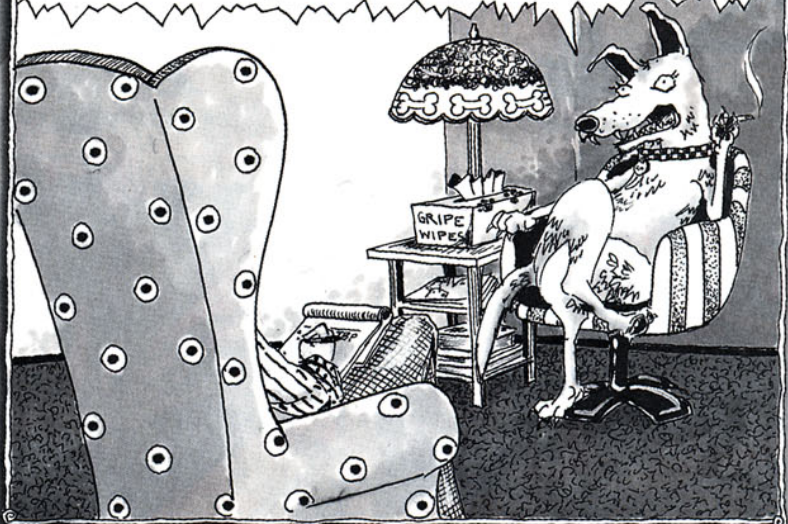
...but this time I just stood there and let that damn mutt GRAB me! Is that a, whachamacallit, CRY for help?



Sure, the old man could go for months without a drink, but then the BINGE would begin... wouldn't even know it was the same camel.

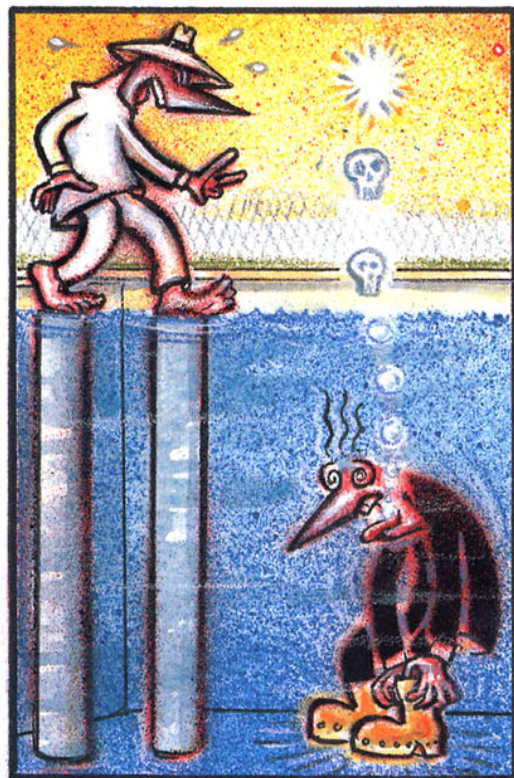
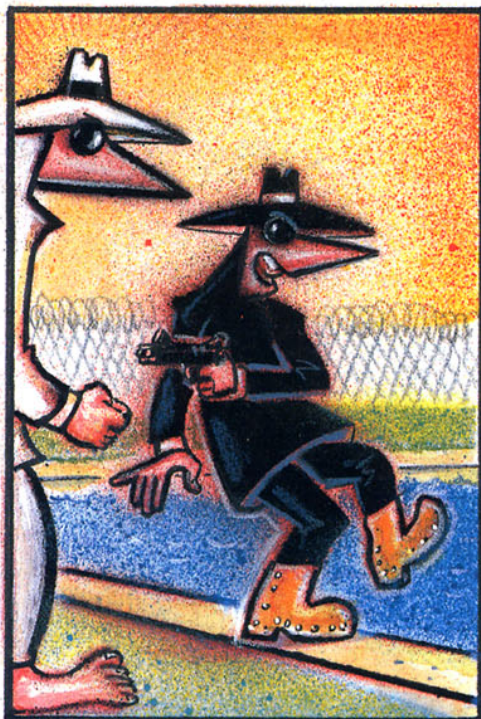


Nineteen stinkin' kids, not including the one I ate, an' ya think I get **ONE** Mother's Day card?!!





