



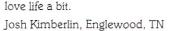


#### ALFRED LOOK-A-LIKE

GESUNDHEIT

Take a look at this joker (Jackson Guy). Can you believe that this guy goes to my church? I thought that anyone who looked like of Alfred would be banned from anything with any kind of religious affiliation. I thought I would take a picture of him and send it in to see if I could get a one-year subscription, even if it might ruin his future love life a bit.

Kimbaland — Good score getting this Alfred Look-A-Like snap. But there's something we're dying to find out - how could a loving and benevolent God allow one of his creations to go through life looking like Alfred? This is one that will stump Biblical scholars for years to come! Congrats on your one-year subscription, though! -Ed.



The part I was reading was the Letters to the Editor (my favorite part). After finishing this section, a very strange thought came to my mind. All of the letters and responses seemed so perfectly thought-out, so my idea was that my favorite section was fake! Is it true, or am I just another schmuck that reads your magazine?

Josh Drubin, Derwood, MD

Drubin Donuts - If we made up the letters, don't you think we'd do better than your moronic scribblings? -Ed.

#### WEDDED DISS

WRITE OR WRONG

There was just a really big storm two days ago and it knocked out the

power. As a result of this, school was closed for the day. Luckily, I had

just received my new issue of MAD and while all of my friends were out having fun, I was inside my house reading MAD with a flashlight.

Izzy Grinspan and Andy Selsberg sent in this photo of their MAD-tainted wedding. What's crazy about this picture is that the issue of MAD isn't the most embarrassing part — that honor goes to the "just rolled out of bed" look of Andy! What happened, buddy? You couldn't spruce yourself up for your special day? Was the barber college closed? Did you come straight from the shelter? We can't see by the picture, but we're betting even money that you're sporting a pair of cut-offs! In other news, we noticed that you're holding the Narnia issue. If you like tales of outlandish fantasy, here's another one you'll also enjoy you're going to have a long and happy marriage!





## THE BIG TEACHER'S PET PART DEUX

Recently, in MAD #491, I wrote you a letter saying how Mr. Faris loves MAD magazines and that I brought them to school for him to read (since he was my history teacher). Well, once I showed him that I got his name in the magazine, he laughed his head off. At the end of my school year, he gave me some old MAD magazines. They were MAD Special #24, MAD from Winter, Summer and Fall of 1982 and MAD's Sergio Aragones on Parade #1 from 1979. 5 issues! Thanks, guys!

Matthew Zarr, Fountain Valley, CA

P.S. If you're reading this, Mr. Faris, I want you to know you're the coolest teacher ever.

When You Wish Upon A Zarr — Don't give Mr. Faris the "Teacher of the Year" award just yet. We're betting those issues have been sitting on his recycling pile for the last 30 years and you're just saying him a trip to the dump! You'll know for sure if, next year, he brings you in a bunch of empty Snapple bottles! -Ed.



WIN A TRIP TO

JEINATE CONVENTION TO EVERYTHING Enter for your change in mange. For complete sweenstakes rules and entry details visit us at

Rolling Street States Interest of the State of the State



www.viz.com

<sup>\*</sup> NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Must be a legal resident of the 50 United States, DC or Canada (excluding Quebec) and 13 years of age or older to enter.





#### HOLY CRAP!

I recently preached a sermon entitled, "What, Me Worry," in which I fondly recalled my youth and MAD magazine. It's probably been 45 years since I read it on a regular basis. As a result, one of my parishioners bought me the current issue. I enjoyed reading it very much and realized how important MAD had been to the development of my sense of humor. I'll be looking in on it on a more regular basis once again. Keep up the good work.

Rev. John R. Haas, Saskatchewan, Canada

Who's the Haas? — You gave a sermon entitled "What, Me Worry?" After that blasphemous chestnut, we're looking forward to your next sermon: "I'm Really Sorry, Please Accept My Resignation!" On the upside, your firing will give you plenty of time to "look in" on MAD in the future. —Ed.

#### STRANGE BET-FELLOWS

I bet my friend fifteen dollars that if you printed this letter you would begin your response with "Simon and Garfinkle —". So please, print this letter so I can settle this bet!

Abigail Garfinkle, Austin, TX

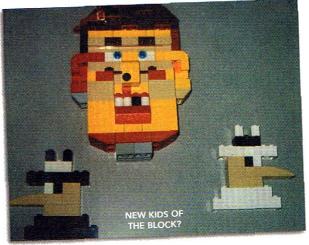
Finkle Finkle Little Star — We're happy to settle the bet. You lose! —Ed.

#### THE BIG EASEL

Although I have seen many interesting artistic Alfreds in The Big Easel, I have never seen a Lego Alfred. Well, luckily I have tons of Legos which helped me produce a Lego Alfred E. Neuman along with Lego Spy Vs. Spy creations. It may not be produce material but at least it is good enough for your magazine!

Daniel Mardirosian, Denver, CO

Life of the Mardi — This may be our favorite "Big Easel" entry of all time – just because in only a few minutes, it can be taken completely apart! No fuss, no muss and (most importantly) no record that your sculpture ever existed! We did like that your Alfred looked like it was created by Don Martin, though! —Ed.

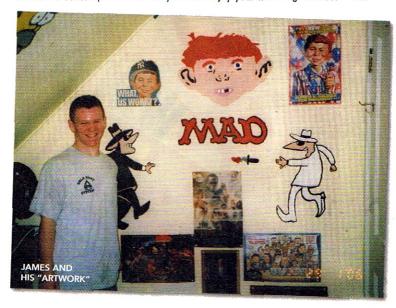


#### MAD FAN OF THE MONTH

My Mom told me to paint my room...so I did.

James Nolan, Windsor, VT

Nolan For Dollars — What you failed to mention is that the paint job was requested in order to cover up the Hello Kitty mural! Enjoy your fresh nightmares! —Ed.



#### PICTURE IMPERFECT

First off, thank you for creating countless issues full of hilarity. So, everyday instead of going to school at the normal time (1st period), I go early (0 period). Therefore I get out one period early (5th period instead of 6th). When I leave school every day (along with everyone else who leaves early) I have to show my school I.D. to security in order to prove that I get to leave. However, due to a bad I.D. picture, I printed out a picture of Alfred E. Neuman and placed it over my original picture. For the first couple of weeks when I showed security my I.D., I moved the picture of Alfred out of the way. Then one day I thought I'd test out my "Alfred I.D." on my hypocritical, over-powered school security, and to my great pleasure they didn't even say anything but the word "Go"! I continued to do this and to this day they haven't said anything to me. Is this a sign of Alfred's undiscovered power, or does my school security consist of a bunch of high school dropouts who can't tell the difference between me and the dorky-looking Alfred E. Neuman?

Vinnie Klement, La Mirada, CA

Vinnie Mouse — Please don't make us choose! We've got a hunch that it's probably both of those factors at work: your school security guards are idiots AND you're a big dork. Just curious, if you show up before 0 period, does that make it -1st period? —Ed.

