

# Television needs to get a job

*Humor is being replaced by a conspiracy of idiocy*

by William Holt

On the occasion that I watch television, I find myself laughing at the many different shows, but for the same reason, whether they're talk shows, sitcoms, inside so-and-suches, or even the news.

Here's a re-creation of a typical three-hour romp in television land in the form of a TV guide to help explain my ill humor:

- 8 p.m. "It's the Happy Family Show; Volume 29," starring a black parent and a white parent, of which at least one should be overweight, three consecutively tall black children, of which at least one should be a girl, and three consecutively tall white children, of which at least one should also be a girl. We at

TVTV bring you a startling new comedy showing that people can be idiots no matter what color their skin is, which part of the human gender they're from, or how much they weigh.

- 8:30 p.m. "Gorillas Can Be Idiots Too," brought to you by the people who don't care how they make money. This week, Harry the Costume Gorilla gives George an adorable smile and, get this, sits on the couch! The laughs are in! Will George have enough money to buy a new one? Will Harry want to come along? Find out on "Gorillas Can Be Idiots Too."

- 8:46 p.m. Commercial: "Firmasmell." When I go out to look pretty, I can count on Firmasmell to make my hair stay firm and smell too. Firmasmell. I

use it. Why can't you?"

- 9 p.m. "Fat People Make Whoopee." We at TVTV thought we'd show you that your life really isn't that disgusting and isn't really boring because it qualifies as the material we've used in our show. Stay tuned at 11 as the creators of "Fat People Make Whoopee" discuss how, in their quest for a good television idea, a disgusting social idea that had been staring a moron in the face for some time didn't smell so bad after all.

- 9:30 p.m. Special edition of "Losers Watch This Crap," where you get to watch real people experience pain and suffering for real while we uncover the true and for-real story behind a real misunderstanding. Watch "Losers Watch This Crap" as our for-

real crew brings you a mother who was raped by her refrigerated child after he mysteriously lost his memory. Two credit cards, two names, or two entirely different personalities? Simon says Garfunkel owned them both. Garfunkel says Simon is schizo. What would Elvis say?

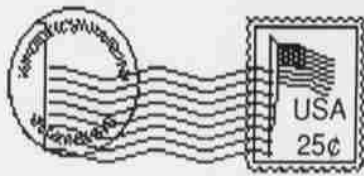
- 10 p.m. And now it's time for the "Like Me Because I'm Black and Silly Show," with special guests, I Know Karate And Always Wanted To Be In The Movies; also guesting, Harry Connick Jr. Watch people have fun and talk about themselves. Guess which of our guests will get slapped in the face by B&S and love it because he'll get sued if he fights back. Also, watch Harry Connick Jr. get maligned for not liking today's bubblegum

music and saying it on television. It's guaranteed laughter and obnoxiousness including our daily animal noises during the show. The "Like Me Because I'm Black and Silly Show," tonight, and tomorrow night, and the next night, and the next, the next, and so on...

I don't understand or choose to understand the humor involved in television programming, but I understand the type of humor that attempts to put a conspiracy of idiocy in its place. That is why any show on television is a laugh-a-minute for the same reason.

Holt is a staff reporter with The Yellin' Rebel.

## Letters to the Editor



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** In last Tuesday's issue, *The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom* presented evidence that President Bush's rhetoric on the Gulf War rings hollow. This time, they continue their appeal.

Dear Editor,

Bush's motivation cannot be to protect oil supply to the United States. Only five percent of all oil consumed in the United States was imported from Iraq and Kuwait, an amount which could quickly be made up by simple energy conservation methods. Bush's motivation cannot be to protect democracy. Neither Kuwait nor Saudi Arabia can be construed to be democracies.

Bush's motivation is to protect U.S. economic interests. Europe and Japan, our strongest economic competitors, are dependent on oil from Iraq and Kuwait. Whoever controls the oil prices in the Middle East holds great power over them. The United States has subsumed so much of its productive capacity to the military, that driving up our competitors' prices by using our military might well be the only way we can compete.

