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MAD



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Alfred E. Obama '08



UNITED STATES

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MAD

SEPTEMBER 2008

NUMBER 493

DEPARTMENTS

LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPARTMENT
Random Samplings of Reader Mail.....2

RANDOM ACTS OF MINDLESS DEPARTMENT
The Fundalini Pages.....8

ROOKIE MONSTER DEPARTMENT
The 46-Year-Old Political Virgin
(A MAD Political Poster).....11

AN INDY FILM DEPARTMENT
"Inadriaper Jones and the Kingdom of the
Creative Dry Spell" (A MAD Movie Satire).....12

SERGE IN GENERAL DEPARTMENT
A MAD Look at Summer Fun.....18

CRACK IS AACK! DEPARTMENT
Amy by Amy Winehouse.....22

IN BLOG WE TRUST DEPARTMENT
Planet Tad!!!!!!.....24

JOKE AND DAGGER DEPARTMENT
Spy Vs. Spy.....26

SLOPPY DISC DEPARTMENT
Now That's What I Call Monotony! (A MAD Ad Parody).....28

ANGSTER'S PARADISE DEPARTMENT
Monroe and...The New Phone.....29

HITTING THE SNAIL ON THE HEAD DEPARTMENT
What if Slugs Fought in Mixed Martial Arts Competitions?.....30

THE HIGH CORPSE OF LIVING DEPARTMENT
When the Recession Hits Funeral Homes.....34

LAUREN ORDER DEPARTMENT
MAD Heads for *The Hills* Outtakes.....36

TRIP TEASE DEPARTMENT
The MAD World of Travel.....38

LEAVE IT TO GEZZER DEPARTMENT
No Country For Old Man (A MAD Political Poster).....41

WHOSE LION IS IT ANYWAY? DEPARTMENT
"The Chronic-ills of Yawnia — Prince Thespian"
(Another MAD Movie Satire).....44

OBSERVATION DRECK DEPARTMENT
What the Heck is the Difference?.....48

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

Various Places
Around the Magazine

COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON

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29



22



It's Funny how the dumbest son and shillest daughter-in-law never fail to produce the smartest, sweetest grandchildren on the planet!



ALFRED E. NEUMAN

26



44





WRITE OR WRONG

There was just a really big storm two days ago and it knocked out the power. As a result of this, school was closed for the day. Luckily, I had just received my new issue of MAD and while all of my friends were out having fun, I was inside my house reading MAD with a flashlight. The part I was reading was the Letters to the Editor (my favorite part). After finishing this section, a very strange thought came to my mind. All of the letters and responses seemed so perfectly thought-out, so my idea was that my favorite section was fake! Is it true, or am I just another schmuck that reads your magazine?

Josh Drubin, Derwood, MD

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



WEDDED DISS

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

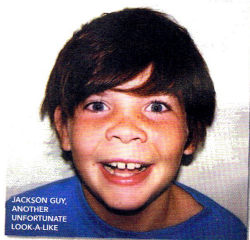


ALFRED LOOK-A-LIKE

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

Josh Kimberlin, Englewood, TN

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



THE BIG TEACHER'S PET PART DEUX

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

Matthew Zarr, Fountain Valley, CA

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

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



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HOLY CRAP!

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

Rev. John R. Haas, Saskatchewan, Canada

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

STRANGE BET-FELLOWS

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

Abigail Garfinkle, Austin, TX

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

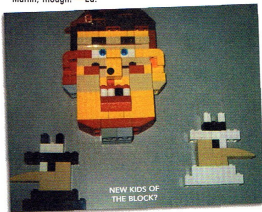


THE BIG EASEL

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

Daniel Mardirosian, Denver, CO

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

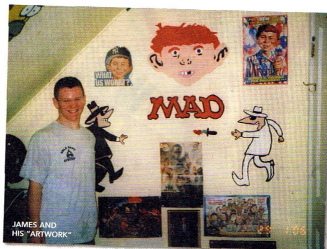


MAD FAN OF THE MONTH

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

James Nolan, Windsor, VT

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



PICTURE IMPERFECT

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

Vinnie Klement, La Mirada, CA

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



WHAT, MEOW WORRY?

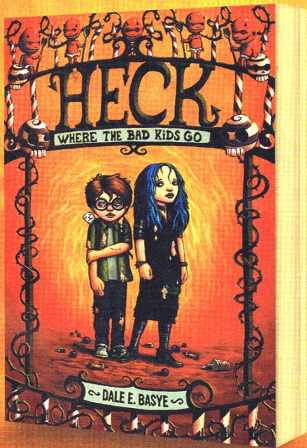
It would be very cool if you had a whole issue dedicated to cats. I mean, I know a lot of kids that buy books, magazines and coloring books, etc. just because there's a cute, cuddly, fluffy kitten on the cover. Plus, it's about to be my cat Peppers' birthday and I wanted to surprise him by putting his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

Yahawa Ashaqua, San Juan, Puerto Rico

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

HECK

WHERE THE BAD KIDS GO.



