





FAMILY ISSUES

When I was about 11 years old, I remember my parents hassling my older teenage brother whenever they found a MAD in his room. Like a bratty sister. Lioined in the attack and promised to be a good girl and never delight in such a magazine. Now 31 years later, my teenage son has discovered MAD and true to my earlier vow, I promptly threw a parental hissy fit. He begged me to read just one page which I thought was the least I could do before I threw it out. Well, you guessed it. I was instantly hooked and now I get it. I just want to know if you can ever forgive me for being such a jerk. I will gladly do penance or community service to pay for my mistakes.

Gina Sahin, Hampton Bays, NY

Gina In A Bottle — The only possible solution to atone for your sins is buying your son a three-year subscription to MAD. While you're at it, be a nice sister and buy your brother a subscription as well (you brown-nosing fink)! —Ed.

READER ALERT

Hey, Chuckles — remember, when sending in photographs of any kind, please be sure to include an e-mail address or phone number, so we can contact you!

TEXT SUPPORT

I was recently banned from reading your oh-so-righteous magazine by my parents. When I thought there was no way to reach your mind-droning magazine, it hit me. I was reading my History textbook when I realized that my parents could not ban me from your magazine. You have left your dirty mark on history, and no one can escape it. In my book, it says "Some teenagers rebelled by reading materials such as MAD Magazine, which made fun of 1950s society." Without knowing it, you have now become a part of America's dark side and I applaud you.

Alex Marzano, Long Grove, IL

Marzipan — We suggest that your parents contact Gina Sahin, and hopefully they'll have a similar change of heart. Better yet, show them the history book — and maybe they'll ban you from reading that as well! —Ed.

THE BIG PARTY

Spy Vs. Spy is the best part of MAD Magazine! I cannot wait until the next issue! Thank you for making me laugh!

Abraham Blanchard, Cedar Falls, IA



Honest Abe — Thanks for sending in pictures from your 7th birthday party! We hope that when you blew out the candles, you wished for a better cake next year! —Ed.

If you have a MAD-themed party, we'd love to see the pics (be sure to tell us what the party was for!) Send them to Amy "The Big Party" c/o MAD Magazine. 1700 Broadway. New York. NY 10019!

BRAVE'S NEW WORLD

This letter is in regards to your article "Gdyl sisues Gay Cowboys are Forced to Contend With" (MAD #463). I feel that there are some things about 1"findians" that you should be aware of: 1) We are NOT "Squaws" — this is a white man's term, not ours. 2) Before Europeans came here, we honored homosexuals as wise people. They were called "Two Spirits" because they understood things from both the male and female perspective. They were also teachers and were allowed to marry, it wasn't until the white men came with their warped ideas that some of us changed. Love your mag, though!

Carol Schneider Susquahannock/Cherokee, Dundee, NY



Carol-Full-of-Monkeys — Dammit, you're right! We gave John Caldwell (the unthor of the 69 Cowboy piece) a \$5,000 research budget to get all of the facts straight. It looks like John took that money and blew it all on his gambling addiction. On the plus side, he lends to frequent the Native-American owned Mohegan Sun casino, so, in a way, he did pay tribute to your people! Thanks for writing and see you at the Pow-Wowl —Ed.



What can I say? It's been a long, cold winter! If you don't believe genstones are "clever items around the house" watch Jewelry TV and then you try to do something more creative with all the genstones you ordered. I think a 400 Cart Al is quite stunning, a real jewel!

Marguerite Fix, Lapeer, MI

Fixer Upper — Nice job — but we've never lived through a winter that was so long and oold that we resorted to buying several pounds of gemistones and then arranging them into the image of Alfredt Unfortunately because of your Tartwork, "the value of each and every one of those gems has depreciated drasficality. We hope you have a busier Spring! — Ed.

P.S. We're always looking for depictions of Alfred using creative and offbeat materials Send your creations to Amy "The Big Easel," c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019!

A SLOW FAKE NEWS DAY

On the March 13th episode of Comedy Central's *The Colbert Report*, host Stephen Colbert ended the show by wishing long-time MAD artist Al Jaffee a happy 85th birthday. Below is a transcript of the segment (with pictures)! No word on wheth All act any of the craft.



The second less than the secon

Oh, good evening. I was just reading this copy of MAD Magazine. Great stuff.



Now, I was never a fan of MAD as a kid, I just pretended to read it on the playground. I would hide my copy of *National Review* behind it. But as I grew older, I developed a greater appreciation for MAD's so-called "Usual Gang of Idiots."



And perhaps no member of that gang has been more idiotic than that great inventor of the MAD Fold-In, At Jaffee, who turns 85 today.



Al taught us that the form of inflation most Americans are fighting is getting fat.



And the best way to see stars isn't through telescopes, but rather by falling off a skateboard.

(1)



Thanks for all the great work, Al. For the occasion, we got you a cake. It says, "You have repeatedly shown artistry & care of great credit to your field." But you know, there's a simpler way to say that...





A DOWNLOAD OF CRAP

Your "MAD Presents iToons" article (MAD #463) was one of the best I've ever read. Despite numerous attempts to get my parents to buy me an iPod, the only thing I've gotten out of it is a broken CD player. When I read the article, I decided that maybe it's safer to not have an iPod!

Victoria Price, St. Peters, MO

Sugar and Spice and Everything Price — Yeah, maybe your parents didn't get you an iPod for your own safety, but were prefty sure they're just super cheap! Enjoy that "safe" busted CD player — now, if you'll excuse us, we have to go and listen to one of the 15,000 songs we have on our IPod—Ed.

