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MAD

AUGUST 2007

NUMBER 480

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The stupid person says, "It's impossible." The smart person says, "It's possible, if we can get enough stupid people to do it!"



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10

MAD (ISSN 0024-9319) is published monthly by E.C. Publications, Inc., 1700 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019. Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y. and at additional mailing offices. Subscription in U.S.A.: 12 issues \$24.00 or 24 issues \$45.00 or 36 issues \$80.00. Outside U.S.A. (including Canada): 12 issues \$30.00 or 24 issues \$57.00 or 36 issues \$78.00. (Canadian price has GST tax included.) Entire contents © copyright 2007 by E.C. Publications, Inc. Allow 10 weeks for change of address to become effective, and include mailing label when making change of address or inquiring about your subscription. POSTMASTER: send address change to MAD, P.O. Box 52345 Boulder, CO 80322-2345. The Publisher and Editors will not be responsible for unsolicited manuscripts, and request all manuscripts be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed return envelope. The names of characters used in all MAD fiction and semi-fiction are fictitious. A similarity without artistic purpose to a living person is a coincidence. Printed in U.S.A.

FRONT COVER ARTIST: JAMES BENNETT



WEATHER YOU CARE OR NOT

MAD had to salute global warming in your May issue. So the day it comes out, New York has major flooding — six inches of rain the day the magazine arrived and then two more on April 16th! So who needs the weather bureau when MAD predictions are more accurate?

Poppie Fricklas,
Via letters@madmagazine.com

Poppie Seed — That is crazy! The covers of MAD all seem to come true in real life! In fact, the very next issue featured Spider-Man on the cover and mere days later, *Spider-Man 3* was playing in theatres! A chilling prophecy worthy of Nostradamus! See ya at the séance! —Ed.

FATHER KNOWS JEST

Please help me! My dad has been reading MAD since he lived in the States in the sixties, and I feel that he has been cursed...He knocked my front tooth out so I would look like Alfred E. Neuman, and now he wants to color my hair red! What shall I do?

Oliver Klausen, Svendborg, Denmark

Santa Klausen — That's a terrible and tragic story. But every cloud has a silver lining — if you send in your photo and if we print it, you may one win a one-year subscription to MAD for being an Alfred look-a-like. So get snappin' and turn that tale of abuse into a tale of profit! —Ed.

MAD AND MYSPACE

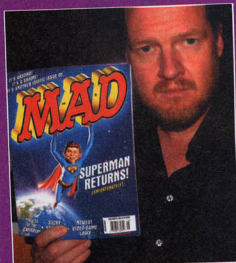
If you haven't become a friend of MAD's yet — what are you waiting for? Go to www.myspace.com/worldofmad. And if you've added us already, don't forget to leave your comments about the newest issue!

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

I snapped one of the guys on your new "Fifty Fifty" wish list of stars posing with a copy of MAD. As you can see, Donal Logue of the cancelled, blink-and-you-missed-it show *The Knights of Prosperity* was overjoyed to do it! Gee, it's nice to know that he really is as funny in real life as he is handsome and talented!

Scooter Yurdin, Sherman Oaks, CA

Beam Me Up Scooty — What a shock that Donal isn't smiling — if you were as pleasant to him in person as you were in your letter, we're sure you charmed his socks off! Congratulations, you've won yourself a three-year subscription to MAD and made a powerful enemy in Mr. Donal Logue. Watch your back, Scooter, now he's got the free time to hunt you down! —Ed.



AN ECSTATIC DONAL LOGUE

GUITAR ZERO

I was reading MAD when I saw a dark red Epiphone electric guitar. I thought it was awesome. So I wanted it but I couldn't because I never wrote a letter or something to MAD. So I asked for it for Christmas and I got it! Now, I can play the guitar and impress girls with my skill because you guys gave me the idea to get a guitar. Thanks MAD!

Josh Brandmaier, Greenwood, IN

I'm With The Brand — Thanks for your letter, and we're glad that MAD was able to inspire your interest in music. However, if you're a MAD reader, you're going to need a lot more than a few guitar licks to impress the ladies. See ya live at Budokan! —Ed!



NATIONAL GORILLA SUIT DAY

For those of you who missed it, January 31st was National Gorilla Suit Day. Possibly the most important holiday of the year (suck it, Arbor Day!), it was invented by MAD's Maddest Artist, Don Martin, and first appeared in the 1964 paperback book *Don Martin Bounces Back!* We were lucky enough to be visited by an actual gorilla-suit-wearing well-wisher courtesy of writer Mark Evanier! Here are the pictures — we hope your National Gorilla Suit Day was every bit as happy and healthy!



ALFRED SIGHTINGS

Your readers apparently have no limit spreading sick humor around. Look what happened at the Whiggville Market — Captain Alfred? Disgusting and so darn funny!

Craven M., Corunna, MI

That's So Craven — Seeing your statue made us sicker than if we had polished off a bottle of Captain Morgan's all by ourselves! That said, we're throwing it out to our readers to follow your lead and plaster Alfred's face on other statues around the world (no photoshopping allowed)! Send them to our e-mail (letters@madmagazine.com — subject: Alfred Statue) or by snail mail to Alfred Statue, c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019. Let the temporary vandalism begin!



CAPTAIN ALFRED CLAIMS MICHIGAN



THE SANDMAN SPEAKETH

Speaking of Spider-Man 3, during a recent interview, the Sandman himself, Thomas Hayden Church, discussed growing up reading MAD with the CW11's Emily Frances!



I mean, were you yourself a comic book—



No.



—ever growing up?



No. I was very outdoors oriented when I was a kid. Played sports. I've got two brothers and three older sisters and my dad was an outdoorsman. And I just, ya know, we like—someone was telling me about *National Lampoon*. I remember reading *National Lampoon* when I was a kid. That's like the closest I ever got.



Really?



And MAD! And MAD Magazine.



Oh, MAD. I love MAD Magazine, as well!



Yeah.

POEM WASN'T BUILT IN A DAY

I would just like to start off by saying your magazine is awesome and I wanted to write you guys a poem just because I don't see poems much in your Letters and Tomatoes Department, and not to mention I also love tomatoes! So all I ask is please put this in your magazine.

I have a magazine — the title is MAD
My subscription is running out, oh so very sad.

Please print this in your Letters department
I beg you don't throw it in the garbage compartment!

This is my first time at poem writing
I'm doing more nail bitin'!

MAD Magazine I love — and here is why
I can read it over and over —
yet it still makes me laugh and cry.

That I mean in a very good way
Please? I need a free subscription —
what do you say?

I thought a poem for the Letters Department
would be a whole new direction
So can you find it in your MAD hearts to
find it a section?

I have to thank you for taking this
poem sorta serious
Even though it took me almost all night and
I'm kinda delirious!

Cherish Kingrea, Pulaski, VA

The Last Kingrea of Scotland — You're right! We
don't print a lot of poems — and yours is exactly
why! Thanks for writing, Shakespear! — Ed.

SEALED WITH A DISS

What happened to that battle that guy
had with Jim Hutchings?

Joshua Hu, Santa Barbara, CA

Ha!! Hu Goes There — Jim Hutchings has a lot of enemies (nearly as many as Donal Logue!) Were you referring to Dan Root or Matt Handfield? In either case, they both gave up the fight, but mighty Jim Hutchings has kept up his prodigious output of haunting Envelopes of the Month. Below is his most recent submission that smack-talks both Dan AND Matt! Hey Joshy, we noticed you didn't send in an Envelope of the Month with your letter — are you scared of incurring Jim's wrath? — Ed.

ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH



JIM SETS HIS PHASER TO STUNNINGLY DISTURBING



MAD E.S.P.

It's time for another installment of the beloved feature, MAD E.S.P., where we highlight amazing predictions from MAD that have come true in real life. This month's gem is a presidential prophecy from Super Special #100, way back in 1994. Despite MAD's amazing skills, there ONE thing that we could never have predicted: that Hillary would still be married to Bill's lying and philandering ass all these years later!



READER ALERT

This summer, MAD is a proud sponsor of the **AST Dew Tour** where the hottest stars of BMX, skateboarding and freestyle motocross compete for ultimate bragging rights. For more information, and to see when the tour is coming to your town, log onto www.astdewtour.com. And if watching grown men pop wheelies all day long gets a little tiresome, you can always read the free copy of MAD that is being given out at all the tour stops!



THE BIG QUESTION

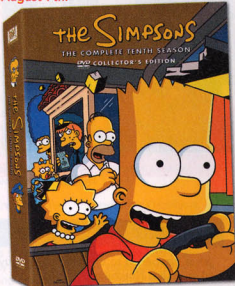
This Month's Question: What celebrity would you like to see "clown dunked" in a septic system?

- Anna Nicole Smith's Sidekick/Lawyer/Opportunist Howard K. Stern
- Presidential Player-Hater Hillary Clinton
- American Idol's Space Filler Ryan Seacrest
- Man-faced Gyrator Fergie

Please send your votes by e-mail (letters@madmagazine.com) and make sure you put "The Big Question" in the subject line, or via snail mail to Amy "The Big Question" Vozeolas, MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.

