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"For a small fee you can post your message here"

Loser Receives Hero's Welcome

Entire House of Representatives Resigns Following Torrid Affair

by: Jonathan Paul

One hundred years ago, Grace Sprigg installed in her house the first indoor toilet in the new town along the B&O tracks called Garrett Park. Like all great visionaries she was not without her detractors. Outraged town elders banded together to thwart Grace and her newfangled ways. They incorporated the town, elected a mayor and town council, and passed a bill outlawing indoor toilets. They then ordered her to unhook her plumbing.

Spunky Grace refused, and the battle was joined.

Sadly, Grace was outgunned. She left town never to return. However, her legacy lives on in both an active government and the ability of the local citizenry to read the Style Invitational in warmth and comfort. To commemorate her achievement in this centennial year, the current town elders arranged many fine festivities. One was the planting of a sugar maple outside the old Sprigg house. Another was the Centennial House Tour.

In a bind and under a tight deadline, the editor doesn't bother to change last month's photo. "I got holiday plans to take care of" he says.

All houses that were at least one hundred years old were invited to participate, and twenty accepted (including the author's). Many grand

Victorian manses were open for inspection that weekend (including Grace's). A few houses of more modest proportion were on display as well. One such dwelling was the home of a little old man named John Wilpers.

Mr. Wilpers greeted us at the door and related the history of his home which had been, until 1928, the local one-room school house. He and his family moved there in 1950. When he finished his remarks he eyed my T-shirt and asked why I was a loser. I replied I was not a loser, but a Loser--courtesy of the Style Invitational.

He grew animated. He said he followed the contest and was happy to meet me. Then, without warning, he started quoting entries from what he claimed was the SI. None sounded familiar to me. If this man was just making them up on the spot, then he had a very fertile sense of humor. (The contest was subsequently identified by the Laurel Research Facility as the #121 "It's No Use" contest.)

When I described to him some of the fine prizes that I had received over the years, his face lit up, and he became most anxious to show off his prize possession, which he kept in a back room. Oh great, I thought, as we walked to the back of the house, here comes the severed head collection.

As we entered the small back room he told us to turn around. Then he said to look above the doorway. What we saw was a large black and white photograph of a young GI holding a gun on a Japanese man. The GI was obviously a young John Wilpers. But who was the other fellow?

Tojo. John Wilpers was the man who captured General Tojo. My Loser T-shirt made him think of Tojo. I'm not positive, but I think I'm flattered.

I MET THE CZAR AND SMILED

by Helene Haduch

Since I publish a newsletter for fellow sawbones, I'm eligible to occupy a barstool at the National Press Club, along with such notables as *Dan Rather* and *Tom Brokaw*. I was nursing a *Rob Roy* one night when someone passed me a brochure with a list of authors selling and autographing books at the club's annual book fair downstairs. I was looking for the name of someone rich, famous and single, like maybe *Tom Wolfe*. I didn't have much interest in the talent displayed until I came to the very last page -- not what I was looking for, but a name to strike horror into the hearts of Losers everywhere--*Gene Weingarten*. I have a rule that I never get a book autographed unless I have some personal relationship with the author (*Phyllis C. Richman* was once a neighbor and lent me a lamp, and well, encounters with those rich, famous and single authors can become personal as have *Kinky Friedman*, *David Halberstam*, and *Tom Robbins* -- but that's another story). I figured what I had with the czar counted as personal -- though not as personal as some other Losers have, such as *David Genser* or *Chuck Smith* -- but enough to get me off the barstool and let the ice cubes melt in my drink. So I said to *Richard the bartender*, " Don't let anyone, not even *Walter Cronkite*, if he's in town, have my seat" and headed for the throng.

Along the way I saw *Larry King's* booth and leaned over and asked him "If I buy your book, will you inscribe it 'to my eighteenth wife'? Larry said sure if I wanted to work that hard for it. The czar's table was on the periphery and since I'd forgotten my glasses, I had to squint to locate him. He looked younger than I'd expected, and different -- I think I was expecting him to look like *Gene Shalit* (who must be older than *God*), or maybe *Dave Zarrow* with a clean-shaven lower face, but I guess he expected me to look like me, since before I'd uttered a word, he said "*Helene*". I asked him if buying his book would count as a bribe, and he wanted to know what happened to my cheesecake greeting cards and said that except for the top twelve, I was the only Loser he'd know by sight. Yeah, but in *Mike Connaghan's* interview with him, he sure didn't mention my cards among his listing of favorite bribes that he'd received. I of course took him to task over his poor discrimination by not noting really humorous materials like mine, and we even had a disagreement over remembering correctly one of *Jennifer Hart's* entries.

