

The 50 Worst Things About the Internet * Family Guy * Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions

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UNITED STATES

#494 OCTOBER 2008 \$4.99 CHEAP!



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HEROES OR VILLAINS?

WHY CHOOSE ONE WHEN YOU CAN BE BOTH?



LEGO

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THE VIDEOGAME

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10

MAD

OCTOBER 2008

NUMBER 494

DEPARTMENTS

LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPARTMENT
Random Samplings of Reader Mail 2

RANDOM ACTS OF MINDLESS DEPARTMENT
The Fundalini Pages 6

WEB SLIGHTS DEPARTMENT
The 50 Worst Things About the Internet 10

GRIFFIN ACCOMPLISHED DEPARTMENT
The Eerie Similarities Between the First Family
and *The Family Guy* 16

SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPARTMENT
A MAD Look at Cooking Shows 18

MONSTERS BRAWL DEPARTMENT
Up-and-Coming Mixed Martial Arts Fighters 22

HEIL TO THE CHIEF DEPARTMENT
Overheard at the Obama Rally in Germany 24

BERG'S-EYE ASKEW DEPARTMENT
The Darker Side Of... The Lighter Side Of 26

THE BLIZZARD OF OZ DEPARTMENT
What if the Yellow Brick Road was Closed Due to Snow? 28

GIVE GREASE A CHANCE DEPARTMENT
A Fast Food Customer Satisfaction Survey
That Tells it Like it is 30

JOKE AND DAGGER DEPARTMENT
Spy Vs. Spy 32

THE PROBLEM IS A PARENT DEPARTMENT
The Pros and Cons of Being a Polygamy Cult Kid 34

ALL JAFFEE DEPARTMENT
Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions 36

AND A CHILD SHALL READ THEM DEPARTMENT
MAD Looks at a Crappy Parent's Baby Book 38

THE BLAST IS HALF FULL DEPARTMENT
Unacknowledged Benefits to the War on Terror 40

SUPPLIES ATTACK DEPARTMENT
Staples Flyer 43

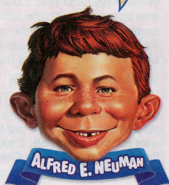
OBSERVATION DRECK DEPARTMENT
What the Heck is the Difference? 48

MARGINAL THINKING DEPARTMENT
"Drawn Out Dramas"
by Sergio Aragones.....

**Various Places
Around the Magazine**



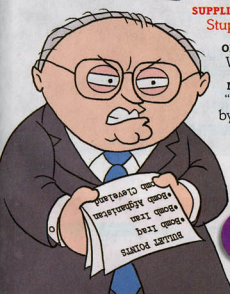
6



22



38



16

COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

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the usual gang of idiots

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ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

I have been sending envelopes this past week in hopes of you publishing one of them. I've been asking for a free subscription and I'm going to continue asking for that year's freeload for both fun and perhaps profit. In truth, I would like one day to draw for MAD, but somehow I suspect I do not have the skill. I have no art education, I taught myself how to draw from *Heavy Metal*, MAD and Marvel Comics. So thanks for inciting this obsession.

Noah Sorah, Manassas Park, VA

Just Say Noah — We also have no art education! Which may explain why we like your envelope so much! Enjoy your one-year subscription! —Ed.

ESTEEM ENGINE

I've been a MAD fan for a few years now and have noticed that a big part of your humor is making fun of your magazine itself. Why is that? A lot of times in the Letters and Tomatoes Department you make jokes saying MAD is a waste of time and that your readers are stupid. I love MAD and I don't think I'm stupid! You guys should show some more confidence!

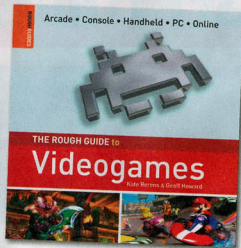
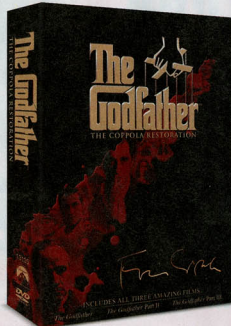
Cameron Evans, Goleta, CA

Son of Cam — You're right! We're confident that MAD is a waste of time and our readers are stupid. Thanks for the pep talk! —Ed.



READER ALERT

Those of you who had your letters printed on this Letters Page will receive *The Rough Guide to Video Games*, courtesy of our friends at Rough Guides, and *The Godfather: The Coppola Restoration* DVD collection (that includes all three *Godfather* movies), courtesy of our friends at Paramount Home Entertainment. For those who didn't have their missives included, don't sleep with the fishes, they're both on sale now!

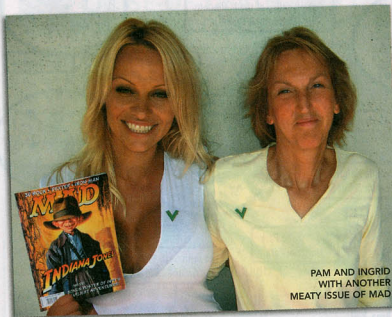


MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

Pam and I were photographed by a friend in Malibu. We are both vegetarians (note the V pins) which is one proof we have good taste and are sane. We thought another proof would be holding up a copy of MAD magazine.

Ingrid Newkirk, President of PETA, Norfolk, VA

'Gridlock — What impressed us most about your snap, was that you managed to catch a rare shot of Pam Anderson showing a hint of cleavage — usually it's nothing but turtle-necks and high-laced collars for her! Congrats on your three-year subscription, we're sure you'll want to get it leather-bound. While enjoying a hot dog. In your fur coat. Thanks for sending in the picture! —Ed.



PAM AND INGRID
WITH ANOTHER
MEATY ISSUE OF MAD

SCRATCH OF THE DAY

Hey now! I'm not gonna buy a MAD Scratch ticket! You didn't even show us a winner! Then again, I'm not pathetic enough to live in Delaware. Cheers! Keep the MAD coming!

Mark Guthrie, Puyallup, WA

Raiders of the Lost Mark — You don't live in Delaware? Then you're already a winner! Still, tough break on living in a place called Puyallup! It sounds like a gurgling drain! —Ed.

THE CHAUVENISM MUST GO ON

I have noticed that most of the letters you put in your magazine are written by men. Is that because you're sexist? Anyway, put my letter in the magazine and I won't press charges.

Natasha Kanji, Irvine, CA

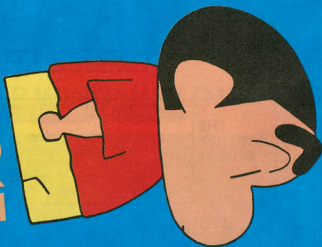
Kanji Cane — You got it, sweetcheeks! —Ed.



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THE FUNDALINIPAGES

AMERICA'S LEAST VISITED PARKS



THE GODFREY REPORT	IN	FIVE MINUTES AGO	OUT
	Stragglers	Slowpokes	Dilly-Dalliers
	Decanters	Carafes	Flagons
	Slobber	Drool	Dribble

SHOW ME THE MONKEY

A THOUSAND MONKEYS TYPING ON A THOUSAND TYPEWRITERS FOR A THOUSAND YEARS WILL EVENTUALLY WRITE ALL THE GREAT WORKS OF LITERATURE.

SIX SECONDS IN...

It's the Republican Party platform.

THE COVER WE DIDN'T USE



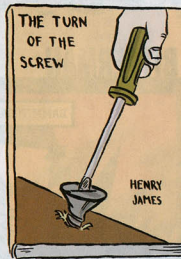
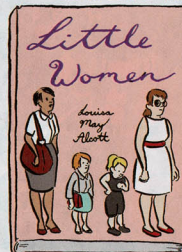
CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

This Month TILA TEQUILA

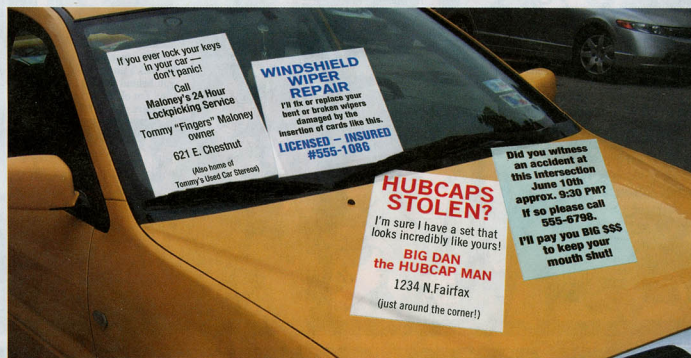
Chlamydia.....	1:1
Chokes while simultaneously eating sausage and taco in an uncomfortably suggestive manner.....	2:1
Collapsed heart valve from "really falling in love" with 8-10 contestants per season on <i>A Shot at Love</i>	8:1
Ink poisoning after getting names of all of her lovers tattooed on her body.....	20:1
Shame-related suicide.....	1,000,000,000:1



WHEN COVER ARTISTS HAVEN'T READ THE BOOK



FLIERS RECENTLY FOUND UNDER WINDSHIELD WIPERS



A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE'S SPEECH THAT REALLY SAYS NOTHING!



My fellow Americans. These are **troubled times**, not only for **you** and for **me**, but for **us**.

Right now, **Wall Street** is in a slump. But mark my words; that will **change once stocks make a rebound**. Likewise, I'm equally confident that it will **cost us less to fill up our tanks** once the **price of gas starts dropping**. As far as finding **new sources of energy**, the course of action is **clear**: we must **look for** them! But throughout all of this, one thing we must **never lose sight of** is **our vision**. Just as we must **listen to** what we hear and **do what it is we do**, we must **take the steps** necessary to **move in a direction** in which we are **going**.

