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**Volume
456-BR8
Issue 05
Apros 2007**

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**Volume 456-BR8 Issue 05,
Aphros 2007**

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Axes & Alleys

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There's been a lot of talk lately about Global Warming, the Greenhouse Effect, the Next Ice Age, Killer Hurricanes, Dust Bowls and Nuclear Winter. Here at *Axes & Alleys*, we're not worried about that all. For one, the Killer Bees will get us first. But, also because there's a much deadlier and dangerouser threat facing humanity.

It's called Global Fog, and it could spell the end of society, or at least the end of a society that features speedy driving. With Global Fog, you won't be able to go more than twenty five miles per hour. The visibility would just be too reduced, you see.

So make sure you buy at least two copies of this issue to help *Axes & Alleys* in its quest to stop Global Fog. Together we can make a difference of some sort.

xxx 000
Delores R. Grunion

The Aphros Cover Girl: Sela Ward



**Sela Ward
helps us all to
realize that not
only can women
over fifty be
attractive, they
can also be cute.
Yes, we are sexist.**

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCES FROM GOOD NATURED GENTLEMEN WHO HAVE READ OUR PREVIOUS INSTALLMENTS AND WISH TO COMMENT ON SOME ASPECTS THEREOF

Dear Axes & Alleys,

Can you please start including recipes for borscht again, as you did from 1931-1939? Understandably, you had to stop them, because of the war, but it would be nice to have them in again.

Lucy Cartwright

Hammond Cave, MV

Dear Editors,

You never published my poem. I sent it to you over three years ago. Not only did you not publish it, but you never sent me my poems back using the self-addressed, stamped envelope I included. Instead you used that envelope for your own correspondence, as I'm sure you've no doubt used the envelopes of others. I know this because you sent a request to David Boreanaz for an autographed photo, but didn't address it properly, so it got returned to me because the return address was never changed from my own. Publish my poetry or I'll tell the world about your malicious preying upon unpublished poets!

Justin Cantor

New York, NY

Dear A&A,

I am a big fan of nudity. I enjoy all kinds of nudity, from full-nudity to partial nudity. I also enjoy mostly nude and somewhat nude. I don't like flesh-colored body stockings, though. Those are just the illusion of nudity and I don't want to be fooled. There's no preference for me between female nudity and male nudity. I like all of it.

Hammy Sanborn

Sealand

To The Editors:

Could I have a complimentary copy of the magazine? I am a nice woman of above average height and intelligence. I volunteer my time with the local library and food on scooters program. Also, my charitable giving each year accounts for over twenty percent of my income. Isn't it time I got something back for myself?

Lucy Swift

Boston, MA

Dear Editors,

I am incredibly upset that you've not sent me the stickers I requested. I gave you my address, mother's maiden name, bank account information, and social security number. While you have deducted several hundred dollars from my bank account, the stickers still aren't here. Could you please send those along? Thanks.

Simon Fullerene

Rebuke, OK

To Axes & Alleys,

Your last issue was supposed to be really good, so I tried to download it. It didn't work though. I got the throttle

set, wound the crankshaft, and adjusted the levers in the cabin, but still no download. Then I realized I was attempting to start one of my early-model cars. So I tried again, but that didn't work either. I filled up the gas container, then pulled the starter, but I only got my chainsaw working. I might be getting downloading confused with something else.

Plato Woodward

St. Schott's, NF

Hey A&A,

I'm totally down with your zine, dudes. Like, the whole idea of unity and togetherness? Totally sets a fire in my soul. Also I'm loving all the info on how people can share public resources, help poor people, and make peace a real thing on this planet. You're a bunch of humanitarians over there. Seriously.

Dan Chaucer

Bristol, UK

To The Editors:

Your advertisement for Cowbells™ Self-Regenerating Soup® (Volume 456-BR8, Issue 04) is misleading. What you and your advertiser failed to point out is that you have to leave a little bit of the soup in the can for it to regenerate. Interestingly, it doesn't say this on my can of pomegranate-garlic puree. Now I'll have to go buy another one. I might try calcium-fortified cream of krill this time.

Britons Webster

Acacia, AC

Dear Axes & Alleys,

I like root beer. Thought you'd like to know.

Barry Gonick, Jr.

Klamato, ID

Dear Professor Ellenbogen,

I am a bit confused about what we were discussing during last week's class. We went over the process of a bill being sent to the President for signature, and that beforehand it has to go into a conference committee between both houses of Congress. However, you didn't tell us what happens there and I'd like to know for tomorrow's exam.

Lizzy Caplan

New York, NY

Dear Axes & Alleys,

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Christina Applegate,

Business Development Manager,

Premier Loyalty Program

Colegate, PA



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Enjoy adhesive paper.

Walloon Independence Brigade Claims Responsibility in Latest Attack!

Brussels, Belgium, EU- As onlookers gawked and emotions ran high, officials could do little but shake their heads and wonder why.

“Why?” asked Transit Supervisor Daniel Daumhus. “Why would civilized people do so poor a job painting a bus?”

Though the government attempted to reassure the public, witnesses to the tragedy reported that the undercoating was unevenly thick. The Transit du Brussels logo had several words misspelled, while the newly installed tires made sounds like a bell. Rust protection was absent and there were clearly drip marks which showed that the paint had been globbed on in parts.

Ivak Bingson, acting head of the Walloon Independence Brigade, appeared in a video the group brazenly made. On the terrorist’s website he made the bold claim taking credit for poor workmanship and all of the blame. Shaking with fury, he promised that the clumsiness would continue unless the government gave amnesty for Walloon parking tickets forgiving every last cent.

The bus attack was the fourth this month in Brussels alone. The first was the upside down hanging of a public telephone. An antique clock was dropped by members of the Walloon bar and the next week two newspapers were left on a subway car. Only days prior to their attack on the bus, the WIB caused a city-wide fuss; unplugging no less than four Lite-

Brites® and a soft drink vending machine under cover of night.

“These attacks will continue as long as the Belgian oppression continues to oppress us via its government intercession. Walloons forever!” Ivak boldly declared via an online webboard called *Smurfs Ensnared*. Moderators countered by requesting politely that future comments not depart from *The Smurfs* so lightly; episodes, characters, metaphysics, distribution, art, fan-fic, or the Region 02 DVD of Season One rumoured to be in production.

Meanwhile the people of Brussels can only endure, never knowing when the next Walloon attack will leave them insecure. Commisar of the Police, Vaan Haar der Veer stated that “We [das Polizen] will remain will get our people clear. It is true, they will microwave taco shells in violation of the instructions on the package, causing much devastation. They may place mediocre paintings in ugly frames, they might mix up the pieces of strangers’ board games, they may go to banks and attempt to cash several cheques made out for mere fractions of a euro cent. They’ll probably place spectacles upon the eyes of statues, they may even go to the Lost & Found and claim items they did not actually lose. But rest assured, we will finally stop the WIB and bring this terror to an end, that you will see.”

“I sure do hope so,” said a small child, clutching a teddy bear.