Like he'd really admit it if he didn't, he swore he read all entries, and he must also read the Depravda, since he asked me why I was called "Doc". Actually, I think I sort of made his evening, too, as I didn't see the frenzied mob around his table as I did at *Kitty Kelly's*. And besides, I plunked down twenty-two *George Washingtons* for his book.

Happy Holidays

to you and yours from the underpaid clerical staff here at Depravda

We are not upset that the men in the Depravda top-floor office get paid three times as much as we do even though they only do half the work. We enjoy the finer things in life such as having no sugar in our gas tanks and tires that have been left miraculously unslashed.

May your holidays be as merry!

My Summer Vacation or Why I Haven't Seen Ink in a Month of Sundays

by Bill Strider

I sat down to write this article, and I sat, and I sat. Staring at the blank page, writer's block like you wouldn't believe. Finally, it dawned on me - I didn't take a summer vacation.

My wife said, "Ha! Serves you right! We never go anywhere! The least you could do is take me for a ride this afternoon. Maybe we could drive past the home of a star." Unfortunately, my good ear was pointed the other way, and I thought she said, '...drive past the home of the Czar." Now this was an intriguing idea, so I hauled out the Montgomery County white pages. Can you believe - it's actually listed?!? Address and everything!

We hopped on 270 and were there in less than twenty minutes. A pleasant neighborhood, nicely secluded, not at all pretentious. As we passed the house, my wife noticed a person walking toward us. "Gee!" she said. "That guy's bizarre!" I thought she said, "That guy's the Czar!" I screeched to a halt and stared, mesmerized.

My wife, losing patience, said, "Drive the car, stupid!" I thought she said, "Bribe the Czar, Cupid!" I rolled down my window and yelled, "How much for a t-shirt?" He looked me squarely in the eye, snorted disdainfully, and said, "You've seen your last bumper sticker, Strider!"

I drove away in shock, overcome by that unique mixture of fear and loathing known only to victims of downsizing. And the question remains, how did he know it was me? I don't get it!



Loserfest '96 took place in Baltimore and now we finally learn why certain Losers were not there. They didn't go to the right Baltimore and they've been waiting ever since.

People driving by "You would shout people are idiots!" but the merry band simply replied, "No, no,.. we're only Losers"

PAUL KONDIS PRESENTS... Rotisserie League '98

Fans have been heard grumbling recently about the Loser Rotisserie League and Chicken Stand season stretching all the way to Thanksgiving, but we were able to duck around the corner out of earshot until they passed. The extension was due mainly to the owners' primary goal of increasing revenue, though they had not anticipated the corresponding increase in revenuers, and are now looking at a pretty hefty repair job on the League still.

Another thing the owners were looking at was the Leonid shower, where they were expecting to see the famous scene from Psyco replayed. They complained about their reception, however, because all they could see were streaks of light, and the beer ran out right before the show was scheduled to start. They remained upbeat on the format, though. Kommissar Kammer said that "this full-sky projection TV thing is a great technological advancement, if only they can get the bugs worked out."

The Rotisserie League owners were also scanning the papers for those pre-Christmas sales, particularly looking for ads touting "Losers Cheap", run by all the owners who got booted out of the playoffs earlier than they expected, which is all of the owners, including the Inksportz owner who thought his team would be in contention well into January, and is puzzled as to why it is not.

Also on the agenda was the imminent impeachment of the commissioner, which is to be brought up for a vote later this month. Pundits believe this to be a mere formality, though, as the commissioner has already cleared out his office in League Headquarters, a task made easier by the fact that no one told him he HAD an office in League Headquarters, much less that there WAS a League Headquarters (or even a LEAGUE, for that matter, or he would have tried to get Jennifer Hart to show up at his house in a bikini), and so he had never moved in. In a related item, the League announced that they were able to hold expenses below budget for another year.