COPY VS SPY



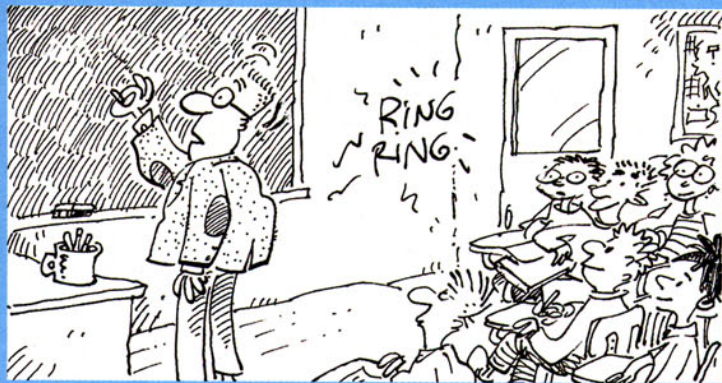
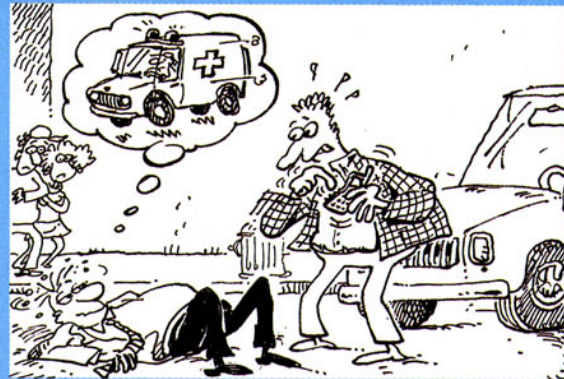
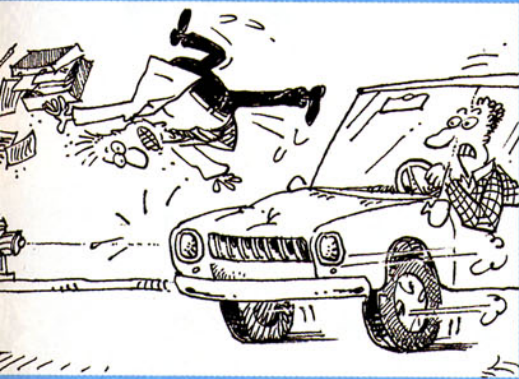
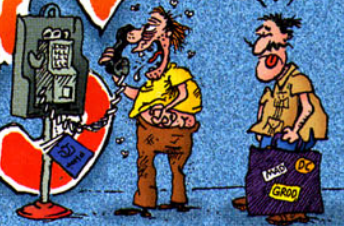
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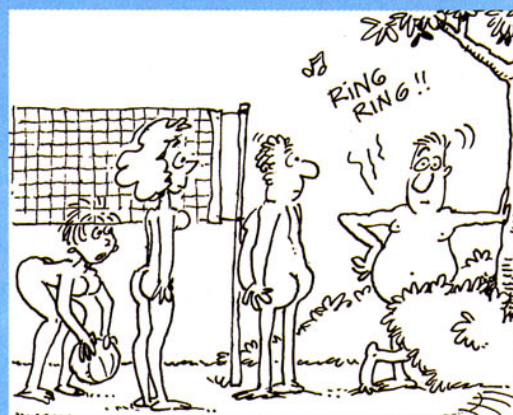
KUPER

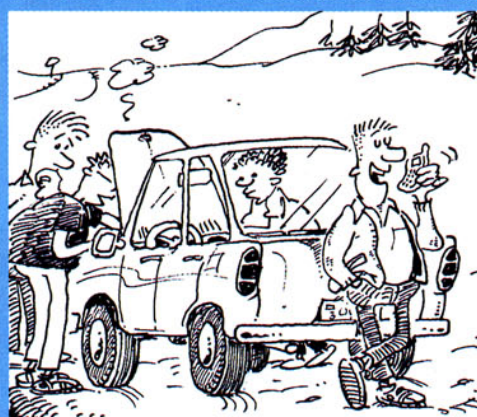
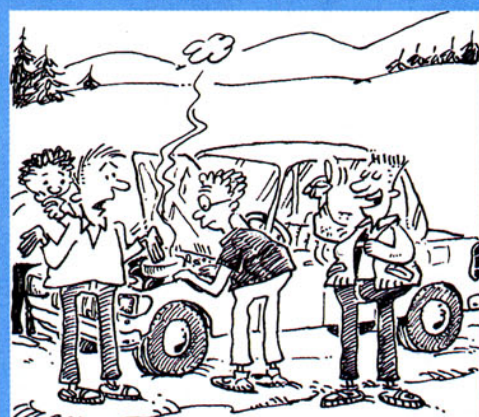
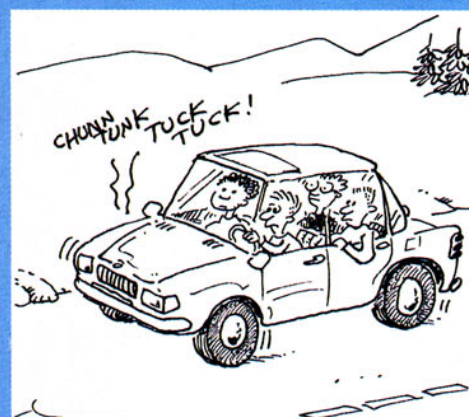
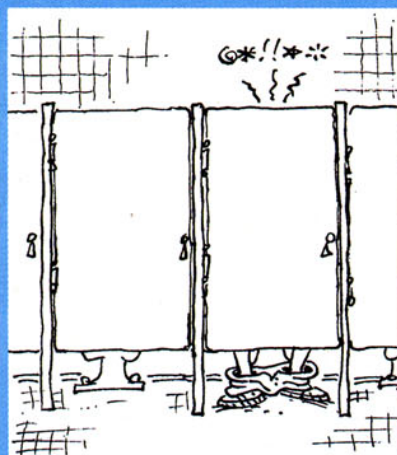
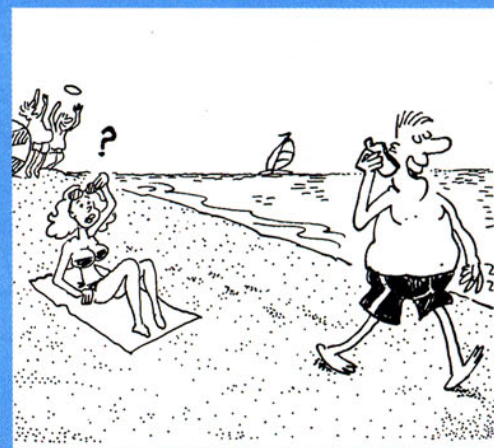
Sergio Aragonés
presents

