



WATCH IT LIVE ALL SUMMER LONG ON NBC AND USA



















AVIVAND







FLAG, YOU'RE IT!

So it is standardized testing season around here, and I had to take a super long English exam. Luckily, the teacher allowed us to bring reading materials for when we get done early. I, being the idiot I am, decided there was nothing better to bring but my good of MAD magazine. I finished the test and when the time came I poulled out the contraband

I minshed the test and when the and began reading. After a few minutes I looked up and happened to see a Pledge of Allegiance poster on the wall. Then a brilliant idea struck me and I spent the remainder of my time in that classroom thinking up this:

Anthony Beaulieu, Noble, OK

"Pledge to the MAD"

I pledge aliegance to the MAD

Of the United States of America
And to the Repugnant
for which it stands
ne publication, under clods,
in singersable
with laugher and Joking for all

Beaulieu Cheese — We think the only salute you'd get for your version of the Pledge would be the one-finger salute! Still, if your pledge is going to carch on, it's going to need a MAD flag to go along with it. So, we're opening it up to readers to design and send in a MAD flag that we can proudly pledge our allegiance to. Send if either sain ilm all to Amy "The Bif Plag" of AMD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 or to our e-mail address (make sure you put "The Bif Plag" in the sublect line). We'll print the best ones in an upcoming issuel — Ed.

AGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

In MAD #489, it states that Tad's age in binary is 1110. After some calculation, does this mean that he's 14 years old?

Alex Carrillo, Brooklyn, NY

Alex in Wonderland — We're not sure about Tad's age but, after some calculations of our own, we've determined that you're a big dork! Thanks for writing! —Ed.

THE BIG TEACHER'S PET

My history teacher, Mr. Faris, loves MAD magazine, Out of everyone in the world, I would never have guessed that he loves it. Once I told him that I collect them, Mr. Faris got a surprised face on him and begged me to bring some to class. Since then, he's never been more awesome. Thanks, you bunch of schmucks! Keep the mags coming!

Matthew Zarr, Fountain Valley, CA

When You Wish Upon a Zarr — We remember we had a teacher just like Mr. Faris, but in our case, he begged us to bring in our copies of *Playboy* (specifically the one featuring the criticle "Girls Who Bowl Naked")! He got fired soon after that — Ed



ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

This month's Envelope of the Month featuring the battling duo of Spy Vs. Spy was drawn by Anthony Tinsman of Forrest City, AR. Hey, Anthony, we'll make sure Peter Kuper doesn't steal your idea!



MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

I was reading a MAD magazine on the sidelines of my brother's baseball game and I stumbled upon Owen Wilson. Apparently he was watching his nephew's team get creamed by my brother's team. Owen said he was on the other side of the fence because of the paparazzi, but I think he got Lost!

Emma Polhemus, Los Angeles, CA

Emma Enchaneta — Congratulations! We didn't think anyone could face in The Butterscoth Stalliant He may have avoided the paparazzi, but there's no way he could stop the Schmuckarazzi, our name for the legions of MAD fans willing to stalk a star for a free subscription! Enjoy your three-year subscription! Everyone esle, siend Find prompt and get busy looking for celebrilles of Little Legue games, bowling matches and the occasional cockfish!!—Edm es, bowling matches



BETTER DEAD THAN READ

Last year I bought my Uncle Tom a gift subscription to MAD for his birthday. He loved MAD growing up and (to my mother's chagim) even gave my brother and I his old MAD paperbacks from the 60s. I don't think I've ver seen a gift make someone so happy—when the first issue arrived, he even e-mailed me to thank me again. Five days later, he ided. Oddly, the one thing that never turned up when we cleaned out his house, car and office was that new issue of MAD. We like to think he took it with him (as farfetched as that sounds). I've been receiving the remaining issues and whenever one arrives I can't help thinking of how much Tom would have enjoyed it. Thank you MAD for helping me put a smile on his face during the last few days of his life.

Lindsey Parker, Huntington Beach, CA

Parket Lot — Thank you for your heartwarming letter and we're so sorry for your loss. However, touching as your theory may be, it seems unlikely to us that your Uncle Tom took MAD with him into the afterlife. If it were us, MAD would be the one thing we'd be sure to leave behind! —Ed.

BORE OF DUTY

I am almost 14 and am a huge fan of MAD. I buy both current and old issues and really enjoy reading them. Most times I read it at night in my room. I'm not able to read it during the day because I have school, homework, chores and other crud to deal with. But when I try to read it at night my dad always barges into my room and tells me lights out. Could you please print this and give me something to show my dad and make him quit bugging me when I'm reading MAD at night in the privacy of my own room. I'm one of the biggest fans of the number ecch magazine!