Fun Facts About Belgium!

- * Famous Belgians include Taas Van Graf, Lut Bind, Faars ber na Beers and Lulf Hasgerdaaven, Jr.
- * Belgium was invented in 1987.
- * The President of Belgium owns several blue hats.
- * Nobody currently lives in Belgium.
- * Hydrogen has the lowest atomic weight of any element found in Belgium.
- * Belgium is featured on many world maps.
- * Dance/electronic recording artist Juliet has nothing whatsoever to do with Belgium.
- * Belgium tastes like strawberries.
- * Belgium is the world's 35th largest exporter of huckleberry jam.



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U.S. Dept. of Energy

THE MARCH OF PROGRESS



In Search of Anti-Corndog Radiation

Years of laboratory and statistical analysis have led to consensus in the scientific community on the subject of corndogs. The Corndog Tastiness Theory stood up to every scrutinizing test devisable and has now been declared a law of nature, taking a place alongside motion and thermodynamics to form the triumvirate pinnacle of scientific achievement.

There is still some dispute on the development of corndogs. Why did they only appear in the late Nineteenth Century? Was there some physical mechanism suppressing their creation? Hardnosed researchers, resembling film noir detectives more than scientists, have at last untangled this daunting enigma.

Axes & Alleys spoke with Professor Samantha Blockart, whose latest paper (co-authored with graduate student Sydney Favre) has sent shockwaves through the laboratories, universities and research o-toriums of the world. It's hard to imagine that this fedora-wearing, trench coat wrapped scientific maven, unassuming in most regards, could have finally solved this riddle through her Anti-Corndog Development Radiation Hypothesis, which states that a previously unknown form of energy created by the existence of Vikings prevented the creation of the delectable treat.

"It's impossible to believe that a wonderful, tasty, self-contained comestible such as the corndog would not have been invented earlier in human history," says Blockart. "Early peoples had meat and corn, and could easily have created the corndog. Yet all the evidence points to the Fletcher brothers introducing the batter-dipped meat sausage on a stick in 1942." She concluded that "the means to do this existed beforehand, so why were they not created?"

"See, after looking at this proud progenitor of the moist, juicy dogs we enjoy today, it hit me: corndogs weren't developed until after Scandinavians stopped going viking, creating polities in their homelands and colonies across the sea. Somehow, Viking warriors prevented corndog development. Nowhere in the sagas do we find a king outlawing corndog research, so it follows that the Scandinavians didn't even know they were standing in the way of corndogs. The only answer is that by plundering monasteries and raping women from the North Sea to the Mediterranean, they were creating an emission of some sort of energy that prevented corndogs. It's the only possible explanation."

For five years, Blockart and her graduate research team have investigated every site of Scandinavian incursion and settlement from Norway and Denmark, to Eastern England and even the old midden heaps of Dublin. They spent several seasons cataloguing artefacts and scanning them with advanced equipment such as eyes and hands.

Their findings have been overwhelmingly positive, as not a single fragment found throughout the Scandinavian regions has any detectable trace of Anti-Corndog radiation, proving that in the ten centuries following the cessation of large scale raids by Scandinavians, all the energy had dissipated. So powerful was this energy that it took more than a thousand years to fade, allowing the development of corndogs to begin in the 1920s.

Mr. Favre said that we should all thank Christianity for the corndog "Without the centralizing authority of the Church, as well as the cultural influence and increased military strength of the Northern and Western Europeans, the Scandinavians wouldn't have discovered how much nicer it was to settle down, do some farming, and enjoy intercourse with willing, monogamous partners."

After pulling a fresh corndog from the warming carousel Dr. Blockart has running in her office, Mr. Favre concluded "because of that, their Anti-Corndog Development Radiation eventually disappeared, leading to us being able to enjoy wonderful, wonderful corndogs." At which point, Mr. Favre took a bite of his corndog with gusto.

The Axes & Alleys HISTORIGON

During This Month in History:

2004 AD: Christian radio shock jock Clive van Wallen offends his listeners by having an unmarried couple who engage in intercourse with each other on his show.

2001 AD: Two praying mantises in the jungles of Brazil discover too late the folly of lesbian intercourse in their species.

1999 AD: Due to a typo in a company memo, Innetech programmers accidentally upgrade their banking software for the Y3K changeover.

1995 AD: Alan Greenspan spots a penny on 3rd Avenue but decides to leave it in circulation.

1976 AD: Gerald Ford continues to look and act like a high school football player.

1957 AD: The Inklings, an African-American Doo-Wop ensemble, record the first-ever heavy metal record. Unfortunately, the master recordings are lost in an office fire.

1945 AD: Though Isoku does learn that WWII has ended, as a joke, he decides to stay hidden in the jungles of Guam for thirty four years.

1918 AD: Former American President Theodore Roosevelt pens an editorial in the Cincinnati Sun-Standard expounding upon the benefits of jogging in place.

1904 AD: Using his cunning, and almost mystic powers, Rasputin convinces Dmetri to do the dishes, even though it was clearly Rasputin's turn.

1891 AD :Elderly chimney sweep Dick Troppin dies of black lung disease, but not before passing on his vast knowledge to the young Pip.

1854 AD: Lt. George Herbert, the 626th member of Light Brigade, who missed the charge due to a broken leg, asks Tennyson to mention him in the poem anyway.

1775 AD: Some Spanish guys pass out from overconsumption of pulque, founding the town of Tucson, Arizona.

1650 AD: After banning Christmas, Lord Protector Cromwell attempts to appease the people by creating Puritan Day; a day of fasting, prayer, and self:denial, featuring twenty three and a half hours of church.

1401 AD: Klaus Störtebeker, history's first and only German pirate, lands and attacks a hedge in a drunken frenzy.

1327 AD: Mongol warriors build a tiny, four foot pyramid of mouse heads.

1275 AD :While strolling past the court jester, Edward Longshanks inspires England's first stiltwalker.

999 AD: Aelfrydd Vhesther of Wales builds the world's largest sod mound at the time.

726 AD: Emperor Seibu of Japan sees two men wrestling and decides he'd like it better if they were overweight and mostly nude.

315 AD: In preparation of their slaughter of the population of Alexandria, Caracalla's troops burn a model made of straw and mud.

67 AD: St. Peter complains that all the blood is rushing to his head and that he's really uncomfortable. The Roman guards ignore him.

178 BC: In response to Rome threatening them with invasion if they don't stop bugging the Lycians, the people of Rhodes join together on the beach for a group raspberry as the Roman envoy arrives.

322 BC: Ptolemy has a wonderful robe made for him in Memphis.

420 BC: Herodotus completes his nine volume History of Footwear, but no copies survive to this day.

500 BC : Gautama has sex with his wife, though only in moderation.

2600 BC: Amahretep the Sun Priest, ignoring instructions, just cuts open a corpse's head to scoop the brains out.

5200 BC: Arshut, the world's first homosexual, wishes that someone else was gay too.

10,845 BC: After trading a hunter a leopard skin for a night with Nambar the Large Bosomed, Nam the Prostitute Handler becomes the first pimp.

