

Chip's Closet Cleaner

No. 10

Three Bucks

.....
Normal People
Who Collect
Oddball Stuff!

.....
Dentists on Film!

.....
World's Largest
Musical Fountain !

.....
Weekly World
News Indexed!

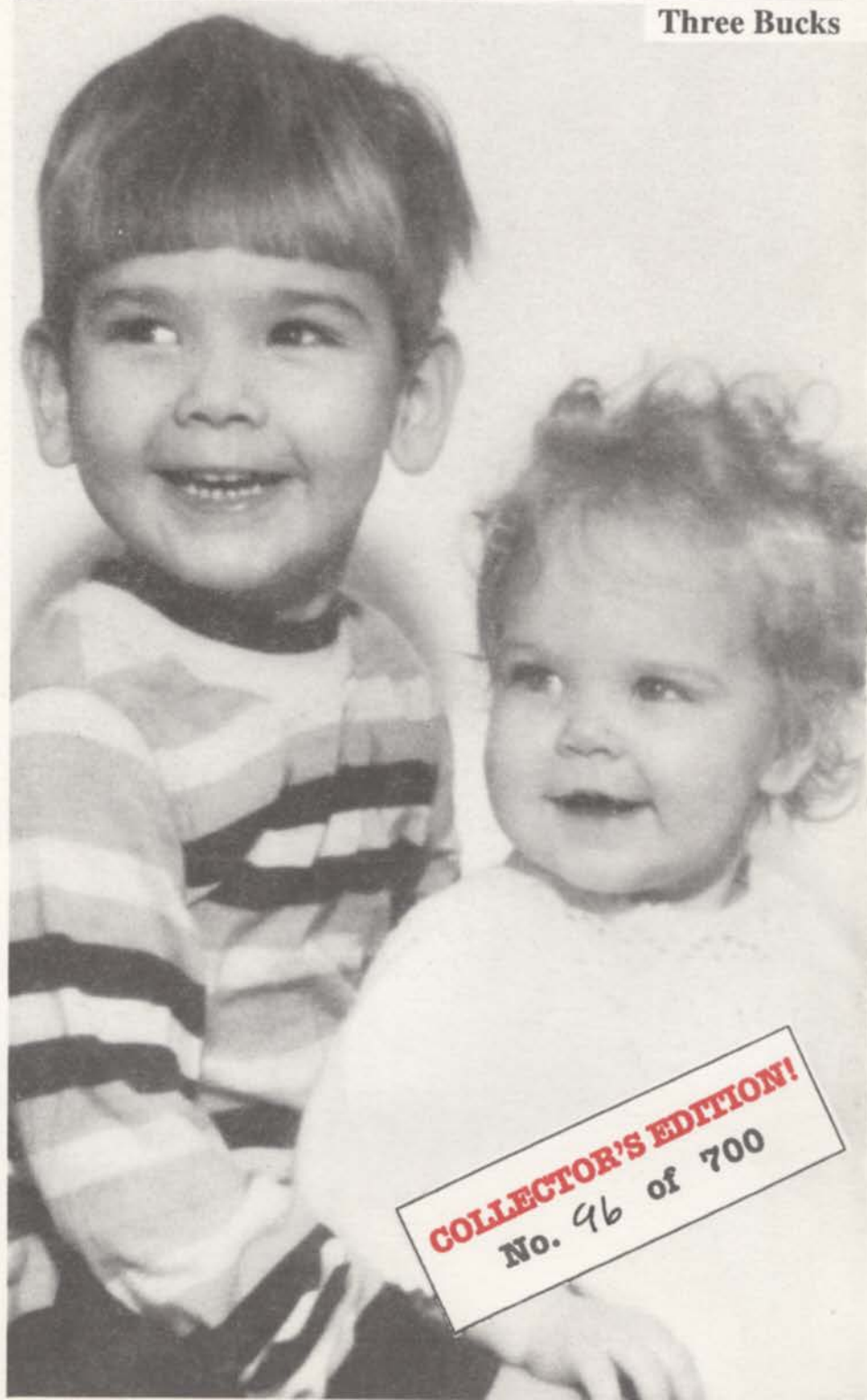
.....
TV Mantras !

.....
Walter Cronkite's
Favorite Color!

.....
11 **Hot** Zines!

.....
& Much **More** !

.....



COLLECTOR'S EDITION!
No. 96 of 700

The Cooool-lector's Issue

I suspect I'm the only one collecting my own fanzine, which means I've got a goldmine sitting in the bathroom magazine rack. I've been collecting stuff since I was about five, mostly the useless variety [see chart, next page]. In fact, I'm a major loser as a collector. Say my buddies were into baseball cards; I'd collect football cards to be *different*. Now I'm different: I'm not counting the money I would have made had I not been such a dumb fuck.

The Cleaner has been receiving some recognition lately, although I could care less, because the memory of all the money I blew collecting junk has put me in a sour mood. It's also Friday night and I'm writing this



instead of out there collecting Rolling Rock tabs. Plus Matt W. sends me this grumpy essay [see below] which is total bull, cause if you've ever been to the apartment he can't hardly move cause of all his Hummels. Anyway, the Cleaner will soon be excerpted in Harper's¹ and material from these pages has been seen in Playboy², the Nose³ and alternative weeklies in Tampa, Chicago and Michigan⁴. Collect 'em all. We've also gotten some nice reviews and letters. Factsheet Five considers us "really hilari-

ous." XYY⁵ says we're "funny and easy to read." The Nancy Mauerman Newsletter calls us "enormously entertaining.... This is a guy I want to meet." And a valued subscriber in Switzerland writes that he's "always amazed at the variety and

humor." Thank you all.

I got to thinking about collecting because I don't really collect anything anymore, but I used to keep everything. It just seems easier as you get older to grab a garbage bag one Saturday afternoon and clean the damned closet right out. In fact, that's how this publication got its name: I'd go home every summer from college⁶ and look into my closet and roll my eyes at all the crap I had. Out went all the fourth grade math papers, the brochures I got from the state of Montana as a class assignment in sixth grade, the ribbons I won in YMCA swim meets⁷; and the dried leaves I pasted into one of my dad's college notebooks. And that was just for starters.

Digging through my closet was as much a spiritual exercise as a practical one. I would turn each item over in my hands and ask myself if I was going to wake up in the middle of the night kicking myself for throwing it out. Now I can't

Why Collecting Sucks

By Matt Wolka

Neither collect nor think highly of people who do. When you look beyond the insipid ego masturbation of having the largest or most unique collection of something, the hobby becomes a dead water eddy on the river of consumerism. The claim of preserving history is a cop-out: creation and destruction make history, not collection. Collectors only make history when they appear in Chuck Shepherd's "News of the Weird" column or when they write books about themselves, like Malcolm Forbes did. If those who fail to study history are doomed to repeat it, those who collect history are doomed to be left out of it.

Let's examine the two types of collecting and the fatal flaws of each:

Collecting usable objects The rarer of the two. Usable object collectors ignore the purpose of the items they collect, thus reducing their impact on society. A good example: the Cabbage Patch Doll. Many collectors bought them and never opened them, expecting the value to increase. Every child who did not receive one, and therefore has no memories of

enjoying the doll, will be less inclined to become an adult collector and purchase one. When the collector removed the doll from its purpose, the doll became nothing but cloth and plastic and will remain so until some little girl or boy buys it at the thrift store.

Collecting useless objects Most collections fall into this category. Often, the object had a purpose, was used for its purpose, and then fell into the hands of a collector who stashed it in a box in the attic. This is all harmless fun but really a waste of space. Once an object has made its impact on history (i.e. is consumed), we may destroy it without fear of losing that impact. Coca-Cola changes their bottle shapes every few years, but the shape of the bottle in 1957 is only important in the effect it had on the shape of the bottle today. Items such as baseball cards stand as the most heinous examples of this category: produced solely for collectors, they provide no useful purpose in society.

Collecting can be a valid hobby: If you collect beer cans and then make furniture out of them, you have participated in the creative/destructive process. Collectors need to make the move to "use" instead of "save" in order to get more out of their hobby than cocktail lounge chatter. ♣

CHIP'S CLOSET CLEANER is published every few months by Chip Rowe, 826 Aspen St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20012-2510 USA. ISBN 1064-9719. Additional copies three bucks each. Issue No. 10 (Fall 1993). All contents © CROWE or individual contributors. Printed at Arena Press, Point Arena, California. Cover My sister and I collect our thoughts, February 1970. Back Get the fuck outta the way! September 1970.

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1. "Hail the Size of God" No. 7; 2. "Inside the Weirdo Lobby," No. 4; 3. Ibid.; 4. "We Love Your Product: Send Us Money," No. 7; 5. You scratch my back, I'll scratch yours. See glowing review of XYY on page 18; 6. After reading Henry David Thoreau's "Walden"; 7. I never placed better than third.



One Man's Junk Is...Another Man's Junk Plus His Own Junk

Item	# I Had	Age	Value?	Whatever Became Of?
Reader's Digest	213	12	Zip.	Tossed.
Dynamite	55	8	Negotiable.	Piled in my old bedroom at parents' home in Michigan.
Football cards	504	8-13	\$15	Sold to friend Todd, who owns a sports memorabilia shop.
Richie Rich comics	1124	8-17	\$300	Sold with classified ad in comics magazine.
Mad	70	8-18	\$150	Sold to woman for her kid's Xmas present.
National Geographic	111	10-15	None.	Traded to neighbor for pirated computer software.
Stamps	21	14	\$2	Lame present from my uncle; stored in strong box with passport.
LPs	98	8-25	\$67	Sold to record store and summer campers; gave rest to library.
Buttons	64	8-22	64 cents	Still-pinned to old t-shirt in closet in room at parents' home.

even remember anything I tossed. Just goes to show you. Part of the reason I enjoyed cleaning my closet was I remembered all the relatives at my great grandfather's house with their U-Hauls after he died⁸ and all the stuff that got pitched in the dumpster⁹. Saving a bunch of mementos hardly seems worth the effort knowing your kids are gonna send it to the Salvation Army when you're out of

the way. And let's face it, unless you're famous, who's gonna ever want your kindergarten numbers exercises? At some point, we decide we just don't need the baggage. My theory is that collecting stuff is like trying to find anchors to keep you from slipping toward, well, death. The whole leaving-something-behind theory. "He never did much with his life, but he left a lotta paperwork and trinkets in

shoeboxes under his bed. He was a good man."

Looking at my inventory from the past two decades, it could have been worse. Consider what some people have collected, according to the books I've gathered of weird-but-true news¹⁰: dirty diapers; plastic airplane windows; college students' shoes¹¹; women's glasses¹²; snippets of hair¹³; photos of feet; chunks of concrete; an assortment of live and dead cats; breast milk¹⁴; bags of garbage; and library books. And, oh yeah, when Jack Crain of Watsonville, California, died recently in his trailer home, authorities found 4,000 model-car kits stacked floor to ceiling. And Lowell Davis of Savannah, Missouri, by 1991 had collected 4,139 signatures in his project, "How Many People Do You Meet in Your Lifetime?" And Christian Sanderson, who died in 1966 and had so much shit that his house in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, is now a museum with everything from a piece of a plane that crashed into the Empire State Building to the match Sanderson used to light the candles on his 60th birthday cake to the shoelaces he was wearing when he saw Harry S. Truman sworn in as president.¹⁵ Chris, we salute you! You were a good man. ♪

Crazed Sex Pervert—Or Dedicated Collector?

From the Morality in Media Newsletter, September/October 1993



ADDICTION



ESCALATION

8. George Butler Hopkins (1886-1973); 9. I saved a Scrabble game I found in the attic; 10. "News of the Weird," "More...", "Beyond..."; 11. Stolen from the library during study breaks; 12. Snatched off their faces on city streets; 13. Snipped from behind in movie theaters; 14. The guy posed as a doctor; 15. "Homage to the Ultimate Pack Rat," Insight, January 21, 1991, p. 61.

Sheer Collecting Madness!

We surveyed 15 people across the nation¹ who collect unusual items. Here they reveal their innermost thoughts about their secret lusts for oddball bits of Americana—lusts that can never be satisfied!

Frog Items

Name Merelaine Haskett **Group** International Frog Collectors Club **Members** 300 **Newsletter** Ribbit, Ribbit (\$17/year) **Total Items** 1,500 **How began?** I wrote a research paper on frogs in college in 1961 and a friend gave me a frog that attached to your car's brake lights and the red eyes lit up. My friends began calling me "Froggy" as a term of endearment. **What happens when I die** My brothers and nephews and niece may have it as part of their inheritance, much to their dismay. **How stored** I have them perched in various bookcases and window sills and hanging from doorway frames in my living room, hall and kitchen. **Anecdote** I learned of the Frog Fantasies Frog Museum and Gift Shop in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, where we hold our annual convention. The museum holds over 6,000 pieces of "frog art." It also has a small frog pond outdoors on the museum grounds that is named after me! **Where find?** The best place is Frog Fantasies. There is an antique dealer I met who finds a frog for me now and then, such as a 1900 Christmas tree frog bulb. **Ever collect anything else?** As a child, I collected stamps. I also collect angels and rubber stamps. **What do people say?** Why frogs? **Life Lessons** "Frog friends"

are very generous, considerate, and fun loving, with a sense of humor that many collectors of other items



simply don't have. **If starting over** Maybe teapots. **Cost?** Some years I've spent \$600 to \$800, others only \$100. **Info** POB 193, Beech Grove, IN 46107

Planters Items

Name Joyce Spontak **Group** Associated Collectors of Planters Memorabilia **Members** 750 **Newsletter** Peanut Pals (\$20/year) **Total Items** 2,000 **How**

began? My grandmother sent away for a plastic Mr. Peanut bank for each grandchild in 1957. Thirty years later, I found my second Mr. Peanut item and began really searching. **Favorite** The bank. Also have a papier-resin Mr. Peanut Roaster Rider from a long-closed

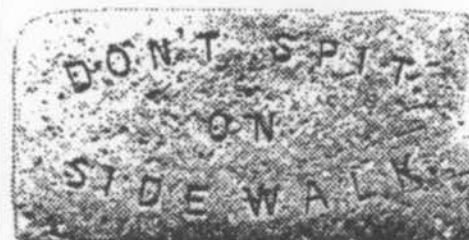


Atlantic City peanut store. It's worth \$2,000. My daughter, Christine, made me a Mr. Peanut when she was 11. **When I die** I'll take it with me. **How stored** Everything is located in the Peanut Museum Room. It is all catalogued on my computer and videotape. **Anecdote** When we were first collecting, we happened upon an out of the way store. Every booth had something with Mr. Peanut. Every 10 minutes we would look at each other and say, "Wow!" **Where find?** Peanut Pals

conventions or people call. **People say** Everyone thinks I'm "nutty," but then, "everyone loves a nut" (Planters slogan). **Life Lessons** Never lose enthusiasm for collecting, or life. Also, your kids may grow up and leave home, but Mr. Peanut is always there, giving us a sense of pride. **What item could someone give you to make you a friend for life?** A red, white and blue plastic bank or an electric Mr. Peanut who taps his cane on the window. **If starting over** No. This is more than collecting, it's a passion. **Cost?** Enough to make a dent in the national debt. **Info** 804 Hickory Grade Rd., Bridgeville, PA 15017

Bricks

Name Barb Brownlee **Group** International Brick Collectors Association **Members** 500 **Newsletter** Journal of the IBCA (\$15/year) **Total Items** 4,000 **How**



began? My husband Bill and I began in 1980. We were in Lawrence, Kansas, and found a brick in his father's garden. **Favorite** "Don't Spit on Sidewalk" brick and the historical Anderson Home in Liberty, Missouri, brick from the 1800s. **When I die** It's a very heavy hobby. When we moved, it cost more to move the bricks than all our household furniture. We plan to put them into our patio. **Anecdote** We love to tell stories about liberating bricks. When hunting bricks you are

1. The following groups did not respond to our questionnaire and kept the dollar we sent 'em: Petrolina Collectors Association, Toothpick Bulletin, Seal, Label and Rubber Band Society, National Insulators Association.

usually in a rather rundown area of a city and strange people are wondering what you are up to. **Where find?** Where the city is digging up a water line or any old dump or railroad stations or the stock-yards. Any town where they have not replaced streets or sidewalks with cement. **Life Lessons** If you think you are the only one collecting a certain thing, there is always someone else out there thinking the same thing. **Info** 80 E. 106th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64114

Dog Licenses

Name Harry Keyes **Group** International Society of Animal License Collectors **Members** 100 **Newsletter** Paw Prints (\$8/year) **Total Items** 7,000 **How began?** We began in 1981 by looking for a collectible something for my son. Then a friend gave me an older dog tag for Christmas, and I've been at it ever since. **When I die** The good tags would be purchased by other collectors. **How stored** Several loose leaf three-ring binders in coin pockets. My records are kept on a computer, indexed by state. **Where find?** Every flea market is a potential goldmine. **Anything else?** I have several hundred stamps. Do you know anyone who might be interested in buying them? **People say** I used to get strange looks. Dog tags are more established now. **Life Lessons** For me, collecting satisfies some itch, but it certainly isn't greed. No one will get rich collecting dog tags! **Looking for** Old metal tags, especially before 1900, and old dog collars, especially with fancy brass locks, clasps and studs. And look for the paper licenses (some very decorative). A nice handful of tags from the 1800s would put you right on top of my list of friends. **If starting over** No, I am well pleased. **Cost?** There is no defining the value or the market for dog tags. I have paid as much as \$50 for one; others have reported paying as high as \$200. Tags from before 1900 sell for \$20 or so. **Info** 322 2nd St. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

Bus Tokens

Name The Rev. John M. Coffee **Group** American Vecturist Association **Members** 750 **Newsletter** The Fare Box (\$16/year) **Total Items:** 20,000 metal and plastic fare tokens. **How began?** I collected

coins and was a trolley fan when I lived in Washington, D.C., in 1943. Tokens were a logical marriage of the two interests. **Fav- orite** An 1861 horsecar token of the Chestnut & Walnut Passenger Railway in Philadelphia.