May the Schwartz Be With You — Here's your problem — you have your priorities all exceeding MADI You're putting school, homework, chores and crud ahead of reading MADI You need to revess the order! Start with MAD then focus on the crud (whatever that might be — ear wax? Eye crust? What?) Then do your chores and finally, and only as a last resort, school and homework! Then, when your dad barges into your room telling you lights out, you'll just have to stop doing homework! Enjoy your wonderful new life! —Ed.

THE CHOKE'S ON US

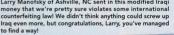
I just recently attended the funeral of my friend's hamster. The death was tragic; he passed away a few days ago when his wind pipe clogged with the paper head of Alfred E. Neuman. Fluffy was a constant reader of MAD, his owner put MAD under the shavings after cleaning the cage. Fluffy got a kick out of diaging through the shavings to the cover and then chewing his way to the more tasty Fundalini Pages. Please carry on Fluffy's legacy by printing this letter in your next magazine. He would have wanted it that way. PS. Fluffy always liked the "Letters and Tomatoes Dept."

Grolle With the Punches — Fluffys tragic death really hit close to home. A few years ago, we almost lost long-time MAD writer and artist John Caldwell in the exact same way. No, wait. Check that, it linvolved a hamster, but I don't think Caldwell inhaled anything! Yulf sold! —Ed.

COUNTERFEIT TO BE TIED

Steven Grolle Sonora CA

Larry Manofsky of Ashville, NC sent in this modified Iraqi













WRITE AND WRONG

Dear MAD.

I think your "What The Heck Is The Difference?" feature is the best new addition to your magazine in years! And to pay tribute, I'm writing you two (nearly) identical letters. Can you find the seven suble differences between them? Anyway, I have such fun trying to find all the changes you've made, and I'm getting better and better all the time! In fact, last month I managed to find all the changes in only 47 minutes (a new personal record, I might add). Keep up the good work. You're the greates!

Dear MAD:

I think your "What The Heck is The Difference?" feature is the best new addition to your magazine in years! And to pay tribute! I'm writing you two [nearly] identical letters. Can you find the 7 subtle differences between them? Anyway, I have such fun trying to find all the changes you've made, and I am getting better and better all the time! In fact, last month I managed to find all the changes in only 47 minutes (a new personal record, I might add). Keep up the good work. You guys stink!

Sorry, I guess that last one wasn't so subtle. Neal Angell. Rockford, IL.

Hell's Angell — We pored over your letters for minutes and minutes on end! However, try though we might, we couldn't find any difference between your dueling missives! As far as we can deduce, they're exactly the same — they're both soul-crushingly boring wastes of time. Thanks for writinal —Ed.



MAD CELEBRITY VISITS

We never know what stars are going to drop by the MAD offices! Recently, Scott Adsit, who plays Pets thornberger on 30 Rock, dropped by and read our spoof "30 Crock." We're glad to see Scott is still smiling!



READER ALERT

Those of you lucky enough to have your missives printed in this month's Letters Page will receive the DVD of Batman: Gotham Knight courtesy of our friends at Warner Home Video and DC Comics. For those who didn't make it, don't get your cape in a twist. it's on sale now!



COMING UP IN MAD #492, ON SALE JULY 15!

OUR SPOOF OF IRON MAN! PLUS A MAD OLYMPIC PREVIEW!

MAD

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John Ficarra editor

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Cheryl Rubin senior vp - brand management Jeff Trojan vp - business development, DC direct Bob Wayne vp - sales

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS the usual gang of idiots

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HOW TO REACH US:

Please Address Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 491, 1700 Broadway New York, New York, 10019.

Or e-mail us at letters@madmagazine.com

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

MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

FAX MAD AT 212-506-4848! VISIT OUR WEB SITE! MADMAG.COM

MILLIONS OF TREES

GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THESE BOOKS.

DON'T LET THEIR DEATHS BE IN VAIN!



Over 200 Spy Vs. Spy strips, many in full color, by Peter Kuper! Plus a complete collection of rare Spy Vs. Spy newspaper strips, Spy Vs. Spy Jr., and much, much more! Written by former MAD Editor David Shayne. Published by Watson-Guptill

> ON SALE NOW!

MAD Star Wars article! Chock full of annotations and behind-the-scenes memories from both MAD artists and writers and Lucasfilm veterans. Written by MAD Senior Editor and former Lucasfilm lackey Jonathan Bresman. Published by Del Rey Books.

ON SALE NOW!



