

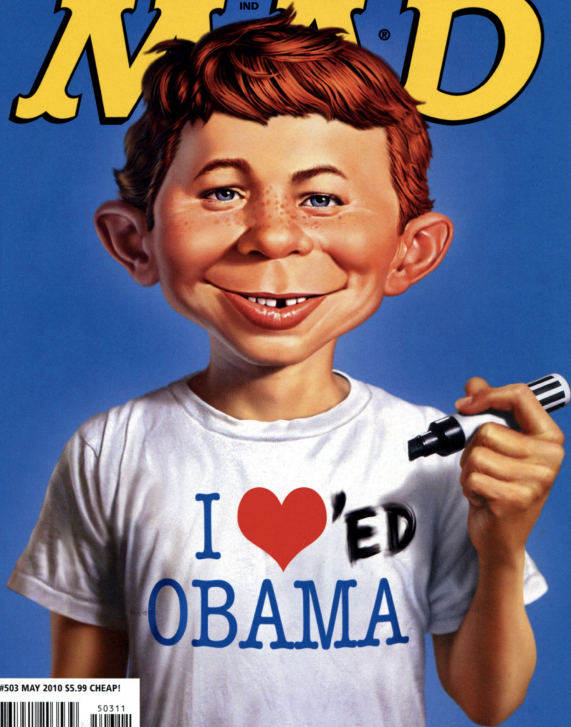
LATE NIGHT TV:
38 WORST THINGS

IRON
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THE BIG BANG
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#503 MAY 2010 \$5.99 CHEAP!



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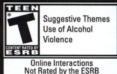
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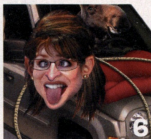
Departments



Everyone wants politicians that are just like them — then they're upset when they are!

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Marginal Thinking Department

"Drawn Out Dramas" By Sergio Aragonés...Various Places Around the Magazine



COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

MAD (ISSN 0024-9319) is published quarterly by E.C. Publications Inc., 1700 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019. Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y. and at additional mailing offices. Subscription in U.S.A.: 4 issues \$14.99. Outside U.S.A. (including Canada): 4 issues \$20.99. (Canadian price has GST tax included.) Allow 10-12 weeks for delivery of first issue. Entire contents © copyright 2010 by E.C. Publications, Inc. Allow 10 weeks for change of address to become effective, and include mailing label when making change of address or inquiring about your subscription. POSTMASTER: send address change to MAD, P.O. Box 420235 Palm Coast, FL 32142-0235. The Publisher and Editors will not be responsible for unsolicited manuscripts, and request all manuscripts be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed return envelope. The names of characters used in all MAD fiction and semi-fiction are fictitious. A similarity without satiric purpose to a living person is a coincidence. Printed in U.S.A.

Letters and Tomatoes

HANDY CLIP-AND-SAVE CHART EXPLAINING EXACTLY WHAT YOU GET FOR WRITING IN TO MAD

Regular Letters/ Everyone on the Letters Page	All of the Amazing Giveaway Items!
Nifty Fifty Celebrity Snap	Free Year-and-a-Half Subscription!
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WHEN THE SHIRT HITS THE FANS

Our own Sergio Aragones was chosen to create the first ever Commemorative Artist t-shirt for Free Comic Book Day! Now you can not only pick up a free comic, but also buy an awesome shirt! Your torso needn't be naked any longer! Go to comicshophlocator.com to find a comic shop near you!



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FRANK GETS THE FINGER

Frank Jacobs, MAD's Poet Laureate, was honored at the 2009 San Diego Comic-Con with the prestigious Bill Finger Award for Excellence in Comic Book Writing. In honor of the many classic poems that he's written for MAD, we've composed one of our own.



*There once was a poet named Frank
Whose hard work we would like to thank.
He worked for our mag
But it's still a rag
His poems are much better than ours!
The End*

Congratulations, Frank!

MAD Reader Alert 2

Oh, you lucky, lucky little so-and-so! Everyone who had their letters printed in this issue's Letters Page will receive an astonishing collection of freebies! You'll get *The Sims 3: The Sims 3: World Adventures Expansion Pack* (both for Mac & PC) and *Nerf N-Strike Elite* (for Wii) — all courtesy of our friends at EA! You'll also be getting *The Encyclopedia of Immaturity Volume 2*, from our buddies at Klutz! And let's not forget the copy of *Dangerously Funny* by David Bianculli, from our pal-pals at Touchstone Books! And a copy of *Lucha Loco* by Malcolm Venville, courtesy of our amigos locos at Universe Publishing! And lastly, (whew!) you'll get *Disney: Alice in Wonderland — A Visual Companion* from our chums at Disney Book Group. If you didn't get in on the goodies, quit bailing — they're all on sale now! Maybe next time you'll write!



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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:

MAD, Dept. 503, 1700 Broadway New York, NY, 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!

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STEVE BISSETTE- Swamp Thing, Tyrant
GABE BRIDWELL- Noble Causes
PETE CARLSSON- Tell-A-Graphics
CHEE- Star Trek 2: Wrath of Khan
KEVIN COLDEN- Fishtown
AMANDA CONNER- The Pro, Supergirl, Power Girl
JESSE DELPERDANG- Dark X-Men: The Beginning
JAN DUURSEMA- Star Wars
MORRY HOLLOWELL- Wolverine Colorist
MATT HOLLINGSWORTH- Daredevil Colorist
ADAM KUBERT- Superman , Spider-Man: the List
ANDY KUBERT- Origin, 1602, Batman, DC Universe: Legacies
STEVE LEIBER- Whiteout, Underground
STAN MADALONI- Mada Design
TOM MANDRAKE- Creeps: Safest Place; Fringe
RAGS MORALES- Nightwing, First Wave
BILL PRESING- Rex Steel, Pixar
ERIC SHANOWER- Age of Bronze, Oz books
JOHN TOTLEBEN- Swamp Thing, Miracleman
BRANDON VIETTI- The Batman
LEE WEEKS- Spider-Man
JASON WRIGHT- Holiday, DC Colorist

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The Joe Kubert Art Store

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THE SILLY SIX

Overlooked Shocking Revelations from the #1 Political Best Seller Game Change



Illustration by Jeff Kline

1. Ironically, Hillary Clinton does have a "Negro" dialect.
2. Though they didn't know it at the time, John Edwards and Tiger Woods had two mistresses in common.
3. After his guest appearance on SNL, John McCain wondered aloud if he could next get booked on The Lawrence Welk Show.
4. Avoid all the nonsense about Obama's birth certificate and religion; the right-wingers really missed the fact that Joe Biden was born in Uganda to Buddhist missionaries.
5. There were rumors that Chely McCain was nagging and molesting at other men on the side.
6. Since anthropologists generally agree that human life originated in Africa, Obama is, in fact, the 44th African-American President.