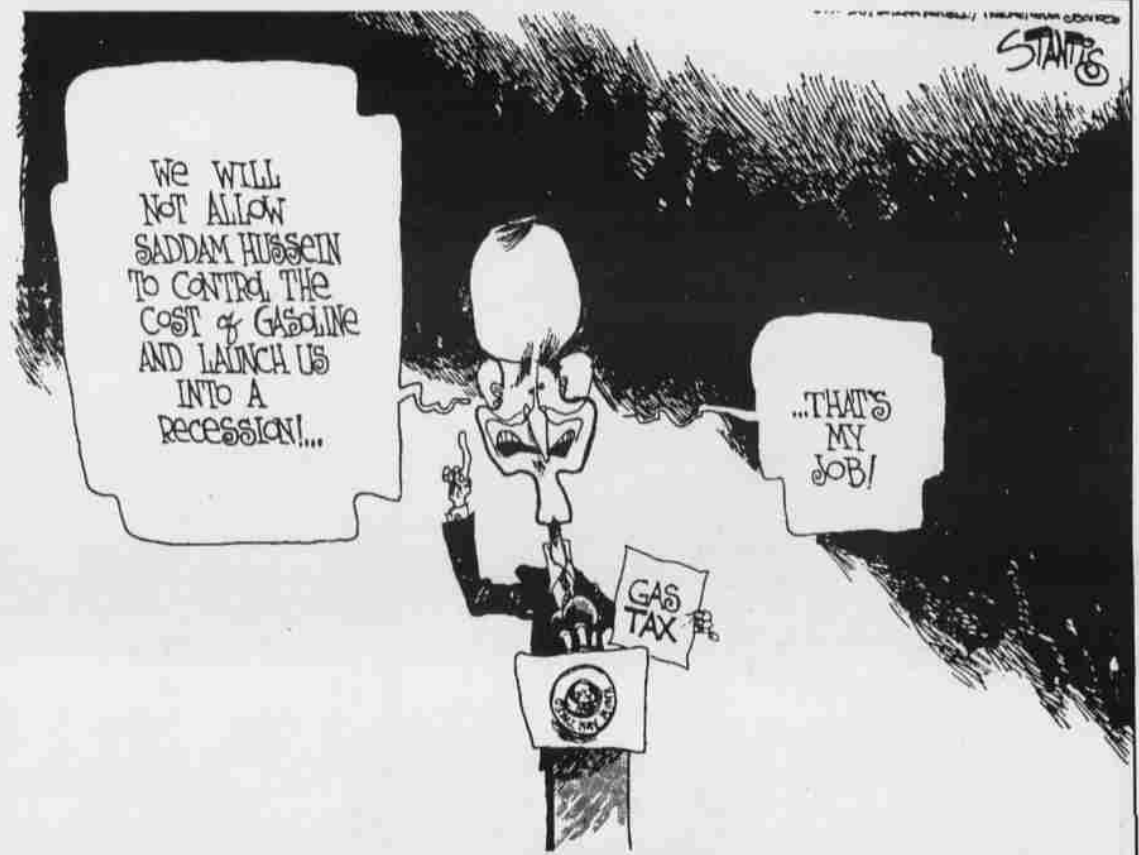
Another factor in U.S. interest in the region is that about half of Kuwait's oil fortune, over

\$100 billion a year from the ruling Al Saban family, is invested in the United States and Europe, not neighboring Arab countries. Resentment of this helps to explain popular Arab support for Hussein.

This military crisis has triggered a constitutional and civil rights crisis at home. The military deployment was done with no action by Congress—not even one debate. Moreover, the Intelligence Authorization Act for 1991, already OK'd by the House and Senate, gives the president unlimited powers to order covert operations without congressional oversight.

Letters-to-the-editor and listener call-ins across the country are running against Bush's actions in the Gulf. Already, troops are wondering why they are there, referring to themselves as prisoners being held against their will, or "insulting" Bush.

The commanding general in Saudi Arabia felt that such comments reflected "poor moral," and instituted the restriction that members of the press must now be escorted one at a time to interview troops. They are quickly moved on when an African American soldier says, "I don't see why I should fight for constitutional rights that are denied to me." (Reported in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* two days after Bush vetoed the Civil Rights Act.)



even before WILPF opposed the U.S. invasion of Haiti in 1926.

As long as the U.S. economy is based upon preparing for war, as long as U.S. corporations are free to relocate world-wide for cheap labor and resources, as long as the enemy mentality ravages our society, as long as racism and sexism manipulate us, the American people, into accepting that it is honorable to send young men—and women—into military combat to "preserve our way of life," as long as we resolve conflict using force and domination, U.S. foreign policy will feature massive military intervention and occupa-

tion around the world. It is intolerable that the United States is spending millions a day on war in the Gulf region. We need our national resources for real security: housing, health care, education, environmental protection, and a humanitarian foreign policy. That is why we oppose—widely, vocally—the Gulf intervention and continue WILPF's current programs that address the roots of war.

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

## Future casualties in the Gulf?

Dear Editor,

Attached is a poem about President Bush's self-created Persian Gulf Crisis, because in January of 1991, a lot of young American men and women may die, or come home in an unhappy state of mind and body.

"CASUALTY ROSTER: The Gulf Desert Warriors"

*Attenhup! Make an orderly file, guys. After Reagan's cuts and Bush's deficit, Hell, the V.A. can handle only so much.	'hey! Diction specialist. You! Arm blown off at shoulder. Prosthetics.	Plastics. Next! Cain't talk. Why? Just dropped dead.
Klomp, klomp, klomp, klomp. You! Leg blown off at knee. 'hey! Crutches!	Next! Blind. Braille specialist.	You! Mumble, mumble, mumble, mumble. What language is that? Shell-shock language. Psycho ward.
You! Quadri-basket case. Electric wheelchair. Ohey.	You! Hands blown off at wrists. Prosthetics.	Next, next, you, next, you, next... And so come back from the Gulf, Preaident Bush's Desert Warriors."
Next! She cain' talk. Why! Jaw blown off.	Next! Castrated. Tough luck. You! Right breast torn off.	

## Person seeks pen-pal

Dear editor,

I am currently being held at the Pioche Conservation Camp, and I am indigent. I would appreciate it if you would run this:

White male, 25, needs pen-pal. I'm six foot one, blond hair, blue eyes, and weigh 140 pounds.

ADDRESS:

Brooke Bratanov

Po Box 509

Pioche, NV 89043

## Letters Box:

Write Us!

The Yellin' Rebel wants your opinions.

Letters should be approximately 300 words, and have the name, address, phone number, major and year in school. Send to:

The Yellin Rebel  
c/o Letters to the Editor  
MSU 302  
4505 Maryland Pkwy.  
Las Vegas, NV 89154

To accommodate as many letters as possible, The Yellin' Rebel reserves the right to edit all letters for space and clarity.