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

Illustrations © 2003 by Dale E. Basye

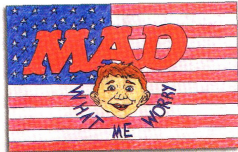


THE BIG FLAG

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



LEO TRAUB, WEST HEMPSTEAD, NY



TIM CASWELL, DEER LODGE, MT



EMILY BOOKSTEIN, LA JOLLA, CA



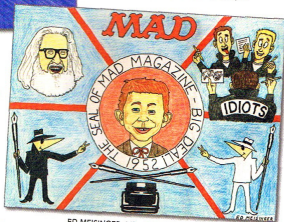
ALEC BYERS
YAKIMA, WA



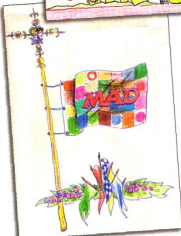
MICHAEL SCHNELL, MANITOWOC, WI



EMIL BUBALA
TUCSON, AZ



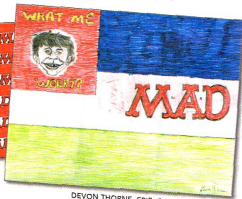
ED MEISINGER, MENDOTA HEIGHTS, MN



ANTHONY ZAMBRANO, NOBLESVILLE, IN



KYLE MONK, FARGO, ND



DEVON THORNE, ERIE, CO

NIFTY FIFTY CELEBRITY SNAP™

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

Amy Miller, Lincoln, NE

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



MIND THE GENERATION GAP

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

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

SOUVENIR-SIGHTED

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

Victoria Salvati, Houston, TX

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

READER ALERT

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

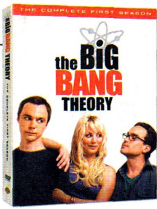


COMING UP IN MAD #494,
ON SALE SEPTEMBER 16!

THE 50 WORST
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INTERNET!

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#23: ON SALE SEPTEMBER 16!

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ELECTIONS
AND BASEBALL!



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the usual gang of idiots

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THEFUNDALINIPAGES



calvin and jobs



PULL MY CHENEY!



**THE
GODFREY
REPORT**

IN	FIVE MINUTES AGO	OUT
Fleets	Armadas	Flotillas
Shacks	Huts	Shanties
Baldernash	Poppycock	Piffle

CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

This Month
MILEY CYRUS



LOST AND FOUND PETS



Germ rat = 940

Reply to: peru-214656c1@adipharma.org
Date: 2008-08-18

highly in white

I saw you early afternoon outside St. Patrick's Cathedral. You were like a stunning 17th century goddess in the long white dress and veil at some sort of religious ceremony. Let's get in touch!

stok: stak: stak: ... modum: 43

• It's ok to protect this power with services or other commercial interests.

People like this are desperate

260 gay - male - 23
Reply to: pete3477455156@angelfire.org
ReDT: 2006-08-16

I see you at the Zoo randomly; you were late this time, telling a little kid how cute the leopards were and that they aren't bears. They're magnificent, and not even that closely related to bears. That's about all I wanted to say.

• Oh, yes it's ok to send this power all sorts of spam. Just go ahead and ruin

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

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



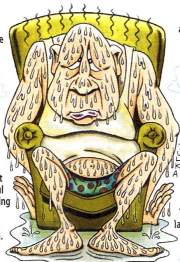
NEXT MONTH:
"The Inescapable Maze"!

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

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

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

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



Hey genius, how about turning on the air conditioner?

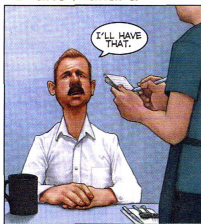
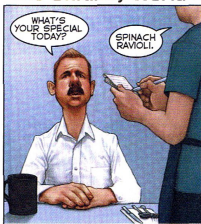
Go to the supermarket and put frozen goods down the front of your shirt. But make it clear to the security guard that you plan to put them back or he may get the wrong idea.

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

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

REJECTED COMIC STRIPS

The Unfunny World of Grant Dullard



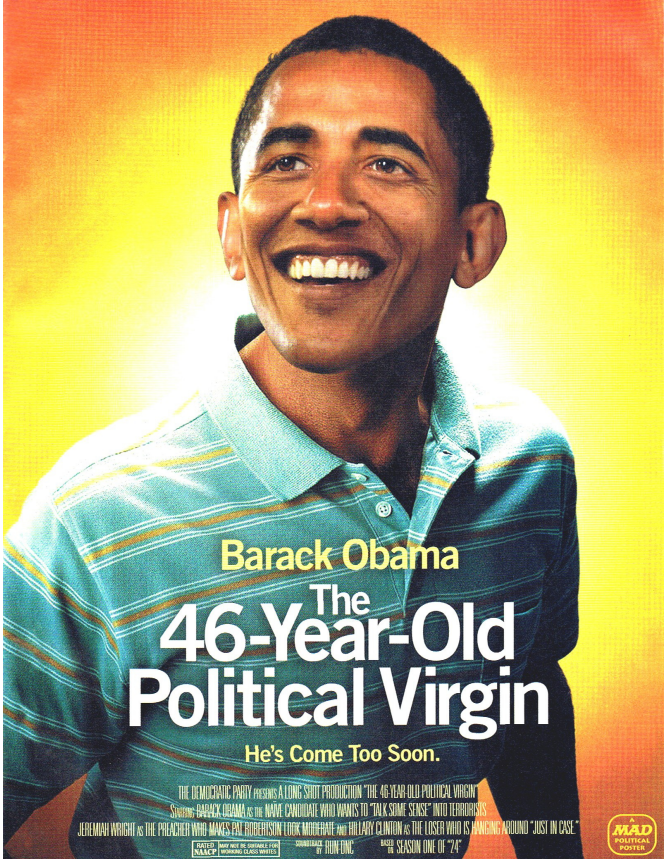
AMNESIA COP



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

DON SEQUITUR



A portrait of Barack Obama smiling, wearing a blue and white striped polo shirt, against a warm orange and yellow background.