Twisted Toaster Tales (Episode 1)



Illustration by Jeff Kline

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THE FUNDALINI PAGES

Reasons Cited by Sportswriters for Not Voting Mark McGwire into Baseball's Hall of Fame

24% Biased Against Beet-Faced Juice Heads Who Have Lied to Congress

21% Creeped-Out by Memories of his Repulsive, Boiled Ham-like Neck

16% His General Dickishness

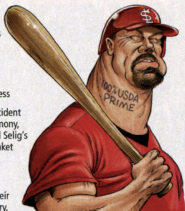
12% Fear of Roid-Rage Incident Erupting at Induction Ceremony, Causing Him to Rip Off Bud Selig's Skin and Wear it Like a Slanket

10% His Rampant Douchebaggery

9% Don't Want to Have Their Brains Devoured by an Angry, Vengeful Zombie Roger Maris

7% Want to Establish Precedent for When They Don't Vote in That Lying, Cheating, Scumbag Barry Bonds

1% His Decade of Out-of-Control Steroid Use



Artist: Tom Richmond

When the Going Gets Duff



Writer and Artist: L.C. Duffly

"That is truly SICK, you magnificent bastard!"

Twisted Toaster Tales (Episode 2)



Writer and Artist: Mike Talbot

6 Degrees of Separation Between Anyone and Anything

CAN YOU LINK HULA DANCING TO GLENN BECK?

Artist: Rick Tufka



Hula Dancing
originated in Hawaii, as did...



Barack Obama
whose Kenyan birth certificate was a big hoax, just like...



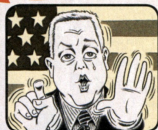
The Balloon Boy
who never really got off the ground, just like...



Real Health Care Reform
which died in 2009, as did...



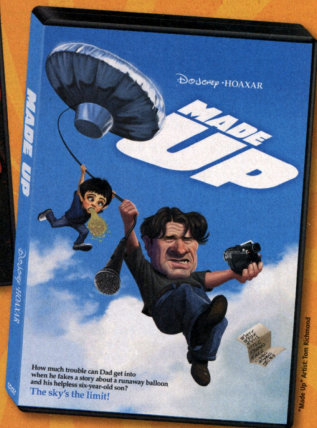
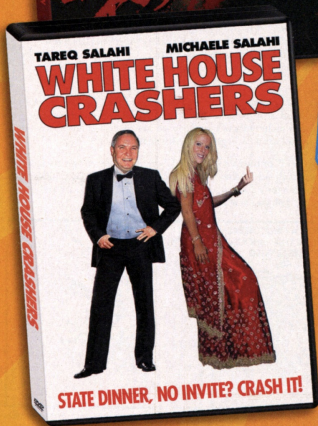
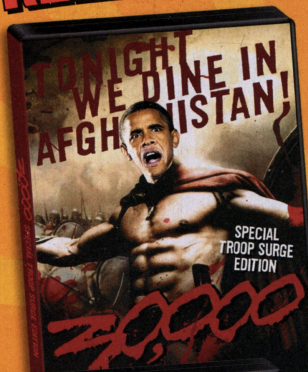
Billy Mays
who became rich selling a bunch of crap to the American public, just like...



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GRAPHIC NOVEL REVIEW

GARFIELD: HIS MOST OVER-RENDERED BOOK

Illustrated by Alex Ross

Wank & Garish Publishing, \$74.95

He's been called "the Michelangelo of comics," mostly by people whose aesthetic expertise rises no higher than the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle of the same name. No matter — Alex Ross is the undisputed master of a mini-sub-fringe genre within mainstream superhero comics: the "photorealistic kinkline of super-characters staring identically into the distance for no particular reason."

The mightiest heroes of both Marvel and DC have been treated to Ross' sumptuous brush strokes. His portfolio runs the gamut of artistic inspiration, from the Golden Age of comic books all the way up through the Silver Age. And his success proved that the great unasked question of fandom had been, "But how would Green Lantern's shirt REALLY wrinkle?"

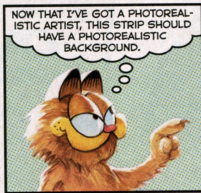
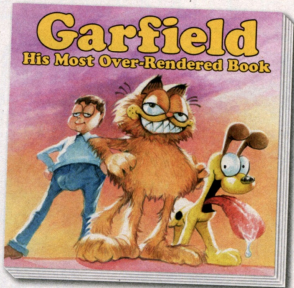
Ross won acclaim by introducing realism into comic books. Because when you have a 10-year-old boy who's been given a magic word by a wizard in a tunnel that summons a lightning bolt filled with superpowers, there's only one thing missing: that all-important touch of realism. Nevertheless, after painting a dramatic low-angle shot of Hourman posing with Streaky the Super-Cat, Mindgrabber Kid, and Tyrano Rex, Ross realized that he had painted every single character in both companies' super-universes. And in all three known poses, too.

It was then that newspaper comic strips looked like an attractive career switch. And there's no bigger kahuna than "Garfield." "Garfield" is syndicated in 2,580 newspapers, which is truly an amazing total considering that there are now only 19 newspapers still in business.

The coolly sardonic orange tabby is among the world's most beloved inoffensive sloganeering franchise properties. He hates Mondays, loves naps, hates going to the vet, and loves food. Garfield is the only character whose inner impulses are less complex than a Playboy Playmate's personality profile. Which makes him the perfect fit for a creator whose nuanced complexity boils down to "look right" vs. "look up."

Along with Garfield, all your favorite characters are here: Jon! Odie! Okay, that's it for your favorite characters. Luckily, in Ross' hands, even the most useless character is totally majestic. That innate sense of pointless overkill transforms even Nermal the kitten (who?) and Irma the waitress (huh?) into mythic, larger-than-life archetypes of heroic repose and coiled resoluteness. And if that doesn't mean anything to you, check it out — Garfield's owner has a package now! With shading!

Unfortunately, this hybrid book may not fully satisfy readers of "Garfield," or the rabid fans of elaborately rendered belt buckles. Case in point: the sight gag of yanking Odie's red tongue halfway across the room always gets big laughs in the Sunday funnies. But when you see the fine details of the circumvallate papillae on the tongue's dorsum, or the almost clinical level of care and craft behind the lingual frenulum that divides the mucous membrane, well, you may puke a little.



ON NEWSSTANDS NOW!

TIGER cheat

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Mindy
"My Hot Night with Tiger!"



Joslyn
"My X-Rated Night with Tiger!"

Tiger's Love Life in the Rough!



Kalika
"My Passionate Night with Tiger!"

Dial #69
for a
Sexy Text
Message
from Tiger!



Julie
"My Torrid Night with Tiger!"



Jamie
"My Lusty Night with Tiger!"



Cori
"My Sensual Night with Tiger!"

Reader's Poll:
Tiger vs. Jon Gosselin



Who Banged More Bar Trash?

Tiger Quits PGA Tour
To Save His Marriage
or to Have More Time
to Meet Sluts?

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A MAD PARODY

THE FUNDALINI PAGES

PROS AND CONS OF THE KINDLE



PRO No front cover means you can tell people you're reading the latest heavy, intellectual masterpiece, rather than the novelization of *Transformers 2*.