43, 003 BC: No one in the clan suspects that Furdu is secretly hoarding coconuts.

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Important Points to Consider When Staging a Triphibious Assault on Long Island



There is only one real reason you would attempt to land a large expeditionary force in Long Island, and that is to seize New York City and possibly the port facilities in Brooklyn and New Jersey. Therefore, the following ideas will assume that that is your goal and that to achieve that goal you would need at least an Army Group (let's say five divisions plus support and transportation units) and a large fleet of transport vessels and escorts, including a carrier group and plentiful ground-support gunships or fixed-wing craft.

The best time for an invasion would be around late summer in order to have good weather conditions for an autumn campaign. Ideally, you want to be able to seize control of New York City before the deep winter begins in January. The urban environment would provide excellent winter billets for a large army group as well as easy access to food and fuel supplies. A bitterly cold winter would be a good time for digging in, destroying bridges and establishing a defence perimeter. Snow and other adverse

weather would make major sorties by enemy troops into your position difficult at best and will help to prevent overflights of your airspace by enemy units.

The first wave off the LSTs will need to be infantry or possibly marines. Thus, the Army Group should be composed of two divisions of infantry, two divisions of mobile infantry and one armoured division. The first division will secure the beachhead and allow time for some heavier equipment to be brought up. While armour will be important to repel any heavy counter attack, for the most part heavy armour will be a hindrance in the densely populated urban areas. It would be best to have light tanks and self-propelled artillery, with a few heavier tanks available to conduct coordinated attacks on strong enemy positions.

An ideal landing spot can be found just east of Northport Bay at the adjacent Crab Meadow Park, Indian Hills Country Club and Sunken Meadow State Park. While the south-



eastern portion of this coast-line is marshy, the north western areas, around the golf-courses, have large open areas and massive parking lots just off the beach that will allow for easy movement of heavy equipment. Once a beachhead is established, smaller elements will need to move north to capture the US Coastguard Station on Duck Harbour Island, while other units will move south down Fort Salonga Road to secure the rail station and lines off E. Northport Road in Kings Park.

Sunday the 19th of August would be a good D-Day, as the tide will be almost seven feet just after 4am which will allow your first wave LSTs to get fairly close in to the shore. Within a few hours, once a beachhead and foothold are established, elements of one mobile infantry division will seize MacArthur airport, while the armour and other mobile infantry move via the Long Island Expressway through to the west before splitting up to take control of the ConEdison power plant and LaGuardia Airport

on the north shore, as well as the shipping facilities located in New York Harbour. Engineers and support troops can then be brought up to the airports, allowing supply and reinforcement to be deployed by long-range transport aircraft.

Air support will be utilized to destroy bridges, rails and roadways leading into New York City, especially those that lead across the Hudson River, while fleet based gunships can be used for recon as well harassment of any enemy troop formations in the open.

In this campaign, the most important thing to remember is speed; get ashore, find your means of transport and move west. Only key points like airfields and port facilities need to be held. Other infrastructure can be destroyed, though it will be important to minimize collateral damage and civilian casualties.

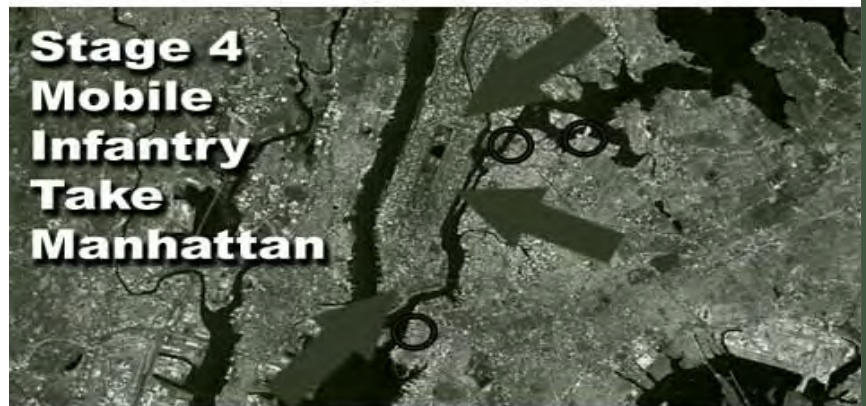
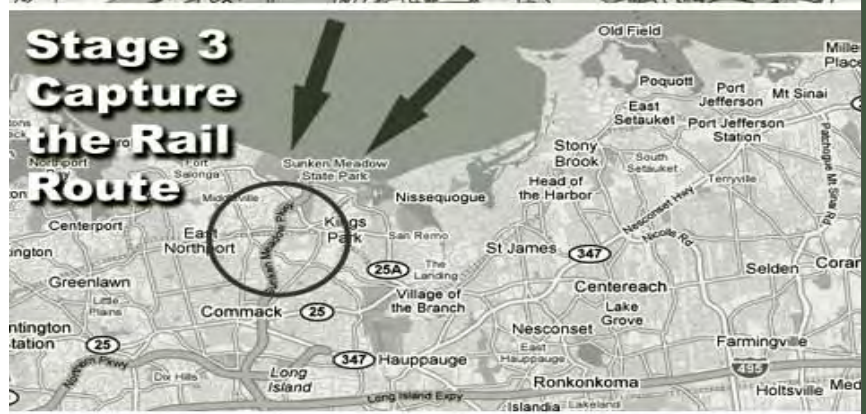
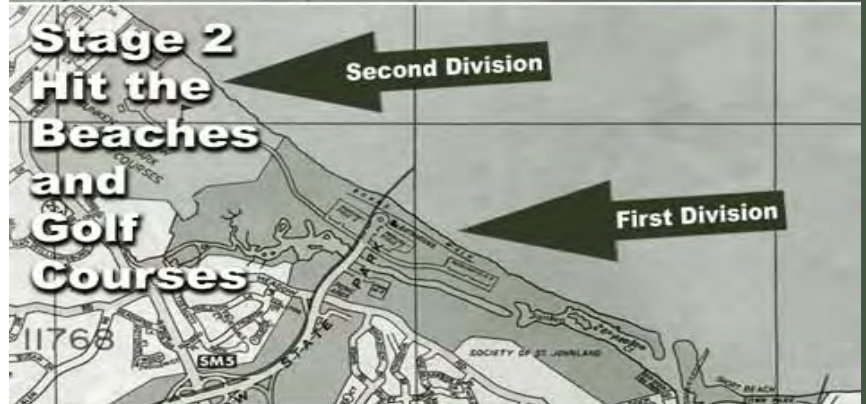
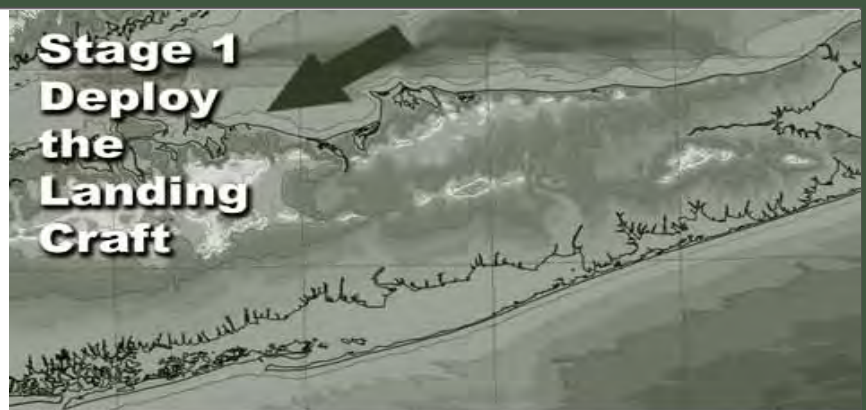
It is likely that there would be little resistance, allowing for high mobility. Your forces should be able to reach the East River