READER ALERT II

If you were lucky enough to have your letter printed on this month's letters page, you'll receive *The Simpsons: The Complete 10th Season* on DVD courtesy of our friends at 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment! If your missive wasn't included, don't say "D'oh! It's on sale August 7th!



KEEP IT ON THE DOWNLOAD

Recently, pulpsecret.com, a webcast that features all things comics, paid a visit to the MAD office! Visit the site to see exclusive interview footage with the MAD staff as well as news, interviews and features about the world of comics! You can even participate by contributing your own videos, comments and e-mail tips!



MAD EDITOR JOHN FICARRA BEING INTERVIEWED BY PULPSECRET.COM'S PETE LEPAGE AND ANA HURKA-ROBLES.

**NEXT MONTH
IN MAD #481
ON SALE AUGUST 21!**

**OUR PARODY OF 300 DRAWN
BY LEGENDARY
MAD ARTIST
MORT DRUCKER!**

**NEXT MONTH IN
MAD CLASSICS #17
ON SALE AUGUST 21!**

**THE SIMPSONS
PLUS JACKIE CHAN AND
OTHER ACTION HEROES!**

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Contributing Artists And Writers
the usual gang of idiots

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A handcrafted,
hand-painted
figurine of the
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Follow the macabre
Mayor around Halloween
Town in his mayoral car—
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Join the weird and wonderful denizens of Halloween Town in Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* collection exclusively from Hawthorne. With its masterfully handcrafted, hand-painted buildings, creepy figurines and ghoulish glows, you'll rediscover the thrills and magic that is *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Just imagine how wickedly wonderful your Halloween display will be with

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THE FUNDA LINI PAGES

LITTLE GREEN ARMY MEN THEATRE

Men, since you're doing such an outstanding job, you get to stay an extra few days.

A few days?

Okay, maybe a few weeks.

A FEW WEEKS?!

All right! All right! A few months, but don't try and talk me into any more. Dismissed!



THOUGHTS GOING THROUGH PARIS HILTON'S MIND IN COURT



THE NFL'S REF REPORT:

THIS MONTH: **Harry Potter AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX**



Returning to Hogwarts for their 5th year, Harry, Ron and Hermione are more grown-up and mature than ever. Particularly Hermione...

Unfortunately, they're startled to find that the entire Wizarding world has turned its back on Harry and Dumbledore...



...and a Ministry of Magic official is now ruling the school with an iron fist!

At first, Harry is miserable and washes his hands of the whole thing. But soon, Harry, ever the trooper, picks himself up...



...and begs Ron and Hermione for help until they come up with good ideas.

Unfortunately, none of this stops Harry's godfather from getting pushed through a door that inexplicably kills people.

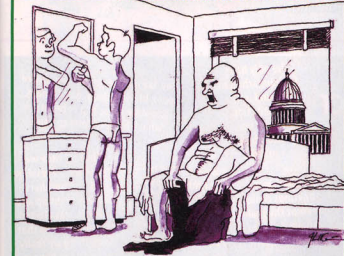


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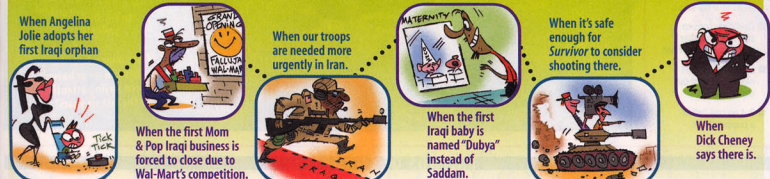
PHOTO: AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

DON'T HAVE A CROWTHER!



"Damn right I voted in Congress against same-sex marriage, Lance. It's not hypocritical. Marriage is a sacred bond between a man and a woman. I'd never leave my wife to marry you."

PRESIDENT BUSH'S BENCHMARKS FOR PROGRESS IN IRAQ



THE KITCHEN SINK

SHOWS ON THE VATICAN'S NEW TV CHANNEL

- America's Next Top Monk
- M * A * S * S
- Lois & Christ
- CSI: Assisi
- This Old House of Worship
- Curb Your Excommunication
- The Nunsters
- Everybody Loves St. Raymond
- TV's Total Redemption Live
- Law & Order (Man, reruns of this show are everywhere)
- My So-Called Lent
- Two and a Half Men of the Cloth
- How I Met Your Mother Superior
- The Infallible Hulk
- Jimmy Neutron: Altar Boy Genius
- Hope & Faith (but not the one with Kelly Ripa)
- Family Values Guy
- The Gultmore Girls
- Ten Commandments for Dating My Teenage Daughter
- Penance & Teller: Pulpit
- The Son of Man Show
- Absolution Fabulous
- Lent Night with David Letterman
- The Fresh Prince of Bethlehem
- Queer Eye for the Straight Priest
- Extreme Makeover: Rome Edition
- My Confirmation Name is Earl
- Dancing with the Saints
- Calvary Hills, 90210
- The God Couple
- I Loathe Lucifer
- Star Trek: The Next Resurrection
- The Amazing Grace
- Pope My Ride
- Inside the Pastor's Studio
- God the Bounty Hunter
- Survivor: Purgatory
- The 3 Kings of Queens
- Cardinal 54, Where Are You?
- Judge Judas
- Dateline: To Catch a Blasphemer

MEET THE '08 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

THIS MONTH:
RUDY GIULIANI

- On each campaign stop, he reinforces his unofficial title of "America's Mayor" by personally blacktopping a pothole or two.
- If elected, he vows to make his number one priority the long-ignored issue of out-of-control alimony payments.
- Is working tirelessly to win over a powerful voting bloc that he'd previously alienated. Namely, homeless squeegee guys.
- Insists that he has no "litmus test" for Supreme Court nominees, but warns that there will be a pop quiz on Yankees trivia.
- One thing's for sure in a Giuliani Administration... it'll be goodbye Camp David and hello Casa DI Coney Island.



THE FAST 5 REASONS ROGER CLEMENS RETURNED TO THE YANKEES

- 1 He just couldn't pass up the chance to play alongside the great Melky Cabrera.
- 2 In Curt Schilling, the Red Sox already had a fat, unlikeable, middle-aged ass-hat of a pitcher.
- 3 He was deeply dedicated to winning a championship for the fans of whichever team would pay him \$9,000 per pitch.
- 4 Injecting anabolic steroids just to mow the lawn was starting to feel kind of weird.
- 5 He thinks he could teach Alex Rodriguez a thing or two about choking in the postseason.



THINGS TO DO DURING THE FOUR HOURS AFTER YOU'VE TAKEN LEVITRA

(AND YOUR DATE DIDN'T SHOW)

- ☆ Carry donuts from room to room while keeping your hands free to carry two cups of coffee.
- ☆ Go to the beach and act as a human sundial.
- ☆ Play ring toss. Or, if you're a masochist, play horseshoes.
- ☆ Dry your laundered socks one at a time.
- ☆ Do push ups in the garden. Get in shape while making holes to plant your fall tulips.
- ☆ Give directions to strangers whether they want them or not.
- ☆ Lay in the grass at night and point out constellations.
- ☆ Put on one hell of a puppet show.

REASONS NOT TO IMPEACH & CONVICT PRESIDENT BUSH

It won't bring Anna Nicole back to life, so why bother?

Chuck Norris is a loyal Bush supporter, and we all know what happens when Chuck Norris gets angry

Because "President Cheney" is one of the signs of the apocalypse

The only basis for impeachment is found in the Constitution, which was invalidated in 2002

Impeachment hearings could preempt the reality shows America loves so much

If Bush is removed, Air America hosts will lose their #1 topic, and the whole network will become irrelevant

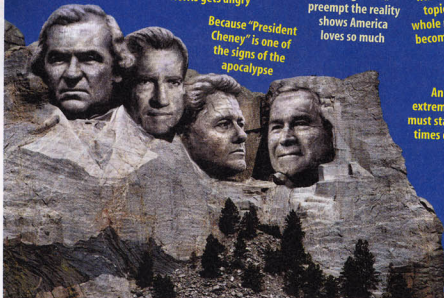
Hey, lay off the guy! Unless you're poor, black, elderly, gay, female, middle class, or a veteran, what's he ever done to you?

The last time we impeached a President, his poll numbers actually went up and his wife was elected to the Senate. Is that something we really want to see happen with this crowd?