(Note: the Rotisserie League columnist was going to tie all these elements together into a "grand unification

Courtesy of NRARS Statistician Elden Carnahan

The "Standings By Year" chart at left lists the top 50 Losers appearing so far during Year 6, as of Week 300. Also listed are those Losers' final Yearly rankings (non-cumulative) for each previous Year.

The "Career Standings" chart at right chart lists the top 50 Losers over all Years, cumulative. Also listed are those Losers' Career rankings at the end of each previous Year. Year 1, Weeks 1-52; Year 2, Weeks 53-103 (no Week 64); Year 3, Weeks 104-155; Year 4, Weeks 156-207; Year 5, Weeks 208-259; Year 6, Weeks 260-311. LID: Loser ID—the order in which the various Losers made their first print appearances.

Dbu: Debut—Week in which you made your first appearance.

Rk: Rank. Year-6 rank is position among 300 Losers so far in Year 6. Career rank is

position among 2,119 Losers appearing since Week 1.

Ws: Wins. RUs: Runner-Ups. HMs: Honorable Mentions. Es: Ears No One Reads.

+/-: Change in rankings compared to November issue, Year 6 or Career.

Pts: Points-print appearances, Year 6 or Career. Includes points for Czar abuse, idea contribution, and Ears, which are not listed separately.

Cons: Consistency—average points per Week since your Debut, Year 6 or Career.

As always, each Loser's enlightened self-interest is our best quality check, and we are proud to receive your complaints at cams@erols.com.

