

Sometimes it seems like only masochists do unto others as they would have done unto

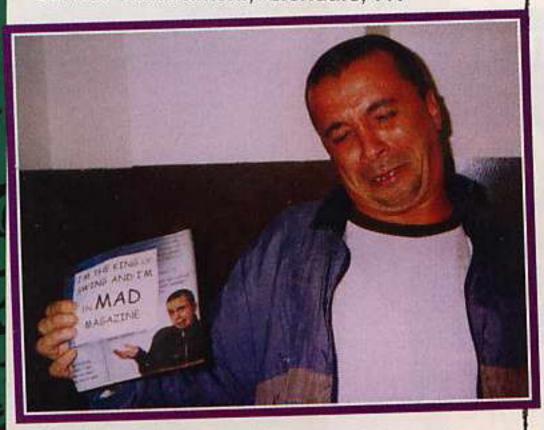




DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALS

In issue #434 on the Letters Page there was a creep with the name "???" from "MAD's Photo Personals Gallery — The Men" in MAD #432. At my job there is an idiot who looks just like him. He calls himself the King of Swing. I am enclosing a photo look-a-like of him for all those girls who are hot to trot.

James Chmielinski, Glendale, NY



Jimski — We don't really know or care if your friend does look like that loser "???" from the MAD personals gallery. All we know is that we like his head, so we're going to sprinkle it all over the Letters Page. Enjoy! —Ed.

DON'T WORRY, BE PAPPY

I'm a new dad! Jonathan is one year old. Where did the time go? Soon he'll be in college, making out with girls and reading MAD. What shall I tell him when he asks me the inevitable question: "Dad, do you think I should see the movie first, or read the MAD satire first?"

Tom Cutrofello, Woodside, NY

Tommy Boy — You say you have images of your child grown up, in college, making out with girls and reading MAD? We got some bad news for you — we think you should revise your statement. If he's reading MAD, he's probably not going to be making out with girls and he sure as hell isn't going to college! So, in answer to the question, we advise him to go ahead, see the movie first and then read the satire. After all, you'll be saving a ton of money on tuition! —Ed.

TAKING AD-VANTAGE OF OUR READERS

I came home from school the other day to find MAD magazine in my mailbox. As I inspected the cover more carefully, I found Alfred was wearing adidas sneakers. Then I realized that MAD may be getting paid off by adidas to send subliminal messages to teenagers across the world. I am very concerned that MAD has turned corrupt. I would like an honest answer to my question and hope dearly that my conspiracy theory is wrong.

Ryo Brown-McClain, Kent, CT

Ham on Ryo — After reading your accusatory letter, the lenses nearly popped out of our fashionable Calvin Klein eyeglass frames. In fact, our heads were throbbing so hard we had to take two fast-acting Tylenol Gelcaps, which we washed down with a delicious Starbucks Frappuccino. Only after we listened to a few soothing tracks from Sting's revolutionary new

release Sacred Love on our sleek and trendy iPod were we calm enough to sit back down at our affordable and reliable Compaq computer to answer your missive. To your question we reply, "AFLAC!" —Ed.







WORDS TO THE WISE-ASS

As an avid, multi-decade reader of MAD, I have long regarded your unparalleled publication as not only the pinnacle of enlightenment, but as the ultimate bastion of veracity. For this reason, it is with implacable distress and sorrow that I am compelled to confront you regarding the blatant and egregious inaccuaracy besmirching issue #434 in the article titled "Self-Defeating Consequences in Modern American Life." It is quite true, as Mike Snider cogently claims, that "...now it takes only a couple of crooked accountants and CEOs to bankrupt the company, screw its employees and shareholders and wreak havoc on the whole damn U.S. economy." However, Paul Coker's accompanying illustration clearly depicts a pair of anguish-visaged examples of the said offending scalawags being led away by authorities apparently anxious to mete out justice. Ahhh, my good sirs, this may have once been the case, in the halcyon days of rational democratic rule, but in this day and age of "Greed as Governance" it is well known by everyone - including the wretch in the gutter — that now these selfsame churls instead luxuriate in the zillion-quadrillions of dollars they garner in the form of yearly salaries, innumerable bonuses and modest severance packages awarded them for bankrupting the company, screwing its employees and shareholders and wreaking havoc on the whole damn U.S. economy. Mr. Coker plainly screwed the pooch on this one!

Mark L. Hummer, Los Angeles, CA

Humvee — We have taken the liberty of defining some of the more challenging words in your succinct and coherent missive. Bastion: something that is considered a stronghold; visage: a cast of features that express emotion or character; halcyon: pleasingly or idyllically calm or peaceful; Mark L. Hummer: pompous, pointless freak-a-doo. Thanks for writing! —Ed.

I got this picture with Sean Astin on August 9, 2003 at Wizard World Chicago. Thought you may enjoy it. Not only did I get him to pose with the magazine, but I also got him to sign it! And it's even the Lord of the Rings issue at that! Now come on and make it worth my while. Show me the love!

Kelly Thye, Cincinnati, OH

Thye Me A River — Yeah, your snap of Sean "Sam Gamgee" Astin from Wizard World Chicago is cool, but you should have been at Wizard World Poughkeepsie, where the keynote speaker was none other than Paul "Uncredited Orc" Holmes! We didn't manage to snap a picture, but rest assured he could weave a story that would put Tolkien himself to shame! Anyway, congrats on your one-year subscription and may the force be with you! (And check our Elvish The Return of the King outtakes on page 18!) —Ed.



I have a wish for the Make A Dumb
Wish Foundation™! My wish is to have
people who live on Instant Messenger
made fun of. This is my wish because
all my sister does is "IM" people all day.

Mike Luibil, Pepperell, MA

Lube Job — Although we here at the *Make*A Dunk Wish Foundation™ are in the business of making dumb wishes come true, we are sad to report that we can't grant you your wish. We suspect you made it because you are unfamiliar with the hidden intricacies of Instant Messenger. So, in order for you to better understand your sister's obsession, we're happy to provide this handy glossary of chat room jargon:

LOL — Laughing Out Loud
LAM — Laughing About Midgets
AAWTSFC — Alone And Watching
The Sci-Fi Channel
IJDAWBOMS — I Just Drank
A Whole Bottle Of Maple Syrup
INUMFTTT — I'm Not Using My
Fingers To Type This

So, Mike, we hope this helps you bridge the gap between you and your cyber-happy sister. Thanks for writing to the *Make A Dumb*Wish Foundation[™]! —Ed.

THE MAD ZEPPELIN?

Hi there MAD magazine. The MADdest things fly over our house! I guess this hot air balloon is like MAD — full of hot air! MAD is very difficult to get hold of in the UK. I've just got #135. I won't subscribe to MAD unless you print this letter and picture!

Nick Alderson, Oxon, England



Nickelback — A deal's a deal, sucker! Kindly make your check or money order payable to MAD magazine!

IT'S NOT EASY BEING DEAN

Recently, when I met Presidential candidate Howard Dean, I said, "Pardon me, Governor, can I get a photo with you and this MAD magazine that I changed so you're on the cover?" He said, "Yes, I like that." Later, while giving his speech he flubbed a line and remarked, "That will probably end up in MAD magazine." I think he's a fan.

Tom Anderson, Ukiah, CA



ADDRESSING A HEAVY ISSUE

I am writing to you because there are a lot of people who make fun of fat kids. Since I am a fat kid, I was wondering if you could make fun of skinny kids. I urge you to do so.

Chris O'Connor, Setauket, NY

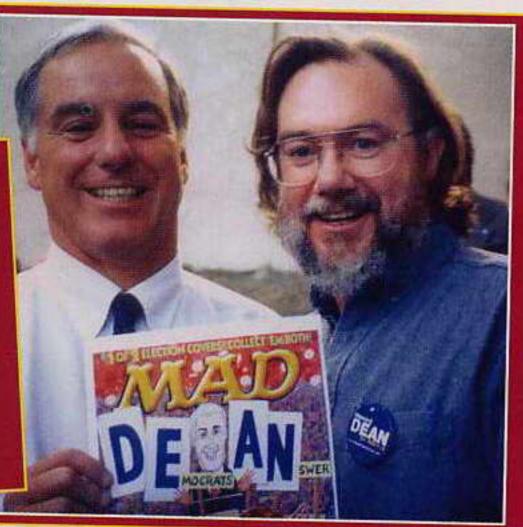
The O'C — In the past, we have taken some potshots at heavier members of the population. But in truth, our barbs have merely been the result of a misdirected jealousy. As everyone knows, fat people are universally loved. Don't believe us? Look no further than hardrockin' rascal Jack Black, TV's loveable lummox John Goodman, Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin and, of course, the man they call Santa Claus. Meanwhile, who do skinny people get? White trash rapper Kid Rock, livingskeleton actress Lara Flynn Boyle, the inexplicably famous Hilton sisters and, of course, Osama bin Laden (who's getting skinnier by the minute). The people have spoken and they have spoken with their mouths full - obesity rules! -Ed.

MAD'S BREAKING NEWS™

I have recently been suspended for fighting. The reason was because I was defending myself. Should I get suspended or not? If not, please tell my Mom.

Nick Towstopiat, Gilroy, CA

Tow-truck — Violence is never the answer. Even if you had to defend yourself, you had many other options. You could have simply walked away, you could have hidden in the janitor's closet (Tell Bud we say hi!) for the rest of the semester, or you could have written a scathing but spritely musical send-up about the whole sordid affair (unless the bully's name was Orange — because as everyone knows, nothing rhymes with "orange"). Number three always worked best for us and we have six Southern Conference Regional Theatre Certificates of Participation to prove it! As for your mom, let her find out on opening night. Break a leg! -Ed. P.S. if any of you has something you are too ashamed to tell someone, let us tell them for you! Just send the scandalous 411 to Amy "The Big Breaker" c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, NY, NY 10019.



Occasional Letters Page contributor and full-time MAD aficionado (a little too full-time if you catch our drift) Tom Anderson sent in this photo of himself, Howard Dean and his version of MAD #395. Expect to hear from both the Secret Service and our legal team!



The REAL MAD #395 covers.



like being France's #1 monster truck fan!





NEXT MONTH IN MAD #438 ON SALE JANUARY 13!

OUR MAD EXPOSÉ ON REJECTED SUPERHEROES — FEATURING THE ARTWORK OF COMIC BOOK GIANTS JIM LEE. FRANK MILLER, J. SCOTT CAMPBELL, JOHN BYRNE, DAVE GIBBONS, JOHN ROMITA, JR., MICHAEL ALLRED, AND ARTHUR ADAMS!



14 VA VA VI

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the usual gang of idiots

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE! madmag.com

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Fax MAD at 212-506-4848!

A CHIKLIS WONDER DEPT.

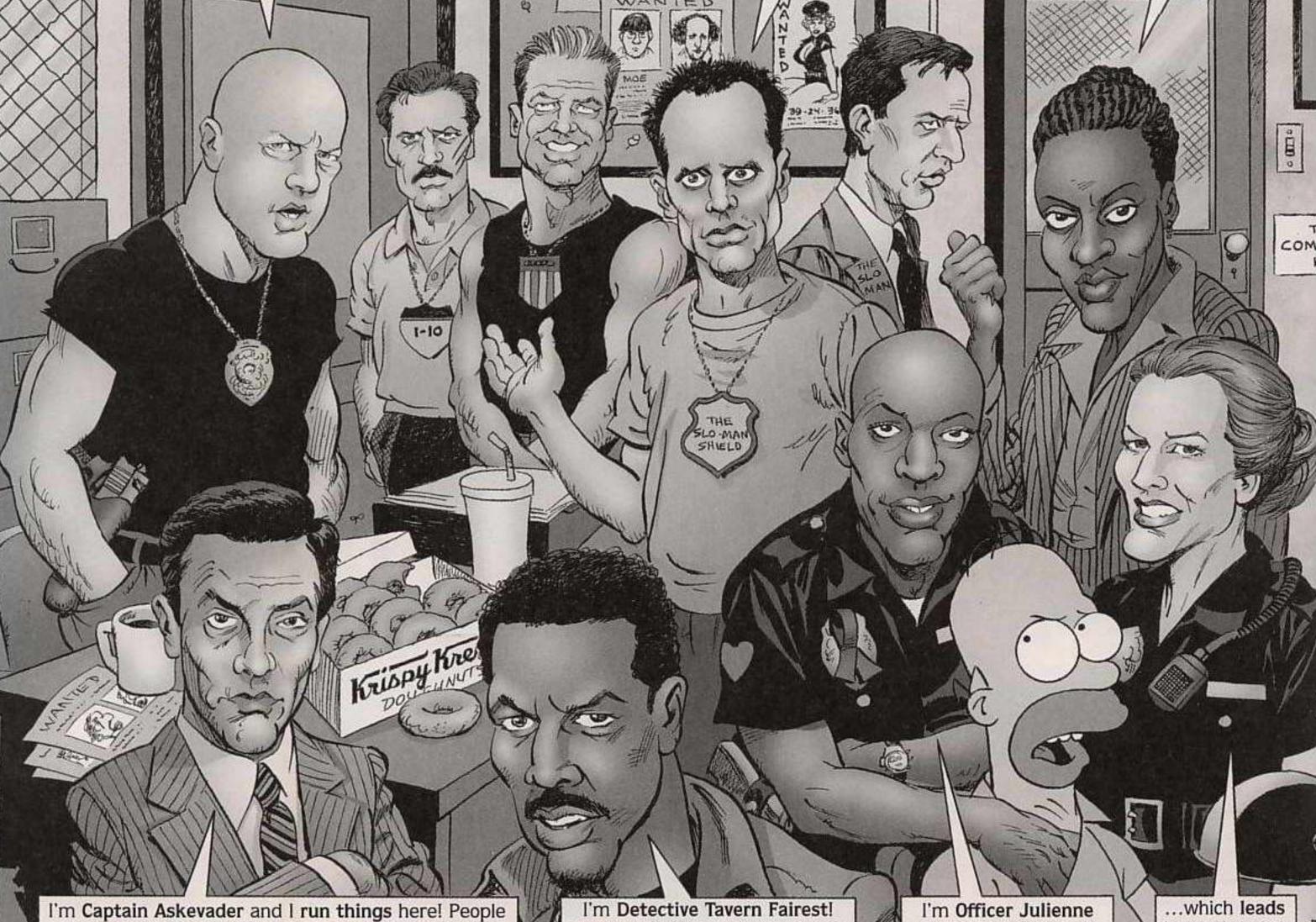
There's a hot series on cable TV about a group of rogue detectives working out of a grimy police precinct in L.A. They beat suspects, punch witnesses, slap bystanders and shoot whomever they feel like! Truth is, anyone who comes in contact with these guys is going to need serious medical coverage like the Blue Cross and...

TEBlue SHELD

I'm Detective Sick Wacky! I was named head of a special Strike Team established to stop crimes by going undercover in this district. Of course, since this is an overwhelmingly Black and Latino district, having four white guys go undercover is like sending The Donnas to infiltrate the Taliban! We came up with a good way to blend in with the robbers and dealers, though — we rob and deal too! But don't get me wrong, I became a cop because I hate street hustlers, pushers, con men, gangbangers and muggers! Why do I hate them so much? I hate them because they prey on the weak, because of the way they hurt society. But mainly, I hate them because they have hair!

I'm Detective Shame Tendril and I work for Wacky on the Strike Team! With my partners "Lemonfed" and Goreocki, our job is to mix in with the filthy lowlifes and smelly creeps in our district! We beat suspects, punch witnesses, slap bystanders and shoot whomever we feel like! Truth is, anyone who comes in contact with us guys is going to need serious medical coverage, like the Blue Cross and the Blue Shield! I know this line was used in the intro above, but MAD readers are filthy lowlifes and smelly creeps who don't read intros, so why should we waste a good gag?

I'm Detective Laundrette Whims!
I follow police procedure by
the book — that's what prevents
me from shooting my partner,
"Botch" Wagonblast! He's so
slow he thinks I appreciate
him as a detective because I'm
always telling him he needs to
"get a clue"! This is a tough
district to work in, but I know
how we could cut crime here
by 50% — by putting Wacky
and his Team behind bars!



I'm Captain Askevader and I run things here! People think I was sent to this precinct to get rid of the drifters, petty thieves, druggies and pervs! Nothing could be further from the truth! This area is so bad, those are the kinds of people we're trying to attract to upgrade the place! Look, I know Wacky's Strike Team is corrupt, but since I'm running for City

Team is corrupt, but since I'm running for City
Council, I'm keeping it quiet. I hope I'm elected —
it'd be great to get into politics and away from all
this corruption — or am I missing something?

I was named the new member of the Strike Team to make it more diverse! Only thing is, Wacky and his men never talk when I'm around and keep me in the dark about their cases — in fact, this is the only time I appear in this satire! So much for affirmative action!