A MAD LOOK

AT CELL PHONES







GO FETCH!

THE LATEST STUFF YOU MAY (OR MAY NOT) WANT TO CHASE DOWN!



GAME

GUITAR HERO

RedOctane • PS2 • November

The Hype: By using a specially designed guitar controller, players can perform electric guitar in their very own rock band. The game has over 30 licensed rock songs, including tracks originally made famous by such artists as Ozzy Osbourne, David Bowie, Boston, Sum 41, Audioslave, Queens of the Stone Age, Franz Ferdinand and The Ramones.

The Snipe: Hey rock star, don't get carried away and smash the guitar controller over the TV — this thing ain't cheap!



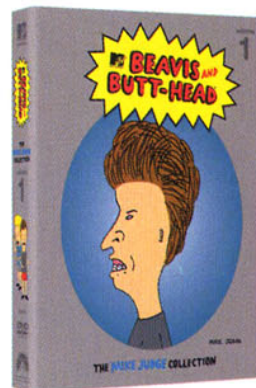
DVD

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD VOLUME 1 — THE MIKE JUDGE COLLECTION

Paramount Home Entertainment • November 8

The Hype: Beavis and Butt-Head sorely lack motivation, depth, and, of course, girlfriends. These suburban misfits amuse themselves by going on rampages at the local mall, screwing up work at Burger World and watching really bad music videos.

The Snipe: We'd like to see MTV put this show back on the air, if for no other reason than to hear these guys commenting on R. Kelly's "Trapped in the Closet" video!



MUSIC

HYPNOTIZE SYSTEM OF A DOWN

American Recordings/Columbia Records • November 22

The Hype: Thanks to an extremely productive recording session, System of a Down wound up with two albums worth of material. However, instead of putting out a double album, they've released two separate discs within six months of each other — last May's *Mesmerize* and now, *Hypnotize*.



The Snipe: We don't know what kind of magic sparked the band to be so prolific. We just hope it never strikes Avril Lavigne!

BOOK

THE STAR WARS POSTER BOOK STEPHEN J. SANSWEET & PETER VILMUR

Chronicle Books • \$50 • 288 pages • December

The Hype: 350 *Star Wars* posters from around the world are collected in one volume. This book offers behind-the-scenes stories from artists and designers, a scarcity guide to over 2,000 posters and a bootleg identification guide.

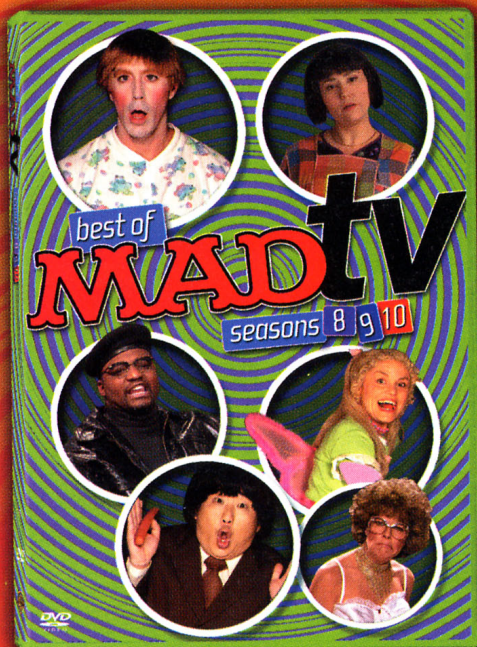
The Snipe: We're not sure why, but we find it strangely disturbing that there are people out there who actually care what the *Revenge of the Sith* poster looked like in a Loews Peking multiplex!



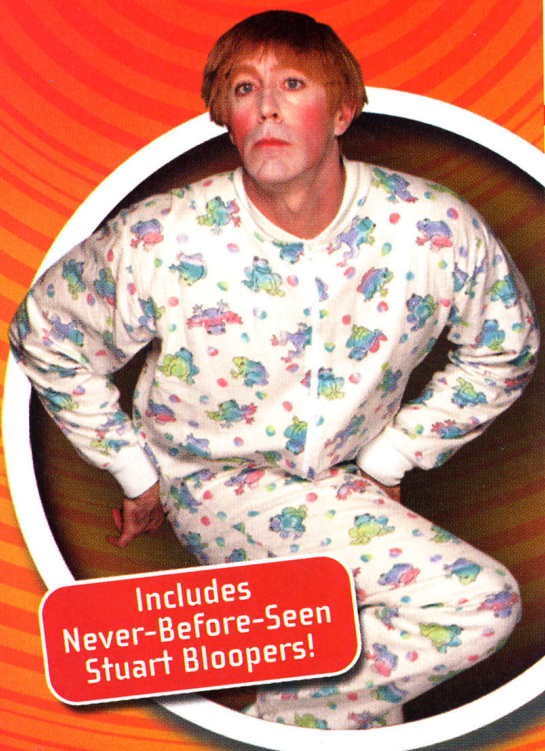
GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH!