Savor the final days of a failed presidency by reading this hard-hitting satiric collection of articles on George W. Bush - the worst President since...well...Clinton! A MAD Book

ON SALE NOW!

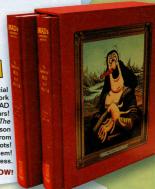


ANVAUD S CREATEST ARTISTS

The COMPLETELY MAD DON MARTIN

A Deluxe 2-Volume Special Edition containing every work Don Martin created for MAD over the course of 30 years! With a foreword by The Far Side creator Gary Larson and tributes to Martin from MAD's Usual Gang of Idiots! More than 1,000 pages — count 'em! Published by Running Press.

ON SALE NOW!



THEFUNDALINIPAGES







MORTICIAN I

The incredible pocket

The awesome soup kitchen quality ladle

The unbelievable

salami-scented

The amazingly awesome dashboard egg timer

The solution requires that two of the matchsticks be bent at right angles and inserted into the left nostril. Sometimes the easiest answer is the most obvious!

NEXT MONTH: "A Perplexing Pasta Puzzle"!



"I was kind of hoping you'd ask me about the series of horrendous murders I've been committing off and on for the last twelve years, but have it your own way. No, I'm not a registered Democrat."

THE FAST 5 REJECTED BASEBALL PROMOTIONAL DAYS

X-Rated Movies on the Scoreboard Night

Mass Cult Indoctrination Night

Throw Rocks at the **Opposing Catcher Day**

4 Third-Place Rings Ceremony Night

5 Fan Interference Night

PHRASES THAT SOUND LIKE THEY'RE FROM THE BIBLE - BUT AREN'T





THIS MONTH: Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull With Special Guest... The MLB Ump!



With the baseball season in full swing, the NFL Ref is taking a step back and letting his friend, the MLB Ump, have a try,



Indiana Jones needs to find two ancient crystal skulls to complete his quest to collect all seven...



Which will allow him to open the doors of a magic Mayan temple.



some angry Soviets are trying to stop Indy.



And they all fly down to Mexico



In an inspired twist, Indy escapes and finds some treasure, mostly by whipping a lot of things with his whip...



ROBOTS IN DISGUISE (OTHER THAN TRANSFORMERS)





"Hey! Can't you read?!"



will ask "Does that mean there's a 2 1/2-day waiting period for shorts?" Tobacco, and Trousers. Overnight, sales of kilts skyrocket.



required to keep strict records on sales of all Levi's, Guess and Osh Kosh B'Gosh

half with their junk hanging out!

would declare "They'll have to pry these khakis from my cold, dead thighs."

whether the law violates

the right to bare leg

THE O'REILLY SPIN VS. THE OLBERMANN SPIN



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

JEFFREY LOZENGE



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

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

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

And vice versa. Like marriage. Like MAD.

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

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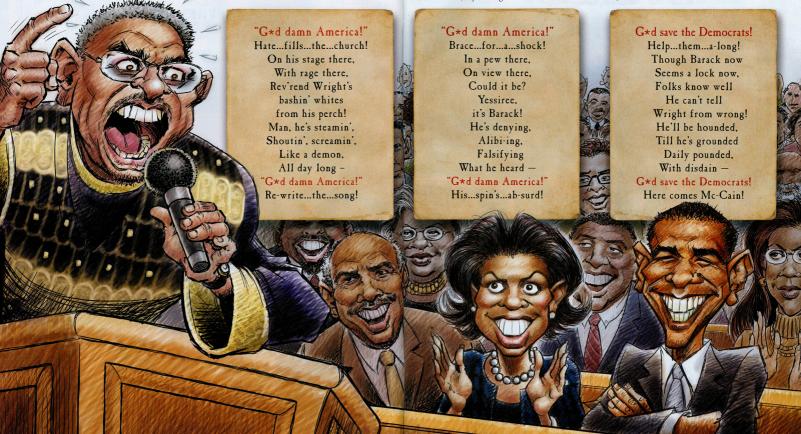


Barack Obama's pastor, the Reverend Jeremiah Wright, made headlines recently when his fiery, spittle-filled, race-baiting rants (read: Sunday morning sermons) were shown on YouTube. The most famous of his diatribes is where he exhorted his parishioners with the heartwarming Christian message "God Bless America? No! No! No! No! ded Damn America!"Well, to this we say; "No! No! No! Rev.! You can't spout inflammatory sound, bites like this and then not expect to be hung, like a rotting albatross, around your most famous\(\text{lparish}\) jarishioner's \(\text{gcck}\) when he runs for president." So, without further ado, will all music-loving Americans everywhere please stand and join in a rousing rendition of...