RITER CHARLIE KADAU

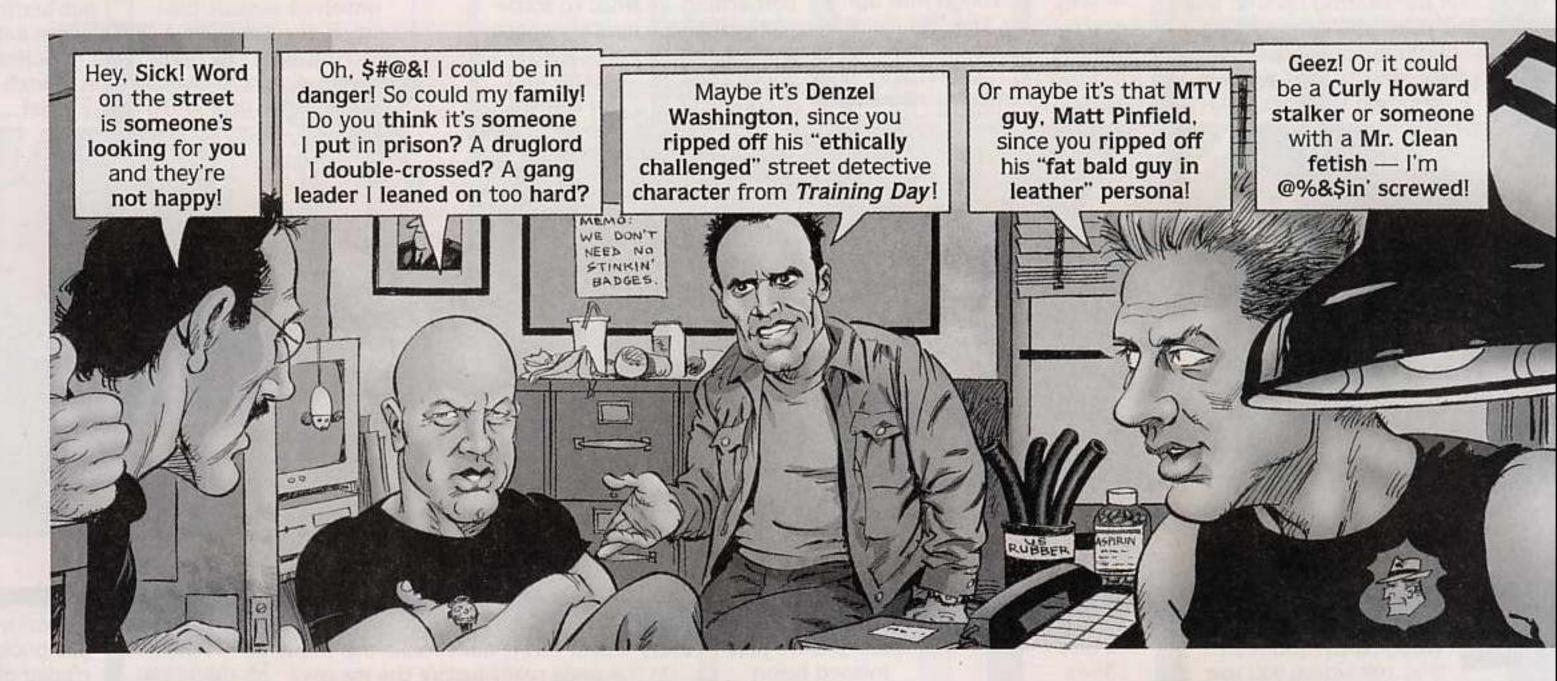
I'm Officer Julienne
Slow and this is my
partner, Cranny Sofa!
We're beat cops with
issues, since Cranny
is desperate to find
a man and I'm
desperately trying
to live a straight life
even though I'm gay...

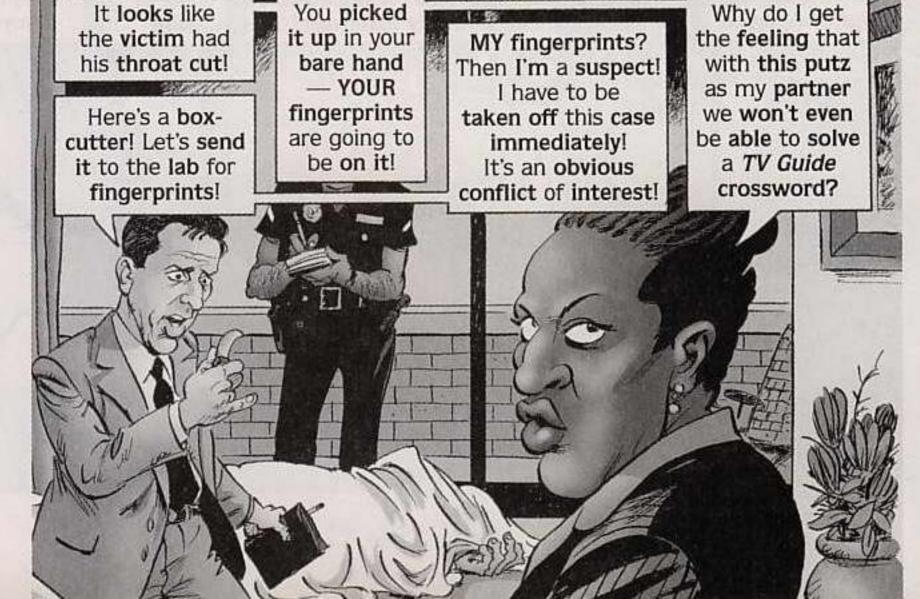
TONAL RENDERING: WILDSTOR

...which leads
to some tense
moments
when we're
trying to
decide who
gets to frisk
the handsome
male
suspects!