Barack Obama

The 46-Year-Old Political Virgin

He's Come Too Soon.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRESENTS A LONG SHOT PRODUCTION "THE 46-YEAR-OLD POLITICAL VIRGIN"
STARRING BARACK OBAMA AS THE NAÏVE CANDIDATE WHO WANTS TO "TALK SOME SENSE" INTO TERRORISTS
JEREMIAH WRIGHT AS THE PREACHER WHO MAKES PAT ROBERTSON LOOK MODERATE AND HILLARY CLINTON AS THE LOSER WHO IS HANGING AROUND "JUST IN CASE."

RATED
NAACP

MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR
WORKING CLASS WHITES

SOUNDTRACK
BY FRANK LINC

BASED ON SEASON ONE OF "24"

MAD
POLITICAL
POSTER

Velcome, Inadequate Jones! In one of these crates is the secret artifact that will give me power! You vill find it, Dr. Jones!

I don't take orders, Russkie! It's only thirty-six of you against the two of us! You don't stand a chance!

Make that thirty-seven to one, Imby!

If that's you, Mack, my morbidly pudgy, turncoat friend, the correct number is now *thirty-eight* to one!

Ever see a warehouse this huge? It's like a mystical Costco!

It's not surprising! It contains all the previously rejected writers' drafts of this movie!

The rocket launcher whooshed me to this odd location! A 1950s suburban town! Lawns, houses, mannequins. Strange. No people. No life. Figures are standing around doing nothing! It's like Lucas is directing this thing!

ATTENTION! THIS IS AN ATOMIC WEAPONS TEST SITE! NUCLEAR BOMB IS GOING OFF IN 20 SECONDS! THIS IS A WARNING TO ALL MANNEQUINS AND SCRAPPY ADVENTURERS IN THE AREA!

Gotta think fast! Hmm. There just happens to be goggles... and there happens to be a lead-lined refrigerator!

Perfect! Made it. Safe from the radiation! Hey, that's funny — the little light is staying on even when the door is closed! Oh crap, that glow is coming from me!

Indigestion Jones? I have important information about our mutual friend, Dr. Loxley!

I have an archeological mystery you can solve!

I have a switchblade!

Still not interested! Go ahead and stab me!

Actually, I was going to offer to cut your meat for you!

Not interested!

Not interested!

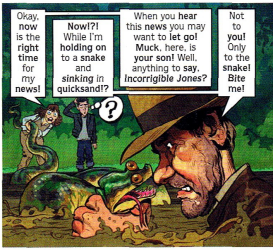
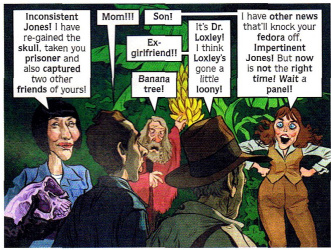
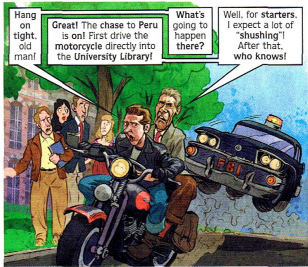
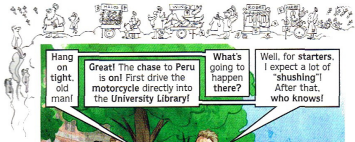
Interested!

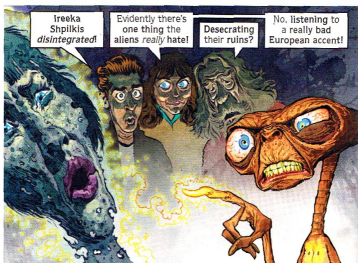
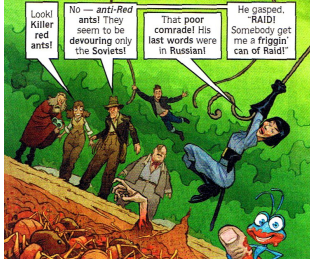
Dr. Loxley has disappeared in Peru with my Mom! He said you'd help! He sent me this chart with crazy symbols and drawings!

Hmm. This is ancient Mayan! This white mound represents a mountain! The dark wavy stuff over it are clouds! And this long object is a spear!

That's an ice cream sundae with syrup on top and a straw! You're looking at the menu!

I guess I need contacts! When they're invented!