READER ALERT II

printed on this Letters Page will be sent a DVD of the The Producers (starring Matthew Broderick

and Nathan Lane and rated PG-13) courtesy of our friends at Universal Home Video. For those of you who didn't have their letters printed, (or can't get to the Broadway show) the DVD is available May 16!





ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

Hey, thanks for printing my envelope in the September 2004 issue. It was a big deal for me to see some of my stuff in print. Yeah, I know I need to get out more. I thought I would put the screws to your regular guy. Jim (Hutchings) the Canuck with another envelope plus a little challenge propaganda. If you like the art and a little friendly competition, then I'll keep sending them as inspiration strikes.

Matt Handfield, Holyoke, MA

Talk to the Handfield — We appliaud your portrolled themselves to bring the covered Envelope of the Manth title book to the good of 'U.S. of Al And while we have nothing against a tillet fertailly competition, we would hate to see this turn into a Biggier/Jupos-style featful That being said, Jim. Mart is clearly goading you into a fight. Are you going to take that? We wouldn't even be surprised going to take that? We wouldn't even be surprised your last Envelope of the Month (see Letters 90 MAD #463). Don't disappoint us, Jim, we eagerly awalt vour resons to Mattil—Ed.





MAD KIDS #4 ON SALE JULY 18!

NEXT MONTH IN MAD #467 ON SALE JUNE 13!

REJECTED CARS FROM THE MOVIE CARS! AND WE DECONSTRUCT THE DAILY SHOW! NEXT MONTH IN MAD CLASSICS #8 ON SALE JUNE 13!

20 PAGES ON SUPERMAN, THE 1980'S TV CLASSIC MIAMI VICE, AND THE SCARY FLICK THE OMEN!



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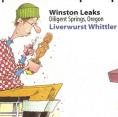
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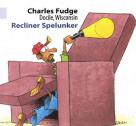
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Manuscripts will not be returned or
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accompanied by a self-addressed,
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YOU'RE NOT EVEN CLOSE







TO FULLY ENGORGED, ARE YOU, LITTLE DUDE?





We are TRUTH! A national, non-profit organization that educates the public about the dangers of smoking! Big tobacco is responsible for creating addicts! We are committed to preventing the weak from dumping millions into an industry that profits from the ruined health of simple-minded Americans!



You hippie jackass! You go to college for a few years and think that gives you the divine right to publicly humiliate me and other hard-working people? You think by creeping up on me with a megaphone and a video camera you're magically going to cure me of a deadly addiction I've enjoyed for over a decade?

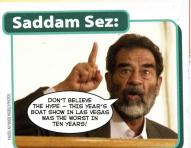


Do you know how releasing into your body? How do you



sensation of carcinogenic nicotine coursing through my veins right now, I would beat you to death with that megaphone!

PAGES





If you're a keen teen lookin' for awesome advice, then just...

...wife of our beloved
Vice President. For candid
counseling on sensitive
subjects, Mrs. Cheney always
has your best interests at heart.

Dear Mrs. Cheneu:

The other day a couple of my friends were bullying a ninth

grader. I knew it was the wrong thing to do, but I started bullying the kid too. What worries me is that I really liked it and want to do it again. I've never been a "bad" kid before, but now I'm afraid that I can't help it. What should I do?

—A Troubled Teen

Dear Troubled:

You sound like a young man who wants to do the right thing. Hooray for you! But sometimes doing the right thing is tricky. "Bullying," of course, is wrong. Really. really, really wrong. But sometimes, some people, in certain situations need to be "strenuously persuaded," and that's where a fine American with your - let's call them "proclivities" — comes in. So the question you should be asking yourself is: "Where can a fine young American, such as myself, engage in my God-given 'proclivities' in service to my country?" What if I told you that the answer to that astute question was: "A sparkling beach in the Caribbean, just 90 miles south of Miami"? Sound good? Well, it gets even better! Your good ol' Uncle Sam owns a breathtaking stretch of beachfront property in Cuba known affectionately as "Gitmo." Maybe you've seen it on TV or read about in the newspaper. There are lots of young fellas there with similar "proclivities" to yours, so you'll make lots of friends. And, best of all. you'll have endless opportunities to "strenuously persuade" many suspected terrorists. The federal government will supply all the car batteries and attack dogs you need. You just bring your swimming trunks! And remember: Bullying is wrong. Really, really, really wrong.

Remember! If you're an angst-ridden adolescent with a prickly problem, don't hesitate to ASK LYNNE CHENEY.

CONFUSING ROAD SIGNS





Real Meaning: "No Parking between 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM"

Misunderstood Meaning: "No Peeing here between 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM"



Curb Your Elephant"

THEFUNDALINIPAGES

FIRST DRAFT EXCERPTS FROM **JAMES FREY'S**

"A MILLION LITTLE PIECES" THAT EVEN HIS PUBLISHER THOUGHT WERE TOO LOOPY TO PRINT

"I wake to the screams of terrified passengers and the feeling of something warm dripping down my chin. It is my Liver. I quickly tuck it back where it should be, scrape the broken teeth out of the hole in my cheek, and, though temporarily blinded by the vomit that has sealed my eyes shut, manage to choke-slam the four Islamic fundamentalists that have hijacked the plane. It isn't until I get us safely landed that I realize I need to wring the Urine out of my cordurovs.

"Doctor Stevens pulls up the stool... I want to hog tie you while we're doing the Root Canals. Why?