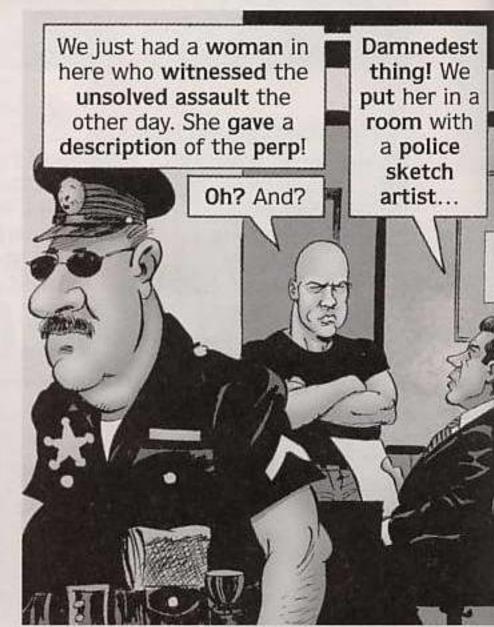


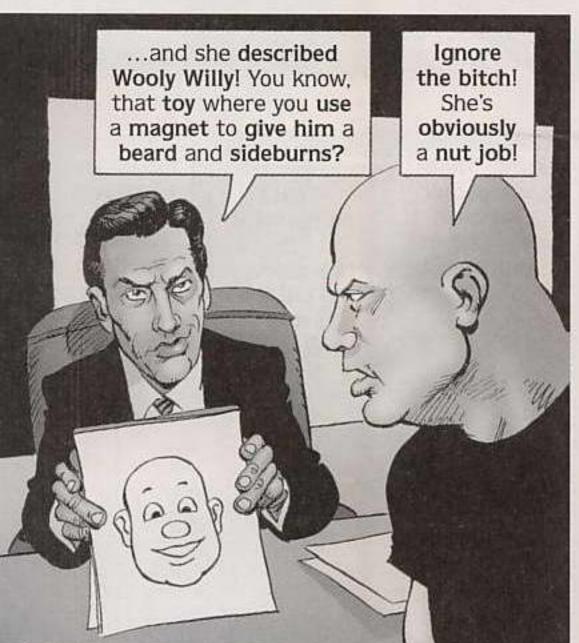


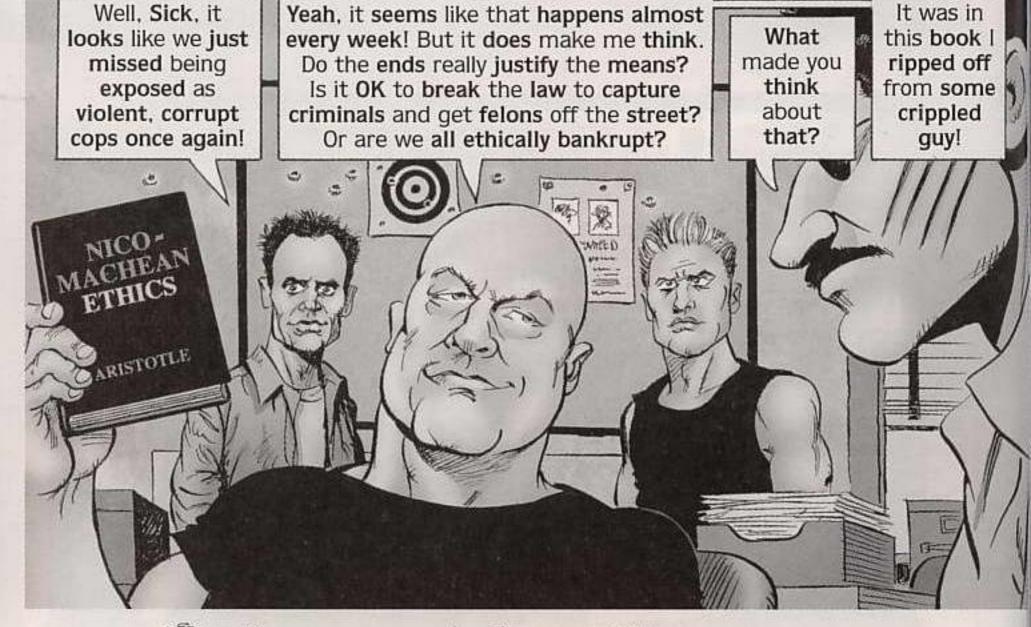




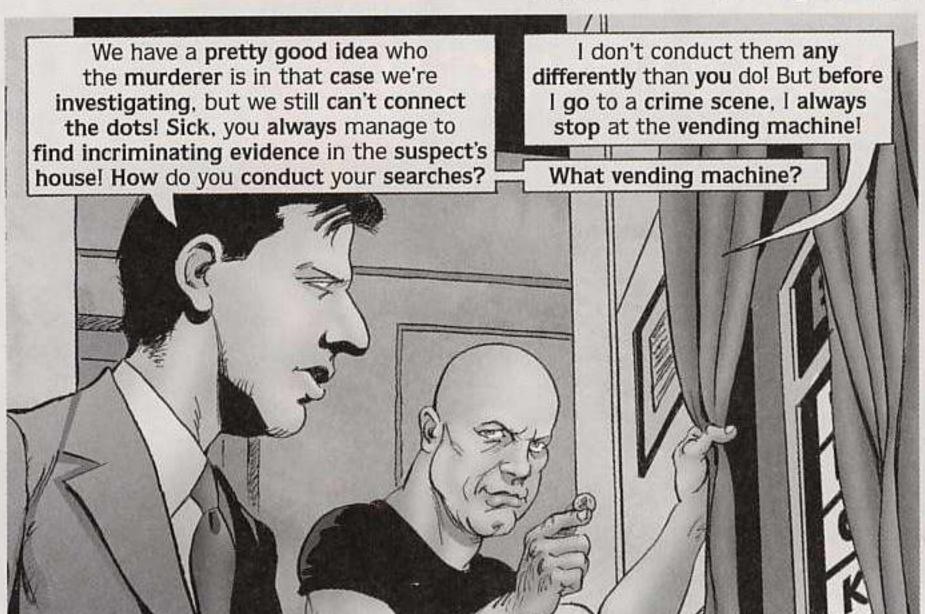




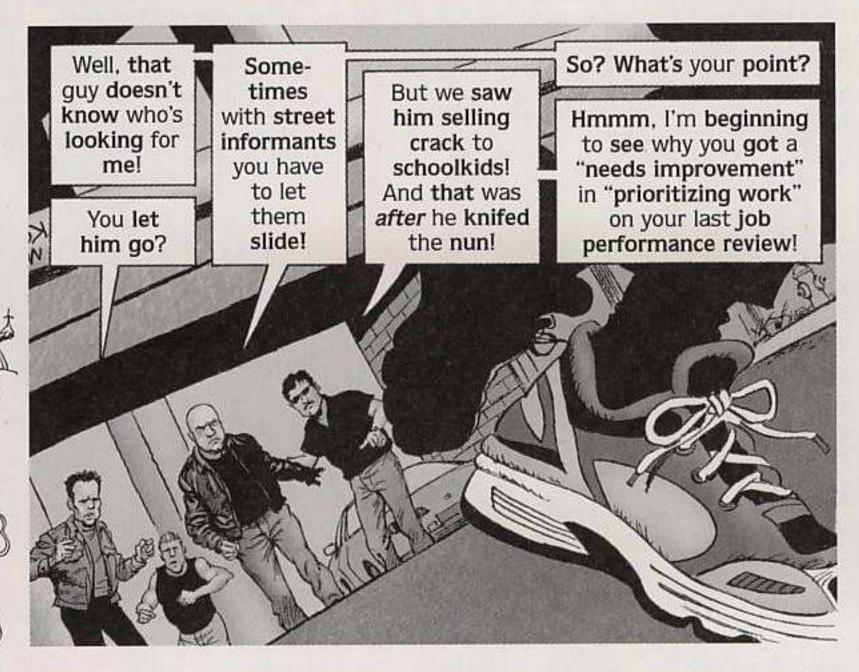


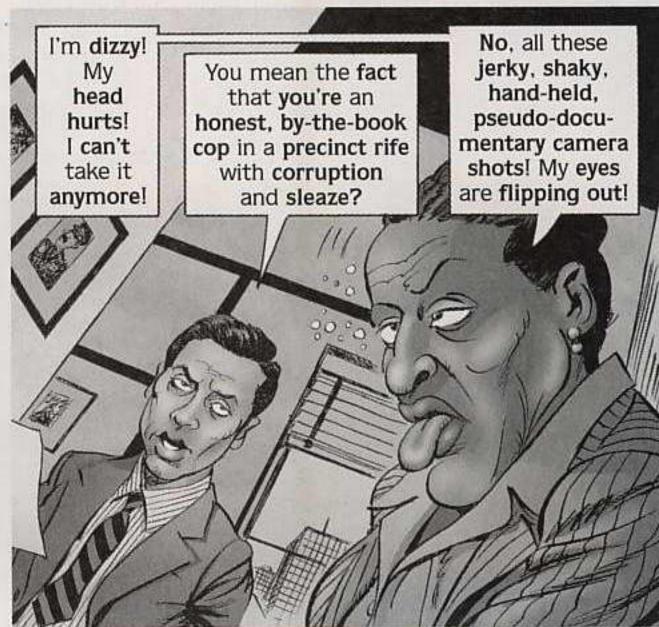


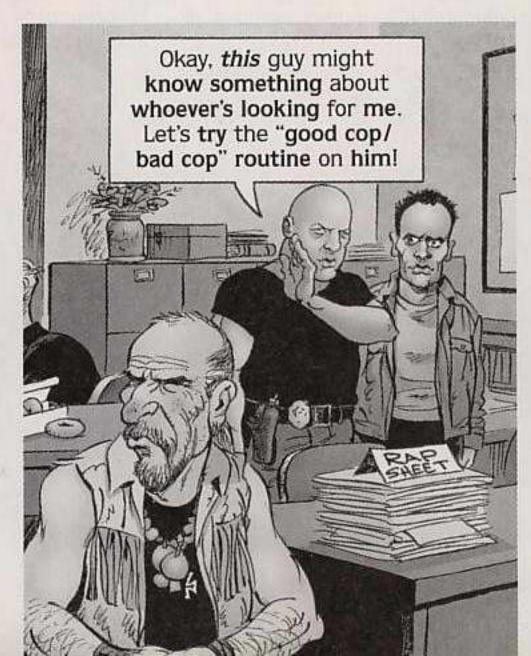


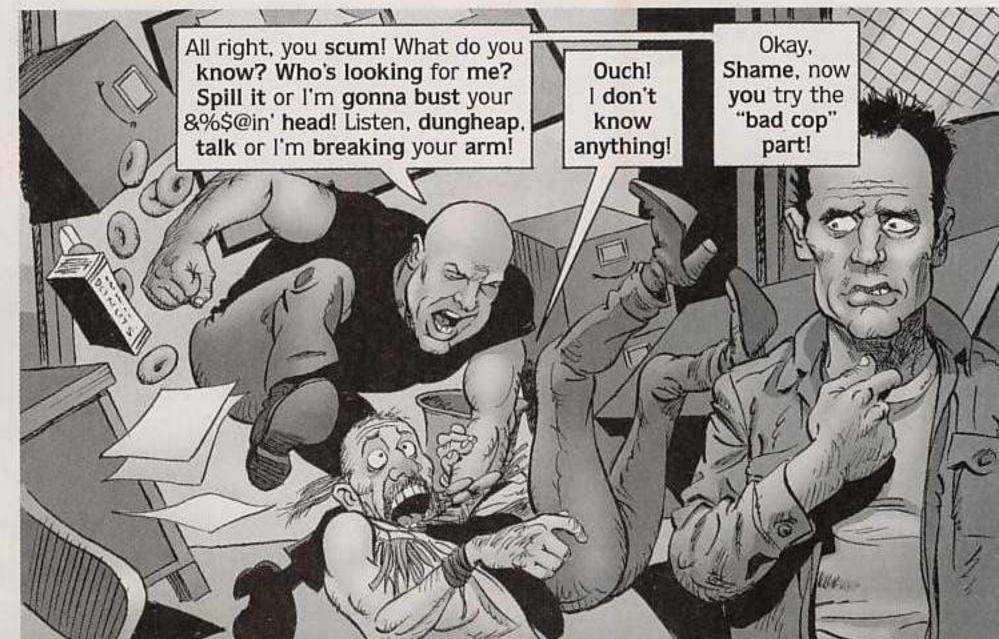




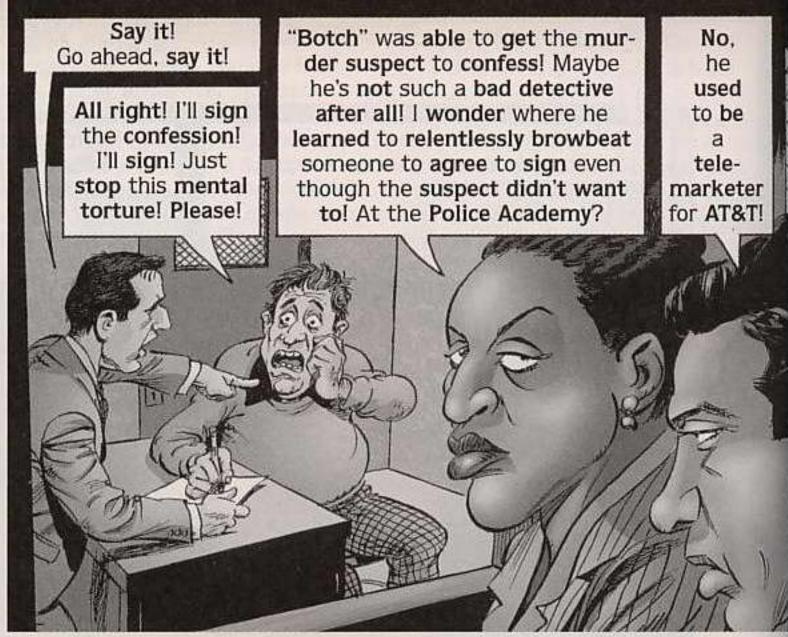


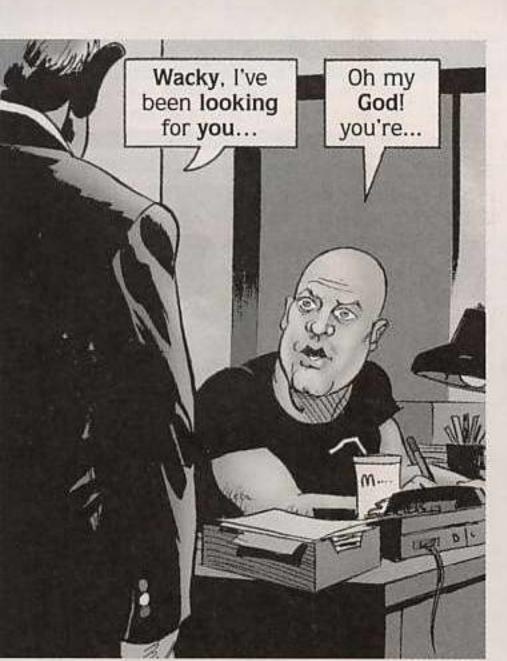


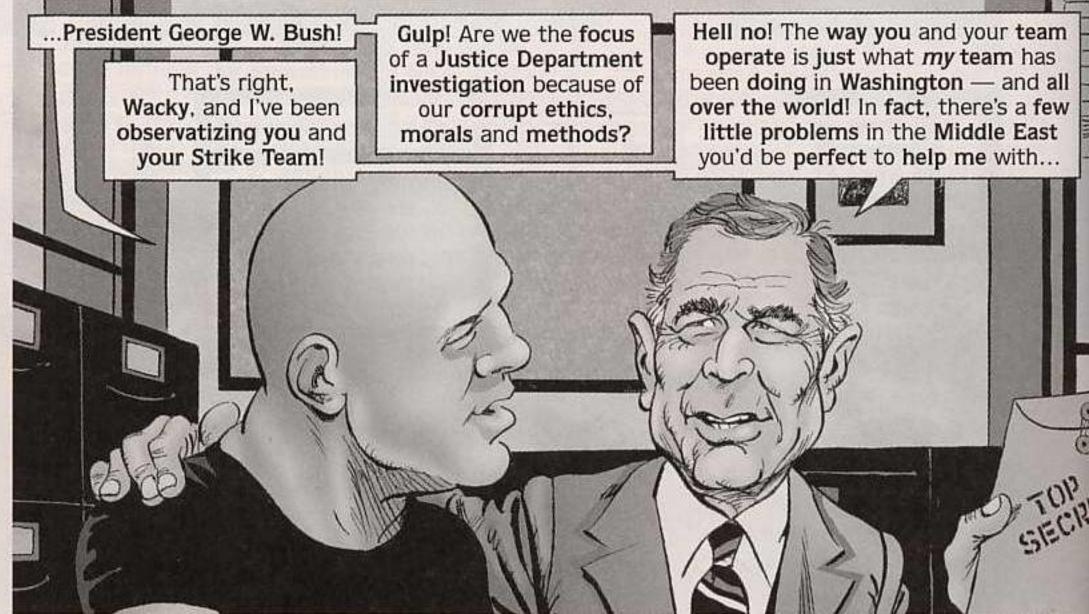


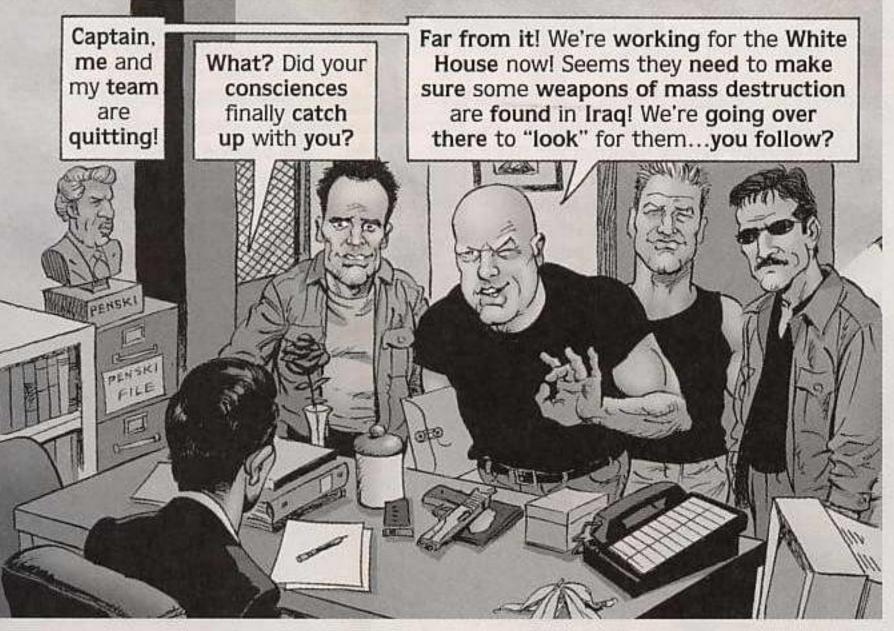
















When you think of Christmas, what comes to mind? Well, presents, good will towards men, presents, the birth of Jesus and presents! One of the great things about this holiday is being able to go straight to the source to request the gifts you want. That's right, spending a few minutes on Santa's lap will guarantee that you get the PlayStation 2 that's on your list!

Usually this is a hassle-free process, but what if you get stuck with a less-than-jolly old elf? You'd witness...

JOHN CALDWELL 'S When

Department Store

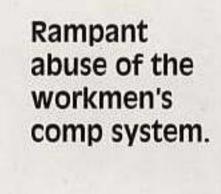
GOBES -

AAAAUGH!
MY KNEE!
MY KNEE!
MY KNEE!
OFF MY KNEE!!
AAAURGH!

ONCE YOU TURN YOUR MOM
ON TO ST. NICK'S MIRACLE
WEIGHT-LOSS SALVE, I'M
SURE SHE'LL WANT TO
TELL ALL HER FRIENDS
AND NEIGHBORS!

LET ME PUT YOU DOWN

Turns the whole gig into a convenient vehicle for a fly-by-night pyramid scam.

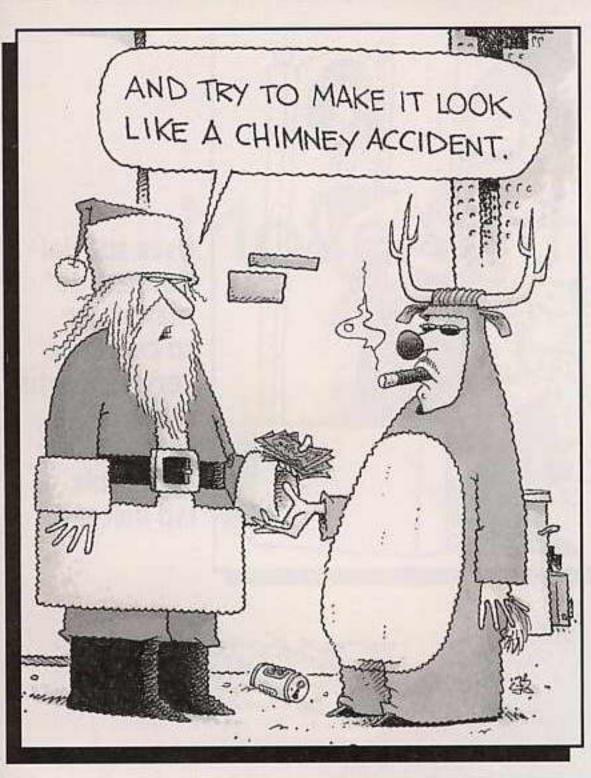




Takes
advantage
of the free
disguise to
commit a
series of
off-hour
convenience
store heists.

ARTIST AND WRITER: JOHN CALDWELL





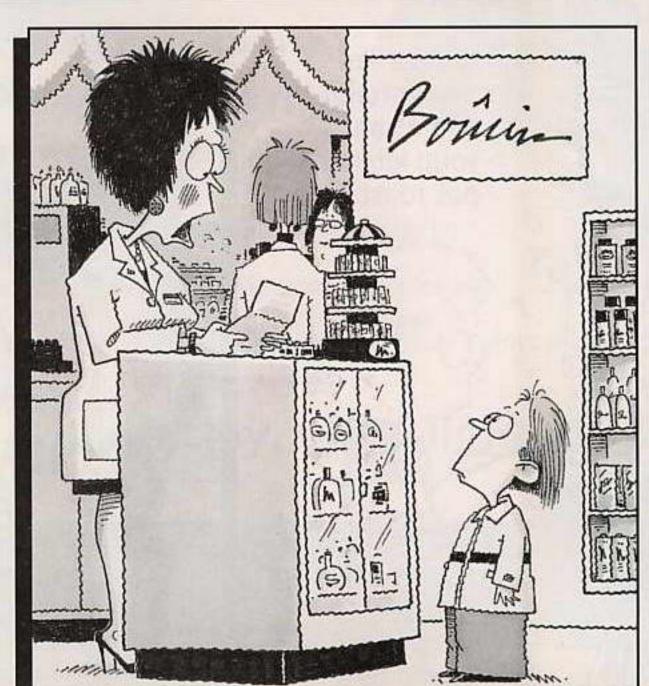


Puts a contract out on a jolly, more popular rival store Santa.



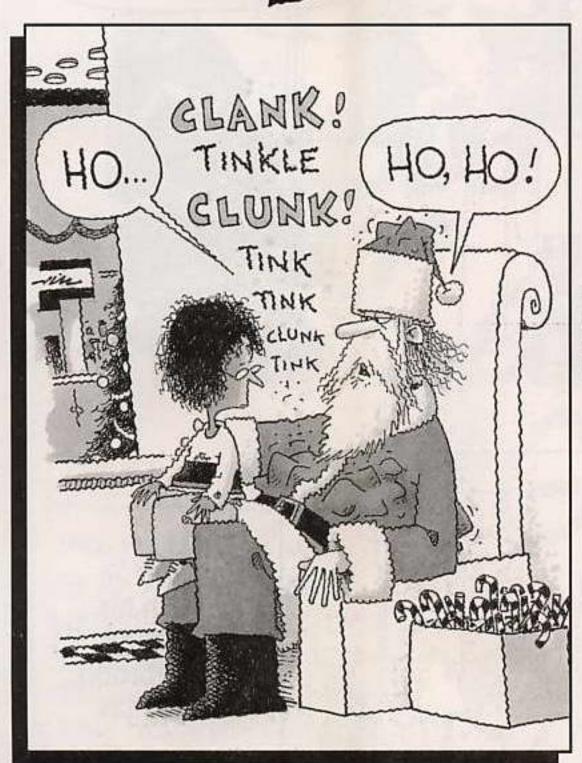
Frightens kids with his more Pagan interpretation of Christmas.





Uses innocent kids to pass lewd notes to the hotties in cosmetics.

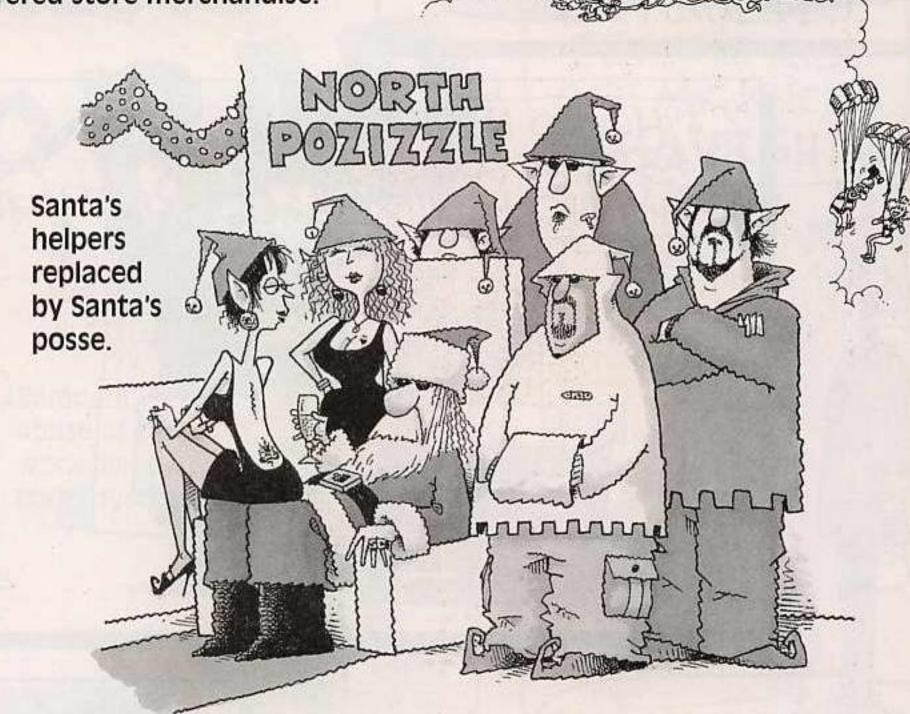
Department Store Santas GoBAD





Uses special "knee slide" maneuver to convince certain moms it might be safer if they sat on his lap instead.

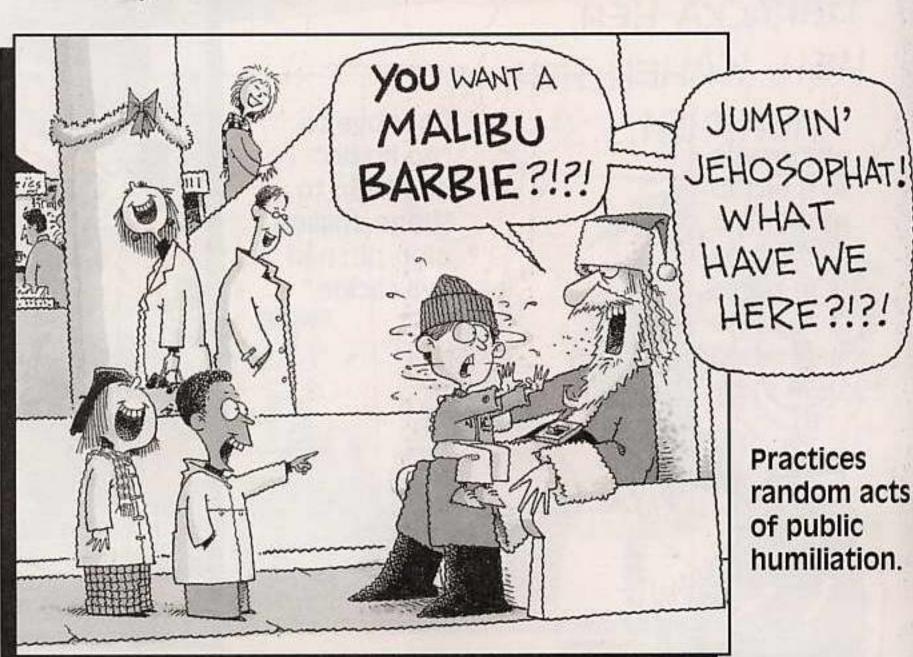
Pillows under costume are often stuffed with pilfered store merchandise.



WOAH! BACK OFF,
BOBBY! LOOKS
LIKE SANTA'S
GOT HIMSELF
A CREATURE
STIRRING.

His belly shakes like a bowlful of Colt 45 and soup kitchen pot roast





1

MAD'S EPIC OUTTAKES FROM THE LORD OF THE RINGS THE RETURN That smartass wizard Gandalf thinks he's sooo

That smartass wizard
Gandalf thinks he's sooo
funny - I'll show him
exactly how many
Hobbits it takes to
screw in a light bulb!