WATCH IT LIVE ALL SUMMER LONG
ON NBC AND USA



Panasonic

RIGHT
GUARD



TOYOTA



MONOCOUSE

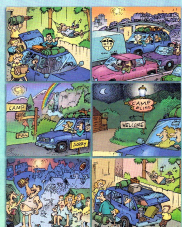


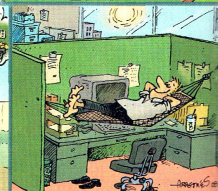
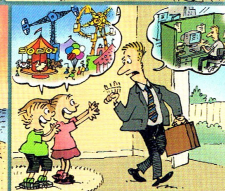
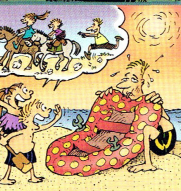
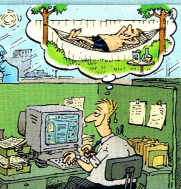
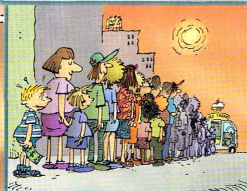
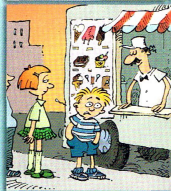
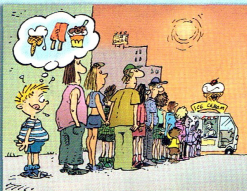
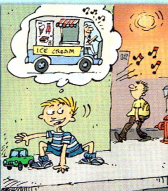
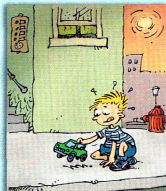
MAD

SINCE IN GENERAL DEPT.
 Presents **A MAD LOOK AT SUMMER FUN!**



WRITER AND ARTIST: BERND ARACNOIS





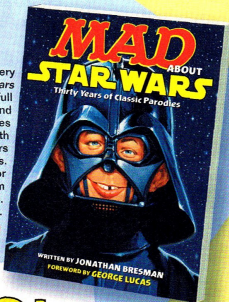
MILLIONS OF TREES GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THESE BOOKS. DON'T LET THEIR DEATHS BE IN VAIN!



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

Published by Watson-Guptill Publications.

ON SALE NOW!

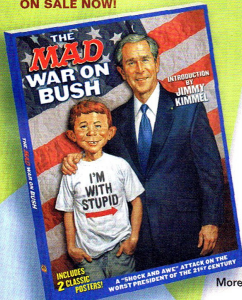


Virtually every MAD Star Wars article! Chock full of annotations and behind-the-scenes memories from both MAD artists and writers and Lucasfilm veterans. Written by MAD Senior Editor and former Lucasfilm lackey Jonathan Bresman. Published by Del Rey Books.

ON SALE NOW!

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

ON SALE NOW!



MAD's GREATEST ARTISTS

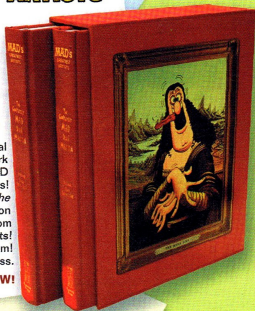
The COMPLETELY MAD DON MARTIN

A Deluxe 2-Volume Special Edition containing every work Don Martin created for MAD over the course of 30 years!

With a foreword by *The Far Side* creator Gary Larson and tributes to Martin from MAD's Usual Gang of Idiots!

More than 1,000 pages — count 'em! Published by Running Press.

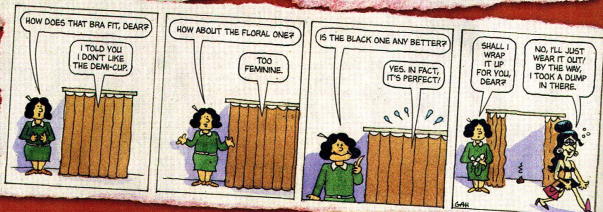
ON SALE NOW!





CRACK IS AACK! DEPT.

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



ARTIST: GARY HALLGREN

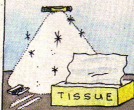
HEROIN IS GOOD, BUT
CONSTIPATES ME.



BOOZE IS NICE, BUT
MAKES ME PUKE ON MYSELF.



COKE IS GREAT, BUT
MAKES MY NOSE BLEED.



SOMETIMES THE BEST
CHOICE IS NOT TO CHOOSE!



YOU STILL CAN'T GET
A VISA TO PERFORM IN THE
UNITED STATES BECAUSE
OF YOUR ARREST RECORD.

WHATEVER.



YOUR HUSBAND BLAKE'S
APPEAL TO GET RELEASED
FROM JAIL ISN'T GOING WELL.

LIKE
I CARE.



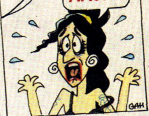
"OK! MAGAZINE" IS
RUNNING A PHOTO OF YOU
PEEING ON A COP CAR
AT 4 IN THE MORNING.

I'M NOT BOTHERED.

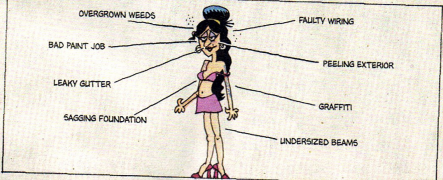


YOUR DRUG DEALER CALLED.
HE'S GOING OUT OF TOWN
ALL WEEKEND.

AACK!!



OVERGROWN WEEDS
BAD PAINT JOB
LEAKY GUTTER
SAGGING FOUNDATION
FAULTY WIRING
PEELING EXTERIOR
GRAFFITI
UNDERSIZED BEAMS

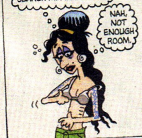


WELCOME TO
"THIS OLD AMY
WINEHOUSE"!



