

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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OCTOBER 2008

NUMBER 494

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You really shouldn't go the extra mile when you have a specific destination!



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COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

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the usual gang of idiots

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MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

FAX MAD AT 212-506-4848!

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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 freeloading 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

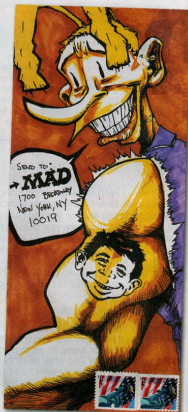
Just Say Nooh — We also have no art education! Which may explain why we like your envelope so much! Enjoy your one-year subscription! —Ed.

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!

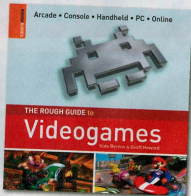
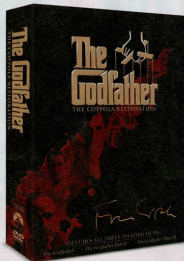
Cameron Evans, Goleta, CA

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 turtlenecks 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

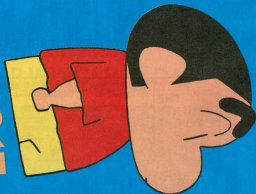
Kanji Cane — You got it, sweetcheeks! —Ed.



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ON SALE OCTOBER 14!

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PARODY AND A FABULOUS
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RIGHTSTUFF

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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**.

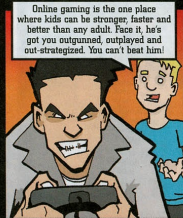
To those who **question my position on religion**, let me just say that I **pray that Church and State** will always be **kept separate**, and I will work towards that end — **so help me God!**

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





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



TEEN
T
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ESRB

Alcohol Reference
Mild Language
Suggestive Themes
Violence



Wii



XBOX 360 LIVE

**SPIKE**

TNAWRESTLING.COM

GET MORE ACTION

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 passwordds 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 turtle-neck-wearing mega-tool Steve Jobs.

20»

YouTube

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 improtent, 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.

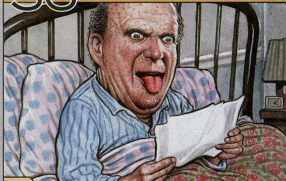
34

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»



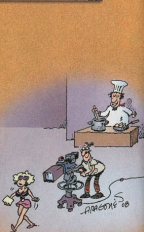
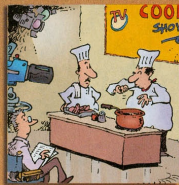
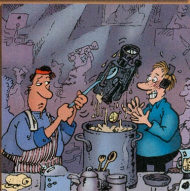
Perez Hilton, a bottom-feeding gossip monger who "slickly" combines John Madden Telestrator scribbles of genitalia and DNA drippings with celebrity photos, and then adds the kind of commentary previously only overheard in the bathrooms of clubs with names like "The Tranny Station."

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!





AST.com



Ryan Spector / Photo By Bridges

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



Panasonic

RIGHT
GUARD



TOYOTA



MONCLER



MAD



THE DARKER SIDE OF THE LIGHTER SIDE



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





I really hate visiting next door! Whatever I say I have, she always has to PUT ME DOWN and then TOP ME!

That's just her way of feeling important!



I really don't care WHAT her reasons are! It's downright ANNOYING!

So don't talk about anything GOOD!



Hi, Sam! Hi, Gladys! How are you?

To tell the truth, I'm not feeling well! I've had this terrible cold and it's gone so my chest! I'll probably end up with pneumonia...

Big deal! Pneumonia!



I've had DOUBLE pneumonia!



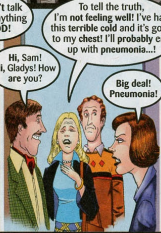
I really hate visiting next door! Whatever I say I have, she always has to PUT ME DOWN and then TOP ME!

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Hi, Sam! Hi, Gladys! How are you?

To tell the truth, I'm not feeling well! I've had this terrible cold and it's gone to my chest! I'll probably end up with pneumonia...