Value about \$4,000. Only three known to exist. **When I**

die My best friend, Hal Ford of California. **How stored** I keep it in a bank vault. **Anecdote** Old Miss Mary Baker of Weatherford, Texas, whose father ran a horse-drawn line from 1879 to 1923. I published an article in the paper there; she responded and sold me some tokens. Two years later I visited Weatherford on the train. Turned out she was the most prominent resident of the town (age 90 then). I was met by newspaper reporters, cameras, the state representative, the mayor, and whisked to Miss Baker's home for a banquet. I never thought that such fame as I have would rest on something like this. **Where find?** Through the mail. Unexpected finds rarely, as when a 15-year-old boy in my church said his dad had an old token. Turned out to be an 1870 token of the old Troy & West Troy Bridge of Troy, New York, only the second known to exist. **Anything else?** Stamps, coins, cartoon art, real estate advertising tokens, transit tickets, railroad medals. **Life Lessons** I collect because I like transportation. Most people are wonderful, friendly, helpful, willing to do a lot for a stranger. **Looking for** The Gibbs U.S. Mail Stage Token of New York City. Issued about 1838, worth about \$15,000. It's made of brass, 23mm in diameter, inscribed "Good for One Ride/To the Bearer." **Info** POB 1204, Boston, MA 02104

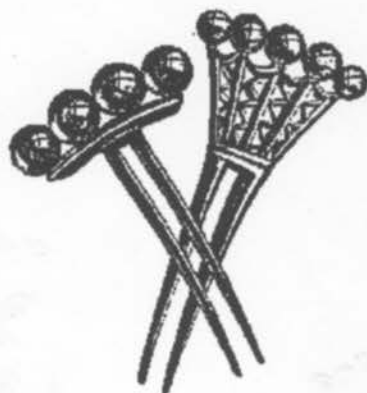
Thermometers

Name Warren Harris **Group** Thermometer Collectors Club of America **Members** 150 **Total Items** 500 antique, decorative and old poultry thermometers **How began?** I had a friend in Minneapolis who was doing the same thing around 1970, so I thought I'd be the first on the West Coast. **Favorite** I have five exquisite, intricately carved ivory English thermometers. **When I die** After I'm pushing daisies, I doubt my two college-age sons will be fighting each other over the spoils.

How stored I keep them locked in file drawers. I don't want some drug-crazed burglar to trash them. **Anec-dote** A Houston public relations firm wanted a portrait of Gabriel Fahrenheit (1636-1736). Well, not only could I not find even so much as a tracing, but the great museums of Europe didn't have one. So I cut out a portrait from an old book, framed it, labeled it, and sent it to the company. They couldn't thank me enough. I wouldn't take their money, but did accept a bottle of champagne. **Where find?** Many of my recent finds are from England or France. Few, it seems, made it over the Rockies at the turn of the century. **Collect anything else?** My wife won't let me. **People say** My friends still think I have a collection of 500 rectal thermometers. But they're all assholes anyway (ha!) **Life Lessons** For me, collecting is a great linkage with the past. To think that everyone who crafted my thermometers is dead and buried. I also get a vicarious thrill because I have few artistic skills. **Looking for** Any old thermometer with mercury in it. **Cost?** \$5,000 **Info** 6130 Rampart Dr., Carmichael, CA 95608

Combs

Name Belva Green **Group** Antique Comb Collectors Club **Members** 60 **Newsletter** Antique Comb Collector (\$25/year) **How began?** Got first one in



1947; found a pretty comb at an auction in 1951 in a \$3 junk box. Started collecting in 1970s. **Favorite** I prize the hair ornament that belonged to my mother. **When I die** Who would want it? I'd like to donate it to the tiny museum in my village in Michigan. **How stored** Displayed on glass shelves. Everything is cataloged, sketched, photocopied, photo-

graphed and numbered. I give slide-show lectures and often exhibit at libraries or college galleries. **Anecdote** I visited a comb museum in France once. Most were made right there in the Mountain Valley, starting with horn, boiserie, wood, tortoise shell and finally celluloid. I learned about it from the London-based Plastic Historical Society. **Where find?** Antique shows and shops. **Anything else?** Books. **People say** You must be a collector yourself, Chip, to think up that question! My friends often gift me with combs. **Life Lessons** I have learned about ancient world history from researching ancient headdresses and have compiled an illustrated book, "The Comb Collectors Companion." **Looking for** An ivory fancy comb! **If starting over** Something smaller, indestructible, less expensive, easier to care for. Maybe buttons? **Cost?** I'm on a fixed income so can't spend too much. Fortunately, dealers are happy to get rid of fancy combs because not many people are looking for them. **Info** 3748 Sunray Dr., Holiday, FL 34691

Baby Bottles

Name: Jo Ann Todd **Group** American Collectors of Infant Feeders **Members** 210 **Newsletter** Keeping Abreast (\$25/year) **Total Items** Thousands of infant nursers, old infant food jars and tins, drugstore display cases, and items with baby bottles on them: postcards, advertising, figurines, wallpaper. **How began?** I started in 1973 when I asked at an antique shop to see an old clear glass turtle nurser from around 1890. My husband's grandmother had asked me in the early 1950s if I knew what they looked like when she was a young woman. I said yes, but I was too busy rearing my own two sons to find out until much later. **Favorite** A "Faultless Nipple Jar" is the most expensive item. It held nipples for sale on the drug-gist's counter. **When I die** A member of our group recently died and left instructions that her collection be sold as a whole. Her family wasn't able to do it. **How stored** I have display cases in five rooms. **Anecdote** The first artificial infant feeder was probably a cow's horn. A hole was made in the little end and a rag, chamois or sponge was tied on for the

baby to suck on. Calves' teats also were used. This was 1000 to 2000 B.C. **Where find?** Antique shops, malls, flea markets, and sometimes ads in Bottles magazine. **Anything else?** Early on it was dolls, then cats, then stamps, coins, owls, rocks. I'm a born gatherer. **People say** People are often amazed to see what I have because they have no idea of our history of infant feeding! **Life Lessons** I enjoy the thrill of the hunt. **Looking for** A clear glass turtle bottle with "Mother's Darling I.D.CO" (Indianapolis Drug Co.) on it. **Info** 5161 W. 59th St., Indianapolis, IN 46254

Smurf Items

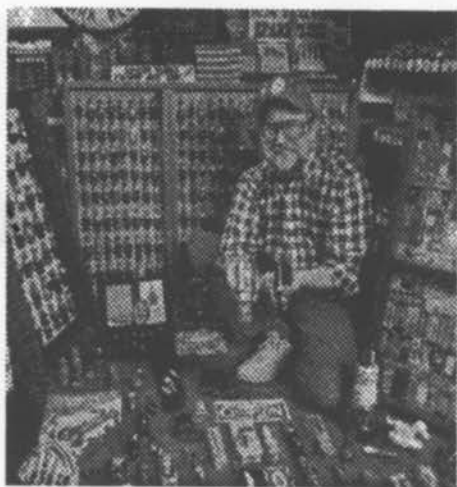
Name Suzanne Lipschitz **Group** Smurf Collectors Club International **Members** 1,000 **Newsletter** Smurf Collectors Club Newsletter (\$15/year) **Total Items** Thousands of two-inch figurines and collectibles. **How began?** I started collecting for my five-year-old son in 1979 as a reward for doing well in school. **When I die** My grandson (now 15 months old), if he shows interest. If not, my best Smurfy friend, the co-editor of our newsletter. **How stored** Display cases on the walls of one room. **Anecdote** When I appeared on News 12 in July 1992 as the "Smurf Lady." Also, that 90 percent of our members are adults. **Where find?** Belgium, France, Germany, England, Holland. Advertising and promotional figurines have rare mold and paint

variations. **People say** Most of us are teased until people hear our stories and learn how many of us are out there. **Life Lessons** As my son, now 19, says on our TV taping: "It keeps her out of trouble." **Looking for** A paint variation I don't have! **If starting over** I would have set aside more room. **Cost?** \$800 to \$1,000 in a good year. **Info** 24 Cabot Road West, Massapequa, NY 11758

Angel Items

Name Winnie Bauman **Group** Angels of the World? **Members** 200 **Newsletter** Notes and Comments (\$7/year) **Total Items** [No number] Figurines, books, tablecloths, sheets, curtains, etc. **How began?** I began seriously about 1979; others in club began much earlier, like 1949. **Favorite** A stained glass angel in circle made by a friend. **When I die** My granddaughter, now 8, will get collection. **How stored** All around our home. **Anecdote** We have a large angel cookie from Germany sprayed and framed on our dining room wall. **Where find?** I like to find angels that represent the area, for instance, a stained glass angel outlined in copper from Utah. **Anything else?** My major interest is angels. **People say** How do you clean them? **Life Lessons** Most of the people who collect angels are angelic. **If starting over** I would have started sooner. **Info** 2232 McKinley, St. Albans, WV 25177





Spark Plugs

Name Bill Bond **Group** Spark Plug Collectors of America **Members** 200 **Newsletter** Ignitor (\$15/year) **Total Items** 2,000 **How began?** My interest in 1972 in antique hit & miss engines led to need for right plugs. **Favorite** W.B. Handee Quick Detachable, worth about \$500. **How stored** Private museum. **Anecdote** Tell everyone you collect spark plugs, and they look at you like you have 13 ounces to the pound, until you tell them about the 4,000 brands and types. **Where find?** Car flea markets. **Anything else?** Early technology to antique motorcycles. **Life Lessons** Man is a natural pack rat. **If starting over** Nothing for a hobby; for money, you name it. **Info** POB 2229, Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Avon Items

Name Dwight Young **Group** National Association of Avon Collectors **Members** Several thousand **Newsletter** Avon Times (\$17/year) **Total Items** 14,000 **How began?** My wife Vera bought the Avon Gold Cadillac aftershave decanter for me in 1969. **When I die** Four children will take collection. **How stored** Catalogued and displayed in lighted show cases. **Anecdote** How we found an old California Perfume Co. bottle (the original Avon name) at a flea market in Maine while on vacation. **Anything else?** Teddy bears, coins, bricks, barbed wire, miniature booze bottles, car banks. **People say** Most friends think it is a total waste of time and money. **Life Lessons** My dearest friends have been found through Avon collecting. **Looking for** I do not establish friends from gifts. **Info** POB 9868, Kansas City, MO 64134

Hot Wheels

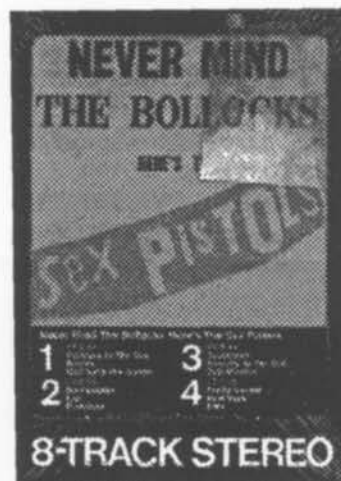
Name Chris Cutlass **JeRue Newsletter** Redline (\$30/year) **Subscribers** 850 **Total Items** 75 **How began?** 1968. First Christmas released. Had a Blue Silhouette, but mom threw it out. **Favorite** Purple '32 Ford Vicky. **When I die** My oldest daughter. **How stored** In a carpeted drawer in a closet of drawers. Displayed by color as they best compliment each other. **Anecdote** I do not share those thoughts. **Anything else?** AFX slot cars. Compact discs. **People say** My collection is one of the few tangible items I can see and remember years gone by. **Life Lessons** I have been constantly reminded that people are more valuable than material objects as I witness others being hurt and causing pain. **Looking for** It would be inconsistent with my beliefs to ask for items in exchange for friendship. **If starting over** Not ever. **Info** POB 14099, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Sand

Name William Diefenbach **Group** International Sand Collectors Society **Members** 400 **Newsletter** The Sand Paper (\$5/year) **Total Items** 450. Nothing compared to one Dutch collector who has more than 4,000. But mine all mean something to me. **How began?** Brought back a sample of sand from the Caribbean after vacationing there. **Favorite** Little value in sand! I guess the sample that cost the most to get is from the Pacific Depths, 17,000 feet down, brought up by the Glomar Explorer, the CIA cover-up ship. One of my favorites is sand from the Green River Valley in Nepal, it's purple and on the trail to Mt. Everest. **When I die** Three of our members have given their collections to museums. **How stored** Six large custom-built spice racks, and shoe boxes with 25-cent coin containers. **Anecdote** An (annoyed) friend was driven an hour out of Bombay just to get some "very special" sand. When we arrived, my friend jumped out, scooped up a film container full, and found himself looking into the barrel of a guard's rifle. Our driver quickly translated and the guard smiled and with a wave of his hand let the sample be taken! **Life Lessons** None, but a lot about geography! **Looking for** Moon sand. **Info** 43 Highview Ave., Old Greenwich, CT 06870

8-Track Tapes

Name F.R. Forster **Newsletter** 8-Track Mind (\$8/year) **Subscribers** 75 **Total Items** 500 tapes, 7 players **How began?** I was bequeathed a player and some choice tapes by a neighbor leaving town in 1988. **Favorite** My Madonna tapes, Issac Hayes (especially "Buttered Soul"), the GTOs' "Permanent Damage." **When I die** Hopefully Christine Williams, our youngest contributor (age 16) **How stored** In my basement. Alphabetized by artist and title. **Where find?** Garage sales, thrift stores, friends. The band Gumball recently acquired a warehouse full for \$400. **Life Lessons** 8-track collecting has certain social/political implications involving issues of corporate manipulation, planned obsolescence and non-conformity. As expressed in 8-Track Mind's "8 Noble Truths," "progress" and "technology"



should not be pursued as ends in themselves but rather means to a larger end. Collecting can be a healthy outlet for each person's obsessive/compulsive tendencies. Don't let the recent wave of '70s nostalgia fool you. Tracking is a much deeper and more meaningful activity than Rolling Stone would ever be willing to admit. **Looking for** Lou Reed's "Metal Machine Music," Dead Boys' "Young, Loud and Snotty," any Ramones, "Yardbirds Live with Jimmy Page." **If starting over** No way. I've had too many good times and made many good friends. In fact, I've been so impressed by the tracking community that I intend to film a documentary on the subject next year. **Cost?** A sealed copy of the Sex Pistols' "Never Mind the Bollocks" just sold for \$100 in Texas, but most are only a few dollars. **Info** POB 90, E. Detroit, MI 48021

Weekly World News Index

Part XVII

August-October 1993

Acupuncture

"... Pooch! Rabid dog cured by ancient Chinese treatment!" 9-14

Advice Columns (see Dotti, Dear; Sabak, Serena)

Aging

"Amazing miracle herb will make you young again!" 8-31
 "Banish Wrinkles—Fast!" 10-26
 "Gramps, 82, arrested for twitching! Cops thought he was picking up a hooker." 10-26
 "Granddad goes to jail—'cause judge thinks he knows a secret!" 10-19
 "Granny, 78, Gets Boob Implants!" 10-26
 "How to lie about your age—and get away with it!" 9-14
 "How You Can Live to Be 100!" 10-19
 "Key to long life: Porridge, whiskey and cigarettes!" 8-31
 "Live to be 150—by praying!" 8-31
 "Naked granny scares thieves!" 10-5
 "Oldster gets lost in his own house—and nearly dies!" 8-31
 "The Secret to Old Age—Flexibility!" 8-3
 "Senior Sex," 9-21
 "You can be a mom at 100, say docs!" 9-28

AIDS

"Bizarre ... hoax may cost Yale \$5 million!" 8-31
 "... blood stolen!" 8-3
 "... carriers banned from swimming in ocean because they're killing the sharks!" 8-24
 "Fidel Castro Gave the World ...!" 10-19
 "My blood brother gave me ...!" 8-31
 "Visit to Lourdes cures ... girl, 4!" 8-3
 "Woman with ... gets 38 months for biting cop!" 8-17

Airline Travel (see Travel, Airline)

Alcohol (also see Intoxication)

"Beer found on sunken ship!" 10-5
 "Boat dumps 5,000 barrels of wine into Sea of Japan," 10-26
 "Burglars break into art gallery—and steal \$9 worth of booze!" 8-24
 "Cons build secret brewery in prison," 10-26
 "Drinking beer barefoot could land you in jail!" 8-24
 "Man shoots himself after his canary drowns in glass of wine!" 9-14
 "'Miracle well' spiked with booze!" 9-7
 "Moonshining making comeback!" 10-19
 "Town serves free booze anytime there's a rainbow!" 8-24

Aliens, Space (also see UFOs)

"... capture Shuttle Astronaut," (top-secret photo) 8-24
 "Doomsday Dragons Heading for Earth!" 8-3
 "I wish ... would kidnap my rotten brats!" 10-26 (see Dotti, Dear)
 "Mars Observer Photographed Giant Fish in Space!" 10-26
 "Missionaries for Mars? Vatican training 24 priests to spread gospel to ...!" 10-26
 "Our space alien neighbors are back, and they're making our lives miserable!" 8-24
 "Radio astronomer picks up SOS from alien moon base!" 8-31
 "Space Alien Baby Survives UFO Crash!" (photo) 10-12
 "... put earth up for sale!" 10-26
 "Spirit-chasing priest saves girl possessed by space creature," 8-17
 "Study proves it: Most ... are dwarfs!" 9-14
 "3 Captured ... Held in Russian Dungeon!" 9-7
 "World's Most Evil Villains Were Space Alien Criminals!" 8-3