#### WHAT, MEOW WORRY?

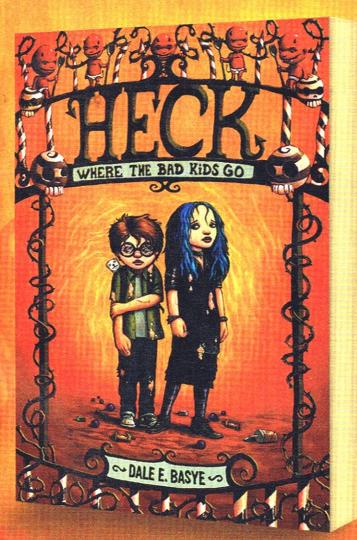
It would be very cool if you had a whole issue dedicated to cats. I mean, I know a lot of kids that buy books, magazines and coloring books, etc. just because there's a cute, cuddly, fluffy kitten on the cover. Plus, it's about to be my cat Peppers' birthday and I wanted to surprise him by putting his most famous picture in your infamous magazine!

Yahawa Ashagua, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Ashaqua Teen Hunger Force — When we did our all-monkey issue (MAD #488), we considered a number of other animals as the focal point, including roosters, South African tree frogs and your cat Peppers! In the end, we just didn't think there was enough material to put Peppers in the spotlight. We only came up with one article idea that Peppers could have written — "A MAD Look at Secretly Hating Your Moronic Owner, Yahawa Ashaqua"! Better luck next year, Peppers — providing you're not on your ninth life already! —Ed.

## HECK

WHERE THE BAD KIDS GO.





Welcome to Heck,
where the souls of the darned toil
for all eternity, or until they turn 18,
whichever comes first. . .

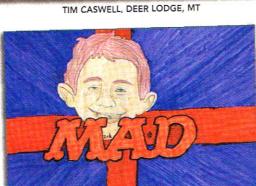
#### THE BIG FLAG

Back in MAD #491, we asked readers to send in their designs for an official MAD flag. Here are some of the many submissions we received. They're all very different, but they do have one thing in common — they all make us strongly believe in flag burning!





EMILY BOOKSTEIN, LA JOLLA, CA



UNITED WE'RE MAD

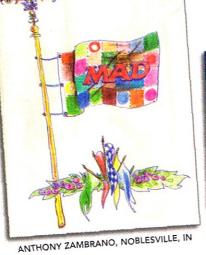
MICHAEL SCHNELL, MANITOWOC, WI



EMIL BUBALA TUCSON, AZ



ED MEISINGER, MENDOTA HEIGHTS, MN



DALADMADMAD MADMADMADMADMAU MADMADMADMADMA

KYLE MONK, FARGO, ND



DEVON THORNE, ERIE, CO

#### NIFTY FIFTY CELEBRITY SNAPS™

Going to Washington D.C. for the ACLU "Stand Up for Freedom" conference was cool. Getting to see Supreme Court Justices, Arianna Huffington and other important political figures was cooler. But coolest of all was successfully comering Kal "Kumar" Penn for a photo — he was there to speak on a panel and was only mildly shocked to find out he is on the MAD Nifty Fifty™ list. Since I totally abandoned all semblance of professional reserve to get this picture, can I count on a three-year subscription to MAD?

Amy Miller, Lincoln, NE

It's Miller Time — You WOULD have gotten a three-year subscription, if you had a picture of Kal actually holding the issue! Since *you're* holding it, you'll have to settle for a one-year sub. What were you smoking?!? —Ed.



#### MIND THE GENERATION GAP

I am 12 years old and I have been reading MAD for almost a year. I've never subscribed to MAD. I just buy it every month. It was introduced to me first while I was in a local CVS with my mom. I saw an issue and I asked my mom what it was, she then explained to me and I became interested. I then asked her to buy me an issue. While I was reading it, my grandfather came to visit. As he walked by, he recognized it as a MAD magazine. It turns out, he read MAD when he was about my age! We then talked about MAD for hours until he had to go home. Thank you MAD for allowing families to have something to laugh about!

The Robicheaux Must Go On — Usually this is where we make a snarky comment, but your letter warmed the cockles of our heart! Do you have any idea how cold our cockles normally are? They're freezing! Thank you for your sweet liftle missive — we're sorry to hear about the mental

illness that obviously runs in your family! -Ed.

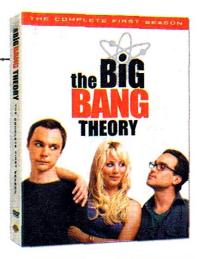
Miles Robicheaux, New Iberia, LA

#### SOUVENIR-SIGHTED

Last week I was returning home from a trip when I realized I didn't have a gift for my husband. So, I stopped into a book store and there on the magazine rack, front and center was MAD magazine! It was like a prophecy! The perfect gift for my husband! Also, I thought it would give him something more interesting to do than watching TV. Actually the truth is...I bought him MAD because I wanted to read it. Since it has been probably 20-30 years since I read MAD, I was curious to see if it was as stupid now as it was back then. Hey, it's even more stupid!

Victoria Salvati, Houston, TX

Trader Vic — Wow! You can't believe MAD's gotten even stupider in the last three decades? We get the feeling your husband's gonna be thinking the same thing about you on your 30th anniversary! —Ed.



#### READER ALERT

Those lucky enough to have their missives printed in this month's Letters Page will receive The Big Bang Theory: The Complete First Season on DVD courtesy of our friends at Warner Home Video. To those that didn't make it, don't get your particles in a twist, it's on sale September 2nd!



COMING UP IN MAD #494, ON SALE SEPTEMBER 16!

THE 50 WORST
THINGS ABOUT THE
INTERNET!

COMING UP IN MAD CLASSICS #23: ON SALE SEPTEMBER 16!

REALITY TV, ELECTIONS AND BASEBALL!



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John Ficarra editor

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Amy Vozeolas, Dave Croatto associate editors

Dick DeBartolo creative consultant

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Doug Thomson production artist

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### CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS the usual gang of idiots

#### FOR SUBSCRIPTION QUESTIONS:

Go to the MAD website! All you need is your name and zip code to renew, change your address, give a gift subscription, check your account balance and expiration dates or to request a missing issue. Just go to www.madmag.com or call 1-800-4MADMAG (U.S. and Canada only) or write to P.O. Box 421800, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1800! Please DO NOT phone, write, fax or e-mail our New York office — we're too dumb to help you here!

#### **HOW TO REACH US:**

Please Address Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 493, 1700 Broadway New York, New York, 10019. Or e-mail us at letters@madmagazine.com

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

MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

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

WAYS TO AVOID PAYING TO CHECK A SUITCASE WHEN YOU FLY

Dress in layers. Wearing 8 pairs of underwear, 4 pairs of pants, 6 shirts and 3 jackets means one less suitcase to check. Not only will you save money, but if you're hit by a car, it just may save your life!

Buy a large umbrella and fill it with all your toiletries, small electronic and snacks. But remember. don't open it! It's bad luck to open an umbrella on an airplane!





Take a page from Colombian drug mules. (Note: If you're a heavy packer, you might start swallowing a few days prior to your departure.)

calvinad Jobs



I'D SAY, BUT WHAT ABOUT "THANKS, YOU ALL THE PEOPLE PATHETIC, WHO BOUGHT THE FIRST ONE AND TREND-CHASING NOW ? WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO THEM?







"IS HE ... IS HE ..."

	IN	FIVE MINUTES AGO	OUT
THE GODFREY	Fleets	Armadas	Flotillas
REPORT	Shacks	Huts	Shanties
	Balderdash	Poppycock	Piffle



#### This Month **MILEY CYRUS**

Genetic achy breaky heart defect..... ....2:1

Fatal complications from experimental Disney drugs to keep her a teenager forever.....4:1

Suicide after going insane from untreated Miley/Hannah Montana split-personality disorder...10:1

Murdered after jealous Nickelodeon execs take out a contract hit on her......15:1

Late-onset pneumonia from baring her upper back at Vanity Fair photo shoot.....50:1

## **LOST AND FOUND PETS**



valuable, so I'm keeping him. Don't Call 555-4474

## THE CASE OF THE MISSING BUDGIE

Petey vanished last Sunday at 12 noon, in the pouring rain, three people in area at the time: one saw nothing, another saw a bird fly into Post Office building, the third found a green feather in the bushes. One of them is lying. Do you know who?