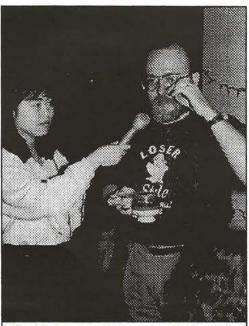
| STANDINGS BY YEAR | | | Year 6 | | | | | | Prior Yearly Rankings | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|------------|--------|-----------------|----------|-----|------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------|------|------|-----|-----|
| LID | Name | Dbu | Rk | * | Wins | RUs | SWH | Pts | Cons | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Hart, J. | 11 | 1 | _ | - | 6 | 62 | 70 | 1.707 | 44 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| | Genser, D. | 157 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 40 | 52 | 1.268 | | | | 4 | 1 |
| | Witte, T. | 7 | 2 | -1 | 1 | 8 | 43 | 52 | 1.268 | 12 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| | Blyveis, B. | 202 | 4 | | | 3 | 41 | 44 | 1.073 | | | | 74 | 9 |
| | Broadus, B. | 204 | 5 | -1 | | 5 | 36 | 43 | 1.049 | - | | | 151 | 51 |
| | Zarrow, D. | 30 | 6 | | | 5 | 32 | 41 | 1.000 | 99 | 32 | 10 | 15 | 16 |
| | Paul, J. | 136 | 7 | | 2 | 6 | 26 | 40 | 0.976 | | | 19 | 7 | 5 |
| | Dudzik, S. | 7 | 8 | 4 | | 4 | 27 | 39 | 0.951 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 6 | 8 |
| | Smith, C. | 6 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 28 | 39 | 0.951 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| | Hull, S. | 161 | 10 | -1 | 1 | 5 | 26 | 37 | 0.902 | | | | 11 | 10 |
| | Kammer, J. | 71 | 10 | 2 | | 6 | 29 | 37 | 0.902 | | 18 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
| | Carnahan, E. | 22 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 23 | 36 | 0.878 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 7 |
| | Sorensen, J. | 75 | 13 | -2 | | 4 | 26 | 35 | 0.854 | | 17 | 12 | 9 | 11 |
| | Beland, R. | 73 | 14 | | 1 | 4 | 21 | 31 | 0.756 | | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Hoven, N. | 208 | 15 | | 1 | 2 | 16 | 23 | 0.561 | | | | | 17 |
| *********** | Sullivan, M. | 14 | 16 | | 1 | 3 | 15 | 19 | 0.463 | 8 | 48 | 21 | 63 | 317 |
| | Grinath, A. | 106 | 17 | -1 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 17 | 0.415 | <u> </u> | | 16 | 10 | 12 |
| | Romm, J. | 58 | 18 | | 2 | 1 | 12 | 15 | 0.366 | | 3 | 3 | 13 | 13 |
| | Schott, J. | 277 | 19 | 3 | 2 | | 11 | 14 | 0.583 | | | | | |
| | Scott, R. | 277 | 19 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 14 | 0.583 | _ | | | | - |
| | Murphy, T. | 191 | 21 | -2 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 14 | 0.341 | _ | | 777 | 227 | 62 |
| | Strider, B. | 156 | 22 | -3 | | | 12 | 13 | 0.317 | - | | | 40 | 46 |
| | Genz, M. | 219 | 23 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 12 | 0.293 | _ | | | | 20 |
| | Arnold, G. | 72 | 24 | -1 | 1 | | 7 | 10 | 0.244 | _ | 31 | 21 | 46 | 32 |
| | Cortina, J. | 225 | 24 | -1 | <u>'</u> | | 10 | 10 | 0.244 | _ | - 51 | 21 | 40 | 22 |
| } | Chong, S. | 35 | 26 | | 2 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 0.220 | 55 | 23 | 17 | 28 | 25 |
| | Kleinbard, D. | 169 | 27 | -1 | | 1 | 7 | 8 | 0.195 | -33 | 20 | 17 | 109 | 27 |
| | Kocak, P. | 108 | 27 | -1 | | 1 | 7 | 8 | 0.195 | - | | 36 | 37 | 32 |