ARTIST: JACK SYRACUSE

"G*d Damn America"

(may be sung to the tune of God Bless America)



GREEN AT GOING GREEN







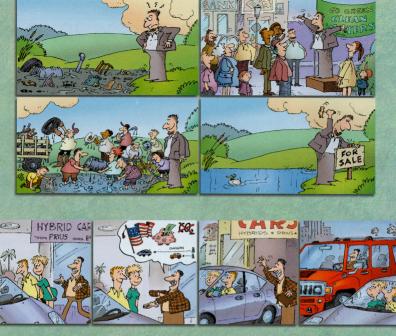
















Dr. Seuss' books have entertained generations of children and adults. (Unlike Dr. Seuss' movies — yikes!!!) But if Seuss' books are to continue to entertain future generations, they're going to need some updating. Please scroll down as we present...

Dr. Seuss for the Digital Age



HORTON PIRATES A MOVIE!



HOW THE
GRINCH
STOLE
SANTAS
IDENTITY













WRITER:
DARREN JOHNSON
ARTIST:
GARY HALLGREN

Dr. Seuss's

DOMICILE MANIACS DEPT.

Everyone dreams of working from home! Of course, everyone also dreams of showing up naked for school...but that's a topic for a whole different issue of MAD. So before you tell off your boss and storm out of the Starbucks, be sure to carefully weigh...

THE

Pros and Cons OF Working at Home!



It becomes increasingly difficult to "pass the buck."



Employee evaluations always go well.



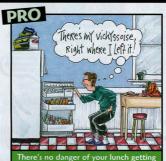








Personal and office supplies begin to co-mingle





swiped by grabby coworkers.

You find out things about your pets that you're better off not knowing.









Reality-show contestants.

YouTube posters.
Barely-sane

bloggers.
Thanks to runaway

technology and stantists like Simon Cowell, America is becoming inundated with "stars" whose lack of actual talent makes Heldi Montag

"But how will this actually change things in our country," you ask, thought-

fully stroking your chin. Well. VOW THAT



Arrest and conviction rates will plummet, since millions will now be getting preferential treatment from star-struck cops and judges.

ANY NE

Bookstores will soon feel pressured to clog their shelves with sub-literate, blog-inspired titles.

JUST 200 MORE POUNDS AND YOU'LL BE READY FOR

THE BIGGEST LOSER!

WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT ARTIST: PAUL COKER

CELEBRITY.



Schmucks who were previously just chronically unemployed can now get away with saying they're "walting for the right project to come along."

People will actually become angry when they trip down a mall escalator and nobody thinks to catch it on their cell phone. Crushing, morbid obesity will come to be seen mainly as an exciting ticket to reality-TV stardom.







Early Internet embarrassments like the Star Wars lightsaber kid will come to be respected as the trailblazing Picassos of their "field."



Quentin Tarantino will be able to choose from a vast new batch of pseudo-trendy has-beens who'll work even cheaper than Travolta, Carradine and Pam Grier.



Current Z-listers will feel threatened even more by a new sub-tier of "celebrities" who are actually more pitiful than they are.



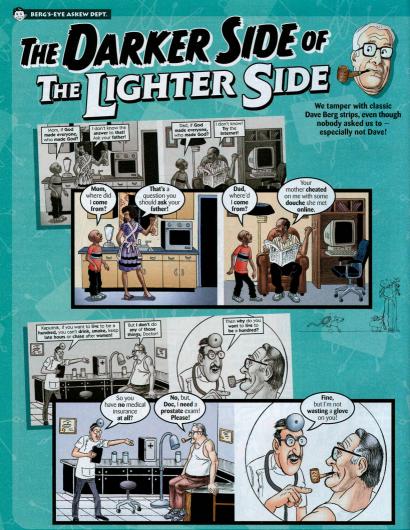
Nearly every town, no matter how fly-speck, will have a shadylooking guy selling "star maps" on the corner.







To accommodate the steady stream of new stars, rags like *US Weekly, People*, and *In Touch* will be forced to expand to a spine-snapping 600 pages.











POLITICAL CONVENTIONS DON'T HAVE TO BE PREPACKAGED AND PREDICTABLE. HERE'S

INGS WE'D LIKE TO SEE AT THIS YEAR'S POLITICAL CONVENTIONS

HONEST INTROS WHEN THE STATES CAST THEIR VOTES.



CULTURALLY LIFELESS STATE OF NEBRASKA CASTS ITS MEASLY 5 VOTES FOR ...

GIANT MAGNETS TO CATCH DELEGATES WHO WEAR ONE TOO MANY BUTTONS.



JET PACKS FOR FLOOR CORRESPONDENTS.