**SOLUTION ON PAGE D-17** 

## LOST ROOSTER "Pepe"

Escaped from weird-looking temple at 7th & Sycamore on the 18th, Pepe is a beloved member of our family we must find. Need for ritual before the next full moon!

www.churchofbeelzebub.com



They're ruining my apartment. 555-0888

LARGE RATS Please claim soon.

**DREGSLIST** "DISSED CONNECTIONS"

new york dregslist > manhattan > dissed connections

Please report suspected exploitation of minors to the appropriate authorities

#### Gym rat – w4m

Reply to: pers-23459827@dregslist.org Date: 2008-08-18

We met at the gym, around 1:30. You: Angelina Jolie lookalike - which, by the way, I find a little disturbing in a man. Me: 400 lb. sexy lady who dropped barbell on your foot and spilled Gatorade on your shorts. It was an accident! Sorry! Let's meet for brunch.

· no, it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests. What are you, stupid?

#### lovely in white

Reply to: pers-09345897878@dregslist.org

I saw you early afternoon outside St. Patrick's Cathedral. You were the stunning 5'10" goddess in the long white dress and veil at some sort of religious cermony. Let's get in touch!

· no, it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests, except for that Nigerian deal offering millions of dollars.

#### tick, tick, tick - w4m - 41

Reply to: pers-56343497795233@dregslist.org

You were that guy with hair of some sort of color and length, wearing a shirt. I was the desperate, middle-aged woman walking down some sidewalk. You may not have even seen me. I want to marry you.

- · this is in or around NYC.
- · yes, it's ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests. People like this are desperate for any kind of human contact.

zoo guy - m4w - 23

Reply to: <u>pers-93634779553234@dregslist.org</u> DATE: 2008-08-16

I saw you at the Zoo recently; you were late thirties, telling a little kid how cute the koala bear was. Well they aren't bears. They're marsupials, and not even that closely related to bears. That's about all I wanted to say.

· Oh, sure it's ok to send this poster all sorts of spam. Just go ahead and ruin the Internet for everyone,

## THEFUNDALINIPAGES

#### ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S "IMPOSSIBLE COIN TOSS CONUNDRUM"

The coin must be flipped so that it lands on edge, showing neither heads nor tails. Not possible, you say? Exactly. Check the name of the puzzle again, genius!

> **NEXT MONTH:** "The Inescapable Maze"!

#### TIPS FOR COPING WITH A HEAT WAVE

Continually whine about how hot it is. Evidently, many people think this works.

You can't go wrong with Gatorade. Is it in you? (This line brought to you by Gatorade)

> Check with your local cryogenics lab and see if they offer a 3-month plan.

If you're asleep, you won't notice the heat. A handful of Tylenol PM in the morning should keep you in sweet dreams until the evening, when it finally cools down.



Hey genius, how about turning on the air conditioner?

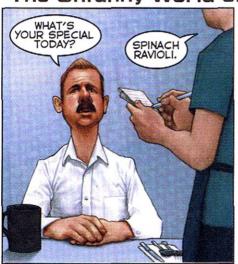
Go to the supermarket and put frozen goods down the front of your shirt, but make it clear to the security quard that you plan to put them back or he may get the wrong idea.

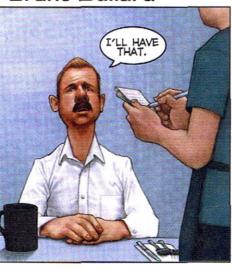
Let your dog drive while you put your head out the window, for once.

Take an ice-cold shower lasting up to 90 minutes. (Hev. this isn't "Tips on Saving Water")

### REJECTED COMIC STRIPS

#### The Unfunny World of Grant Dullard





#### **AMNESIA COP**



"Do you know why I pulled you over, sir? Because, frankly, I can't remember myself."

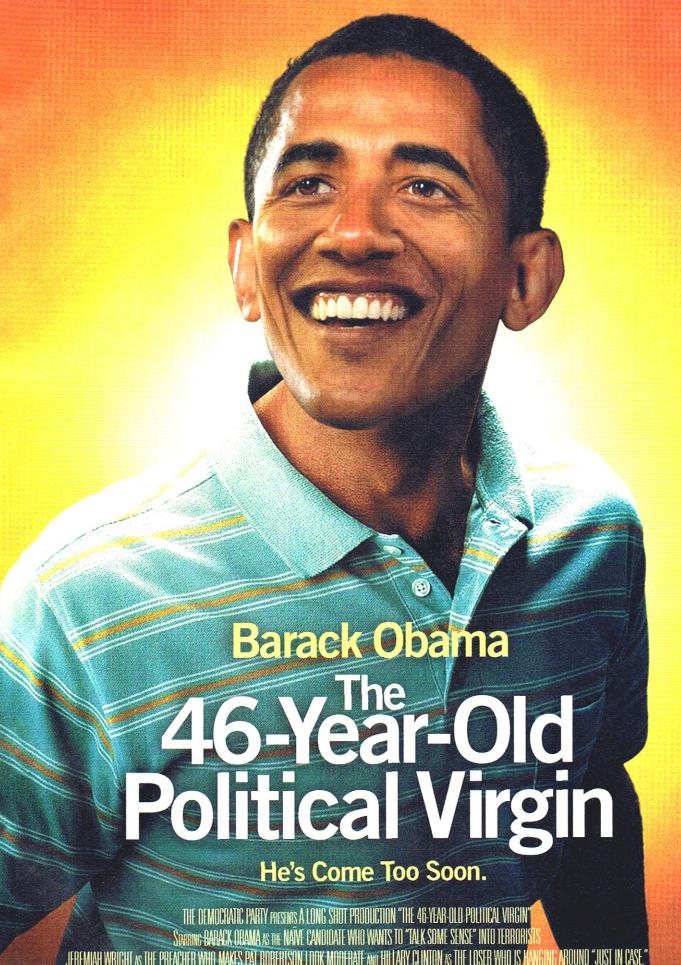
#### DON SEQUITUR











BASED SEASON ONE OF "24"