Allergies

"Food allergy makes sex offender confess to cops!" 9-7
 "Warning! Allergic reactions to exercise can kill you!" 9-14

Amputees

"A Great White Shark Bit Me in Half!" (photo) 9-7
 "Burglar chops off sleeping man's hand!" 8-24
 "Dead organ donor wakes up after surgeons remove his eyes, a kidney and his left lung!" 10-26
 "Grieving town offers cash to find creep who killed goose with artificial feet!" 8-17
 "Lobster in hot water after biting off chef's finger!" 9-7
 "One-armed man attacks one-legged woman!" 8-10

Andrea Dorea (see Curses)

Anger, Ed, "My America" (column)

"Apartment living turns guys into sissies!" 8-24
 "Ban anti-smoking wimps!" 9-21
 "Cancel everybody's debts—and watch business start booming!" 8-31
 "Ed Anger predicts happy days for the rest of the 1990s!" 9-28
 "Ed's readers say kick out the immigrants!" 8-24
 "Every Man Should Have Two Wives... so He Can Send Them Both to Work!" 8-3
 "Fry death row creeps in electric bleachers!" 9-7
 "Greedy docs stick us to pay for their golf clubs and fancy cars!" 8-17
 "I'd Rather Live Next to Prison than a Public School!" 10-19
 "Indians want to scalp the Washington Redskins," 8-10
 "I tried Hillary's Cookies—and Thought I Was Going to Die!" 10-26
 "It's beginning to look like Christmas & it makes me mad as hell!" 10-12
 "Make surgeons show us our old body parts!" 10-5
 "Stupid Yankee prank has Dixie fightin' mad!" 9-14

Animals, Communication with

"Scientists will be talking with animals!" 8-31
 "Witch doctor talks with animals!" 10-19

Animals, Superior

"Animals are more compassionate than people!" 9-28

Answering Machine

"Creep confesses to murder—on family's ...!" 10-5

Arguments

"Tips from the experts on how to avoid ..." 8-3

Army, Salvation

"... started in U.S. by a 16-year-old girl—and a town drunk!" 10-5

Apocalypse, Four Horsemen of the

"...photographed in Argentina!" (photo) 8-24

Arthritis

"4,000-year-old diet cures ..., cancer, impotence and heart disease!" 9-21
 "WD-40 hailed as miracle cure for ...!" 10-12

Assertiveness

"How to find your hidden talents!" 8-17
 "How to get rid of pushy salesmen!" 10-12
 "How to tell a busybody to butt out!" 9-21
 "How to turn your friends into slaves!" 8-17
 "You can say no—and still smell like a rose!" 8-17

Asteroid (see Diamonds)

Astrology

"Use ... to keep your lover faithful!" 9-7
 "Your Star Sign Tells if You've Picked the Right Mate!" 10-19
 "Zodiac reveals people's favorite foods!" 9-21

Attitude, Positive

"Five ways to make your life more exciting!" 8-31
 "How to breeze through life with a cheerful ...," 8-3
 "How to cope with disappointments!" 8-10
 "How to Keep Your Chin Up—No Matter What!" 8-3
 "How to put gusto back in your life!" 8-10

Auto Repair (see Magic)

Auto Sales

"Car Buyers Beware!" 9-21
 "Classic cars are worth big bucks!" 10-12

Auto Travel (see Travel, Auto)

Baggers, Supermarket

"Supermarket carryout boys make great company presidents!" 9-21

Baldness

"Church fires preacher for wearing toupee!" 8-10
 "Gal was so shocked by proposal of marriage—her hair fell out!" 9-21
 "Man killed himself because he was going bald!" 8-17
 "Olive oil cures ...!" 8-17

Baron, Red (see Ghosts)

Baseball

"... player fined for kissing an umpire!" 8-17
 "Librarian is the first woman inducted into ... Hall of Fame," 10-19
 "Sicko teens turn joggers into human baseballs!" 8-24
 "Spectator beaten to death—at Little League game!" 8-3



August 10, 1993

Bats

"Islanders Eating Vampire ... into Extinction!" 10-12
"FBI captures bat boy!" (top secret photo) 8-31

Bean

"... Grows in Girl's Ear," 8-3
"Cop beamed!" 10-19

Bears

"Bear captured on videotape swimming in hotel pool!" 8-10
"Fireman legally changes his name to Smokey Bear!" 8-17
"5-year-old saves sister from bear—by growling!" 9-28
"The REAL story of the world's most beloved toy! The Teddy Bear!" 10-12
"Sleeping camper awakened by 500-lb. bear drooling on his face!" 9-14

Beauty Treatments

"Give yourself an easy fingertip face-lit—and look 10 years younger!" 10-5
"How to give yourself a \$200 ... treatment for free!" 8-3
"Quick tips to look and feel more glamorous," 8-10
"Sleep in a tub of lard and look 20 years younger!" 10-19
"The truth about beauty marks and cancer," 9-14

Beggars

"Bum makes \$600,000 in the stock market!" 9-7
"Man makes \$275,000 a year as street beggar!" 9-21
"Man Protests Highway ...: 'They're Robbing Us Blind!'" 9-7

Belushi, John

"... ghost is haunting Dan Aykroyd!" 8-10

Bermuda Triangle (see Devil's Triangle)

Bible, Holy

"... is filled with psychic experiences!" 9-21
"The King who loved to eat bibles!" 8-31
"Miracle ... survives fire!" 10-5
"Moses appears above old apple tree!" 8-3
"9-year-old girl types the entire Bible!" 8-31

Bigfoot

"... burial ground found in Oregon!" 8-10
"... Rampage! 7-foot-tall monster terrorized Tennessee town back in 1976!" 10-12
"... women are beautiful and sexy!" 9-7
"Idaho family eats 600-pound ...!" 10-19

Bikes (see Travel, Bike)

Birds

"Birdbrained holy man has lived in a giant vulture's nest since '68!" 8-17
"Bird-Nerds Riot Over Cuckoo!" 8-10
"Eagle Flies Away with Baby!" 8-3
"Grieving town offers cash to find creep who killed goose with artificial feet!" 8-17
"Man shoots himself after his canary drowns in glass of wine!" 9-14

Blindness

"Blind man trips over his guide dog—and regains his sight!" 9-28
"Guide dog leads 4 blind people to their deaths!" 8-24
"Stockbroker blinded by a newspaper!" 9-28

Blood, Human

"New candy for vampires is made with ...!" 8-17
"Nurse sues doctor—for squirting her with ... from baby's umbilical cord!" 10-5
"Real-life vampire drinks ...!" 8-17
"Restaurant served tacos dripping with ..." 8-31

Boats (see Travel, Boat)

Body Odor (also see Cleopatra)

"New clinic treats bad breath!" 10-5
"People can't smell their own stink, say scientists!" 10-5

Bombs

"Atomic bomb destroyed city 4,000 years ago!" 8-31
"Couples home bombed—by a corpse!" 8-17
"From Here—to Eternity," (photo of three cops killed by bomb), 8-17
"Three killed by bomb inside wedding cake!" 9-14

Brain

"Angry widow sues city for losing her husband's ...!" 10-5
"Florida man screams from his grave: My ... is Missing!" 8-3
"Sweat! It keeps your ... from frying!" 10-5
"Warm brains are smarter!" 10-5

Breasts, Female

"FBI makes bust in bra theft!" 10-19
"Gal uses dead hubby's ashes for breast implants!" 9-21
"Granny, 78, Gets Boob Implants!" 10-26
"KA-BOOB! Woman's breast explodes while scuba diving!" 10-5
"Man attacked by 48-inch boobs!" 8-3
"Millions of people have three or more breasts!" 8-24
"78-year-old woman gets breast implants," 8-17
"Spigot bra makes breast-feeding a breeze," 8-17
"Stripper's steel-tipped tassel flies off boob & kills man, 32!" 9-21
"Wife kills hubby after he forces her to have breast implants!" 9-28

Breath, Bad (see Body Odor)

Brides (also see Weddings)

"Bride busted for wedding day shoplifting spree!" 8-17
"Bride dumps groom for showing nude pix at reception!" 8-10
"Bride watches shark tear hubby to pieces!" 8-3
"My bride ran off with a circus clown—on our honeymoon!" 8-3

Bullet (see Guns)

Burglars (also see Robbers, Armed)

"Arsonist sets house on fire—two ... die!" 8-3
"Brazen ... break into prison & rob safe!" 8-31
"Bungling bandits!" 9-28
"Burglar chops off sleeping man's hand!" 8-24
"Burglar cooks up a batch of wings—to go!" 9-7
"... break into art gallery—and steal \$9 worth of booze!" 8-24
"Cops collar candy bandit!" 9-28
"Judge blesses church

thief with 8 years in prison!" 9-7
"Lack of control foils burglar!" 9-7
"Man breaks into organ bank—& steals pair of eyeballs!" 9-7
"Naked granny scares thieves!" 10-5
"Stuck cash register cost clerk his life!" 9-7

Burr, Raymond (see Homosexuality)

Cabbage

"Earn more money and improve your sex life—by eating ...!" 9-7

Cancer

"4,000-year-old diet cures arthritis, ..., impotence and heart disease!" 9-21
"It's a miracle! 8-year-old ... girl cured by doctor's ghost!" 10-5
"Magic words cure doc's ...!" 9-7
"Stolen dog returned to dying ... boy!" 8-10
"The truth about beauty marks and ..." 9-14
"Tumor tot gets new life!" 8-10

Cannibalism

"Cannibal tribe gets sick—from eating locusts!" 8-31
"Cannibal who ate teen is headed for the streets!" 8-10
"Cannibals in space!" 10-5
"Human Flesh Smuggled Into Prison for Milwaukee Cannibal's Snacks!" 8-3
"I ate my best friend!" 10-12
"Police chief hires cannibals to patrol city," 9-14
"Restaurant Owner Barbeques 3 Teens," 8-3
"Russian butchers stealing human corpses—and selling them as beef!" 9-28
"Russian cannibal killed and ate 53 women and children!" 8-31

Career Advancement

"Gossip your way to the top!" 9-28

Carrot (see Vegetables, Giant)

Castro, Fidel (see AIDS)

Catholicism (also see Exorcism; Mary, Virgin; Religious Leaders)

"Image of Virgin Mary mysteriously appeared on cloak in 1591!" 8-3
"Miracle of the nun who stops fires!" 10-19
"Missionaries for Mars? Vatican training 24 priests to spread gospel to space aliens!" 10-26
"Monk can heal the sick and change the weather!" 8-3
"Priest flew into outer space over 300 years ago!" 9-21
"Pope John Paul performed secret exorcism!" 9-28
"Real-life flying nun floats in the air & heals the sick!" 8-3
"71-year-old nun wins Groucho Marx look-alike contest!" 9-14
"Spirit-chasing priest saves girl possessed by space creature," 8-17

Cats

"Half Dog and Half Cat! 'I've created the perfect pet,' says Minnesota scientist!" 10-19
"How to train your cat without going bonkers!" 10-26
"Kitten Saves Gorilla's Life!" (photo) 8-24

Cavemen

"... were drunken slobs!" 10-12
"Rich exec quits the rat race—to live like a ...!" 10-5

Charm

"6 ways to be more charming," 9-14

Chickens

"Amazing barking ..." 10-19
"Teacher wanted to kill chicken in class," 8-3

Children, Amazing

"Coolheaded 7-Year-Old Saves Dying Dad!" 8-24
"Fisherman catches a live baby boy!" 10-5
"5-year-old saves sister from bear—by growling!" 9-28
"Girl, 8, finds winning lottery ticket!" 10-12
"It's a miracle! 8-year-old cancer girl cured by doctor's ghost!" 10-5
"The Little Boy With Two Faces!" (photo) 9-7
"Little Hero!" 9-21
"Miracle boy falls 13 stories & lands on a mattress!" 9-7
"Miracle doc brings tot back from the dead!" 8-31
"9-year-old girl types the entire Bible!" 8-31
"Salvation Army started in U.S. by a 16-year-old girl...and a town drunk!" 10-5
"Superkid! Amazing 7-year-old Florida boy lifts 3,000-lb. car with his bare hands!" 10-5
"Tumor tot gets new life!" 8-10
"12-year-old boy memorizes every word of 'The Godfather,'" 10-19

Children, General

"\$400,000 party for sheikh's daughter!" 10-26
"The lower the barometer, the higher the birthrate," 8-10
"Man murdered for calling baby ugly!" 10-12
"Smart kids get more tummy aches than dumb ones do!" 8-31

Children, Ungrateful

"Kill-crazy kiddies!" 8-10
"5-year-old wrecks father's \$6,000 big screen TV—and wins 'Little Brat Contest,'" 8-17
"I wish space aliens would kidnap my rotten brats!" 10-26
(see Dotti, Dear)



August 17, 1993

Children, Ungrateful contd.

"Mom Chains Boy to Coffee Table—so 11-year-old dials 911!" 9-28
"Son kills dad who worked 23 years to get him out of jail!" 9-14

Children, Unlucky

"Baby electrocuted when heart monitor is plugged into wall socket!" 10-5
"Boy, 4, crushed to death by statue of Virgin Mary!" 9-14
"Dad keeps 14-year-old punk in chains!" 9-21
"Desperate mom offers to give her baby away—on office bulletin board!" 10-5
"Drunk-as-a-skunk mom blames car crash on her dead son, 4!" 10-12
"Gunman makes kids jog in place!" 9-21
"Hit-and-run pilot flattens 11-year-old girl with his airplane!" 8-24
"The Little Boy With Two Faces!" (photo) 9-7
"Michael Jackson was obsessed with MacCaulay Culkin!" 9-28
"Nuke disaster spawns two-headed baby!" 10-19
"Quints eaten alive by lions!" 9-21
"Sicko Saddam sentences girl, 9, to death—for stealing loaf of bread!" 8-10 ("9-year-old girl escapes death sentence!" 8-31)
"10,000 babies smuggled into U.S. inside watermelons!" 9-2
"10-year-old girl crushed to death by railroad cars," (photo) 9-7

China

"... is going crazy over hot dogs!" 10-5
"Drying laundry is a breeze in ...," 9-7

Chocolate

"Millionaire buried in ... coffin!" 10-19
"Mom lives on ...—& nothing else!" 10-12

Christ, Jesus (also see Religious Leaders)

"I hugged ... in heaven!" 8-10
"Walking statue of ... vanishes!" 9-7
"Jesus' face appears in dishwasher," 8-10
"Jesus' cross found in Holy Land!" (photo) 9-21

Christmas

"Fitness freaks want Santa Claus banned!" 9-7
"It's the beginning to look like Christmas & it makes me mad as hell!" 10-12 (see *Anger, Ed*)

Circumcisions

"... in ritzy restaurant shock tourists!" 10-19

Circus

"Death Under the Big Top! Lion sheds trainer," (photo) 9-14
"Families want carnival rides removed from graveyard!" 8-31
"Trapeze star's ... suicide!" 9-14

Clams (see Earthquakes)

Cleopatra

"... was as ugly as a pan of warts, and her breath stunk too!" 10-12

Clinton, Bill (see Royal Family)

Clinton, Hillary (see Cookies)

Clocks

"Calm your nerves instantly: Throw away your watch!" 8-10
"Eisenhower always wore three watches—even in bed!" 9-28
"Man pays \$18,000 for Hitler's watch—then smashes it to pieces!" 8-3
"Truck dumps 6,000 alarm clocks on highway!" 8-10
"Woman ticks like a ...!" 10-5

Clothes

"Now they've invented a shoe horn for pants!" 9-21
"Store sold ... stolen off corpses," 9-21

Cocaine (see Drugs)

Coffins

"New discount chain will sell cheaper ...!" 10-5
"Plop! Bodies falling through bottoms of cut-rate coffins!" 10-12

Collectors

"Collector accidentally drops \$430,000 book into swimming pool!" 10-19

Condiments

"Man gets 10 years in prison for bashing waitress with ketchup bottle!" 9-21

Convicts (see Inmates)

Cookies

"Bag of ... causes airport to shut down!" 9-28
"Human Cookie Monster: Man hasn't touched meat, vegetables or fruit in 19 years!" 10-19
"I tried Hillary's ...—and Thought I Was Going to Die!" 10-26 (see *Anger, Ed*)

Corpse

"Couples home bombed—by a ...!" 8-17
"Murder victim's family dumps ... at killer's door!" 10-12
"Psychic finds ... of missing Michigan girl!" 9-7
"Russian butchers stealing human corpses—and selling them as beef!" 9-28
"Store sold clothes stolen off corpses," 9-21

Cow (see Plumber)

Crawford, Cindy

"CC: A Maniac Stalker Slept in my Bed!" 8-17

Credit

"Airport X-ray machines zap credit cards!" 9-7
"Cancel everybody's debts—and watch business start booming!" 8-31 (see *Anger, Ed*)
"How to Get off the ... Card Merry-Go-Round!" 8-3

Cremation

"Gal uses dead hubby's ashes for breast implants!" 9-21
"Woman arrested for stealing 252 cremation urns!" 10-19

Crocodiles

"Mom crushes croc's head when it tries to bite her baby!" 10-5

Culkin, MacCaulay (see Jackson, Michael)

Cures, Miracle (also see Sick, Healing the)