Big deal! Pneumonia!



I'm getting a voice box and I don't even smoke!



Every night at exactly eleven o'clock, our upstairs neighbor goes to bed! First, he takes off one of his heavy clothe-dropper work shoes and drops it on the floor... like THAT!!



Why aren't you going to sleep? And why are you staring up at the ceiling?



I can't go to sleep until the other shoe drops!



There! Okay! I'm satisfied! Now, I can go to sleep!

KLUMP!



Every night at exactly eleven o'clock, our upstairs neighbor goes to bed! First, he takes off one of his heavy clothe-dropper work shoes and drops it on the floor... like THAT!!



Why aren't you going to sleep? And why are you staring up at the ceiling?

I can't go to sleep until the other shoe drops!

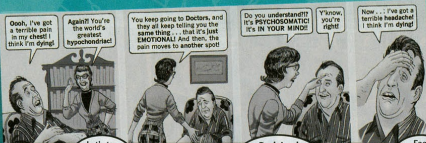


There! Okay! I'm satisfied! Now, I can go to sleep!

KLUMP!

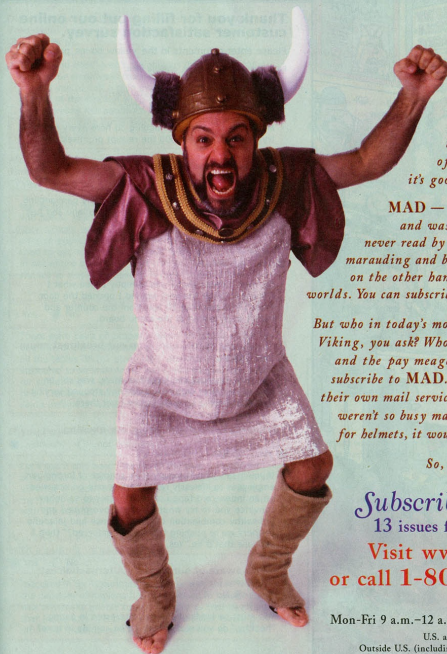


Oh, crap! He's dating that one-legged woman again!



#2 In A Series

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!)

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or call **1-800-4 MAD MAG**

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little things in life!**

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BACK TO SCHOOL
STUPIDITY!**



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RECESSIONS!
REALITY TV!**

a. martin.

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is on sale NOW!**

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this is sleazy.

Stuff you could probably just steal from work!

OUR LOW PRICE GUARANTEED:

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

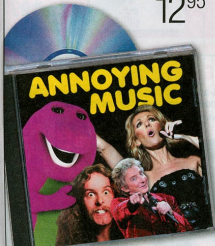
WRITER: JEFF KRUSE

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



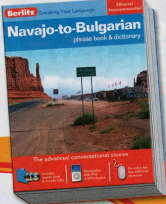
Sleazy Button

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

4⁹⁹
(seriously!)



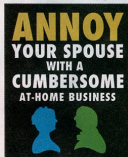
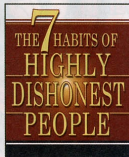
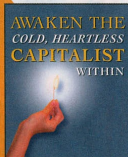
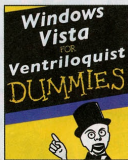
Business Books!



Berlitz Navajo-to-Bulgarian Phrase Book

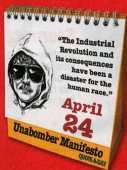
Have you ever been in a Navajo reservation restaurant and can't recall the Bulgarian translation for "I would like the salmon filet"? We haven't either, but why take that chance? 592 pages, clothbound

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 at Tatooline: 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

DOSTOEVSKY
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 city of
St. Petersburg.

KAFKA
One morning, when Gregor Samsa
woke 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
the 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
"God is dead, God is dead!"
cried one of the wisest men of
his time.
KIERKEGAARD
"Not merely in the realm of cosmology
but in the realm of ethics to walk with
God is impossible, impossible otherwise
everything is to be laid on the
altar of the eternal."
"I have said that I am a Christian
and that I am a philosopher."
"I have said that I am a philosopher
and that I am a Christian."
"I have said that I am a philosopher
and that I am a Christian."
"I have said that I am a philosopher
and that I am a Christian."