CON It's now nearly impossible to draw mustaches, scars, horns or other delightful doodles on pictures of people.

PRO Pro-censorship jerks will go broke trying to burn a giant pile of *The Catcher in the Rye* on Kindles.

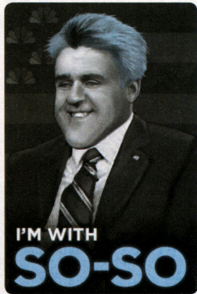
CON Now, when reading *Twilight* makes you throw up, you'll be damaging a \$250 piece of equipment!

PRO You'll have a vast array of medical journals at your fingertips — which will come in real handy if it turns out these things cause tumors like cell phones.

PRO You can't get MAD on the Kindle.

Writer: Barry Lickman

Fundalini Gives Leno Supporters Their Own Poster



Product Acronyms You Never Knew Existed

Writer: Darren Johnson Artist: Tom Bunk



Sprint

STATED PHONE RANGE IS NEVER TRUE



DELTA

DON'T EXPECT LAVISH TRAVEL ACCOMMODATIONS



BRAZ

BIMBOS RESEMBLING ANOREXIC TEENAGE ZOMBIES



HOOTERS

HUNGRY OAFS OGLE TREMENDOUSLY ENDOWED RESTAURANT STAFF



JANSPORT

JOINTS ACHIEVE, NECK STRAINS PACKING OVERWEIGHT REMEDIAL TEXTBOOKS



BOSE

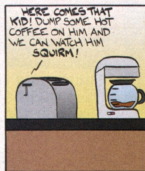
BLATANTLY OVERPRICED STEREO EQUIPMENT



MAD

MAGAZINE ATTRACTS DIMWITS

Twisted Toaster Tales (Episode 3)



Writer and Artist: Nate Fakes



TOYOTA

moving forward...and unable to stop

We're temporarily stopping production. Because it was the one thing at Toyota that we *could* stop.



As you may have heard, in rare cases (and by rare we mean just the opposite), sticking accelerator pedals have occurred in some of our vehicles. At first we blamed the problem on floor mats. When that didn't work, we tried blaming it on the radio presets, the cup holder and even the little Christmas tree air freshener you get at the car wash.

We suspected the problem was getting too big to ignore when crash test dummies began refusing to get into our cars. And when we learned that even our hybrid Prius was attaining speeds in excess of 40 miles per hour, we knew we had to stop making half-ass excuses — and start making half-ass apologies.

So we've temporarily halted production at some of our North American plants. Why have we done this? Mainly, because most of our employees drive Toyotas to work and refuse to get behind the wheel of these high-speed death rockets. And those few who *do* tempt fate and show up, tend to careen right through our parking lot before crashing into the south wall of our day care center.

To find out if your Toyota is affected, try slowing down. If you can't, simply have your next of kin visit Toyota.com for the latest information about the recall and the massive class action lawsuit being prepared by wrongful-death lawyers even as you read this.

Even with all their incredible powers, the world's greatest Super Heroes can't defend themselves from being ruthlessly pummeled by MAD's writers and artists in...

FEATURING
CLASSIC
PARODIES
OF:

IRON MAN

WATCHMEN

THE DARK KNIGHT

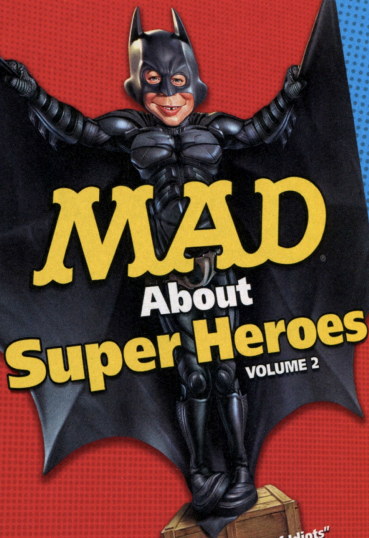
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HEROES

THE INCREDIBLE HULK

**THIS NEW COMPILATION
IS A MUST-HAVE
FOR FANS OF
NEW COMPILATIONS!**

MAD ABOUT SUPER HEROES VOLUME 2



MAD

About
Super Heroes
VOLUME 2

By "The Usual Gang of Idiots"
INTRODUCTION BY DAVE GIBBONS

ON SALE NOW!

The MAD Quarterly Report

DECEMBER 2009 – MARCH 2010

After terrorist fails in attempt to blow up jet on Christmas Day, Homeland Security Chief Napolitano insists "The system worked!"

At least Obama didn't follow up with, "You're doing a heck of a job, Nappy!"



Lou Dobbs leaves CNN.

Though he quit, both he and his ego will be on full salary until 2011.

Disgraced Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich joins cast of Celebrity Apprentice.

Before joining the show, he had to sign an agreement that he wouldn't try to sit his boardroom seat to the highest bidder.



A-Rod splits with Kate Hudson.

The breaking point came in a heated debate over who was prettier.

As he's being discharged from hospital, Rush Limbaugh declares, "I don't think there's one thing wrong with the health care system."

Must have been the illegal Oxycontin talking.



Sarah Palin's almost son-in-law Levi Johnston poses nude.

The slang term for a small penis is now officially a "Johnston."

Howard Stern sidekick Artie Lange stabs self seven times in failed suicide attempt.

We'll resist the temptation to make a crass joke here, but we're pretty sure if it were someone else who attempted suicide, Howard and Artie wouldn't.



Diane Sawyer takes over as anchor of the ABC Evening News.

NBC Nightly News anchor Brian Williams still has a higher hair and makeup budget, though.



A Washington, DC couple bypasses the Secret Service and crashes a White House state dinner.

The worst thing is, when they arrived, President Obama bowed to them.

Alleged wife-beater Charlie Sheen is dropped as a spokesman by Hanes underwear.

This is the first time Hanes has had a problem with a dick in its product.



Jersey Shore becomes a must-watch show on MTV.

In fact, the show's cast has officially surpassed "infectious medical waste" as the worst thing you'll find on a Garden State beach.

The World's tallest building opens in Dubai, named after the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Khalifa.

Why couldn't the Sheikhs have just gone out and bought a Corvette, like all the other guys with "inadequacy issues"?



Democrat Martha Coakley loses the late Ted Kennedy's Senate seat to a Republican.

Hands down, this is the worst thing that has ever happened to the Kennedy family.

John Edwards finally admits that he fathered a child out of wedlock.

As far as we know, this is the only time in his life that Edwards was a straight shooter.





Guten tag! I am Albert Einstein, famed theoretical physicist, Nobel Prize winner, and the inspiration for the phrase "Nice try, Einstein." Why have I been chosen to introduce a television show? It's because, according to a recent poll, I'm one of just two scientists that the average American can name. The other one is Dr. Octopus!