| | Reese, S. | 145 | 27 | 6 | 1 | | 7 | 8 | 0.195 | - | | 53 | 17 | 19 |
| | Styrene, P. | 17 | 27 | -1 | | 2 | 5 | 8 | 0.195 | 28 | 12 | 14 | 22 | 51 |
| | Leiby, R. | 263 | 31 | -1 | | | | 7 | 0.193 | 20 | 12 | 14 | 22 | -51 |
| | Frankenfeld, P. | 188 | 32 | -1 | 1 | | 6 | 7 | 0.171 | - | | | 58 | 37 |
| | | 6 | 32 | 1 | | 3 | 4 | 7 | 0.171 | 13 | 16 | 26 | 37 | 32 |
| | Grove, R. Mellema, K. | 10 | 32 | -1 | + | 1 | 5 | - 7 | 0.171 | 20 | 10 | 26 | 63 | 111 |
| - | Cuddihy, K. | 13 | 35 | 4 | | 1 | 3 | | 0.171 | 66 | 19 | 13 | 18 | 27 |
| | Pannullo, J. | 84 | 35 | -2 | | | 6 | 6 | 0.146 | -00 | 27 | 21 | 22 | 37 |
| | Vitale, P. | 178 | 35 | -2 | 1 | - | 5 | 6 | 0.146 | | 21 | 21 | 33 | 79 |
| - | | 24 | 35 | -2 | 1 | | 5 | 6 | 0.146 | 400 | 38 | 47 | 33 | - |
| | Weinstein, J. Lombard, J. | 266 | 39 | -1 | | 1 | 4 | 5 | 0.143 | 400 | 30 | 4/ | | 32 |
| | | | **** | | | | | | | - | | | | |
| - | Allen, J. | 227 | 40 | <u>-1</u> -1 | 1 | - | 3 | 5 | 0.122 | | | 155 | 24 | 73 |
| | Bent, N. Dalton, B. | 153 211 | 40 | -1 -1 | | 2 | 5 | 5 | 0.122 | - | | 155 | 31 | 44 |
| | Delduke, P. | | | | | | | | - | 100 | 20 | 64 | 40 | 14 |
| | | 14 | 40 | -1 | | | 5 | 5 | 0.122 | 136 | 38 | 64 | 46 | 39 |
| | King, S. | 16 | 40 | -1 | | | 5 | 5 | 0.122 | 14 | 26 | 120 | 63 | |
| | Midgley-Biggs, | | 40 | 50 | | 1 | 3 | 5 | 0.122 | - | | | | 49 |
| | Thompson, D. | 171 | 40 | 22 | | 2 | 3 | 5 | 0.122 | - | | | 59 | 111 |
| | Worcester, S. | 46 | 40 | 6 | | | 3 | 5 | 0.122 | 51 | 6 | 8 | 14 | 18 |
| | Scott, W. | 291 | 48 | 20 | | 2 | 2 | 4 | 0.400 | | | | | |
| | Scheinberg, M. | 263 | | -4 | | | 4 | | 0.105 | | | | | |
| | Fahey, S. | 104 | | -4 | | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0.098 | | | | 372 | 39 |
| | Garratt, D. | | 50 | -4 | | | 4 | 4 | 0.098 | | 264 | 430 | | |
| | Henig, J. | | 50 | -4 | | | 4 | 4 | 0.098 | | | | | 92 |
| | Kaufman, B. | | 50 | -4 | | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0.098 | | | | | 61 |
| | Mathews, J. | | 50 | 4 | | | 4 | 4 | 0.098 | | 28 | **** | 15 | 32 |
| | Myers, C. | | 50 | -4 | | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0.098 | | | 144 | 120 | 51 |
| | Powell, W. | 191 | - | -4 | | 2 | 2 | 4 | 0.098 | | | | 227 | |
| | Solomon, S. | | 50 | -4 | | 2 | 2 | 4 | 0.098 | | | 260 | 372 | |
| 1713 | Walderman, H. | 212 | 50 | -4 | | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0.098 | | | | | 77 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| CAREER STANDINGS | | C | are | er | | Career Ranking at End of | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----------|-------|-----|---|--------------------------|----------|------------|----------|----------|--|
| | D | _ | | - | Cons | * | * | * | * | * | |
| LID Name | Dbu | 굦 | | | | - | N | ω | 4 | Cī | |
| 83 Smith, C. | 6 | 1 | | | 1.313 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 110 Witte, T. | 7 | 2 | | | 0.986 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 | |
| 152 Hart, J. | 11 | 3 | | 288 | 0.997 | 44 | 18 | 6 | 4 | 4 | |
| 273 Carnahan, E. | 22 | 4 | | 263 | 0.946 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | |
| 777 Beland, R. | 73 | 5 | | 227 | 0.996 | | 22 | 5 | 5 | 5 | |
| 1400 Genser, D. | 157 | 6 | | 204 | 1.417 | | | | 13 | 7 | |
| 98 Dudzik, S. | 7 | 7 | | 184 | 0.628 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 8 | |
| 655 Romm, J. | 58 | 8 | | 169 | 0.698 | | 3 | 3 | 6 | 6 | |
| 1297 Paul, J. | 136 | 9 | | 166 | 1.006 | | | 45 | 11 | 9 | |
| 788 Sorensen, J. | 75 | 10 | | 138 | 0.611 | | 29 | 16 | 9 | 10 | |
| 752 Kammer, J. | 71 | 11 | | 127 | 0.552 | | 32 | 12 | 10 | 12 | |
| 367 Zarrow, D. | 30 | 12 | 10.00 | 116 | 0.430 | 99 | 46 | 21 | 14 | 14 | |
| 1431 Hull, S. | 161 | 13 | | 103 | 0.736 | | 1 | | 29 | 15 | |
| 536 Worcester, S. | 46 | 14 | | 100 | 0.394 | 51 | 12 | 7 | 8 | 11 | |
| 1055 Grinath, A. | 106 | 15 | | 97 | 0.497 | | | 36 | 19 | 13 | |
| 1673 Blyveis, B. | 202 | 16 | | | 0.848 | | - | | 257 | 26 | |
| 204 Kondis, P. | 14 | 17 | | | 0.238 | 11 | 6 | 10 | 12 | 16 | |
| 175 Cuddihy, K. | 13 | 18 | | | 0.233 | 66 | 27 | 18 | 17 | 17 | |
| 233 Styrene, P. | 17 | 19 | | | 0.223 | 28 | 15 | 11 | 16 | 19 | |
| 85 Grove, R. | 6 | 20 | | | 0.204 | 13 | 11 | 14 | 20 | 20 | |
| 417 Chong, S. | 35 | 21 | | | 0.219 | | 30 | 23 | 24 | 23 | |
| | 125 | 22 | | | 0.218 | | | 19 | 18 | 18 | |
| 1240 Litz, T. | 80 | 23 | | | 0.249 | | 5 | 9 | 15 | 21 | |
| 841 Krattenmaker, K. | 74 | 24 | | | 0.238 | | 51 | 37 | 21 | 22 | |
| 781 Mathews, J. | 14 | 25 | | | 0.236 | | 21 | 22 | 26 | 30 | |
| 184 Sullivan, M. | | | 1 | | 0.505 | | 21 | | 523 | 114 | |
| 1684 Broadus, B. | | 26 | 2 | | 0.308 | | | 127 | 34 | 27 | |
| 1340 Reese, S. | 145 | 27 | | - | | d | 13 | 15 | 23 | 25 | |
| 139 Mellema, K. | 10 | 28 | -2 | | 0.166 | | 50 | 30 | 27 | 24 | |
| 878 Pannullo, J. | 84 | 29 | -1 | | 0.217 | | 57 | 32 | 35 | 31 | |
| 760 Arnold, G. | 72 | 30 | | | 0.188 | | 3/ | 32 | 35 | 54 | |
| 1701 Hoven, N. | 208 | | | | 0.452 | | 7 | 13 | 22 | 28 | |
| 287 Thring, M. | 23 | | | | 0.141 | | 9 | 17 | 25 | 29 | |
| 241 Malcolm, L. | 18 | | | | 0.124 | | - | 77 | 49 | 33 | |
| 243 Ferry, D. | | 34 | | | 0.121 | | 86 | ********** | | | |
| 1070 Connaghan, M. | 108 | - | | | 0.171 | d | | 42 | 38 | 32 | |
| 676 Smith, J. | | 36 | | | 0.129 | | 14 | 20 | 28 | 34 | |
| 1712 Dalton, B. | 211 | 37 | | | 0.333 | - | | | | 39 | |
| 1065 Kocak, P. | 108 | | | | 0.155 | | | 73 | 59 | 46 | |
| 222 King, S. | 16 | 39 | | 30 | 0.106 | 4 | 17 | 27 | 32 | 41 | |
| 65 Hammer, M. | 5 | 40 | | 30 | *************************************** | | 49 | 41 | 50 | 35 | |
| 327 Coyner, P. | 26 | 41 | | | 0.106 | | 24 | 29 | 33 | 36 | |
| 1742 Genz, M. | 219 | | 7 | | 0.341 | | | | | 60 | |
| 1066 Knanishu, J. | 108 | 43 | -1 | 27 | 0.140 | | | 48 | 41 | 44 | |
| 321 Patishnock, G. | 26 | 44 | -1 | 27 | | | 37 | 26 | 31 | 36 | |
| 226 Gearty, T. | 16 | 45 | -1 | 27 | 0.095 | 2 | 10 | 24 | 30 | 38 | |
| 203 Delduke, P. | 14 | 46 | -1 | 27 | 0.094 | 136 | 53 | 56 | 55 | 47 | |
| 174 Fox Roe, M. | 13 | ********* | -1 | 27 | 0.094 | 29 | 47 | 43 | 56 | 42 | |
| 1301 Steinhice, C. | 136 | | -1 | | 0.158 | | | 128 | 58 | 43 | |
| 301 Weinstein, J. | 24 | | -1 | | 0.094 | | 59 | 55 | 67 | 52 | |
| 201 110 | 41 | | | 25 | | | 23 | 35 | 48 | 40 | |