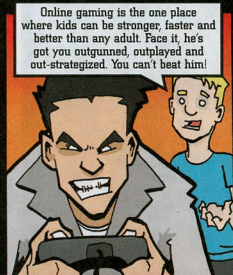
To those who **question my position on religion**, let me just say that I **pray** that **Church and State** will always be **kept separate**, and I will work towards that end — **so help me God!**

My opponents claim my **positions** are **contradictory**. They are both **right and wrong**. This is what makes America great! But always remember, there are **no easy answers**, yet I promise to **look for them** anyway. Regarding my **honesty and integrity**, there is **nothing to question**.

Now, I won't stand here and make **promises I can't keep**, but if elected, I **guarantee** you I will be the **most recently-elected President** in this country's glorious history.

In closing, let me **end** with this **conclusion**: **Our future lies ahead of us!** God bless you and God bless America!

BITTERMAN



WRESTLING SO REAL YOU FEEL PAIN

TNA IMPACT!

TOTAL NONSTOP ACTION WRESTLING

AS SEEN
ON SPIKE,
THURSDAYS 9PM

Live the bone crushing intensity one fight at a time with TNA, Total Nonstop Action. All the antics, all the energy and all the drama come smashing onto your console. Featuring a range of TNA talent including Kurt Angle, Sting, Samoa Joe and Christian Cage, if you're not seeing stars, you'll be one

tnagame.com



Wii



XBOX 360 LIVE

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TNA
CROSS-GENE

TNAWRESTLING.COM

SPIKE

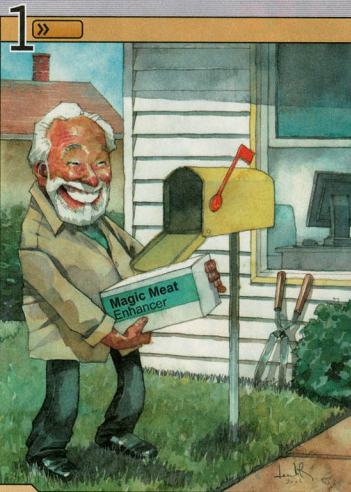
GET MORE ACTION



» If you've been spending pretty much every waking minute of every day at your computer emailing, instant messaging, flaming, flirting, posting, networking, webcasting, illegally downloading and one-handed web surfing,

blogging, bidding, buying, browsing, buffering, gaming, gawking, gossiping, dating, chatting, you might want to take a few minutes to see why we've been doing the same things — to research...

MAD'S 50 WORST THINGS ABOUT THE INTERNET



The one person in a billion who actually orders the "miracle" penis enlargement pills — guaranteeing we'll all continue to be bombarded with spam for them until the next 1-in-a-billion mook comes along.

2» Websites that spend \$100 million on constant, annoying TV ads, and then fold a year later because they're \$100 million in debt.

3» Sites that promise free searches of anyone's background, but somehow fail to tell you that it'll cost \$29.99 to actually see the search results.

4» Google's tired gimmick of altering its logo depending upon the day — Lincoln's Birthday, or the opening ceremonies at the Olympics, or the discovery of lasers. Please remind us not to Google anything on the anniversary of the first treatment for anal warts.



That douche-bomb who took a picture of himself every day for six years and posted it on YouTube. Hey, skippy, the only video of you we want to see is a montage of 2,190 daily shots of your occupied casket.

6» Online porn sites! We'll tell you the worst thing about them! It's...well...we spent hours and hours looking at them day and night, and couldn't find a single thing to complain about — except maybe that there aren't enough of them.

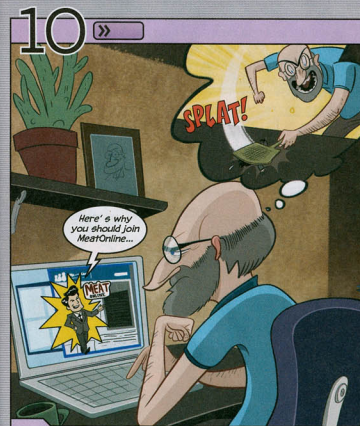
7» Not that a Google search of "George Bush sucks" gets 451,000 hits, but that "George Bush rules" gets 579,000 hits!



"Gaming" websites, where the *biggest gamble* is sharing your credit card information with an offshore entity exempt from any U.S. laws, then playing games programmed by the house, which operates under no casino authority or commission rules whatsoever. Now *THAT'S* gambling!



9» Receiving the "Send this message to 10 people in the next 10 minutes and a miracle will happen!" chain emails. Unless the "miracle" is that we'll never have crap like this clog our inbox ever again, we're not interested.



Online ads in which little people suddenly stroll onto your monitor screen and start gesturing and talking to you. It made us realize that if annoying, bug-sized people like this really existed in our world, we'd have no problem killing them.

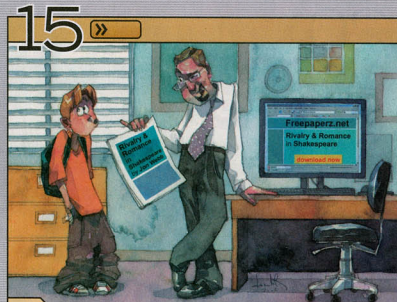
11» Blogs. Who really wants to spend all their time reading the rants and musings of uninformed bores? (To read the full, extended version of this thought, visit www.myspace.com/worldofmad.)

12» Breaking News from CNN.com. When we signed up, we expected email bulletins on assassinations, natural disasters and war. Instead, we learn there's more trouble in the Hulk Hogan household, a sort-of-racy Miley Cyrus photo is in circulation, and Madonna is boffing another professional athlete.



Web "celebrities" who cross over to other media. As far as we're concerned, Tila Tequila, Tay Zonday and that "Leave Britney alone" guy can all take a near-fatal leap off a platform, like that newswoman stepping on grapes did a few years back.

14» The way the hot social networking site Friendster... what? Oh, the way the hot social networking site MySpace...huh? OK, the way the hot social networking site Facebook will quickly become forgotten as yesterday's news. A friend at LinkedIn told us that.



While it's easier than ever to cut and paste school papers from the web, it's also easier than ever for your teachers to figure out that you cut and pasted your school papers from the web.

16»

Passwords. Some need six characters. Some need eight characters. Some need only letters. Some need letters AND numbers. We swear we've had to create and remember more passwords than the freakin' French Underground during all of World War II.

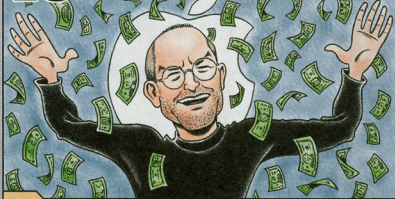
17»

Coming across some mutant geek emphatically arguing that the Internet and the World Wide Web aren't the same thing. They may be right, but it makes us realize that a nerd and a schmuck ARE the same thing.

18»

Parental control software like CyberPatrol and Net Nanny. Great idea: now there's *nowhere* kids can see smutty images...as long as you don't count cable TV, DVDs and the computers at their friends homes, where the parents are more realistic.

19»



iTunes is convenient, easy to use, has a huge catalog of selections and isn't that expensive. What makes our skin crawl is every time we buy a song, we're putting 99 cents in the pocket of that pompous, mock turtleneck-wearing mega-tool Steve Jobs.

20»

You Tube

Videos

d*ck in a box

Search

"d*ck in a box" video results 1-20 of about 2,000



D*ck In A Box
(Original)



Boobs In
A Box



D*ck in a Box
(Hand Puppet
Remix)

The growing number of untalented wannabes ready to pounce on a new, "hot" YouTube video with their own web-cluttering, inferior-in-every-way ripoff, reenactment or reinterpretation.

21»



The galling fact that no matter how much time you spend monitoring blogs, poring over YouTube and scouring the Web, you're never ever the first person in your circle of friends to see something on the web.

22»

The harsh truth that no one, NO ONE, not a single solitary individual in all of recorded Internet history has EVER won a free iPod by correctly identifying Jessica Simpson.

23»



After winning a ferocious eBay bidding war, finding out that the description of the item you won failed to mention that it also smells like an odd combination of mothballs, curdled milk and cough syrup.

24



The proliferation of nonsensical podcasts and video podcasts by braindead uber-losers that make Andy Rooney's trifling whining sound like The Gettysburg Address in comparison.

25



The virtual world Second Life.com, which is a pretty ironic name, because just about everyone using it doesn't have a FIRST life.

26

E Greeting Cards — finally we have a way to show our family and friends that we care about them so little we won't even buy a cheap, 99 cent Hallmark card for them anymore.

27

From email to blogs to chatrooms, we now know that speeling, grammer and, punc2ation r not as imprtent, as wee were taut in scool.

28

That AOL "You've got mail" guy — we just don't like him. In fact, now that we think about it, we really hate that sonofabitch!

29



The extra, useless sheet of paper with a single line of unneeded type on it that always seems to appear whenever you print out something from a webpage.

30

People on Craigslist who indicate that their personal ad includes a picture, but when the headline is clicked on, the picture turns out to be of a rainbow, or a sunset, or a kitten. Raised expectations and dashed hopes — they've just demonstrated what 99% of all online dating is like.

31

Illegally downloading a movie from a peer-to-peer file-sharing web site in order to save 12 bucks, and then getting sued by a movie studio for 12 thousand bucks. We don't know which is worse: having to pay the fine or the shame and embarrassment that comes with the whole world finding out you wanted to see *Soul Plane*.