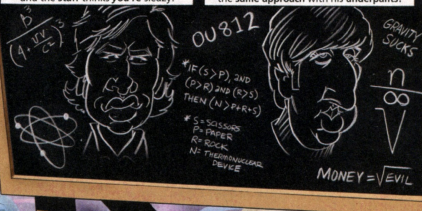
This sitcom's about the two things people do with impact-resistant goggles: science and sex! To begin, meet science geek Leper Halfstudler. The lady he's boinking lives just across the hallway, which is taking a welcome mat one step too far! Leper's a highly-paid physicist, while Panty's a waitress, which is good! Her waitressing experience helped prepare her for having sex with Leper. She writes down his orders on a pad, and after he's finished, she wipes him down with a damp cloth! Unlike Leper, Panty's no genius. She may not understand the subatomic difference between a muon and a gluon, but luckily she knows the difference between an outbreak and a rash!

The smartest one in the group is Shellshock. He's got an I.Q. of 187, which is equivalent to the entire cast of MTV's *Jersey Shore*! He has one Master's, two PhD's, and three friends! Shellshock is still a virgin and is likely to remain one. But as a raging fan of geek collectibles, the good news is that his genitals are still in their original packaging!



There's only so much mileage a show can get out of two emotionally stunted nerds with identically narrow interests. So they made two more of them! Razzberry's another physicist, but he's a standout in his own way. Even among this clique of frictionless wonders, he stands out as the one who's really inept with women. That's like working at *Girls Gone Wild*, and the staff thinks you're sleazy!

As for Howsad, he never heard that imitation Beatle haircuts went out of fashion in 1966! But his bad hair life doesn't stop him from hitting on every woman that moves! And occasionally, those who don't! He was once caught fondling the Alice in Wonderland statue in Central Park! Howsad's confidence is boundless, and he'll proposition anyone. His motto is "Try them all, and see if anything sticks." Unfortunately, he uses the same approach with his underpants!



The logo for the TV show 'The Big Bang Theory' is displayed at the top. It features the words 'the' and 'theory' in a white, cursive script, flanking the words 'BIG BANG' which are in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a dark blue background with a subtle pattern of white stars and a faint nebula.

**Your
ridiculous
proposal is
fundamen-
tally flawed!**
"Spock's
Brain" was
Episode 56!

ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND

Ach, is anyone surprised that our boy Leper couldn't measure up to Panty's expectations? That isn't the Periodic Table on her wall. They're the initials of all the other guys who've been through her bedroom!

So what was the sex like, scientifically speaking? Maximum excitement? Open aperture super-colliding?

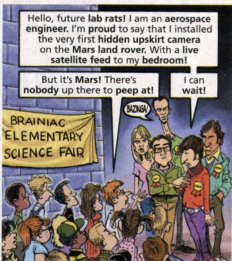
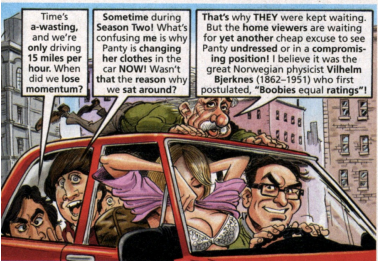
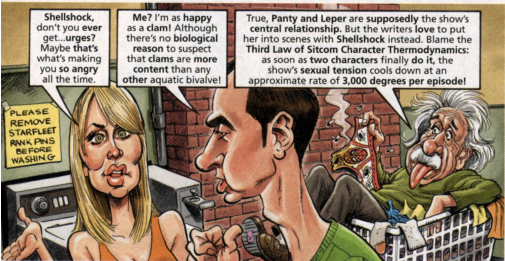
Not so good. It started with an input error, followed by Absolute Zero, and in the end she had to resort to a manual over-ride!

So, I understand you and Leper mated. Did you use proper protection?

No, it all happened so fast. So disappointingly fast!

I theoretically understand. It must have been like playing the arcade version of "Dragon's Lair"!

Those Pavlovian squeals you hear are from the geeks in the audience! They're just happy when anybody acknowledges their nerdtastic history and interests! Mentioning "Halo" or Comicon is a guaranteed audience pop, and much easier than writing jokes!



There are 16,000 types of flatworms. Some of them are able to self-reproduce unisexually, without a partner.

Great. Even flatworms get more action than I do!



My project postulates new, breakthrough uses for Riemann zeta functions. I used the logarithmic derivative to establish the delta distribution, and applied it to compact subsets relating to the Lindelof summation.

We've made our decision. First prize goes to "Quack, Quack!" Says Mr. Duck!

What are you doing? This is obviously the outstanding exhibit!

Yes, it's always best to crush talent and ambition in its crib. Especially if it's in my field! The cutthroat world of academia is a smoldering bonyard of ruined souls. Who needs that little turd growing up to compete with me for grant money in 15 years?



Oh well. Better luck next time, kid. Like they say, "The sun don't shine on the same dog's ass every day!"

It would, if we took the dog and put him into a heliocentric orbit!

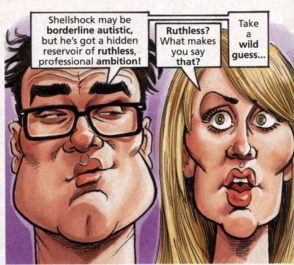
Have him killed.



Shellshock may be borderline autistic, but he's got a hidden reservoir of ruthlessness, professional ambition!

Ruthless? What makes you say that?

Take a wild guess...



Assuming my experiment succeeds as planned, you won't be forgotten. I promise your names will all be included in a very favorable footnote! In the meanwhile, I can be certain I'll get all the best lines each episode! Mwahahaha!

That's Shellshock for you! A "supporting" character who broke out and took over an otherwise unremarkable and formulaic TV show, leaving nothing but set-up lines and "B" storylines for the so-called stars! He's this generation's Urkel!

And if you think the speed of light is fast, just watch how quickly I move my German butt away from this fershlugginer show! Auf wiedersehen, suckers!



CHUCK LORRE PRETENSES

Wooo! Congratulations to TiVoing a show and freeze-framing on this title card. It's like a secret "Easter egg" from us to you, if you ignore the fact that it's not hidden. Instead, let's call it "interactive!" Which is something Hollywood makes up to flatter those dummies who go to the unbelievable effort of purchasing a "customized" iPod skin, or "joining" an official website, or in this case, pushing a pause button. But having read this far, you're in no position to complain. You're the one squinting to read this meaningless gibberish, while anxiously pretending it's a special bonus for the true fans like yourself. We've hooked you good. So make it easier on your fanboy ego. Keep buying into the lie. Hey, we all humped your mother last night, and paid her a nickel! Still reading this? Of course you are. Of course you are.

**FIGHT
UNEMPLOYMENT!**

**BUY THESE BOOKS
SO WE CAN KEEP OUR JOBS!**



**THESE 4 BOOKS AVAILABLE
EXCLUSIVELY AT
BARNES & NOBLE**



THE DARKER SIDE OF THE LIGHTER SIDE

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



Gentlemen, the profit picture for this year doesn't look good! The merger appears to be a dead issue! Stock experts are predicting a steady decline! But there is one piece of good news!



