THE YELLIN' REBEL

## **Small Picture**

## by kurt hildebrand

editor card company the other

day, it was astounding. opened it up, and

was a figure - \$148. I stared at the bill for

nearly 15 minutes, trying to figure out what was going on.

I was studying so intently.

It turns out that the hotel the staff had stayed at for the CIPA convention had used the number I had given them to guarantee the rooms to charge me for two of the rooms.

I called the company this morning to tell them what had happened, they were very understanding

tact the hotel to clear up to the bill. This was, however movies had not been I got a bill from my credit a clear lesson in plastic returned and when they economics.

Don't give your card number to anyone you hadn't rented either film, under the debt column don't intend on buying and, in fact, had no insomething from.

This reminds me of what happened to my friend George, last year. George got his first

My mom walked in the credit card and imroom and asked me what mediately went out and got an account with a local video rental store.

> George likes movies, and he proceeded to rent one a night for two company would cancel his months.

Well, one day George got a bill for his card.

It was for nearly \$200. It seems George forgot to return one or two tapes and the rental place out.

charged him for the movies.

George promptly got in and said they would con- touch with the rental place determine which had been due.

It turns out George terest in seeing either film.

The rental store swore up and down that George had rented the movies and had signed for them, and then had not returned them.

George was hot. He couldn't figure out what had happened, but he was in mortal fear that the card.

George So, did something I personally consider stupid. He paid the bill, and then tried to get everything straigtened

He went to the rental

store and complained for two months. He wrote let- contacted the movie renters to the parent company. He did everything he could, except that no one wanted to hear about it, because he had already

During the two months, company.

rent a single movie in all that time

Then, at the end of the Instead of contacting

the rental store, George called the card company and told them he hadn't \$200. rented any stinking kept any of the movies he

hadn't rented.

The card place then tal company and told them to prove he had made the charge.

There was not a single word from the rental store. George went there for the three-zillionth time to talk to the manager. He told him he thought someone was using his card to pay for someone elses movies.

It turns out George was He did, however, not right. One of the clerks at the rental store had been removing movies from the shelves and charging them to various cards. It received another bill from turns out he made a the card company. This mistake when he picked one was for movies again. on George twice. No one else had bothered to check.

That lesson cost him

That old plastic magic movies, and he hadn't can cost you if you are not careful.

## Art Buchwald

The firing squad from tradition." Riker's Island marched out on the parade ground. Six soldiers, led by Captain Loughboro, lined up at attention, facing the wooden post.

Two soldiers, one on each side, marched Tony the Termite to the post and tied his hands behind his back. Captain Loughboro stepped fortied it around Tony's eyes.

"Would you care for a cigarette?" the captain asked.

"Yes, I would," Tony said. "I'll take a king-sized mentholated."

The captain drew one out of a pack and placed "Never mind tradition. you to give up your last

No one is permitted to blow smoke within 10 feet of another person as it's hazardous to everyone's health. Tony isn't just doing harm to himself but to the firing squad as well."

captain suggested.

ward with a blindfold and sidered secondhand of his choice." smoke. Don't you have

cigarette?" "It certainly would. This is a free country and when

at all?"

it comes to puffing, I know my rights.' The captain riffled through a book. "He's "Suppose I move the right," he said to the insquad 10 feet back?" the spector. "It says here no

'That still would be con- is offered a last cigarette "But we're only doing

late to guit smoking. I off the sweet talk and give me a light."

The inspector said, We are never going to

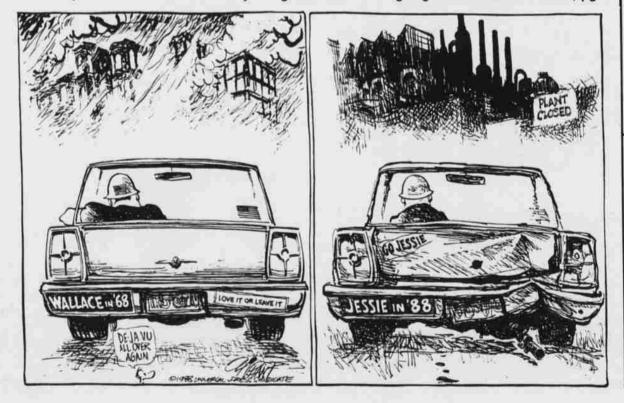
have clean air if smokers ignore the rights of others. Well, I'm warning you. If the captain lights up your cigarette I'm going to arrest you for violating the law and it's going to cost you."

Tony asked, "What will I get?"

"Thirty days and a \$50 fine.'

"I'll take it. That's better than what they are going to give me now." Tony declared.

The captain barked at see Buchwald, pg 7



## Yellin' Rebel Staff Box

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paid.

George spent half his time at the video store screaming at clerks and the other half writing letters to the

two months, George

this for his health. If Tony any respect for human life sucks on that fag he's go-The captain turned to ing to develop a terrible Tony, "Would it bother cough." "I'll worry about that," Tony protested. "It's too

should have done it years ago when it had some meaning. Now, let's knock

"That's the trouble with one can be shot unless he people who face capital punishment. They think of nobody but themselves.

it in Tony's mouth. He was about to light it when a uniformed inspector from the city's Anti-Smoking Unit ran on the parade ground and cried, "Halt! You cannot smoke on this property during a firing squad execution."

"That's ridiculous," the captain said. "Puffing a last cigarette before being shot is an ancient military

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