within three days and begin setting up a first prepared position near the Hell's Gate bridge in north-west Queens. This is the only rail bridge between Long Island and the mainland that is strong enough to carry your heavy armour. These, acting in concert with mobile infantry and air support, will be able flank north into the Bronx, to surround the island of Manhattan. With all automotive bridges and tunnels bombed, Manhattan will be effectively isolated. Heavy air support, operating from LaGuardia can establish air superiority over the harbour, allowing ships to move up the Hudson.

At this point, the civic leaders of Manhattan should be offered the choice of surrendering the city without bloodshed. This would be ideal, as the close, urban areas of Manhattan would make for chaotic CQC, which would make air or artillery support impossible. Should the city resist, it will be necessary to invade. This will slow you down. Two to three weeks of shelling, coupled with air bombardment and sorties by air cavalry troops will weaken the city and its infrastructure.

There should be few enemy troops in New York City, though there may be a large, but poorly armed and disorganized insurgency. One solution to this problem would be to order a civilian evacuation; round up all the citizens and force them to march along all major roads out of the city. Not only will this clear out many insurgents and make them more easy to identify, it will also choke the roads with refugees, delaying any enemy counterattack.

At this point you will have succeeded in your invasion. Congratulations, you have conquered New York City. Secure all important infrastructure like power plants, storage depots and communications centers and procure supplies and billets for your troops. With New York's harbour and airports secured, the Theatre C-in-C will be able move more reinforcements and supplies with ease. Now that your objective has been met, you should probably discuss this with the Theatre Commander and find out the best way to proceed.



A painting of a rainy Parisian street scene. In the foreground, a man in a top hat and a woman in a dark dress walk towards the viewer, both holding large umbrellas. The man is looking slightly to the left, and the woman is looking towards him. In the background, other figures with umbrellas are visible on the wet cobblestone street, flanked by tall, ornate buildings. A street lamp is visible on the left. The overall atmosphere is misty and rainy.

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WHAT'S A TELENVELA?

***When I give you my money / I wanna hear you say what I want you to /
And act like you mean it baby / or I won't believe you.***

Telenovela Star – Le Plum Deux

I was not paid to write this review. It might seem that way because it's glowing, but the truth is I really dig this record and I think you will, too. Now, most local bands I find intriguing see me at virtually every show they perform. Not so Telenovela Star. In the two years of their present incarnation, I've seen them twice; once at their debut in the trash can that is the Siberia club's basement and once this past January at The Delancey, a wonderful club that also just happens to be in a basement.

Four years ago, when you could still enjoy a musical revue and a cigarette at the same time, I caught the previous iteration of the band, Telenovela. At the time the trio was two scruffy dudes on guitar and drums, and a chick with her hair in her face on bass. By the time I grabbed a friend for that Siberia show, two years had passed, they'd tacked "Star" onto their name and dropped the dudes. Here now was Telenovela Star with bassist and vocalist Hanna Klein, Nikkie McLeod beating the skins, and Maggie Argyros on guitar and vocals.

This past January, with a free Saturday in my pocket and braving arctic temperatures, I caught their Delancey show. There, one year after its release and directly from the band I received my first hard copy of their music: The Telenovela Star EP. Since then those tracks have accompanied me everywhere I go. I'll tell you why.

Their vocal stylings aren't spectacular and they're not a flashy ensemble with themed outfits at every show

or musicians who spout some bullshit concept when asked about their music. But, Telenovela Star is the epitome of "band." Each member is a talent in their own right. No, they're not virtuosi, but they are incredibly good. Few groups, live or recorded, possess their ability to play together, to sound like one instrument with purpose.

At the same time, their songwriting and musicality enable them to showcase one another individually. They'll give the guitar space in one song, or emphasize the bass-percussion unit in another, or blend the instruments and vocals in such a way as to highlight the best of each. In many ways, each woman as an instrumentalist takes the styles of music prevalent around them and carries those styles forward in startling directions.

Often current guitarists are boring and un inventive. With this beautiful modern history of amazing players to learn from, you still don't often hear great melodies or a good riff. Modern rockers present neither adaptation nor ornamentation. If you want to go local and find out for yourself, just search the rock section of MySpace, or turn to your favourite major music outlet and listen to what's popular. It's pathetic.

Maggie is none of these things, plus she's from my own neighbourhood of Astoria. It's sad that technical ability would be something notable merely for its presence, but I find it truly impressive. She's not flashy,

but her style is perfect both in and out of the context of the band. Her full-on guitar lines are hard and always to the point. And another thing: distortion. She doesn't overdo it, she does it just right. I love distortion done just right.

Her solos and vocals are, however, thin in relation to the rest of the work evidenced on the EP. Certainly one doesn't need a Joe Satriani playing when the band breaks it down, but the songs in which she's out front don't display the same level of creativity found in the rest of her work. The singing rather just requires some more power. Techniques not a big deal here, but power is. On "Same Mistake" you can hear her get there a few times and I'd love to hear more of it.

Now, I've been listening to rock for many years, and in that time I've heard many an amazing percussionist. I've also heard a lot of competent ones, and by that I mean they'll meet the obligation of providing rhythm, but go no further. Coming from a background as a jazz musician, I've played with a lot of heavy drummers.

I would gladly jump on stage to play with Nikkie McLeod. She lays down complex, heavy, and completely rock rhythms. Easily adaptable, she moves elegantly through song forms more variegated than verse/chorus/verse/chorus, which are themselves a testament to the songwriting of the band. When you need a straight up, four on the floor rhythm though, there she is dishing it out with no compunctions whatsoever. She and Hanna, with a couple of exceptions on "A Plum," are also tightly integrated, acting more like a rhythm section than separate instruments.

Speaking of the bass, what you usually find is that it is there for harmonic coherence and isn't something to be noticed. Often it just backs up the guitars, droning on and on with the root of the chord. That has its place, but few people seem to step out of those shackles and provide something interesting to the ear, adding to the effectiveness of the music.