MAD POLITICAL POSTER



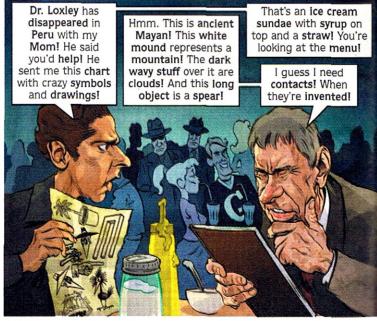


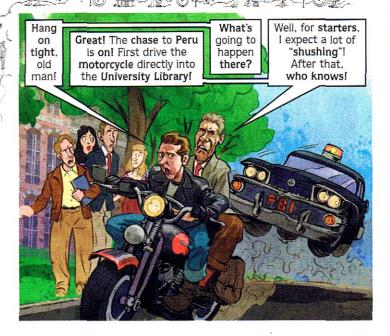


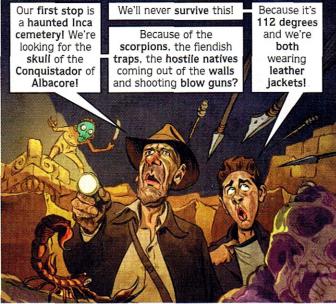




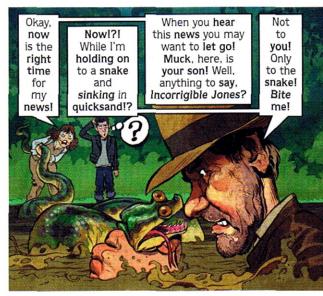






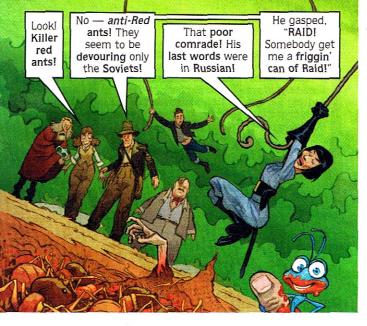


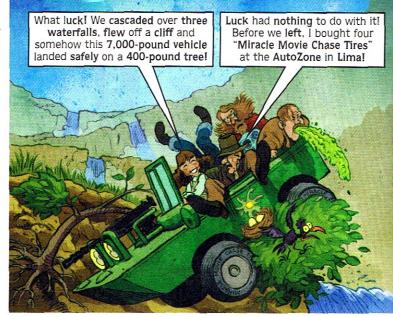














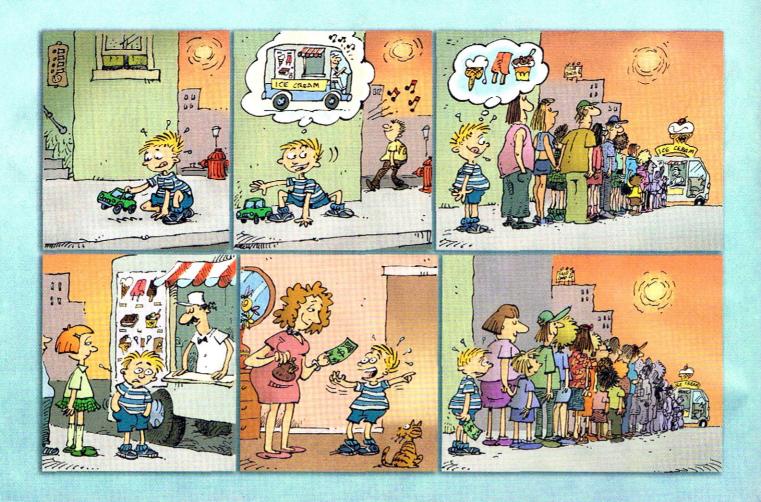


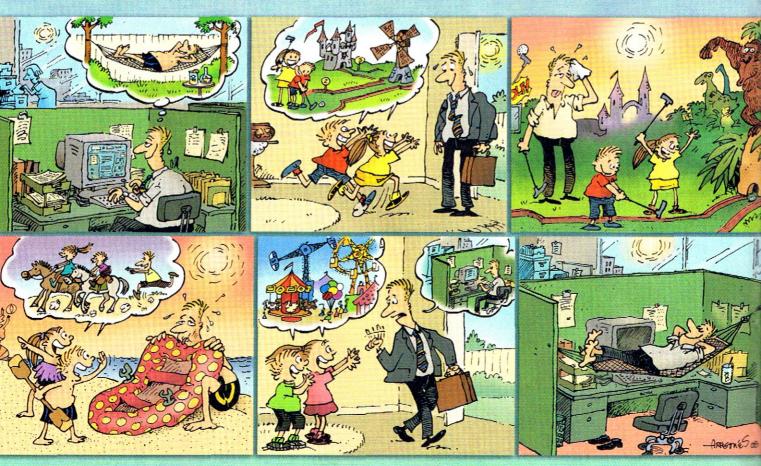












## MILLIONS OF TREES

GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THESE BOOKS.

DON'T LET THEIR DEATHS BE IN VAIN!



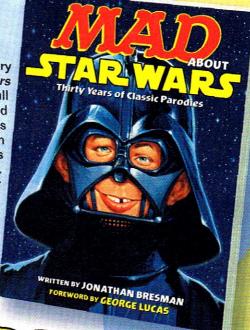
Over 200 Spy Vs. Spy strips, many in full color, by Peter Kuper! Plus a complete collection of rare Spy Vs. Spy newspaper strips, Spy Vs. Spy Jr., and much, much more! Written by former MAD Editor David Shayne.

Published by Watson-Guptill Publications.

NOW!

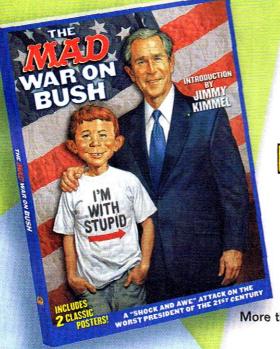
MAD Star Wars article! Chock full of annotations and ON SALE behind-the-scenes memories from both MAD artists and writers and Lucasfilm veterans. Written by MAD Senior Editor and former Lucasfilm lackey Jonathan Bresman. Published by Del Rey Books. ON SALE NOW!

Virtually every



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

#### **ON SALE NOW!**

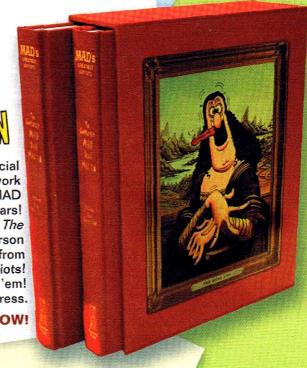


GREATEST ARTISTS

## The Completely MAD DON MARTIN

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

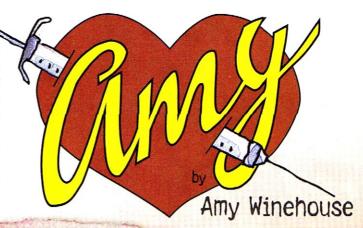
ON SALE NOW!





CRACK IS AACK! DEPT.

For years, cartoonist Cathy Guisewite has chronicled the trials and tribulations of Cathy, a young woman in constant conflict with her parents, her boyfriend, her shopping habits and her cottage cheese thighs. But as with most things, the world moves on and the anguish over whether to buy another pair of sandals pales when compared with some of the problems confronting many of today's young women. Mainly, one young rocker who, no, no, no, just won't go to rehab. Here's a new strip that won't be coming to your local newspaper...



















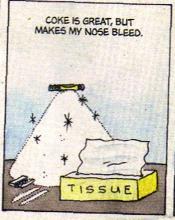












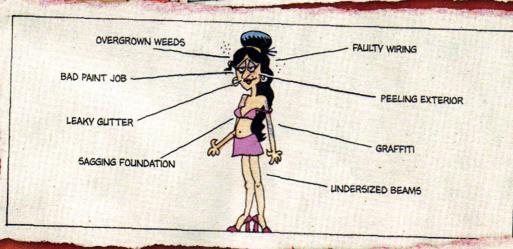






































http://www.galaxyo'blogs.com/planettad

Planet TAD!!!!!







#### [About Me]

[Name|Tad] [Age|176 months] [Favorite planet|Uranus]

#### [3 August|01:19pm]



[mood| sympathetic]

Today on TV, I saw a guy say that a goldfish has a memory span of seven seconds. It made me feel kind of sorry for them, because I bet the only thing that ever goes through their mind is, "Oh my God, I'm drowning! No wait, I have gills. Oh my God, I'm drowning! No wait, I have gills. Oh my God, I'm drowning! No wait, I have gills."