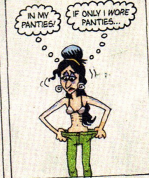
I HAVE TO FIGURE OUT A
PLACE TO HIDE MY DRUGS
IN CASE THE POLICE
SEARCH ME. IN MY BRA?

NAH,
NOT
ENOUGH ROOM.



IN MY
PANTIES!

IF ONLY I HAD MORE
PANTIES...



WHERE AM I GOING TO
HIDE MY DRUGS WHERE
NO ONE WILL FIND THEM?



SO AMY, IS
THERE ANY
REASON YOU
BROUGHT BACK
THE BEEHIVE?

IF
ONLY
YOU
KNEW!



Planet TAD!!!!



(About Me)

(Name) TAD

(Age) 176 months

(Favorite planet) Uranus

[3 August 01:19pm]

(mood) sympathetic

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

[7 August 06:47pm]

(mood) freaking awesome

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

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

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

OUR PAPER

THE PAPER THEY USE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE UNIVERSE

[9 August 04:24pm]

(mood) excited

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

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



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

[09 August 11:19pm]

(mood) tired

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

[11 August 03:41pm]

(mood) tired

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

[13 August 05:22pm]

(mood) nauseated

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



[15 August 04:33pm]

(mood) hopeful

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

[23 August 12:05pm]

(mood) jubilant

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

[24 August 01:26pm]

(mood) amused

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

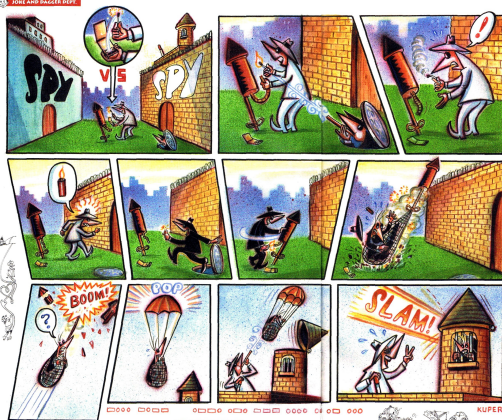


Sophie asked why he has to wear the cane. I told her it was so his head didn't fall off.

[30 August 02:35pm]

(mood) doggone sad

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



WRITER AND ARTIST: PETER KUPER

SPY VS SPY



IN STORES THIS WEEK!



14

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

FEATURING THESE JAMS:

- 1 Song that only became a "hit" because it was offered as a free download on Verizon Wireless
- 2 Song with a 15-second attention-grabbing hook that sounds great in the iPod commercial where people flail around like they're being attacked by bees, but absolutely blows when heard in its entirety
- 3 *Painful dreck from an American Idol also-ran*
- 4 Cover song by band who couldn't get a hit with their own lousy material, so they cashed in by recording an inferior version of this classic old number
- 5 Song from Nu-Metal, Crunk, or whatever creatively named/spelled "subgenre" is taking the music world by storm this week
- 6 Gimmicky, forced duet by two artists who wouldn't be caught dead together, with vocals recorded separately on different coasts five months apart
- 7 Attempt at a mainstream hit by Christian soft-rock band that fence-straddles with lyrics about "being lifted higher" and "letting the light shine," which could be referring to falling in love with a girl, eternal salvation or changing a lightbulb
- 8 Remixed version of popular song rendered unrecognizable, buried under a cacophony of vinyl scratches, beat samples and drum loops by flavor-of-the-month Eurotrash DJ
- 9 Song nobody listened to three months ago that suddenly became all the rage when a moronic video of the band dancing to it was posted on YouTube
- 10 A music legend's new song that is easily the worst thing they've ever recorded, but which won a Grammy as an apology for being snubbed the past 40 years
- 11 Track consisting mostly of obvious, embarrassing double entendres and suggestive but laughable moaning by prepubescent pop diva trying to shed her squeaky-clean image
- 12 The once-catchy, now merely irritating song from that overplayed Mitsubishi commercial
- 13 The latest humptyboothythongdogs-style novelty rap song whose novelty wore off after hearing it twice, but we'll be subjected to ad nauseam at every sporting event this year
- 14 Latest song from the interchangeable pool of female vocalists with single, not-found-in-any-baby-naming-book monikers like Forsythia, Corian or Propelia

WRITER: DARREN JOHNSON

A
MAD
AD
PARODY

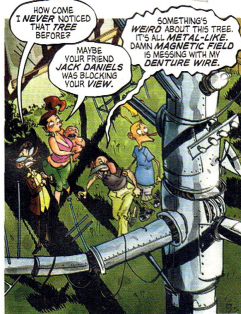


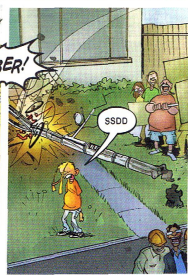
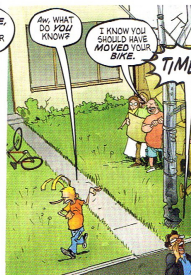
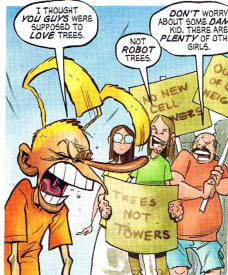
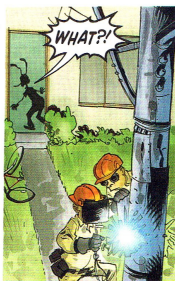
Don't mess
with texting.
It's...