ALL SPEAKERS REQUIRED TO DOWN 12 JELLO SHOTS BEFORE ADDRESSING THE CONVENTION



ACCOUNTABILITY FOR BROKEN PROMISES FROM THE LAST CONVENTION.



MEET THE EX-WIVES ... AND MISTRESSES!









FORGED IN THE DEPTHS OF HADES. SO YES, IT'S A LIMITED EDITION.

THE DEEP RED PSP® SYSTEM.
AVAILABLE ONLY IN THE
GOD OF WAR® ENTERTAINMENT PACK.

Includes the exclusive deep red PSP® (PlayStation®Portable) system, the God of War®: Chains of Olympus game, Superbad UMD;^m and a PLAYSTATION® Network voucher for Syphon Filter®: Combat Ops.*









HIRE LEARNING DEPT

For a long time McDonald's has trained workers at its

"Hamburger University," where generations of students have spent vears studying the delicate art of lowering a fry basket into hot oil. Now, other well known companies have developed their own schools to teach their soon-to-be-store managers the essentials to excel in what they foolishly think of as their "careers." Here's...

WHAT'S BEING TAUGHT

CORPORATE
COLLEGES

Foot Locker Academy

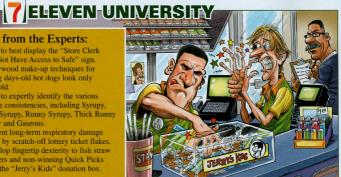


Let Our Trained Specialists Train You to:

- · Effectively ignore customers by playing
- Nerf basketball in the back storeroom. • Employ cutting-edge inventory control
- methods to ensure that customers will be offered only sizes above and below theirs, forcing them to consider pricier models.
- · Tie and lace customers' sneakers to the point of causing them permanent circulatory damage.
- · Insist, even when a pair of shoes
- clearly doesn't fit the customer, that he or she "take a walk around the store."
- · Act as though working a sliding metal foot ruler takes as much high level training and technical skill as operating the robotic arm on a space shuttle repair mission.

Learn from the Experts:

- · How to best display the "Store Clerk Does Not Have Access to Safe" sign.
- · Hollywood make-up techniques for making days-old hot dogs look only hours old
- · How to expertly identify the various Slurpee consistencies, including Syrupy, Thick Syrupy, Runny Syrupy, Thick Runny Syrupy and Gaseous.
- · Prevent long-term respiratory damage caused by scratch-off lottery ticket flakes.
- · Develop fingertip dexterity to fish straw wrappers and non-winning Quick Picks out of the "Jerry's Kids" donation box.





Train with the Pros. You'll Learn:

- · How to stack the knot-free, unwarped lumber under an enormous pile of gouged, mildewed wood.
- · How to advise customers on extremely complicated do-it-yourself projects with which you have absolutely no experience whatsoever.
- · How to stand by the exit, demanding receipts, then absent-mindedly glancing at them before marking them with an orange highlighter.
- How to refer potentially dangerous undocumented workers loitering in the parking lot to clueless single women with ambitious landscaping ideas.
- · How to hold up a line of twenty people while trying to ascertain the price of a half-inch steel washer for a customer who is making a \$600 purchase.

Students Will Learn to:

- · Make that "foaming" noise with your mouth when the cappuccino machine breaks.
- Perfect the look of disdain when someone asks for a regular coffee.
- · Convert any square foot of space anywhere into a Starbucks café.
- · Seed the Lucite box by the register with a one-dollar bill to encourage tipping.
- · Have an inane stream of caffeine-fueled mumbo jumbo prepared when asked to describe the differences between any of our essentially identical coffees.
- · Numb yourself to the mindlessly bland Paul McCartney CD currently for sale that will be played endlessly over our sound system for the next year.

Starbucks Institute



BEST BUY COLLEGE



THE SECOND SECOND

Enroll Now and Enjoy These Exciting Fields of Study!

. Tuning all TVs to the same channel.

purchase.

- · Exploiting "PriceMatch Guarantee" loopholes.
- · Badgering customers to buy our "Performance Service Plan," regardless of how trivial their
- · Avoiding customers who need help by purposefully walking past them with a stack of Hoosiers DVDs.
- · Pretending that the "Geek Squad" is some elite group of super-genius techies and not just a bunch of computer science drop-outs from the local community college.

GETTING THEIR SHOOT TOGETHER DEPT.