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 Notes

.85
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

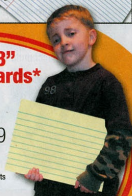


32" x 18" Index Cards*

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.

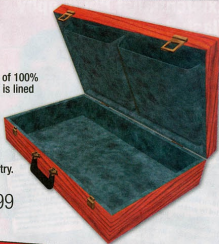


Requires 2 "2" batteries
(non-existent).

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

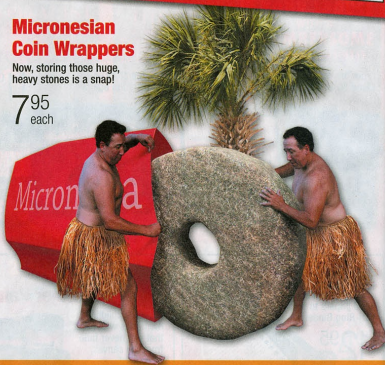
**CARS TOWED,
EVEN IF THEY ARE
PARKED LEGALLY**

**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 Hax: \$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

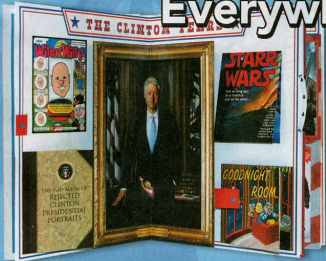
3⁹⁵

It's Wall-to-Wall Stupidity!



Available October 1st
start clearing some
hanging space now!

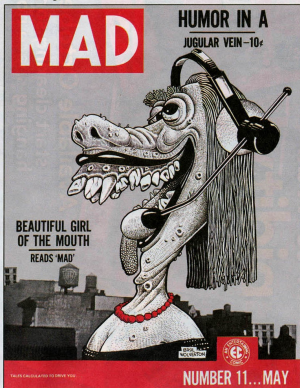
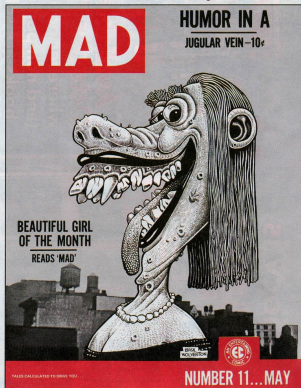
Idiocy is Popping Up Everywhere!



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

WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE?

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



1) Laura 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 whisker under her left eye. 6) There's a Murray Book 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 OBSSIVE
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!



FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT



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



WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE



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





BIZARRO... AND BEYOND!



**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 **9.9.08**
BLU-RAY and DVD

smallvillevd.com

dccomics.com

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SHOW ME THE FUNNY

I used to love reading your magazine and the MAD books as a young boy as they made me laugh spontaneously. I just received a MAD for the first time in more than thirty years (4402) and read it from cover to cover. While I was impressed with the animation, I found almost no humor — I felt not a giggle, not a chuckle, not a wee hee while I read it. Can you help me regain my sense of humor because it can't be the magazine's fault?

Glenn Hughes, Lubbock, TX

It's Nothing Old — You missed the anniversary! We don't know what motivated you're dipping into down there in Texas, but it must be some strong stuff! Last time we checked, the drawings were completely irrelevant. It sounds like not finding it funny is the LAST of your problems. Close up your e-mail and try again! Bottoms up! —EA



DEWEY DISMAL SYSTEM

MAD 4407 was the first MAD that I ever purchased. This made me think a lot. I now feel like I have been missing out on what could be the best magazine ever published. I want to know if the offer you make Chris Baker of Groves, MA about taking a picture with a hand librarian and getting a free subscription applies to anyone. If so, I have complained at the library and I don't know if Chris did it, but I know I had no problem going up to the head librarian of the Marshfield Library. At first she looked at me kind of weird. I guess cause nobody has ever asked her to do this. So you can see, she still took the picture with me and MAD anyway. Hope to hear from you really really soon and please send me MAD!