32



Netflix and Blockbuster Video's assumption that, after installing a \$20,000 HD widescreen home theater system with digital surround sound and leather reclining theater seats, people would rather see a movie streamed online while hunched over a 17" computer monitor.

33



Friends and co-workers who pressure you to watch the "Two Girls, One Cup" video, then videotape you watching it and post *that* on YouTube. Those people can go s#!\$ in their hat.

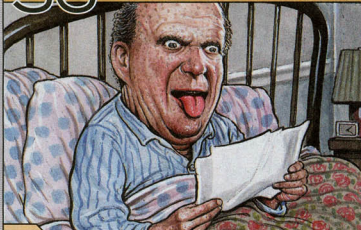
34

When we just want to try a new video game demo, but first have to scroll through and "accept" terms of service agreements only slightly longer than the latest Stephen King novel. We never read them and don't know anyone who does. Hell, for all we know we may have clicked away our right to a trial by jury, signed over our pet to medical science or declared ourselves involuntary organ donors.

35

Finally putting your traumatizing high school experiences behind you, only to have them dredged up once again by those miserable Classmates.com ads.

36



When your internet browser unexpectedly shuts down, then asks if you'd like to send a report to the software manufacturer — yeah, we want Microsoft's CEO Steve Ballmer sitting home at night reading how we encountered a problem while perusing thumbnail galleries at polynesian-schoolteacher-upskirt.com

37



Ghouls whose first thought after a tragedy is, "Hey, I can use PhotoShop to come up with a funny picture!"

38



Parents who can barely operate an electronic garage door opener getting on the web — and falling for every rumor and outlandish mass email they receive.

39

Online degrees. Finally, an answer to the question academics have been asking for ages: is it possible to water down the educational system even *more*?

40

That maudlin, weepy YouTube video of the guys who released their pet lion into the wild and then went to visit it a year later. We would have bookmarked it if, instead of a tearful reunion, the bloodthirsty beast went all Siegfried and Roy on them.

41

Philosophers who drone on and on about the role of the internet and what it symbolically represents in a postmodern society. Hey, Voltaire, *here's* what it represents: an easy way to order stuff tax-free, research stuff it would take months to find in a library, and look at world-class porn. Hope your ivory tower paradigm wasn't shattered by the obvious.

42»

When you accidentally roll over a banner ad that suddenly expands to totally block your screen. It reminds us of the big fat guy who always seems to sit directly in front of us at the movies, you know?

43»



After all these years, MapQuest STILL throws in one inexplicable turn on your driving directions that has you doing a u-ey behind what looks like an uninspected meat packing plant run by guys in sunglasses and fezzes.

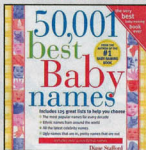
44»

The "personal security questions" part of registering as a user on a website. Sorry, but the name of our favorite childhood pet is none of your damn business. We still have issues surrounding Sparky's death.

45»

amazon.com

You bought 50,001 Best Baby Names



You might also like:
35 Best Baby Names

67,429 Best Baby Names

100,001 Best Baby Names

The Complete Book of
the Best Baby Names

Amazon's "Customers who bought this item also bought" suggestions – and its incredible accuracy at suggesting the books you *didn't* choose. It's like ordering clam chowder as an appetizer, then having the waiter suggest that you order the stuffed clams and baked clams with your meal.

46»

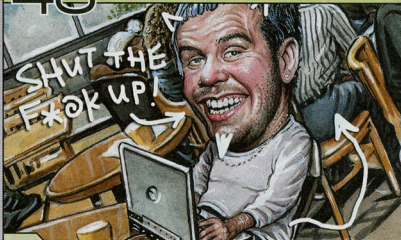


Coming home and finding Chris Hanson and a *Dateline* camera crew in your kitchenette – all because the guy next door is a registered sex offender who's been trolling for 13-year-olds online by glomming on to YOUR wi-fi connection.

47»

Now that so many people rely on Wikipedia for information, the folks at Encyclopedia Britannica must be spinning in their graves – and they're not even dead. Although the Wikipedia entry on them says they are.

48»



Perez Hilton, a bottom-feeding gossip monger who "slickly" combines John Madden Telestrator scribbles of genitalia and DNA drippings with celebrity photos, and then adds the kind of commentary previously only overheard in the bathrooms of clubs with names like "The Tranny Station."

49»

Those constant annoying reminders to update the anti-virus program. We should have guessed that their boasts about eliminating 99% of spam, pop-ups and viral annoyances would conveniently put *their* crap in the other 1%.

50»

Brainless 'tards who scoop up web domain names and hold them hostage, expecting to make millions of bucks on their sale. Screw YOU, owner of MAD.com!

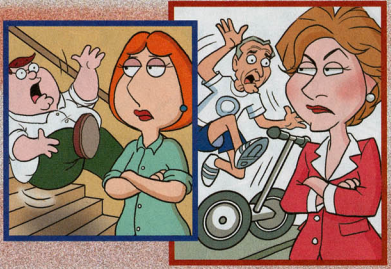


Obviously, there are many differences between the Bush Administration and *Family Guy*. One suffers from sagging ratings (from the public) while the other enjoys soaring ratings (in the Nielsens). The Griffins use tons of visual gags, while the President's humor is mostly verbal (you simply can't misestimate Dubya's hilarity!). Amazingly, though, there are also a number of similarities that connect the First Family and the cartoon clan from Quahog. It's gonna be freakin' sweet when you recognize...

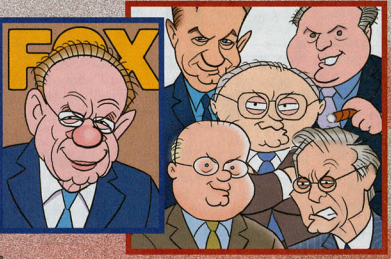
THE EERIE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN

FAMILY GUY AND THE BUSH WHITE HOUSE

**BOTH FAMILIES CONSIST OF...
A LONG-SUFFERING WIFE WHO HAS
INEXPLICABLY STUCK WITH HER LAME-
ASS HUSBAND WAAAAAY TOO LONG...**



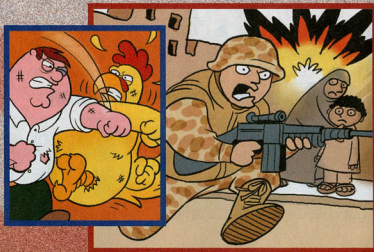
**THEY'RE BOTH CONTROLLED BY A VAST,
RIGHT-WING CONSPIRACY...**



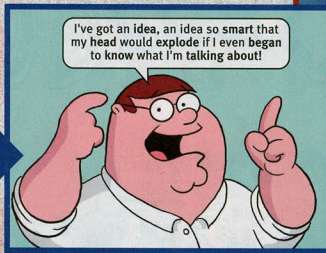
**...A PAIR OF KIDS YOU CAN'T HELP
BUT WORRY ABOUT...**



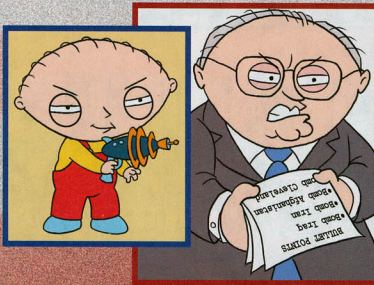
**...BOTH ARE JAM-PACKED
WITH LOADS OF
UNNECESSARY VIOLENCE...**



**THE HEAD OF EACH FAMILY IS A BONEHEADED MORON
WHO REVELS IN HIS OWN STUPIDITY...**



**...A BALDING MANIAC HELL-BENT
ON DESTROYING THE WORLD...**



**...AND A DOG WHICH YOU
SECRETLY SUSPECT IS THE
SMARTEST ONE IN THE BUNCH.**



**...AND, INCREDIBLY, BOTH HAVE
SOMEHOW MANAGED TO STICK
AROUND FOR NEARLY A DECADE.**

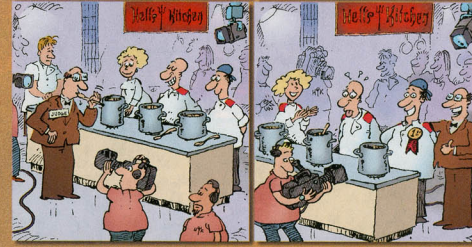
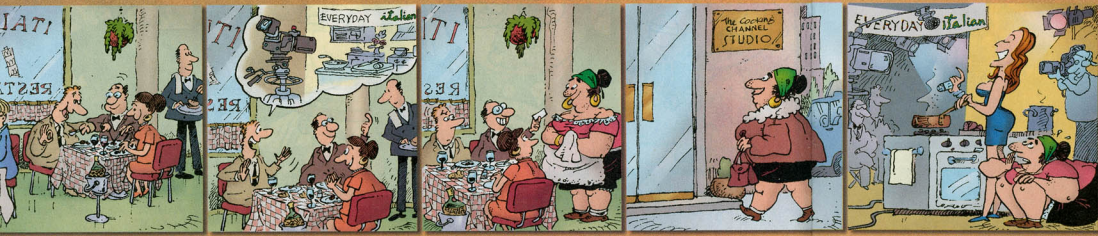
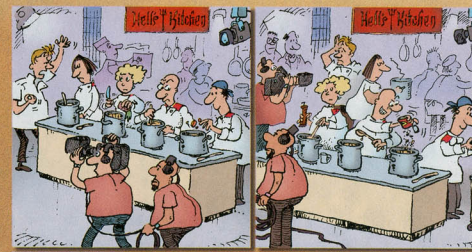
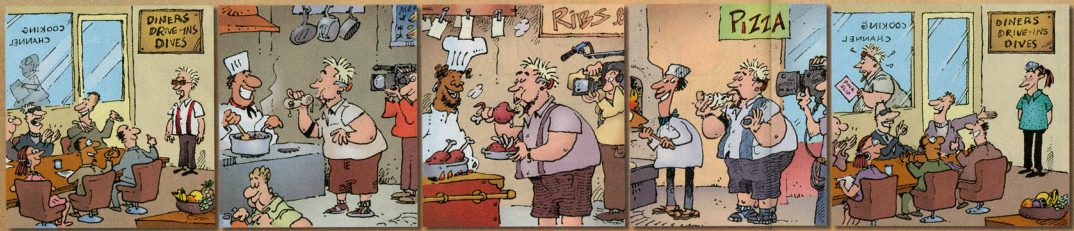