WRITER: GREG LEITMAN



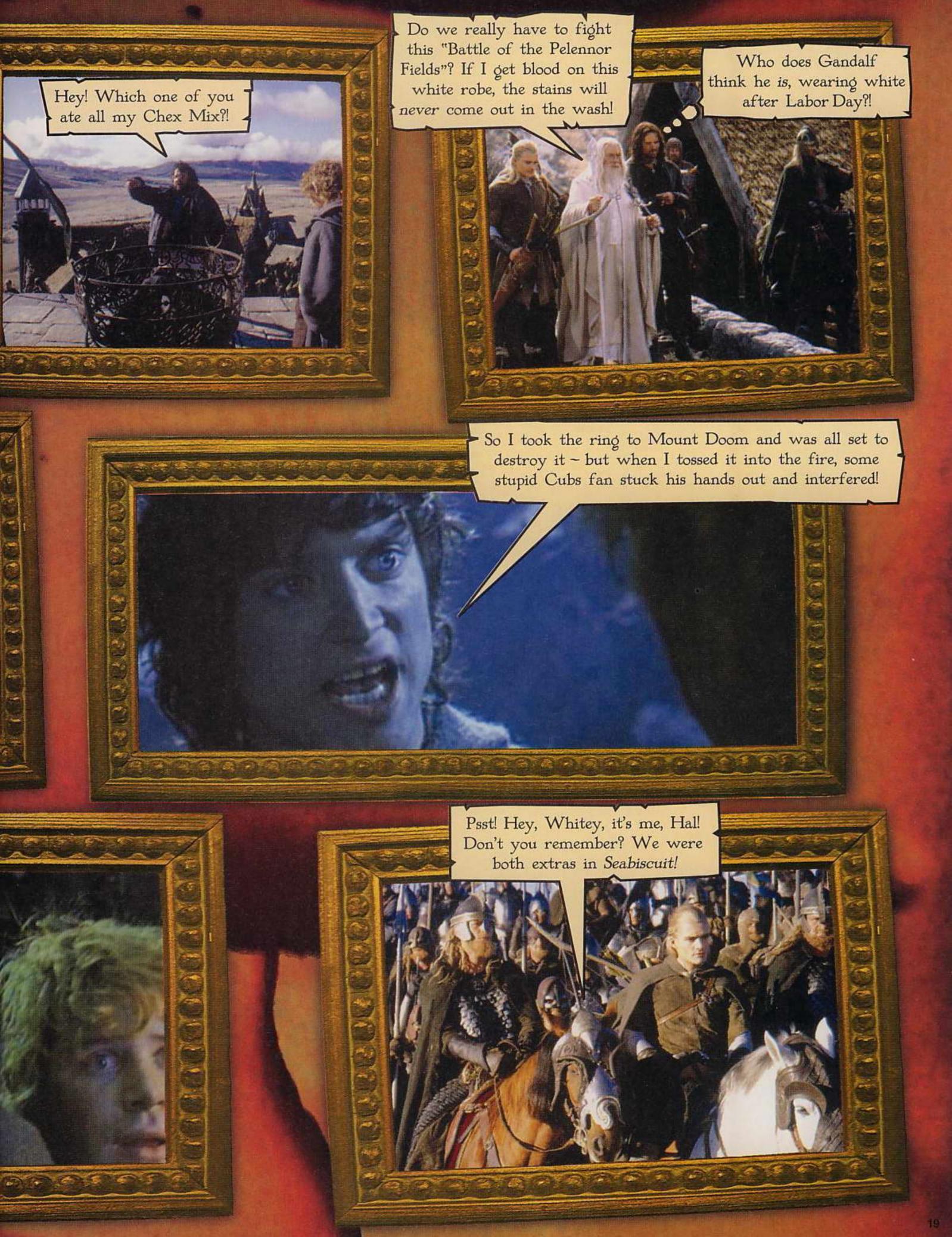
Make me stand outside when I want a smoke?! I'm the freakin' Wizard for God's sake!

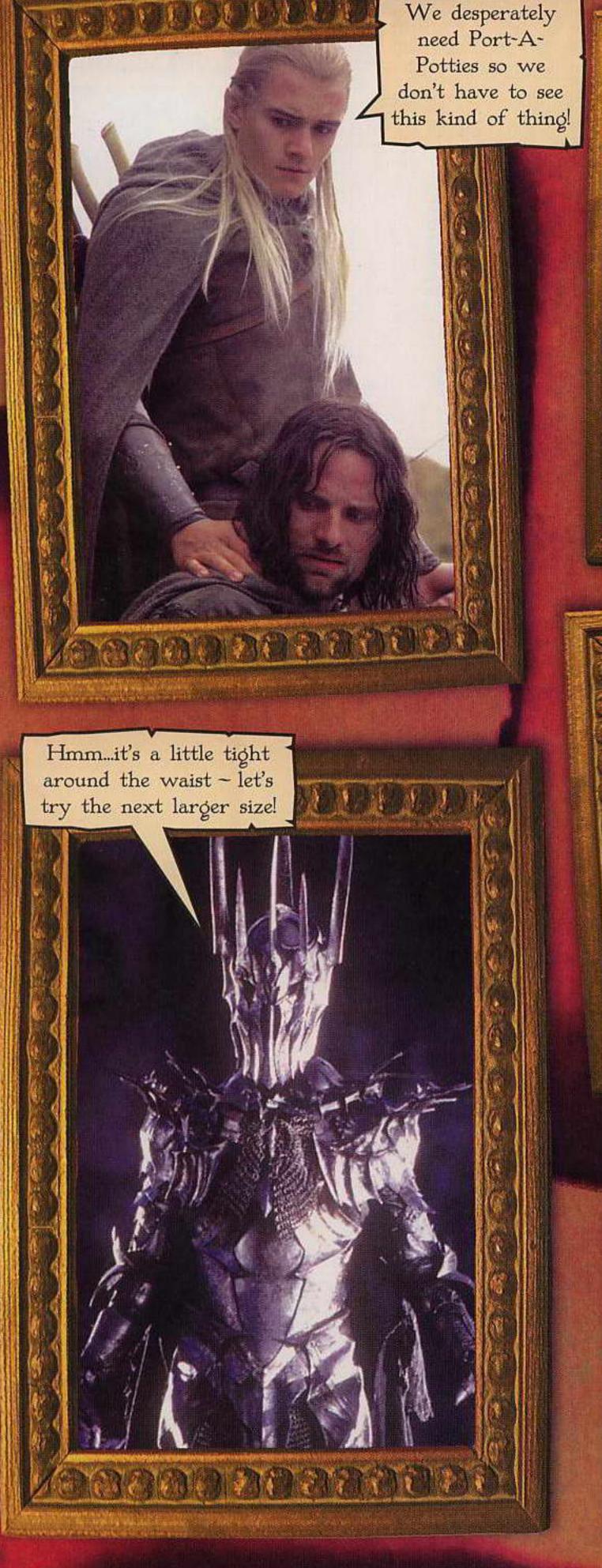
The forces of evil are about to plunge Middle-earth into darkness – don't judge me if I have a drink or two to take the edge off!



I can't believe I trusted Gollum, and then he goes and pulls a prank like shaving our feet while we're sleeping!







So you're saying that from here on, my whole career will just be personal appearances at Lord of the Rings fan conventions?!



I was kidding! There's no Lord of the Rings IV in the works!



I didn't mean to offend you – most women consider it an honor to be impersonated at the Rivendell Hotel & Casino's Transvestite Show!



Bong-Seller Tommy Chong Does Time in the Joint

Madonna: Like a Children's Author

Dixie Chicks Backlash: Even Cowgirls Get the Boos

The Not-So-Incredible Hulk

Britney and Madonna Shamelessly Swap Spit

> The Misinformation of the Iraqi Minister of Information

> > Clay & Ruben: Worshipping False Idols

Ghettopoly Does Not Pass Go

Jayson Butchers The New York Times: All the Lies He Saw Fit to Print

Sammy Sosa's Grand Sham

President Bush's Mis-State of the Union Address

And the Whiner Is... Michael Moore's Oscar Speech

Fathead Dr. Phil's Weight Loss Plan

The Fall of Geraldo

William Bennett Gambles with His Credibility

> Kid Notorious: Pedophile Roman Polanski Gets a Standing Ovation at the Oscars

> > The California Recall: Media Circus of the Stars

Get a Download of This: The Music Industry Sues File Sharers

The Nine Democratic Presidential Candidates: Zzzzzzzzz

> \$woosh: Nike Drops \$90 Million. in LeBron's Bank Account

D'oh! Jessica Replaces Homer as TV's Dumbest Simpson

Pedro Martinez vs. Don Zimmer

George W. Bush: Full Metal Jackass

That Clueless Cubs Fan's Foul Play

Demi and Ashton: Dude, Where's My P.R.?

Ben & Los Pre-Nuptial Disagreement

> Thinking Inside the Box: Man Ships Himself Cross-Country

Do the Writ Thing: Spike Lee Sues Spike TV

> David Blaine: Jackass in the Box

> > The Jimmy Kimmel Show

Alabama Judge Plays Moses

Monkeypox

Homeland Security: The Duct Starts Here

Freedom Fries Super-Sized Patriolism

Rush Limbaugh

Hillary's Story:

First Lady

and the Tramp

Joe Millionaire:

Chump Changed

Fumbles on ESPN

Internet Gambling on Terror Attacks: Another 9-11? 4 to 1

> Ballplayer Saves Fans from Rampaging Sausage Mascot

What's the Frequency, Khallid? Dan Rather Sucks Up to Saddam Hussein

Unfair and Imbalanced: FOX News Sues Al Franken

> Husband-Beater Liza: Her Biggest Hit in Years

Dim Bulb Power Companies Black Out the East Coast

Straight and Narrow-Minded: The Anti-Gay Crusade

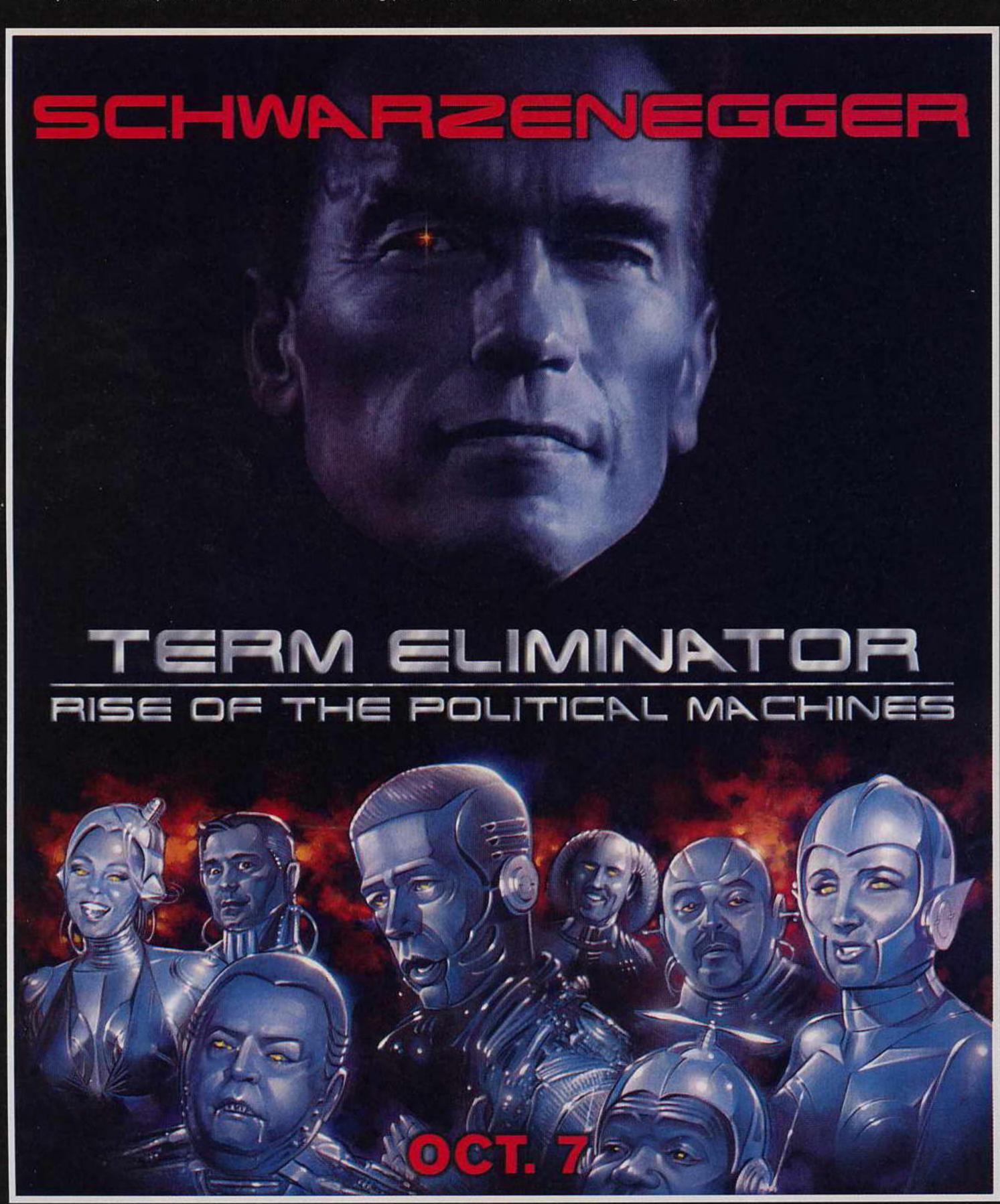
Mike Tyson Gets Tattooed

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THE CALIFORNIA RECALL: Media Circus Of The Stars

Even the ass-headed, ultra-right-wing zealots who initiated the recall against hated, ass-headed, ultra-left-wing California Governor Gray Davis couldn't have envisioned the circus, nay, travesty that unfolded. Every wack job, nimrod and nut sack slithered out of the woodwork to run, including a paraplegic pornographer, a washed-up child star, a shrill, blowhard liberal columnist and an unintelligible, boob-groping, piss-poor actor (although we did find him "devilishly delightful" in Kindergarten Cop). It's often said that voters get the politicians they deserve. So what mind-bendingly debauched and eternally damning thing did Californians do to deserve this?





BRITNEY AND MADONNA SHAMELESSLY SWAP SPIT

Since they knew no one would be talking about their soulless musical performance, it should come as no surprise that Madonna and her star-slut in training Britney Spears trotted out the old quasi-lesbian tongue action publicity stunt at this year's MTV VMAs. Britney says that she looks up to Madonna and wants to model her career after hers. And with Britney's high-profile break-up, box office bombs and desperate grabs for attention, she's well on her way. But after seeing the 45-year-old Material "Girl" desperately struggling to stay hip, she might want to rethink that strategy.



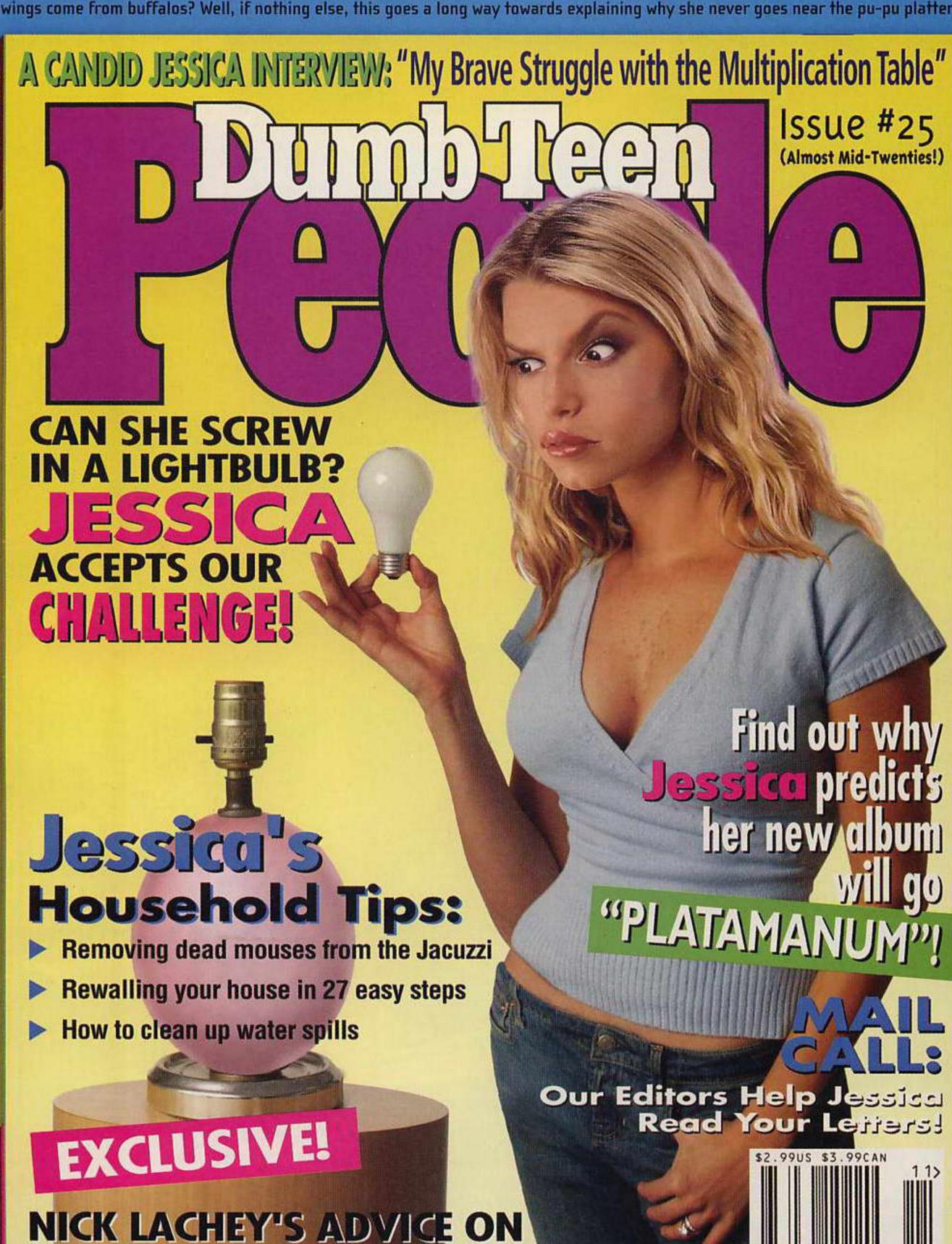




ACAN

D'OH! Jessica Replaces Homer As TU's Dumbest Simpson

If there's one thing The Anna Nicole Show taught us, it's that reality TV can quickly expose a celebrity's brain-dead spoiled side and turn her into a national punchline. You'd have to be an idiot not to have learned that — which brings us to Jessica Simpson and her show, Newlyweds. What to say about a woman who can't figure out if Chicken Of The Sea is tuna or chicken and thinks that buffalo wings come from buffalos? Well, if nothing else, this goes a long way towards explaining why she never goes near the pu-pu platter.