Gentlemen, the profit picture for this year doesn't look good! The merger appears to be a dead issue! Stock experts are predicting a steady decline! But there is one piece of good news!



This is the longest period of time that our company has gone without some disgruntled employee shooting up the place!



The doctor says he can fix my lazy eyes!



Hey, Dad! Did you order the special deluxe pizza with everything?

Yes, I did!



Well, it's here!



Dad, did you reply to a Craigslist "Casual Encounters" posting?

Yes, I did!



Well, it's here!





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

It was once said, "Don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes." It was also once said, "Don't shoot!" And it was also once said, "Please pass the chicken gravy."

*My point is that people say a lot of things. And I say a lot of things too, for example, everything I just said. Which brings me to **MAD** — yes, **MAD** — the magazine whose time is and was and continues to be — also says a lot of things. But the less said about that the better.*

Someone else who wasn't me once said, "Give me liberty or give me death." Whoa Nellie! (This is me talking again, not that other guy who wasn't me.) Who wouldn't choose liberty over death? That's a no-brainer!

*"Give me liberty or give me **MAD**!" That's a tougher one. But thanks to the brave soldiers of the American Revolution you don't have to decide!*

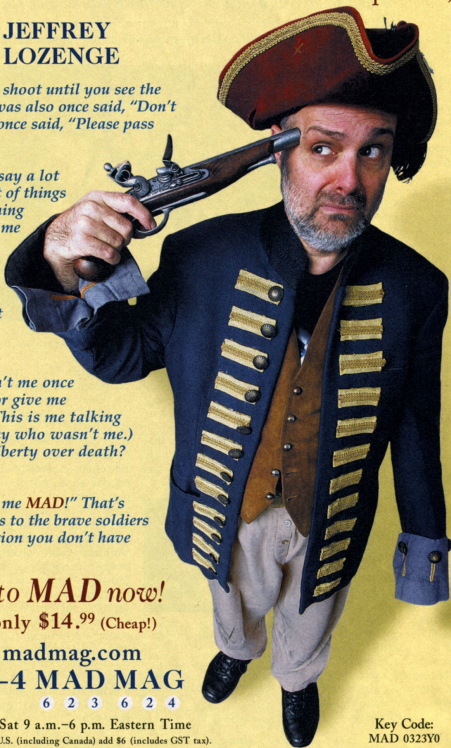
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Key Code:
MAD 0323Y0



Amish mantle and miracle invention help your bank balance hit rock bottom

Unethical ad disguised as article preys on those with subpar reading comprehension skills

Save money: our web "bites" most of the breaks in your face box to "off" as soon as it's plugged in, so you use less energy!

Everyone hates high heating bills, yet freezing to death is a somewhat less attractive option. Not to worry! The popular POWER SPIKE® miracle heaters are actually being given away free to the public for just the next 48 hours. That's right — for the low cost of something like three hundred bucks (plus shipping!) you can call anytime and order one! Everyone who calls is instantly charged upwards of seven hundred dollars for a pair of our absolutely free miracle heaters.

The miracle is in our Patented Lophole Technology™ that allows us to add bogus trademark symbols to non-Trademarked Words & Phrases™ and market these shoddy items in major newspapers, making fantastic claims, through carefully-worded technicalities, omissions, repetitive phrasing and straight forward, disingenuous double talk, employing the latest oxymoronic, contradictory jargon which is being legally liable for any of it.

This is all happening to announce the POWER SPIKE® miracle heater which actually rolls from room to room so you can easily push it out of the way when it falls apart! Or, for extra convenience, simply give it one good heave down the basement stairs. (Check with your dealer before beginning any exercise regimen.)



WORKING NIGHT AND DAY: Our art department toiled on Photoshop for hours to make this collection of unrelated images look like an actual Amish exchange!

The fireless flame looks so real it astounds everybody who has never seen real fire before. It's almost as astounding as those plug-in pictures of waterfalls that the otherwise anonymous sell on the corners of gas station lots on weekends.



JUST ANNOUNCED: The POWER SPIKE® miracle heater has secured the prestigious Good Housekeeping Seal! The product was selected by the Seal after we signed a contract for a two-page, color signed in four consecutive issues in this magazine, which is currently distributed by the Internet and disparately buying for set material.

Soft-spoken Amish craftsmen with no interest in the outside world have taken their time to hand-build these mantles because, well, what else are they going to do all day? Sell eggs at the side-of-impaired roads where only an occasional crazed whore only an occasional crazed whore passes by?

It's a win-win situation: We get these IKEA-grade boxes shipped together by a workforce that's unlikely to unionize. And they get more Monopoly money than they can spend in a month! This slow, careful process forces a strict boxweight limit of two heaters, which is fine by us. We don't want to be stuck with warehouses of thousands of unused Amish mantles once word gets out how they make electric bills skyrocket!

We can barely keep up over since we started giving heaters away free, for \$298 each. With winter coming, everyone wants one. Soft-spoken Amish craftsmen are working their soft-spoken Amish fingers to the soft-spoken Amish bone. Crops are rotting in the fields. Quilting bees have been canceled indefinitely. Butter goes unshared. We know of one Amish family that was so busy making mantles, they they forgot to paint a hex sign on the side of their barn to ward off evil spirits. And once their barn burnt down after we stored a bunch of heaters there, they couldn't get the entire soft-spoken Amish community to raise a new one because everybody was in our workshop making mantles!

PHOTOGRAPHER: JIMMY BOWEN

WRITER: SCOTT HARRIS

POWER SPIKE® Heatless Flame™

How It Works: The POWER SPIKE® miracle heater is a work of mind-boggling genius from the regally educated, university-trained Chinese scientist. It uses only about 1/2 of electricity as other heaters on the market! "Set" setting, saving you some of the cash you'll need to repair the damage from suddenly shutting off the traditional heating in the rest of the house, allowing all of your pipes to freeze. It privately burns the covered, Underwriter's Laboratories seal which has largely been misinterpreted by the public to mean something much more significant than their advertisement that this one unit was shipped to them for testing, did not burn into flames and burn their heads back down. It also comes with a warranty-printed full-year replacement and irreplaceable, money-back warranty, less hefty shipping costs, plus an extremely low-pay 30-day Satisfaction Guarantee.



How to spend over \$700 on a free heater

The National Tub-Free Heaters are now open. They have been open for over a year and will remain open until the Butler Business Bureau files of feeding complaints from angry writers and faulty photo ads close.

Use the map below to locate the zone in which you live and call the toll-free for your zone. Call one in another zone. They all go to the same call center and each of the zones are spread over national time zones, anyway, making whatever you call completely irrelevant.



DO THEIR WAY: Amish workers desperately cling the nation's major industries as they clumsily attempt to deliver their waste to the big city!

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE START CALLING AT 8:00 A.M. TODAY 1-800-555-3456

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE CHARGE ZONE: 2 START CALLING AT 8:00 A.M. TODAY 1-800-555-3456

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE PASTRY ZONE: 3 START CALLING AT 8:00 A.M. TODAY 1-800-555-3456

This curiously expensive free giveaway is the best way to slash heating bills and warn this winter, except for not buying one and continuing to heat your house the way you have been.