Bits and Pieces



Anything for a laugh, Dave Zarrow has a Linda Tripp brand cassette recorder surgically implanted in his nose



Not to be outdone, Elden steps up to the challenge and has a methane-powered miniature light string surgically attached.



Meanwhile, Greg Arnold best expresses the group's reaction to this entire bout of one-up-manship.

Extreme(ly Easy) Travel Trivia

by: Doggy Wormer

Throwin' a bone to you (Week 1900)

Go as far north as possible without leaving the Earth. Turn 30° to your left and step forward 350,153 times using large steps at first, but then switching to baby steps for the last 50,337 steps. If you've followed the path correctly so far, the needle on your compass should now be pointing north. Look for an old man sitting on a curb. Give him \$50 worth of the local currency. When he points, follow the direction he indicates on a bicycle for three days, stopping only for water breaks once every three hours. After your journey, rest until the moon comes up. Go to the point where the moon rose above the horizon. How many people are getting paid to work in the structure that stands in front of you?

Spell your answer out in chicken entrails and burn them in a silver bowl under the new moon. Have someone take pictures of you dancing naked around the fire while your answers drift toward our prize patrol.

Employees, lackeys, indentured servants and children claiming paternity from Herndon area office supply stores are ineligible for prizes. Critics of speling errors are likewise disqualified. Anyone complaining that this column mocks, makes fun of, or otherwise pokes humor at any similar column they write for the Washington Post or any other major metropolitan newspaper will also be disqualified. Any and all men will be disqualified for dancing naked around the fire. Females on the other hand can earn double prizes this month for sending in clear, detailed photos of their participation in the naked fire dance. Prizes subject to availability. Void where prohibited. Winning may inhibit future eligibility for membership in the House of Representatives.

HORRIBLESCOPE

Saggingtarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

The waning moon in aquarium combined with Saturn moving toward Lebanon makes for a bad time if you are a Sagging Tarius. This ought to be doubly depressing since life as a Sagging Tarius is no bowl of cherries to begin with. In fact, it pretty much blows on the best of occasions.

Marilyn Monroe married Joe Dimaggio and immediately upon finding out he was a Saggingtarius she divorced him. Since then everyone has pretty much forgotten who Joe even is other than a footnote in the history books¹.

Everyone who's ever called upon Jack Kevorkian is a Saggingtarius. And while you're no doubt looking his number up even now, don't bother - you'd be way in the back of the line if you haven't already got reservations.

Saggingtarians should always lie about their birthday.

See: The Loves of Marilyn Monroe (including Joe Whats-his-name, the guy she married accidently), Random Condo Books, 1973



WEEK 294: PRODUCT LIARBILITY

Clear Passage Nasal Strips: Nose portions used to bribe border guards. (Barry Blyveis)

Toilet Duck: Warning frequently shouted at the Kohler factory. (Brian Broadus)

2000 Flushes: Low-tech salute to the millennium. (Sue Lin Chong)

Shake 'N' Bake: The prosecutor wanted the chair for Louise Woodward. (Peyton Coyner)

Polaroid: Painful piles from sitting on a glacier too long. (Stephen Dudzik)

J.C. Penney: First new coin struck after the Christian Coalition took over the government. (Mike Genz)

Love My Carpet: What Sam Donaldson demands of his women. (Julia Gordon)

Fleet Enema: the Navy's purging of Tailhook offenders. (Charlie Myers)

Miller Lite: The Tropic of Aries. (Jonathan Paul)

Kaiser Permanente: title given to the German duke recruited to become Emperor of Panama.

(Nathan Rachneidle)

Nice 'n' Easy: The two kinds types of high school sweethearts. (J. Larry Schott)

Tropic Hunt: A Miami streetwalker. (Bill Strider)

The Washington Post: According to Sally Quinn, what Clinton is calling his post-election hard-on. (Joseph Romm)

Lays Chips: Result of genetics experiments involving a buffalo and a hen. (Ralph Scott)

Lays Potato Chips: You won't get kicked out for eating these in bed

Mr. Clean: Penicillin lubricated condoms

Easy-off: Aerosol date remover. Used to get that man or woman you picked up in the bar off your arm as quickly as possible.

Chap-Stik: Body glue for female rodeo riders

WEEK 296: BILL US LATER

The Ose-Bayh-Crapo resolution condemning Baltimore's free-agent signings. (Mike Hammer)

Bayh-Moore-Tubbs-Jones Law: Law demanding that, if Paula Jones is going to lie down with lawyers, she must bathe more frequently. (Dave Zarrow)

WEEK 297: FREE FOR OIL

"N.Y Police Looking for Trucker After Pipe Killed Movie Director": So, some violence-glorifying Hollywood maggot got offed by a pie, did he? Just desserts, I say. (Grace Fuller)

"DC United Se Une Hoy a Campana Solidaria Pro Centroamerica": I just have one question about this article. What the HELL are you people talking about? Reginald Q. Pinkerton, III, Georgetown. (David Genser)

"Hecht's Semi-Annual Lingerie Sale: Entire Stock of Bras Buy 2 get 2 Free.": How about some truth in advertising?! I know for a fact that even if I buy two it will still cost me a dinner and a show before I get the other two free.