I'm in love with Hanna's bass playing. It was the first thing that caught my ear all those years ago. When she does play in the root-only vein, it's where something more intricate would take away from the song. Her bass lines are dangerous. They're dark when they need to be dark, they're melodic, and they're always brilliantly intertwined with Nikkie's rhythms and Maggie's guitar. You rarely see anyone play bass like this in a rock setting, and almost never in the group of contemporaries Telenovela Star has. When you see her do it live, while singing lead or backup vocals, it's that much more impressive.

"It Was Ugly Most of the Time" exposes the best of her bass playing as well as some of

**"...some of the
most powerful
collective
musicianship
I've heard
in a long while."**



Photo by Isak Tiner

its faults. It's simply the best bass line on the album, but suffers from her penchant for creating lines going up rather high on the bass. It could be a problem of her amp settings, or the recording mix itself, but the actual melodic wonder of that line gets swallowed up by the loss of power. When you hear the resonance of her low tones, you really want the high ones on the rest of the album to match up.

As for the album, it had to grow on me for a while as it didn't contain the handful of songs with which I was familiar. At the concert I was drawn in completely by "It Was Ugly Most of the Time," and was only gradually taken by the rest of the songs on the EP. Once I was, I found the entire experience to be solid, full of poignant harmonies, cynical and witty lyrics, and some of the most powerful collective musicianship I've heard in a long while. It's a fun album, even though the lyrical subject matter is often of pain, loss, and regret.

"Le Plum Deux" is the pure rock opener. Telenovela Star hits us immediately with a running bass line and simple percussion rhythm underscoring Maggie's wending guitar riffs, continuing with this theme throughout most of the track. I'm particularly fond of the coda ending the song, on distorted vocals bringing us down a few levels after the high energy of the rest of the track.

The vocals are airy, almost careless in their delivery, underscoring lyrics I prefer to take literally. When Hanna says she wants the good stuff, to be bought breasts and love and company, then asks why she "can't feel alright without you," does she mean the money or something else? When she delivers the lyrics at the top of this article, it's hard to discern whether it's about power over others, or the power others have over you. It's tempting to find irony in every aspect of contemporary music, but this song shows yearning for the good life, whatever that may be, while being nauseated with all the implications being comfortable brings.

If you're male and prone to action flick journeys of the imagination, you'll probably go off on one the minute "Car Song" starts. It's dirty, backed up with Maggie's matter-of-fact vocals. "Car Song" was picked up by The N (Nickelodeon's teen network) to be the title theme for *Beyond the Break*, a show about female competitive surfers. Might put a dent in inchoate testosterone-fueled flights of fancy, but it's still a balls to the wall song.

Nikkie's drum playing on "A Plum" is one of my favourite things on the EP, though this song is one of the least impressive I've heard from them live or recorded. What makes the song worth it, though, is the lengthy ending, starting under Hanna's vocals of "Look what I have..." It builds and builds, creating this fervent, driving query fueled by calls of "Hey yeah." Maggie lays down some beautiful short passages throughout as Nikkie builds up the pressure, and Hanna's bass takes it simple to underscore those lyrics. I really want more of that from the song, but I only get about a minute and a half.

"It Was Ugly Most of the Time" is, without hyperbole, one of the best songs I've ever heard. Yes, anyone whose been through the horrid drama of a

relationship out of control will identify with it automatically, but it's so pure in that expression, exhibiting every question without answer one asks when things spiral downward. The title reminds you that no matter what happens when you look back, no matter the good times, no matter how much you miss them, everything was wrong. Hanna's bass on this track is stellar, wrapping all of those sentiments in the impossible hope of someone discarded. Pay special attention when you hit the chorus, where Maggie and Hanna roll through a wrenching duet on "this may take a while."

The last song on the album, "Same Mistake" is all Maggie's, but does show off the synthesis of everyone's talent: deep, complex rhythms from Nikkie, intricate bass passages from Hanna, and Maggie's best guitar work on the album. A set of divergent, woeful vocals shared by Maggie and Hannah, with different lyrics working in contrapuntal harmony is amazing. But it's really Maggie's guitar that shines, giving off such a grit-strewn, melody-filled scream of regret. When they all come together around three quarters of the way through the song to jam out on a few seconds of pure instrumental, you want it to continue for another half hour.

Unless you find some forgotten Picasso painting at a yard sale and manage to net a few million at the Sotheby's auction, buying the Telenovela Star EP will be the best seven bucks you've spent this year. Within the next few months they'll be releasing a full-length album and I can't say enough to support this band. You'll find something familiar in everything they do, but the women of Telenovela Star have a realized voice of their own and they're still growing.

You can find them and the album at:
www.telenovelastar.com

or

www.myspace.com/telenovelastar



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ASK MONTEZUMA IT'S THE ANSWER MAN FROM TENOCHTITLAN



Former Aztec Emperor Montezuma II owns two cats; Scruffles and Tybalt.

Dear Montezuma,
Why is it that earthling is a slang term for lesbians?
Tracy Vacuumhindu
Bataang, Wisconsin

Tracy, the term is most likely due to fact that both the female vagina and Fuller's earth make one sneeze.

Hi Montezuma,
I've owned the same carrying bag for nearly ten years. It's still serviceable, but looks incredibly dingy. There are some deodorant stains on the strap (which also smells like old sweat), the dye is faded, one buckle is broken, the bottom's a bit worn, the inside smells and is stained with I don't know what. Also, if I carry it fully-loaded or with something heavy in it, it hurts my shoulder. After hearing all of this, do you think I should wear it on my right shoulder instead of the left?
Eduardo Rivadavia
Poncetown, EL

Dearest Ed, I think it would behoove you to consider the ineffable memories contained in those stains. Perhaps one is from the leftovers of a particularly fine meal, or the remains of that one chicken that angered you so. Objects can be so full of memories. Why, once I owned an empty bottle of soda which evoked very fond memories.

Dear Montezuma,
Which is larger: the Sun or a baseball?
Phil Plait
Rhonert Park, CA

What's with the obsession about size? Many things are larger than other things. Then again, many things are smaller than many other things. It's even true that some things are the same size.

¡Hola Montezuma!
¿Habla Español?
Samantha Lennon
New York, NY

I believe you're asking me if semaphore is preferable to spritzes of lemon in other people's eyes. On most occasions this is true, but you must be aware that during solstices occurring in every sixth year, it is considered polite to communicate with a shot of lemon in the eye.

Dear Montezuma,
I desperately want to be Spider-Man. Should I accomplish this goal by interacting with radioactive spoonbills? What about covering myself in fancy hamsters? Will swimming in toxic waste work just as well? Also, the costume: should it be made of wool or burlap?
Chip Taylor
New York, NY

Chip, I would suggest a daily vitamin supplement coupled with a protein shake at lunch and supper. Perhaps that will solve your obesity problem and allow you to take a greater part in society.