Our miracle heaters are not available in retail chain

stores. Sure, we'll eventually drop the price significantly and the damn things will be available next to the Aqua Globes and Sham-Wows in the "previously-only-available-through-special-offer" aisle in your local Walgreens. But that could be weeks from now.

Once you receive your free heater for \$298, you'll instantly feel the warm glow of shame and embarrassment rush over your face. And when your credit card bill arrives with charges you never expected, you'll turn red with rage, keeping you cozy warm for hours. And

arguing over the phone with our customer representative, and then with your own credit card companies, in a useless attempt to get a refund, will get you hot under the collar again! You'll feel so hot with anger whenever you think about this, you'll never be cold again!

There are so many inaccurate, misleading reasons to buy a POWER SPIKE® Miracle Heater!



EASILY HOLDS ANYWHERE: This is the portable Aqua-Spike® design with integrated controls for every convenience! that makes placing it out to the curb on garbage day a breeze!



SAVES ON BULK: Power-saving heating element breaks down within ten to three weeks of delivery. Therefore the unit uses minimal electricity to run the necessary fan and exhaust fans!



SAVES FLAME: The "miracle flame" looks so real it fools every man with severe physical degeneration, stress, glaucoma and uncorrected astigmatism, which, let's face it, 90% of our sick -- old customers



FREE: Get the \$298 miracle heater free, just pay \$298! It's being given away free -- for just \$298 -- to all who beat the deadline of the inevitable class action lawsuit by unhappy customers.

A FREE AD STRATEGY



WRITER AND ARTIST: PETER KUPER

KUPER

THE ONLY CHANGE YOU CAN BELIEVE IN DEPT.

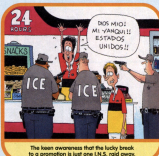
JOHN CALDWELL'S

THE RICH REWARDS OF A FULL-TIME CAREER AS A CONVENIENCE STORE CLERK

The current economy has many people making unexpected and unwanted career changes. If you're a former bank officer, assembly line manager, airline pilot or publishing executive, in need of a new job, you may want to consider...



That special "new name tag" smile.



The keen awareness that the lucky break to a promotion is just one I.N.S. raid away.



The window of romantic possibility that comes with checking a customer's I.D.



Dealing in a diversity of product prices puts you so much higher on the retail food chain than dollar store clerk.



That "I can't believe they pay me to do this" feeling you get when spending countless hours picking through mug shots, trying to I.D. the alleged perp.

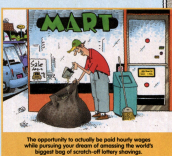


In any social situation, when the topic of beef jerky comes up, you're automatically the go-to guy.



The satisfaction and sense of responsibility inherent in the knowledge that a powerful corporate entity has entrusted you with the keys to the ice machine.

WRITER AND ARTIST: JOHN CALDWELL



The opportunity to actually be paid hourly wages while pursuing your dream of amassing the world's biggest bag of scratch-off lottery shavings.

18 SERIES-IN GENERAL DRAFT

SEPG. D. ARRAGONÉS

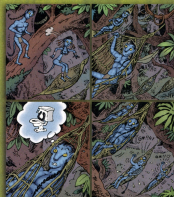
Presents A **MAD** LOOK AT AVATAR



WRITER AND ARTIST: BENJAMIN ARRAGONÉS

COLORIST: TOM LATH





There are lots of reasons you might not have a job right now. The economy is terrible and unemployment is the highest it's been in 25 years (and it's gonna get even higher next week when we sack that hunk of dead wood, John Caldwell.) But let's face facts — if you're a MAD reader, the problem is probably #10. Luckily, we're dedicated to getting our readers gainfully employed (how else are you going to afford MAD???) — so we're happy to educate you on...

THE 9 REASONS YOU CAN'T GET A JOB

1 You're applying for jobs you are not qualified for



2 You use a script



3 You always resort to bribery



4 Your questions for prospective employers need refining



6 You need a new suit



5 Your résumé needs work



7 Your lack of post-interview patience



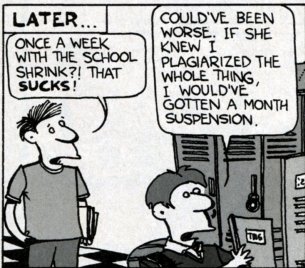
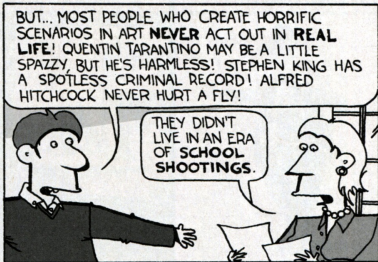
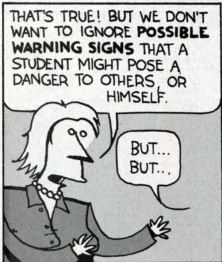
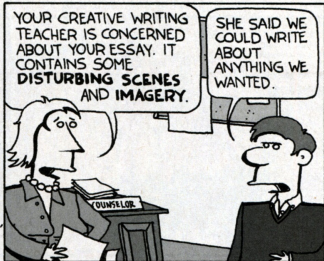
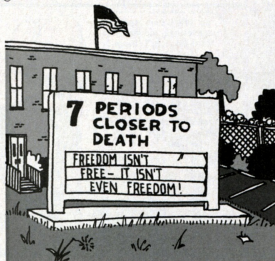
8 You need to learn to control your nerves



9 You're not giving the interviewer your full attention

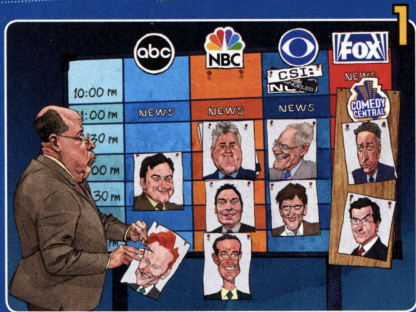


WRITER: TERESA BURNS PARSONS
ARTIST: KEVIN POPE





THE 38 WORST THINGS ABOUT LATE NIGHT TV!



1 The brilliant tactical moves of NBC President and CEO Jeff Zucker: Get rid of Jay at 11:35, move him to ten, bring in Conan at 11:35, give Jay back his old timeslot, push Conan to 12:05... lose Conan altogether. If you ever get a chance to play chess with this guy for money, take it!

2 Shortly after a 7.5 magnitude earthquake decimated Haiti, we watched a concerned public mobilize in an unprecedented outpouring of support...for Conan O'Brien, who, as it turns out, has access to food and water, is not destitute, and was not buried under the rubble of a fallen building.

3 The sad realization that Jay Leno's annoying style of monologue comedy has infected the way other people write their jokes. Write their jokes, Kev. The way they do it. It's infected the way they write jokes. BwwwooOOOWWWMMMM!!!