An impeachment would be extremely divisive — and America must stand united, especially during times of illegal wars based on lies

He did not allow Janaya to win American Idol under his watch

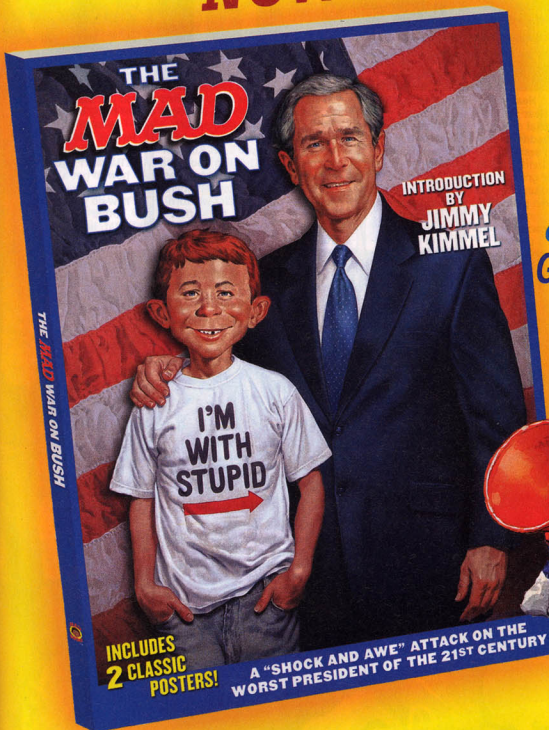
If he's impeached, the terrorists win — or haven't you been paying attention for the last six years?



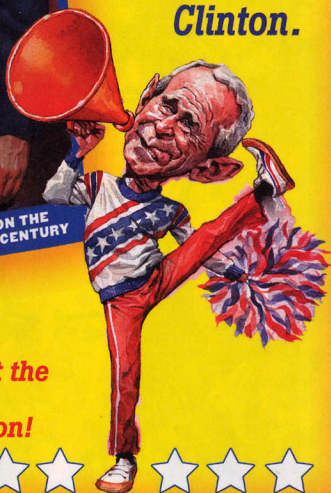
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hard-hitting
satiric
collection
of articles on
George W. Bush,
the worst
President
since...
well...
Clinton.



Buy this book —
and try not to worry about the
government watch list
you'll be put on!



As everybody in the universe knows, J.K. Rowling's wizard story comes in seven parts. In the first book, Voldemort tries to kill Harry. In the second book, Voldemort tries to kill Harry. In the third, Rowling shakes up the formula in a major way: Voldemort's HELPER tries to kill Harry. Book #4? Zap, we're right back to Voldemort trying to kill Harry. And now it's time for the big-screen version of Book #5. Although we don't want to give away any of the surprises, let's just say that a certain Mr. V has some nasty plans for our hero. Come ON, already! We're dying to see SOMETHING, ANYTHING, that's even a little bit different! But this drip-drip-drip formula is just...

Harry Plodder

AND THE TORTURE OF THE FANBASE

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND

The buzz is that this is the darkest installment of the Harry Plodder series to date!

Yeah, yeah. The darkest one yet! The darkest one yet! The movie company promotes EVERY sequel as "the darkest one yet!" Number seven will probably be an all-black screen!

Hear ye! Hear ye! The trial of Harry Plodder is now in session! You stand accused of growing up so uncute that even pedophiles no longer download your photos!

You stand accused of possessing just two acting techniques: either standing around in open-mouthed astonishment, or petulant outbursts of anger!

You stand accused of taking seven books to get to the ending of a so-called saga that could have been knocked off in two! Three, tops!

You stand accused of relying on bogus suspense, like whether or not you'll get killed in the fifth book of a seven-book series, or how this trial's verdict will turn out in the first 15 minutes of a two-hour movie!

And you stand accused of being a powerful wizard, world-famous celebrity and superstar athlete who STILL can't figure out how to get a date! Harry Plodder, how do you plead? Other than in a flat, uninvolved monotone?

I don't! I'll just wait around for a random plot twist to show up. Just like I always do! Glowing unicorn, valiant phoenix, parents' ghosts, time travel... Good of J.K. always pulls some cheap, outlandish surprise out of her butt, at exactly the critical moment, just to save my bacon!

You hoo! Did I hear "random plot twist"? My spectral essence has arrived to clear Harry of all charges! Let us remember the legal precept of *habeus corpus*! As well as *amicus curiae*! And especially *non sequitur*, because this trial scene makes absolutely no sense! But most of all, *Fergalicious*! My body stay vicious. I be up in the gym workin' on my fitness! *Ipsa facto*, a *fortiori*, and in conclusion, let me say that if the Sorting Hat doesn't fit, you must acquit! I'd also like to enter my beard as "Exhibit B," for no special reason!

Ahhh, I should've listened to the showbiz adage: "Never work with dragons or children!" But I'm Lord Drucormort! I'll end up on top! Right now, though, I'm in a strange limbo, stuck halfway between life and death. Much like Lindsay Lohan's career!

Poor Harry! Up against a handpicked panel of cruel, arbitrary, unsympathetic British Judges!

I'll say they are! They rejected ME for being too much of a creep!

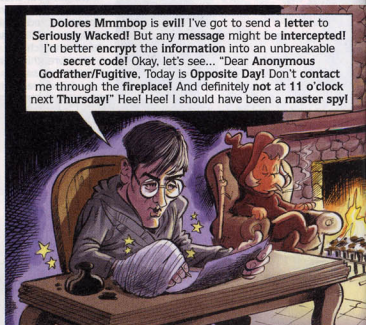
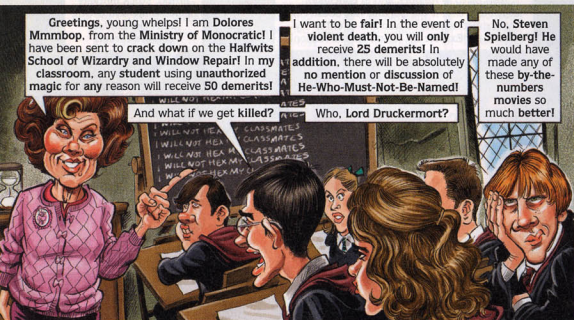
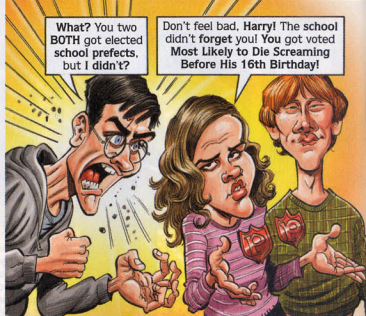
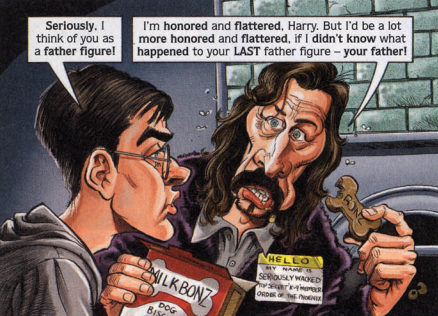
THE JUDGE IS IN

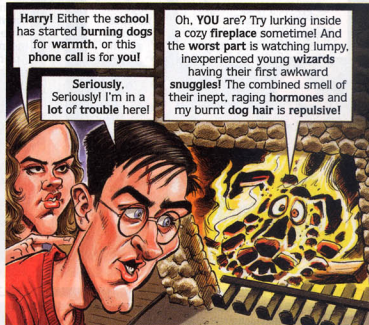
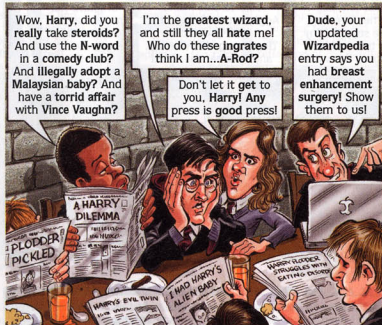
We gave our lives to protect our baby Harry, and keep him safe from harm! Since then, he's only been attacked by giant spiders, murderous living trees, bone-chilling soul-suckers, evil elves, a three-headed watchdog, underwater shrimp-warriors, fire-breathing dragons, a crazed werewolf, a gigantic poisonous snake, and the most diabolical wizard ever! Um...mission accomplished?

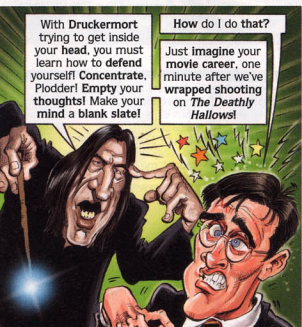
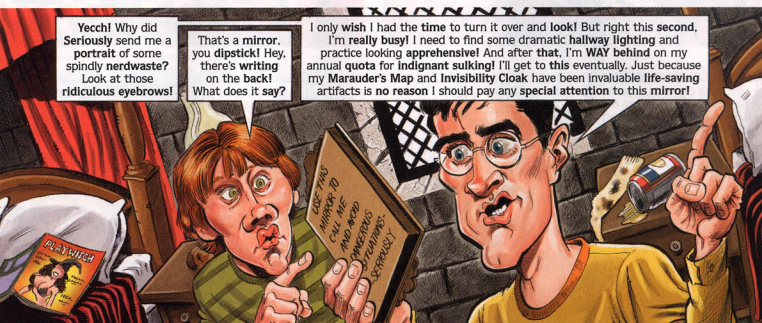
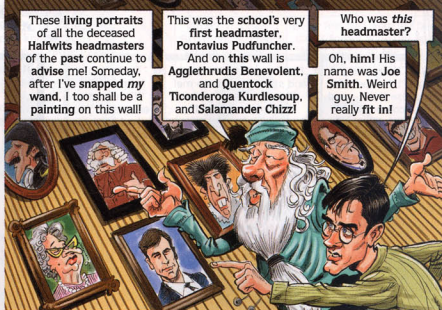
Harry wishes we were still alive and could be with him every moment of every day! Which makes him the opposite of every kid sitting in this movie theater!