#### [7 August|06:47pm]



[mood| / frakking awesome]

I've been watching a lot of Battlestar Galactica lately. If you've never seen it, Battlestar Galactica is about people from a planet millions of miles away from Earth, and they have pretty much the same clothes, language, appliances and expressions as we do. The only differences are that they use a made-up swear word that you can say on television, and the shape of the paper they use is different.

I wonder what that show's fan conventions are like. Does everyone just show up carrying around a piece of paper with the corners cut off, so that people know they're dressed up as characters from the show?

## HOW TO TELL IF YOU'RE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE UNIVERSE

**OUR PAPER** 

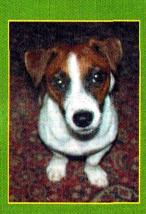
THE PAPER THEY USE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE UNIVERSE

#### [9 August|04:24pm]



Big news: Chuck and I were walking home from the movies this afternoon when this dog started following us home. (Well, I guess it didn't start following us until Chuck gave it some of his leftover nachos.) Anyway, after we got to my house, the dog kept sitting outside and whining. At first, my mom said to leave it outside, and it'd get bored and find its way home. But it just sat there whining, and my mom said to let it in, because it was really distracting everyone in her book club. (Their book this month is The Kite Runner, although my mom didn't have time to read it, so she watched the movie last night. I was going to tell her that you don't need to watch the movie to pretend to read a book anymore — all you need to do is skim its Wikipedia page — but I figured that she probably doesn't need to know all my study secrets.)

Tomorrow, we're going to put up signs saying that we found the dog, to see if we can find its owner. But if we can't, my mom said maybe we can keep it. I might have a dog! Here's a picture:



His name is Rex. It's short for Dogasaurus Rex.

الاستحاث

#### [09 August|11:19pm]



[mood| tired]

Here is the first thing I have learned about having a dog in your house: Don't feed them nachos. Not ever.

#### [11 August|03:41pm]





[mood| atireder]

So, starting yesterday, my dad and I have been going to stores and putting up signs with a picture of Rex on it. I really hope nobody calls. (I tried leaving one digit off our phone number, but my dad noticed.)

#### [13 August|05:22pm]



[mood| ( nauseated]

Out of all the product mascots, I think the one that weirds me out the most is the Hamburger Helper Severed Hand With a Face On It. I think most people, if that showed up in their kitchen and offered to help make dinner, would beat it to death with a cast-iron skillet.



#### [15 August|04:33pm]





Well, it's been six days, and nobody's called to claim Rex. I think my parents are growing to like him, too. My mom keeps telling me not to get too attached to him, but then, like, five minutes later, she'll be rubbing his belly and saying, "Who's a good dog? Who's a good dog? Is it you? Is it you? Are you a good dog?" I don't get why people do that to dogs. Every time she does it, I can't help but think how freaked out she'd be if Rex looked up and said, "Yes, I am a good dog. Thank you for asking.

#### [23 August|12:05pm]



[mood| jubilant]

Great news! Rex has been with us for two weeks now, and nobody's claimed him, so my parents said we're gonna keep him! They took him to the vet today, and the vet said he's healthy, he just needs to be fixed. (Sophie asked what "fixed" means. My mom said it means a dog needs to be repaired. I said, "Yeah, repaired by cutting off his —", and then my mom said, "If you finish that sentence, I'm taking away your Wii for a month." And I said, "That's exactly what's happening to Rex. They're taking away his Wii." And then my mom took away my Wii for two months.)

#### [24 August|01:26pm]



amused]

Well, Rex is back from the vet's. I think he can tell how stupid he looks with this cone on:



Sophie asked why he has to wear the cone. I told her it was so his head didn't fall off.

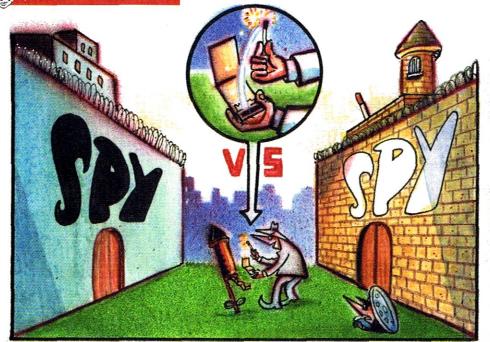
#### [30 August | **02:35pm**]

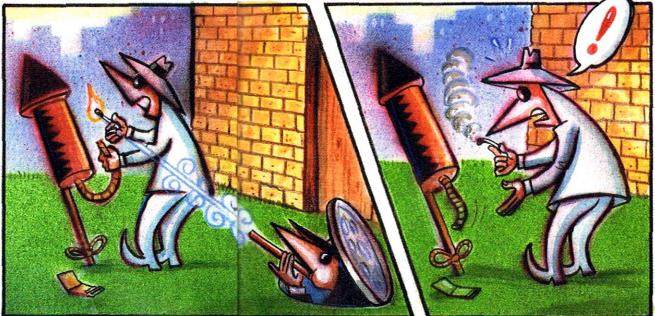


[mood| add]

Ugh. Bad news. We got a call today. Turns out, Rex has an owner. Also, his name isn't Rex. It's Mr. Kensington. I guess his owners were off on a cruise for the last three weeks, and their dogsitter didn't want to ruin their vacation, so she didn't call to tell them he was missing. The owners were super-grateful — apparently, Rex is a purebred Jack Russell Terrier, and he's, like, won prizes at dog shows. They said it was a good thing we found him, because they're planning on making a lot of money by breeding him. My parents just kind of looked at each other, and then my mom said, "Good luck with that."







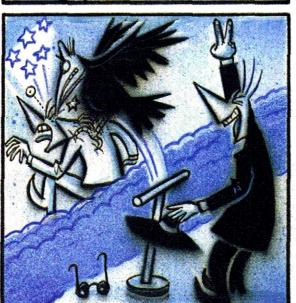








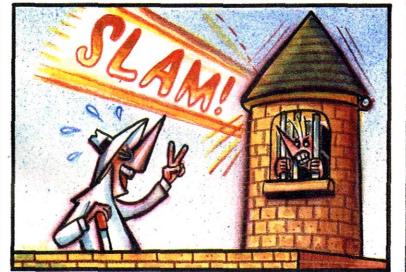














## **IN STORES THIS WEEK!**

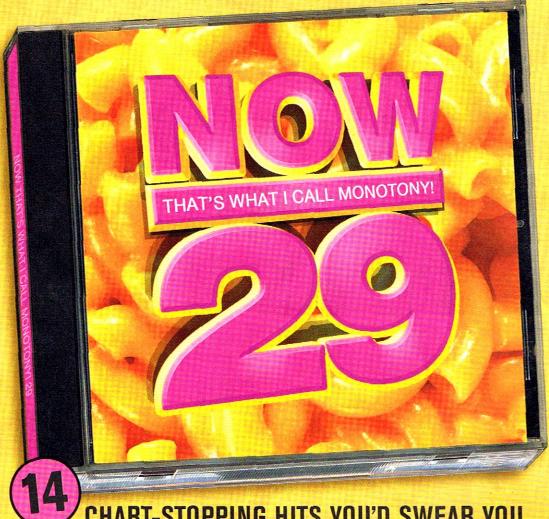


CHART-STOPPING HITS YOU'D SWEAR YOU HEARD ON OUR PREVIOUS 28 COLLECTIONS!