Justin Overcash, Los Angeles, CA

Go on in the 20s. Wherever YOU Be, YOU Be — O.K., sure, even though you're not Chris Baker of Groves, MA, we welcome your pluck and muscle and your love of all things library-related. Congratulations on your one-year subscription, we hope your courage inspires that sweetest Chris Baker to finally associate his love of hand librarians! —EA

THREE RING CIRCUITS

When we printed our special all-Crooks City flyer in MAD 4492, we had no idea what kind of reaction we'd get. The more we talk with magazines in some of the locations based a means to employees telling them to remove and destroy all of these issues of MAD. However, since the memo was issued and the press picked up on it, Crooks City apologized for overreacting and had a good laugh over the whole thing. The entire back and forth was reported in the news including USA Today and MSNBC. To find out more, head to Google. We just hope that our complimentary 42-inch picture TVs are on the way!

CHURCH AND DESTROY

I have been a MAD magazine reader since the beginning of this year and ever since I've been having strange dreams. My dreams consist of me meeting celebrities and me wishing I had a MAD and a camera with me so I can get a free three-year subscription. These dreams have been getting louder and louder. Once I was in an ice skating rink, then in a house of mirrors and once even in the middle of the ocean... but not once did I bring a MAD. So now I'm carrying around a MAD where ever I go (yes, in bottles of water too) just in case. Please and my pain and publish my letter to your magazine so I can stop using MAD's two church, because apparently, they know your your future (like everyone else).

Spencer Jay, Maryland, VA

One Job at a Time — Not every religion knows you on our list. Right? It's time you start heading into the Church of Mad Day. Of course, it's not so much a religion as it is a valid belief in MAD. We're David Shapiro. If you can get past his multiple online videos and his policy of invasion into strange life in particular, you'll find he has a very fun attitude about bringing MAD to church. Amen and thanks for writing! —EA



THE EPIC THAT STARTED IT ALL



DRAGON BALL Z

REMASTERED

BALL Z

SEPT 16TH 2008



SEASON SIX

- OVER 100 MINUTES OF BONUS ACTION
- INCLUDES THE ENTIRE CELL GAMMA SAGA
- MAIN-TITLE PLAY SPECIAL FEATURES
- DIGITALLY REMASTERED

AVAILABLE ON DVD

TREE-MIGHT LORD SLUG

- INCLUDES TWO UNCUT MOVIES IN HD SET ON DVD
- STUNNING 5.1 SURROUND SOUND WITH ORIGINAL JAPANESE AUDIO
- DIGITALLY REMASTERED FROM THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE FILM
- COLLECTIBLE METAL TIN

AVAILABLE ON DVD

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Find out more at www.dragonballz.com



GRUFFIN ACCOMPLISHED DEPT.

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 Nielsen). The Griffins use lots of visual gags, while the President's humor is mostly verbal (you simply can't misinterpretate Dubya's hilarity!). Amazingly, though, there are also a number of similarities that connect the First Family and the cartoon duo from Quahog. It's gonna be breakin' 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, INCREDIBLY, BOTH HAVE
SOMEHOW MANAGED TO STICK
AROUND FOR NEARLY A DECADE.**



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



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



WORDS: DAVID HAYES

ARTS: JACK STRAUSS

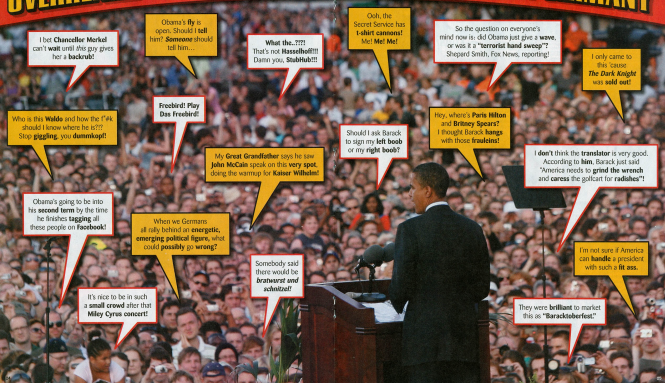
A MAD LOOK AT COOKING SHOWS



WRITER AND ARTIST: TONY ARAGONES



OVERHEARD AT THE BARACK OBAMA RALLY IN GERMANY



GIVE GREASE A CHANCE DEPT.