The allegedly brainy audiences at *The Daily Show* who murmur during the well-researched segment on malfeasance at the Federal Reserve Bank, then delightedly shriek and bust up the furniture for another "balls" reference.

4 Letterman's inexplicable white socks. Hey Dave, Maybe have Paul and the band play "Tequila" so you can dance on your desk and make the Pee-Wee Herman impression complete.



6 Last Call with Carson Daly:
NO TIE
NO DESK
NO AUDIENCE

7 Staying up specifically to watch The Late Late Show for the one American television appearance of some obscure European band that you follow — and then realizing they've been bumped because Craig Ferguson crowded them with the 20-something starlet guest for the entire hour.



9 The Late Show's "solution" to an obviously bored David Letterman hurriedly muttering through each night's increasingly unfunny Top Ten list: a guest reader. Great, all the same tired, predictable lines, but delivered by someone with no comic timing whatsoever.



10 The apparent clause in the contract of every Daily Show correspondent requiring them to clog up bookstore shelves with written versions of their on-air schtick.

The beyond-obvious way Conan's writers use Mad Libs to create their newest sets of "wacky characters."



11 Lopez Tonight. Hey! Did you hear? George Lopez no longer has that sitcom that you never watched! Now he has a late night show that you'll never watch!



12 Paul Shaffer's gradual transformation from intentionally ironic, mildly amusing anachronistic hipster/beatsnik in the 80s to today's annoying bootlicking kiss-ass who — even when the camera isn't on him — never, ever seems to shut up.

8 The Tonight Show's "Ross the Intern." Gay marriage would already be the law in all 50 states, if not for America's exposure to this insufferable, lady-voiced moron.

Nepotism. Remember the good old days when hiring unqualified, underachieving family members was a dirty secret limited to the behind-the-scenes production staff and not celebrated as on-camera "talent"?



17 The unbearable pain currently being felt by Chevy Chase, Pat Sajak and Karen Ivory Wayne, sitting at home, staring at the television, and realizing that they were less successful than Jimmy Fallon.

18 The creepy likelihood that Conan's pesty white skin is quickly burning out the pixels in your expensive plasma screen TV.



19 Seeing someone push their new movie on four different shows, while telling the same "temporarily, unheated" anecdote four different times.



20 Zookeeper guests. Look, if the animal you're bringing on the show doesn't crap on the host, attack him, or get loose and cause pandemonium, you might as well leave the poor, dull creature at the zoo.

21 Nightline. We've watched the last ten opening monologues and, we're sorry, but it's just not that funny.



22

The very real possibility that the H1N1 swine flu virus became a global epidemic thanks to Jay Leno's stoned "shaking hands with the audience" schtick.

23

What's funnier than Jon Stewart dropping the F-bomb to save a mediocre joke? How about having Comedy Central bleep out the oh-so-naughty language? We at MAD think that's just #@%\$ing sad.

24

Letterman's horribly mistaken belief that the name "Regis" is automatically hysterical all the time, in whatever context it's used.

25

Jay Leno's never-ending "Jay Walking" bits. Who's dumber — the idiot who doesn't know who the Vice President is, or the idiot who still finds this funny?



27

Johnny Carson's "Aunt Blabby" character. It never made us laugh. There, we said it. That's been bottled up inside us all these decades.

28

The traffic snarls around Alameda Ave. near the Tonight Show studio that keep you from getting home from work on time (butank computers only).

29

The very real possibility that the dedicated corpse of Larry "Bud" Melman is standing, unattended, in some Late Show prep room.



26

30

The frustratingly inaudible whispering heard in between every host and guest right as the show goes to commercial — that's the real interview right there. Yeah, that's the good stuff.

31

Having to choose between The Golden Girls rerun on WE and The Golden Girls rerun on Hallmark.



Nothing instills non-partisan, across-the-board respect like the President of the United States sitting in the same chair a half-in-the-bag Lindsay Lohan mislabeled the night before.

32



33

Stephen Colbert's not-so-hidden mockery of Bill O'Reilly. Come on, Stephen, it only makes his ego that much MORE bloated.

34

Sancho at Conan on Univision. Nosotros gesto no lo querremos.

35

The ABC programming bonafides who insist on calling it Jimmy Kimmel Live when the show is taped two hours before it airs.

36

Whenever they get a real politician in the chair, Jon Stewart or David Letterman ask more pointed and intelligent questions than network news reporters do. (Garry, this line should appear in MAD's "38 Worst Things About Sunday Morning News Shows.")

37

At its heart, the epic battle between Jay Leno and Conan O'Brien boiled down to which of the two joke monkeys would get to tell their "Paris Hilton is a whore" punchline first that night.

Wondering who else Letterman might have boinked on the side.

38





THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS DIPT.
BREAK OUT THE COMEDY WID-40! ITS...

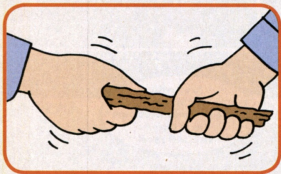
MAD's IRON 2 MAN OUTTAKES



STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS!

FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES

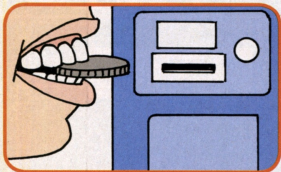
IN THE WORKPLACE



1. Avoid bare skin-to-skin contact!
Shake hands using a stick.



2. Don't sneeze into your hands:
whenever possible, sneeze into
the back pocket of a co-worker.

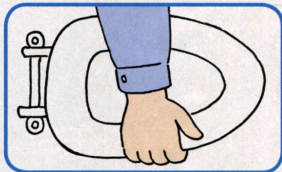


3. Do not touch vending machines.
Insert coins with your mouth.

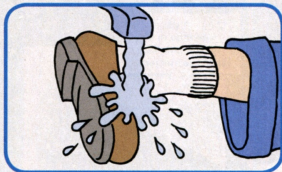
IN THE RESTROOM



1. Avoid contact with the faucet.
Wash hands wearing gloves.



2. Toilet seats breed germs.
Carry your own toilet seat
with you wherever you go.



3. Never flush using your hands.
Push the handle with your foot.
Then wash your foot thoroughly.



THE STRIP CLUB

it only hurt when laughing

OY, ANOTHER SHAMELESS COLLEGE COED ORGY IN A BUICK. WHAT IS THE WORLD COMING TO?! COME ON, LET'S BUST 'EM.

YOU'VE MERELY FORGOTTEN WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE YOUNG. ME? I'M HAPPY FOR THEM.



WHUMPA
WHUMPA
WHUMPA

IT WAS DIFFERENT WHEN WE WERE YOUNG.

IT WAS NOT! YOU JUST FEEL LEFT OUT. IF YOU'RE GONNA BE SUCH A PARTY POOPER, WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK TO THE CAR TO EAT DONUTS AND SULK? THE REST OF US ARE HAVING FUN OUT HERE AND YOU'RE SPOILING IT.