I REALLY LOVE HORSES

MARRIAGE LICENSE







Haggard's gone and they've replaced him with a centaur! Professor McConjugal was attacked and sent to the hospital! Doubledork has disappeared!

The Queasy twins have just quit school! Druckermort has almost captured the ultimate weapon!

Everything's happening too fast!

Hey, YOU try cramming 869 pages of book into a lousy two-hour movie! That whole subplot about Haggard's giant half-brother Grawp can only be glimpsed briefly in the reflection of my eyeglasses!



Brrrr! Another nightmare about Seriously Wacked being tortured by Druckermort in a room of spheres! I've got to contact Seriously somehow! Should I use the two-way magic mirror that's right next to my bed? Nah! Instead, I think I'll try breaking and entering into the private office of my #1 enemy at Halfwits! It's foolproof! And I'm just the fool who'll prove it!

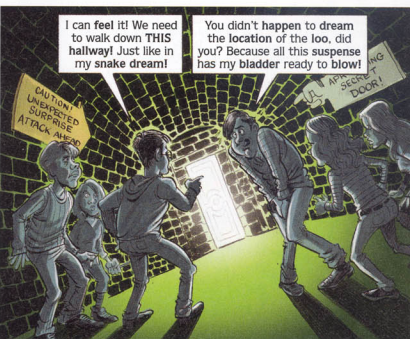


Harry's picking up Seriously Wacked's trail like a homing pigeon, and he's making a beeline for the Ministry! He's got to stop Druckermort the snake from killing Seriously the dog! And we're coming along, like a bunch of prize jackasses!



I can feel it! We need to walk down THIS hallway! Just like in my snake dream!

You didn't happen to dream the location of the loo, did you? Because all this suspense has my bladder ready to blow!



Yikes! Five of Lord Drucker-mort's personal Death Eaters!

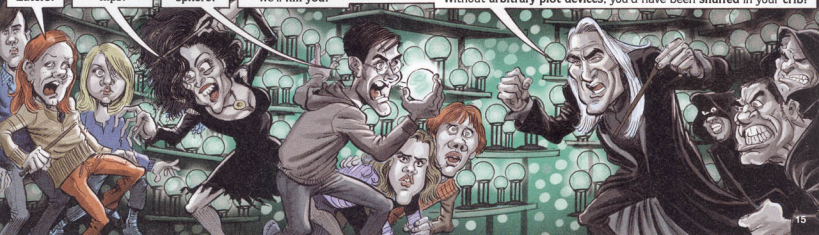
Actually, I'm more of a Death Snacker! Eating Death always goes right to my hips!

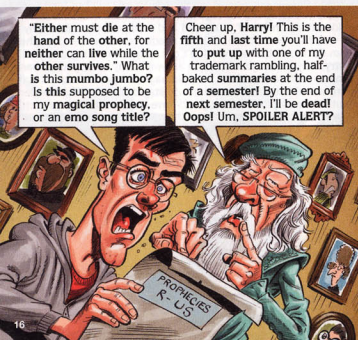
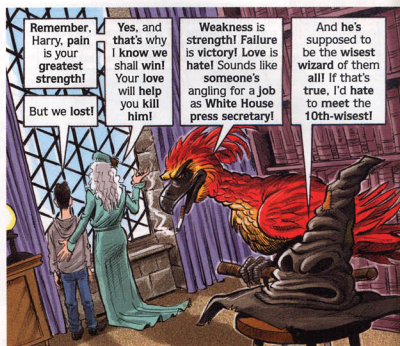
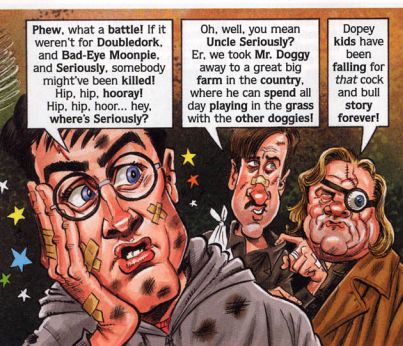
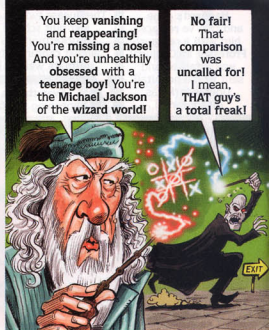
Come one step closer, and I'll smash it! I'll destroy the crucial sphere!

The prophecy contained in that sphere reveals how we will kill you! So tell us how we'll kill you, or else we'll kill you!

Why couldn't you just pick up the sphere and read it yourself?

Oh, NOW you're asking for logic in these stories? If Druckermort could visit the inside of your head and read your thoughts, why did he wait four years to do it? If we needed you to enter the sphere room for us, so that we wouldn't get caught breaking into the Ministry, why did we just break in anyway? Why could you go back in time to restore the life of a stupid eagle-horse two movies ago, but anyone killed in this movie has to stay dead? THINK, Plodder! Without arbitrary plot devices, you'd have been snuffed in your crib!





PASSION. ADRENALINE. PROGRESSION. GLORY.

SEASON THREE...

WHAT'S NEXT?

WATCH IT LIVE ON



THE PRO ACTION SPORTS TOUR
SKATE. BMX. FREESTYLE. MOTOCROSS.

**AST
dew
tour**



Panasonic

RIGHT
GUARD

VANS

TOYOTA



Red Bull

Mountain Dew

MONGOOSE

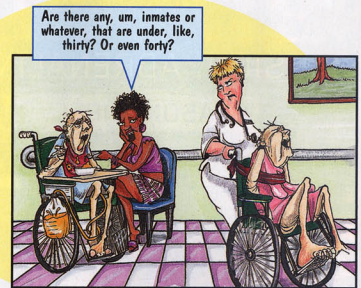
Slam

verizon

Summer means just one thing! Complete, constant freedom... for about a day or so. Then, if you want to actually do anything, you'll need a job to pay for it! But just because you've got to work, that doesn't mean you have to take the first job that comes along! Before you agree to put on that halmet and plastic smock, here are some...

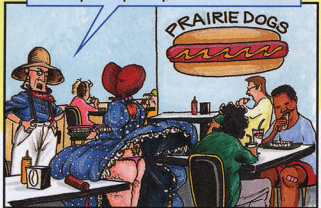
THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE ACCEPTING A SUMMER JOB

What are the hook-up possibilities?

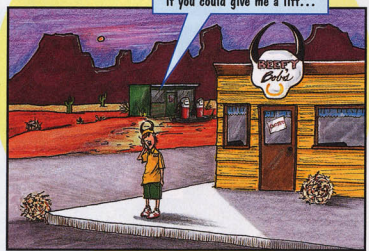


How lame are the uniforms?

Cumbersome?? Your dress is too cumbersome! Maybe you should take a minute — off the clock — and think about the REAL pioneer women and how they'd kick your lazy, cumbersome ass!!!



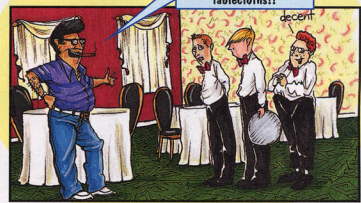
Will you be able to get there and back?



Is there cell phone reception?



Are the fringe benefits cool or sucky?



What's the humiliation factor?

Abby Smeadnoff? I haven't seen you since A.P. Physics! What have you been up to?

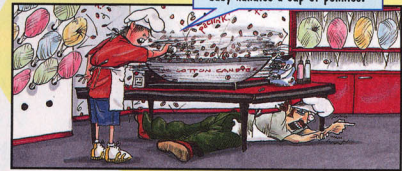


Will there be a lingering smell?



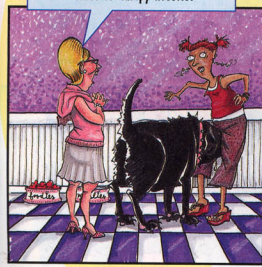
Do you get to operate cool machines?

Sorry, Mr. Tibbutts, I didn't mean to give you another 'Nam freak-out...I was just seeing how this baby handles a cup of pennies.



Would you be happier just being broke?

So, if it's a loosey bowel, Marsha needs a Freshens wipe, but if she's straining to go, you might have to coax her digitally — oh, and she loves to humpy wrestle!



Will you end up with a good reference?

