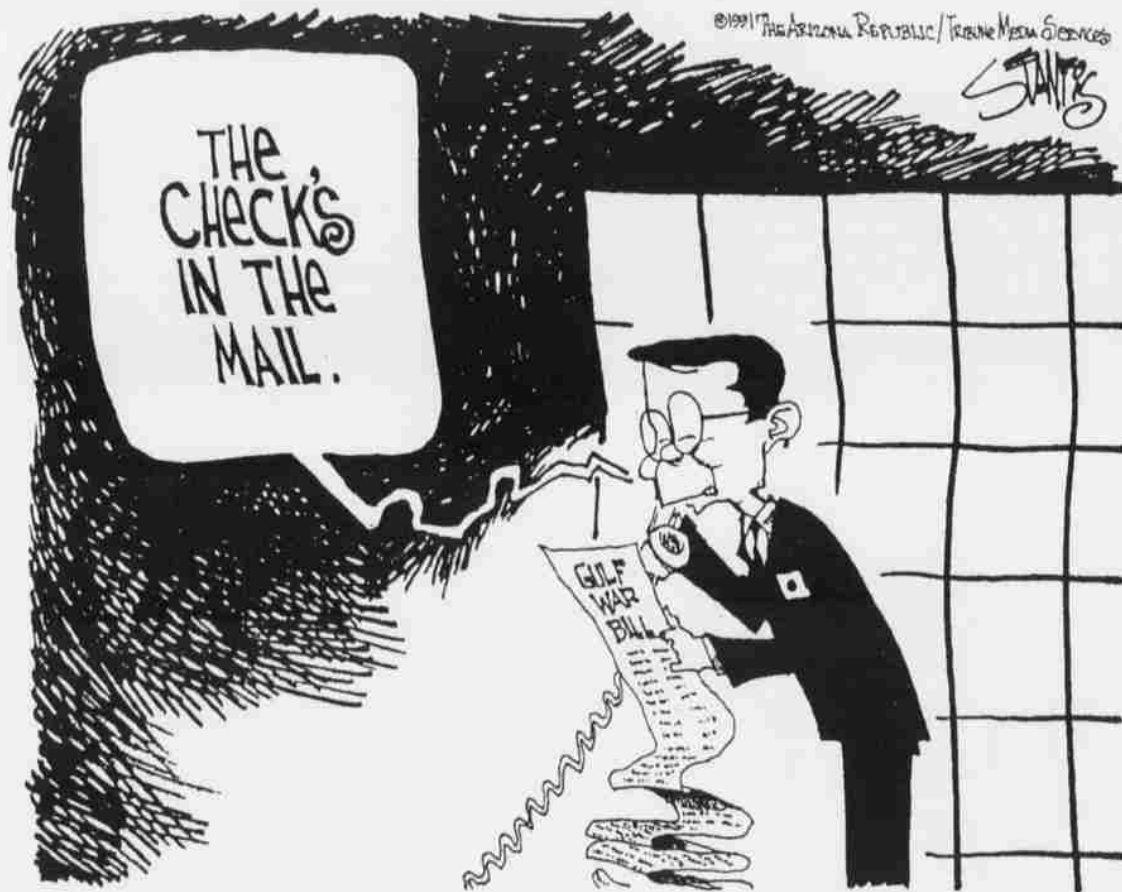


POLITICAL COMIC FORUM



POSTMODERN PATRIOTISM

A day in the life of advertisements

by William Holt and Mike Shaffer

Commercials are amazing. They often have colorful art, beautiful people and happy songs, and they appear to be another ordinary part of life. I'm a big fan of entertainment, so I'd like to entertain you for about 500 words in an argument that commercials need to be hospitalized.

1) Come to "Eat-a-Basket of Food!" where you get exactly what you order for no less and no more than what it actually costs! When you come to our store and order any basket of food and a Coke, you get a basket of food and a Coke too! "Eat-a-Basket of Food!" You know what you want, and so do we!