THIS MORAL DEPRAVITY MAKES ME WANT TO VOMIT. THIS COULD BE ONE OF OUR DAUGHTERS, YOU KNOW!

THERE! HAPPY?! NOT OUR DAUGHTERS. NOW, WILL YOU JUST SMILE FOR ONCE AND GET OVER BEING LEFT OUT?!



MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT. MAYBE I AM BEING SELF-CENTERED. JUST BECAUSE I'M NOT HAVING FUN, DOESN'T MEAN OTHERS SHOULDN'T.



WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US, THEN, AND HAVE SOME FUN?

WELL, SURE. OKAY.



SORRY, YOU'RE NOT MY TYPE.

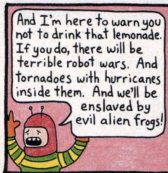
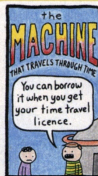


SLAM!



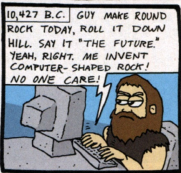
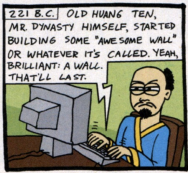
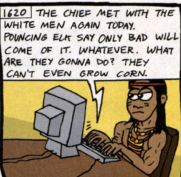
WHUMPA
WHUMPA
WHUMPA





JOEY ALISON SAYERS

THE SECRET LIFE OF

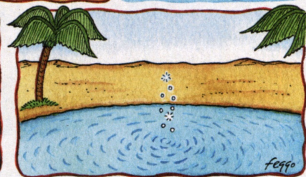
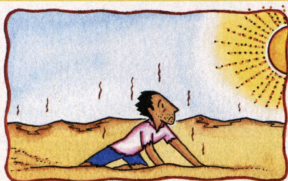


DUSTIN GLICK

THE DORK SIDE

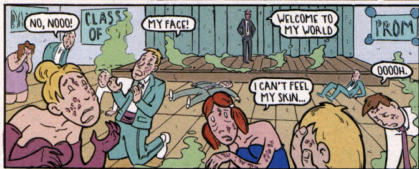
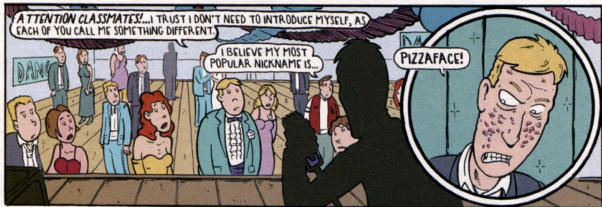


SCOTT NICKEL



FEB000

JUST BELOW THE SURFACE



THE MAD VAULT

1969

BEETLE BAILEY

HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT BEETLE BAILEY ALWAYS WEARS HIS CAP DOWN OVER HIS EYES, SARGE?

YEAH! WHAT'S HE HIDING?

I'VE GOT AN IDEA! LET'S SNEAK UP BEHIND HIM... AND YOU GRAB HIS ARMS... AND I'LL PULL HIS CAP OFF!

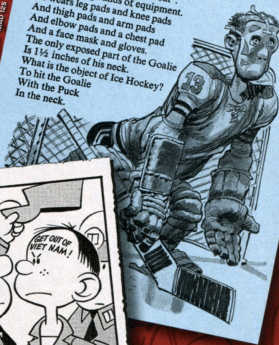
SWELL! THEN WE'LL LEARN HIS SECRET AT LAST!

The MAD Ice Hockey Primer
Written: Larry Siegel
Artist: Jack Davis

MAD 123

CHAPTER 3. The Goalie

This is a "Goalie".
He guards the "Cage" or "Goal".
He wears 30 pounds of equipment.
And thigh pads and knee pads
And elbow pads and arm pads
And a face mask and gloves.
The only exposed part of the Goalie
Is 1½ inches of his neck.
What is the object of Ice Hockey?
To hit the Goalie
With the Puck
In the neck.



If Comic Strips Covered The Burning Issues Of The Day
Writer: Frank Ridgeway Artist: Bob Clarke MAD 126



COLORFUL PEOPLE

Here are people of different colors and different races all living together in love and peace and harmony. Can you color them correctly, and guess where they're from?



ANSWER:

THEY ARE ALL LIVING TOGETHER IN LOVE AND PEACE AND HARMONY, BECAUSE IF YOU COLORED THEM ALL GREEN, THEY MUST BE MARTIANS!



IN THIS ISSUE...
Rosemia's Boo-boo

MAD's Color Puzzle Page
Writer: Al Jaffee Artist: Bob Clarke MAD 128







Twitter may sound like it's fun and easy, but don't fool yourself — it's a pressure cooker! On a daily basis you have to be clever, funny and thought-provoking! And let's face it, if you're a MAD reader, you're NONE of those things! Thankfully, there's one more thing that you're not: honest! At least that means that you can just...

steal these tweets!



I can't find my "Where's Waldo" book. Looks like he's won before we even started...

On Facebook I mark "Like" for as much stuff as possible — it'll make a great cribsheet if I ever have to battle back from amnesia.

Whenever someone says, "You can't get blood from a stone," don't reply. Just smash them in the face with a stone.

I'm making a scrapbook of all my favorite times spent scrapbooking.

Went to a restaurant that had a chocolate fountain. Fortunately, I had Hanukkah coins on me, so I was able to make a wish.

I finally organized my computer's cluttered desktop. Now I have everything in one tidy folder — labeled "Desktop."

What's the best way to tell the world that I'm allergic to the metal they use to make those medic-alert bracelets?

Remember how much better nostalgia used to be?

I got a ticket for driving while talking on my cell phone. Is it worth arguing that I wasn't actually talking, just playing Tetris?

When I'm at the urinal, I always pour a little on the ground for my homies with urinary tract infections.

I'd take your message of social upheaval much more seriously if your "Anarchy" patch hadn't clearly been purchased at Hot Topic.

Women want a fairytale romance. Men just want a happy ending.

**WHAT CONDITION
DEFINITELY WON'T
BE COVERED BY
THE NEW OBAMA
HEALTH PLAN?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

There have been many complaints about the new health care plan. People are worried about getting their needs met and want to be fully satisfied — and no one wants to be caught with their pants down. The plan can completely fall apart when a member is left uncovered and unprotected. To find out what malady is not covered under the new plan, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!



FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT



FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



**A BRUTAL FACT OF LIFE IS THAT THE COMPROMISED
RECENT HEALTH BILL IS SERIOUSLY FLAWED. PU-
TATIVE EVIDENCE PLAGUES THE ADMINISTRATION**



WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE



WHAT CONDITION
DEFINITELY WON'T
BE COVERED BY
THE NEW OBAMA
HEALTH PLAN?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

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



A BRUISED
REPU-
TATION

A **B**

Ever tried sliding
down a
bobsled run naked?



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Ever tried  Gum?
Stimulate Your Senses[®]

Yo Ho Ho, It's a Pirate's Life For Me