FINDING A GOOD DIVORCE LAWY YER!

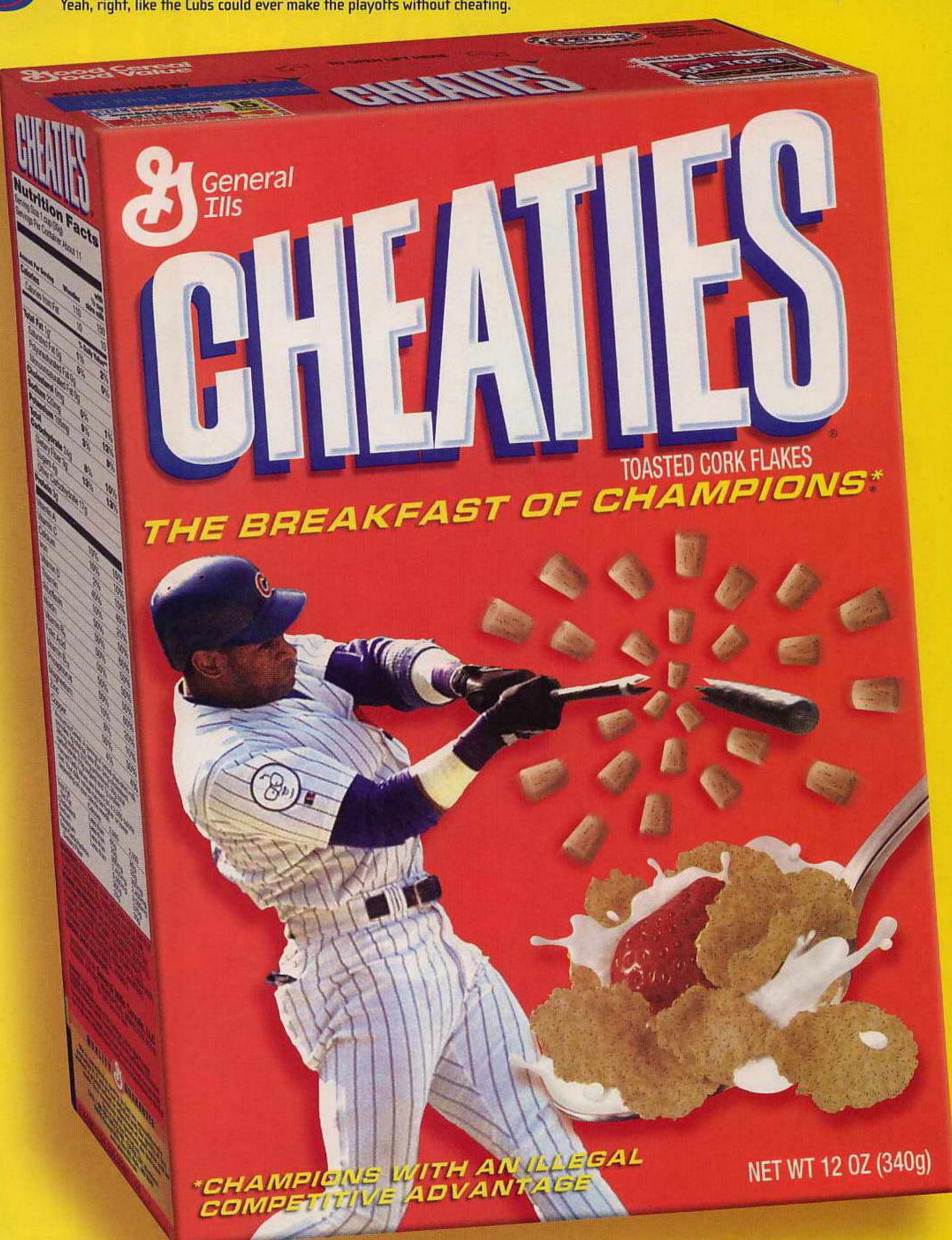
FINDING A GOOD DIYORCE LAVY I EIGH

26



SAMMY SOSA'S GRAND SHAM

Ah, Sammy Sosa, six-time all-star, slugger of 539 dingers and the only player with three 60-plus homer seasons. But the "achievement" we'll now best remember him for is getting caught red-handed using an illegal corked bat against those mighty Tampa Bay Devil Rays (hey, they lost only 99 games this year)! Sammy's excuse: he "accidentally" pulled out the bat he uses to put on pre-game homer displays for fans and "would never" cheat. Yeah, right, like the Cubs could ever make the playoffs without cheating.





GEORGE W. BUSH Full Metal Jackass

Way back in May our Commander-In-Chief, in full fighter-pilot regalia, made an ultra-dramatic *Top Gun*-style landing on the deck of an aircraft carrier in the Pacific to proudly proclaim, "Mission Accomplished in Iraq." It was a four-star display of chutzpah from a guy whose only former combat experience was a spirited game of Battleship with his brother Jeb. Mr. President, you can have your cheap stunt and action figure that glorifies it, but the sad truth is that like you, your assurances of victory just don't fly.

Only the George W. Bush G.I. Joke Action Figure...



Bends over backwards for special interests!



Reaches for hand-outs from wealthy corporate campaign contributors!

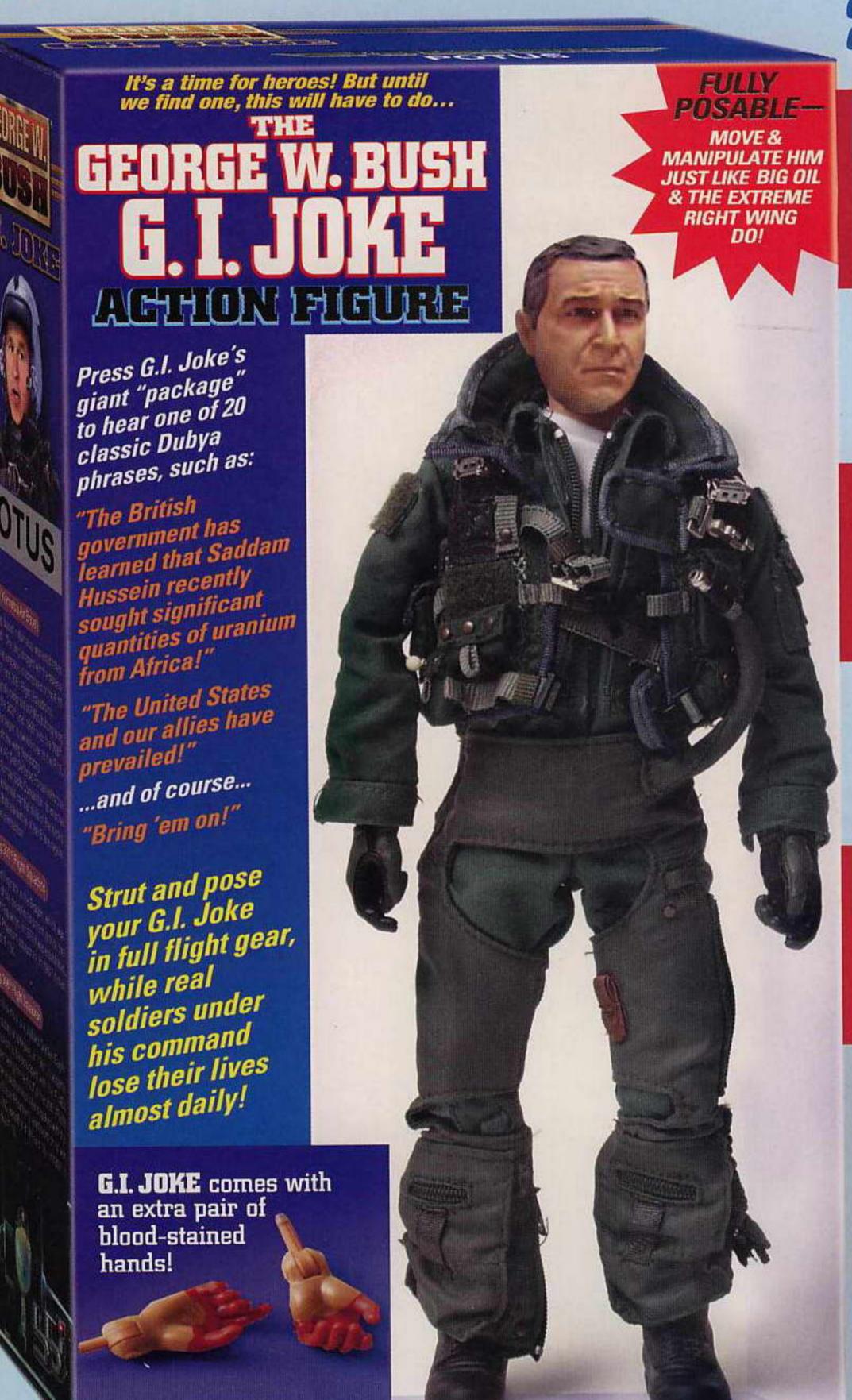


Sticks his head up his own ass!

And because of G.I. Joke's spineless construction, he easily bows to the will of Vice President Cheney and Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld!

Sold separately:

A fully non-functional, obsolete F-102 Delta Dagger, just like the one the real George W. Bush trained in that was phased out three months after he (almost) learned to fly it!





INKING INSIDE THE BOX Man Ships Himself Cross-Country

Here's a story about air travel that doesn't involve airline food (sorry, standup comics). In September, Charles D. McKinley, a shipping clerk in New York, got homesick for his family in Texas. But, instead of buying an airline ticket, he climbed into a box, had it sealed, and shipped himself home. If he'd been placed in an unpressurized cargo cabin, he would have croaked. Dumb. The air freight company and security guards at all the airports he was shepherded through never checked the crate he'd packed himself in. Dumber. When the police caught up with him, they discovered there isn't a law prohibiting this insane act. Dumbest! So we figure it's just a matter of time before an Orbitz-style website is going to



At the end of your trip, you keep the box!

No lines to wait on!

No boarding passes, just a bill of lading!

It's easy to travel the PeopleFreight way!





PACK CARGO!



FREE PICKUP!



COMFORTABLE FLIGHT



DOORSTEP DELIVER



TRAVEL SPECIALS

Ceramic Clown Figurines

Being Released From My Stuffy Enclosure In:

Tell air carrier that parcel "actually" contains:

0 V Children

Bahamas Super Sale! ★\$299 per person!

Stowing Away From:

Weight of "Payload":

Computer Parts

1 Adults

- ★ 7-night package hidden in a 5-star resort's supply closet.
- * Air travel in a Gateway computer box included!



Pounds

0 Seniors

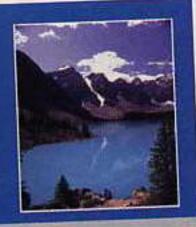
Recalled Segway Scooters

Royal Beaches Resort and Spa Cancun!

From \$49 per night! Includes FREE upgrade to crate with bubblewrap!

Free Car Trunk Rental!

New! Cruise Alaska locked in a steamer trunk!



Frequently Asked Questions About PeopleFreight:

Search

Gullible

Air Carriers

Now

Q: What amenities does my Cargo Class™ticket include?

A: Oxygen (Not guaranteed on all flights).

Q: Does PeopleFreight insure my safe arrival at my destination?

A: See above answer.

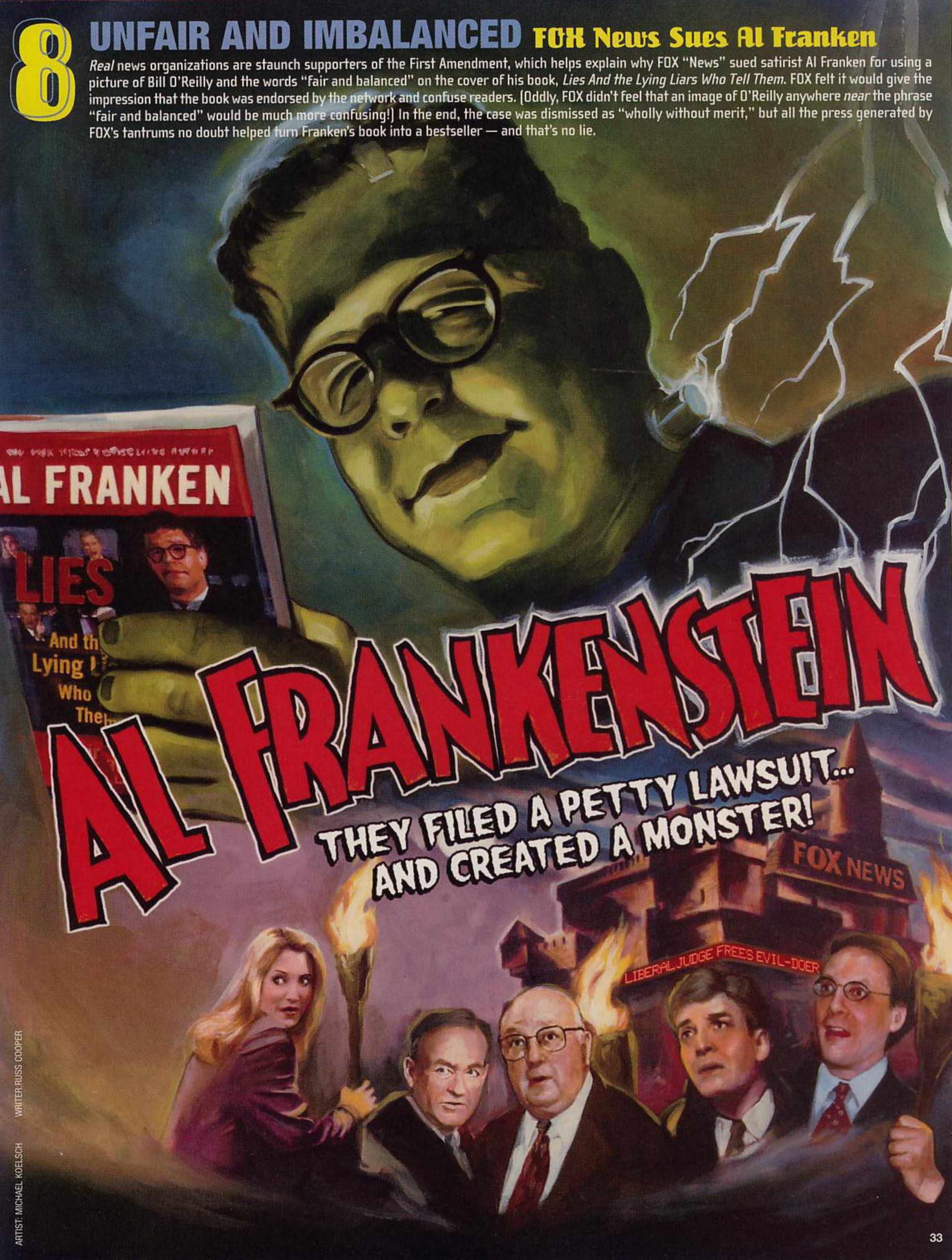
Other

Q: What in-flight services should I not expect?

A: Your Cargo Class™ ticket includes our Ultra-No-Frillssm service — No pillows or blankets, no movie or other in-flight entertainment, no lavatory access or beverage service (though depending on the traveler, the last two items can compensate for one another).

Q: Besides the price, what other benefits are there to flying on PeopleFreight?

A: Best of all, when you travel with PeopleFreight, there are no more airport security checkpoints to pass! You keep your shoes on the entire time! No commercial airlines can make that claim!