Paparazzi are generally perceived as soulless cretins who will say or do anything to get a celebrity photo. And despite overwhelming and conclusive evidence to support this notion, we're here to tell you - that perception is wrong; The fact is, paparazzi adhere to wrong; rne lact 1s, paparazzi amere to a marvelous, self-imposed, strict code of conduct and behavior. It's all written

JOHN CALDWELL 'S PROPER

down in a little book as you'll see in... PAPARAZZI



When catching a pair of cheating celebs outside a hot L.A. club, it is considered tacky to remind them that you also do weddings



A thoughtful shutterbug knows that a good disguise is often the least intrusive strategy for landing a candid shot of a celebrity newborn



The thoughtful paparazzi graciously accept goodintentioned criticism regarding common rookie mistakes



Showing sincere interest in the bodyguards you've met before is a considerate way to break the ice



Always offer to hold a colleague's camera bag while he undergoes a serious Sean Penn ass-kicking



The considerate paparazzi know that when it comes to bulimic supermodels, nothing is off limits, except, maybe, the bulimia part



When staking out a poolside topless shot, remember, the certified homicidal stalkers always get first dibs

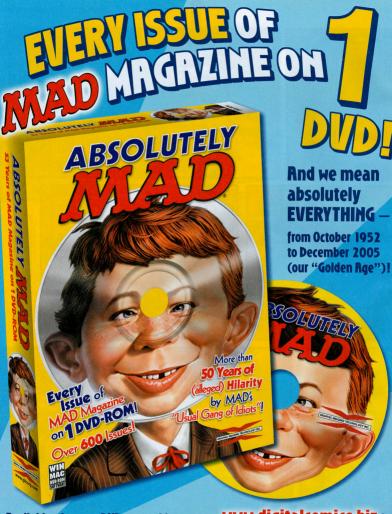


When in search of those "celebs without make-up" shots that are currently so popular, never himiliate a subject by asking for two forms of I.D.



The polite celebutographer knows that any shots of recently departed stars must be taken before actual burial to show up at the cemetery would be in bad taste





Available wherever DVDs are sold — or go to WWW.digitalcomics.biz!

ANGSTER'S PARADISE DEPT.

They're fattened up and ready for the slaughter. It's...

MONROE

Teen Obesity













COLORIST: CARL PETERSON











WHAT DO YOU MEAN THAT YOU CAN'T CLIMB FENCES ?! THIS IS A JAILBREAK,
YOU SPINELESS JERK!
WHAT ARE YOU IN FOR,
ANYWAY? A PARKING INFRACTION?









YOU'VE DONE THAT AND YOU CAN'T CLIMB A SIMPLE FENCE?































HE'D PUT A TOOLBOX ON THE GAS PEDAL, ROLLED OUT THE PASSENGER DOOR, GOT IN A WAITING TAXI AND MADE THE DELIVERY IN TIME. THE CAB RIDE WAS \$47. THERE WAS \$600 WORTH OF DAMAGE TO HIS CAR. IT COST TWO GRAND TO REPLACE THE POLE. PETE'S TIP WAS ONLY \$3.50.

BUT IT AIN'T ABOUT THE MONEY, IT'S A CALLING - LIKE BEING THE POPE.

CALENDAR GIRL!

... AND YOU KUXU, I DON'T CARE IF IT'S PART OF SOME MYSTICAL "CYCLE": SHE GETS BLORTE SHE GETS **MOOD!**, AND THEN I HAVE TO FLEE MY COUN HOME BEFORE SHE TAKES IT OUT ON ME



























I.T. DEPT









JUST BELOW THE SURFACE















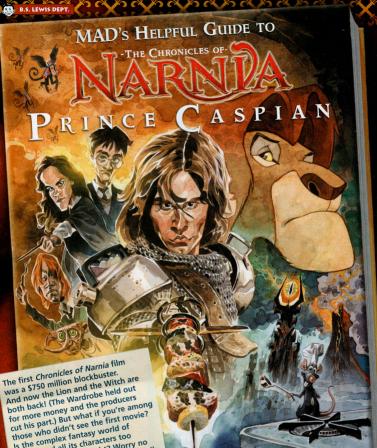












Is the complex fantasy world of Narnia and all its characters too detailed to keep straight? Worry no more! For those of you who can't tell a Spiderwick from a Dementor because you made the mistake of not being an escapist geek, just bring this article with you to the cineplex!

he Chronicles Of Narnia: Prince Caspian is the sequel to 2005's The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, the saga which has been called "a timeless classic" by hundreds of people who work in the acquisitions and promotions departments at Walt Disney Pictures. It is based on the much-loved books by C.S. Lewis which, thanks to the existence of these movies, need never be read again.