MONROE

and...

the New Phone





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

JEFFREY
LOZENGE



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

It is one of the great tragedies of interplanetary space travel that astronauts are expected to pee in their own suits. Personally, I refuse, which brings me to MAD — yes, MAD — the magazine whose time is and was and continues to be — which is read by a new breed of dignified space pioneers who insist on the privacy of their own urinal. It is these brave men and women (and dwarfs) who truly dare to go where no man or woman (or dwarf) has gone before.

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

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

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

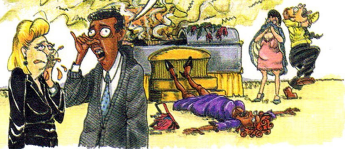
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Key Code: A08FIL

I am so VERY- **CASP!**- SORRY for your loss.



Skimping on embalming fluid makes for very **stinky** grieving.

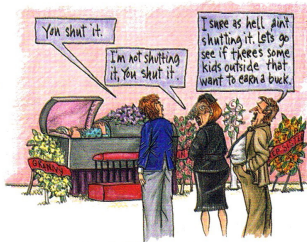
Dammit! I knew "oak" wasn't spelled "O-H-K"!
And that casket smelled exactly
Like popsicle sticks! OH GAWD!!
They stole Uncle Sid's shoes!!



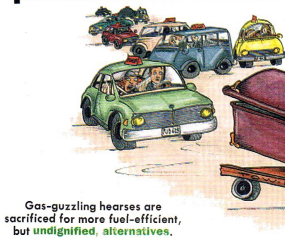
Substandard materials are
passed off as high quality.



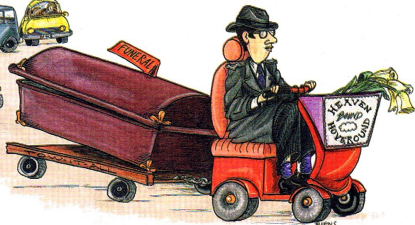
Cremation services grow **primitive**.



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



Gas-guzzling hearses are
sacrificed for more fuel-efficient,
but **undignified, alternatives**.

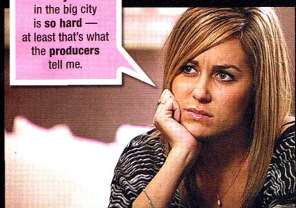




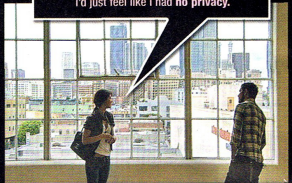
LAUREN ORDER DEPT.

MAD *Heads for*

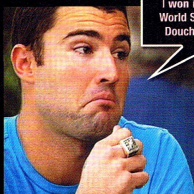
Making it
on my own
in the big city
is **so hard** —
at least that's what
the **producers**
tell me.



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



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



This **finger** is the
one body part I haven't
had any **work done on**.



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



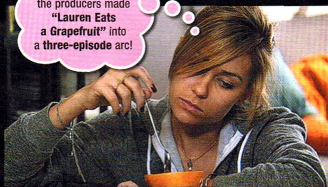
I know, isn't this **scarf** great? **Rachael Ray** gave
it to me at the last **Hezbollah** meeting.



THE HILLS

Outtakes

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



Yep — right there — that's where I'll stick the knife.



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



I'm crying, already! Now stop hitting the puppy!

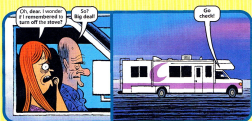


It feels so good to take my makeup off and just relax.



Yep, another couple years and I bet I'll be spending a LOT of time on a pole.



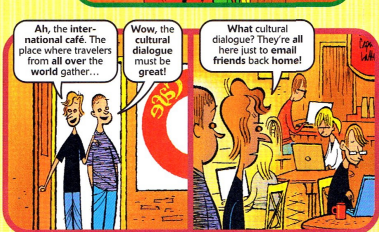
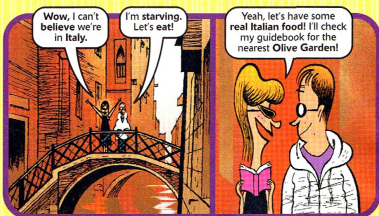


TRIP TEAM DEPT.

TheMAD WORLDof...

TRAVEL





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



JOHN McCAIN

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MAN

A FRIGHTENING SEQUEL TO THE BUSH PRESIDENCY

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY PRESENTS A POST TRAUMATIC STRESS PRODUCTION "NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MAN"
STARRING JOHN McCAIN AS THE SENILE CANDIDATE, CYNTHIA MCCAIN AS "MRS. MONEYBAGS" AND MITT ROMNEY AS "THE ROBOT WHO WANTS TO BE VICE-PRESIDENT"
BASED ON KARL ROVE'S "CAMPAIGN PLAYBOOK OF FEAR, LIES AND SIMILAR TACTICS" DIRECTED BY NO ONE REALLY, WHICH IS WHY IT'S SUCH A MESS

RATED AARP
NO ONE UNDER 72 ADMITTED

A
MAD
POLITICAL
POSTER

MAD KIDS™

AWESOME CELEBRITY INTERVIEWS!

MAD KIDS: Who makes you laugh?