Because James, once I am done twisting your exposed nerves with this bayonet and sanding down your festering gums, sans anesthesia or pain medication, we'll be dropping you, head first, into a vat of pesticide to see if you can break free.

and did a guick back handspring out of the window..." I am an Alcoholic and I am a Drug Addict and I am a Criminal and I am a Spokesmodel that abuses Diet Pills and I am Bingo-holic and I am a Meat-eater and I am

Man Who Loves too Much

Steroid-Using Figure Skater."

and I am a Club-Footed.

"My system is poison.

I start gagging and as I gag, I crawl to the front of the toilet ... I vomit. The vomit is full of bloody bile and brown sh*t I have never seen before. Chunks of rotting organs. Fragments of tongue.

A tiny '75 Ford Pinto Matchbox...It won't stop, It heaves and It comes in violent contractions.

"...and the new Guy pulled out his badge and said, Son, I am with the FBI and your number is up...I burped the words "eat me" to the tune of "Beat It"

Up.

Up.

Through my burning, swollen Lips. The Volcano.

In one deep white-pained spasm I rocket, through my Nostrils, my own 'Nads."



... That the movie is taking up the precious time of angry Catholics, who should still be directing their

FUNDALINI PHOTO EXCLUSIV UNDENIABLE **PROOF THAT** PRESIDENT BUSH WAS LYING WHEN HE SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW DISGRACED

> JACK **ABRAMOFF!** SPACE MOUNTAIN 2004

LOBBYIST

VENICE, 1998



ORLANDO, 2004

SEATTLE, 2003

outrage toward the Church's handling of the pedophile priests scandal. FRIENDS OF FUNDALINI

That forcing Audrey Tatou to make out with the alarmingly lumpy, Pat Riley-haired Tom Hanks will just give the French a justifiable reason to hate us more than they already do. That the direction of a long, heavily-plotted, 450-page novel was entrusted to director Ron Howard. the same guy who horribly botched a 61-page Dr. Seuss book, How the Grinch Stole Christmas.

Though we haven't read the book or seen the movie, somebody told us that in the The Da Vinci Code, Dan Brown alleges that Leonardo da Vinci hid secret clues in his famous painting, The Last Supper. Among them: Jesus and Mary Magdalene were lovers and had children, the first of whom they named "Butch." While this is unproven, upon a detailed cursory look at the painting, we uncovered many other "secret clues," which escaped the author's attention... behold...

OTHER HUDDE IN THE LAST SU

Christian magicians note that Bartholomew, the Apostle on the extreme left, is readving himself to do the "watch me vank the tablecloth out without disturbing anything on top of it" trick - perhaps for the first time in history.

The amount of light in the sky seen in the windows and doors in the background show that this Last "Supper" in fact took place in the midafternoon, a discreet reminder to those who viewed the artwork in the Middle Ages to hurry down for the Early Bird special at Vespucci's Pizza, Pasta & More, a small bistro in which da Vinci owned a partial interest.

Each of the Apostles' robes corresponds to the color of a marshmallow in a box of Lucky Charms cereal. Biblical scholars disputed this until General Mills added blue diamonds, purple horseshoes, and red balloons in 1975, 1984 and 1989, respectively, fulfilling an ancient prophecy hinted at in Revelations.

Connect the nine largest pieces of bread on the table and a straight line is formed. There are nine spaces on each side of a Monopoly board, not counting corner spaces, and a player travels down them in a straight line. Could the Holy Grail be buried under a little green house on Mediterranean Avenue?

ESSAGES PPER

To focus the eye on Christ, da Vinci placed three windows in the background with the largest, the middle window, directly behind His head, creating a sort of halo around Him as He beams calmly. In *Halo 2*, you can jump on the beam under the middle window around the medic hut and avoid being sniped or grenaded. Experts say this may indicate that the legendary Priory of Sion, keepers of the Holy Grail, are now working as videogame developers at Bungie Studios.

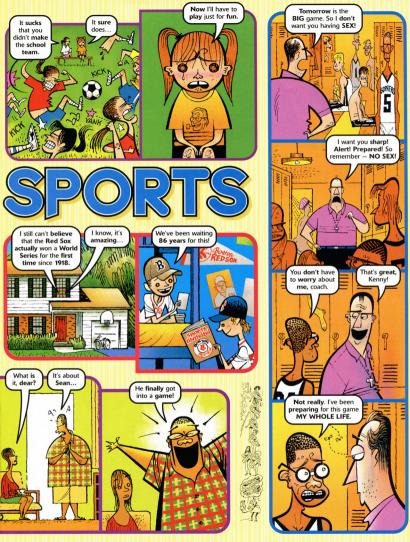
da Vinci biographers insist he did most of his painting early in the morning while thinking about what he was going to have for breakfast that day; that the ceiling of the room in which Christ and the Apostles sit resembles a waffle iron would seem to support this. Others claim that The Last Supper is an unfinished work, and that the artist painted the masterpiece over a billboard for a 15th century appliance store.

Simon The Zealot, the Apostle on the extreme right, is clearly gesturing with both hands toward Jesus, the significance of which, according to restaurant scholars, is to make sure the waiter gives Christ the check.

Thomas, the sixth apostle from the right is pointing up with his finger, indicating the correct way the posters of the Fresco were to be hung.

Look carefully at the third apostle from the right, Matthew, and note that he is swaying his arms to his side, in a move evocative of a hula dance. Various historians say this indicates that the Holy Grail may well be found hidden in a volcano on the island of Kauai; or, more likely today, in the tiki mug collection of some sad aging hipster.