Dear Montezuma,
I have a really silly faux pompadour hair style. I'd like to change it, but my barber is very deaf and keep interpreting everything I say as asking for a faux

pompadour. The styling gel is becoming expensive.
Sandy Heflglot
Middle Middle, WD

Mr. Heflglot, there is no known cure for deafness. Fortunately, it has lately been discovered that the application of a sharp object such as an awl to the tympanic membrane of the ear can be an aid in communication. Simply insert the awl into your barber's ear and poke out your desired hairstyle in Morse code. Be careful, though, you could get splinters from an improperly waxed awl handle.

Hi Montezuma,
When I have an itch, is it really a small fairy making a nest in my epidermis?
Lothario Johnson, Age 18
Batty, PL

It's a sad state of affairs, LJ, when the nation's youth believes as you do. What improper training must you receive in your schooling! Have they not engaged you with biology? Have you not discovered the wonders of physiology through your secondary education? It is all so sad. No, LJ, it is not a fairy making a nest in your epidermis making you itch, it's a fairy in your dermis making a nest which causes the itch.

Dear Montezuma,
Recently, I purchased two clocks; one of them is metric and the other is imperial, though both are in pristine condition and painted in a slightly light

cobalt blue color with black hands and Arabic numerals. I'm looking for an Inuit metal chick. It's a bit difficult. Any tips?
Gordo Balvalardorgo
Sao Paolo, Brazil

Unfortunately for you, Gordo, the Inuit never attained the technology of smelting. You see, smelting requires mining, and mining is next to impossible for a stone age society in an Arctic environment. This is why they are stone age, you see. One might even posit that they are bone age, as there are few rocks above the Arctic Circle. In any event, since there is no mining and thus no smelting, the Inuit never developed electronics. It follows that because of this undevelopment, they consequently never came up with the quite obvious invention of the electric guitar. Thus, no Metal, Heavy Metal, Death Metal, Progressive, or other-adjective Metal musics.

Hey Montezuma,
How come I always see Mexican nationalists wearing tee-styled shirts with you on them? If you'd won out, wouldn't there be few or no Hispanics at all?
Steven Wright
Pituitary, WI

This is absolutely correct. However, I do receive royalties for every such shirt. Unless they are counterfeit. If you see such a counterfeit shirt, please feel free to douse the wearer in an accelerant and alight them.

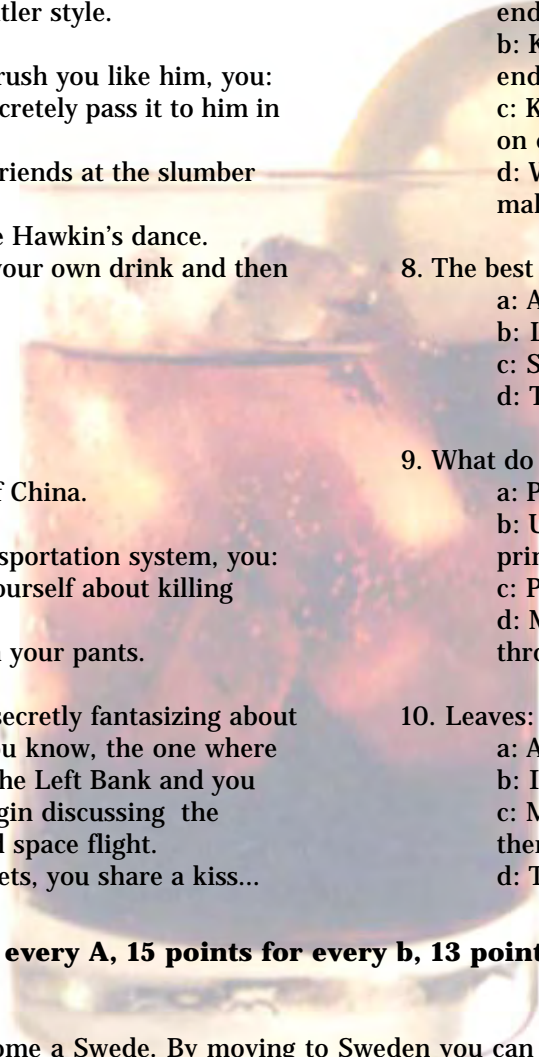


Montezuma's Helpful Hints for the Home

How to Make Your Own Beef Jerky

Every human being, including miners, jockeys, shortstops and Merriwhether Lewis, enjoys that delectable treat we call beef jerky. No one alive today knows when beef jerky was first invented, though it is most probable that the toughened muscle tissue comestible dates to a time in the early Pleistocene. During that period, hunter-gatherers first hunted, killed, skinned, cleaned and dried a sort of primeval cow into something almost reminiscent of today's beef jerky. One would guess they used a stone attached to a stick to accomplish the deed, but we may never know as it is difficult for stones to fossilize. The same goes for obsidian which, while quite likely to make for a wonderful spear point, also does not fossilize well. Scientists have often posited that oak bark, stripped and soaked in water for a day or so, could be used to fasten obsidian to a long stick. If you try this, make sure to strip off the bark and maybe wrap a fern frond or two around the end so you don't get callouses. Callouses impede the eating of good jerky.

THE “DO YOU LIKE RUM?” QUIZ

- 
1. When eating a sandwich, your topics include:
 - a. lettuce, mayo and pumpkin paste.
 - b. cabbage and pickled marmot meat.
 - c. ranch dressing and a pancake.
 - d. smashed grasshoppers and olives.
 2. If you could have any mustache, you would have:
 - a. Hitler's Charlie Chaplin style.
 - b. Teddy Roosevelt's soup strainer.
 - c. Ned Flander's nose neighbor.
 - d. Charlie Chaplin's Hitler style.
 3. When you finally tell your crush you like him, you:
 - a. Write a note and discretely pass it to him in English class.
 - b. Call him with your friends at the slumber party.
 - c. Ask him to the Sadie Hawkin's dance.
 - d. Slip the roofie into your own drink and then see what happens.
 4. Your style is:
 - a. Slim, sexy and dark.
 - b. Free, earthy.
 - c. Thrift shop chic.
 - d. Bulgarian, by way of China.
 5. While riding the public transportation system, you:
 - a. Tend to mutter to yourself about killing McKinley.
 - b. Stuff squirrels down your pants.
 - c. Lick strangers.
 - d. Read quietly while secretly fantasizing about Mikhail Gorbachev. You know, the one where you're strolling down the Left Bank and you bump into him and begin discussing the possibilities of manned space flight. Then, just as the sun sets, you share a kiss...
 6. Given a pair of loafers and a hydroponics kit, you:
 - a: Grow environmentally sustainable pedal implements.
 - b: Reenact the battle for Algiers.
 - c: Travel South America consecrating religious relics.
 - d: Be a tap-dancing Jesus for All Hallows Eve.
 7. Your favorite thing to do in Rome is:
 - a: Kiss Monica Bellucci's nipples for hours on end.
 - b: Kiss Monica Bellucci's thighs for hours on end.
 - c: Kiss Monica Bellucci's luscious lips for hours on end.
 - d: Walk around with a bundle of sticks and make the trains run on time.
 8. The best weapon to strap to your leg is:
 - a: A dagger.
 - b: Lemons.
 - c: Sardine sandwiches.
 - d: The *U.S.S. Iowa*.
 9. What do you do when confronted with ear mites?
 - a: Pour gasoline in your ear and light it on fire.
 - b: Use nose hair trimmers with fishing line as a primitive mite whacker.
 - c: Pour leaches in there.
 - d: Make an appointment with an ear, nose and throat doctor.
 10. Leaves:
 - a: Are a gift from God.
 - b: Interminably cover your lawn in Autumn.
 - c: Make awesome sounds when you shove them down someone's throat.
 - d: Talk to you about your family.