In a desperate effort to "incinerate quality control" Ficks: you can't "incinerate" something that doesn't exist! But food dumps are now encouraging

their undermanned 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)



McBurg's

<http://www.mburgs.fastfoodsurvey.com>

Search

Thank you for filling out our online customer satisfaction survey.

Please enter comments in the (yellow boxes) provided.

For comment in Spanish, email info@mcburgs.com.

When did you visit our restaurant?

☐ Today ☐ Yesterday ☐ Other

Months ago, I just keep logging on here every few days trying to win that \$1,000.00 reward prize.

Did one of our employees greet you?

☐ Yes ☐ No

While an employee didn't greet me, a guy pandering 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 actually 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 my 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 willingly recite some come-on scripted on an index card taped to the register to somehow convince you to try whatever new, overpriced and unhealthy combination of meat, cheese and jalapeno peppers were 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 Value-Meal by number from our menu board?

☐ Yes ☐ No

"Speed and ease" weren't the phrases that came 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 lunatic 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 employees passively-aggressively attempted to vacuum while I tried to sit in place, 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 Penny Pinesher her Grilled Baby Crabapple 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 "Conned" so lightly with three times the capacity of napkins it was designed to hold that I was practically unable to put 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 both parties.

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

☐ Yes ☐ No

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

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

☐ Yes ☐ No

Judging by the prevalence of pesticide-released homeless people parading about the government, including one who insisted on chewing 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 an ill-fated Camel's while his eyes were too deep and one register was open. Unfortunately, now that I've returned, it's you're going to have to update that "Employee of the Month" plaque where 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's "Surviving Under the Metal Gate" filming this station.

The carpet and/or floor area?

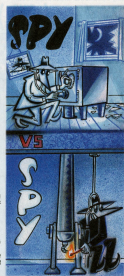
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

I had a close-up look when I slipped on one of those loose plastic balls locked in from the play area and fell on my ass and landed on a discarded microwave-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.



THE PROBLEM IS A PARENT DEPT.

If you're a hairy guy (that may be a redundancy) is there anything better than the concept of polygamy? Coming home to a different hot, hairy wife every night of the week? Well, hey, could it get any better? Wait, yeah, coming home to a different, hot, hairy wife every night of the month, or year? Mean. 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



WATER AND ARTIST: JOHN CAMPBELL

We don't know who said "There's no such thing as a stupid question" — but we're willing to bet it wasn't Al Jaffe.

Need more proof? Here's...

SNAPPY ANSWERS TO STUPID QUESTIONS



ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFE
ILLUSTRATION: BRAD LINDEN

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 glimpse exactly when their lives went to hell. Some parts of life are really better left undocumented — as you'll see where.

MAD Looks at A Crappy Parent's Baby Book



Wrapper from Daddy's condoms that landed you into this world!



Daddy takes his paternity test!



Mommy's tattoo AFTER stretch marks!



Sometimes babies have blue marks after you were born, if your mommy talked and that thing you gave him to give him 2000.

Don't let that bitch,
Your MOTHER,
Pain your life,
Like she ruin mines.
Love,
Dad



ONE
is so
much fun!

Belated birthday card
from your father

First
boo-boo
scabby!



Silly Gnome
and his
Mother Liza!

JULY 22
Your first word:
"Ben-Awayall (Barnyard!!)"
That's why you're such
a good snorepot!



Bonding with Daddy



X-ray of the first small object you
swallowed when you were born. really?



The day we found out
you were allergic to eggs

WRITTEN: TESSIE FORD PATERNITY

ARTIST: KEVIN POPE

THE BLAST IS HALF FULL, SEPT.

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 nitwits conveniently omit from their disbelieving 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...