GO AHEAD.

GET MAD!



The funniest, most outrageous sketches from seasons 8, 9 and 10 in a 3-hour Special Edition DVD.



Includes Never-Before-Seen Stuart Bloopers!

BOOK

RABID NUN INFECTS ENTIRE CONVENT AND OTHER SENSATIONAL STORIES FROM A TABLOID WRITER TOM D'ANTONI

Villard Trade Paperback Original • \$13.95 • 108 pages • November

The Hype: The author resurrects his favorite made-up stories and reveals the thoughts that inspired them. Read the accounts behind these chilling headlines like "Bag Lady's B.O. Kills Five People on Bus" and "Newborn Baby Sings Like Elvis!"



The Snipe: Bologna! We know for a fact all of these stories are true! That spineless D'Antoni is back-pedaling because of the Patriot Act!

DVD

SEINFELD SEASONS 5 & 6 GIFT SET

Sony Pictures • November 22

The Hype: This gift set includes the complete Seasons 5 & 6 DVDs, an exclusive replica of the "puffy shirt" and a reproduction of a handwritten script of "The Pilot" episode from Jerry Seinfeld.



The Snipe: So now there are going to be a bunch of geeks strutting around in puffy shirts — as if the fashion world didn't have enough trouble just dealing with the Kate Moss drug scandal!

GAME

THE MOVIES

Activision, Inc. • PC, PS2, Xbox, GameCube • November

The Hype: Design your own movie studio, manage studio resources, invest in R&D and maximize box office success. Produce and direct films which you can post online and share with the world.

The Snipe: Too bad Columbia Pictures didn't practice with this game a bit before sharing "Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo" with the world.



GAME

PRINCE OF PERSIA: THE TWO THRONES

Ubisoft • PS2, Xbox, GameCube, PC • December

The Hype: Gamers can battle freely through Babylon, dominating enemies on the perilous rooftops, dodging through chaotic streets, and ambushing pursuers in dark, underground passageways.

The Snipe: Sounds like Detroit after the Pistons won the NBA Championship.



MUSIC

SOME HEARTS CARRIE UNDERWOOD

19 Recordings/Arista Records • November 15

The Hype: After winning over the show's viewers, charming its judges, and edging out Bo Bice in the finals, Underwood earned the title of "American Idol." Now she's releasing her debut album — starting with its first single "Jesus Take the Wheel."

The Snipe: It's unclear if all the songs are going to be about traveling with deities — but we anxiously await "Buddha Park My Scooter."



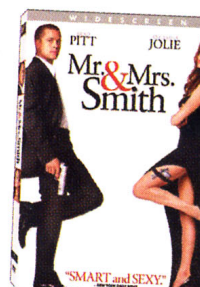
DVD

MR. & MRS. SMITH

FOX Home Entertainment • November 29

The Hype: After years of vanilla-wedded bliss, ordinary suburbanites John and Jane Smith (Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie) are stuck in a rut the size of the Grand Canyon — until the truth comes out. Unbeknownst to either, they are highly paid assassins working for rival organizations, and they're each other's next target.

The Snipe: A movie pairing Brad and Angelina as lovers? Hmm... interesting concept, and it's good to see them both working again. They're pretty much flown under the radar this past year!



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GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FET

touching is good.



The new Rumble Pak™ won't be the only thing quaking in the Metroid realm as you shake, rattle and roll Samus through a dual screen pinball experience.

NINTENDO DS™



Mild Fantasy Violence

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CORRUPTING THE MINDS OF YOUNG READERS!

MAD KIDS



Featuring **SPY VS SPY JR!**



on SALE NOW!



TONY HAWK'S AMERICAN SK8LAND

Activision Publishing, Inc. • DS, GBA • November

The Hype: Prove yourself to Tony Hawk and other legendary pros as you undertake hundreds of skating goals set in seven popular areas of Los Angeles. Restore the ultimate skate park, American SK8Land, to its former glory.



The Snipe: Restore American SK8Land to its former glory? Isn't the FEMA budget stretched pretty thin as it is?

MUSIC

FISH SCALE GHOSTFACE

Def Jam Records • December 13

The Hype: One of Wu-Tang's founding members, Ghostface (aka Ghostface Killah, aka Dennis Coles, aka The Iron Man, aka Tony Starks, aka Pretty Toney, aka The Wally Champ), releases his fifth solo album.

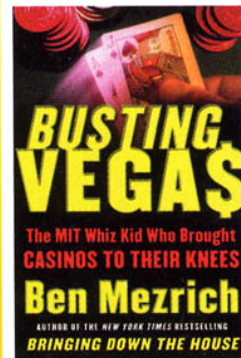


The Snipe: With this album out of the way, Ghostface can now focus on his real passion: delightful new nicknames!