Welcome to the TV phenomenon that's sweeping the world! It's the highest-rated show in its time period in over 35 third-world countries that feature only one channel of television broadcasting! So far, nearly a quarter of a billion dollars in prize money has been offered!! But thanks to the sneaky way they keep switching those "money cases" around, they've only given away. 002% of that amount!

The entire one-hour show consists of s-to-w-t-y and painfully opening 26 cases. So Judge for yourself. Is this TV show...

DULL O NOT DULL?

I'm Howdy Mudane, and I'm standing inside a set constructed of 2 X 4s. frosted Plexiglas and theatrical lighting designed to look like a high security vault! But let's face it, how much security do you need to protect 26 cardboard signs that say anything from "one penny" to 2

Tonight we will give someone in the audience the chance to pick one of these cases and take home whatever's inside! In this game there are no crazy stunts and no trivia questions! And after you see how dull it is, you'll wish that we had some crazy stunts

For the entire hour, all a contestant gets to say is "Deal" or "No deal." But those words can have a major impact on a person's life!
Last night a contestant turned down

\$178,000 cash by saying, "No deal!" She went home with just \$20! Actually, she didn't go home with anything! Her body is still swinging



WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

Cue the lights! Cue the dramatic music! This is my favorite part of the show! Seeing our 26 leggy supermodels in their sexy outfits coming on stage! It takes one minute, which means I only have to breathe life into the other 59 minutes! And trust me: It isn't easy! In order to play this game, a contestant has

to be lucky, gutsy and not easily bored!
It's time to pick our first contestant from out of our audience topicht! Welcome Adam Levil

Adam, each beautiful lady is holding a case numbered from 1 to 261 Inside those cases are 26 signs that represent various amounts of money from one penny to one million dollars! And money way, I want to be perfectly certain that you do understand that it is more to your advantage to win one million dollars than to win one penny! Is that clear?

I don't know what's in the cases, and our lovely models don't know, either! The audience doesn't know what's in the cases and the people at home don't—

I understand! I know you have to kill time, but let's play the







I know! But I picked case #9! Why did they

Er...maybe the producers felt the million dollars was in case #9 too and they didn't want to take any chances! But case #9. case #5, who cares?

really wanted the one

You know. Adam, for someone who wanted to get the game going, you're sure slowing it down!

Adam, you asked for case #9 but we brought you case #5, which you didn't want! So we fixed it by giving you case #11, and we threw out cases 9 and 5!

Threw them out?! Won't that throw the game off? Suppose one of those cases had the million dollars?

Ah, so what's the big deal? Money isn't everything! You said you liked to play games! Let's not spoil it by being greedy! Now pick a different case!





Wow, am I lucky! I picked case #17 and inside was one

penny!

Yes, it is best when you get rid of the smallest amount of money, but look at case #17 again! I brought it closer so you can see it better! It's not 1¢. it's \$100.000!

swear that was one penny when I opened it!

You're nervous! And with our tricky lighting it's easy to make a mistake like that! And it could happen again! And it probably will! Especially with the bigger amounts!

I'm now going to introduce you to a very important

person!

No. someone more important!

More important? Then it has to be the people I brought to the studio

Way more important than them! It's the guy who bought these





Welcome back from the break

We know that to many viewers the commercials are more entertaining than our game, so we had Adam continue to play! While you were watching the commercials, Adam opened six more cases! Here are the amounts left in the remaining cases!



What do those foreign amounts come to American

I don't know! Those cases were left over from all the foreign versions of this show and it seemed a waste not to use them! Let's pick - wait a minute! The phone is ringing! Do you know who that is?

Yes, it's the banker! He offers us contestants money not to go on if he thinks we'll win too much! But so far I don't seem to be on a winning streak!

That's why the banker is offering you \$2.50 to quit! No. no. wait! He's going higher! He's going all the way to \$3 if you quit now!









SUMO





















Republican - but that doesn't mean I'm some sort of mutant like the X-Men!

Do I have any blueberries stuck in my teeth? I hate the way I look when that happens!



the

He's on the loose break out bird flu vaccine!

What do you mean **Natalie Portman** already tried this gimmick in V For Vendetta?

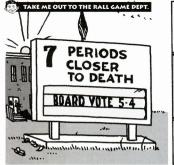


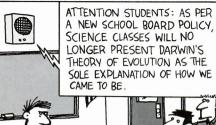
They put a guy in a wheelchair in a movie called The Last STAND what kind of insensitive bulls#\$% is that?!

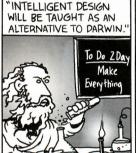


I've been sitting here for 40 minutes what good is controlling magnetism when I can't even control my own bowels?!









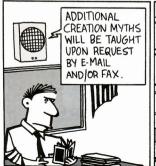
"TO BE FAIR TO OUR ASIAN STUDENTS, SO WILL THE MONGOLIAN CREATIONIST MYTH OF ULGEN TENGER."

ULGEN TENGER, RULER OF THE UPPER WORLD, ASKED A LOON— AND LATER A DUCK—TO PULLUP LAND FROM THE LOWER



"SINCE OUR CHINESE STUDENTS DON'T ADHERE TO MONGOL BELIEFS, THEY WILL BE ACCOMODATED TOO."