**SO, WITH THE BAR FOR QUALITY
SET SO LOW, THERE'S NO WAY
THE SEQUEL STARRING THE
BLACK GUY CAN'T BE BETTER.**

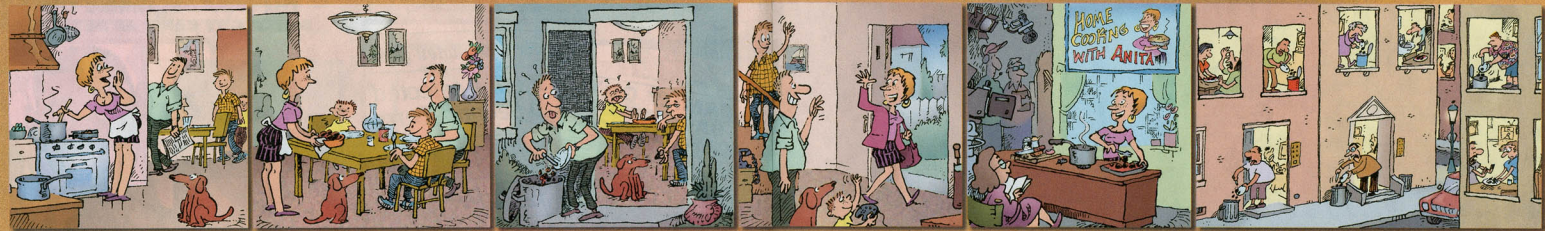


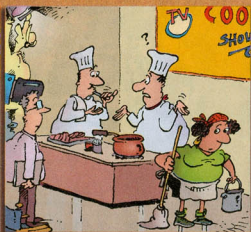
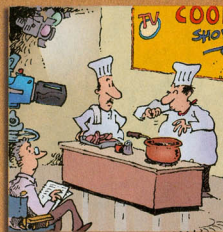
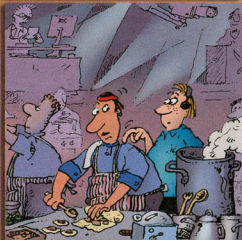
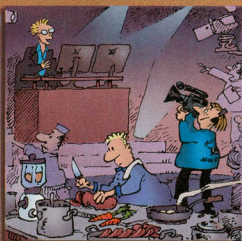
Sergio Aragones
Presents

A MAD LOOK AT COOKING SHOWS



WRITER AND ARTIST: SERGIO ARAGONES







AST.com



WATCH IT LIVE ALL SUMMER LONG
ON NBC, MTV, MTV2, AND USA



Panasonic

RIGHT
GUARD



TOYOTA



MONCOOSE



MAD

Whatever you call it — "Ultimate Fighting," "Mixed Martial Arts," "Two Dudes Savagely Beating The Hell Out Of Each Other" — the sport is more popular than ever! It's breaking Pay Per View records, it's being televised more and more, and fighters like Chuck Liddell and Tito Ortiz are even popping up in the mainstream! But what does the future hold for the sport? Who will be the stars of tomorrow? Glad you asked! Here are the...

EGBERT STERNUM III

INTRO SONG: "Pop Goes the Weasel"

AFFILIATION: North American Head-butter's League

EDUCATION: Doctorate in pain from the University of Whoop-Ass (metaphorical degree only)

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TOURING:

"I get to spend less time with my family!"

BRAGGING RIGHTS: Led the league in moral victories in 2004.

TRADEMARK MOVE: The ShinBlast Special™. Really, it's actually trademarked, so you have to use the ™ symbol when you write it.

LAMIA ZANGARRIANA

INTRO SONG: "My Bologna"

AFFILIATION: Women's Association of Hitting & Kicking

LAST TV APPEARANCE: The FOX reality show *Kidney-Punching with the Stars*

ENDORSEMENTS: Vlasic pickles, The Brookings Institute, Prozac, Dean Witter

FAVORITE MOVIE FROM OTHER

SPORT: "Ron Artest going into the stands in Detroit. I have the director's cut on DVD."

PRE-MATCH MEAL: Raw python meat, jalapeño peppers and a sippy cup of Ovaltine

THOUGHTS ON MMA: "Through the sport, I've discovered who I am: a spiteful woman who likes to publicly inflict pain."

UP-AND-COMING MIXED MARTIAL ARTS FIGHTERS

WRITER: JEFF KRUSE
ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

VINCENTE del GUAPO

AGE: 78

INTRO SONG: *Desperate Housewives* Opening Theme

AFFILIATION: Senior Kickboxing Association

LAST TV APPEARANCE: Finished second on *Jeopardy!* during "Bloodsports Week."

RECENT SCANDAL: Tested positive for estrogen injections, which aren't illegal, but still kind of embarrassing.

OUTSIDE THE RING: "I'm actually a pretty easy-going guy who almost never kicks people in the stomach."

CORVIS O'JETT

INTRO SONG: "Imagine"

AFFILIATION: Brotherhood of African-American Face-Pounders, Local 503

NICKNAME: Affectionately known as "The Jackie Robinson of MMA," but that's only because he always wears a Brooklyn Dodgers cap, not for some courageous breaking of boundaries or anything.

HOBBIES: Bear hunting, knitting tea cozies, KEYS TO SUCCESS: "I have to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as well as Gold's Gym, not necessarily in that order."

LAST TV APPEARANCE: Cameo role as a head trauma victim on *House, MD*

HIDEO "BOBBY" TAMAZUKA

INTRO SONG: "My Humps"

AFFILIATION: Pan-Asian Multiple Fighting Concern, Inc.

CLAIM TO FAME: Operates Tokyo's only drive-thru karate school

CHILDHOOD PREPARATION: Began learning the ancient Japanese art at the age of 5. Unfortunately, that art was origami, and he didn't get around to martial arts lessons until last year sometime.

ENDORSEMENTS: Rolex, eHarmony.com, The 99¢ Store

THE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN MMA AND BOXING: "Apparently, you can't use an aluminum bat in either. I learned that the hard way."

STEVE "EVEN STEVEN" TYMANN

INTRO SONG: "Goin' to the Chapel"

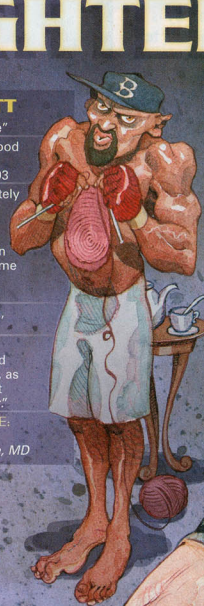
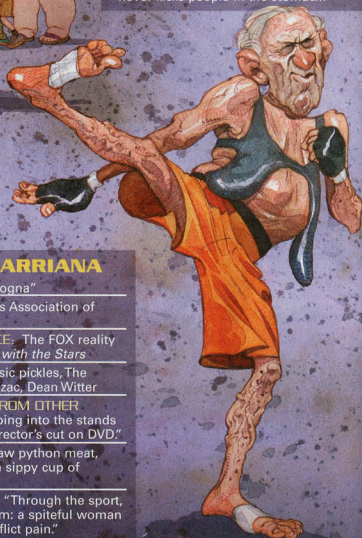
AFFILIATION: North American Pseudo-Boxing League

DIVISION: Vultureweight

DISTINGUISHING MARKS: Tattoo of a skull on his left bicep, and vice-versa

LAST TV APPEARANCE: Fighting a parking ticket on *Judge Hatchet*.

WHAT WILL YOU DO AFTER YOUR FIGHTING CAREER IS OVER?: "I can't imagine life without ultimate fighting. So I guess the answer to the question would be 'die.'"



OVERHEARD AT THE BARACK OBAMA RALLY IN GERMANY

I bet **Chancellor Merkel** can't wait until *this* guy gives her a **backrub!**

Obama's fly is open. Should I tell him? *Someone* should tell him...

What the...?!?!
That's not **Hasselhoff!!!**
Damn you, **StubHub!!!**

Ooh, the Secret Service has **t-shirt cannons!**
Me! Me! Me!

So the question on everyone's mind now is: did Obama just give a **wave**, or was it a "**terrorist hand sweep**"?
Shepard Smith, Fox News, reporting!

I only came to this 'cause **The Dark Knight** was sold out!

Who is this **Waldo** and how the f*#k should I know where he is?!?
Stop **giggling**, you **dummkopf!**

Freebird! Play Das Freebird!

My **Great Grandfather** says he saw **John McCain** speak on this **very spot**, doing the warmup for **Kaiser Wilhelm!**

Should I ask Barack to sign my **left boob** or my **right boob**?