"Bee sting cure for multiple sclerosis," 10-19
"Blind man trips over his guide dog—and regains his sight!" 9-28
"Cure aches and pains with ordinary foods!" 8-31
"Devil's Triangle heals the sick!" 9-21
"4,000-year-old diet cures arthritis, cancer, impotence and heart disease!" 9-21
"Magic words cure doc's cancer!" 9-7
"Mechanics using magic to fix cars in Indonesia!" 9-28
"Miracles of the BLACK MADONNA! Portrait of dark-skinned Virgin Mary heals the sick!" 10-12
"Shocking cure for crazy folks!" 10-26
"Snake venom cures stroke victims!" 10-12
"WD-40 hailed as miracle cure for arthritis!" 10-12
"Wonder cure for headaches—take a walk!" 9-7

Curses

"The Curse of the Andrea Dorea," 8-24
"King Tut's curse strikes again!" 10-26
"Village terrorized by curse of lady vampire buried alive in 1693!" 8-24
"Was ocean liner doomed by a killer's curse?" 9-21

Cyrus, Billy Ray

"Lose 5 lbs. a week—by listening to Michael Jackson and ...!" 8-24

Dancing

"Iran sentences two top soldiers to death—for ...!" 10-5
"Cops arrest man for tap ... on cars!" 9-7

Davidson, Harley (see Name, Change of)

Death

"Dead Man is Life of the Party!" 10-19
"Drunk driver must carry beautiful victim's photo for five years!" 9-14
"I died and went to hell—for 20 minutes!" 8-24
"I tried Hillary's Cookies—and Thought I Was Going to Die!" 10-26 (see *Anger, Ed*)
"Miracle doc brings tot back from the dead!" 8-31
"My heart stopped for four hours—but I didn't feel dead!" 8-3
"100 bodies pulled from Rio Grande!" 10-19
"3-year-old has died 35 times!" 8-10
"Woman goes to heaven—and comes back with handful of gold!" 8-24

Decapitation (see Head, Shrunken)

Deafness

"Deaf people are the best drivers!" 10-5

Deer

"Motorists do C-section on dying ...—& save her unborn fawn!" 9-21

Depression

"How to break out of a bad mood before it kills you!" 10-19
"The secret misery rich folks hide!" 10-19

Derek, Bo

"... expects to be traded in for a new 10," 8-10

Devil (see Satan)

Devil's Triangle

"Cruise ship vanishes in ...!" 9-28
"... heals the sick!" 9-21
"... Rescue Shocker! Lost couple's boat towed to shore by a ghost ship!" 10-26

Devotion

"Hubby spends 17 hours a day at his wife's grave!" 8-24

Diamonds

"Crook swallows fortune in ... and bleeds to death!" 8-24
"Divers discover mountain of ... on ocean floor!" 9-14
"NASA tracks asteroid made of ...," 10-5

Diana, Princess (see Royal Family)

Dinosaurs

"Brazilian jungle is crawling with ..., says scientist!" 9-21
"Dinosaur eggs hatch in Nevada—2 creatures escape!" (photos) 9-7
"Tourist photographs flying dinosaur!" (photo) 10-26

Dirt

"Teacher fired for forcing students to eat ..." 8-24

Discipline, Child

"Country jails parents for not smacking their kids!" 8-31
"Let your kids do what they want," says expert!" 8-31

Dishwasher (see Christ, Jesus)

Diving (see Swimming)

Dogs

"Acupuncture Pooch! Rabid dog cured by ancient Chinese treatment!" 9-14
"Blind man trips over his guide dog—and regains his sight!" 9-28
"City spends \$50,000—to keep dog on Death Row!" 9-7



August 31, 1993

Dogs, contd.

- "Dead puppy closes pizzeria!" 8-3
- "Dogcatchers' new weapon: Blowguns!" 8-10
- "Dog saves 82-year-old master—by barking!" 10-12
- "Drug smuggler hid 4.5 pounds of cocaine in the belly of a St. Bernard!" 8-10
- "Globe-trotting dog traveled 146,000 miles by land, rail and sea—all by himself!" 10-12
- "Guide dog leads 4 blind people to their deaths!" 8-24
- "Half Dog and Half Cat! 'I've created the perfect pet,' says Minnesota scientist!" 10-19
- "How much do you know about dogs? Take this test and find out!" 10-26
- "Mutt mugged for \$44!" 8-3
- "Poodle survives 400-foot fall!" 9-21
- "Spoiled dog tries to commit suicide," (photo) 10-26
- "Stolen dog returned to dying cancer boy!" 8-10
- "TV violence has turned my ... into hounds from hell!" 8-24
- "2-foot roaches replacing ... as man's best friend, say scientists!" 9-7

Dogs, Hot (see Food)

Doherty, Shannon

- "I'm Not a Bitch," says 90210 star," 9-14

Dolls (see Toys)

Dotti, Dear "America's Most Outspoken Advice Columnist" (column)

- "Cheapo neighbor asked me out—then stuck me with \$490 bill!" 9-7
- "The gal next door is a nudie and I'm getting an eyeful!" 8-10
- "I eat lunch with the boss and office tongues are wagging!" 9-14
- "I married the girl of my dreams and now my life's a nightmare!" 9-21
- "I'm such a handsome hunk I scare off all the women!" 10-5
- "I rained on her parade—so she stormed out of my life!" 9-28
- "I sweeten my marriage with honeys on the side!" 8-3
- "I wish space aliens would kidnap my rotten brats!" 10-26
- "Loving her was easy until I got out of jail!" 8-31
- "My best friend's big bottom is becoming the butt of jokes!" 8-17
- "The restaurant was ritzy—but rug rats wrecked my meal!" 8-24
- "Should I force my son to date my boss's dog-faced daughter?" 10-19
- "We've been married eight months and my wife won't have sex!" 10-12

Drugs

- "Drug smuggler hid 4.5 pounds of cocaine in the belly of a St. Bernard!" 8-10
- "Drug suspect gulps down evidence & chokes to death!" 8-17
- "Smugglers stuff live snakes with cocaine!" 8-17
- "Sneaky chef spikes food with opium," 10-5

Dwarfism (also see Height)

- "Study proves it: Most space aliens are dwarfs!" 9-14

Ears

- "Diners find human ... in spaghetti!" 10-12

Earthquakes

- "Clams predict ...!" 8-17

Earthworms

- "They're as smart as whips, say experts," 8-10

Eastwood, Clint

- "Let's put ... in the Oval Office!" 8-17

Eels

- "Man chokes to death on eel!" 10-12

Eisenhower, Dwight D. (see Clocks)

Elephants

- "Europe's Oldest Circus ... Crushes 13 fans during its final show!" 8-10
- "Grieving elephant squashes 44 people!" 10-19
- "Thai government sets up drug rehab clinic for ..." 9-7
- "Tiny noisemaker tames wild ..." 10-19

Emotions

- "Woman foils bandit—by crying!" 8-24
- "Your mate's hands reveal his feelings!" 10-26



September 21, 1993

Execution

- "Birth Control by Electrocutation!" 10-19
- "City spends \$50,000—to keep dog on Death Row!" 9-7
- "Drunken teens kill pal by wiring him to an electric outlet!" 8-17
- "Firing Squad Screw-Up! Nearsighted soldiers take 9 tries to finish ..." 9-14
- "Fry death row creeps in electric bleachers!" 9-7 (see Anger, Ed)
- "Handprint of man executed in 1878 appears on prison wall!" 10-12
- "Iran sentences two top soldiers to death—for dancing!" 10-5
- "Man hanged in 1903 gets new trial," 8-17
- "Sicko Saddam sentences girl, 9, to death—for stealing loaf of bread!" 8-10 ("9-year-old girl escapes death sentence!" 8-31)

Exercise

- "Aerobic Cooking! Amazing exercises let you melt flab away while you cook dinner!" 10-12
- "Build rippling muscles—and never get off your butt!" 10-26
- "Fitness freaks want Santa Claus banned!" 9-7
- "Gunman makes kids jog in place!" 9-21
- "Millions of joggers are running themselves to death," 10-19
- "Sicko teens turn joggers into human baseballs!" 8-24
- "Swimmers shocked when pool sinks into river!" 8-24
- "Warning! Allergic reactions to ... can kill you!" 9-14

Exorcism

- "Pope John Paul performed secret ..." 9-28
- "Spirit-chasing priest saves girl possessed by space creature," 8-17
- "Vatican ...! Pope John Paul drives shrieking demon from woman's body! (photos) 10-26

Faces

- "Kiss a woman and get your nose bit off—it's the law!" 9-14

Faces, contd.

- "The Little Boy With Two ...!" (photo) 9-7
- "National Face-Smacking Day Canceled!" 8-3
- "Top Secret Photo Proves Humans Lived On Mars!" (photo) 9-14

Failure, Fear of

- "4 easy ways to beat the ..." 10-26

Falls

- "Hopping-mad hotel guest stomps his foot—and ... through floor!" 9-14
- "Mountain climber ... and dies—in his kitchen!" 10-19
- "90-year-old makes 176-foot bungee jump!" 10-12
- "Poodle survives 400-foot ..." 9-21
- "Pregnant gal leaps from 6th floor fire and flattens her rescuer!" 10-12

Fatherhood (also see Motherhood)

- "Coolheaded 7-Year-Old Saves Dying Dad!" 8-24
- "Dad Breaks Sex Creep's Legs—with a Baseball Bat!" 10-19
- "Dad sues for support from rich son he abandoned at birth!" 9-7
- "Man cons stepdaughters into sex—to drive the Devil from his body!" 10-5
- "Son kills dad who worked 23 years to get him out of jail!" 9-14
- "Teen brothers hire hit man to kill their father!" 9-28

Feminists

- "Women's libbers are mentally ill, say psychologists!" 10-19

Films, Nazi

- "Lost ... found in lake!" 10-12

Finances

- "Bum makes \$600,000 in the stock market!" 9-7
- "Earn more money and improve your sex life—by eating cabbage!" 9-7
- "Getting hit by lightning can make you rich!" 10-26
- "How to tell if you're going down the financial toilet!" 8-31
- "How to trick salesmen into giving you great deals!" 10-26
- "Old toys in your attic can make you rich!" 9-7
- "Penny-pinching janitor socks away \$300,000," 9-28
- "Tokyo tycoon is world's richest man!" 10-26

Fingernails (see Hands)

Fish (also see Sharks)

- "The Amazing Catfish!" 8-31
- "Fisherman catches a live baby boy!" 10-5
- "Mars Observer Photographed Giant ... in Space!" 10-26
- "Mermaid mummy found in Oregon!" (photo) 9-14

Fishing (see Fish)

Food

- "China is going crazy over hot dogs!" 10-5
- "Edible postcards hottest items in French resorts!" 10-19
- "Every time you eat—a miracle begins!" 9-28
- "How to tell 'fact' from 'fiction' about the foods we eat!" 9-28
- "The key to good health: Eat more nuts!" 10-26
- "Killer pasta!" 9-21
- "New England man arrested for bombing passing cars with pasta," 8-31

Football

- "... coach orders players to have sex with his wife!" 9-14
- "Witch doctor puts curse on pro ... team!" 8-24

Foreman, George (see Hillbillies, Beverly)

Friendship

- "Get your friends to eat out of your hand!" 8-31
- "How to turn your friends into slaves!" 8-17
- "My blood brother gave me AIDS!" 8-31
- "9 Surefire Ways to Help a Friend Through a Crisis!" 8-31
- "Want a real friend for life? Choose a woman!" 10-26

Frogs

- "Wacky Hindus hold frog wedding to end drought!" 9-14

Games, Betting

- "Buy a raffle ticket & win a hooker!" 10-26
"Man goes two years without taking off his boots—to win a bet!" 10-26
"9 fun bets you can't lose!" 8-31

Games, Kinky Sex

- "Wealthy exec posed as physician to lure women into ...!" 8-24

Garbage

- "Mom takes out trash because her son didn't—and gets killed by lightning!" 8-24
"Rotten ... killed man while he slept!" 9-7

Gender, Change of (also see Transvestites)

- "Is my new boyfriend really a woman?" 8-17 (see *Sabak, Serena*)
"Man gets three years in jail for switching signs on public rest rooms!" 10-12
"Sissy French kids trade cards of female impersonators!" 10-12
"10 Ways to Tell if your Gal was Once A Guy!" 8-10
"Women's lib leader reveals she—is a he!" 8-10

Geysers (see Tourists)

Ghosts

- "Amazing Ghost Stories!" 10-19
"Angry Ghost Throws Pots, Pans, Dishes & Food," (photo) 9-14
"Ghost Slaves Haunt Plantation!" (photos) 9-28
"It's a miracle! 8-year-old cancer girl cured by doctor's ghost!" 10-5
"Red Baron's ghost appears over France!" 9-28

Gibson, Mel

- "My family sounded like Three Stooges: ...," 10-5

Golf

- "Golfball crashes party," 9-7
"Hole in One! Golfer almost bleeds to death when he stabs himself with a pitching wedge!" 10-19

Goosing (see Relations, Male-Female)

Graves

- "Buried alive—in his mother's grave!" 10-5
"Killer gets grave sentence!" 10-5
"Killer tombstone!" 9-21

Guilt

- "Mom takes out trash because her son didn't—and gets killed by lightning!" 8-24

Gum, Chewing

- "9,000-year-old ... found in Sweden!" 10-5

Guns

- "God stole my gun & saved my life, says country star," 9-28
"Man buys pistol, then robs the salesman who sold it to him!" 10-26
"Ohio woman made pregnant—by a bullet," 8-31

Haircuts

- "Political wisecrack sparks barbershop brawl," 9-14
"\$2 million lawsuit over bad hairdo!" 9-21
"Upside-down ... hottest craze in Paris!" 8-24
"Will Julia force Lyle to chop his top?" 8-31

Hall, Deidre (see Homosexuality)

Hands

- "Cracking Your Knuckles is Harmless!" 10-26
"Your fingernails tell how healthy you really are!" 8-31
"Your mate's ... reveal his feelings!" 10-26

Happiness

- "New survey shows Americans are the happiest people in the world!" 10-19

Hay (see Horses)

Head, Shrunken

- "...is reunited with body!" 8-10

Heads, Cockroach

- "Super tasted great—until hubby learned what it was!" 10-5

Hearts (see Organs)

Heaven

- "Woman goes to ...—and comes back with handful of gold!" 8-24

Hell

- "Hell is on the planet Venus, says Bible expert!" 8-31
"I died and went to ...—& came back to talk about it!" 9-7
"I died and went to ...—for 20 minutes!" 8-24

Herbs

- "Amazing miracle...will make you young again!" 8-31

Hikers

- "Hiker's backpack stuck between rocks 4 days—with him still wearing it!" 8-31

Hillbillies, Beverly

- "George Foreman: The ... rescued me from a life of crime!" 10-19

History

- "American ... you didn't learn in school!" 9-21

Hitler, Adolf

- "... drew comic book!" 10-12

Homosexuality

- "The African Queen! Gay tourist crowned leader of jungle tribe in Gambia!" 9-21
"Fairy Mason? Did Raymond Burr create an imaginary family to cover his secret sexual identity?" 10-26
"Gay Bullies Are Making Deidre Hall's Days a Living Hell!" 10-17
"I'm Not Gay! Funnyman Jerry Seinfeld rips vicious rumors!" 10-19
"Jack Nicholson to play Gay Edgar Hoover!" 8-3
"Saddam Hussein's gay lover tells all in blockbuster new book!" 8-24

Hoover, Jay Edgar (see Homosexuality)

Horns

- "People who grow ...: It can happen to YOU, warn docs!" (photos) 9-14

Horses

- "Banker weds four-legged beauty in Atlanta!" 8-17
"Man ordered to eat hay because he fed his horse junk food!" 8-24
"World's most pampered horse!" 10-12

House

- "Oldster gets lost in his own...—and nearly dies!" 8-31

Housework

- "Housewives go bonkers over new riding vacuum cleaners," 8-3
"Housewife jailed for beating vacuum salesman to pulp with a broom!" 9-14
"Housewives walk more miles every day—than any other worker!" 9-14
"Madonna's ultimate fantasy: I wanna be a housewife!" 10-12
"Salt: It'll clean anything in the house—for just pennies!" 8-24
"The way you clean house reveals your personality!" 8-3

Hussein, Saddam

- "9-year-old girl escapes death sentence!" 8-31

Hussein, Saddam contd.