#### **FEATURING THESE JAMS:**

- Song that only became a "hit" because it was offered as a free download on Verizon Wireless
- Song with a 15-second attention-grabbing hook that sounds great in the iPod commercial where people flail around like they're being attacked by bees, but absolutely blows when heard in its entirety
- Painful dreck from an American Idol also-ran
- Cover song by band who couldn't get a hit with their own lousy material, so they cashed in by recording an inferior version of this classic old number
- Song from Nu-Metal, Crunk, or whatever creatively named/spelled "subgenre" is taking the music world by storm this week
- Gimmicky, forced duet by two artists who wouldn't be caught dead together, with vocals recorded separately on different coasts five months apart
- Attempt at a mainstream hit by Christian soft-rock band that fence-straddles with lyrics about "being lifted higher" and "letting the light shine," which could be referring to falling in love with a girl, eternal salvation or changing a lightbulb

- Remixed version of popular song rendered unrecognizable, buried under a cacophony of vinyl scratches, beat samples and drum loops by flavor-of-the-month Eurotrash DJ
- Song nobody listened to three months ago that suddenly became all the rage when a moronic video of the band dancing to it was posted on YouTube
- A music legend's new song that is easily the worst thing they've ever recorded, but which won a Grammy as an apology for being snubbed the past 40 years
- Track consisting mostly of obvious, embarrassing double entendres and suggestive but laughable moaning by prepubescent pop diva trying to shed her squeaky-clean image
- 12 The once-catchy, now merely irritating song from that overplayed Mitsubishi commercial
- The latest humptybootythongdogs-style novelty rap song whose novelty wore off after hearing it twice, but we'll be subjected to ad nauseam at every sporting event this year
- Latest song from the interchangeable pool of female vocalists with single, not-found-in-any-baby-naming-book monikers like Forsythia, Corian or Propecia

















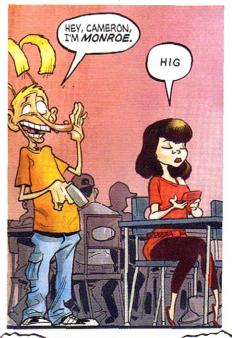














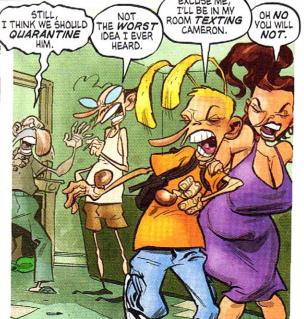




























An important message from MAD's Director of Business & Development,



JEFFREY LOZENGE

If scientists are right that Pluto isn't a planet but a "dwarf planet," then how come it has no dwarfs? And if it's true that there's no life on Mars, how then do we account for Martians? The universe is truly a mysterious place and by "mysterious" I mean confusing and by "confusing" I mean, "For God's sake, where's the bathroom?"

space travel that astronauts are expected to pee in their own suits. Personally, I refuse, which brings me to MAD — yes, MAD — the magazine whose time is and was and continues to be — which is read by a new breed of dignified space pioneers who insist on the privacy of their own urinal. It is these brave men and women (and dwarfs) who truly dare

Which brings me to MAD again — yes, MAD — an earthly magazine whose influence might one day span the galaxies and reach afar to worlds unknown, such as Ornus, Zimbo and Peckster 12. Or maybe not.

to go where no man or woman (or dwarf) has gone before.

Like I said, the universe is mysterious. But you should subscribe to MAD anyway.

Subscribe to MAD now!
13 issues for only \$19.99 (Cheap!)

Visit www.madmag.com or call 1-800-4 MAD MAG

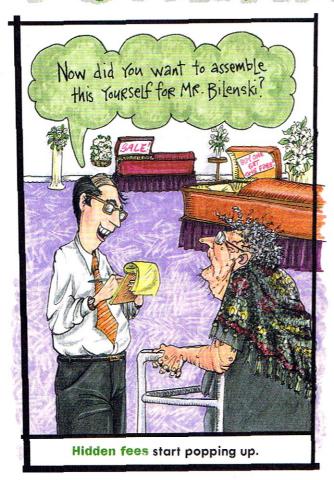
Mon-Fri 9 a.m.-12 a.m. Sat 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Eastern Time U.S. and Canada Orders Only! Outside U.S. (including Canada) add \$12 (includes GST tax).



Times are tough all over. The economy's in the toilet, unemployment is out of control and inflation is blowin' up! It seems like every business is dying... including, ironically, funeral homes! Which makes us wonder, what will happen...

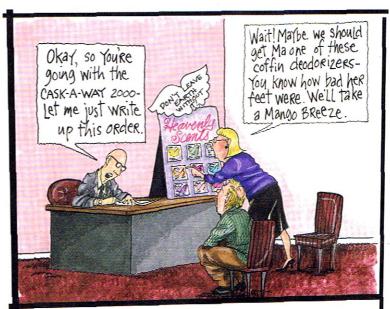
# WHEN

WRITER AND ARTIST: TERESA BURNS PARKHURST





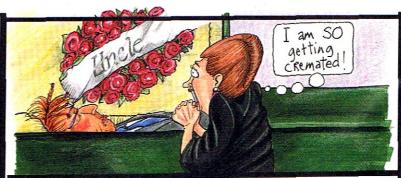
The use of illegal, inexperienced non-union labor makes itself disgracefully evident.



They start going after the easy money of point-of-purchase impulse buys.

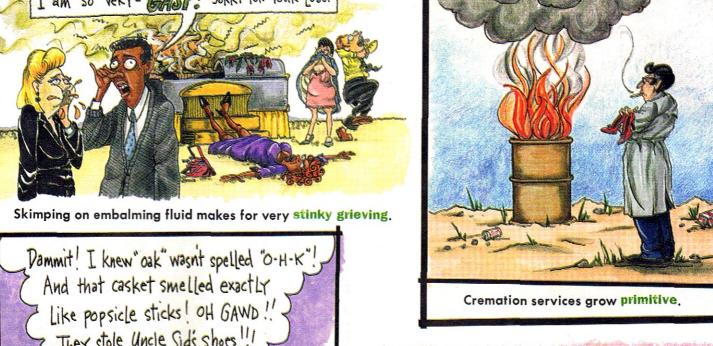


Creepy coupons start turning up under your windshield.



Professional cadaver cosmetologists are replaced by the cheap labor of Beauty School undergrads.



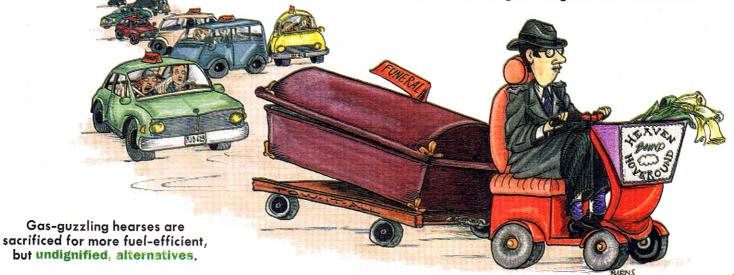




Substandard materials gre passed off as high quality.



Working with a skeleton crew, bereaved families are often left to figure things out for themselves.