Give yourself 10 points for every A, 15 points for every b, 13 points for every C and subtract 8 points for every D.

0-30 Points: You should become a Swede. By moving to Sweden you can take advantage of their ludicrously lucrative social services program and also enjoy the many Nordic history museums that Sweden has to offer.

30-50 Points: You are definitely an extrovert. Why not use your skills and join the French Resistance. Not only do you get to fight the Nazis, you can also drink plenty of wine and get a lot of fine, young Parisian poon.

60-84 Points: Have you ever tried to invent the telephone? Too bad. Alexander Graham Bell already invented it. Why not wear a yellow dress to prom instead?

85-93 Points: A career in phlebotomy might be just right for you. Your answers indicate that you will find great joy in both increasing and decreasing pressure around a person's bicep. Yep, phlebotomy's for you.

94-150 Points: How putridly boring you are! The astrology section of the newspaper must be the highlight of your day. But it's not the one in the good paper. No, it's the one in that free weekly paper where they don't even try. It's just some old fat guy with nicotine stained fingers sitting in a small room making that stuff up.

150-600 Points: You either need to check your arithmetic or you cheated. For shame.



Katie Stalin

Out and About



Back at the bus station, I was playing poker for vending machine sandwiches with this guy who said his name was Eddie. After I cleaned him out by winning two tuna fish and one ham-and-cheese, he told me a really weird story about how aliens came and abducted him and put a microchip in his head. He even showed me his scars. But when he offered to show me other stuff, I hit him in the jaw with a hot sauce bottle and went to catch my bus to San Francisco.

I was really excited to be heading out to the City by the Bay. Not because of Alcatraz or gay, Chinese hippies, but because I had six hours of *McLaughlin Group* podcasts on my D-Vice™. I just love the way he says “bye bye” at the end of each show. He’s old and wrinkly, but, hell, I’d shack up with him just because he’s so weird. I mean, can you imagine what it would be like if he took you out to dinner? I bet he drives waiters nuts.

Then I got to thinking about what Eddie told me about the aliens. Questions danced through my mind; you know like the watusi or the mashed potato. Were there really such things as aliens? Real aliens, from outer space, not the Mexican ones, which are from Mexico. I figured I would need to make a stop in Roswell, New Mexico. Back in 1947, an alien space ship crash landed there and the government lied about it. It seems that the same type of big-headed gray aliens have been coming to Earth for years to abduct people and stick medical instrument in them, kind of like dentists, but not as scary.

Unfortunately, the bus stop was thirty miles from Roswell. It seems that New Mexico is made of desert, which is like the beach, except that there aren’t any oceans nearby and there definitely aren’t any cute life guards. So, I hitchhiked for a bit. Showing a little leg worked, and I got a ride with this guy named Colonel Stevens, who told me he worked at Groome Lake and said he was in Roswell to visit relatives and not for any official purpose. He had a stupid mustache that kind of made him look gay.

Speaking of gays, I was supposed to be in San Francisco, which seemed like it would be more fun than a bunch of sand. So, I had him drop me off at the airport and I bought a plane ticket with his credit card. Maybe I shouldn’t have had his credit card, but since he totally tried to look down my shirt I stole his brief case and it had his credit card in it. I bought myself some cool stuff from the airport gift shop, too, including a decorative Las Vegas spoon made of melted poker chips.

I looked through his papers on the plane, but it was just a bunch of boring crap about “reverse engineering of alien thruster control nozzles.” Sounds stupid. Why not regular engineering? Well, I didn’t solve the mystery of aliens, but did you know that in the first class section they totally give you these awesome hot towels to put on your face? I took two and then stole all the magazines from the chair in front of me. They also give you a ton of liquor without checking your ID.

I made it to San Francisco okay, but I had to listen to this fat dude bitch about how they charged him for a second seat just because he was fat. I was pretty happy he was sitting across the aisle. It was worth it, though, because the guy sitting next to him ended up clocking him around the second hour. His name was Mark and I got his phone number before we disembarked. I’ll probably meet him at one of those places in San Francisco with a Spanish name in a couple of days.

So Roswell was pretty cool, because had I not gone there I wouldn’t be able to read this great magazine I took. It has an article about turtles and turtles are way better than aliens any day.

FIFTY WAYS TO ANNOY

D. ALAN STAHL

1. Secretly replace his wife Sheila with Asimo.
2. D. Alan Stahl loves mustard. Steal his mustard.
3. Make fun of his career as an Erection Consultant.
4. Use chalk to draw miniature Nazca lines on his floor.
5. Call him at home and insist that your coupon for a fried chicken sandwich be honored.
6. Sell his children, Rachel and Peter, to Gypsies.
7. Offer to play the Civil War board game *The War in Virginia* with him. Then, just after the third round, complain about the game dynamics and say you'd rather play *Battleship*.
8. Build non-working miniature steam engines and tell him to fix them.
9. Break his son's balsa wood glider.
10. Decorate his yard with campaign signs for non-existent candidates.
11. Rearrange all the books in his library. Organize them by number of items in the index.
12. Make him a nice cup of coffee, but with heavy water instead of regular water.
13. Remove one prong from all his forks.
14. For his birthday, give him sub-standard mustache wax imported from Laos.
15. Log onto *Call of Duty*, find his character "Zeke Anderson" and administer a field court marshal under the 41st Article of War.
16. Place a single kernel of corn inside each of his ice cubes.
17. Pour liquid nitrogen over his glasses, so that when he tries to put them on they just shatter.
18. Replace the prescription lenses in his spectacles with ordinary glass. Then tell him about a new, horrible airborne virus that causes vision problems.
19. Put those self-relighting candles on his birthday cake.
20. Repeat everything he says.
21. Throw rocks at his house.
22. When you talk to him, speak every other sentence in Vietnamese.
23. Using Photoshop®, create labels for his homemade beer. Call it "Stupidweiser."
24. Sneak into his glove box and improperly fold all his maps.
25. Call him late at night and thank him for telephoning the Big Apple.
26. Pretend to press on various parts of the dashboard of his restored VW bug.
27. When he brings you home as a respectable person to date his daughter, pretend to be gay.
28. Call him a Nazi. When he denies this, point out the Nazi memorabilia on his shelving.
29. Tell him he's a poor dog owner. Point out all the dogs Peter went through.
30. Rearrange his backyard workshop. For extra annoyance, put a few realistic sex toys on his tool wall.
31. Put some lye on a patch of his lawn in order to make it yellow.
32. Refuse to tell him his kids are smoking, even for \$20.
33. Repaint his breakfast nook with African imagery.
34. Act unimpressed when his neighbour shows you his bomb shelter.
35. Tell him his polystyrene foam plane with built-in motors and batteries is "okay."
36. Put a faux burned skeleton at the site of his next consultation.
37. Talk to him about electrical engineering, but mix up amps and ohms.
38. Put fake blood on his WWII memorabilia, then tell him it's now more valuable.
39. Mix some cinnamon in with his homemade beer before he brews it.
40. Call him Davey.
41. When he starts getting irritated, switch to calling him Davey in the voice of Goliath from *Davey and Goliath*.
42. Tell him he reminds you of gay pornography star Moishe Lembelbach.
43. Talk to him in fake German.
44. While it's an easier way to annoy his daughter, regale him with stories from Rachel's teenage years.
45. Hold an anti-pollution protest in front of his house.
46. Paint one of the white pickets in his fence red.
47. Prance around the house in his wife's beauty pageant crown and her bathrobe.
48. Tell him that someone with his qualifications would have no trouble finding a top-flight job in either the food service or housekeeping industries.
49. Leave a line of shopping carts with lawn gnomes in his yard.
50. In your message in his daughter's yearbook, call him a weirdo.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