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

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

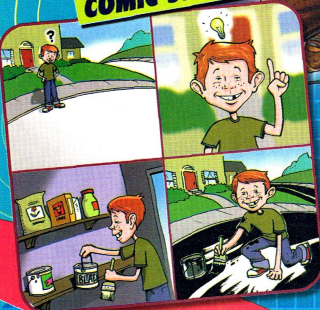
JACK BLACK: I can't really tell you the origin of the name Tenacious D because it's revealed in our new movie, *Tenacious D in the Pick of Destiny*, and I don't want to give away too much.

GOOFY GAGS!

So much for this so-called ZOMBIE Repellent!



COMIC STRIPS!



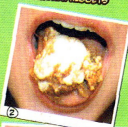
GAMES & PUZZLES!

SEE FOOD!

THE MAD KIDS CHEWED FOOD GROSSOUT GAME

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

NACHOS WITH CHEESE AND SALSA
CHOCOLATE BROWNIE
G'MORES
CHICKEN NUGGETS



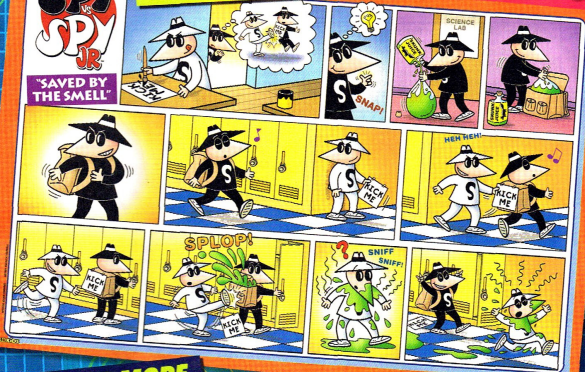
PUZZLE ANSWER: 1) Nachos with cheese and salsa 2) G'mores 3) Chocolate Brownie 4) Chicken Nuggets

ON SALE NOW!

SPY vs. SPY JR.

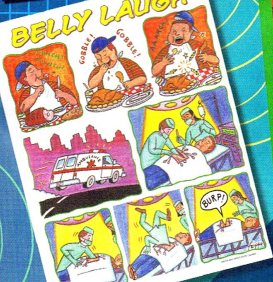
"SAVED BY THE SMELL"

SPY VS. SPY JR.!



AND TONS MORE FUNNY STUFF!

BELLY LAUGH



MADKIDS

You Won't Believe
What We Do
to the
Wimpy Kid!

**JONAS BROTHERS/
CAMP ROCK**
FAKEOUT
DVD LABEL
AND CRAZY QUIZ!

**WE MAKE
THE HULK
MAD!**



THE DUMBEST THINGS
ABOUT
WATERPARKS!

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688-8210

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

THE CHRONIC-ILLS OF YAWNIA PRINCE THESPIAN

I'm Seaweed, the youngest of four siblings! A few years ago while visiting a kindly professor's office, I entered a wardrobe and came out in a magical land called Narnia! Either that, or the professor was putting drugs in our cocoa! All kinds of strange things happen in that land. For instance, even though I'm young and inexperienced, I ended up defeating a mean and evil witch! Helicopters in castles! The kingdoms — I know, it sounds a lot like the story of Narnak and Hillary to me, but I tell my brother Deadwood tell you more!

About 30 minutes ago, the four of us had just gotten out of school in Lansing! We were waiting for a train in the underground when suddenly we found ourselves spirited back here to Hogwarts! Just our luck — we got on the one enchanted British rail car that DOESN'T go to Hogwarts! Sooooo, continue the story!

Back here in Yavima we found this crumbling old temple. We looked in these old crypts and guess what we discovered? Our royal clothing! Our royal swords! Our royal crowns! Either that or we stumbled upon the magical chocolate gift shop — these historic sites ALWAYS have a gift shop! One thing still puzzles me. When we wore kings and queens here, this temple was in perfect shape! What could have happened? Prosper?

I know exactly what happened! Along with my royal crown, I found an unpaid bill for temple upkeep! And it's 1,200 years past due! That means our Favara credit rating has been in the toilet for over 1,000 years!

I am Prince Thaspland! I have been forced to flee Yavania by my evil, power-hungry uncle Mydas, who killed my father and now wants to give the kingdom to his newborn son! I say, if he spots the kid like that now, what's he going to do for his sweet 16? Gosh!

I'm Pumpkin, a courageous dwarf! I welcome a war that will return Never to its former goodness! Even though I'm a dwarf, I can defeat a full-sized man — assuming, of course, I'm standing on another dwarf's shoulder and I have my sword and mace, and the agreement only has a special

Since the royal children have been gone, Yawwla has become a dark and scary place! The trees no longer dance! The flowers no longer sing! And the snakes no longer play banjos! Although I'm going to miss that one last of all — I've always just hated the banjo!

Recently I came to a crossroads in my life I had to make a decision! Either leave my peaceful woodland home and become a warrior, or be turned into a shawing knish! So, it's the army life for me!

I'm Redo-Deep and I'm here to show everyone that a warrior (me) can be just as cute and endearing as a cooking rat! Got that, Bamy? My armor and weapons are minuscule but they still cost the federal defense department millions — even those military contractors!

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

Your Royal High handedness, I do see one problem! When the ap battles begin and there are thousands of warriors on the battlefield how can we tell our own men from the enemy?