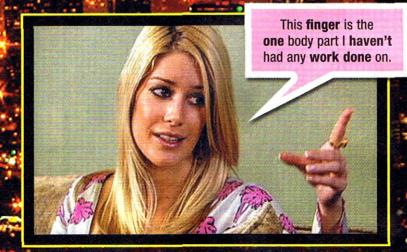
Making it
on my own
in the big city
is so hard —
at least that's what
the producers
tell me.



I don't know if I want this apartment. With these giant windows, I'd just feel like I had no privacy.



Do ya like
the ring?
I won it in the
World Series of
Douchebags.



I always like to see how my makeup looks in the light before I put it on!



I know, isn't this **scarf** great? **Rachael Ray** gave it to me at the last **Hezbollah** meeting.



# THE HILLS Outlakes

I can't believe
the producers made
"Lauren Eats
a Grapefruit" into
a three-episode arc!



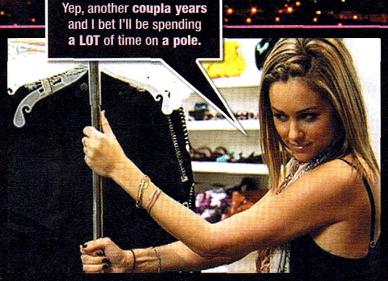
I'm crying,

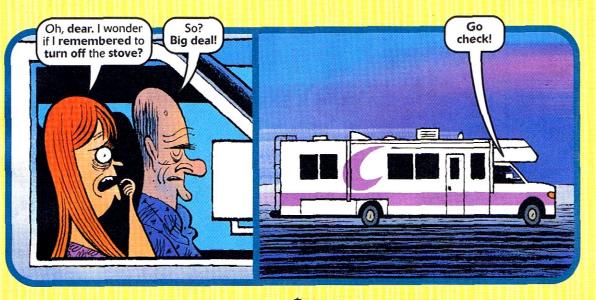
Help! Spencer went into the store and didn't even crack the window! I'm going to suffocate!



already!
Now stop hitting
the puppy!

It feels so good to take my makeup off and just relax.





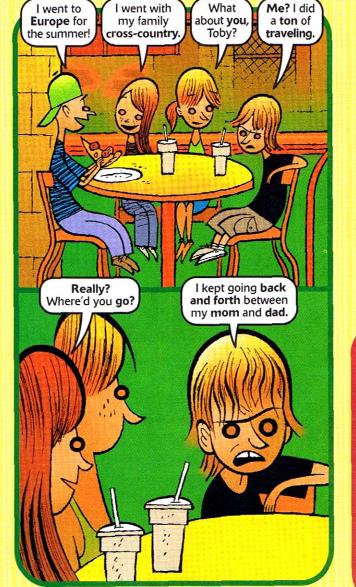




#### TRIP TEASE DEPT.

## THEMAD WORLDOF.











RUNNING THE NATION?
THIS GUY SHOULDN'T EVEN BE DRIVING!



JOHN McCAIN

A FRIGHTENING SEQUEL TO THE BUSH PRESIDENCY

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY PRESENTS A POST TRAUMATIC STRESS PRODUCTION "NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MAN"

STABRING JOHN MCCAIN AS THE SENTLE CANDIDATE, CYNDI MCCAIN AS "MS. MONEYBAGS" AND MITT ROMNEY AS "THE ROBOT WHO WANTS TO BE VICE-PRESIDENT"

BASER KARL ROVE'S "CAMPAIGN PLAYBOOK OF FEAR, LIES AND SMEAR TACKICS" DIRECTER NO ONE REALLY, WHICH IS WHY IT'S SUCH A MESS

MAD POLITICAL POSTER

## AWESOME CELEBRITY INTERVIEWS!

MAD KIDS: Who makes you laugh?

JACK BLACK: Oh boy. What makes
me laugh really, really, really, really hard?
That Ali G. sure makes me laugh.
The guy's a genius. And I really like that
Ricky Gervais from the original
The Office. That dude's insane.

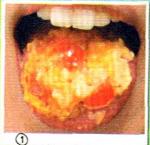
MAD KIDS: What does the
"D" in Tenacious D stand for?

JACK BLACK: I can't really tell
you the origin of the name
Tenacious D because it's
revealed in our new movie,
Tenacious D in the Pick of
Destiny, and I don't want
to give away too much.

COMIC STRIPS!



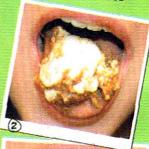
Ever notice how the more you chew foods, the more they start to look alike? Here are tour lcky pictures – see if you can identify the correct food from the list- without barfing!





NACHOS WITH CHEESE AND GALSA CHOCOLATE BROWNIE S'MORES CHICKEN NUGGETS

So much for this so-called ZOMBIE RepellENT!





PUZZLE ANSWER: 1) Nachos with cheese and salsa 2) S'mores 3) Chocolate Brownie 4) Chicken Nuggets



my opponent only has a spork!

If we're to believe the hype, this movie is more than a mere movie. It's a Christian allegory with strong messages about sacrifice and forgiveness! And we hate to say it, but they're right! You sacrifice ten hard-earned bucks to see it, and there is no forgiveness offered from the producers for wasting two and half hours of your time! Come on, this is basically a re-tread of the first Yawnia movie! If you don't believe it, you'll have to forgive us as we

## THE CHRONIC- ILLS OF THE CHRONIC- ILLS OF THE SPIAN

Back here in Yawnia we found this crumbling old temple!

We looked in these old crypts and guess what we

discovered? Our royal clothing! Our royal swords!

Our royal crowns! Either that or we stumbled upon the

magical tchotchkes gift shop — these historic sites

ALWAYS have a gift shop! One thing still puzzles me.

When we were kings and queens here, this temple was

in perfect shape! What could have happened? Peeper?

sacrifice the next four pages pointing out all the absurdies in... I'm Loosely, the youngest of four siblings! A few years ago while About 30 minutes ago, the four of us had just gotten out of school in London! We visiting a kindly professor's castle, I entered a wardrobe and came were waiting for a train in the underout in a magical land called Yawnia! Either that, or the professor ground when suddenly we found ourwas putting drugs in our cocoa! All kinds of strange things happened selves zoomed back here to Yawnia! Just in that land. For instance, even though I'm young and inexperienced, I ended up defeating a mean and evil witch helibent on controlling our luck - we get on the one enchanted British rail car that DOESN'T go to the kingdom — I know, it sounds a lot like the story of Barack Hogwarts! Snoozen, continue the story! and Hillary to me, too! Let my brother Deadmund tell you more! Since the royal children have been I'm Triflehunter, the badger! I'm Pumpkin, a courageous Dwarf! I Recently I came to a gone, Yawnia has become a dark welcome a war that will return Yawnia crossroads in my life! I had to and scary place! The trees no longer to its former goofiness! Even though make a decision! Either leave dance! The flowers no longer sing! I'm a dwarf, I can defeat a full-sized my peaceful woodland home And the snakes no longer play man — assuming, of course, I'm banjos! Although I'm going to miss and become a warrior, or be standing on another dwarf's shoulders turned into a shaving brush! that one least of all — I've always and I have my sword and mace, and just hated the banjo!

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

So, it's the army life for me!

show everyone that a warrior mouse can be just as cute and endearing as a cooking rat! Got that, Remy? My armor and weapons are miniscule. yet they still cost the Yawnia defense department millions damn those military contractors!