BOOK

BUSTING VEGAS BEN MEZRICH

William Morrow/An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers • \$24.95 • 289 pages • October



The Hype: This is the true story of another MIT student who changed the course of Las Vegas history. Semyon Dukach created a money-making scheme called "Busting the Dealer" that made him richer than anyone could imagine.

The Snipe: Oh, we get it, "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas." That's true — until a fat book advance comes along!

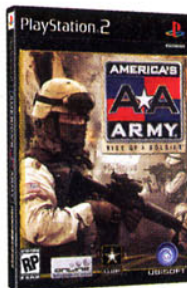
GAME

AMERICA'S ARMY: RISE OF A SOLDIER

PS2, Xbox • Ubisoft • November

The Hype: Enter the world of the U.S. Army, the world's premier land force, where honor and teamwork are the primary weapons against the enemies of freedom. Intense single-player missions and high-adrenaline multiplayer action build the skills of your soldier and advance him through his career.

The Snipe: Honor is a primary weapon against the enemies of freedom? And we've got that weasel Karl Rove running the country? Oy.



BOOK

STAR WARS CHRONICLES: THE PREQUELS

STEPHEN J. SANSWEET AND PABLO HIDALGO

Chronicle Books • \$150 • 320 pages • December

The Hype: Through photographs, behind-the-scenes production stills, early sketches, computer renderings, outtakes and much more from Lucasfilm's archives, *Star Wars: Episodes I, II, and III* will be thoroughly explained and deconstructed.

The Snipe: Here's our deconstruction of the movies in four short words: Jar Jar, no no!



DVD

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Warner Home Video • November 8

The Hype: Director Tim Burton brings his style to the beloved Roald Dahl classic *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, about eccentric chocolate-maker Willy Wonka (Johnny Depp) and Charlie, a good-hearted boy from a poor family.

The Snipe: Many have speculated as to which eccentric celebrity Depp modeled his performance after. Our guess? Bush Department of Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez!



THE MUST-HAVE!

9660 WTS COMBINE JOHN DEERE

The Hype: Chop it, drop it...you can even lay straw while spreading chaff. Especially popular in Europe, where many growers bale and sell their straw, the 9660 WTS owes its popularity in part to its unique Power Separator, which constantly combs the crop mat, allowing trapped grain to fall through to the cleaning shoe. Price: approximately \$200,000 plus accessories.

The Snipe: Order now to ensure delivery by Mother's Day!



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BUILDING BLOCKHEADS DEPT.

Put together one very run-down house, a deserving family, a guy with a bullhorn who you'd like to choke, hundreds of construction workers and a bunch of designers who do the same kind of renovation over and over, and over and over, and over and over, and what do you get?

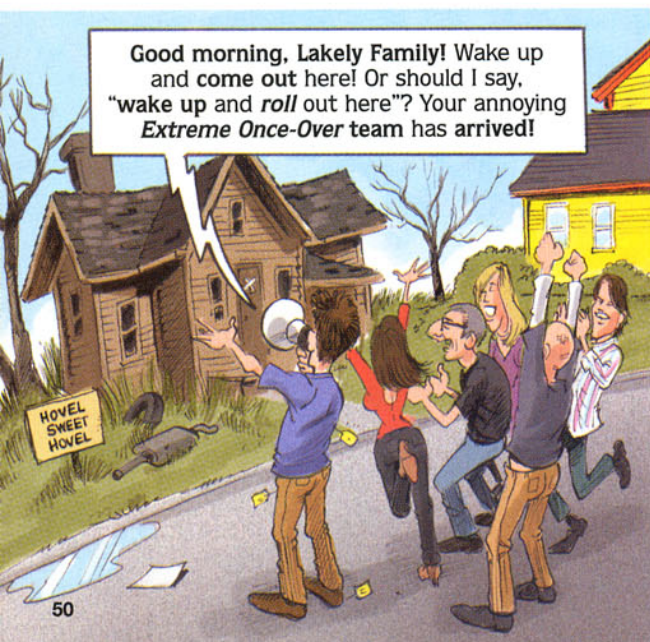
Extreme ONCE-OVER HOME REPUTITION

I'm Trying Bragington, as if you didn't know that! This week's *Extreme Once-Over* involves a man. A very special man. Not as special as me, but still a little bit special. Marvin's had more than his share of bad luck, as you'll see by the video he sent us!