Well, Josh, I wasn't able to contact a "Mr. Smith"...apparently "Lawnmower Dudes" is no longer in business and he won't be up for parole for another six months.



Well, there was that old lady whose car I washed...oh wait — she's dead...

*A*n important message from MAD's Director of Business & Development,

**JEFFREY
LOZENGE**



*The measure of a man is not measured by measuring a man.
Though some tailors may give you an argument on that.
What do they know? These are perilous times and
in perilous times one does not consult a tailor.
Tailors are not essential.*

*The essentials of life — the air and water that we
breathe — are staples. Which brings me to MAD — the
magazine whose time is and was and continues to be
— which is, of course, held together by staples, just as
it may be said the fabric of the universe itself is held
together by staples, though much larger ones.*

*The fabric of the universe is not unlike the fabric of the Hazmat
suit that I wear. Both need to be taken in a tad in the seat.
But not too much, lest chafing occur.*

*And so, I say to you, do not become a chafe on the staple of the
fabric of the universe. Subscribe to MAD. Your tailor has for years.*

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Time to get tangled
in the Web. It's...

MONROE

and...

Gone Internet Phishin'

Time to get tangled
in the web. It's...



WRITER: ANTHONY BARBIERI

ARTIST: TOM FOWLER

ONE MONTH LATER.



IT IS
WITH MUCH
EXCITEMENT
AND CONFUSION
THAT WE ANNOUNCE...
LIL' MONROE IS
CURED!!



MY LEG!
I FEEL LIKE
VEAL.



YEAH,
WE ALL
DID.

YES,
ALL THESE PEOPLE
WHO DONATED SO MUCH
TO YOUR CAUSE WERE
ASSURED YOUR SON
WAS TERMINAL.

HEY,
WE DO WHAT
WE CAN. NOW IF
YOU'LL EXCUSE
ME, I'M LEAVING
THE BAYLINER
DETAILED.



WE'VE BEEN
RAISING MONEY AND
HOLDING A VIGIL FOR
A KID WHO EN'T EVEN
SICK! WE'VE BEEN
SCAMMED!

YUP.
IT'S SERIOUS. COULD
POTENTIALLY BE A
PERFECT STORM...
or, MEDICALLY
SPEAKING,
OF COURSE!



OKAY,
LET'S GO. THERE'S
NO STORY HERE. THIS
KID PROBABLY
WON'T DIE.

THAT'S
WHAT YOU
THINK.

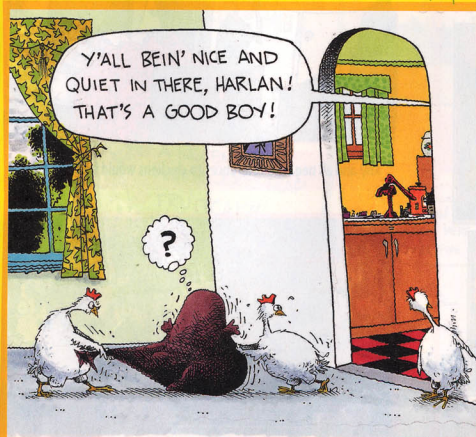
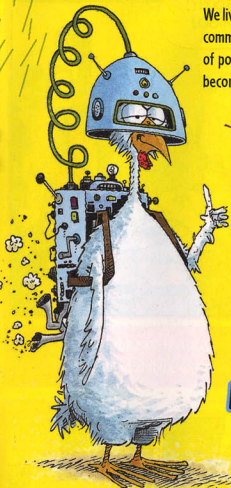


I'M
SANJA ROLANDO,
BACK TO YOU,
DOUG.

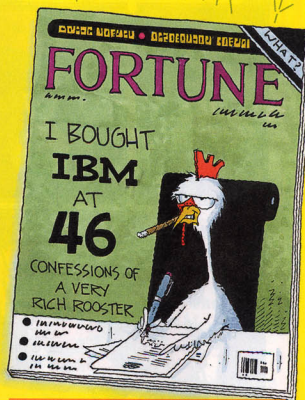
We live in a world of technological wonders. Many things that couldn't even be imagined 100 years ago are now commonplace. Yet one thing, it seems, will probably be forever out of man's reach. Or will it? The possibility of poultry traversing through the ages remains a dream for many. But until such time as this dream can become a reality, we are left to sit and wonder what such a scientific achievement would wrought. Behold!

JOHN CALDWELL'S

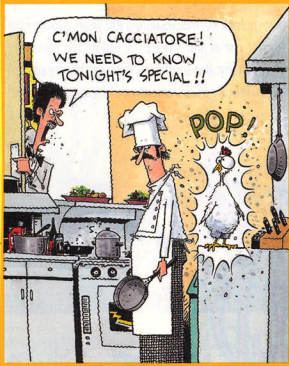
IF CHICKENS COULD TIME TRAVEL



The world might never have heard the name "Colonel Sanders"



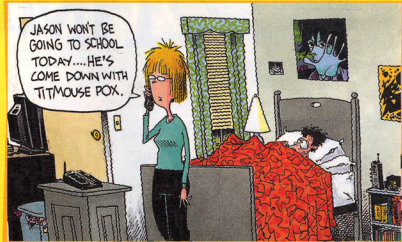
The annual "Fortune 500" list would be peppered with trillionaire chickens



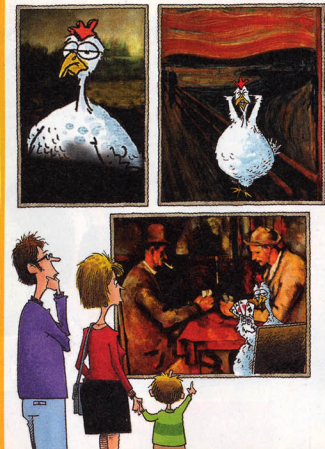
They'd definitely make their share of "wrong place/wrong time" appearances



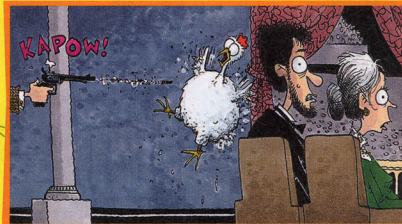
Certain ethically challenged yardbirds would take advantage of the fact that they know the results of cockfights beforehand



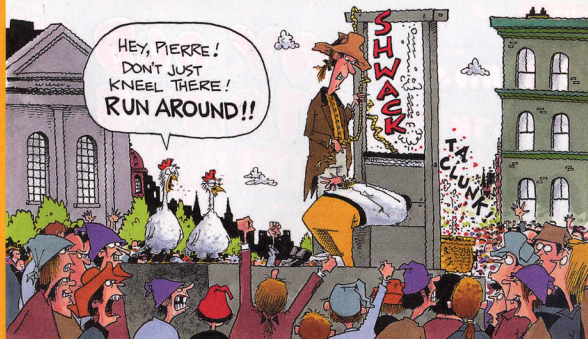
Any and all negative references to chickens would be obliterated



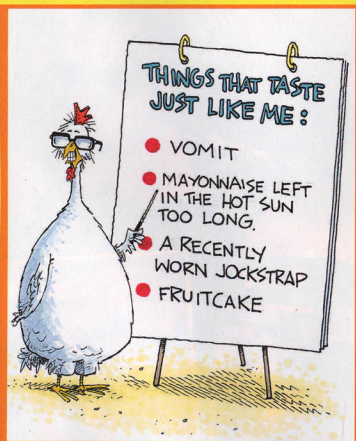
Their effect on our culture would be vastly greater



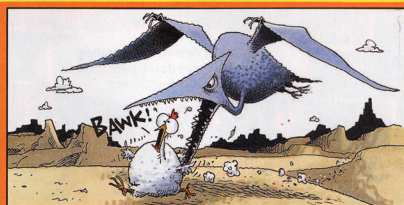
Popular songs, bestselling books and major motion pictures would forever sing the praises of the gallant chick that saved Lincoln



Just for laughs, they'd spend a little time taking in the French Revolution
—when people's heads were being chopped off



They'd be calling all the shots in the
"things that taste just like chicken" department.



Some would learn the hard way, the dangers of
looking up their prehistoric ancestors



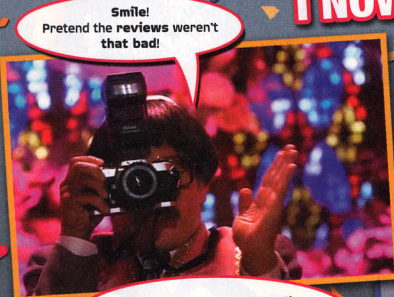
They would rarely set their arrival date correctly,
because at the end of the day, they're still frickin' chickens



MAD HAS A GAY OLD TIME

WITH OUTTAKES FROM

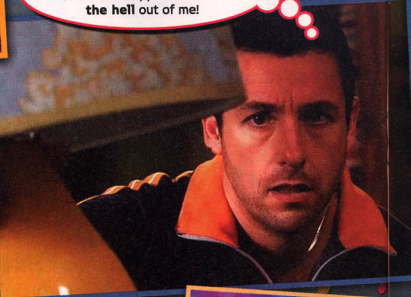
I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY



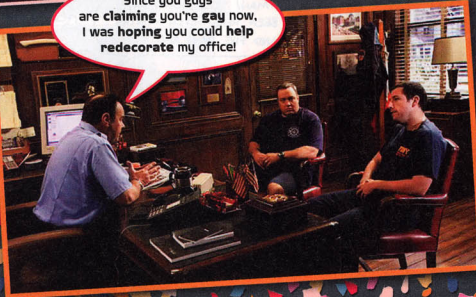
Smile!
Pretend the reviews weren't that bad!