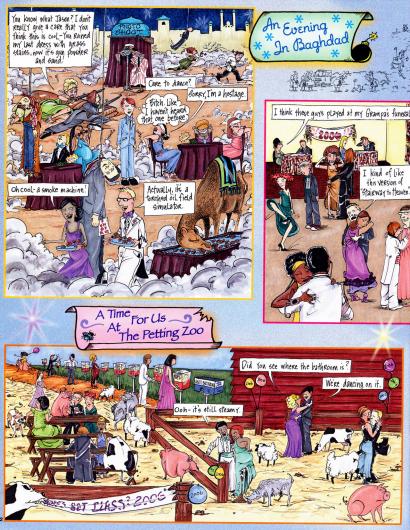
DANCE, DANCE DEVOLUTION DEPT

It's prom season!
And that means one thing —
you're probably not going!
Well, two things —
it's also time to pick a theme
for your prom! Here's a tip,
though — it's going to be
lame no matter what you
choose, so do yourself a favor
and just pick "Under the Sea"
or "Starry, Starry Night" or
somethina and steer clear of...

America's Prom Least Prom Favorite Themes











QUEER AS FOLKS DEPT.

People talk about how difficult it is to have gay parents. But that's so narrow-minded! It's difficult to have parents, PERIOD! And while parents can be great, they can also be a real pain — and gay parents are no exception, as you'll see in our insightful evaluation...

t is to have gay parents. But that's to have parents, PERIOD! And while Iso be a real pain — and gay parents our insightful evaluation... The Advantages



Advantage: Though it's not impossible, it's highly unlikely that your parents will at some point turn into Conservative Republicans.



Advantage: Having two male parents in the house means no inane lectures about leaving the toilet seat up.



Advantage: Since most religions consider them an "abomination of the Lord," most gay parents won't be nagging you to go to church.



Advantage: Your mother can't threaten you with "Wait 'til your father gets home!"



Advantage: In Liberal circles, having gay parents is the next best thing to being a downtrodden minority.



Advantage: It's a well-known statistical fact that Halloween costumes made by gay parents net 43% more candy.

Gay Parents— The Disadvantages





Disadvantage: When introducing your parents to disapproving friends, it's easy to forget which one is supposed to be your "dad" and which one is supposed to be your "live-in uncle."



Disadvantage: Not only do you have to buy two presents for Mother's Day, you also have to get Father's Day gifts for the sperm donor and the technicians at the in-vitro clinic.



Disadvantage: Your horn-dog friends won't be able to look at your mothers without fantasizing about them having sex.



Disadvantage: You think tube socks are a terrible birthday gift? Wait until you get a dozen copies of Heather Has Two Mommies.



Disadvantage: Every other kid is allowed to be ashamed of their parents, but if you are, you're labeled a homophobe.

A ▼ ED C







~ Q Search

[Favorite aircraft|Flying squirrel] [Grade 9]

[21 May|10:37am]

Planet [4]



at Evan's house, switching Jgh. I don't feel so good. spent five hours yesterday Then I came home and ri and watching



[22 May|02:58pm]





If you go onto MySpace and find this profile with my name on it, please be aware that IT IS NOT my profile! It is a fake nterests as "nose-picking, butt-scratching, playing classica rofile that my friend Chet put up. He thought it would be

lowever, rest assured that nestly, I'm as surprised as anyone to find out that Chet

[23 May|08:03pm]







[mood| 🏡 pseudo-sad]

dad said: "Your great-aunt Sophie died yesterda And I said, "Which one was she?" And my dad Oh, man. So I came down to breakfast thi aid, "Oh! You mean the mean one who alway: And my mom said, "No. That's your great-aun ${\sf Katie.}$ Sophie's the one with the cane." And ${
m I}$ norning, and my mom looked really sad, and m



she was named for our great-aunt My little sister Sophie's pretty upset —

[24 May | 05:26pm]

had everyone calling some time for all of them where they tried out sn't named "Storm" by practicing signing his name as "Slicey-Hands" able to control the weather. I bet there was

[25 May | 04:33pm]

[mood| 🔼 slightly irregular]

said, "Are you leaning over to your left?" And I said, "No." That's when we realized Sophie's funeral, because I outgrew my last one. Mom always takes me to the outlet hat the right arm was a lot shorter than the left one. Stupid irregular suit. Now I'm After school today, Mom took me to the out a bright red suit, like J

[25 May|07:12pm]

[mood| [mood]

[26 May|03:50pm]

ear as much fun as the word "party" makes it sound. I guess they were a hate textbooks. They always leave out the most important parts. oday in history class we learned about the D



he Donner Party's he best episode going on the plains. The notorious Donner Party found itself stranded During the era of Manifest Destiny, many pioneers found it hard for a winter, leading them to turn to cannibalism.

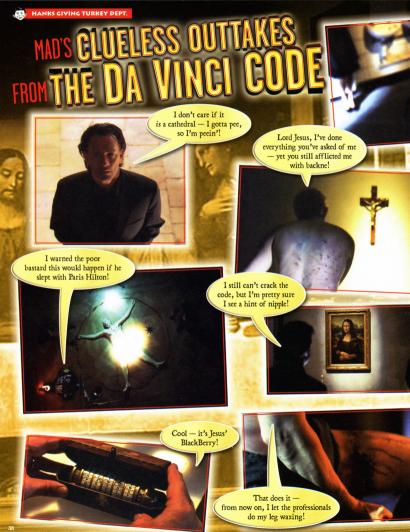
tuation would ave made for

[27 May|03:02pm]

[mood| | relieved]

can't say that at a funeral. So everyone pretended to be 'd ever seen him. He spent the whole funeral licking nonstop and hit her terrier with her cane and was







READER SERVICE SECTION

HI

THE CATEST STUEE MOU MAN (OR MAY NOT) WANT TO CHASE DOWN



LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER: LEGEND

The Hype: Lara Croft is presented like never before with new graphic and animation sets, depicting Lara in the finest fidelity to date. Follow Lara as she travels the globe in search of one of history's greatest artifacts. With guns blazing, Lara must use her athletic ability and intellectual wits to explore vast, treacherous tombs, riddled with challenging puzzles and deadly traps.