Prince Caspian is the second big-screen chapter in what is projected to be a seven-movie series. The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader will be next. Some possible titles for future installments include:

- * The Chronicles of Narnia: Special Victims Unit
- * The Chronicles of Narnia: The Zesty Guardians of Stoobletown
- * The Chronicles of Narnia: The Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood
- * The Chronicles of Narnia: Back in the Habit
- * The Chronicles of Narnia: Enter the Man-Pumpkin
- ★ Tyler Perry's The Chronicles of Narnia
 ★ The Chronicles of Narnia: The Glue Gun of Vengeance
- * The Chronicles of Narnia: The Search for Spock
- * The Chronicles of Narnia: Christmas with the Kranks
- * The Chronicles of Narnia: Narnier Than Ever!

NARNIA (pronounced MID*dil Erth) is a magical realm of mythical creatures who live in natural harmony amid the gently rolling hills that encircle the divine river, and who, once in a while, will shoot you in the face with arrows. It's also an inconvenient commute. Narnia can only be reached by passing through magical portals. Fortunately enough, magical portals just so happen to follow the Pevensie kids everywhere they go, like mall security.





Islam the talking lion is a lion who talks. He possesses the ultimate power to change anything. This is incredibly handy every fifteen or twenty minutes, whenever the story crashes into a dead end. Aslan has complete knowledge of deep magic, deeper magic, and magic so deeply deep you'd need a shovel to dig it up. As a lion who can do his own tricks, he's like a one-stop Siegfried and Roy show, without the two creepy Germans.

Many readers see Aslan as a substitute Christ figure, since he dies for the sins of others and is later resurrected. There is also a current eBay auction for a waffle with Aslan's face on it. If true, the Narnia films are just the latest Hollywood hits to feature hidden, subliminal references to Christianity, following such movies as E.T. and The Passign of the Christ.

Aslan is always wise, compassionate and beloved, not counting the part in the first film when he ripped the White Witch's intestines out with his claws and teeth. The role of Aslan originally belonged to Jack Black, but he was replaced by a CGI character when the moviemakers decided Black was too hairy to believably play a lion.

Prince Cashian is the rightful heir to the kingdom, but he has to flee Narnia for his life. In exile, he rallies his supporters and prepares to defeat King Miraz in war, with the help of interdimensional allies, last-second divine intervention and a talking badger. It's pretty much the same victory plan that Bush has for Iraq.

At the end of the story, he's crowned Caspian X. (Spoiler Alert: he's not a Black Muslim.) King Caspian is not sure that he's worthy of the throne. Supposedly his own opinion of himself is because he's so modest and humble. But let's look at Caspian's glorious résumé. He runs away in the night like a yellow dog, he doesn't look where he's going and gets whonked in the head by a tree, he has his unconscious butt saved by two dwarfs, and then he summons some little kids to fight his battle for him.

"Possibly not worthy"? "Modest and humble"? Yeah, right. "Knows full well he sucks harder than a Eureka Upright Vacuum Cleaner" is more like it.





Miraz may as well be wearing a baseball cap with the words "BAD GUY" on the front. Miraz became king by killing his brother and usurping his throne, then plotting to remove his Danish nephew, Hamlet... er, we mean, Prince Caspian. Apparently in Narnia the plagiarism laws are loosely enforced.

Miraz attempts to wipe out all existing traces of Old Narnia's history, but his Wikipedia-style edit war is unsuccessful. So he leads his army halfway across Narnia before inexplicably agreeing to fight a one-on-one, winner-takesall duel. For a kingdom he already rules. Slick move. Miraz may have been wearing his gold crown two sizes too tight.



The Sevensie Children—

Seter, Ousan, Edmund and Lucy
are the main heroes of the sage. All four Pevensies have
strong wills, good hearts and totally great hair.

Peter Pevensie, the oldest, has the pleasantly blank good looks of a Sims avatar, but not the acting range.

Susan proves her mettle by tirelessly lugging her lips across the unforgiving Narnia terrain.

The stumblebum Edmund almost died in the first movie, twice. But he manages to win his greatest triumph to date in *Prince Caspian*, when he just barely out-wrestles a dwarf. Give the guy another four or five movies and eventually, Edmund may work his way up to being able to dribble a basketball one-handed.

Lucy carries a "healing cordial," and just one drop of it can bring someone back from death's door. It is Lucy's unwavering belief that guides the children through perilous territory, though it's a lot easier to be brave when you're the lucky one carrying a jug of magically convenient get-well jurice.

At the end of the story, Aslan tells Peter and Susan, who are 14 and 13 years old respectively, that they will never be allowed back to Narnia again because they're now too old. That's Hollywood for you!