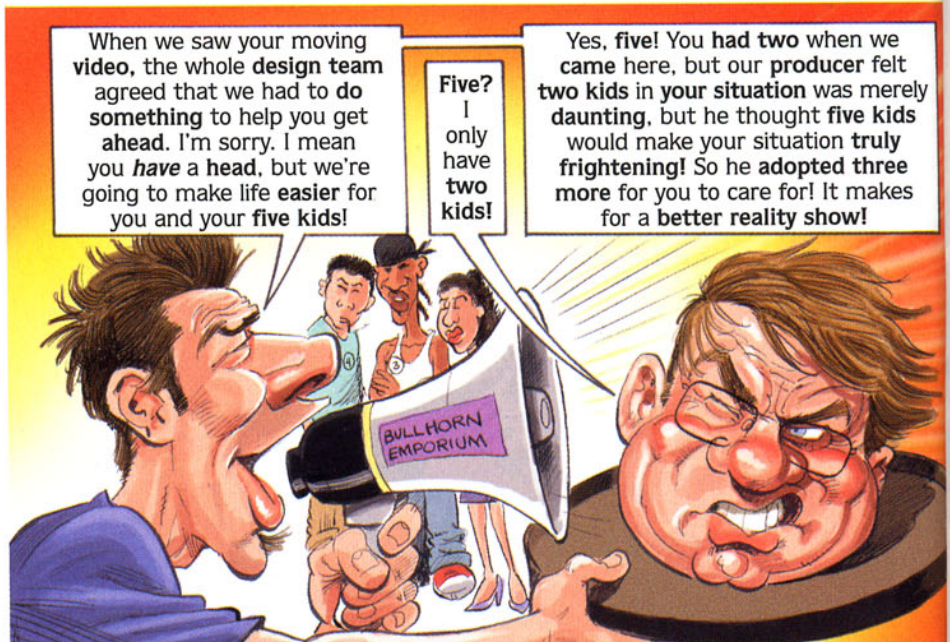


I want to do something very special for this family! Something they can point out and say: "Wow, look at this very special thing 'Trying' did for me!" Of course the first thing I'll do is make a plaque with my picture and signature so it can be part of the foundation!

I know you like to take credit for everything yourself, Trying, but others help, too! As an interior designer, I like to ask the kids what they would like to see in their own rooms! And if I don't like what I hear, I strongly suggest that what they really want is something I designed already! I mean, what am I supposed to do? Really design and build a kid's theme room in less than a week? Let's get real! I'm telling you right now — one of those kids is getting a room with a boating motif, even if a picture of a lake makes him puke!



Good morning, Lakely Family! Wake up and come out here! Or should I say, "wake up and roll out here"? Your annoying *Extreme Once-Over* team has arrived!



When we saw your moving video, the whole design team agreed that we had to do something to help you get ahead. I'm sorry. I mean you *have* a head, but we're going to make life easier for you and your five kids!

Five? I only have two kids!

Yes, five! You had two when we came here, but our producer felt two kids in your situation was merely daunting, but he thought five kids would make your situation truly frightening! So he adopted three more for you to care for! It makes for a better reality show!

My bad luck started with a tragic and bizarre Xbox accident! While playing *Mortal Kombat: Deadly Fungus* against 4,137 other players, the extreme friction of thumping the control buttons at a blazing speed caused my thumbs to burst into flames! In order to keep the fire from spreading, EMS workers proceeded to remove my arms at the shoulders!

I was doing all right without my arms, but then while jogging down a steep hill, my legs suddenly burst into flames! It turned out I had a rare condition known as SCS, Spontaneous Combustibility Syndrome! While I was on fire, doctors decided they had to remove my legs or I might burn to the ground! In their zeal to work quickly, they cut too high up and accidentally severed my head from my body. I was going to sue the hospital until the doctors pointed out how lucky I am! I'll never again have to suffer with things like backaches, or liver problems or even a heart attack, since I no longer have those organs!

This is a sad, sad story indeed! But luckily for us, it gets even more tragic! And that's what we strive for! Milking those tears out of the audience!

Then my wife died during child birth! No, not giving birth to our child, but while assisting her best friend! While writhing in pain as the baby was emerging, she accidentally kicked my wife out of an 18th story window of the hospital! In a bizarre twist, she landed on and crushed our only car. I was left alone to raise our two kids!