Yes, we're firemen pretending to be gay — but I don't want to hear any "flaming" jokes!



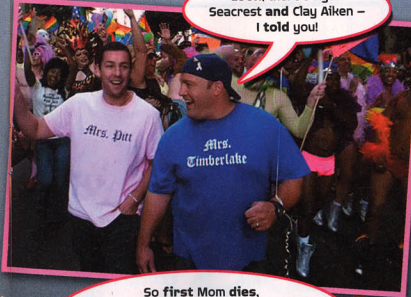
I'd love to turn this lamp on, but "The Clapper" confuses the hell out of me!



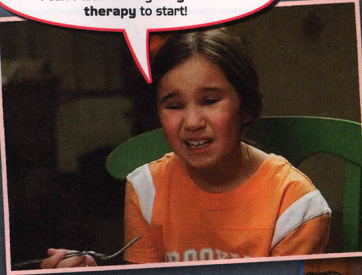
Since you guys are claiming you're gay now, I was hoping you could help redecorate my office!



This is my most demanding role yet — it requires me to offensively portray Jews, gays and Asians simultaneously!



Look, there's Ryan Seacrest and Clay Aiken — I told you!



So first Mom dies, and now you're pretending to be gay — I can't wait for my 30 years of therapy to start!



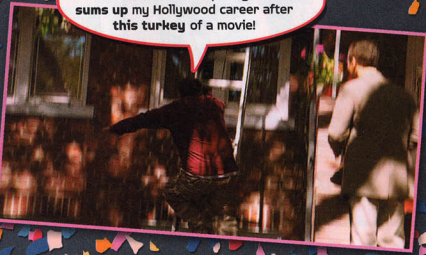
The last time I was in an old New York firehouse was in *Ghostbusters* — a truly funny film!



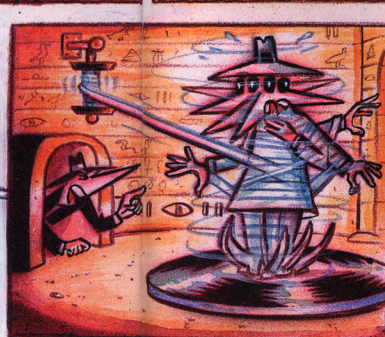
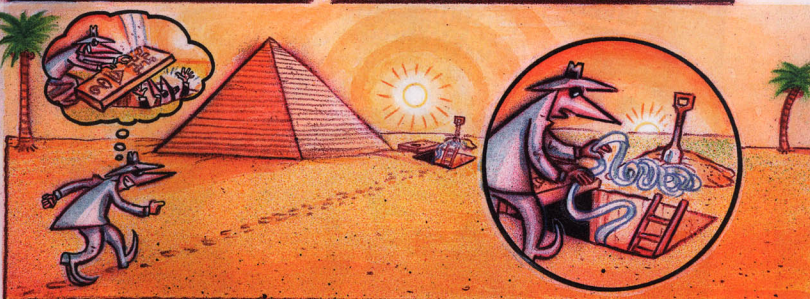
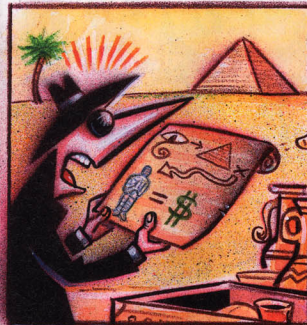
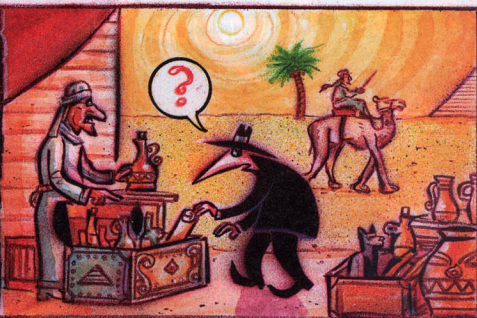
Moving in together is going to take forever — we've still got to unload six more crates of his Pop-Tarts!



A toast... to Chris Farley, for dying young so I could get all the goofy fat guy roles instead!



Falling to the bottom of the ladder — that pretty much sums up my Hollywood career after this turkey of a movie!



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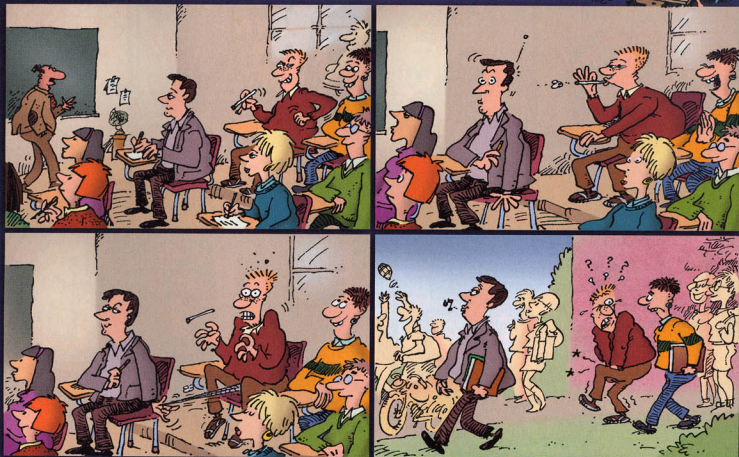
SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPT.

Sergio Aragones

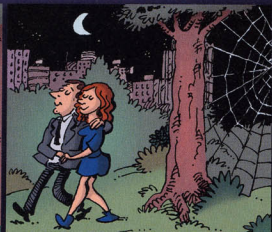
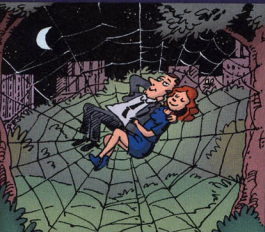
Presents A

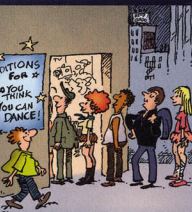
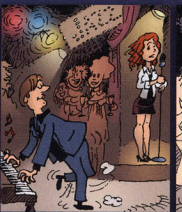
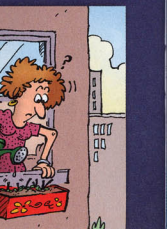
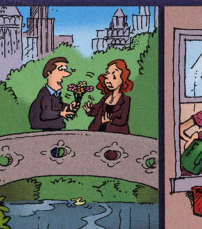
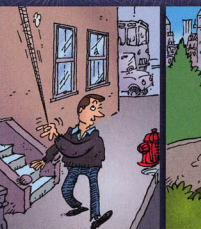
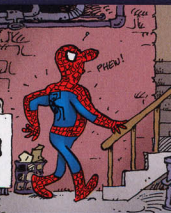
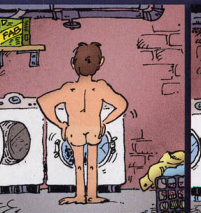
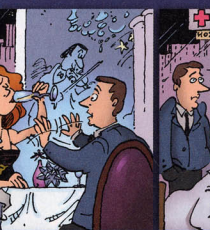
MAD LOOK

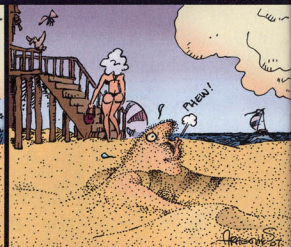
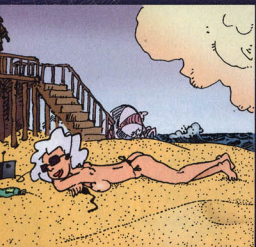
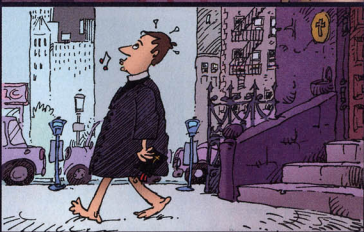
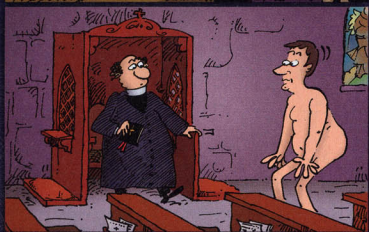
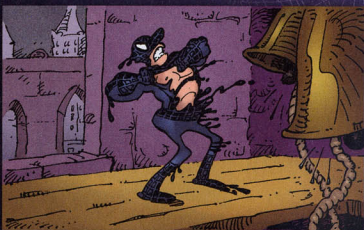
AT SPIDER-MAN 3



WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONES







© 1998 Marvel Comics



SEASON THREE...