I'm Redo-Cheep and I'm here to

I am King MyAss! My nephew, Prince Thespian, wants me to make him King but I have other plans for him! I'm going to have him murdered! The last thing I want to be accused of is nepotism! Besides, I plan to make my son King! That makes sense, doesn't it? Logic was never our family's strong suit!

I know exactly what hap-

pened! Along with my royal

crown, I found an unpaid bill

for temple upkeep! And it's

1.300 years past due! That

means our Yawnia credit

rating has been in the toilet

for over 1,000 years!

Your Royal High-handedness, I do see one problem! When the epic battles begin and there are thousands of warriors on the battlefield. now can we tell our owr men from the enemy?

Easy! If they have a vaque Spanish or Italian accent, they are one of us! If they have a British accent, they are the enemy! Also, kill anything with fur!

I am Prince Thespian! I have been

forced to flee Yawnia by my evil,

power-hungry uncle MyAss, who

killed my father and now wants

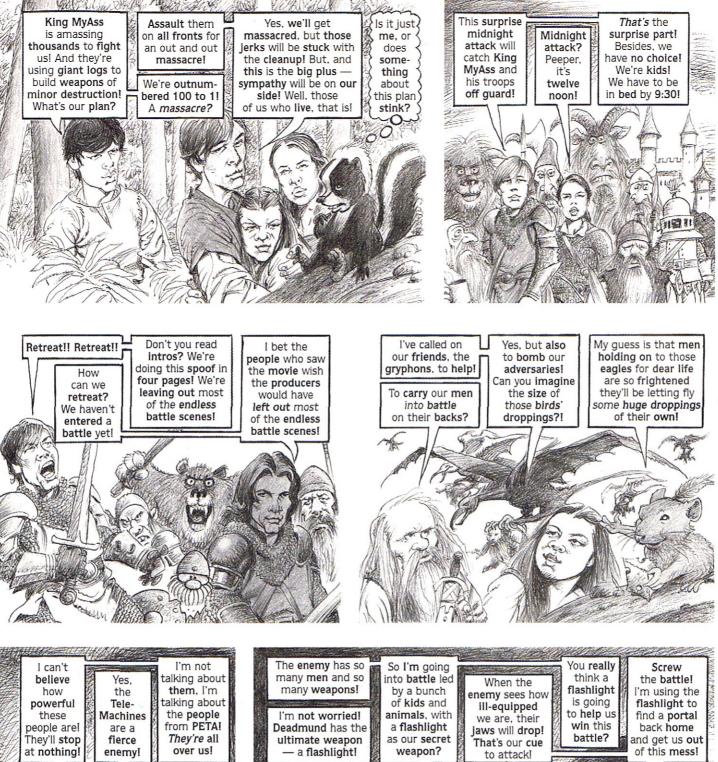
to give the kingdom to his new-

born son! I say, if he spoils the

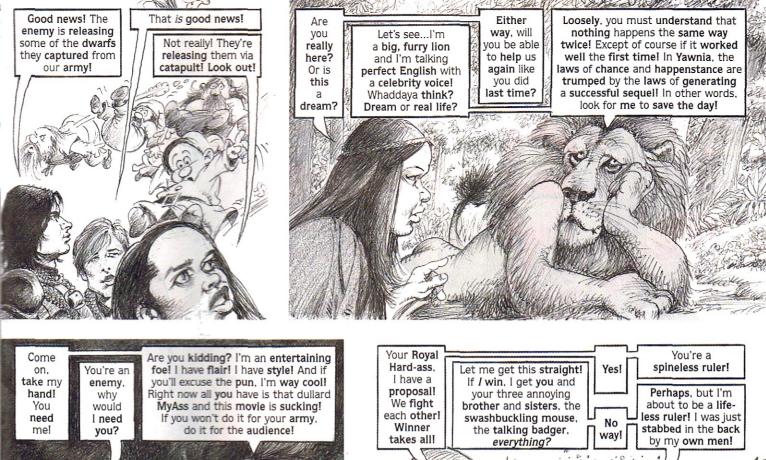
kid like that now, what's he going

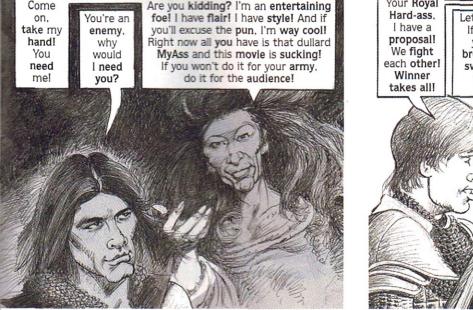
to do for his sweet 16? Geesh!

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER









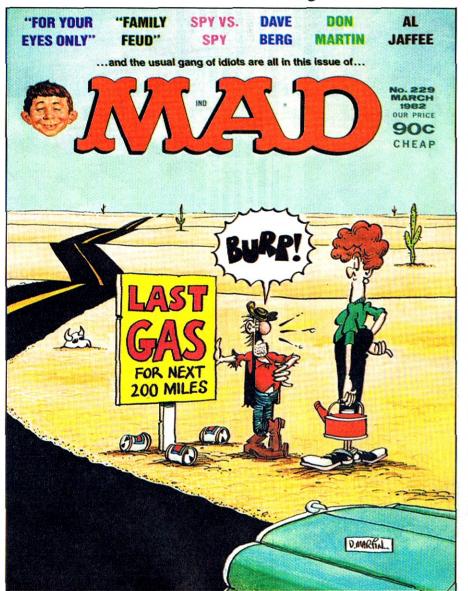


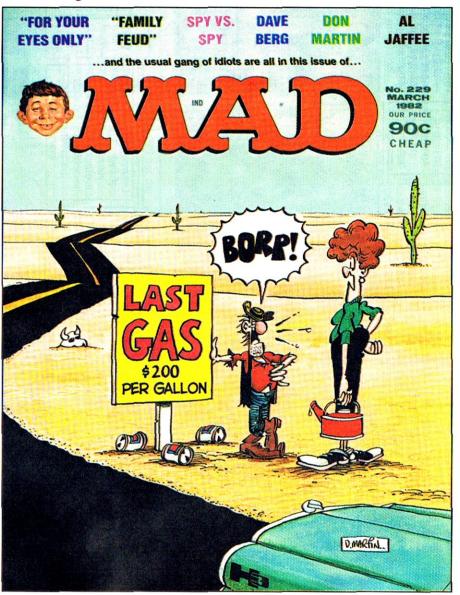




## WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE?

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





WHAT HORRIFIC
DISASTER IS LEAVING
MANY EXPERTS
FEELING BEWILDERED
AND HELPLESS?

## HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD - IN

Every day there are catastrophic events that people are at a loss to explain. No matter what they do, these calamities are proving to be unstoppable. There is one disaster, however, that is leaving the public completely baffled and seems to grow more severe with each passing minute. To find out what it is, fold page in as shown.



passing minute. To find out what it is, fold page in as shown. FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B" FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

AMERICANS TREAT DISASTERS AS IF SOME ENEMY WITH EVIL INTENT HAS ATTACKED. THIS SCENERY SHOCKS ALL ONLOOKERS. THUS, HOUR BY HOUR, THIS HORROR JUST GETS WORSE AND WORSE



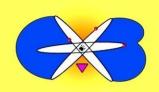
WHAT HORRIFIC
DISASTER IS LEAVING
MANY EXPERTS
FEELING BEWILDERED
AND HELPLESS?





AMY WINE-

HOUSE









September 2008 Had Magazine #493

Mad Magazine







Hoodoo that scan?

DCP did!