Hey, where's **Paris Hilton** and **Britney Spears**?
I thought Barack **hangs** with those **frauleins!**

I don't think the **translator** is very good. According to **him**, Barack just said "America needs to **grind the wrench** and **caress** the golfcart for **radishes!**"

Obama's going to be into his **second term** by the time he finishes **tagging** all these people on **Facebook!**

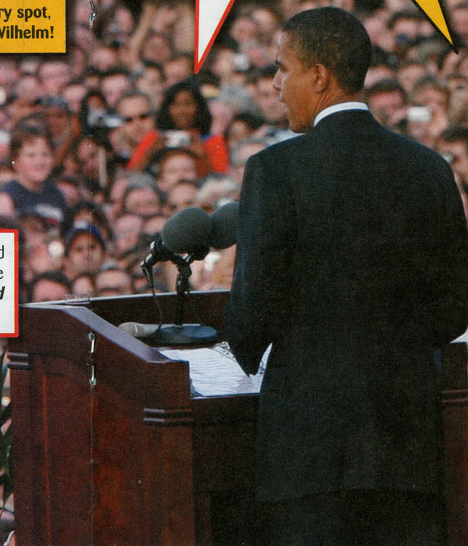
When we Germans all rally behind an **energetic, emerging political figure**, what could **possibly** go wrong?

It's nice to be in such a **small crowd** after that **Miley Cyrus** concert!

Somebody said there would be **bratwurst und schnitzel!**

I'm not sure if America can **handle** a president with such a **fit ass**.

They were **brilliant** to market this as "**Baracktoberfest**."





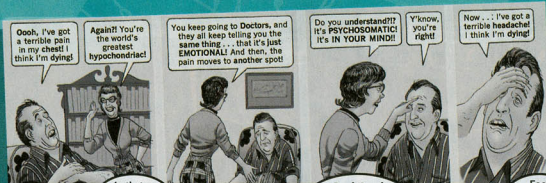
THE DARKER SIDE OF THE LIGHTER SIDE



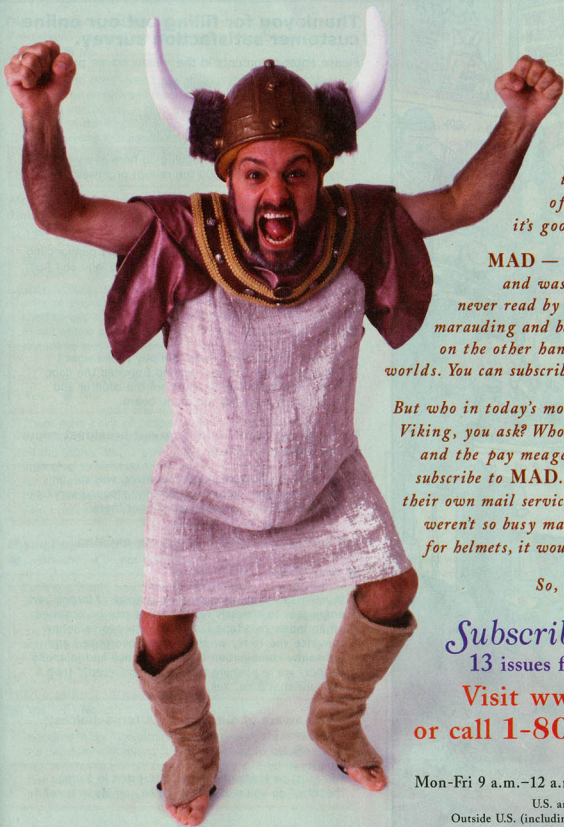
We tamper with classic Dave Berg strips, even though nobody asked us to — especially not Dave!







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



It is often said that "the fruit doesn't fall far from the pond" and that "if you want something done right, forget it." To that, I might add, "a pound of cheese is good, especially if it's good cheese." My point is clear.

MAD — the magazine whose time is and was and continues to be — was never read by Vikings. They were too busy marauding and being fitted for helmets. You, on the other hand, can have the best of both worlds. You can subscribe to MAD and be a Viking.

But who in today's modern world has time to be a Viking, you ask? Who indeed? The hours are long and the pay meager. Which is why you should subscribe to MAD. Yes, MAD. If Vikings had their own mail service and knew how to read and weren't so busy marauding and getting fitted for helmets, it would have been their magazine.

So, be like me. Be like a Viking.

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

Visit www.madmag.com
or call 1-800-4 MAD MAG
6 2 3 6 2 4

Mon-Fri 9 a.m.-12 a.m. Sat 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Eastern Time

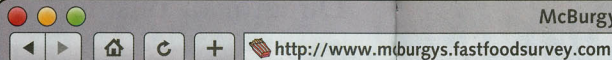
U.S. and Canada Orders Only!
Outside U.S. (including Canada) add \$12 (includes GST tax).

Key Code: A08FIL

In a desperate effort to "maintain quality control" (Note: you can't "maintain" something that doesn't exist!), fast food dumps are now encouraging

their undernourished patrons to go online and give them feedback about how their "dining" experience was. Consider it done! Here's...

A FAST FOOD CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY (THAT TELLS IT LIKE IT IS)



Thank you for filling out our online customer satisfaction survey.

Please enter comments in the **yellow boxes** provided.

Para continuar en español, empuje [aquí](#).

When did you visit our restaurant?

☐ Today ☐ Yesterday ☒ Other

Months ago. I just keep logging on here every few days trying to win that \$1,000 the receipt promises.

Did one of our employees greet you?

☐ Yes ☒ No

While an employee didn't greet me, a guy panhandling for spare change between the drive-thru lane and just outside the door did.

Was your order taken promptly?

☒ Yes ☐ No

By "yes" I mean that I was abruptly asked what I wanted to order the very second I opened the door, while I was standing 20 feet from the counter and hadn't even looked at the menu board.

Did you order breakfast from our breakfast menu?

☐ Yes ☒ No

I tried to, because the breakfast menu was still on display, but your employee said they stopped serving breakfast twelve seconds before I got there.

Did our server tell you about our exciting new menu items?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you mean "Was the mandatory practice of forcing our employees to lifelessly recite some come-on scrawled on an index card taped to the register to somehow convince you to try whatever new, overpriced and unhealthy combination of meat, cheese and jalapeño peppers we're pushing this month enforced?" then I suppose that'd be "Yes."

Are you aware of our Healthy Alternatives™ menu items?

☐ Yes ☒ No

You must be kidding! If I was interested in eating "healthy," do you really think I'd be coming in here?

Did you enjoy the speed and ease of ordering a Valu-Meal by number from our menu board?

☐ Yes ☒ No

"Speed and ease" aren't the phrases that come to mind when your employees routinely confuse a #3 with a #7 and you're half a mile away before you realize that instead of the chicken wrap you wanted, you're stuck with a greasy fish sandwich containing the allergic reaction-inducing tartar sauce that sends you to the emergency room.

Were our employees attentive in keeping the dining room area neat and clean?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Not so much "attentive" as "obsessive-compulsive," and not so much "the entire dining room area" as "the floor directly beneath my table" which your employee passively-aggressively attempted to vacuum while I tried to eat in peace, as though this was the only time in her entire eight-hour shift that she would have a chance to clean this specific 2-foot by 2-foot area.

Were there salt and pepper shakers on your table?

☐ Yes ☒ No

There were pairs of pepper shakers on all the tables on one side of the restaurant, and pairs of salt shakers on all the tables on the other side, which can probably be attributed to an unattended and bored six-year-old looking for something to do while Mommy finishes her Grilled Baby Cranberry Caesar Ranchero Salad, or an employee who's unfamiliar with the distribution of basic seasonings.

If you requested extra condiments, did you receive...

☒ ...enough ☐ ...not enough

Let's put it this way: Thanks to the wasteful amount of ketchup your employees evidently believe I need to enhance a medium order of fries, I've finally realized my dream of opening my own restaurant supply business with the surplus.

Was the napkin dispenser on your table stocked with a supply of paper napkins?

☒ Yes ☐ No

"Stocked"? Try "Crammed so tightly with three times the capacity of napkins it was designed to hold that I was physically unable to pull out one as well as afraid that in my attempt to do so, the dispenser would go off like a roadside bomb and take out four booths."

Are you aware that our menu's nutritional information is printed on the back of our tray liners?

☒ Yes ☐ No

I figured it out once the grease from the fries rendered the paper translucent.

Was the restaurant you visited one of our 24-hour locations?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Judging by the prevalence of parasite-infested homeless people pontificating about the government, including one who insisted on showing me a bad magic trick involving a broken cigarette and then harassed me until I bought him a vanilla shake, yes, it was likely a 24-hour location.

Finally, thinking back about your recent visit, was there any particular employee who stood out?

☒ Yes ☐ No

You mean the kid yelling at his girlfriend on his cell phone? Yeah, when I was leaving, he stood out by the side entrance chain-smoking non-filtered Camels while lines were ten deep and one register was open. Unfortunately, now that I've mentioned it, you're going to have to update that "Employee of the Month" plaque whose last addition was in May, 2003.

On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "poor" and 5 being "excellent" how would you rate the cleanliness of...

Our self-service soft drink station?

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

There was a camera crew from *National Geographic* videotaping some sort of new life form spotted swimming under that metal grate.

The carpet and/or floor area?