- "Saddam Hussein's gay lover tells all in blockbuster new book!" 8-24
"Sicko Saddam sentences girl, 9, to death—for stealing loaf of bread!" 8-10

Ice Cream

- "... cart's music drove man loony tunes—so he shot it!" 8-3

Illiteracy

- "World's top dictionary salesman can't read or write!" 8-3

Illness (also see Miracle Cures)

- "Do you suffer from any of these strange symptoms?" 9-14

Immigrants

- "Ed's readers say kick out the...!" 8-24 (see *Anger, Ed*)
"Family flees Cuba in style—by stowing away on a cruise ship!" 9-14

Implants, Heel (see also Dwarfism)

- "... make man 3 inches taller!" 10-5

Inmates

- "Cons build secret brewery in prison," 10-26
"Cons pay \$2,000 for a carton of cigarettes in smoke-free L.A. jail!" 8-24
"Jailbait! Superstar model cuts deal with convicts!" 9-14
"Loving her was easy until I got out of jail!" 8-31 (see *Dotti, Dear*)
"Minnesota prison fills empty cells with...from foreign jails!" 8-10
"Survey shocker: Americans would rather go to jail than be President!" 8-17
"3 Captured Space Aliens Held in Russian Dungeon!" 9-7

Intoxication (also see Alcohol)

- "Cavemen were drunken slobs!" 10-12
"Drunk driver must carry beautiful victim's photo for five years!" 9-14
"Drunk takes riding mower on a joyride!" 8-31
"New magazine is just for drunks!" 8-24
"Salvation Army started in U.S. by a 16-year-old girl—and a town drunk!" 10-5
"Stupid drunk crashes car into police station!" 10-26

Inventors

- "This man invented laser beams, microwave ovens and neon lights—in the 1800s," (photo) 9-21

Investigation, Federal Bureau of (FBI)

- "... captures bat boy!" (secret photo) 8-31

Iraq (see Obesity)

Islands (see UFOs)

Jackson, Michael

- "Lose 5 lbs. a week—by listening to ... and Billy Ray Cyrus!" 8-24
"... was obsessed with MacCaulay Culkin!" 9-28

James, Jesse

- "Jesse James' murder hoax," 8-24

Japan

- "Japanese build UFO and fly super-secret craft to Venus!" 9-7
"Japanese growing taller on U.S. beef!" 9-28

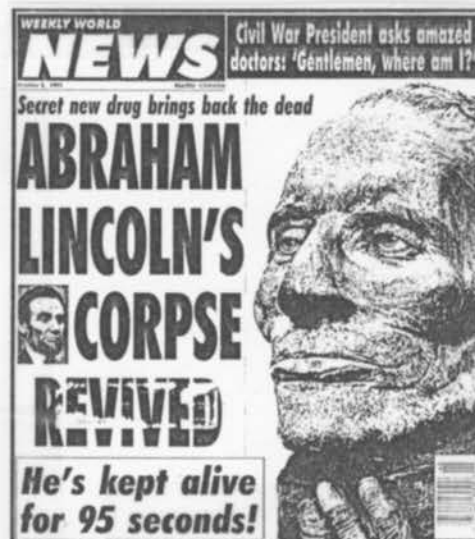
Jonestown

- "I survived the ... massacre!" 9-28

Judd, Wynonna

- "How ... broke her mother's heart!" 10-5

Jupiter (see Planets)



October 5, 1993

Kangaroos

"... are the Einsteins of the animal world!" 8-24

Kennedy, John Fitzgerald

"... Meets Jackie for the First Time in 30 Years," 10-19 (photos)

Kidnapping

"Idiot kidnapper sends ransom note with his return address!" 9-21

Kissing (also see Sex)

"Baseball player fined for kissing an umpire!" 8-17

"Kiss a woman and get your nose bit off—it's the law!" 9-14

"New class teaches kids how to kiss!" 10-12

Kite

"Man Flies ... Into Space!" 10-26

Knuckles, Cracking Your (see Hands)

Laughter

"Bizarre disease makes victims laugh themselves to death!" 8-31

Laundry (see China)

Language, Bad

"Cuss like a sailor—it's good for you!" 9-14

"5th-graders wash teacher's mouth out with soap," 10-26

Lawyer

"Judge clobbers ... with a garbage can!" 10-12

"... jailed for wearing owl costume in court!" 8-10

Laziness

"Are you a no-good lazy bum? Here's the cure!" 10-26

"How to get everything done—even if you're lazy!" 9-14

"Lazy People Live Longer!" 8-10

License Plates

"State nixes 'THNXGOD' license plate because it might offend atheists!" 10-19

Lifeguards (see Nudity; Relations, Male-Female)

Limbaugh, Rush

"... for president—just say when!" 8-10

"... wants Sharon Stone to have his baby!" 9-7

Lincoln, Abraham

"Abe Lincoln's corpse revived! Civil War president kept alive for 95 seconds!" (photo) 10-5

Lions

"Abandoned leopard cub adopts zookeeper!" (photo) 9-21

"Death Under the Big Top! Lion sheds trainer," (photo) 9-14

"Escaped lion seeks refuge in North Carolina church!" 9-21

"Man used lion to pull cab—until it ate him!" 8-31

"Mom vows to kill every lion on earth!" 10-19

"Quints eaten alive by ..." 9-21

Lobster

"... in hot water after biting off chef's finger!" 9-7

Locusts

"Cannibal tribe gets sick—from eating ..." 8-31

"8-pound killer locusts headed for U.S.," 8-17

Longevity

"Five tips to help you live longer!" 9-21

Lost Items

"How to find anything you've lost in 7 easy steps!" 10-19

Lottery (also see Games, Betting)

"Ex-wife gets ZILCH in \$1M ... suit," 8-31

Lovett, Lyle (see Roberts, Julia)

Luck

"Couple wins lottery twice in one day," 8-17

"Human jellyfish brings good fortune and big bucks to our readers: These lucky readers rubbed his belly and won—and so can you!" 9-28

Luck, contd.

"Turn on ... like a faucet!" 8-10

"World's unluckiest woman!" 9-28

Lunch boxes

"... are deadly on construction sites!" 10-19

Lungs (see Organs)

Madonna (see Housework)

Magic

"Mechanics using ... to fix cars in Indonesia!" 9-28

Marriage (also see Relations, Male-Female)

"Alabama woman's been married 70 times!" 10-12

"Banker weds four-legged beauty in Atlanta!" 8-17

"Contortionist ties the knot!" 10-19

"Couple who broke up 56 years ago meet again at nursing home—and marry!" 8-24

"Di will never marry again!" 8-31

"4 Tips to Help Your Meaty Mate Lose Weight!" 8-10

"Gal was so shocked by proposal of ...—her hair fell out!" 9-21

"Henpecked hubby shoots nagging wife to death! She even chewed me out for the way I was holding the gun, he tells cops," 10-26

"How to keep your nutty hubby from driving you insane!" 8-17

"How to tell if your ... is DOOMED," 9-21

"Hubby spends 17 hours a day at his wife's grave!" 8-24

"Lethal Hubby 2," 8-17

"Man yanked off roof by safety rope tied to wife's car!" 8-24

"... Made in Hell! Wimp stays married 88 years—because he's afraid to ask his wife for a divorce!" 9-28

"Men can't wait to say, 'I do,'" 10-19

"Most people LOVE their mothers-in-law!" 8-31

"My husband dumped me—for losing 133 lbs., then ran off with 270 lb. barmaid," 8-24

"Reunited couple remarries—51 years later!" 8-31

"Save a dull ... in 4 easy steps!" 8-10

"Shotgun wedding for Stud, 86—after he makes 84-year-old girlfriend pregnant!" 8-10

"Top 10 fears of newlywed couples!" 9-7

"We've been married eight months and my wife won't have sex!" 10-12 (see Dotti, Dear)

"Wife poses as barroom floozy to catch her cheating husband!" 9-28

"Wives wanted!" 9-28

"Women who marry younger men have shorter life spans!" 8-24

"World's shortest ..." 9-21

Mars (see Planets)

Marx, Groucho (see Catholicism)

Mary, Virgin (also see Catholicism; Religious Leaders)

"Boy, 4, crushed to death by statue of ..." 9-14

"Image of ... mysteriously appeared on cloak in 1591!" 8-3

"Miracles of the BLACK MADONNA! Portrait of dark-skinned Virgin Mary heals the sick!" 10-12

Mattress

"Image of dead patient's body appears on hospital ..." 8-3

"Miracle boy falls 13 stories & lands on a ..." 9-7

McCartney, Paul

"Ex-Beatle to rocker Ted Nugent: You're stark raving mad!" 8-24

"Paul's Phone Call Saved My Life!" 8-3

McDonald, Ronald

"Animal rights gal hits ... in the face with a pie!" 8-31

Memory

"Man with a two-minute ..." 10-12

Menace, Dennis the

"Real-life ..." 10-19

"Whatever happened to TV's ...?" 8-3

Mermaids (see Fish)

Mice

"Invasion of 100-pound ... threatens life on Earth!" 8-24

"Nurse fired for serving boss mouse sandwich!" 10-5

"World's most bizarre religion tells members to worship rodents!" 10-5

Mind Control

"New Machine Reads Minds—& Tape-Records Thoughts!" 8-10

"News readers shrink holes in ozone layer—with their minds!" 9-7

"Pennsylvania family's shocking discovery: We can read each other's minds!" 8-3

"Students use ESP to cheat on exams!" 8-24

"Teen Twists Metal Objects—With Her Mind!" 10-19

"Vengeful psychic wrecks greedy landlords's building—with his mind!" 8-17

Mishaps

"Man yanked off roof by safety rope tied to wife's car!" 8-24

Monkeys

"Ape wins \$5,000 photo contest!" 10-5

"I created a 500,000-year-old baboon!" 9-21

Monster, Sea

"Giant 6-foot snapping turtle terrorizes Connecticut town!" 10-5

"Lake Erie ... is still on the loose!" 9-21

"... sinks sailboat in Lake Erie!" (photo) 8-24

Monsters, Space (see Aliens, Space)

Moses (see Bible, Holy)

Mosquitos

"Mom killed by swarm of vampire ..." 8-31

"Mosquito Pizza! Man spices his food with juicy insects!" 10-5

"Radio show zaps pesky ..." 8-10

Motherhood (also see Fatherhood)

"Desperate mom offers to give her baby away—on office bulletin board!" 10-5

"Drunk-as-a-skunk mom blames car crash on her dead son, 4!" 10-12

"Eagle Flies Away With Baby!" 8-3

"Fixed couple expecting 5th child!" 8-24

"How Wynonna Judd broke her mother's heart!" 10-5

"I wish space aliens would kidnap my rotten brats!" 10-26 (see Dotti, Dear)

"Millionaire pays woman \$40G IN ADVANCE to have his baby!" 9-21

"Mom Chains Boy to Coffee Table—so 11-year-old dials 911!" 9-28

"Mom crushes croc's head when it tries to bite her baby!" 10-5

"Mom Gives Birth to 15 Babies—At One Time!" 8-10

"Mom takes out trash because her son didn't—and gets killed by lightning!" 8-24

"Ohio woman made pregnant—by a bullet," 8-31

"Pregnant gal leaps from 6th floor fire and flattens her rescuer!" 10-12

"73-year-old has a baby—and gets pregnant again 3 weeks later!" 8-10

"Son kills self—after finding long-lost mom!" 8-3

"Spigot bra makes breast-feeding a breeze," 8-17

"Supermom: My 15 babies are doing great!" 9-14

"Teenage moms grow mustaches later in life!" 8-24

"Teller gives birth during robbery!" 10-12

"Why does my dead baby scream from the grave?" 9-7 (see Sabak, Serena)

"Will I ever meet the child I abandoned in 1970?" 9-21 (see Sabak, Serena)

"Woman carries unborn baby for 41 years," 9-21

"Woman has vision of child's murder—after 26 years!" 8-3

"You can be a mom at 100, say docs!" 9-28

Mothers-in-laws (see Marriage)

Motorcycles (see Travel, Bike)

Mowers, Lawn

"Drunk takes riding mower on a joyride!" 8-31

Mowers, Lawn contd.

"Man hurls lawn mower at neighbor—while it's still running, say cops!" 9-14

Muggers (see Robbers, Armed)**Mules (see Horses)****Mummy**

"Mermaid ... found in Oregon!" (photo) 9-14

Mutilation, Genital

"Wife sets sleeping hubby's testicles on fire!" 9-28
 "Wife slices off hubby's privates—and tosses it out car window!" 8-3

Name, Change of

"Fireman legally changes his name to Smokey Bear!" 8-17
 "Motorcycle buff changes name to Harley Davidson!" 9-7

Napoleon (see Transvestites)**Neighbors**

"... outraged by naked gardener!" 9-28
 "Our space alien ... are back, and they're making our lives miserable!" 8-24

Newspaper

"Stockbroker blinded by a ...!" 9-28

Nicholson, Jack (see Homosexuality)**Nigeria (see Roller Derby)****Noises, Strange**

"Mysterious hum is driving people stark raving MAD!" 9-14

Normal

"Are you ... or a Nut? Take this test!" 9-7
 "Do you suffer from any of these strange symptoms?" 9-14
 "So you think you're ...? See what the experts say." 8-10

Nose (see Faces)**North Pole (see Travel, Bike)****Nudity (also see Pin-ups)**

"Angry mom shows up at son's wedding—stark naked!" 10-12
 "The gal next door is a nudie and I'm getting an eyeful!" 8-10 (see Dotti, Dear)
 "Gals want more male nudity!" 9-28
 "Greeks to compete nude in Olympics!" 10-19
 "Just Nude-a-Ful! TV dazzler is looking for a man who will let her pose naked!" 10-26
 "Lifeguard refuses to save drowning skinny-dipper!" 9-21
 "Naked Robber!" 10-19
 "Neighbors outraged by naked gardener!" 9-28

Nugent, Ted (see McCartney, Paul)**Nurses (also see Physicians)**

"Nurse fired for serving boss mouse sandwich!" 10-5
 "Nurse sues doctor—for squirting her with blood from baby's umbilical cord!" 10-5
 "... fired for smoking—even when they're not at work!" 8-17

Nuts (see Food)**Obesity (also see Weight Loss)**

"Countries where fat people are beautiful!" 9-28
 "Emotional problems can make people feel fat!" 10-5
 "Human jellyfish brings good fortune and big bucks to our readers: These lucky readers rubbed his belly and won—and so can you!" 9-28
 "Iraqi soldiers using fat people as human shields!" 9-21

Oil, Holy

"30-year-old man bleeds healing holy oil," 8-3

Oil, Olive (see Baldness)**Organs**

"Dead organ donor wakes up after surgeons remove his eyes, a kidney and his left lung!" 10-26
 "Docs transplant a 3rd-hand heart into a 42-yr.-old man!" 8-10
 "Here's how you can get two new lungs for the price of one!" 8-17
 "Man breaks into organ bank—& steals pair of eyes!" 9-7
 "Man drives nail into own heart—and survives!" 9-28
 "Scrambled Egghead Dead at 51: His heart was in his head! His brain was in his stomach!" 10-26

Ouija Boards (also see Psychics)

"Is my Ouija board making a fool of me?" 9-28 (see Sabak, Serena)
 "Michigan gal using Ouija board to get delicious dishes from dead chefs!" 9-14

Ozone Layer, Depletion of (see Mind Control)**Pasta (see Food)****Paul, Pope John (see Exorcisms)****Penis (see Mutilation, Genital)****Pennies**

"Man gets tax bill for a penny from Uncle Sam!" 9-7
 "Mint release five rare ... worth \$100s!" 9-14

Perception, Extra Sensory (ESP) (see Mind Control)**Personality**

"How to develop a STRONG ...—even if you're a wimp!" 10-5
 "How you say good bye reveals your true ...!" 9-28
 "How you watch TV reveals your ...!" 8-17
 "The Secrets You Carry in Your Wallet!" 10-19
 "Surefire ways to make people love you, even if you're a stinker!" 10-19
 "The way you clean house reveals your ...!" 8-3
 "What you carry in your purse reveals the REAL you!" 9-28
 "Your eyeglasses reveal your ...!" 9-28

Perverts, Sex

"Dad Breaks Sex Creep's Legs—with a Baseball Bat!" 10-19
 "Peeping Tom boss used hidden mirror to watch lady lifeguards take showers." 10-5
 "Police nab man for filming up cheerleaders' skirts!" 9-28

Photography (see Monkeys)**Physicians (also see Nurses)**

"Greedy docs stick us to pay for their golf clubs and fancy cars!" 8-17 (see Anger, Ed)
 "It's a miracle! 8-year-old cancer girl cured by doctor's ghost!" 10-5
 "Make surgeons show us our old body parts!" (see Anger, Ed) 10-5
 "Miracle doc brings tot back from the dead!" 8-31
 "Nurse sues doctor—for squirting her with blood from baby's umbilical cord!" 10-5
 "Sleepwalking surgeon strolls into hospital and performs heart operation!" 10-12

Pigs

"American bank robber a 'pig hit' in Rome!" 8-10
 "Clever pig farmer makes silk purses out of sows' ears!" 10-12

Pigs, contd.

"Duchess of Pork! Government bigshot calls Fergie a prehistoric pig!" 9-7
 "Freak explosion sends 500 ... to hog heaven!" 10-12
 "... stampede through stress seminar!" 9-28
 "Pig-wrestling banned in Austrian nightclubs!" 8-31
 "Scientists breed world's smallest ...!" 8-31
 "Well-loved porkers produce more piglets!" 8-17

Pin-Ups (also see Nudity)

"Meet America's No. 1 Pin-Up Girl!" (photo) 9-7
 "My boyfriends were bums, says Playmate of the Year," 8-3
 "Playboy Playmate of the Year sparks riot in Hong Kong!" 9-21

Pizza (see Food)**Plan, Secret Government**

"... to Give Every American \$10,000!" 10-12

Planets

"Hell is on the planet Venus, says Bible expert!" 8-31
 "Japanese build UFO and fly super-secret craft to Venus!" 9-7
 "Kiss Jupiter Goodbye!" 10-12
 "Mars Observer Photographed Giant Fish in Space!" 10-26
 "Space aliens put earth up for sale!" 10-26
 "Top Secret Photo Proves Humans Lived On Mars!" 9-14

Plants

"Neighbors outraged by naked gardener!" 9-28
 "... grow better if you pray for them!" 9-7
 "Thirsty ... actually cry!" 9-28

Playboy (see Pin-Ups)**Plumber**

"Food-crazed...dies trying to eat whole cow baked in a giant pie!" 8-10

Politics

"Political wisecrack sparks barbershop brawl," 9-14

Porcupine (see Rape)**Postcards (see Food)****Potato (see Vegetables, Giant)****Power, Abuse of**

"Cop arrests whole town when folks threaten to get him fired!" 8-24
 "Country jails parents for not

smacking their kids!" 8-31
 "Judge jails speeder for not saying SIR!" 8-24

Prayer, Power of

"How the Lord's Prayer can work a miracle for you!" 8-3
 "Live to be 150—by praying!" 8-31
 "Plants grow better if you pray for them!" 9-7

Predictions

"Back to the Future! Guess what Americans in 1893 thought life would look like today!" 10-26
 "Ed Anger predicts happy days for the rest of the 1990s!" 9-28
 "Future ... will be taller, smarter and better looking!" 8-31
 "... through the year 2000!" 10-12

Presley, Elvis

"Painting of Elvis weeps real tears!" 8-31
 "Recipes Fit for the King!" 9-14

Psychics (also see Sabak, Serena)

"Amazing! 53% of all Americans are psychic," 8-24
 "Cornelius Vanderbilt used ... to become the richest man in America!" 9-21
 "Holy Bible is filled with psychic experiences!" 9-21



October 12, 1993

Psychics, contd.