POSITION AVAILABLE

Tire iron, jack and spare tire needed to sit in my car trunk in case of emergency. No pay or time off provided. Sally Macgregor, Attenborough, Scotland. Ring top bell.

FOR SALE

Some sort of smelly whale effulgence I found. •20. Joao Dafrioxo, third dinghy on the right, Feces de Abaixo, Portugal.

FOR RENT

Saint Polycarp's day. Isn't of much use to us at the moment. \$235 billion per millennium or best offer. Cardinal William Joseph Levada, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Piazza del S. Uffizio, 11, 00193 Rome, Italy

FOR SALE

Electrode alarm clock. Simply attach electrodes to suitable part of the body and set the alarm. £39.98. Alarm clock not included. J. P. Smiley, President, Matthew Sweet Fan Club, P.O. Box Dendrite, Alamathia, EL, 00036.

FOR SALE

Used ball of masking tap with some paint involved. Roughly four inches in diameter. \$5.00 or best offer. Call Scott, Room 2, Queens, New York.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Dead bass player and drummer needed to form band in Heaven with Thom Yorke. Radiohead c/o Columbia Records, Hollywood, CA.

WANTED

Yorbo Linda, CA, so that I can rename it after my hero, Napoleon and rule as regent over the Grand Duchy of Napo Linda. My brother Lee can be a Viceroy. Rory Alabaster, Pigot Falls, NY.

FOR SALE

Goat shackles. Free fifty-pint beet pudding included. Tony Blair, 10 Downing Street, London, SW1.

FOR SALE

Water. Lots of water. 1 penny per bucketload. Hurry, please hurry. The facet is broken and I can't turn it off. Cherry Love, 392 West Whitaker Lane, Nimbus, AK.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Former Senator Ale Gore needed to stand in my front yard, admiring buckets. I have many nice buckets and just don't feel that they're being properly admired. Valley F e s t e r t h y m e , Monkeyglove, LA.

WANTED

Yarborough Valley High School Varsity Lacrosse Jersey from 2009. When 2009 comes around, please send to Brewster Buffalo Mulch Corporation, P.O. Box 327, Simi Valley, CA 93062

FOR RENT

One ventricular artery. It'll be like we're conjoined twins or something. Should be fun. \$25 per day. Please provide own blood. Call Winston Carbuncle at 212-695-7200.

FOR SALE

Used Chapstick, raspberry flavor. Approximately 1/3 of tube left. \$7.00 or best offer. Hammer, Box 304.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Alamo needed to fall to Mexican Army on March 6th, 1936. Possible promotion to Museum and/or historical site. State of Texas, ring top bell.

FOR SALE

Six legged race horse. Runs 33.33% faster than an ordinary horse. Chernobyl Horse Farm, Chernobyl, Ukraine.

FOR SALE

Life sized model of 104 Statesboro Street, Macon, GA, a lovely old, Antebellum, Neo-Georgian two storey. It's made of plastic, interlocking blocks, whose trademarked named I need not mention. Perfect for any serious collector of Macon building replicas. £1000.00 plus two sheep. R. Murray, Donaldson Flats MV.

FOR LEASE

Statue of Reginald McDonald, inventor of button holes. \$4.00 per hour, minimum of ten hours. No grease may be applied to statue surface. Forgrave Statue Leasing, Buxom, PD.

FOR SALE

Nincompoop, 3rd Class. Melissa Folger, Box 408.

WANTED

100 tons of paste so that I can start my own paste company. Nills Forman, 103 Boxle Street, Cumming, AL.

Axes and Alleys

was

Conceived, Written and Produced

by

Scott Birdseye

and

Jeremy Rosen



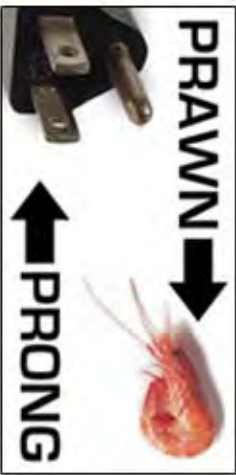
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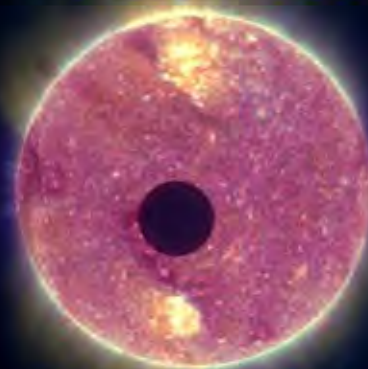
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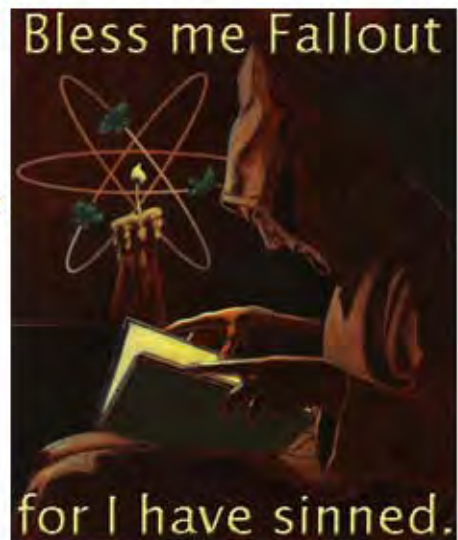
FINE BOSOM
ABOUNDS!



THE SUN
IS WATCHING YOU



BOOGA BOOGA



Four things I want
to tell you...



Para-misogynist



Neil Patrick Harris



Not a man.

Not a Barney.

Not a Doogie.

Not an actor.



He is a Phenomenon.