The Snipe: Right. Like it's her "intellectual wits" that everyone is impressed by.

What they're impressed by might rhyme with wits, but that's about as close as it gets.





SKATEROARDERS' ART

TO WATERHOUSE AND DAVID PENHALLOW Watson-Guptill • \$19.95 • 128 pages • April

The Hype: Be a part of the streetwise revolution in art and see how this book brings together a variety of skateboard art and features the hottest artists in the medium. You'll find commentary on each artist and examples of their work.

The Snipe: Hev. we have bloodstains and caked-on hair on our board - does that count as art??

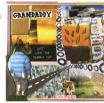
JUST LIKE THE FAMBLY CAT MUSIC GRANDADDY

V2 Records • May 9

The Hype: Grandaddy calls it quits with this, their fourth album, Frontman Jason Lytle says the title refers to how. when cats get sick, they'll iust quietly disappear and is a metaphor for the hand's denarture

The Snipe: Cats quietly disappear when they get sick? Really? Ours not only sticks around, but rainhs all over the couch.

ONE FINE STOOGE



13 0 0 K

ONE FINE STOOGE: A FRIZZY LIFE IN PICTURES STEVE COX AND

IIM TERRY umberland House • \$24.95 • 320 pages • April The Hype: It's the life story of Larry Fine — the original frizzy-

haired member of the classic comedy team The Three Stoones. The Snipe: Nyuck, nyuck,

nyuck - doink!

(D|V|D

TOMMY LEE GOES TO COLLEGE

Image Entertainment • April 25 The Hype: The University of Nebraska at Lincoln welcomes a new student to its campus notorious Mötley Crüe rocker Tommy Lee! Twice divorced and the single father of two boys. this fish-out-of-water flounders as he faces the same challenges as any normal freshman including finding a roommate. trying out for the marching band and cramming for finals.

The Snipe: It's too bad none of Tommy Lee's finals involved steering a boat — he could pass that exam with both hands tied hehind his hack!



ROGUE TROOPER

The Hype: Rogue, a biologically-engineered clone troop is determined to hunt down the traitor general who sent his brothers-in-arms to their deaths. Roque's arsenal includes encoded bio-chips containing the digitized personalities of his fallen comrades, which are implanted in his gun (Gunnar), helmet (Helm) and backnack (Bagman), and each offer their full military experience at the player's fingertips.

The Snipe: So, if his backpack is named Bagman. his gun is named Gunnar, and his helmet is named Helm, we can only quess what part of his uniform is named Private Inhasan





BOOK SPORTS OFF-CENTER SAYITAINTSO.COM PRESENTS

A SCRAPROOK OF MODERN SPORTS CHLTHRE

KEN WIDMANN AND DAN APPEL SPORTS

OFF-CENTER . COMPROOK OF MODERN SPORTS CULTURE **New Dress Code**

Three Rivers Press • \$14.95 • 75 pages • May

The Hype: This spoof of today's sports scene (from hasehall and football to chess and video fishing) captures the nuances and foibles of our sports-obsessed culture.

The Snipe: Great, just what we need - The Onion in a lock strap!

DVD

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE

THE BEST OF COMMERCIAL PARODIES

The Hype: From subtle to outrageous, silly to realistic, commercial parodies have

been one of the signatures of Saturday Night Live since its creation. Now you can enjoy favorites like "Colon Blow." "Oons I Cranned My Pants" and "Schmitt's Gay" again and again.

The Snipe: Given the phenomenal success of Brokehack Mountain, there's probably a deal already in the works to market Schmitt's Gay for real!



Featuring:

ON SALE NOW

PLUS: An Exclusive nterview with





MUSIIC

STADIUM ARCADIUM

RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS Warner Bros. Music • May 9

The Hype: The Chili Peppers set out to make a simple 13-song rock album - but after unexpectedly recording 38 tracks, they toyed with the idea of releasing three albums. In the end, they picked the best 25 songs for this long-awaited double-CD.

The Snipe: It's a shame that all artists don't whittle down their CDs to only the best stuff — the next Black Eyed Peas album would clock in at 80 seconds, tops!



GAME

METROID HUNTERS

The Hype: A mighty race known as the Alimbics, now extinct, has left behind relics of

their once-powerful warrior culture. Now bounty hunters from across the galaxy are racing against each other to lay claim to these relics to harness their power for themselves. Samus Aran's mission is to keep the ultimate power from falling into the wrong hands.

The Snipe: Too late, Dick Cheney's already got it.





ON SALE NOW!

COMEDY EN GARDE, SOCIETY!

The Hype: Recorded live at Piano's in New York City in October of 2005. En Garde. Society! is Mirman's second full-length solo comedy album (with DVD supplement) and his first for Sub Pop Records.

The Snine: En Garde, Society!: a threatening message towards the U.S. - that's in French, t'boot?



GAME

IIM CRAWFORD AND GREGORY BLUM

Rizzoli/Universe • \$22.50 • 224 pages • April The Hype: Get a look at the coolest and most coveted collectible toys being made today. Using images and interviews with the artists, see how this has grown into a worldwide phenomenon,

The Snipe: Stop playing with that toy and put it on a nice, safe shelf somewhere - it may become a collectible!