- "Meet the world's great psychic: Man leads cop to serial killer—with the power of his mind!" 9-21
- "Psychic finds corpse of missing Michigan girl!" 9-7
- "Serena's psychic energy captured on film!" 9-28
- "Top psychic Marilyn Wellman tells how to stop your partner from cheating." 9-7
- "Vengeful psychic wrecks greedy landlords' building—with his mind!" 8-17

Pyramids

- "Egyptian teens arrested for skateboarding on ...!" 9-14
- "Great ... are upside down!" 10-5

Railroads (see Children, Unlucky; Subways)

Rainbows (see Alcohol)

Rape

- "Creep rapes housewife—while his girlfriend videotapes attack!" 8-17
- "Groom rapes maid of honor—at the wedding reception," 8-31
- "How to stop a rapist dead in his tracks!" 10-26
- "Lady doc fights off ...—with a porcupine!" 9-7

Recipes

- "Michigan gal using Ouija board to get delicious dishes from dead chefs!" 9-14
- "... Fit for the King!" 9-14 (see Presley, Elvis)

Reincarnation (also see Death)

- "My dead sister is reincarnated—as my son!" 10-12
- "Reincarnated killer commits identical murders—157 years apart!" 10-19
- "... shocker! Poor girls commit mass suicide—to come back as rich ones!" 9-21

Relations, Male-Female (also see Marriage)

- "Divorced couples admit: 'Breaking up ruined our lives.'" 10-19
- "It's official—Falling in love turns people into nitwits!" 10-26
- "Frenchmen: U.S. gals are cold fish!" 8-31
- "Gals want more male nudity!" 9-28
- "Goosing Day canceled!" 9-7
- "Hey guys! If you wanna meet girls, leave one shoe untied!" 10-19
- "How to beat the blues after a busted romance!" 9-28
- "I married the girl of my dreams and now my life's a nightmare!" 9-21 (see Dotti, Dear)
- "I'm such a handsome hunk I scare off all the women!" 10-5 (see Dotti, Dear)
- "I rained on her parade—so she stormed out of my life!" 9-28 (see Dotti, Dear)
- "Is your mate cheating on you? Take this test and find out!" 10-12
- "Jealous granny, 103, uses cane to kill 101-year-old love rival!" 8-24
- "Judge sends man to slammer—for whistling at pretty gal!" 8-10
- "Lover's spat razes roof!" 8-31
- "Loving her was easy until I got out of jail!" 8-31 (see Dotti, Dear)
- "Man jailed for calling judge a 'hot babe!' 8-31
- "My boyfriends were bums, says Playmate of the Year," 8-3
- "My husband dumped me—for losing 133 lbs., then ran off with 270 lb. barmaid," 8-24
- "Peeping Tom boss used hidden mirror to watch lady life-guarders take showers," 10-5
- "Romeo dumps gal into shark-infested water after she says no!" 8-24
- "Secret thoughts women have about men's bodies!" 9-21
- "Single gals hot for happily married guys!" 10-19
- "6 Ways to Attract a Love Like a Magnet!" 10-5
- "Supper tasted great—until hubby learned what it was!" 10-5
- "Top psychic Marilyn Wellman tells how to stop your partner from cheating," 9-7
- "Use astrology to keep your lover faithful!" 9-7
- "Wife kills hubby after he forces her to have breast implants!" 9-28
- "Wife poses as barroom floozy to catch her cheatin' husband!" 9-28
- "Wife takes 1,000-foot death leap over husband's snoring!" 10-5 (photo)

Relations, Male-Female contd.

- "Will the man of my dreams end this nightmare?" 9-14 (see Sabak, Serena)
- "Your mate's hands reveal his feelings!" 10-26

Relations, North-South

- "Stupid Yankee prank has Dixie fightin' mad!" 9-14 (see Anger, Ed)

Relations, U.S.-France

- "Frenchmen: U.S. gals are cold fish!" 8-31

Relations, U.S.-Soviet

- "From Russia with Lust! Warning: A Soviet Sexpot is After Your Man!" 10-5
- "Soviets leave U.S. holding bag for \$4 million in parking tickets!" 8-31
- "U.S. buys captured UFO—from Russia," (photo) 8-31

Religions, Bizarre

- "Bizarre new religion is a barrel of laughs!" 10-5
- "World's most bizarre religion tells members to worship rodents!" 10-5

Religious leaders (also see Catholicism; Christ, Jesus; Exorcisms; Mary, Virgin)

- "Birdbrained holy man has lived in a giant vulture's nest since '68!" 8-17
- "Feuding gurus turn each other into stone!" 8-10
- "God stole my gun & saved my life, says country star," 9-28
- "Minister fired for eating club sandwich during his sermon!" 9-14

Reunions

- "Couple who broke up 56 years ago meet again at nursing home—and marry!" 8-24
- "Divorced couple remarries—51 years later!" 8-31

Rivals, Love

- "Jealous granny, 103, uses cane to kill 101-year-old love rival!" 8-24
- "... duel with an ax and a sword!" 10-12

Roaches

- "2-foot roaches replacing dogs as man's best friend, say scientists!" 9-7

Robbers, Armed (also see Burglars)

- "American bank robber a 'pig hit' in Rome!" 8-10
- "Bank robber busted after giving his phone number to sexy teller!" 8-10
- "Bank robber sues guard for shooting him during holdup!" 8-31
- "Bank Robbery? It's legal!" 10-5
- "Cops nab stuttering bank robber!" 10-5
- "Gun-toting GRANNIES rob five banks!" 9-7
- "Mugger beaten to a pulp by burly transvestites!" 8-17
- "Naked Robber!" 10-19
- "Robber calls bank to thank 'em for the loot!" 9-7
- "Sweet-toothed bandit eats his candy gun!" 10-26
- "Teller gives birth during robbery!" 10-12
- "Woman foils bandit—by crying!" 8-24
- "Would-be bank robber shows up an hour late!" 9-21

Roberts, Julia

- "Will Julia force Lyle to chop his top?" 8-31

Rockets

- "Runaway rocket flies up man's pants!" 8-17

Roller Derby

- "Nigeria goes bonkers over ...!" 10-19

Royal Family

- "Di will never marry again!" 8-31
- "Duchess of York! Government bigshot calls Fergie a prehistoric pig!" 9-7
- "Princess Di vows: I'm going to marry Bill Clinton!" 9-21

Russia (see Aliens, Space)

Sabak, Serena, "America's Sexiest Psychic" (column)

- "Is my new boyfriend really a woman?" 8-17
- "Is my Ouija board making a fool of me?" 9-28
- "Is the demon in my mirror trying to kill me?" 10-5

Sabak, Serena (column) contd.

- "Serena, will the world end in the year 2000?" 8-24
- "Serena's psychic energy captured on film!" 9-28
- "Should I sell my soul for a Lincoln Town Car?" 10-26
- "Was that my dead husband on the telephone?" 10-19
- "Where is the treasure I buried in my past life?" 8-3
- "Why does dead uncle's ghost haunt my closet?" 8-10
- "Why does my dead baby scream from the grave?" 9-7
- "Why do my new shoes walk by themselves?" 10-12
- "Why hasn't Mom spoken to me in 15 years?" 8-31
- "Will I ever meet the child I abandoned in 1970?" 9-21
- "Will the man of my dreams end this nightmare?" 9-14

Salt (see Housework)

Sasquatch (see Bigfoot)

Satan

- "My toilet is possessed by the devil!" (photo) 8-31
- "Is the demon in my mirror trying to kill me?" 10-5 (see Sabak, Serena)
- "Man cons stepdaughters into sex—to drive the Devil from his body!" 10-5
- "Satan's skull found in New Mexico," (photo) 8-17
- "Satan's skull stolen!" 9-14

Schiffer, Claudia (see Inmates)

Scuba diving (see Breasts, Female)

Seinfeld, Jerry (see Homosexuality)

Sex

- "Earn more money and improve your ... life—by eating cabbage!" 9-7
- "Football coach orders players to have ... with his wife!" 9-14
- "Hard Hat...!" 9-7
- "Hey Guys, Here's What Turns Gals On!" 8-17
- "Holy-roller wives are hot to trot!" 8-3
- "How to put the ZING back in your ... life," 8-3
- "How to talk to your lover about ...!" 9-7
- "Man cons stepdaughters into ...—to drive the Devil from his body!" 10-5
- "'Shoplifting is better than ...,' says mom of two!" 8-17
- "Musclemen: Tops in the gym—but flops in the sack!" 9-28
- "Naked lovebirds stole the show at outdoor concert!" 9-28
- "Senior ...," 9-21
- "... Education! Teach romanced teen beauties 7 times a week!" 10-26
- "Wealthy exec posed as physician to lure women into kinky games!" 8-24
- "We've been married eight months and my wife won't have ...!" 10-12 (see Dotti, Dear)
- "You can tease girls with...jokes in S.C.—and it's legal!" 8-10

Sharks (also see Fish)

- "A Great White Shark Bit Me in Half!" (photo) 9-7
- "AIDS carriers banned from swimming in ocean because they're killing the ...!" 8-24
- "I was attacked by a shark—in my living room!" 9-21
- "Romeo dumps gal into shark-infested water after she says no!" 8-24

Shatner, William

- "Captain Jerk: 'Enterprise' Crew Hated My Guts!" 8-31

Shaving (see Trivia)

Shoes

- "Man goes two years without taking off his boots—to win a bet!" 10-26
- "Why do my new ... walk by themselves?" 10-12 (see Sabak, Serena)
- "Woman pays doc \$3,000—to remove her ...!" 8-24

Shoelaces

- "Gal works with her ... tied together—for FIVE weeks!" 8-31

Shoplifting

- "Most shoplifters are after a steak and some cigarettes!" 8-31
- "... is better than sex," says mom of two!" 8-17

Sick, Calling in (see Employment)

Sick, Healing the (also see Cures, Miracle)

"Dead Girl Cures the Sick!" 8-17
 "Monk can heal the sick and change the weather!" 8-3
 "Real-life flying nun floats in the air & heals the sick!" 8-3
 "12,000-yr.-old crystal skull heals the sick!" 10-26

Skateboarding (see Pyramids)**Skinny-dipping (see Nudity)****Skulls**

"Man stacks 11 ... for new world record!" 8-17
 "Satan's skull found in New Mexico," (photo) 8-17
 "Satan's skull stolen!" 9-14
 "12,000-yr.-old crystal skull heals the sick!" 10-26

Skunks

"... are gentle little stinkers who get rid of bugs, mice and garbage," 8-24

Sleep

"How to ... like a baby every night!" 8-10

Sleepwalkers

"... Destroy Hotel!" 8-3
 "Sleepwalker steps out of camper going 65 mph!" 10-5
 "Sleepwalking surgeon strolls into hospital and performs heart operation!" 10-12

Smoking

"Ban anti-smoking wimps!" 9-21 (see *Anger, Ed*)
 "Cons pay \$2,000 for a carton of cigarettes in smoke-free L.A. jail!" 8-24
 "New airline for smokers only!" 10-5
 "Nurses fired for ...—even when they're not at work!" 8-17
 "Restaurant employees: Beware of lung cancer!" 10-5
 "Smoker tries to overdose on cigarettes & nicotine patches," 9-28
 "12-inch-long cigarettes!" 10-5

Smuggling, Drug (see Drugs)**Snakes**

"Crook pays price for hiding ... in his pants!" 8-17
 "Golfer jailed for throwing a snake at his partner!" 8-3
 "Python bites the hand that feeds him—& won't let go!" 9-21
 "Smugglers stuff live ... with cocaine!" 8-17
 "Snake venom cures stroke victims!" 10-12
 "... Alive! Man gobbles wiggly critters by the bucketful!" 8-31

Sneezing

"... epidemic kills 47: Bizarre virus makes victim 'Ah-Choo' as much as 50 times a minute!" 10-26
 "The village where no one sneezes!" 10-12

Snoring, Reaction to (see Suicide)**Soap**

"... -on-a-rope sweeping India!" 8-17

Soldier, Petrified

"2,800-year-old ... found in quicksand pit!" 10-12

Soot

"... kills thousands of Americans each year!" 10-12

Soul, Human

"Should I sell my soul for a Lincoln Town Car?" 10-26 (see *Sabak, Serena*)
 "The ... weighs 1/3,000th of an ounce!" 10-19

Spear

"... pierces man's brain—& he survives!" 8-3

Spiders

"I survived an attack by black widow ...!" 8-24
 "... defeated Hitler during World War 2!" 8-10

Squirrel

"Daredevil...killed in skiing mishap," 8-3

Star Trek (see Shatner, William)**Stewart, Rod**

"Rocker Rod to supermodel wife: Stop being a limo bimbo!" 10-19

Stone

"Feuding gurus turn each other into ..." 8-10

Stone, Sharon (see Limbaugh, Rush)**Stooges, Three (see Gibson, Mel)****Stress Management**

"Calm your nerves instantly: Throw away your watch!" 8-10
 "How to blow your top—without killing yourself," 8-10
 "How to keep your cool if you're about to blow your top!" 10-26
 "How to simplify your life and be happier!" 8-10
 "Pigs stamped through stress seminar!" 9-28
 "Wild and wacky ways to relieve STRESS," 9-28

Strippers, Deadly

"Stripper's steel-tipped tassel flies off boob & kills man, 32!" 9-21

Students

"5th-graders wash teacher's mouth out with soap," 10-26
 "School showing X-rated videos to 8th graders!" 8-24
 "... use ESP to cheat on exams!" 8-24
 "Teacher beats boy senseless—for wearing pink curlers!" 10-12
 "Teacher fired for forcing ... to eat dirt" 8-24
 "Teacher sues ... for making fun of him in school play!" 8-31

Subways

"Subway Cars—For Women Only!" 10-19
 "Subway cars—for women only!" 10-26

Suicide (also see Death)

"Diver leaps to her death from 207-foot balcony!" 8-31
 "Man killed himself because he was going bald!" 8-17
 "Man videotapes his own ..." 8-31
 "Reincarnation shocker! Poor girls commit mass ...—to come back as rich ones!" 9-21
 "Smoker tries to overdose on cigarettes & nicotine patches," 9-28
 "Spoiled dog tries to commit suicide," (photo) 10-26
 "Trapeze star's circus suicide!" 9-14
 "TV station broadcasts suicide to boost ratings," 10-5
 "Wife takes 1,000-foot death leap over husband's snoring!" 10-5 (photo)

Sweat (see Brain)**Swimming**

"Diver leaps to her death from 207-foot balcony!" 8-31
 "Swimmers shocked when pool sinks into river!" 8-24

Sword Swallower

"... chokes to death on a piece of steak!" 8-31

Syrup, Chocolate

"Man rescued from vat of ..." 9-14

Tacos (see Blood, Human)**Tapeworm**

"Boo!" (electron microscope photo of ...) 8-3

Taxes (see Pennies)**Teachers**

"5th-graders wash teacher's mouth out with soap," 10-26
 "Sex Education! Teach romanced teen beauties 7 times a week!" 10-26

Teachers, contd.