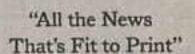




JAYSON BUTCHERS THE NEW YORK TIMES:

All The Lies He Saw Fit To Print

The New York Times. The newspaper of record. The Old Gray Lady. If it appears in the Times, it must be true. Well, er, not really. In fact, no. In their politically correct, affirmative action zeal, Times editors ram-rodded a lying, low-life snake of a reporter, Jayson Blair, up the editorial ladder. Never mind that his stories included fabricated details, were "reported" from places Blair never traveled to and required more corrections than a spastic blind man's first typing test. Eventually, the Times caught on and fired poor Jayson. With his career shot and his journalistic integrity forever destroyed, it took the lying SOB all of several weeks to land a 6-figure book deal, which is perhaps the dumbest part of this whole horror story.



The New York Ell

Late Edition

New York: Today, clouds, afternoon ers, storms, high 64. Tonight, o descring, low 54. Tomorrow, partly by the photos ly, widy, high 67. Yesterday, high photos on Page 41;

VOL. CLII . . . No. 52,480

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An accounting. The do journalistic deceptions

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Times Reporter Who Resigned Leaves Long Trail of Deception

A staff reporter for The New York Times committed frequi acts of journalistic fraud wh covering significant news even in recent months, an investigated by Times journalists has found The widespread fabrication and plagiarism represent a profound betrayal of trust and a low point in the 152-year history of the

The reporter, Jayson Blair, 27, misled readers and Times colleagues with dispatches that purported to be from Maryland, Texas and other states, when often he was far away, in New York. He fabricated comments. He concocted scenes. He lifted material from other newspapers and wire services. He selected details from photographs to create the impression he had been somewhere or seen someone, when he had not.

And he used these techniques to write falsely about emotionally charged moments in recent history, from the deadly sniper attacks in suburban Washington to the anguish of families grieving for loved ones killed in Iraq.

In an inquiry focused on correcting the record and explaining how such fraud could have been sustained within the ranks of The Times, the Times journalists have so far uncovered new problems in at least 36 of the 73 articies Mr. Blair wrote since he started getting national reporting assignments late last October. In the final months the audacity of the deceptions grew by the week, suggesting the work of a troud ed young man veering toward

fessional self-destruction. from the paper, was a report Times POWELL IN MIDEAST **ASKING QUICK STEPS** FOR CONCILIATION

s, and URON APPEAL Two Siles Mr. and Not to Get Bogged Die in Long-Term

Issues of Peace Plan

By STEVEN R. WEISMAN

USALEM, May 10 - Secre-State Colin L. Powell, arrivthe first American engage-re in the II. Palestinian n a year, Silled on both to take que onciliatory of to get box ed down in a long-term peace plan the United States and

pecifically rejected an hat the peace plan, ad map, be revised Yate certain Israeli National Navai Medical Center in Beauty of them, Jayson his emotional land the legitimacy of his considered his nting Palestinians en it was founded to their native he considered his contrade in the inal settlement. he considered his lest part of his les rs on board his Il said it was sues like the or stumbling tinian talks ars ago vi specific

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nctions on Imq. saying he that the numbers of the Studying the Security Introduction In lift the o, introduced on Friday, to lift the inctions and to return Iraq's oil rament phases to an interim gov-

I'm pleased that it has not run any kind of a train wreck," he the resolution, adding that it elved "a pretty good reven from members of the Russia, will i opposed the war in

in Jerusalem from McMe evening, Mr. Powell with Working dinner with grepared to meet on the new Palestinian prime Tourisa

, Mahmoud Abbas. In a reflection of the awkwardness of the visit, however, there was to be no meeting with the Palestinian leader, Yasir Arafat. The United States & last summer, and the location of the West Bank meeting with Mr. Abbas # was shifted to Jericho rather than Ramallah, where Mr. Arafat is situ-

on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict over the last year has been on draft-

Bush's Driv for T

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

WASHINGTON, May 10 - Two weeks into the Congressional debate on taxes, and with at least two more weeks to go, it is clear that Congress will eventually approve a big tax cut, smaller than the \$726 bil-

lion, 10-year reduction President Bush pro-Analysis posed but still the third

largest in history, on top of the largest, enacted just two years ago this month.

The linchpin of the president's plan, the elimination of taxes on most stock dividends, will be whittled down considerably, but the president will still be able to claim victory. After all, his philosophy is that lowering taxes is the best policy whether the economy is strong or weak, whether the budget is showing a sur-

plus or a deficit. And he will have persuaded Congress to adopt that philosophy in the face of the largest budget deficits ever, uncertain costs growing out of the war in Iraq, the fiscal cloud on the horizon from the retirement of 34 baby boom generation, the nearly unanimous opposition of Democrats

ocrats in Congre cut undercutting ket would have abolition of taxes of

But a Republican the White House said the president would

"His strates way up here," nie ing his right h Blair offer to reach with h

"That way he said, his flat aim at eye "When this bill is finally done," the

lobbyist said, his palm still in front of his face, "he will have hit here."

This is how matters stand now:

Continued on Page 25

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How Deporter Piano Get to denegie Ha

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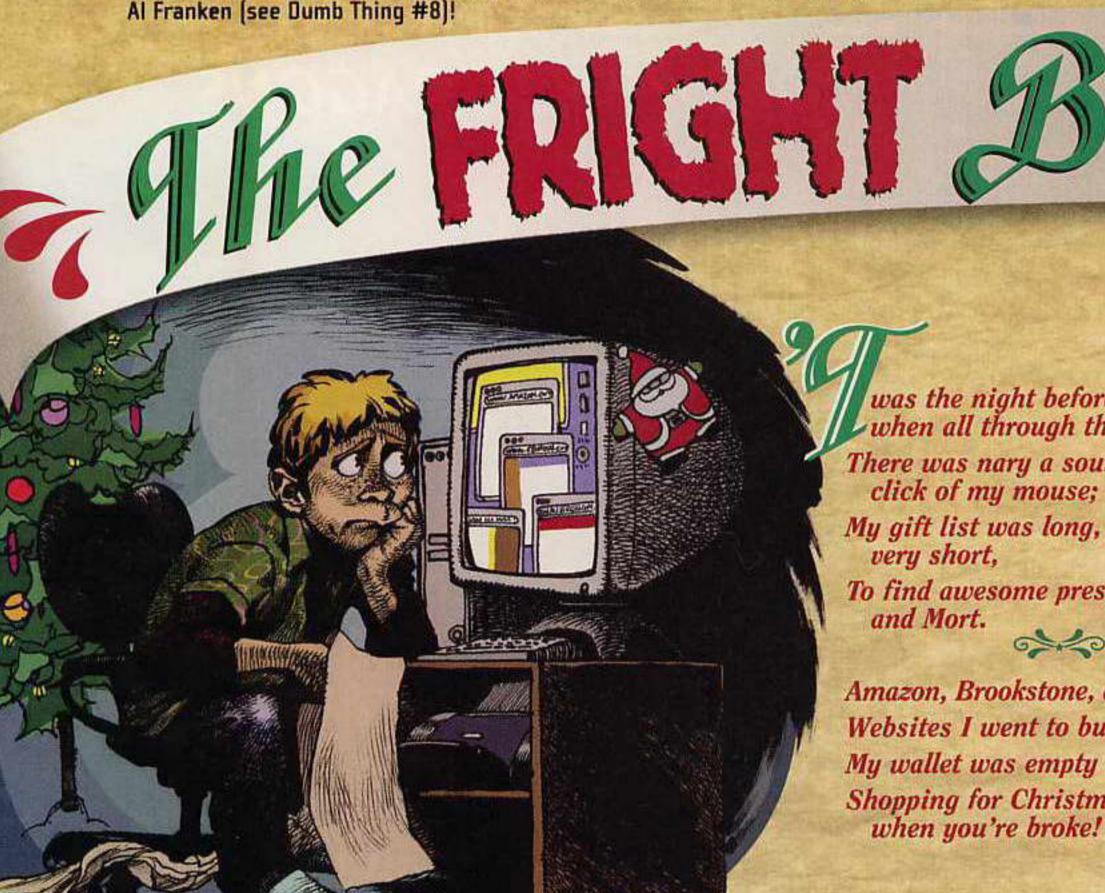
sein's rule. Ayatollah Hakim, who is 63, spent much of his life outside the country fighting to overthrow Mr. Hussein, who deported and killed thousands of

ernmenasis on an elected the mad agtional unity refle leaders after the fervent calls Islamic state in the initial cuphir an American officials said the shift to occurred because of security conafter the collapse of Saddam Hria during the visit. Much of the administration's focus

GET A DOWNLOAD OF THIS:

The Music Industry Sues File Sharers

With this summer's spate of nasty lawsuits against frequent MP3 downloaders, the Recording Industry Association of America has managed to come off looking worse than Missy Elliott at your average awards show. We don't know about you, but we sleep much more soundly knowing such hardened criminals as a 12-year-old girl who downloads TV theme songs and a 71-year-old grandpa who lets his grandchildren play with his computer have been brought to justice by the Grinches in charge of record companies. In other words, it's the dumbest lawsuit we've seen since FOX News sued Al Franken (see Dumb Thing #8)!



was the night before Christmas, when all through the house There was nary a sound 'cept the click of my mouse;

My gift list was long, but my time very short,

To find awesome presents for Barbara and Mort.

Amazon, Brookstone, dELiA*s and Borders, Websites I went to but I placed no orders; My wallet was empty and my credit a joke, Shopping for Christmas sure can suck when you're broke!

hen I found a site — and my hand started quakin',

Metallica, Pink, Avril — all for the takin'!

Dave Matthews and No Doubt, P. Diddy and Sting,

The white guy from "Idol" (the one who can't sing)!

"Cha-Chingy!" I merrily shouted with glee,

"All their songs will be mine now downloaded for free!"

My stomach tensed up and soon started to churn,

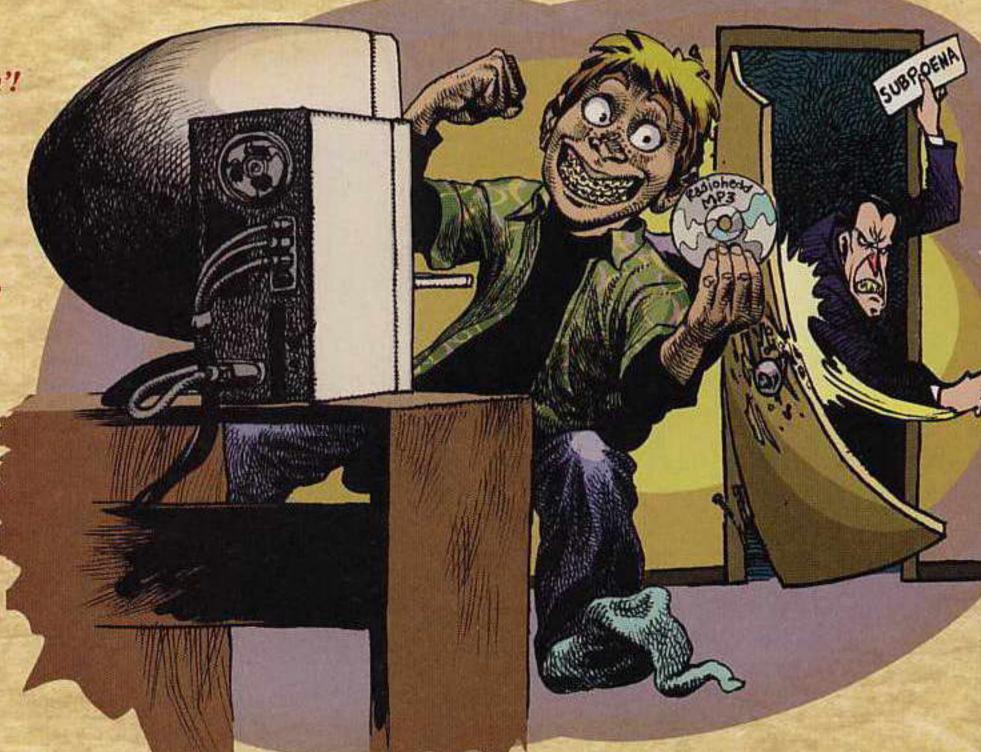
And how my eyes twinkled when I right-clicked on "Burn."

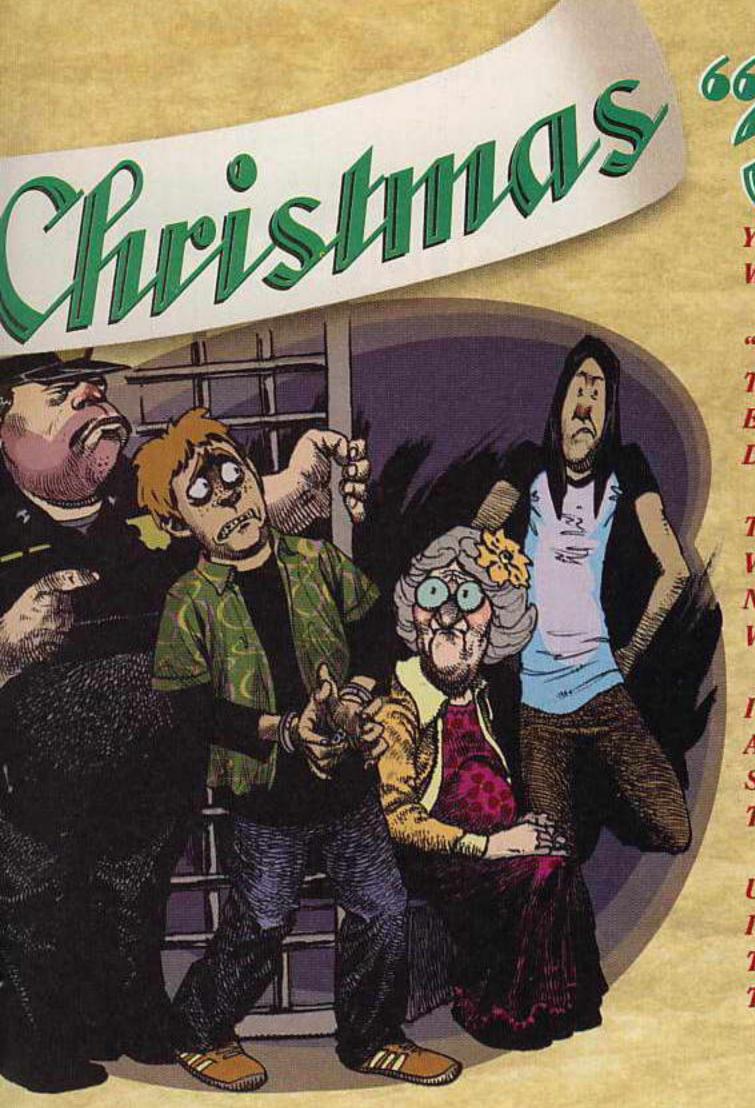


My D: drive responded — in a flash it was done!

I'd ripped a CD — 'Twas my very first one! All of a sudden the RIAA came,

A subpoena in hand, and made out in my name!





ou Moron! You Monster! You Loser! You Damn Fool! With Grokster! With Madster! With Napster! With eMule! You've dashed off with our music and paid not a cent! With no royalties Beyoncé can't make her rent!"

"You think that we'll allow some lame loser or schlub, To steal money that pays for R. Kelly's hot tub? Eminem and Snoop Dogg, 50 Cent and Flea -Do you think they get their limos and Cristal free?"

The handcuffs went on and we walked out the door Visions danced — of me as the (ulp!) cellblock whore! Now Barbara and Mort would get nothing at all, While I served my hard time in an iron-barred stall.

I was joined by a grandma, and a grad student, And others like me who had been so imprudent; Sony and Arista, Island and Virgin Tossed us in a cell in spite of our urgin'!

6

Universal, Time Warner, they both pranced in too, It was like they all had nothing better to do! Than to nail us - US! - the poor and downtrodden, To BMG Records we're bad as bin Laden.

t's downloaders' fault that a disc doesn't sell? How's about 'cause your records all stink to high hell? Christina and Britney; Mariah and Fred Durst — Impossible to pick out which one is the worst!