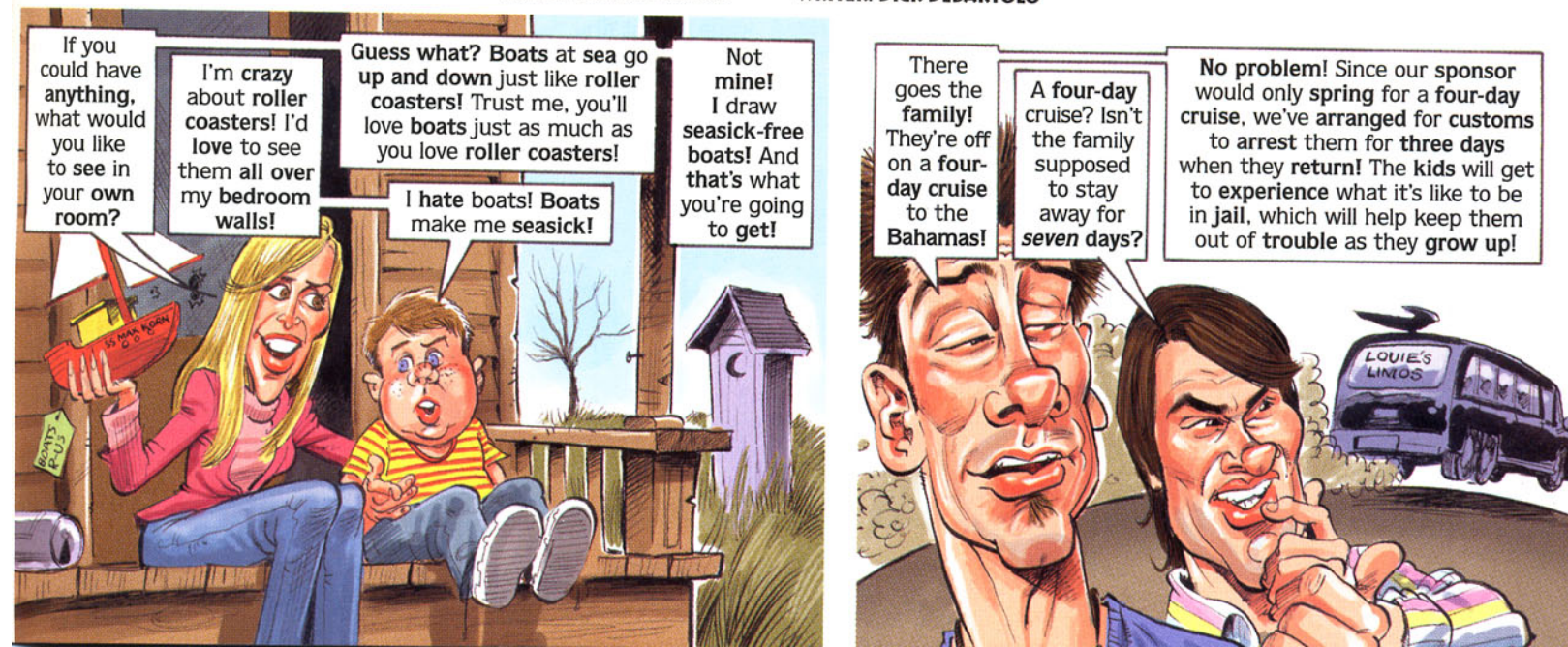
Every week, we do a project that would ordinarily take at least four months to complete! Two years to complete if done by union workers! Three years if it was done up to building code!

Sure, that's fast, but what we put up, stays up! Well, it stays up long enough for our cameras to record it! Once it's on tape, of course, we're outta there, so we rarely hear "Timber" if the house falls down! But we always warn the families to heavily insure the place, because even if it stands up, how safe is a house where the electricians were given just four hours to wire it top to bottom!

We forever change the lives of the families we choose! Not only by renovating their homes, but by burying, burning and destroying important papers, stocks and bonds, family heirlooms, priceless once-in-a-lifetime photos, everything they left behind! After all, we only give them 20 minutes to clear out their life's belongings before we send them on vacation!

ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO



If you could have anything, what would you like to see in your own room?

I'm crazy about roller coasters! I'd love to see them all over my bedroom walls!

Guess what? Boats at sea go up and down just like roller coasters! Trust me, you'll love boats just as much as you love roller coasters!

I hate boats! Boats make me seasick!

Not mine! I draw seasick-free boats! And that's what you're going to get!

There goes the family! They're off on a four-day cruise to the Bahamas!

A four-day cruise? Isn't the family supposed to stay away for seven days?

No problem! Since our sponsor would only spring for a four-day cruise, we've arranged for customs to arrest them for three days when they return! The kids will get to experience what it's like to be in jail, which will help keep them out of trouble as they grow up!

Marvin, I'm from Lending Fee and it's my privilege to tell you that the kind and generous folks at Lending Fee are paying off your mortgage!

Oh my God, that is such great news!

Yes, we're paying it off completely for the first month, and then we're paying off half of the second month, and by then you should be on your feet! Or on your neck! But either way, you'll be on your own paying off the rest!

Marvin, everybody knows about my secret room. Everybody knows because it's the least secret thing on the show. It's the thing we hype all through the hour and I talk about in a whisper loud enough for the neighbors down the block to hear!

I've watched the show so I know how it works. You assign everyone else all the crappy jobs you don't want to do yourself. Then you go into your secret room to work and you keep everyone else out. My guess is most people think you're just slacking off in there, or designing stuff for your personal line at Sears!



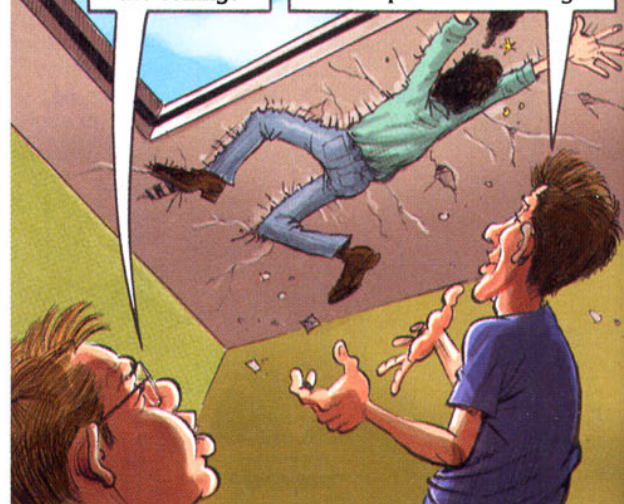
For your information, I spent seven days in this secret room to design this!

It looks like a giant sling shot!