Reepicheep is that rarest of blsney-related characters: a mouse who actually does something. He valiantly leads a squadron of 12 warrior mice against the enemy, where they run around and stab the soldiers' feet. After Reepicheep's tail is cut off in the flight, Aslan the lion uses his omnipotent energy to restore it. For an all-powerful godhead, Aslan is a bit of a micromanager.

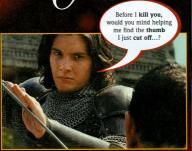




Dwarfs are native to Narnia, and come in two varieties: loyal and kind Red Dwarfs, and the more malevolent Black Dwarfs. They are distinguished by the color of their hair, though to be 100% certain, it's always a good idea to check that the carpet matches the drapes. Other mystical inhabitants of Narnia include Gnomes, Ogres, Mermen, Centaurs, Dragons, Sea Serpents, Unicorns and Presbyterians.

Srumpkin the Dwarf is captured by Miraz's soldiers, who transport him all the way to the Great River to be murdered. Because it's not as if they could just stay home and drown a dwarf in the sink. After Trumpkin is rescued by the Pevensies, he tells them about the good old days in Narina. It's the most touching movie scene featuring a nostalgic dwarf since Billy Crystal reminisced about Yankee Stadium in City Slickers. The Pevensie children grow to love Trumpkin, and give him the nickname "D.L.F.," which stands for something else entirely.







Now, exactly

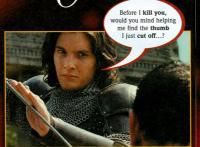
at what point does

Harrison Ford











Now why did

I come into the forest?

Good lord, after

1,300 years I'm having a senior moment!



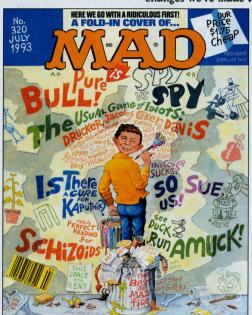


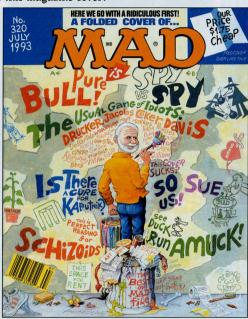


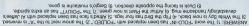


WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE?

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









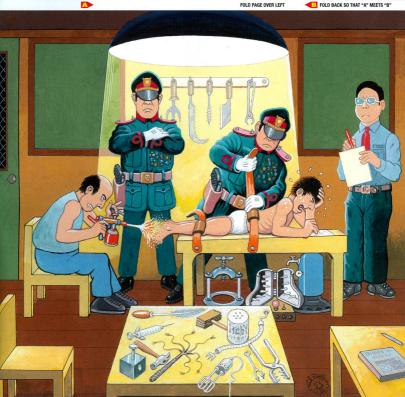
WHERE WILL THE WORLD **TURN A BLIND EYE TO TORTURE AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS** IN THE MONTHS AHEAD?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD - IN

Individuals are mistreated all around the world. Worse still, this injustice is ignored by most of society. However, there's one place in particular where poor, unfortunate souls are held captive and forced to learn their lesson. To find out where such a dreadful place exists, fold page in as shown.



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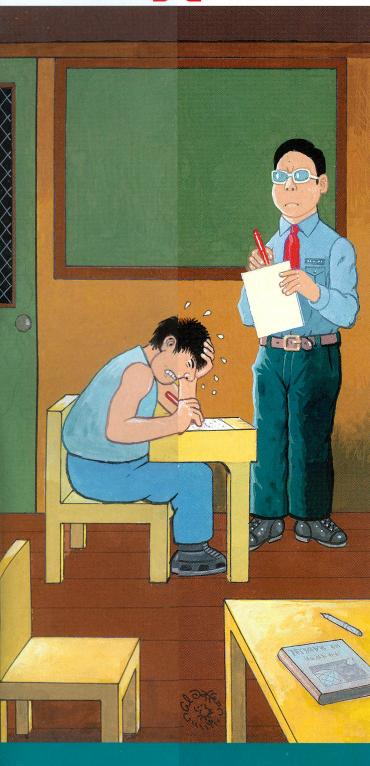


WHILE MANY SUFFER, OTHERS ENJOY SUMPTUOUS LIVES. WHILE LIFE GROWS GRIMMER FOR THE SUFFERERS, THE LUCKY ONES SCHEDULE FUN AND GAMES TO MAKE 'EM DROOL WITH EXCITEMENT AND PLEASURE.

WHERE WILL THE WORLD TURN A BLIND EYE TO TORTURE AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD?



FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



SUM MER SCHOOL



WE ALL HAVE OUR DEMONS...



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