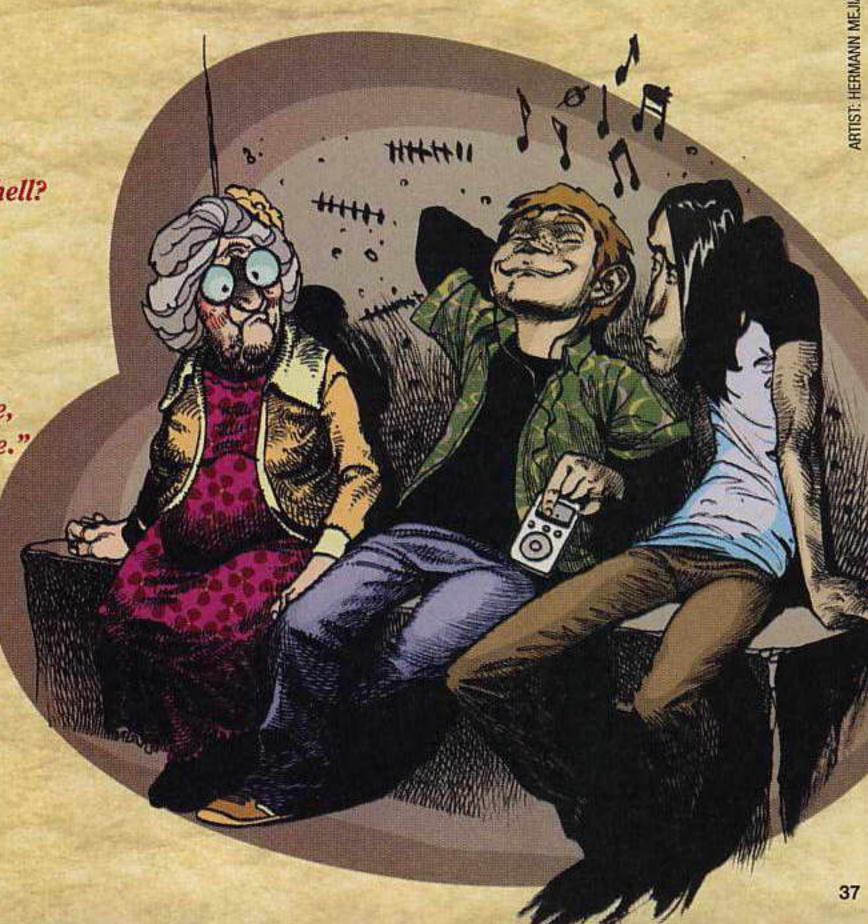
For all of their bitching and whining and crying, The labels make clatter that just ain't worth buying; Why spend all their time chasing poor schmucks like me, When they could sell music that's worth more than "free."

6 It's true when I download, I take what's not mine, In most other cases, that wouldn't be fine, And yet as I state this, it's still hard to pay, I mean, after all, do you hear what they say?

0

"How dare you rob us and how dare you be greedy!" (From the same guys who charge eighteen bucks for a CD!)

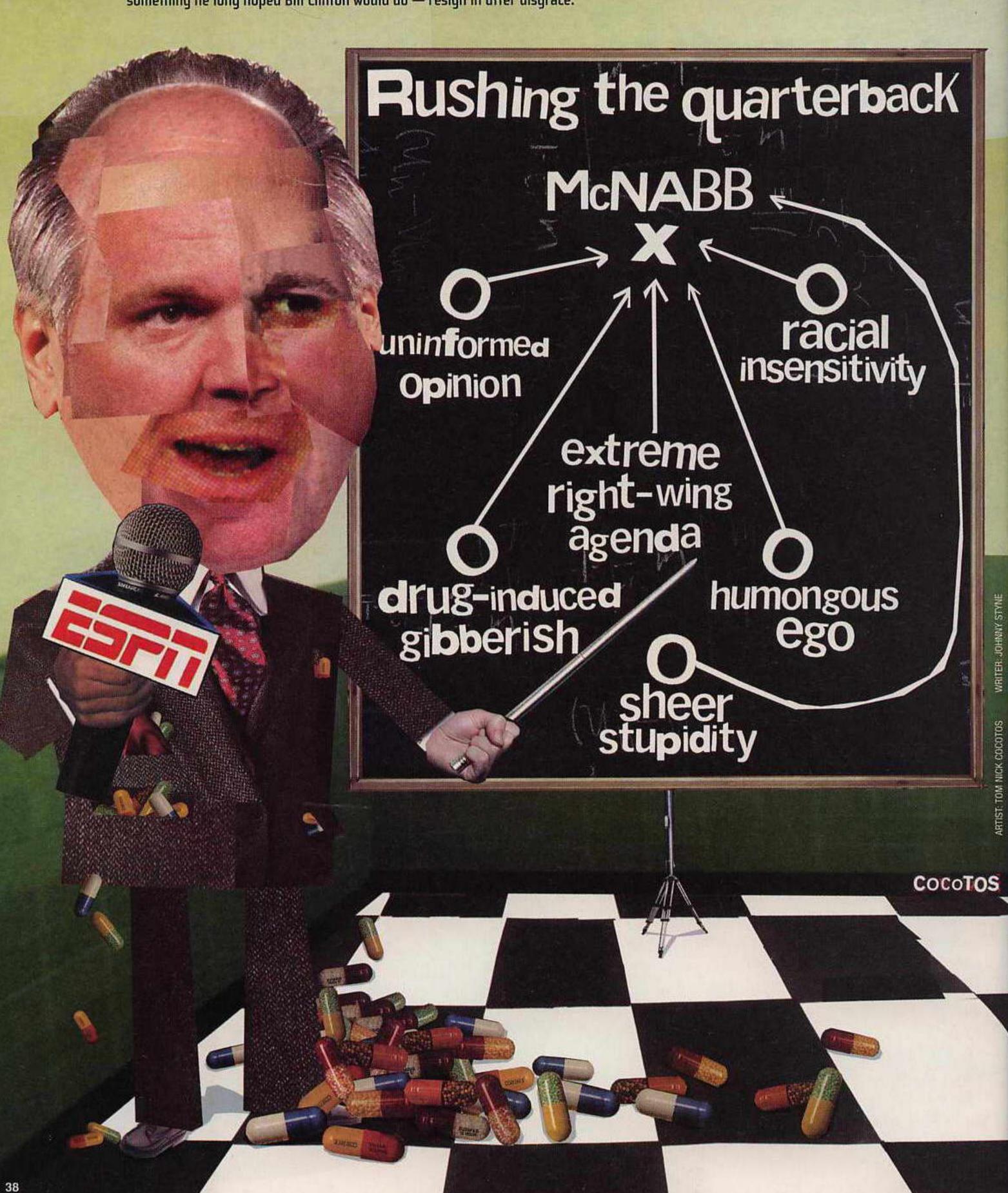
Now I'm nestled in jail, no parole date in sight. But my iPod is loaded — I'll get through the night.





RUSH LIMBAUGH FUMBLES ON ESPN

When your ego is as obscenely bloated as Rush Limbaugh's, you can't conceive that something you say could possibly be wrong, hurtful or just plain stupid. So when the controversial right-wing yakker opened up his big fat trap about Philadelphia quarterback Donovan McNabb on ESPN, spewing forth his typical liberal-bashing, race-baiting BS — you know, the kind of BS his legions of brain-dead radio fans gobble up — he was stunned that millions actually took offense. The story came to a fittingly ironic end when a few days later, the pompous "El Rushbo" did something he long hoped Bill Clinton would do — resign in utter disgrace.



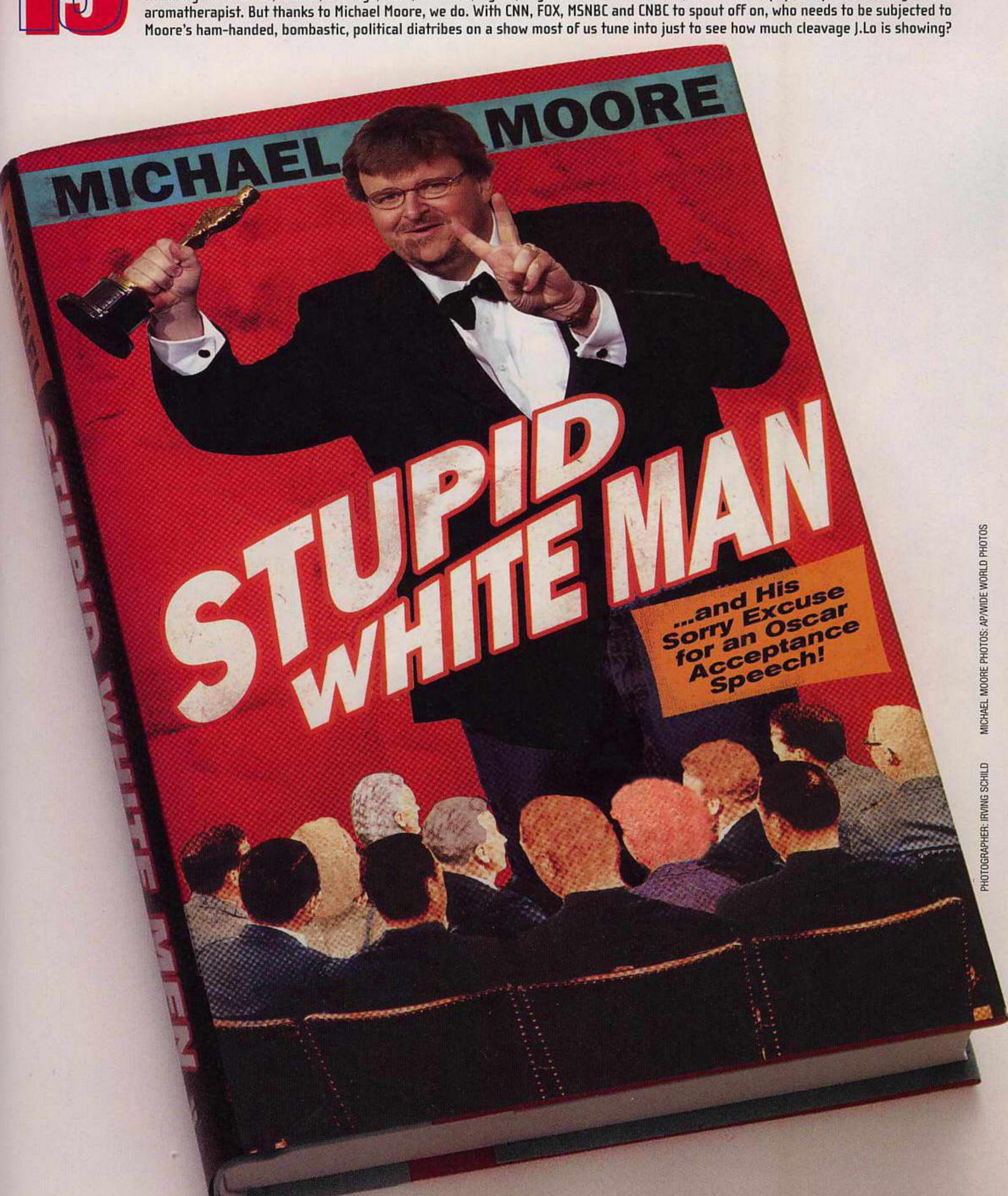
We can't say for sure whether Kobe Bryant is innocent or guilty of sexual assault — that's up to the cable news commentators — but what we can say is that he spent much of the year in a desperate frenzy to restore his wholesome, all-American family-man image. While his still-commercially-viable teammate Shaq made lame Radio Shack commercials, Kobe hunkered down with his "advisors," trying to figure out which necktie makes him look "most innocent." Everyone knows that Kobe's won three championship rings with the Lakers, but the most important ring of his career may turn out to be the one he had to pay for.





AND THE WHINER IS...Michael Moore's Oscar Speech

We never thought we'd actually long for the days when an Academy Award winner would ramble on and on in his acceptance speech, thanking his mother, father, siblings, wife, children, agent, high school drama coach, accountant, paperboy, dermatologist and aromatherapist. But thanks to Michael Moore, we do. With CNN, FOX, MSNBC and CNBC to spout off on, who needs to be subjected to

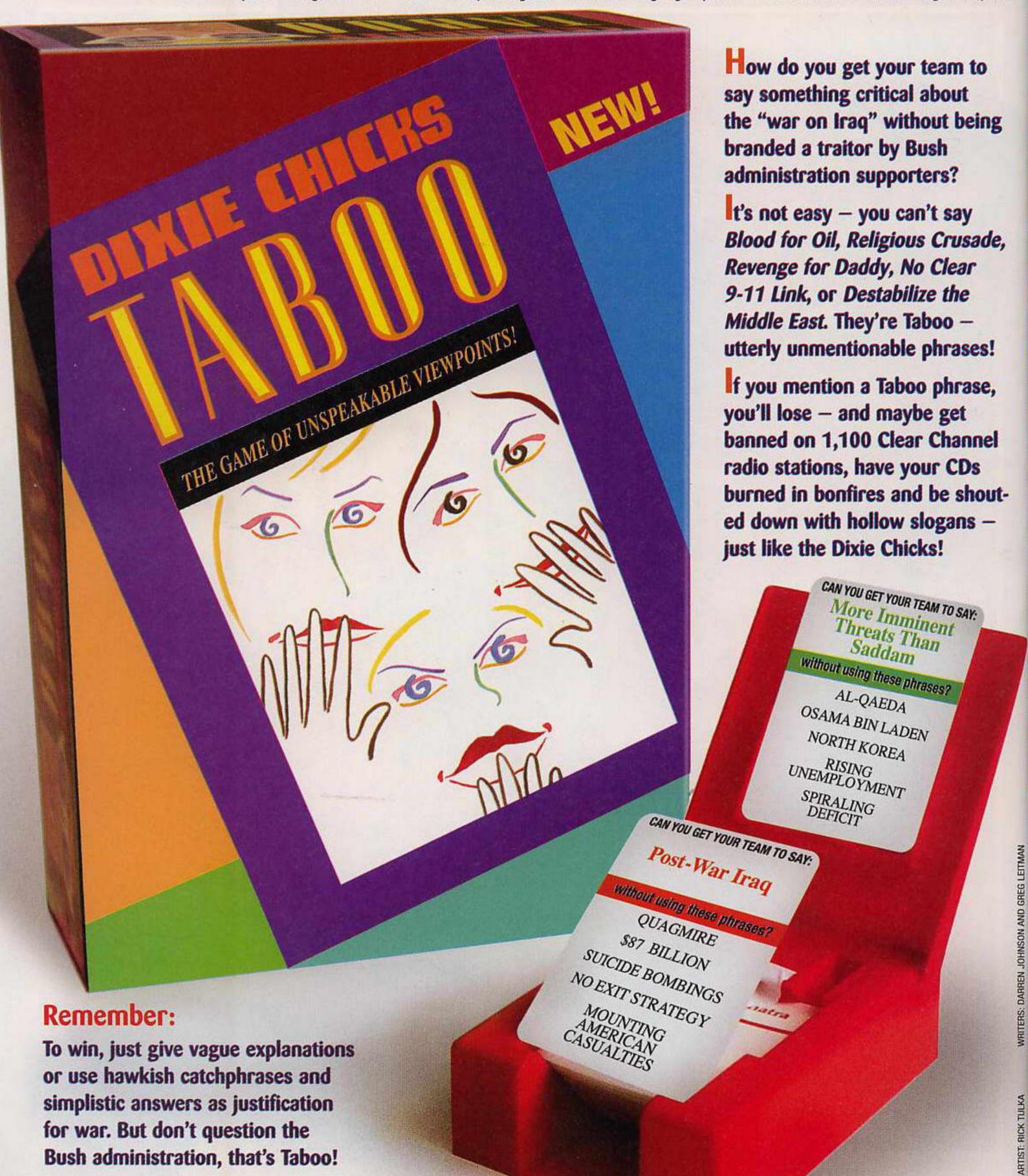


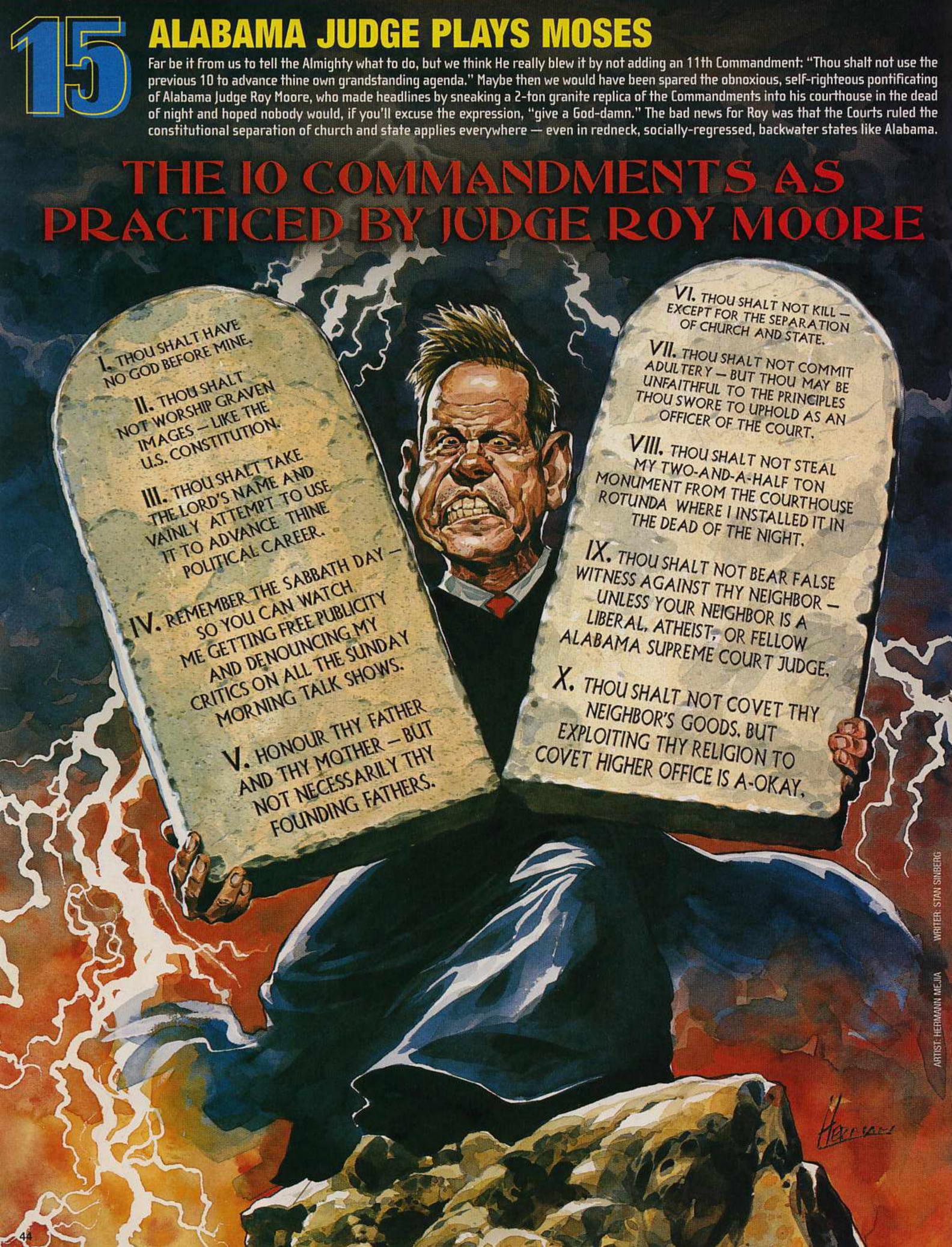


42

DIXIE CHICKS BACKLASH Even Cowgirls Get The Boos

At a March concert in London, Dixie Chick Natalie Maines said, "We're ashamed that the President of the United States is from Texas." That remark earned the Chicks the scorn and spittle-driven ire of conservative commentators, who conveniently forgot the right to free speech, not to mention the venomous insults they spewed about President Clinton just a few years ago. To them, the Dixies were traitors, their "treasonous" words giving aid and comfort to the enemy. Record burnings and radio bans followed. You'd think the Chicks had given Saddam himself the power of flight and heat vision. Yes, boys and girls, all because of a girl group from Texas, our nation was never in greater peril.