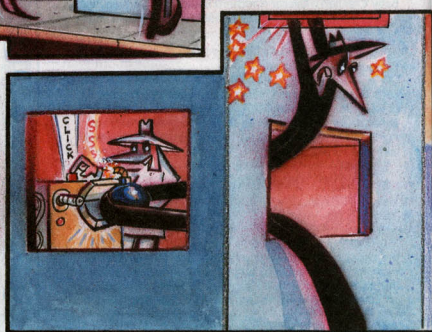
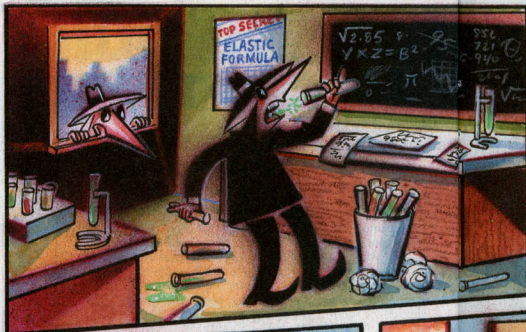
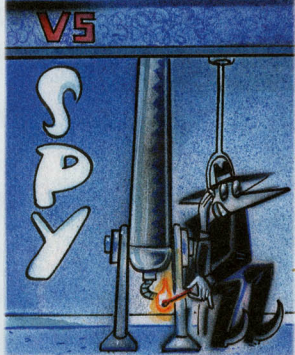
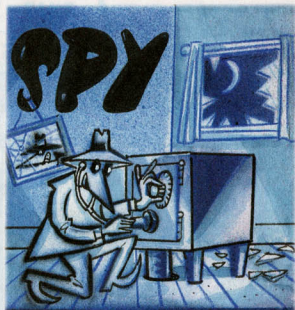
☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

I had a close-up look when I slipped on one of those loose plastic balls kicked in from the play area and fell on my ass and landed on a discarded mayonnaise-covered lettuce leaf and a puddle of orange soda.

The trash receptacles outside the restaurant?

☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

I couldn't get close enough to rate them; the raccoons were particularly aggressive.

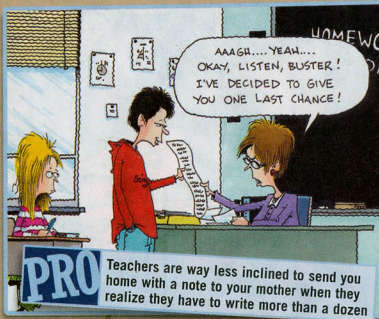


If you're a horny guy (that may be a redundancy) is there anything better than the concept of polygamy? Coming home to a different hot, frisky wife every night of the week! Hoo boy, could it get any better? Well, yeah, coming home to a different, hot, frisky wife every night of the month, or year! Mmmm. That's it! We're off to a Texas compound in search of pure carnal bliss! While we're gone here's something for you to read:

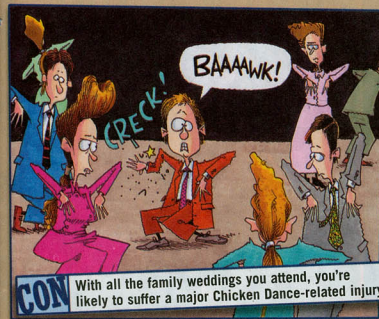
THE PROS & CONS OF BEING A POLYGAMY CULT KID



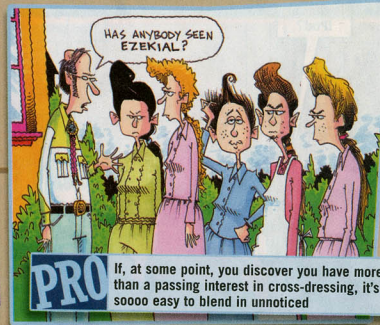
CON Chances are good that sooner or later you'll wind up double dating with your father



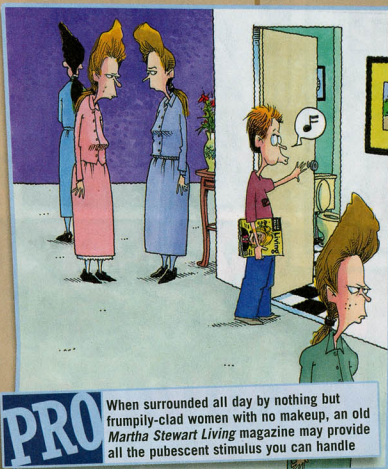
PRO Teachers are way less inclined to send you home with a note to your mother when they realize they have to write more than a dozen



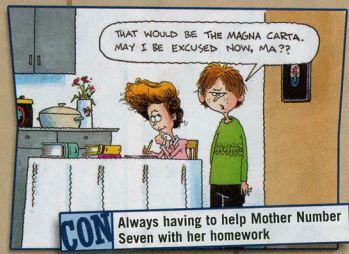
CON With all the family weddings you attend, you're likely to suffer a major Chicken Dance-related injury



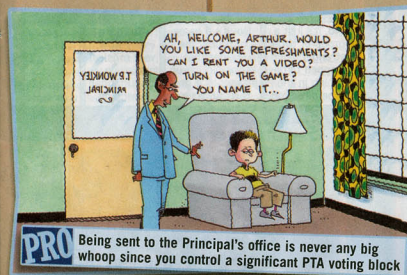
PRO If, at some point, you discover you have more than a passing interest in cross-dressing, it's sooooo easy to blend in unnoticed



PRO When surrounded all day by nothing but frumpy-clad women with no makeup, an old Martha Stewart Living magazine you can handle



CON Always having to help Mother Number Seven with her homework



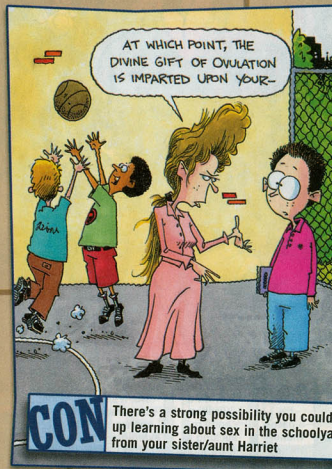
PRO Being sent to the Principal's office is never any big whoop since you control a significant PTA voting block



CON When your moms try to out-porridge one another



CON Too many freakin' soccer moms



CON There's a strong possibility you could wind up learning about sex in the schoolyard from your sister/aunt Harriet

SNAPPY ANSWERS TO STUPID QUESTIONS

Is that an iPod?

No, it's a pace-maker for my brain.

No, it's a juicebox and I'm sucking it in through my ears.

No, it's a very sick garage door opener and I'm examining it with this special stethoscope.

Is this a parade?

No, it's just a group of total strangers who happen to be going in the same direction.

No, it's a game of follow the leader which keeps picking up players as it goes through town.

No, it's a very slow, very musical marathon — the Ugandan is winning.

Making a phone call?

No, I have a hearing problem and I use this little amplifier to talk to myself.

No, a bug flew in my ear and when it comes out, I'll snap this thing shut and crush it!

No, this electronic seashell lets me hear the sound of the digital ocean.

Are you going up?

UP ESCALATOR

No, my hobby is counting steps. I'm past five million now.

Yes, I'm just waiting for these crazy steps to stand still.

That depends — which way are YOU going?

Has the Doctor seen you?

L.A. STRITES M.D.

I can't remember. I was only a child when I came in.

I don't think so — but maybe he took a peek while I was passed out from the pain.

Many times. Just not in the last 8 hours I've been sitting here!

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE
 COLORIST: RYAN FLANDERS



Many mothers keep a "baby book," capturing their child's progress and early milestones. In many ways, it's the greatest gift they can give their child. That way, when the baby is old and grown, he or she can look back and pinpoint *exactly* when their lives went to hell. Some parts of life are really better left undocumented — as you'll see when...

MAD Looks at A Crappy Parent's Baby Book



Wrapper from Daddy's condom that invited you into this world?



Daddy takes his paternity test!



Mommy's tattoo AFTER stretch marks!



Surveillance photos from three months after you were born, of your scumbag father and that dirtbag who gave birth to your half sister.

Don't let that bitch,
YOUR MOTHER,
ruin your life
like she ruined mine.
Love,
Dad



ONE
is so
much fun!

Belated birthday card
from your father

First
boo-boo
scabby!

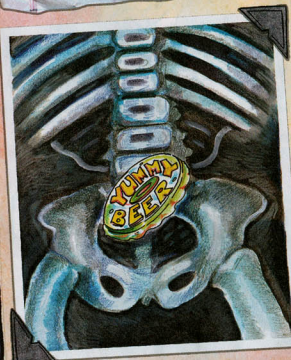


(Silly Gammie
and her
Marlboro Lights!)

JULY 22
Your first word:
Ben-a-dwll (Benadryl!)
That's why you're such
a good sleeper!



Bonding with Daddy



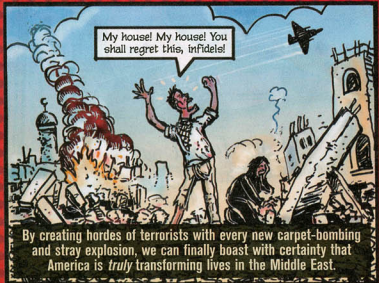
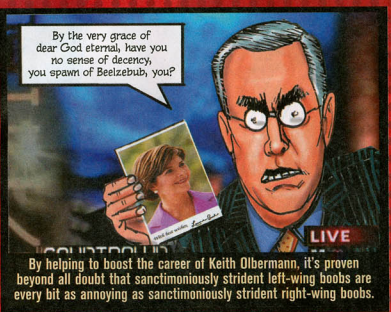
X-ray of the first small object you
shouldn't have put in your mouth —silly!