"Teacher beats boy senseless—for wearing pink curlers!" 10-12
 "Teacher fired for forcing ... to eat dirt" 8-24
 "Teacher sues students for making fun of him in school play!" 8-31

Teenagers

"Cannibal who ate teen is headed for the streets!" 8-10
 "Drunken teens kill pal by wiring him to an electric outlet!" 8-17
 "Egyptian ... arrested for skateboarding on pyramids!" 9-14
 "Hooked on water! Pretty teen guzzles 6 gallons a day!" 9-7
 "Most...believe in angels, says new poll," 8-17
 "Parents leave teen behind at highway rest stop," 8-24
 "Restaurant Owner Barbeques 3 ...," 8-3
 "Sex Education! Teach romanced teen beauties 7 times a week!" 10-26
 "Sicko ... turn joggers into human baseballs!" 8-24

"Teenage moms grow mustaches later in life!" 8-24

"Teen brothers hire hit man to kill their father!" 9-28

"Teen gunned down at Russian roulette party!" 10-12

"Teen Twists Metal Objects—With Her Mind!" 10-19

Teeth

"Do-It-Yourself Dentist! Trucker fixes his family's ... with garage tools!" 10-12
 "Mom who had teeth pulled by mistake making big bucks modeling dentures!" 10-12

Television

"8 Ways to Have Fun—without watching ..." 10-19
 "How you watch ...

reveals your personality!" 8-17

"... station broadcasts suicide to boost ratings," 10-5

"... violence has turned my dogs into hounds from hell!" 8-24

"Tube Boob! Man shot in face bleeds to death because he won't stop watching ..." 10-5

"Wow! New gizmo lets you watch ... while you drive!" 9-14

Terrorists

"Real-life Rambo declares war on Mideast ...," 8-3

Testicles (see Mutilation, Genital)**Tickets, Parking (see Relations, U.S.-Soviet)****Time Management**

"How to get everything done—even if you're lazy!" 9-14

"How to put zip into your dead time!" 8-3

"How to turn your spare time into BIG BUCKS!" 10-12

Tires (see Travel, Auto)**Toes**

"Are you TOE-RRIFIC?" 8-31

Tongues, Human

"Cops find 560 ... hidden in man's apartment!" 9-14

Toilets, Exploding

"Man bowled over by exploding potty!" 8-17

Toilets, Odorless

"No-Embarrassment Potty!" 10-12

Toilets, Possessed

"My toilet is possessed by the devil!" (photo) 8-31



October 19, 1993

Tombstones (see Graves)

Torture

"... chamber is hot nightspot!" 8-10

Tourists (also see Vacations)

"Geyser blast scalds ... posing for photos!" 9-28

"Tourist photographs flying dinosaur," (photo) 10-26

Toys

"New! A doll with Down's syndrome!" 10-12

"Old ... in your attic can make you rich!" 9-7

"The REAL story of the world's most beloved toy! The Teddy Bear!" 10-12

"Was family murdered by a doll?" 9-14

Transvestites (also see Gender, Change Of)

"Isn't HE lovely!" (photo) 8-24

"Mugger beaten to a pulp by burly transvestites!" 8-17

"Napoleon was half man—and half woman!" 8-24

Travel, Airline

"Baggage handler naps—and wakes up 2,000 miles away!" 8-17

"Bag of cookies causes airport to shut down!" 9-28

"Car collides with airplane!" 10-5

"Hit-and-run pilot flattens 11-year-old girl with his airplane!" 8-24

"Man disguised as lady soap opera star cons airline into free flight!" 8-17

"New airline for smokers only!" 10-5

"Pilot gives up his seat in mid-flight!" 8-17

Travel, Auto

"Deaf people are the best drivers!" 10-5

"Car collides with airplane!" 10-5

"Cops chase driverless car for 25 minutes!" 10-19

"Dad-to-be delivers baby as he drives!" 10-26

"Judge jails speeder for not saying SIR!" 8-24

"New England man arrested for bombing passing cars with pasta!" 8-31

"Motorists do C-section on dying deer—and save her unborn fawn!" 9-21

"Parents leave teen behind at highway rest stop," 8-24

"Should I sell my soul for a Lincoln Town Car?" 10-26 (see *Sabak, Serena*)

"Sleepwalker steps out of camper going 65 mph!" 10-5

"Stupid drunk crashes car into police station!" 10-26

"Tire Kills Man!" 9-28

"Wow! New gizmo lets you watch TV while you drive!" 9-14

"Wrong turn lands pair 250 miles from home!" 8-17

Travel, Bike

"Daring pair riding bicycles to North Pole!" 9-14

"Motorcycle buff changes name to Harley Davidson!" 9-7

Travel, Boat

"Beer found on sunken ship!" 10-5

"Boater killed by falling video camera!" 8-17

"Cruise ship vanishes in Devil's Triangle!" 9-28

"The Curse of the Andrea Dorea," 8-24

"Family flees Cuba in style—by stowing away on a cruise ship!" 9-14

"Ghost Ship Sighted in Florida," 9-7

"Survival at Sea!" 9-21

"UFO was as big as an ocean liner," say stunned cops," 9-28

"Was ocean liner doomed by a killer's curse?" 9-21

Travel, Space

"Americans landed on the moon—in 1890!" 10-12

"Man Flies Kite Into Space!" 10-26

"Mars Observer Photographed Giant Fish in Space!" 10-26

"Missionaries for Mars? Vatican training 24 priests to spread gospel to space aliens!" 10-26

"Priest flew into outer space over 300 years ago!" 9-21

Trees

"Tree kills man as he carves his name in it!" 10-5

Tribes

"The African Queen! Gay tourist crowned leader of jungle tribe in Gambia!" 9-21

"Prehistoric tribe found!" 10-12

Trivia

"Amazing ... tidbits!" 10-12

"Shaving Shocker! (trivia)" 10-12

Turner, Tina

"Mom & Dad Hated Me! says rock 'n' roll queen ...," 10-12

Turtle, Mutant

"Giant 6-foot snapping turtle terrorizes Connecticut town!" 10-5

Tut, King (see Curses)

UFOs (also see Aliens, Space)

"Giant ... are stealing our islands!" 8-17

"Japanese build UFO and fly super-secret craft to Venus!" 9-7

"73 percent of scientists believe in ...!" 9-14

"Space Alien Baby Survives UFO Crash!" (photo) 10-12

"UFO was as big as an ocean liner," say stunned cops," 9-28

"U.S. air traffic controllers guiding ...—to keep them from crashing into each other!" 10-26

"U.S. buys captured UFO—from Russia," (photo) 8-31

Vacation (also see Tourists)

"Going on...can make you sick!" 8-10

"How to avoid expensive travel rip-offs!" 9-28

"Wrong turn lands pair 250 miles from home!" 8-17

Vacuums (see Housework)

Vampires (also see Blood, Human)

"Islanders Eating Vampire Bats into Extinction!" 10-12

"Mom killed by swarm of vampire mosquitos!" 8-31

"New candy for ... is made with HUMAN BLOOD!" 8-17

"Real-life vampire drinks human blood!" 8-17

"Village terrorized by curse of lady ... buried alive in 1693!" 8-24



October 26, 1993

Vanderbilt, Cornelius (see Psychics)

Vegetables, Giant

"Farmer grows 3.5-foot carrot!" 8-31

"Monster Mash," 30-pounder (photo), 8-3

Vendela (supermodel)

"Swedish pastry says, 'I'm all ham!'" 9-21

Venus (see Planets)

Videos, X-rated

"School showing ... to 8th graders!" 8-24

Video cameras

"Boater killed by falling ...!" 8-17

"Creep rapes housewife—while his girlfriend videotapes attack!" 8-17

"Man videotapes his own suicide!" 8-31

Video games

"... lands kid in hospital," 8-24

Vitamins

"Millions of Americans are starving to death—for the RIGHT ...," 9-14

Volcanoes

"Fatal attraction to ... kills Massachusetts woman!" 9-14

Waiting

"Americans will spend half their time ... in lines!" 9-21

Walking

"... statue of Christ vanishes!" 9-7

"Housewives walk more miles every day—than any other worker!" 9-14

"Wonder cure for headaches—take a walk!" 9-7

Walls, Sprinting Into Brick

"The World's Most Dangerous Sport!" 10-5

Warts

"We're all doomed—to grow ... , say docs!" 9-21

Washington, George

"Quick-thinking lady spy saved ...'s army from British attack," 8-10

Watches (see Clocks)

Watermelon

"Man rolls ... 210 miles to win a \$10 bet," 8-3

"10,000 babies smuggled into U.S. inside watermelons!" 9-28

Weddings (also see Brides)

"Angry mom shows up at son's wedding—stark naked!" 10-12

"Bride shot dead at wedding reception!" 9-21

"Cops arrest groom at the altar!" 10-26

"Three killed by bomb inside wedding cake!" 9-14

"Wacky Hindus hold frog wedding to end drought!" 9-14

"Wedding bells for ex-drag queen & reformed lesbian!" 10-19

Weight Loss (also see Obesity)

"Aerobic Cooking! Amazing exercises let you melt flab away while you cook dinner!" 10-12

"Blue Plate Special: Eat off the right color dish and lose 5 pounds a week!" 9-28

"4 Tips to Help Your Meaty Mate Lose Weight!" 8-10

"Lose 5 lbs. a week—by listening to Michael Jackson and Billy Ray Cyrus!" 8-24

"Lose weight fast—by eating like an island princess!" 10-26

"My husband dumped me—for losing 133 lbs., then ran off with 270 lb. barmaid," 8-24

"9 Easy Ways to Curb Your Sweet Tooth & Lose Weight!" 8-17

"700 pounds of Oprah! Where did it all go?" 9-7

"Wonder patch melts flab off beer bellies!" 9-28

Werewolves

"Minister has proof: ... ARE real!" 9-14

Whistling

"Judge sends man to slammer—for ... at pretty gal!" 8-10

"Parents sue son—for ...!" 8-24

Wills

"Waco wacko forgot to sign \$75G will!" 9-7

"Weird and Wacky Wills From Around the World!" 9-21

Winfrey, Oprah

"700 pounds of ...! Where did it all go?" 9-7

Words, Magic

"... cure doc's cancer!" 9-7

World, End of the

"Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse photographed in Argentina!" (photo) 8-24

"Serena, will the world end in the year 2000?" 8-24 (see *Sabak, Serena*)

Worms (see Earthworms; Tapeworms)

Wrestling

"Mongolian wild man wants U.S. ... title!" 9-7

"Tuxedo ... draws huge crowds in Portugal!" 10-5

Zine Reviews

XXX John Kelly bills his funny and entertaining magazine as "thrill-packed tales of genetic defectives!" Among the tidbits: an interview with Bud Adams, the 90-year-old owner of S.S. Adams Co., the "world's largest manufacturer of practical jokes and magic tricks since 1906."

Among other trivia, Bud recalls how he stopped making itching powder after it sent some people to the hospital and how his father turned down a chance to market whoopee cushions. There's also a recollection by a former member of Jerry Lewis' staff about how moody and cruel Lewis was; a visit to the Billy Graham Museum in Wheaton, Illinois; a clever bit where someone wrote in different dia-



logue for Dave Berg's inane "The Lighter Side of..." strips from Mad; and ten little-known facts about Joseph Stalin. My favorite: Although a blood-thirsty tyrant, the

Russian dictator was only 5-foot-4! There's also a review of the strange autobiography of Chuck ("The Gong Show") Barris, "Confessions of a Dangerous Mind," which was spooky in that the day before I read the review, I had just seen a copy in a used book store and seriously considered buying it. Life is full of regrets (\$3.50 from 82 Kimball Ave., Yonkers, NY 10704).

Slubberdegullion This is the first British zine I've ever reviewed, but Nigel Richardson's essays are well worth the extra postage to request a copy. Nigel lives in Leeds, where I taught at a basketball camp once, so I know how it feels. He has a few zine reviews and letters here, but the soul of Slubberdegullion (defined by one reference as "a nasty, paltry fellow") are Nigel's thoughts on everything from his job as a computer programmer to a girl he knows who used to be a heavy-metal slut. He writes:

These days I come home from work and no longer feel the urge to do something creative to redeem the stolen day. When life seemed really shitty I would sit in front of my computer desperate to write

something—*anything*—that might help make sense of my situation, and I would feel a terrible sense of defeat when I finally fell asleep, as I was being robbed of another day, surrendering another irreplaceable slice of my life. Now it's no big deal.

Wish I could get there, Nigel. He also notes:

I'm surprised never to have seen this in print before—that the worse paid a person is the more expensive it would be to replace them with a machine. Take an office cleaner. How much would it cost to develop a machine that could move around an entire office block, scrubbing, polishing and hoovering all the appropriate surfaces, cleaning desks and putting all the papers and clutter back where it was afterwards, replacing toilet rolls, filling soap dispensers, unblocking urinals, etc., etc. More than £2.5 an hour, or whatever office cleaners get paid. And inversely, most of the guys you find at board level could be replaced by second-hand computers.

(\$1 from 9 Windsor Green, East Garforth, Leeds LS25 2LG England).

The L.A. Gang Bang This zine has been around forever, but I just got a copy. It's a regular update of the activities and adventures of Gary, Lee, Mary and Valerie (they're up to issue 60). They do regular stuff, but it's still fun to read about. Gary, for example, relates how he felt like a nerd talking to this guy at a comic book convention about the Green Hornet, and Mary explains how this brat splashed her three times at the public pool and his mother got mad at her for scolding him. There are also surveys of their friends on topics such as "The Most Useless Thing I've Ever Purchased" or "Your Most Interesting Relative" (\$1 from POB 7550, Burbank, CA 91510).

The Harveyville Fun Times! Even though I sold my Richie Rich comic book collection years ago (see page 3), I still was instantly intrigued by the idea of a zine devoted to Harvey Comics. Besides Richie, there's Little Lulu, Casper the Friendly Ghost, Underdog, Tom & Jerry, Woody Woodpecker, Beetle Bailey, Wendy, the Jetsons, etc. etc. The best article in this issue (Vol 3, No 11) was a detailed examination of the villains Richie has faced, such as the Onion, who used his bad breath to knock you out, and Dr.

N-R-Gee, who had a giant light bulb for a head and could start fires. There was also a special appearance once by Richard Nixon! I enjoyed the introduction to this issue, written by one of the editors, Amy Arnold:

Why do I like Harvey Comics?... I enjoy entering a sweeter, more fun, and magical world.... Its crooks are bumbling or easily foiled by smart and good hearted people Its moms and dads are nice.... Rich people help the poor. Scientists work for the good of mankind without hurting helpless animals. Witches and ghosts want to make friends.... And the beauty of it is, the worst criminals, witches, ghosts or other magical bad-guys never kill or torture people.

Amy...that was beautiful! (\$2 from 1464 LaPlaya, #105, San Francisco, CA 94122).

dishwasher Pete Jordan, 26, has a mission: Wash dishes in all 50 states. Issue #7 finds Pete at a cafe in Boulder, Colorado, #8 at an Alaskan fish cannery, #9 at a seafood restaurant in New Hampshire, #10 is a special comics issue, and #11 at restaurants in Montana, California and Ohio. Pete has a good attitude about his job, and a sense of humor. "Why is there this assumption that dishwashers are the bottom rung of some sort of career-climbing ladder?" he asks. Among the articles is a list of the food he ate during one shift: two bagels with cream cheese, bowl of cereal, bowl of fruit, banana, two muffins, strawberry pancakes, cheesecake, two sundaes,



swiss and tomato sandwich, french fries and five glasses of juice or milk. And things he does for fun on the job: toss lemon slices into the garbage disposal, ignore the waitress that the male customers fawn over, snack on uneaten food, jump and touch the ceiling, float plates on the sink water, use the spray hose to spin metal mixing bowls, play dominoes, read the newspaper in the john. After reading Pete's adventures, I'm more convinced than ever that a clean plate is like a clean soul—you can see yourself (\$1 from POB 4827, Arcata, CA 95521).

Are Traffic Laws Really Necessary?

Clarence Shak is a former instructor in mathematics at the University of Hawaii. It's *former* because now Clarence spends his time lobbying for an end to all traffic laws except reckless driving. For a stamped, self-addressed envelope, he'll gladly send you a copy of his thoughts on the subject. His argument is a bit hard to follow, something about how getting traffic tickets deprives us of our Constitutional right to the pursuit of happiness. He spends a lot of time analyzing the fine print on a ticket he got that had "Notice to Appear" on top of it. Clarence was miffed because the ticket is actually only notice that the officer will file a complaint if you don't pay the fine by the indicated date. So you're being asked to pay off the court not to take action against you! If they'd just synchronize the traffic lights in this part of the country, I'd be happy (POB 15133, Honolulu, HI 96830).

Sparky's Night of Terror! A terrific collection of cartoons by Kit Lively, two of which are reproduced here. They're kind of like the Far Side, but more offbeat and often much more funny. I loved it (\$2 from Rt. 2, Box 146, Celina, TX 75009).

Rediscoveries Mark Harris, who used to own a bookstore in Chicago, wrote me a long letter after he received CC No. 7: "I loved all the stuff on couponing. I've run hot and cold on the use of coupons myself, chiefly because the process seems so *time-consuming*. My favorite coupons are those restaurant offers for a second entree of equal or lesser value free. What a deal!" I hear you, Mark! The zine Mark does is a list of great but overlooked or forgotten books, as chosen and described by Rediscoveries' readers. I don't read too many

MARVIN JUST COULDN'T CATCH A BREAK WITH THE LADIES



books, so I passed along the nomination forms to my good friend Heather, who eats books for dinner (she has ink running from the corners of her mouth). I'll recommend "The Razor's Edge," though. That was a good one. And I read "Slaughterhouse Five" about five times. I don't think either of those are lost, though (\$1 from 3712 N. Broadway, #190, Chicago, IL 60613).

Tabula Rasa The reference, of course, is to John Locke's theory that everyone is born a blank slate, ready to be formed by his or her individual experiences and environment. Good theory. The first issue of Bill Roussel's zine about childhood memories is a haphazard collection of funny tales about morning breakfast rituals from various of Bill's friends. There's also reviews of modern breakfast cereals and readers' lists of the top five and worst five breakfasts. Yummy (\$1 from POB 6, Ancramdale, NY 12503).

Saprophile If you like Murder Can Be Fun (see CC No. 6), you'll enjoy Saprophile. In his second issue, Eric Landmark takes a look at the making of the A-bomb, how superhighways came about (Hitler invented them!), how brevity can make a joke more funny, and the drastic changes to popular culture that occurred during 1963. It saves you a lot of reading if you're interested in bombs, superhighways, brevity or 1963, and even if you're not, it's still interesting (\$1.50 from 714 E. Johnson, #2, Madison, WI 53703).

Flake A bit pricey at \$5, but it does have a nice color cover. The coolest thing is the reproductions of dozens of old cereal boxes, front and back, but there's also a detailed history of superheroes in cereal box packaging and promotion. The editor, Scott Bruce, will also sell you color laser copies of old boxes if you're nostalgic (cereal not included) (POB 481, Cambridge, MA 02140).

Sparky's NIGHT OF TERROR!

SPARKY'S NIGHT OF TERROR BEGINS WITH AN OMINOUS PHONE CALL FROM A MYSTERIOUS, PSYCHOTIC STRANGER!



BUT SPARKY, BEING A DOG AND UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND SUCH THINGS, CANNOT ANSWER THE PHONE.



THUS, SPARKY'S NIGHT OF TERROR HAS ENDED.