METAL GEAR SOLID: AMERICAN DAD! DIGITAL GRAPHIC NOVEL VOLUME ONE

The Hype: From the creative minds behind Family Guy comes American Dad!, featuring CIA operative Stan Smith, his outrageous family and Roger, the alcoholic extraterrestrial who lives with them. Whether it's rigging elections, erasing memories, casing sleazy strip clubs

or staging "burn fights," it's all in a day's work for Stan.

The Snine: With the sad

state of the CIA right now even the most outrageous American Dad! plotlines seem tame by comparison!



BARREL FUNNEL, 2-GALLON WIRTHCO

The Hype: E-Z UZ Smart 2-gallon non-tipping barrel funnel prevents overfilling of standard 30- and 55-gallon drums. 2 in. NPS non-seizing brass threads affix funnel to drum A vent tube controls backsplash and promotes faster draining. Made of durable chemical-resistant polyethylene. Height above barrel is 11 1/2 in. Includes an attached cover when not in use. Mfg Warranty: 12 months parts/12 months labor.

The Snipe: A labor warranty on a funnel? What, do they have you call funnel support and put you on hold while you wait to talk to a funnel tech in India?

Classic Spoots of

THE POSEIDON ADVENTURE

Plus:

HOWARD STERM! SPY US. SPY! AND MUCH MORE!





The Hype: Compiling the previously released Metal Gear Solid comic book series, Metal Gear Solid: Digital Graphic Novel includes dramatic

animations and sound effects. As viewers progress through the story,

points of interest. As they discover hidden content, they will complete

they can scan the pages using the PSP's analog stick to uncover

the Metal Gear matrix and unlock additional multimedia content.

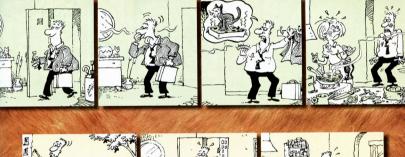
The Snipe: Comic books on PSP? What's next, MAD Magazines

on DVD? (How's that for a shameless plug?)

















SLINGING A DIFFERENT TUNE DEPT.

Here's your problem: You have a "creative gift" inside straining to get out and American Idol could be your ticket to stardom, except for one thing: you can't sing. In fact, your voice sounds like William Hung getting his epiglottis caught in a rotating ceiling fan.

But that's no reason to give up. Well, it's okay to give up on singing, because you suck. But you can still be part of the recording, management and merchandising conglomerate that locks up the contestants' names and likenesses into contractual servitude until the year 2076 (aka "the American Ido! family").

if you can crack the code of what makes an American Ido! song work, you can make a ton of money in the business and experience the thrill of watching some arm-failing lounge act wannabe get all the credit!

Of course, it takes hard work to write a hit like Fantasia's *I Believe*. Do you have what it takes to come up with this kind of compelling lyrics:



1. START AT THE BEGINNING OF THE START

Top songwriters avoid cliches, and work hard to give their lyrics a fresh spin. Don't fall into that trap!

American Idol viewers don't want to encounter any emotion, concept, or image that they're not familiar with. There's a reason McDonald's doesn't put tarragon on their Big Macs.

Take something you already know they like, and use your imagination to tweak it just enough to not get sued.







2. GET METEOROLOGICAL

Only agoraphobic shut-ins have the time to vote 600 times on toll-free hotlines. And all they know about life is what they see through the window. So concentrate on the weather. Give them descriptions of the rain, stars, dawn and clouds. You'll probably want to skip over the slush, sandstorms and nor'easters.



3. HIGHER THE HANDICAPPED

American Idol ballads are fanatically devoted to height, whether it's lifting me up, soaring up above, or rising like the highest star. Please remember that, in contradiction to the previous 40 years of popular music, the word "higher" may only refer to the noble elevation of the human spirit. The only pharmaceutical that suits American Idol purposes is the Botox that keeps Paula Abdul's encouraging smile from drooping.



4. A NIGHTMARE ON FOX-TV: THE DREAM WARRIORS

Seen one way, American Idol is all about making dreams come true. Every hit song they release includes lyrics about dreaming dreamers and their dreamy dreams, up to and including the simultaneous double-release of "Inside Your Heaven." Both Carrie Underwood and Bo Bice swore to someone that "all my dreams are in your eyes." We don't know who they're singing to, except that it raises the skeevy notion of a Carrie Underwood-Bo Bice threeway.

> guzzling goth. So why do dreams play such a central part in the lyrics? It's because American Idol song-

writers knock this crap out in their sleep!



But we're sure a few hard raps to the side of her skull

will shake them loose.

49

5. CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS \$#!970?

The white trash demographic that supports American Idol isn't too big on "owning," or "investing." But "believing" is something in their price range.

American Idol loves to sell believing. And once you can overlook the small detail of a hope-crushing elimination tourney that creates 6,000 losers for every winner, it's all about believing in yourself! And by "success," of course we mean...well, anything.



I believe in myself, so

6. LOWER THE MUSICAL BAR

Always be sure to write for your core audience of hopeless wannabes. Their prospects are low, so set your lyrical sights even lower. Listen to the hit singles of Kelly Clarkson, Carrie Undenwood and Josh Gracin. Settle for "A moment like this." "Every bit of air you're breathin," "The ground beneath me."

Anything simple, inexpensive, and totally meaningless will do. After all, you're not appealing to discriminating aesthetes here. The fans who love this music are the kind of people who still talk about the unbelievable gourmet meal they had four years ago at the Rainforest Cafe.