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

King MyAss is amassing thousands to fight us! And they're using giant logs to build weapons of minor destruction! What's our plan?

Assault them on all fronts for an out and out massacre!

We're outnumbered 100 to 1! A massacre?

Yes. We'll get massacred, but those jerks will be stuck with the cleanup! But, and this is the big plus — sympathy will be on our side! Well, those of us who live, that is!

Is it just me, or does something about this plan stink?

This surprise midnight attack will catch King MyAss and his troops off guard!

Midnight attack? Peeper. It's twelve noon!

That's the surprise part! Besides, we have no choice! We're kids! We have to be in bed by 9:30!

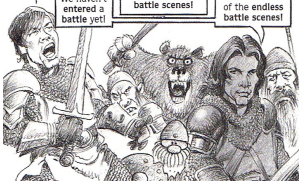


Retreat!! Retreat!!

How can we retreat? We haven't entered a battle yet!

Don't you read Intros? We're doing this spoof in four pages! We're leaving out most of the endless battle scenes!

I bet the people who saw the movie wish the producers would have left out most of the endless battle scenes!



I've called on our friends, the gryphons, to help!

To carry our men into battle on their backs?

Yes, but also to bomb our adversaries! Can you imagine the size of those birds' droppings?!

My guess is that men holding on to those eagles for dear life are so frightened they'll be letting fly some huge droppings of their own!



I can't believe how powerful these people are! They'll stop at nothing!

Yes, the Tele-Machines are a fierce enemy!

I'm not talking about them, I'm talking about the people from PETA! They're all over us!



The enemy has so many men and so many weapons!

I'm not worried! Deadmud has the ultimate weapon — a flashlight!

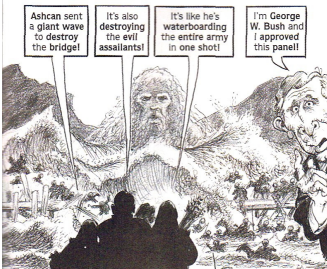
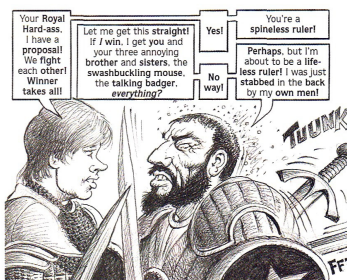
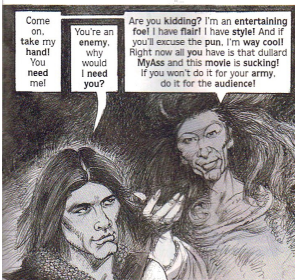
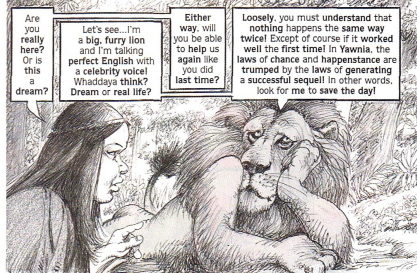
So I'm going into battle led by a bunch of kids and animals, with a flashlight as our secret weapon?

When the enemy sees how ill-equipped we are, their jaws will drop! That's our cue to attack!

You really think a flashlight is going to help us win this battle?

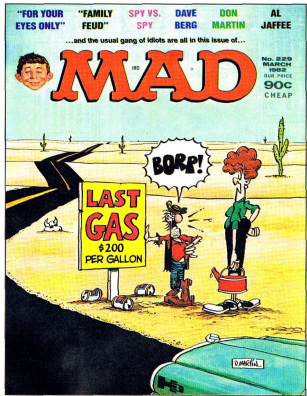
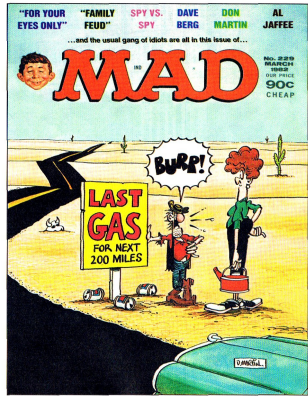
Screw the battle! I'm using the flashlight to find a portal back home and get us out of this mess!





WHAT THE HECK IS THE DIFFERENCE?

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



ANSWERS: 1) There's an extra car on the left side. 2) The man is now saying "BORP". 3) The car on the far right is larger. 4) The woman's mouth is now open. 5) The sign for gas has changed. 6) There's a dip from the gas can. 7) The woman's grille is gone. 8) The hood ornament is different. 9) The car now has a Hammer logo on it.



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

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

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



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!



FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT



FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



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



WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE



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



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!



FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



AMY
WINE-

HOUSE



WHAT'S WITHIN YOUR SOUL?

HOPE

The logo for Soul Calibur IV is prominently displayed in the center. It features the words "SOUL CALIBUR" in a large, stylized, metallic font with a blue and silver gradient. The letter "C" in "CALIBUR" is replaced by a large, glowing red and orange circular emblem. Below "CALIBUR", the Roman numeral "IV" is written in a smaller, red, metallic font. The background of the logo is a dark, textured surface with a bright, glowing light source on the right side, creating a dramatic effect.

FEAR

REDEMPTION



AVAILABLE 7.29.08

WWW.SOULCALIBUR.COM



PLAYSTATION 3

XBOX 360 LIVE

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September 2008

Mad Magazine #493

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