It's way more than that, Marvin! Here's how it works! You rest your head in the leather strap and push button #1 to go to the office, button #2 to go to stores and button #3 to go to church! Button #4 is a surprise destination. Once you select the button, this expandable relocation strap automatically pulls back and fires you to your destination! Forget the traffic — you'll be way above it!

Excuse me, Trying, but isn't that Pressing's body splattered on the ceiling?

Yes, he was my very first test subject. I'll have some workmen scrape his remains off the ceiling! Don't you worry though, Marvin. The ceiling now opens before firing!

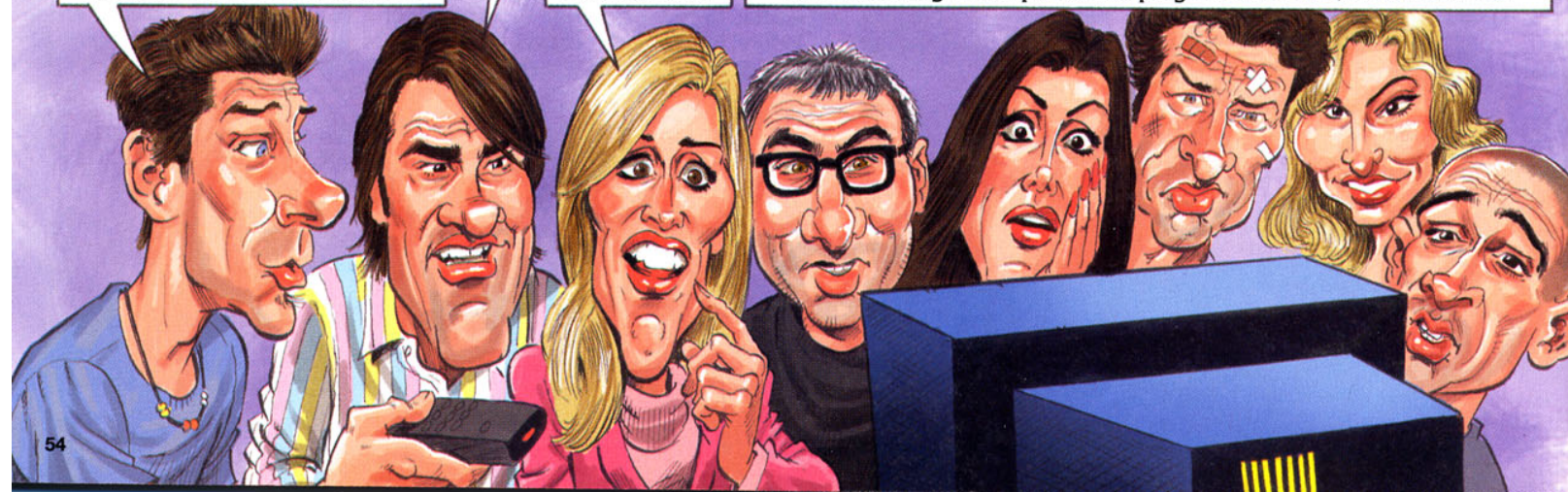


Well, team, we all did a hell of a job with the Lakely's home, especially me! But now let's take a peek at what we'll be doing next week. In this one house, there are 50 people living in substandard conditions!

50 people in one house? That's inhumane!

What kind of a house is that?

It's the poor house! And it's filled with all the local carpenters, electricians, plumbers and tradesmen — the poor schmucks we talked into donating goods and services to our show — far beyond what they could afford. Sure, we told them millions of people would watch the program, we just didn't tell them those millions of people probably couldn't care less about who gave up their life savings to be part of the program. But folks, that's show biz!



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*recommended by the makers of Pocket Fondue®

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PHOTO: IRVING SCHILD

WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO

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Peanut Skins!

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MFR COUPON

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CONSUMER: Limit one coupon per purchase. Don't be clipping ten of these things from ten other papers and expect to get \$7.50 off the purchase of a single Cookie-D-oughdorant. Then we'd owe you money, unless you were dumb enough to pay \$7.50 or more for this stuff. Consumer pays any sales tax. You're on your own there. Isn't it enough that we're knocking almost a buck off the price, you ungrateful lout? Good only on products indicated. What, are you going to clip this coupon and then try to redeem it on Fruit By The Foot?





One Fine Morning In the Windy City

Well, Mr. Trump, what do you think?

Trump Tower Chicago! It's gorgeous — the most amazing building ever constructed in the history of the world!

And it's all finished!

I beg to differ. It's not finished until The Donald says it's finished! And there's one last detail to be added, one final crowning touch!

All right, boys, bring 'er in!

WHIRRR!

WHIRRRRRRRRR!

NOW it's finished!

?!?!?!?

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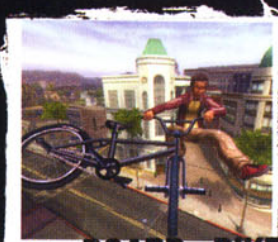
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PlayStation 2



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DEAD END JOB
WHERE THERE
INEXPLICABLY SEEMS
TO BE NO SHORTAGE
OF APPLICANTS?



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A

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



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BOMBERS

A B



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