41

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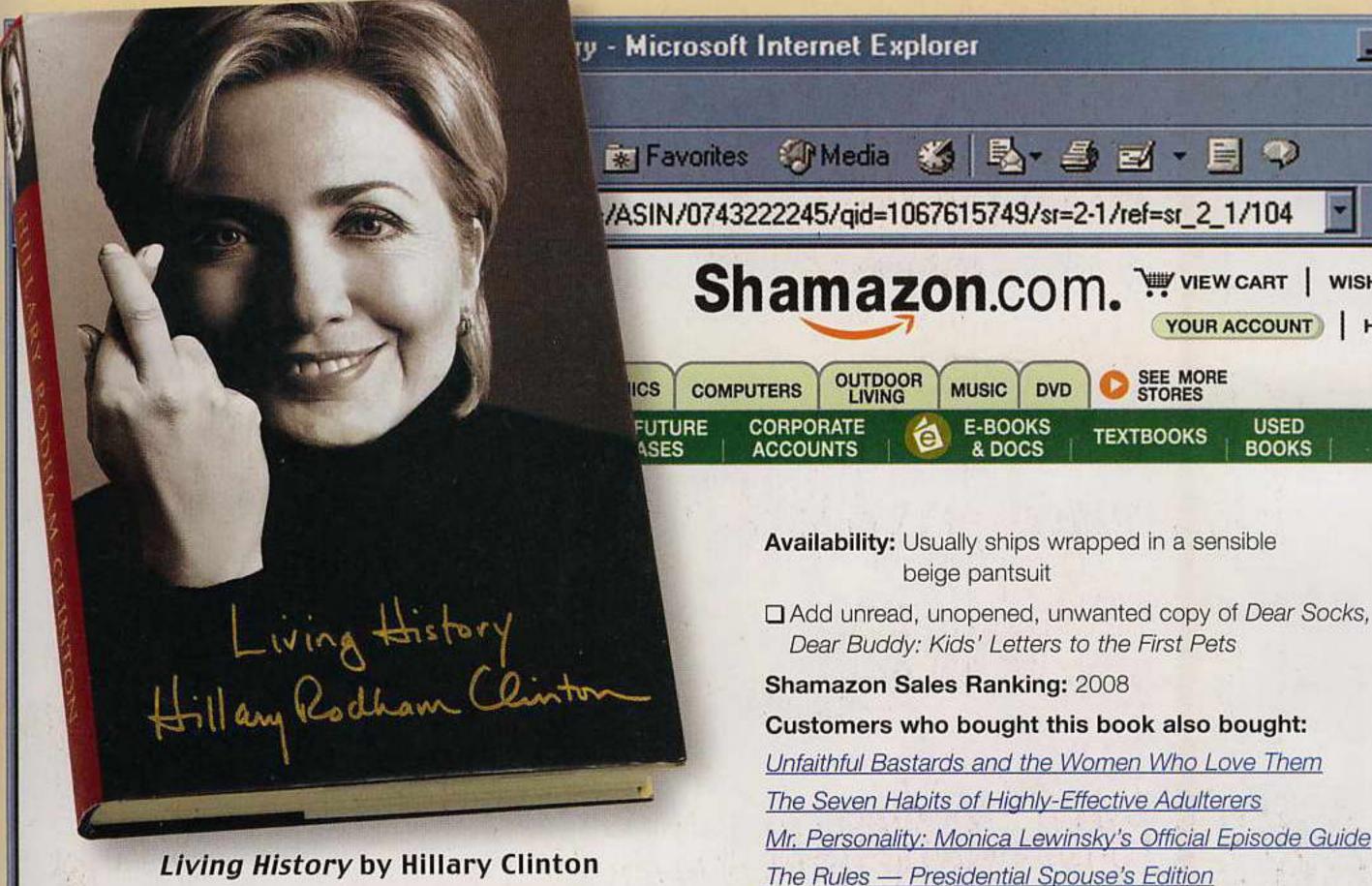
WISH LIST

HELP

HILLARY'S STORY: First Lady And The Tramp

Love her or hate her (okay, chances are you hate her), Hillary Clinton has had a fascinating life. She was a powerful and successful

(shady) lawyer. She championed a controversial (and doomed) health care plan. She was elected Senator of New York (after Giuliani dropped out of the race). And most fascinating of all, she was married to a President (who couldn't keep his Air Force One in the hangar). You would think all of this would make for a fascinating book (nope)! Forget Whitewater, helloooo Whitewash!



Book Description:

Come take a nostalgic trip back to a time when Hillary Clinton was not yet the wife of a philandering President, but, rather, the wife of a philandering hillbilly. A time when young Hillary worked on the Nixon impeachment inquiry and wondered how a President could be so stupid as to get himself in so much trouble by lying instead of just coming clean and admitting he'd done something wrong. A time when a cigar was just a cigar, and not an instant Tonight Show punchline.

Brief Quotes From The Book:

"Bill told me that Monica Lewinsky was an intern he had befriended two years earlier when she was volunteering in the West Wing during the government shutdown. He had talked to her a few times, and she had asked him for some job-hunting help. 'So,' he said, 'she gave me a job.' I asked, 'Don't you mean you gave her a job?' And he nervously chuckled, 'Oh yeah, right."

Unfaithful Bastards and the Women Who Love Them Mr. Personality: Monica Lewinsky's Official Episode Guide

Editorial Review

By former President William Jefferson Clinton:

I really love this book because Hillary's ghostwriters have tremendous respect for her readers' intelligence. They know that what most people want to hear about is her favorite drink (Diet Dr. Pepper! Wow! Who knew?) and her early impressions of me (she thought my fingers were "tapered and deft." Note to self: What color are her eyes again?). What readers don't want to hear about is all that stupid "inappropriate sexual relations" nonsense, so the book glosses over all of my illicit affairs, sparing everyone (especially me!) a real headache. Why can't the media just get over the preposterous notion that Hillary and I are constantly at each other's throats? I mean, how can we be when we hardly see each other? The truth is, I'm very proud of her for writing this book. It's not everyone who could turn frigidity into a career move!

Customer Reviews

かかかか It takes a village—or at least a small town—to make sense of this woman!

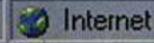
Reviewer: Ann Coulter

When I found out that Sharon Stone has been tapped to play Hillary Clinton in an upcoming TV movie, I thought, "What could she possibly have in common with the former first lady?" But then I read Hillary's book, and realized that she was perfect for the role, because she's already played a schizophrenic lesbian ice-bitch psychopath in Basic Instinct!

This book was so full of crap it made (0 stars) my eyes bulge like Barbara Bush's!

Reviewer: Elizabeth Dole

As a fellow politician's wife, I know firsthand the truth behind many of the problems that Hillary has only hinted at in this book. If your husband's not interested in sleeping with you anymore, get him hooked on Viagra. He'll screw the fern in the living room (literally!), and he'll definitely find you more attractive. At least that's what happened to me.





DEMI AND ASHTON: Dude, Where's My P.R.?

What it comes down to is this: one middle-aged woman, one boy, and a nation's entertainment media following and reporting their every move for reasons we still can't fathom. Please, someone tell us it's just an elaborate prank and that we've all been Punk'd!



Mademi and Child

STRAIGHT AND NARROW-MINDED: The Anti-Gay Crusade

It's pretty ironic that there's something about the gay rights movement that turns otherwise civil people into absolute dicks. After the Supreme Court overturned Texas' antiquated sodomy laws, homophobes came out of their proverbial closets to denounce not just the court's sensible decision, but every aspect of the "gay lifestyle," as if the biggest threat to our national security isn't Osama bin Laden, but Richard Simmons.



Michael SAVAGE Pat ROBERTSON George W. BUSH Antonin SCALIA

Rick SANTORUM

Five homophobic men.
Out to screw over an entire community.
One gay guy at a time.

WHAT DESPICABLE
DUO DIED IN A
HORRIFIC BOMB
THIS YEAR?

MAD 20 FOLD-IN

The media had been diligently following this dastardly pair for months. Everyone became painfully familiar with their fiendish work and the various atrocities they were responsible for. So when their luck finally ran out with a very public downfall, few were surprised. To find out who this infamous duo is, fold page in as shown.





FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

**GLOBAL TIMES **

*** * * The Leader in World News * * * *

NOWHERE TO HIDE AS TROOPS SHOWER ORDNANCE ON BUILDING

GIGANTIC BLAST IN BALI

AVENGED IN CITY OF MOSUL

TIKRIT PAIR BLASTED WITH ROCKETS



SPORTS COVERAGE ★ 76

COMICS/GAMES ★ 54

BEHIND THE SCENES THESE TWO TRIED TO REMAIN CALM UNDER FIRE. BUT IT WAS TOO LATE AND JUST IMPOSSIBLE TO SAVE THEIR LOST CAUSE. LOCAL AND NATIONAL SUPPORT WAS GONE.



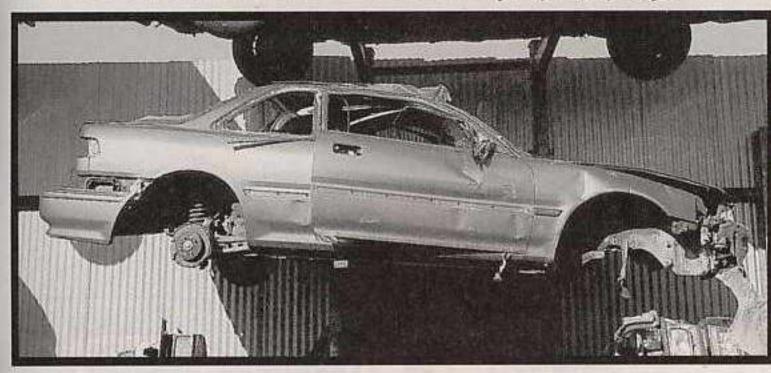
ARTIST AND WRITER AL JAFFEE





MY CAR WENT FROM THIS

... TO THIS!





Thanks Uniberial -A-DENT HOME AUTO to the Uniberial REPAIR KIT®

Originally, this unique kit was only available to highly-trained professional auto repair technicians who charge thousands of dollars for their work! But since no highly-trained professional auto repair technicians ever bought one of these unique kits, we're now making them available to anyone with a credit card!

Look at all you get with your

UNBEND-A-DENT!

HOME AUTO REPAIR KIT*

One professional-grade **Dent Suction Tool with** deluxe wooden handle!



48" of Super-Strength Velcro to reattach any car sections you inadvertently remove!

One Stainless Steel Auto-Body Restructuring Device so you can dent the cars of strangers and then practice repairing them before using it on your car!



Six self-stick Decorative Bumper Stickers which can be mounted anywhere on your car to draw the eye away from dents you were unsuccessful in repairing!

There's never been a better deal — for us!

ORDER YOUR KIT TODAY! SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED! **ONLY ONE KIT PER \$499.95! NO EXCEPTIONS!**

For easy ordering, call our 800 number where operators are standing by to give you our web address. Then, just scroll down and click on the easy-ordering icon to see our convenient 800 number where operators are standing by to take your order! (Except in Nebraska.)

THE MOST COMMON **CAUSES OF CAR DENTS**

- · Runaway shopping carts
- · Falling bricks at construction sites
- Obese jaywalkers
- Aggressive drive-thru safari animals
- · Unstable and belligerent squeegee men
- · Attempting a K-turn in the middle of a carwash
- · Parallel parking while blindfolded
- · Mistakenly merging onto a Funny Car track
- · Grudge-bearing shot-putters
- Kidnapping victims attempting to get out of the trunk
- Nearsighted blacksmiths
- Toppling Saddam Hussein statues
- Unbend-A-Dent! kit owners practicing with the Auto-**Body Restructuring Device** on strangers' cars

DRIVE A FOREIGN CAR? NO PROBLEM! order our special Foreign Make

It contains exactly the same items as our domestic kit, but it says "For Fixing Foreign Cars" right on the label!

AND IT'S ONLY **\$20 MORE!**

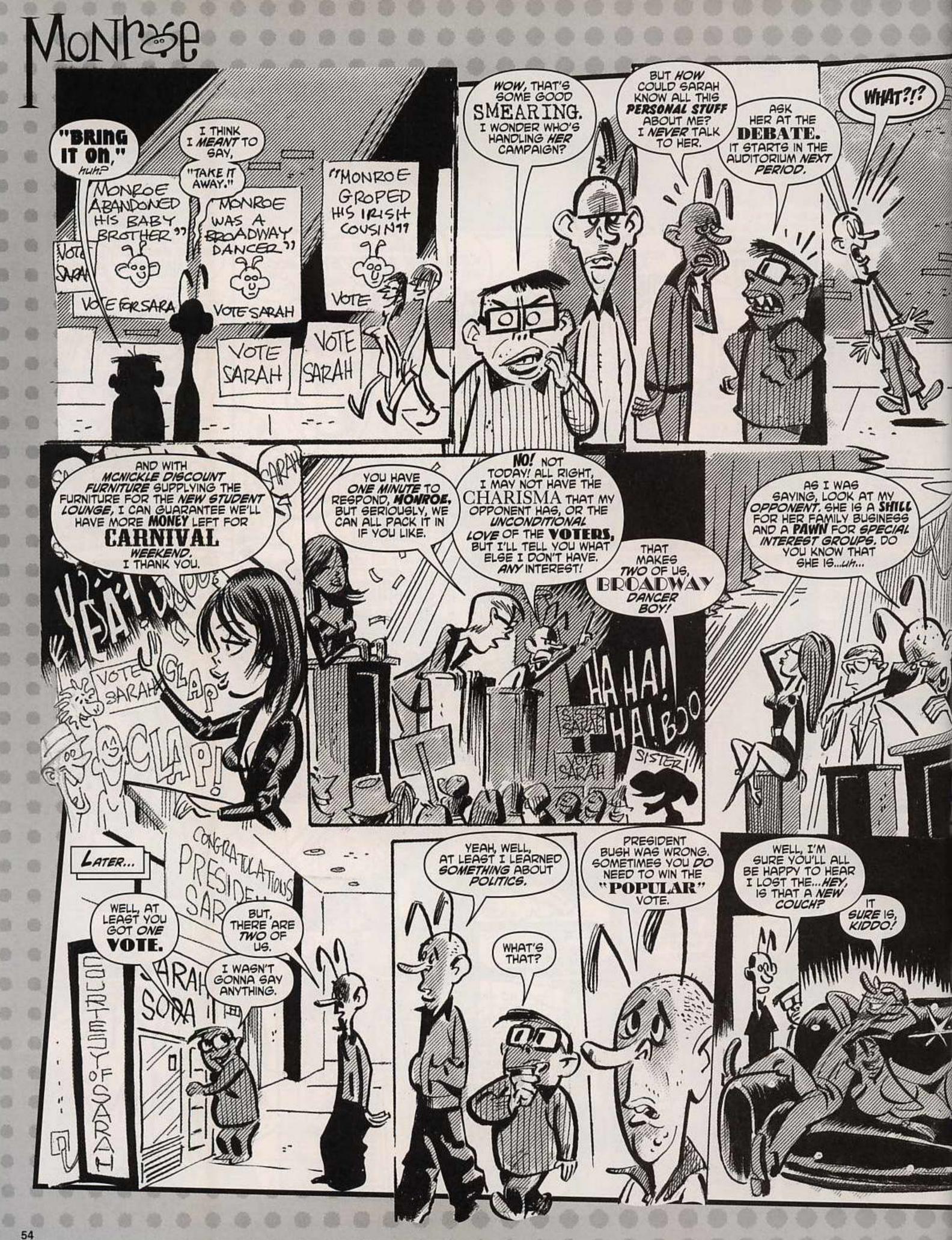
WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

A MAD AD PARODY



THE PRESIDENCY









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