The day we found out
you were allergic to eggs

Unacknowledged Benefits of the WAR on TERROR

Loudmouth critics of the War on Terror like pointing out that the cortex-snappingly expensive crusade has accomplished absolutely nothing — and may have even done more harm than good. But what these pointy-headed nimrods conveniently omit from their dribble-chinned complaints are the many widely-unnoticed **POSITIVE** things that have come out of our battle against the evil-doers. Don't believe it? Then check out these...



Find joy in the
little things in life!

THE VERY BEST OF OUR WORST STORIES

MAD CLASSICS

SPECIAL "FALL" ISSUE:
BASEBALL BOREDOM!
THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION!
BACK TO SCHOOL
STUPIDITY!



PLUS, WE TRIP UP:
MORNING GAMERS!
RECESSIONS!
REALITY TV!

Q. MARTIN

MAD Classics #23
is on sale NOW!

STUPLES

this is sleazy.

Stuff you could probably just steal from work!

OUR LOW PRICE GUARANTEE:

Stuples is very adamant about having the lowest prices around. If you find an identical item for less at another store, we will strong-arm them into jacking up their price until it's higher than ours — guaranteed!



Sharpie Ultra-Dry Fine-Tip Markers

Perfect for when you need a super-thin line pressed into a page so hard that it nearly tears right through!

4⁹⁹



Scissor Halves

You never know when you'll need a spare part!

1²⁵



Pre-Bent Paper Clips

Whether bored in a meeting, bored on a phone call, or bored at your desk, nothing beats bending paper clips to pass the time. Perfect for the lazy, distracted worker on the go!

1²⁵



Headless Thumb Tacks

Now 68% Tetanus-free!

1²⁵ a box

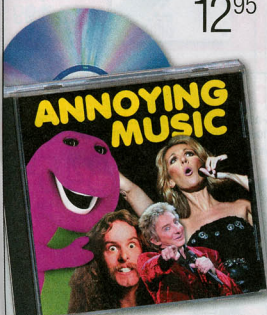
WRITER: JEFF KRUSE

ARTIST: SCOTT BRICHER

Annoying Music CD

Get rid of obnoxious clients and customers by slipping this CD into the office sound system. Tested and approved by U.S. military psy-ops at secret prisons, this amazing 20-song CD features selections from Barney the Dinosaur, Ted Nugent, Barry Manilow, Celine Dion, and a bonus Christmas medley with all four.

12⁹⁵



Swingline Stomach-Stapler

Whether you want to lose weight or simply staple some papers, this is the only item that will do both.

59⁹⁵

Jim-E-Lock Penknife

Need to get into the CEO's safe, but forgot the combination? You'll rest easy with Jim-E-Lock!

9⁹⁹



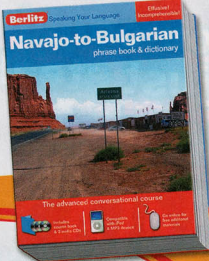
Sleazy Button

Our Sleazy Button shouts our slogan whenever you push it! Now you can pay to advertise for us! Thanks, suckers!

4⁹⁹ (seriously!)



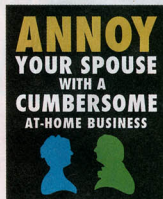
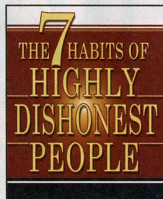
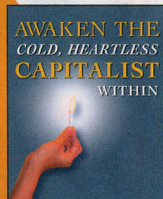
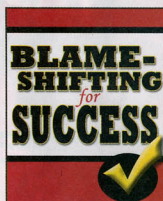
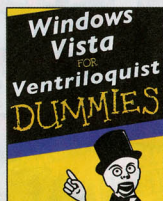
Business Books!



Berlitz Navajo-to-Bulgarian Phrase Book

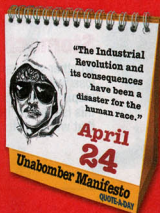
Have you ever been in a Navajo reservation restaurant and can't recall the Bulgarian translation for "I would like the salmon filet"? We haven't either, but why take that chance? 592 pages, clothbound

12⁵⁰



Unabomber Manifesto Quote-a-Day Desk Calendar

Start your day wrong with the disturbing, anti-technology ramblings of Ted Kaczynski!



7⁹⁹

At-a-Glance 2003 Desk Calendar

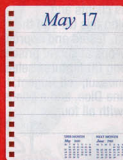
Includes bonus January 2004 pages for even easier planning!



6⁹⁹

May 17th Calendar Pages

For some reason, we had a surplus of May 17th pages from appointment books, and we're passing the savings on to you!



Price at store where it's a lot more expensive: \$17.59

Our price: 4⁹⁹

Conan Smudge-Jet Printer/Copier

Not all office correspondence is important. The vast majority is pretty trivial, in fact. When you don't care how it looks, the Smudge-Jet is an affordable alternative.



Price on Tatootee: 278 credits

Our price: 99⁹⁹

Staple Gun

.357 SIG semi-automatic, mid-range trajectory with 125gr JHP and top-mounted scope. (5-day waiting period required.)

*Staple remover/cauterizing kit sold separately.



345⁹⁹

Existentialist Philosophy Flash Cards

3⁹⁵

DOSTOYEVSKY
Towards the end of November, during a thaw, at nine o'clock one morning, a train on the Warsaw and Petersburg Railway was approaching the Capital at high speed. The

KAFKA
One morning, when Gregor Samsa awoke from troubled dreams, he found himself transformed in his bed into a horrible vermin. He lay on his armour-like back, and if he lifted his head a little he could see his brown belly, slightly domed and divided by arches into stiff sections. The bedding was hardly able to cover it and seemed ready to slide off any moment. His many legs, pitifully



NIETZSCHE
At the dawn of every great culture, there is a period of chaos and confusion. It is the time when the old gods are dying and the new gods are not yet born. Everything is in a state of flux, and the only way to survive is to embrace the chaos and create something new.

Spel-Rite Electronic Dictionary from Lern-Tek

15⁹⁹
Batteries/Vowels
not included



Back To School Headquarters*

* pending official approval by NATO

Mead Vertically-Ruled Notebooks

From the makers of the Mead 30-Subject Notebook

1⁹⁹



Anderson Cooper 360° Lunchbox and Thermos

Our top story – lunch is fun again!

11⁹⁹



Non-removable Post-It Notes⁸⁵ for a pack

You'll always remember the information on these memos after they're permanently glued to your computer screen, bulletin board or desk!



19-Hole Punch

Now you can easily add papers to your 19-Ring Binder!

12⁹⁵



Faber-Castell Indelible Finger Paint

Preserve childhood memories with paint that will never fade from the canvas, or your hands.

5⁹⁵



Crayola 64-Pack (All-Umber)

You'll never need Umber again!

7⁹⁹



32" x 18" Index Cards*

More space = more learning!

5⁹⁹



*Not responsible for any massive paper cuts that may result.

Calvin Klein's "Chalkdust Fantasy" Cologne

The essence of chalk dust and sandalwood will make you the boy every girl in class will desire. For today. For the semester. For eternity.

45⁹⁹



Disappearing Ink Hi-Lighters

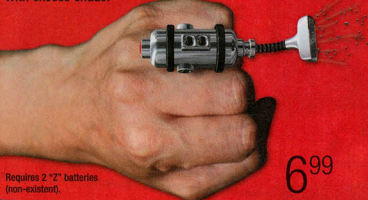
The easiest way to forget what you were studying!

4⁵⁰ for a 12-pack SAVE \$4.50 Don't buy these!



Ultra-Micro-Vacuum

Wear it like you would a ring, and pick up pesky dust specks, and those little stray bits of paper that fall out after you rip a page from a spiral-bound notebook. Ideal for election workers with excess chads.



Requires 2 "Z" batteries
(non-existent).

6⁹⁹

Politically Incorrect Briefcase

The outside is made of 100% Redwood; the inside is lined with Dolphin skin. Manufactured in Thailand by children making 57 cents an hour. A portion of the profits are donated to the tobacco industry.



79⁹⁹

Business Signs!

1⁹⁹ each

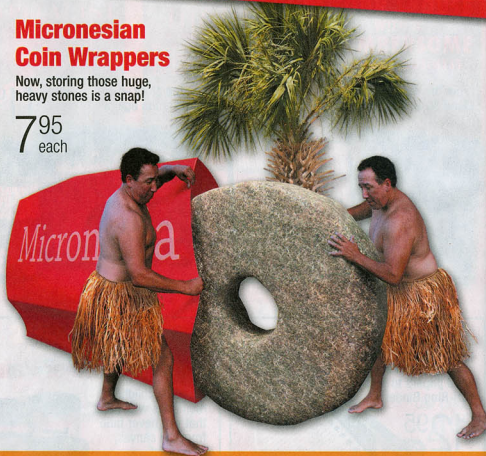
CARS TOWED,
EVEN IF THEY ARE
PARKED LEGALLY

PREMISES
ARE GUARDED BY
THIS SIGN

Micronesian Coin Wrappers

Now, storing those huge, heavy stones is a snap!

7⁹⁵ each



Ticonderoga Pre-Chewed Pencils

Why spend all that time chewing your pencils when we can save you the work?
Box of 12



Our price:
2²⁵ per pack

Price at Sotheby's if the same pencils were owned and chewed by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: \$10,000

Ticonderoga 1-lb. Bag of Pencil Shavings

What can you do with a bag of pencil shavings? It would be better to ask what you can't do with them, since it's a much more interesting list.