Television

The Most Trusted Man in America

Doug James, a high school and college teacher in Mobile, Alabama, spent 15 years researching his 1991 biography, "Walter Cronkite: His Life & Times" and knows pretty much all there is to know about the former CBS newsman. I interviewed Doug for a small magazine, but they didn't publish the juicy parts.

You spent some time with his mother, Helen Fritsche Cronkite. You're even on

her Christmas card list. How did you meet?

I knew Helen was living in Washington, D.C., so I phoned her and she was very receptive. We wrote regularly until her eyesight got bad, and now we phone. Walter is still her little boy.

Did Walter do anything as a kid that would drive her crazy?

No, she never would say that.

You mention in the book that Walter likes striptease acts. Can you elaborate?

It's never been a sleaze thing. He and wife Betsy have a wholesome interest in this form of entertainment. He does a parody striptease at parties, where he takes off his jacket. It's a joke with his friends. It's healthy, I think.



I don't know. I've never been to one. It's not that I'm not interested—I don't have the nerve a lot of folks do.

Has anyone ever told you that you look a bit like Walter?

No, I think I look more like John Chancellor.

At one point in the book you write, "If the book reads like a homage to a nearly perfect man, I believe I have not exaggerated." Do you think that's stretching it?

I really don't. When you think about the people who produce the news, how many are there? And who comes to mind as the best?

There are no glaring faults Walter might have to work on?

Not a single one. Isn't that incredible? *Have you ever had dreams about him?* No.

You mention in the book that Walter had suggested you visit his ophthalmologist for an eye problem you had. It sounds like you were close.

You should have seen my eye. At that point, my left eye was blood-red. He has eye troubles too, and had to go to the contacts and things. It looked terrible, so I'm sure it was just him helping a man out.

What did Walter usually have for lunch when he was anchoring?

He had what his assistants called a "Cronkite Special"—a leaf of lettuce with some cottage cheese and a slice of pineapple. And sometimes Metrocal. *If there was only one thing you could tell me about Walter that would sum him up, what would it be?*

There was a photograph of him in Life where he's on his yacht where he's wearing his sailor's hat and I think a striped shirt. His life has been like a Frank Capra movie.

Besides boating, does he have any other hobbies?

He's really been a daredevil. He's dived in a submarine under the Arctic ice cap; he flew in one of the planes when they were testing for zero gravity, where they do a flip to make you weightless; and he did the hot air ballooning thing in France with Malcolm Forbes but crash-landed. The balloon came down too fast and dragged him across the pasture. He did the sports car racing for a while, and he rolled off a mountain in the Smokies.

What's Always True on TV

By Mike Steiner¹

1. If a woman is running away from someone, she will trip and fall.
2. Your car will always start immediately unless you are being chased by a maniacal killer or a monster of genetic creation.
3. Good guys always shoot better than bad guys.
4. Good guys are always outnumbered.
5. Good guys are always good looking.
6. Teenagers who have sex are destined to die in grotesque ways.
7. Court cases are all solved with a surprise witness.
8. Cars will explode in all accidents.
9. Haunted houses are never locked.
10. Good guys will only get shot in the arm or leg.
11. All Asian people know karate.
12. Whenever there's a thunderstorm, someone will be murdered.
13. Teenagers can access any computer by using their PCs.
14. When someone is dead or dying, there will be a trickle of blood from the corner of their mouth.
15. Christmas Eve and Halloween night last for three or four days.
16. Police never wait for backup.

17. Undercover cops are never spotted.

18. Nobody ever has trouble finding great parking spots when they're in a hurry.

19. High school students look 30 years old.

20. No one ever does housework, but everyone's home is always clean.

21. Street vendors' carts are magnetically attracted to high-speed car chases.

22. Everyone knows how to pick a lock with one tool.

23. The group always splits up to look for the alien.

24. When in any potentially threatening situation, the protagonist always enters dark rooms by backing in.

25. People of diametrically opposed personalities always attract one another and teach each other invaluable lessons in life.

26. Bad guys always fully explain their master plans to the good guys before killing them, and the good guys end up being rescued by others who would not have had time to arrive if the bad guys had just killed them right off.

27. Handicapped people always live full, happy, and productive lives and never harbor any negative feelings about their limitations.

28. Somewhere in everybody's house or yard is a hidden gateway to hell or some other extra-dimensional space or parallel universe. *✍*

1. This is an edited version of a list Mike posted on the computer online service, CompuServe.

What would be the perfect gift for Walter?

I was looking at the Tiffany's catalog last fall, and I thought if I ever make any money there's a pair of cuff links that are gold and porcelain of little anchors or ship wheels.

What's his favorite color?

Hmmmm. Probably blue, I don't know, with water and the sky and sailing.


Tell me about his disastrous experience on the CBS morning show in 1954.

There are pictures of him with a huge ostrich and other puppets, Humphrey the Hound Dog and Charlemagne the Lion. He was almost like a ringmaster in a circus, and he was expected to cavort with these animals and read the news. But it was just too ambitious.

Why is it people trust Walter?

It's that comfortable look. He's not skinny, he's not fat, he's just pleasantly plump.

There's no chance that deep down he's a scoundrel?

Not a chance! Knowing his mother, I just couldn't believe that. 

Music

Fond Memories of a Fountain That Shot Water in the Air with Brightly Colored Lights and an Inspiring Musical Program

Besides being known for its beautiful beaches, my hometown of Grand Haven, Michigan, is home to the world's largest musical fountain. Every summer night from the fourth grade on, when my family moved across town from Taylor to Lake Street, I could hear the Fountain play its various 15-minute musical programs at precisely 9:45 p.m. each summer night as I tried to fall asleep. Its serenade signaled that I was staying up really late. Then, after the Fountain finished and everyone went home, you could hear the waves lapping again.

Whenever a relative or guest came to town, my parents always insisted we walk down to see the Fountain. My dad usually

bribed us with ice cream. I've probably seen the Fountain 50 times in my life, including every Fourth of July. They have a patriotic show before the fireworks, but for us veterans it was like having to sit through the commercials before the movie starts.

The Fountain is actually a bunch of high-powered valves shooting water streams into the air across the channel where they have bleachers where you can sit and watch. But the locals never sat there; if you were a local, you sat in the grass in Bicentennial Park, on a blanket. Each show begins with a little blue flume about 10 feet high and a calming male baritone, "Welcome. I am the voice of the Musical Fountain" while Richard Strauss' theme from "2001: A Space Odyssey" booms in the background. After the intro, the musical program begins and the water shoots skyward, varying in its color and height with the ebb and flow of the music. That computer-age syn-

chonization must have created quite a stir when the Fountain was completed in 1963 after the community raised the necessary funds and moved about 50,000 yards of sand from the dunes to make room. Unlike the Mackinac Bridge, no one died during construction, and city officials immediately began bragging that it was the largest musical fountain ever made. When I was 17 and an intern at the local paper, I heard a rumor that there was a larger fountain in Germany. But I'd seen how much everyone loved the Fountain and figured it wouldn't be a good idea to pursue the story too vigorously.

A few years ago, I bought "The Official Musical Fountain Souvenir Book" (Pippel-Patterson Co., 1965, 50 cents) at a garage sale for a nickel. It first apologized to readers for its poor attempt to "capture some of the fountain's infinite variety of color and form. Your memory must suffice to capture the enchantment of the musical accompaniment. This is

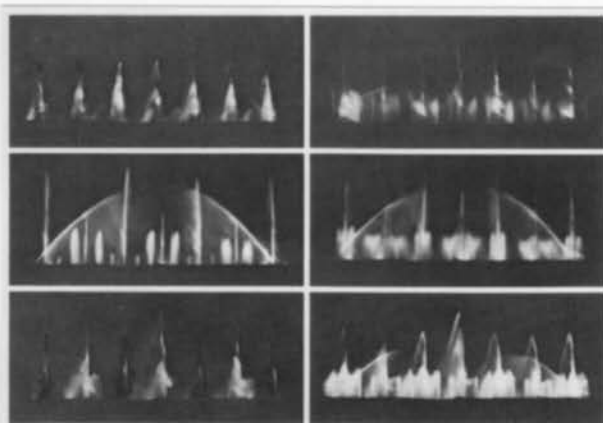
difficult, we know, for it is like recalling 'Swan Lake' just from seeing colored pictures of the dancers. But it's the best we can offer."

I always did think it was cool how they synchronized the water and colors to change with the music. "During its performance, the Fountain responds so subtly, so delicately, so beautifully to the changes in musical mood and tempo that most observers have but one thought to express their awe: 'Why, it's almost human!'" Yikes! It is also fascinating to read how the fountain works: Enough water for 800 bathtubs (40,000 gallons) is pumped up from the Grand River to the fountain's basin, where it sits 12 inches deep. The water is then pumped through a 16-inch main by 300-horsepower motors at the rate of 4,000 gallons

per minute (a garden hose delivers about 10 gallons per minute). There are then 8,000 feet of pipe, 300 valves and 1,300 nozzles that send the water 100 feet into the air as the equivalent of 1,000 100-watt light bulbs illumi-

nate the flumes with color. The programs are coordinated by computer punch cards that allow some 1,875,352,500,000,000 variations. To cover them all, it would take 20 million years and 4 billion miles of computer tape.

I remember every summer waiting for the night they'd play Beatles songs. One summer they even did a Led Zeppelin program, and I thought I was losing it and had to rush outside to make sure it wasn't just some greaser fixing his car with his stereo blasting. Usually they only play classical and big band music, so it was a real treat to hear music from after 1960. I remember they once played the Beatles' "A Day in the Life," and at the end when there's that pause, all the water dropped back into the basin as the valves shut off. Then BAM! a wall of orange water rose into the air with the crescendo. I thought it was awesome, but I didn't clap or anything. As a local, you had to maintain this bored look about the Fountain, like you were only there



The many personalities of the Musical Fountain.



because it was a nice night and you'd been wandering around.

When I was in college, my friend's little brother's summer job was rowing across the river to start the Fountain every night. He always said he'd take me but I guess he forgot. I always wondered how he started it, whether it was a big light switch or something. He had to sit there until the show was over and then row back. That was his *whole* summer job. I once did see the bowels of the Fountain in elementary school during a field trip, but it was during the day and just looked like a big heating coil. It must have been in the winter, because there was no water in the basin.

The Musical Fountain was a huge part of my growing up, but it's still odd to look back and realize how much I miss it. When you heard the Fountain kick in on Memorial Day, you knew the long summer days would soon arrive! The Fountain helped me mark time; its music was always there, like a lullaby. Someday I'd like to row across the Grand and stand in the Fountain's basin as it begins its musical program, my arms spread wide as I bath in its colorful baptismal. But I've moved too far away to even hear the Fountain anymore or the lap lap lap of the waves. I remember dancing with my first girlfriend on the picnic tables at the beach, and the cool lake breeze on the back of my neck, and the Fountain music sneaking along the lakeshore, and I kissed her. I was happy. *✍️*

Movies

Drills on Film

Because National Dental Hygiene Month is just around the corner¹, and because the editor of this publication has a tragically dull life², we've prepared an overview of some of our favorite Hollywood dental visits:

Dentist W.C. Fields **Film** *The Dentist* (1932) **Patient** Miss Macy **Reason for Visit** Toothache. **Treatment** "Doc" straddles Macy to get plier grip on bad tooth; they bounce scandalously around room.³ **Outcome?** Patient flees. **Best Line** "This won't hurt you—much."

Dentist Biff Grimes (James Cagney)⁴ **Film** *The Strawberry Blonde* (1941) **Patient** William Grimes (Alan Hale Sr.)⁵ **Reason for Visit** Biff receives dentistry course in mail and jolly Irish dad offers aching molars as educational tool. **Treatment** Select random tooth to yank after administering nitrous oxide from hobby tank. **Outcome?** Unjustly convicted of fraud, Biff finishes coursework in prison. **Best Line** "As soon as I get my first patient, I'm going to quit that milk route!"

Dentist Herbie the Elf **Film** *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* (1964) **Patient** Abominable Snowman **Reason for Visit** Sharp incisors threaten protagonists. **Treatment** Yank all after patient pushed over cliff. **Outcome?** Herbie opens North Pole practice; Abominable joins forces of good. **Best Line** With Rudolph. "You don't

mind my red nose?" "Not if you don't mind me being a dentist." "It's a deal!"

Dentist Dr. Schatz, a.k.a. Chief Inspector Jacques Clouseau (Peter Sellers) **Film** *The Pink Panther Strikes Again* (1976) **Patient** Former Chief Inspector Dreyfus (Herbert Lom) **Reason for Visit** Hard candy damaged premolar. **Treatment** Place "special anesthetic cotton wool" over patient's eyes before searching for clues. Share nitrous oxide; place feet on patient's chest for leverage and yank wrong tooth. **Outcome?** Clouseau is recognized but escapes despite being doubled over in nitrous oxide-induced laughter. **Best Line** "I normally don't mecca hassle calls in the metal of the gnat."

Dentist Christian Szell (Laurence Olivier) **Film** *Marathon Man* (1976) **Patient** Gabe Levy (Dustin Hoffman) **Reason for Visit** Nazi Szell tortures Levy while asking cryptically, "Is it safe?" **Treatment** Dig into cavity, relieve with oil of cloves. Service healthy teeth with aging drill that plugs into wall outlet. **Outcome?** Levy triumphs but faces years of dentiphobia. **Best Line** "Please don't worry. I'm not going into that cavity.... A freshly cut nerve is infinitely more sensitive."



Olivia de Havilland and James Cagney show off their dental work in "*The Strawberry Blonde*," a Closet Cleaner favorite.

Dentist Dr. Miles (Robert Webber) **Film** *"10"* (1979) **Patient** George Webber (Dudley Moore) **Reason for Visit** Smitten with Miles' daughter (Bo Derek), Webber schedules check-up to learn more. **Treatment** Doc finds and fills six cavities. **Outcome?** Webber

ingests pain pills and brandy for days. **Best Line** Hygienist, after Miles notes his daughter's vacation plans in Mexico, reminds Webber to brush his "dientes," then giggles.

1. February. 2. Originally this material was prepared for "In Touch," a magazine for dental hygienists, but the article fell through because all the movies involved dentists, not hygienists. 3. An amazing scene for 1932; hard to mistake it for anything but spirited simulated fucking. The short unfortunately also contains an anti-Semitic scene where bats fly out of a Jewish rabbi's beard as he sits in the dentist chair; 4. By far the best dentist film of the bunch; 5. Father of Alan Hale Jr., who played Skipper on "Gilligan's Island."

Dentist Sheldon Kornpett (Alan Arkin)
Film *The In-Laws* (1979) **Patient** Mrs. Adelman⁶ **Reason for Visit** Dentures **Treatment** Patient abandoned as Kornpett runs errand for future in-law, CIA agent Vince Ricardo (Peter Falk). **Outcome?** Mouthpiece bonds to patient's teeth. **Best Line** Ricardo [as men face Latin American firing squad]: "Spare this man, General. He's a dentist from New York, a city in which there are thousands of Spanish-speaking people who stand in dire need of extensive bridgework." Kornpett: "That was it?! The dental thing? I'm a dead man!"

Dentist Bruce "Dr. Slick" Fleckstein (Joe Mantegna) **Film** *Compromising Positions* (1985) **Patient** Judith Singer (Susan Sarandon) **Reason for Visit** Gum surgery. **Treatment** Pokes around, then wipes spittle sensuously from Singer's lip. **Outcome?** Doc killed in office; Judith solves the crime. **Best Line** "I can't believe I opened my mouth to someone who got murdered!"

Dentist Orin Serivello (Steve Martin) **Film** *Little Shop of Horrors: The Musical* (1986)⁷ **Patient** Seymour Krelborn (Rick Moranis) **Reason for Visit** Angered by sadist abuse of beautiful Audrey, Seymour plans to feed Serivello to carnivorous plant. **Treatment** Drill while high on nitrous. **Outcome?** Serivello accidentally gasses himself, becomes plant food. **Best Line** Doc [singing]: "Say aah!" Patient: "Aaaaaa-aaahhhh!" Doc [singing]: "Say aah!"

Hacks on Film

As a journalist, I've seen my share of films that portray reporters as loathsome, bumbling, foul-mouthed, dim-witted social misfits concerned only with twisting the truth into scandal. The truth of that portrayal aside, we deserve better. Here's a few suggestions for the film types among the *Closet Cleaner's* readers the next time a journalist pops up in a screenplay:

6. Not clear from the credits who played her.
 7. The original version, with Jack Nicholson playing a masochist patient (the role played by Bill Murray in the 1986 version), is painfully boring except for his performance.

- Let us pack some heat once in a while. Other film mainstays—cops, cowboys, soldiers—always have a weapon handy when snarling bad guys appear from around the corner. Journalists? We hide. "Careful with that," we plead, our hands shaking. "It might be loaded!"

- Let us save mankind once or twice. A film might depict journalists poring over public documents, interviewing passersby and pounding at our computers as the presses roll. The finale: a banner USA Today headline: "Evil Genius Perfects Nuclear Device in Mountain Hideaway—Confession, Directions Inside."

- Allow us to win the girl (or guy). During one of the obligatory scenes of a pack of rabid reporters hounding the

film's protagonist, have the hero stop in his or her tracks and eye one of the journalists. "That's a very good question," the lead can say, "and I think I've fallen in love with you."

- Show us winning awards.

- Give us some authority. Say terrorists hole up at the National Archives, threatening to destroy the Constitution. Riding atop the Bill of Rights as it rises from its steel case, our correspondent arrives just before deadline to save the day. Asked why she didn't slip, she nods toward her steel-tipped boot, which is toeing the First Amendment.

Now *that's* a movie I'd pay to see, Mr. Hollywood Producer. *✍*

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