WHAT'S NEXT?

WATCH IT LIVE ON



THE PRO ACTION SPORTS TOUR
SKATE. BMX. FREESTYLE MOTOCROSS



Panasonic



VANS



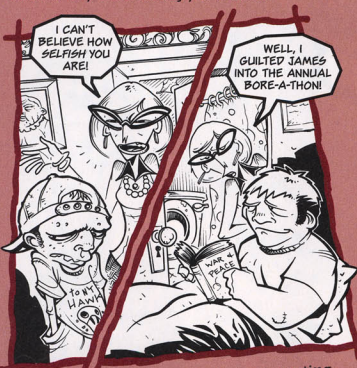
MONGOOSE



verizon



Sure, just last year, we ran an article entitled "Don't You Hate When Your Parents..." — but with parents doing so many stupid, annoying and infuriating things, there's no way one article could cover it all! Besides, summer is all about terrible sequels (We're looking at you, *Daddy Day Care*!) which is why we're forcing you to read...



...make you feel like dirt for not wanting to visit your grandparents, despite secretly loathing the visits ten times worse than you?



...threaten you with twenty kinds of death if they ever catch you "using drugs," despite not being able to survive a single day without caffeine, alcohol or ibuprofen?

DON'T YOU HATE WHEN YOUR PARENTS... THE SEQUEL!



...complain about "how easy you have it," as if they grew up in a Chinese sweatshop and not a suburban house with zone air-conditioning, bean-bag chairs and a puke-green rumpus room?



...assure you that "it's what's inside that counts" — yet whine endlessly about the way you dress?

I JUST
DON'T SEE WHY
YOU FIND THIS
GARBAGE
FUNNY!



...whine about the stuff that you find funny —
while routinely plastering the fridge with
Ziggy, Cathy and Beetle Bailey cartoons?

I GUESS I DIDN'T
GET A CHANCE TO
DO THE LAUNDRY.
JUST WEAR WHAT YOU
WORE YESTERDAY.



...won't let you have a dog because
"you're not responsible enough" —
a qualification that somehow didn't
keep them from having you?

OH...THANKS,
BUT...I HAVEN'T
BEEN A NETS
FAN FOR, LIKE...
FOUR YEARS!

WELL, SOME
PEOPLE WOULD
APPRECIATE GETTING
A \$100 BASKETBALL
JERSEY!



...buy you gifts that prove how little they
actually know you — then try to make you
feel guilty for your "ungratefulness"?



NOT
EXACTLY
HEMINGWAY,
HUH?



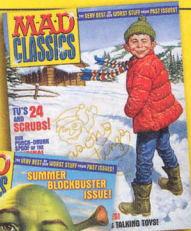
...complain that you don't read enough —
then, when you do, complain that you
aren't reading the "right" things?



YOU'VE GOT JAIL DEPT.

the simple PRISON BREAK life





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No. 166
April '74
\$2.25

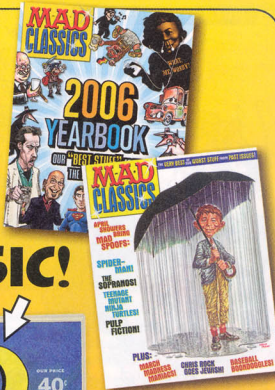
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THE NUMBER ONE ECCH MAGAZINE

In April 1974, MAD published its most infamous cover—the so-called “Finger” cover. Rejected by many newsstand dealers across the country, the issue saw limited distribution, resulting in horrible sales and one very depressed publisher.

With returns of this now rare and collectible issue pouring in, MAD's founder and publisher, William M. Gaines, sent several boxes of the issue to the MAD vault, where they remained, undisturbed and forgotten, until last year when the vault was emptied.

Now, here is your chance to own your very own copy of this legendary issue. Subscribe to MAD Classics and get an **ORIGINAL COPY** of MAD #166 **ABSOLUTELY FREE!**



You'll also get a Certificate of Authenticity signed by MAD editor John Ficarra. (Probably not worth much, but it might give you an edge when you try to resell this on eBay a few months from now!)



Demand is expected to be high and the number of issues is limited, so it's important that you act **NOW** to insure that we're able to give you the finger!

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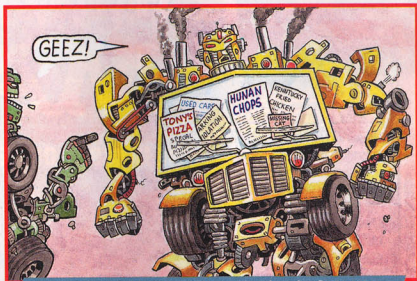
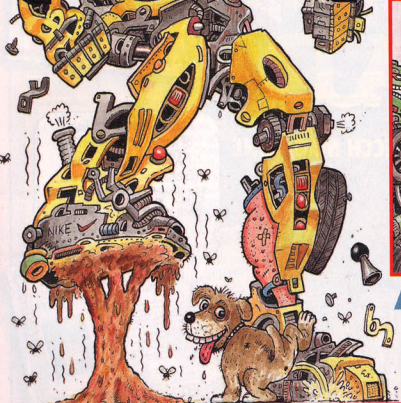
*Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. - 11 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Eastern time. U.S. and Canadian orders only!



So you're in a vicious battle with your sworn enemies for the fate of the universe, a million miles away from your home planet of Cybertron and facing death at every turn. Sounds tough, right? Well, for the Autobots and Decepticons, all that stuff is child's play compared to these...

Everyday Pet Peeves of

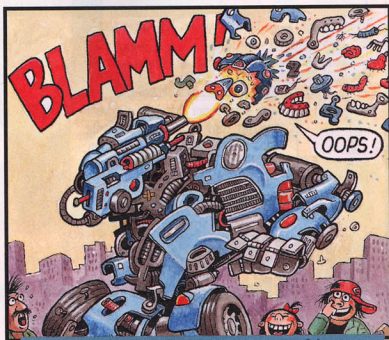
TRANSFORMERS



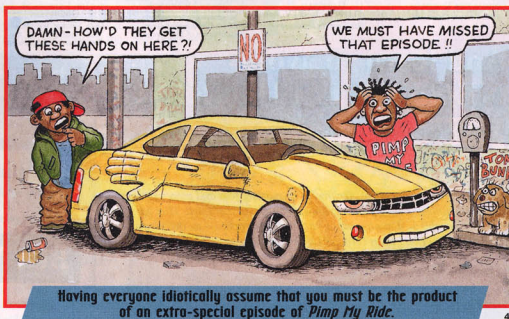
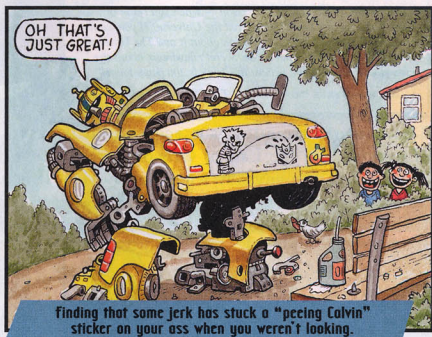
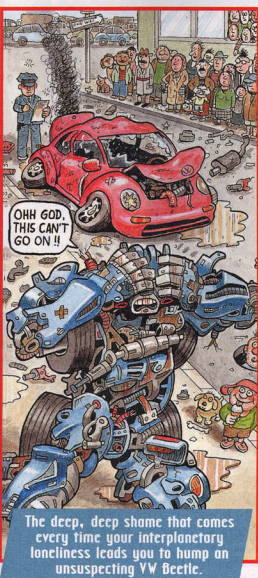
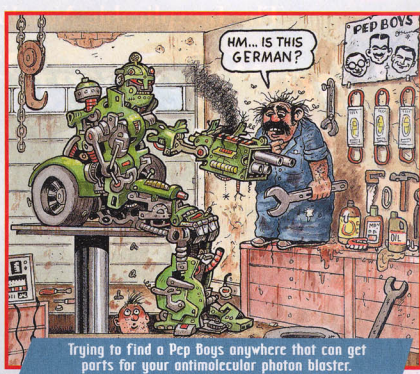
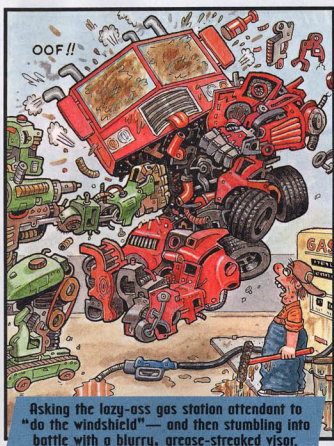
Trying to look intimidating with a bunch of pizzeria flyers jammed under your windshield wipers.



Taking a snooze in the "wrong part of town"—and waking up hours later without your arms or legs.