Our price:
1³⁸

Price at Office Max: \$1.49

Box O' Stuff

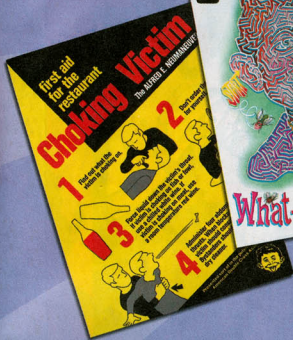
Small, randomly thrown-in items, such as paper clips, pushpins, rubber bands, pens, pencils, erasers, etc. A confusing mess, just like your top desk drawer. Normally takes months to accumulate such clutter.



Number of Items
per box varies

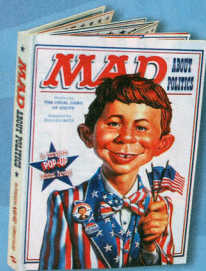
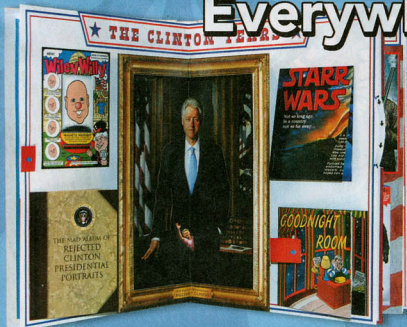
3⁹⁵

It's Wall-to-Wall Stupidity!



Available October 1st
start clearing some
hanging space now!

Idiocy is Popping Up Everywhere!




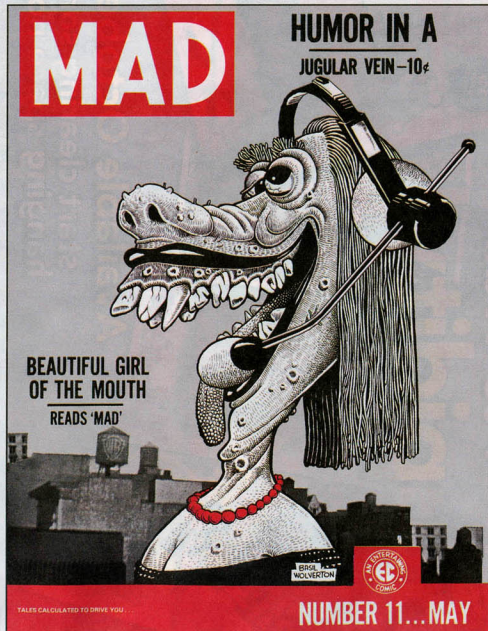
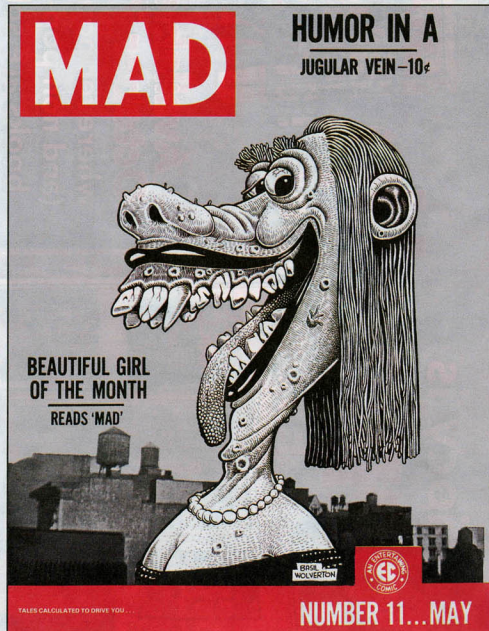
**Available
October 7th**
wherever pop-up
(and non-pop-up)
books are sold.



OBSERVATION DRECK DEPT.

WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE?

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



1) Lena the Hyena is missing a tooth. 2) Her left eye is looking upward. 3) She has a headset on (Good catch, Professor!). 4) Her pearl necklace is now red. 5) She has an extra wrinkle under her left eye. 6) There's a Warner Bros. logo on the water tower. 7) There's an extra building in the distance to the left. 8) There are missing water towers to the right of the girl. 9) The word "month" has been replaced with "mouth."



**WHAT TYPES
OF INCREASES
PROVOKE THE
MOST OBSESSIVE
MEDIA SCRUTINY?**

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

With 24-hour, up-to-the-minute news coverage, the media is able to speculate endlessly about any development no matter how big or small. However, there is one weighty issue that seems to draw the most attention. To find out what this topic is, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



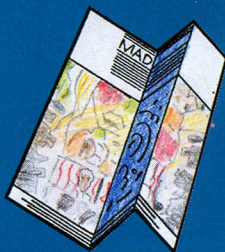
**THERE'S VERY LITTLE FOR MOST OF US TO
CELEBRATE. FOR MANY, INCREASES AFFECT SECURITY
BADLY. THE MEDIA, HOWEVER, IS CONSUMED BY
BORING SIDE ISSUES WHILE WE TAKE OUR LUMPS**

A

WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFE

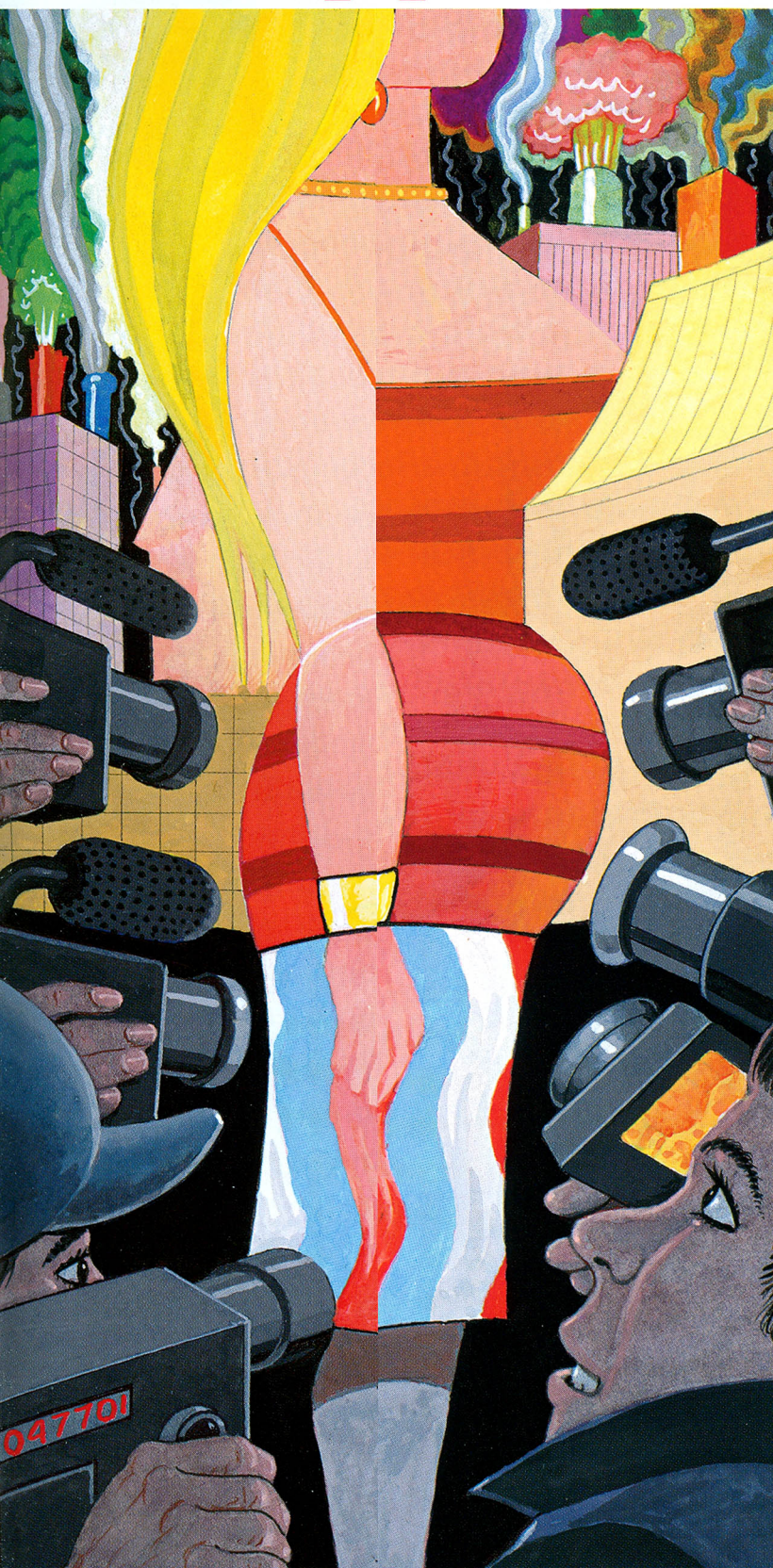
B

WHAT TYPES
OF INCREASES
PROVOKE THE
MOST OBSESSIVE
MEDIA SCRUTINY?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

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



CELEBRITY
BABY
BUMPS

A **B**



BIZARRO... AND BEYÖND!



**All 20 Episodes of the Sensational 7th Season
With Over 2 Hours of Bonus Features**

Cast/Crew Commentaries • Supergirl Documentary • Jimmy on Jimmy Featurette
Digital Comic Book • The Kara Chronicles • Unaired Scenes

Look For All New Episodes
This Fall Thursdays 8/7c On



Own it on
BLU-RAY and DVD 9.9.08

smallvilleDVD.com

dccomics.com

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