WALMART

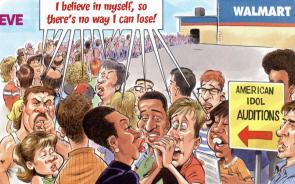
These kinds of listeners are going to put themselves inside the song. So, be realistic! Here are some of the mundane themes that those human wrecks MIGHT have a shot at achieving:



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7. THE TEMPLATE OF BOILERPLATE

Many catchy songs are beloved for their intricate lyrical structures and witty rhyming skills. But can any of them measure up to the Clay Aiken classic that ends with "I would be the smartest man / If I was invisible / Wait, I already am"? No chance!

Study the technique in Clay's song, and learn from it. There's an internal rhyme. Well, there would be, if "man" rhymed with "am." Then there's the use of iambs, a poetic rhuthm which mimics the sullabic flow of speech, or at least until that falls apart in the second line. Then there's the obvious thematic connection between intelligence and invisibility...okay, this isn't going anywhere.

The only rule is, there are no rules! (Except the rule whereby you sign away your copyrights to American Idol's publishing division.)

8. THE PERFECT **ALL-PURPOSE AMERICAN IDOL HIT SINGLE**

Oddly enough, no American Idol song has followed each and every one of the above rules. Until now.

We've taken the liberty of writing a hit song that includes EVERY ingredient for success. It can't miss! And we look forward to hearing this surefire classic blasting out of the mouth of Ace, or Ayla, or Bucky, or Snapper, or Trixie, or Goober or whichever interchangeable automaton wins the game this time. Call us. Simon!

WHEN YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU BELIEVE

Like a rat without his fleas, or a Whopper with no cheese I'm incomplete Like hockey with no brawl, or a bladder with no gall

I taste defeat

Lift yourself up high, from the stinkpit that you see you're not really alive, until you're on TV

When you believe that you can believe That's when you start believing When you sing what they tell you to sing **Uou'd better do some deep breathing**

Dreamers' dreams aren't just a dream If you can really fly

Gibberish can sound deep if you sing it extra (ee-uigh-ee-ui-ui-eeee-igh-igh-igh-eeee)

Keep looking for the rainbow and find that golden pot

Hey, what better option has a feebstain like you got?

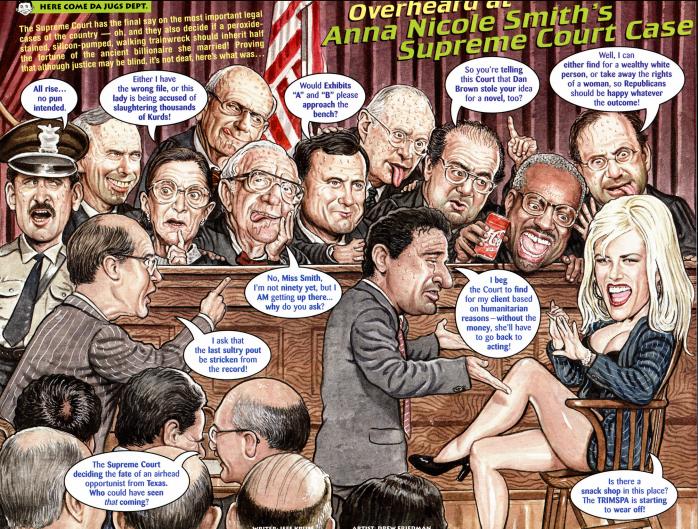
Hold onto your heart, in a metaphorical way Leave your lungs alone, inside your chest they should stay you'll need them to scream, and make all of your dreams come true By crushing the losers, whose dreams were identical to you

(Repeat chorus)

Did you ever know that heaven had a hotline? Or that the heart's a muscle filled with nerve? Did you realize you're allowed to vote a hundred times? Cause 1-800 lines aren't just for pervs and our country gets the stars that it deserves

(Repeat chorus) (Repeat chorus) (Repeat chorus) (Repeat chorus) (Repeat chorus) (Repeat chorus)





THIS COMING MAY, WHAT GROUP OF MUTANTS WILL YOU BE SEEING IN EVERY MULTIPLEX?

MAD FOLD - IN

The blockbuster movie season is upon us and everyone's flocking to theaters to take in the latest spectacles. There is one group, however, that's sure to stand out at the cinema. To find out who this group of misfits is, fold page in as shown.

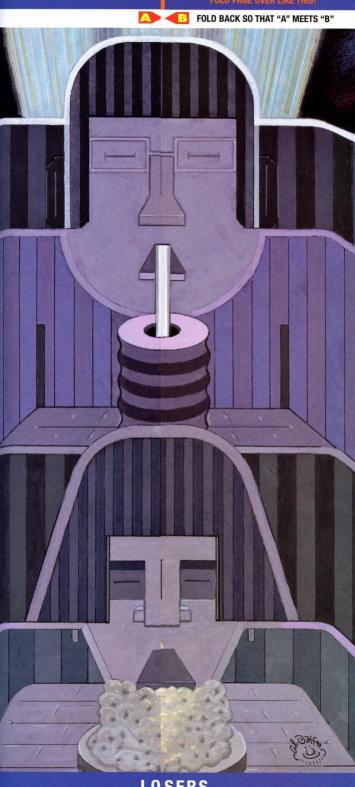


FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

LOCAL THEATERS ARE PACKED. TICKET PURCHASERS
SETTLE INTO SEATS AND START GORGING
ON POPCORN AND SODA. ON SCREEN, MUTANTS FROM
NEAR AND FAR FILL VIEWERS WITH PURE DELIGHT

THIS COMING MAY, WHAT GROUP OF **MUTANTS WILL** YOU BE SEEING IN **EVERY MULTIPLEX?**





LOSERS

ON PROM **N.IGHT**