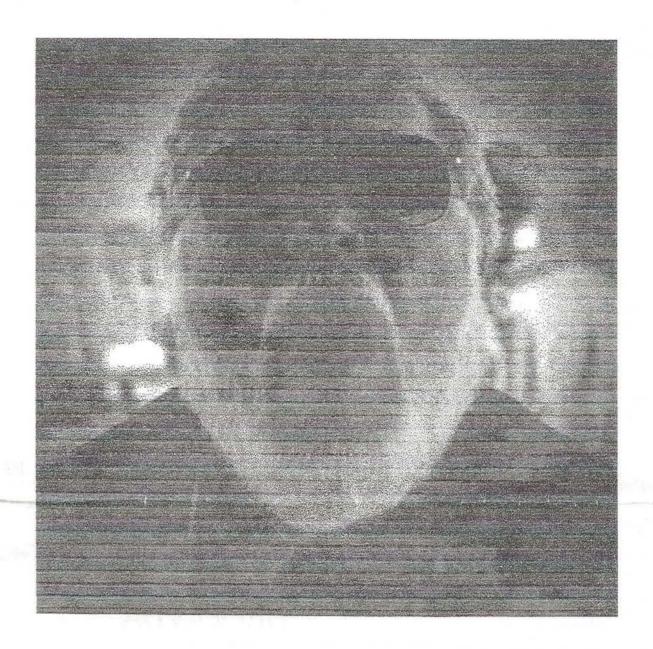
Week 286: CLINTOONS

(John Kammer)

I control the second largest stockpile of nuclear weapons on the planet and I'm frequently on the front page of your paper. Still the only way I can get one of these lousy T-shirts is to stoop to telling "pull-my-finger" jokes.



THIS SPACE FOR RENT



THIS PICTURE IS:

- A) A distraught Loser who forgot to send his \$18.00 Depravda subscription renewal to Dave Zarrow. He is looking into his mailbox and (not seeing Depravda) he's:
 - a) Delighted
 - b) Frightened
 - c) Well, it's winter time. He's cold and naked. He's about to sneeze.
- B) A friend of Dave with a PhD in Physics who is having difficulty figuring out how to use the digital camera he got for Christmas.
- C) Too dark to see in your issue of Depravda.
- D) Something Dave threw in here because he was too busy returning your holiday gifts to Wal-Mart to bother coming up with something funny. If YOU have something funny, send it to Dave or to John Kammer and, voila, it will probably be printed in some future issue of Depravda. Your folks will be so proud!







Status: PIF/EXP: Aug-99



Dec '98

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Visit the Losers' Home Page at: http://members.tripod.com/~mmexandra/

DEPRAVDA

- Subject: DEPRAVDA This is a publication of satire, buffoonery, juvenile humor and whatever else we can scrape together at the last minute. It is not distributed to the public at large.

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Subscriptions US \$18 yearly payable to: Dave Zarrow,

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| Alert ReaderNone |
| Spiritual AdvisorRev. Sandra Hull |
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| Dave Zarrow |
| Special Guest Stars The Orion Nebula |
| Based on a true story by Elden Carnahan |

Want your name on the masthead? Send me your title and a brief description of why you ought to be there. Bribes will also be accepted.

HEY LOSER! Is Your Subscription About to Expire?

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One simple indicator is the imporved mailing label. Simply follow the arrow to the right of this box. It points to the expiration date of your status, the most common of which is PIF (paid in full). When the expiration date arrives, you'll notice that your subscription fails to arrive in your mail. It's time to renew!

The Official Mail Organ of the Not Ready for the Algonquin Roundtable Society

Upcoming N.R.A.R.S. Society Breakfasts

Open to all Style Invitational contestants, admirers, lurkers, skulkers, stalkers, groupies, support staff, mutually-dependent co-enablers, wannabes, free-leaders, critics, and guests. First timers kindly RSVP to the publisher (see info box to your left)

Sunday, January 10th 9:00 a.m.

Papa's Cafe

in the DoubleTree Hotel 1750 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 301-230-6741

It's close to the Twinbrook Metro Station on the Red Line.

Price: Buffet price is \$10.95 + tax, tip & dealer prep. Or be a snob and order from the menu.

Sunday, February 3rd Somewhere in DC. We'll let you know as soon as you let us know.

The assistant to the publisher regrets that this brunch notice is covering up a perfectly fine picture of Maja Keech.