2) "The Usual." Fine dining without the menu! When you come in to "The Usual," just order the usual, and our waiters will get the usual that is usually ordered for you or your money back in the usual amount of time!

3) New and improved "Casualty Cream!" If you have enemies, simply sneak up behind them when they're reading and apply our specially designed "Casualty Cream." Just rub it in once a day and in four days, you'll get results. Dale Beatingsplenty says, "I've been using 'Casualty Cream' for just one week; two men are already dead! Now that's what I call results!" Buy "Casualty Cream" and get special coupons for our other skin products: "Get Them Where You Want Them" Cream and "Sitting Duck" Cream.

4) Buy Time for Coffee Books' "Child Raising" Series. The first volume explores exactly what number you should count to before bludgeoning your children. When you get the second volume, it includes

a laminated list of "Things to do with your child when you've grounded him for a year."

With the fifth volume, you get a free color pull-out poster of both ancient and modern methods of raising children, including price listings for leather belts, newspapers, fly swatters, hand and arm ointments, paint sticks, boots, spoons and whips. Also, look for your special addition of "Trips to lay on a child," including key phrases — and their emotional content — that can be used prior to using the instruments.

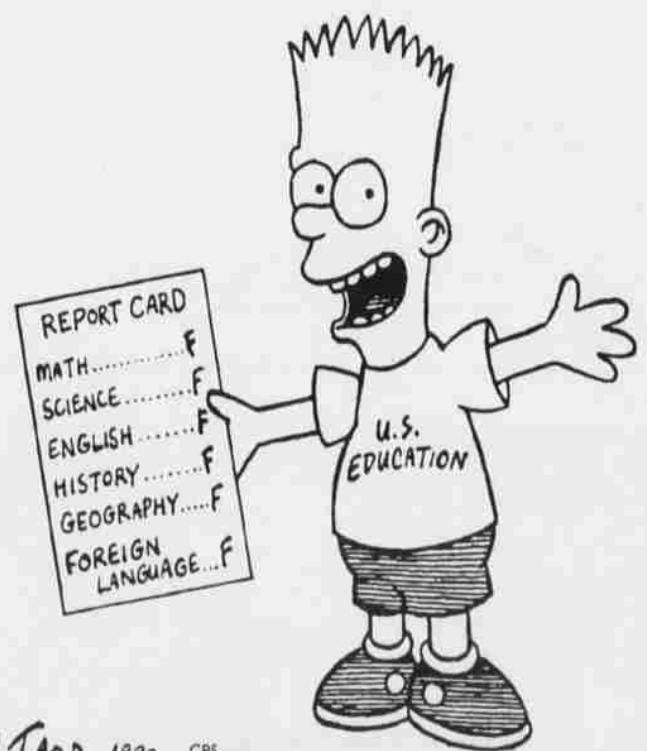
5) "Walls of Wood" housing development by Hardlee. For a serene, peaceful living experience, come to beautiful "Walls of Wood." You get four walls, all made of wood, a roof and the resulting rooms the walls and roof create — plus a plot of dirt to call your own. For a limited time only, our representatives can supply free helpings of delicious bottled water while you move in. Prices start at \$75,000.

6) "Vacation-a-Lot." Bored because you have no brains? Let us think for you and send you to fabulous Sandenwomen, where you get two nights of refreshing sandwalking and lots of women! For each drink that you buy on Sandenwomen, you get not two, not three, not four, but one drink, and a year supply of paper umbrellas all at your cost! That's right, you get exactly what you get from "Vacation-a-Lot," and no more! You pay the plane ticket, you pay for the room and you pay for the women! But there's more! You pay dearly! (This offer not valid with with the police department, the FBI, the CIA or any other agencies who shouldn't know.)

Amazing.

Holt is majoring in English and is a staff writer with *The Yellin' Rebel*.

"EAT MY SHORTCOMINGS, MAN!"



P. TAVL 1990 CPS
APOLOGIES TO MATT GROENING