When your hands can turn into powerful laser-cannons, there's always a chance that accidental suicide is as close as your next nose-pick.



The Inexplicable New York Times Bestseller!

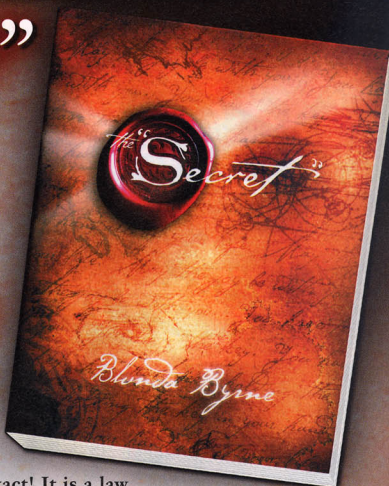
The "Secret" is Out!

What did all of history's most successful, wealthy and powerful individuals have in common? They all knew The "Secret" — even if they didn't know it at the time!

Learn the power of
POSITIVE THINKING!

"The 'Secret' is the Law of Attraction — when you think of something, you are attracting it from the Universe! If you want something, all you have to do it think about it and The Universe will deliver! That's it! That's The 'Secret': daydream about the crap you want! Can you believe this book is 200 pages long?"

—BLUNDA BYRNE "AUTHOR" OF *The "Secret"*, SKILLIONAIRE



The Law of Attraction is precise and it is exact! It is a law of nature, like the Law of Gravity...except that it can't be scientifically proven or supported in any way whatsoever. Also, it is not precise. Or exact!

Featuring vague, head-slappingly obvious, common sense advice from such "experts" as:



GIBRALTER TUBBINGS
18th Century Crackpot



GARFIELD
HAPPELUND IV
19th Century Crackpot



BOBBY MCFERRIN
Singer/songwriter and one
of the 1980's most famous
practitioners of *The "Secret"*



DR. ULYSSES M.
GOLDSTEIN
Deep Thinker, Well-ologist,
Self-Certified Healer and
Soul Renovation Specialist



HELVETICA NARROWS
Dream Coordinator,
Professor at
The Feelgood Institute's
Online University



MICHAEL FRED
DACKGAMMOM
Contributor to *The "Secret"*

And learn to avoid
NEGATIVE THINKING!

"There are no accidents and there are no victims! Any bad thing that happens is because your negative thoughts requested it from the Universe!"

—BLUNDA BYRNE

"These 'victims' broadcast feelings of alienation, fear and powerlessness — and the universe simply gave them what they had requested. That goes for everyone who died in any war or natural catastrophe — as well as every audience that had to sit through Little Man, that guy who got hit in the nuts on that Progressive Insurance commercial, and all of J.Lo's past, present and future husbands."

—BLUNDA BYRNE

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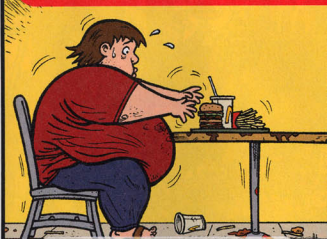
A MAD
AD PARODY

WRITER: DAVE CROATTO

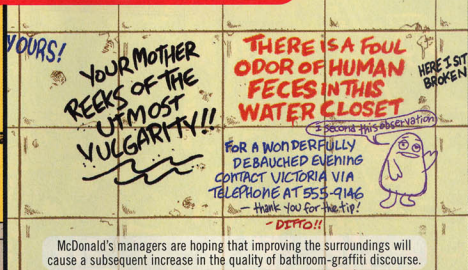
McDonalds is currently remodeling all their restaurants to turn them into hipster havens. (Think Starbucks with gristle!) Why? Because they have to find *some way* to lure in customers against their doctor's orders. If you want to know how your local McNugget slinger is going to be "upgraded," then check out these...

FAQs ABOUT McDONALD'S TRENDY MAKEOVER

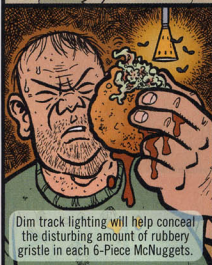
Q: Why is McDonald's Doing a Makeover?



New movable tables and chairs will allow diners to adjust for their rapidly expanding waistlines.



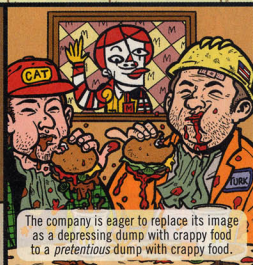
McDonald's managers are hoping that improving the surroundings will cause a subsequent increase in the quality of bathroom-graffiti discourse.



Dim track lighting will help conceal the disturbing amount of rubbery gristle in each 6-Piece McNuggets.



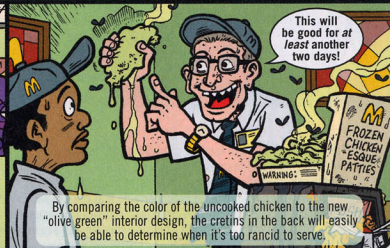
Comfortable sofas in new "Linger Zone" will provide customers with an inviting place to have their next massive coronary.



The company is eager to replace its image as a depressing dump with crappy food to a pretentious dump with crappy food.



The garish yellow-and-red interiors were far too reminiscent of the '70s, while the muted new color scheme rockets them all the way to the Fall of 1993.



By comparing the color of the uncooked chicken to the new "olive green" interior design, the cretins in the back will easily be able to determine when it's too rancid to serve.

Q: What Will the New "Eating Zones" Be Like?

Linger Zone

The Linger Zone features "comfy armchairs and sofas" and Wi-Fi access, a transparent attempt to woo "hip" customers who would previously avoid McDonald's the way Nicole Richie avoids all-you-can-eat buffets. Photography and modern art will replace the staid yellow wallpaper, which cried out to be van der Waay with salad dressing and condiments. While these gimmicks won't do much to attract the trendsters that Mickey D's desires, it should attract another unique niche group: homeless drunks who buy a Coke with dirty nickels and then pass out, drooling, on the couch.

Grab & Go Zone

In the old McDonald's, a lone diner could usually hide at a corner table in the back in an effort to avoid the humiliation of being seen there. In the new Grab & Go Zone, solo diners will be herded together like socially inept cattle to better shield the other patrons from the loners' sad, pathetic chewing, belching and farting. To prevent depressing conversation within the zone itself, Plasma TVs will be hung at neck-snapping angles, offering news, weather and anything else that will divert attention from how wretched the dining experience actually is.

Q: What Are McDonald's Customers Saying about the Makeover?

Flexible Zone

The Flexible Zone offers familiar components of "restaurant style" dining, such as movable chairs and tasteful lighting, with none of the service, manners or delicious food that is normally associated with real restaurants. Whereas the old, plastic booths were designed to be so uncomfortable that you'd leave almost immediately after choking down your Big Mac, the Flexible Zone encourages you to relax in an atmosphere of family arguments, shrieking children and adolescent food fights.

"If I wanted classy, I'd go to IHOP!"

"It's about time McDonald's recognized the pent-up customer demand for dim lighting, modern art and tasteful sagebrush hues!"

"The employees will still be ugly, right?"

"It's cool 'cause I can still wipe my snot underneath the tables!"


"I hope that each branch can somehow retain some of its unique local flavor."

"Why, Marjorie and I had an 8 p.m. reservation at Le Bouf, which I shall cancel at once and instead call upon this delightful-sounding new bistro!"



And now, presenting
a Formerly New
MAD Feature!

WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Can you find the  idiotic
changes we've made to this magazine cover?



ANSWERS: 1) The word "Bob" above the logo has changed to "Rob." 2) Alfred's hat is tilted in a different direction. 3) Alfred has a raccoon in each pocket. 4) There's an extra bird lying in the background. 5) The grackle in the background has two heads. 6) The bird in the bottom left corner has changed colors. 7) The blue jay is no longer on the pumpkin. 8) The bird at Alfred's feet is facing the opposite direction. 9) The magazine logo is completely different, genius!

**WHERE HAS THE
RECENT SURGE IN
COMBATANTS ONLY
INCREASED THE
LEVEL OF VIOLENCE?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

Even though the violence is at an all-time high, there's still scores of people signing up to participate everyday. Parents may worry about the impact it's having on their children, but those involved accept it as a way of life. To see where the surge is, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



**THE MORE COMBATANTS THERE ARE
THE WORSE THINGS GET. WE HAVE OFTEN BEEN TOLD
OF WASTED SOLDIERS' LIVES. BUT HORDES OF FEAR-
CRAZED WOUNDED AND MAIMED ARE ALSO LEFT**

A

WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

B

WHERE HAS THE
RECENT SURGE IN
COMBATANTS ONLY
INCREASED THE
LEVEL OF VIOLENCE?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

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



THE WORLD
OF WAR-
CRAFT

A **B**

GET THE
GLASS

got milk?

OH NO, GRANDPA GOT SENT TO
MILKATRAZ!

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